



WINTER ACTIVITIES

With more snowfall than any other American town (more than 300 inches is measured annually in the city, and 600 to 900 inches in nearby Thompson Pass) and winter temperatures that are warmer than most other areas of Alaska, Valdez is a paradise for those who want to explore the outdoors during the winter months.

WINTER SPORTS

Valdez is the ideal location for true winter sports enthusiasts. The Chugach Mountains that surround Valdez offer the best heli-skiing, snowboarding, ice climbing, snowmachining and fat-bike riding opportunities in Alaska. With most areas heavily glaciated, Valdez has an incredible variety of terrain: steep mountain faces, large powder bowls, longer couloirs and everything in between.

Annual winter sports competitions include the Ice Climbing Festival, the Fat Bike Bash, Tailgate Alaska, the Alaska Snowkite Festival, and several snowmachine races.

WINTER TRAILS

Valdez offers miles of maintained and easily accessible trails for snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. The Valdez Parks & Recreation Department grooms and maintains miles of ski trails of varying difficulties. These trails are great for both classic and skate skiing, and many are closed to motorized use. The Prince William Sound Community College Wellness Center offers free checkout of snowshoes and cross-country ski equipment.

A favorite winter activity for many of the locals is to visit Valdez Glacier Lake at the end of Airport Road and ski or snowshoe over to the lake to explore the icebergs that break off from the glacier during the summer and freeze in place during the winter.

AURORA VIEWING

Aurora viewing is possible in Valdez from the end of summer through the spring. The best viewing locations are outside of town, including Valdez Glacier Lake, Robe Lake, Old Town Valdez, and Dayville Road. Dedicated aurora hunters can travel even as far out on the road as Thompson Pass.



DISCOVER MORE

Winter Operators

- 907 Snowcat: www.EastPeakResort.com
- Alaska Backcountry Guides: www.AlaskaBackcountryGuides.com
- Alaska Guide Co: www.Alaska.guide
- Alaska Snowboard Guides: www.AlaskaSnowboardGuides.com
- Black Ops Valdez: www.BlackOpsValdez.com
- Valdez Heli-Ski Guides: www.ValdezHeliSkiGuides.com

Electric Fat-Bike Rentals

- Valdez Stay & Play: www.ValdezStayAndPlay.com

'Ski for Free' Gear Rentals

- Prince William Sound College: pwsc.alaska.edu/health-fitness-center/gear-loan-ski-free

Winter Sports Events

- Valdez Adventure Alliance: www.ValdezAdventureAlliance.com

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