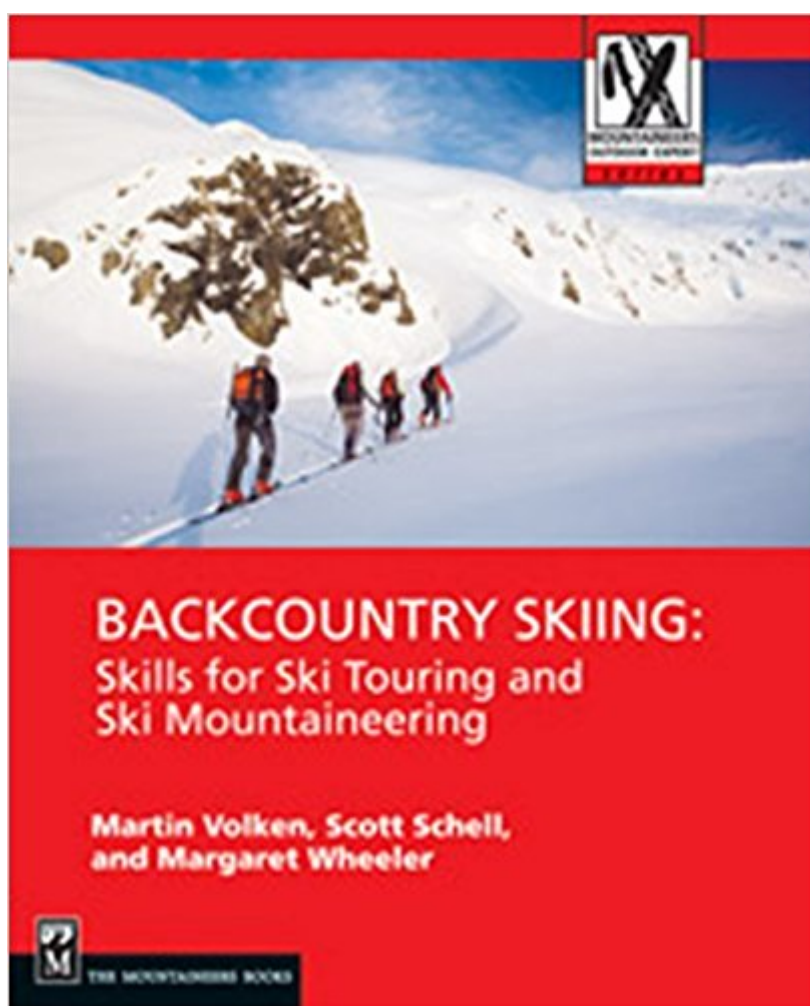




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Backcountry Skiing: Skills For Ski Touring And Ski Mountaineering (Mountaineers Outdoor Expert Series)



Synopsis

Martin Volken and his co-authors provide skiers with all the tools and knowledge they need to safely and successfully travel in the mountains. The guide features intermediate-to-advanced techniques for ski touring and ski mountaineering, from planning wilderness trips to perfecting turns in rolling terrain and mastering uphill climbing. For those skiers ready for a more technical, high alpine environment, they draw on traditional mountaineering skills, including roped climbing, setting protection anchors, using ice axes, climbing on bare rock, and more. In addition to mastering techniques, *Backcountry Skiing* also features information on recent evolutions in ski equipment; avalanche safety tips; a primer on mountain weather and glaciers, trip planning tools, a discussion of emergency situations, nutrition and fitness advice, and winter camping basics. Throughout this guide, a special emphasis is put on being well-informed and making good decisions-whenver you strap on your skis and skins and head out into the backcountry.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Backcountry Skiing is a brain-dump of some of the most dialed ski mountaineers in the U.S.." -- Backcountry Magazine "Impressive volume." -- AmericanTrails.org "[A] backcountry bible." -- --Skiing Magazine "Backcountry Skiing is strongly recommended for anyone contemplating skiing mountain terrain in winter conditions anywhere in the U.S. and Canada." -- The Midwest Book Review "Great content, quality writing, excellent photos, attractive layout--it's the best and most authoritative book on ski touring and ski mountaineering." --Wenatchee Outdoors by Andy Dappen

Martin Volken received his IFMGA certification in his native Switzerland and is the owner of Pro Ski and Guiding Service in North Bend, Washington. He has been guiding all facets of mountaineering since 1992 in the United States and abroad. He has pioneered several first ascents, ski descents, and ski mountaineering traverses in the North Cascades. Martin has appeared on the cover of Outside magazine as well as in several other industry publications. He is involved in product development for K2 and Outdoor Research and is an examiner for the American Mountain Guides Association. He resides in North Bend with his wife, Gina and his two daughters, Andrea and Christina. Martin has also published Backcountry Skiing Snoqualmie Pass, a guidebook for the Snoqualmie Pass area in Washington State. Scott Schell is a certified AMGA Ski Mountaineering Guide and has guided extensively throughout the United States, including Alaska, as well as in Canada and Europe. An avid ski mountaineer, Scott has been involved in avalanche and guiding education as an instructor and trainer for AIARE and a former AMGA ski discipline instructor. As the former manager of Pro Ski Service in Seattle, he saw the need for a ski mountaineering book that would provide a comprehensive source for the backcountry skier. While toting his cameras throughout North America and Europe, Scott has captured many memorable and compelling images through the trained eye of both a photographer and mountain guide. To learn more about Scott's work, please visit www.schellphoto.com. Scott's passion for ski mountaineering, alpine climbing and the outdoors is only surpassed by his affection for his longtime partner, Margaret. Margaret Wheeler is a ski, alpine, and rock climbing guide who has led trips throughout Europe and North America. An active member of the guiding community, she is an instructor of guide training for the AMGA and serves on its board of directors. She is involved in avalanche education through her work as an AIARE instructor and trainer. In the development of her ski mountaineering career, Margaret has been a member of several women's expeditions pioneering first ski descents in India and the Altai mountains of Mongolia. In 2006, she became the second woman in the United States to complete her IFMGA/UIAGM certification. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from Dartmouth College and a master's in mechanical engineering from University of Washington. When she's not in the mountains, Margaret works part-time for a Seattle-based engineering firm, and lives in Snoqualmie, Washington, with her long-time squeeze, Scott.

This is an excellent supplement to the seminal book on Avalanches - Bruce Tremper's "Staying Alive in Avalanche Terrain" (buy the second edition of Tremper's book). Based on the course reading curriculum by Jonathan Shefftz (<http://avycourse.blogspot.com/>), whom I regularly follow on

wildsnow.com and tetongravityresearch.com/forums, I purchased this book, and Jill Fredston's "Snow Sense". Jonathan's recommendation is good enough for me.

An excellent reference, but don't buy the pdf download version. There are essential techniques demonstrated through photos which are poorly reproduced on the pdf versions. The kindle viewer does not zoom nor is the photo quality adequate to gain an understanding of the technical descriptions of this technical manual. Best to buy the paper version and clearly see the photos.

Very good, complete general overview for getting started and getting informed on what you really need to learn about backcountry skiing. I am beginning to do some AT away from the ski area, and felt that I wasn't clear on what I "didn't" know about snow and the mountain. Easy to understand and covers pretty much everything, from technique for AT or Telemark, to avalanche safety and avalanche understanding. It is a good starting point, to get you oriented as to the basics, and where to look for the details. The book stresses that you need to take specific courses in order to become a true expert on the mountain, but this is a very good general overview, full of useful information.

I think this book does a good job of covering the basics. My main complaint is that it spends too much time covering simple concepts and ideas while providing too little detail w/ more complex topics. Still leaves me with many questions about how to execute the techniques I bought the book to learn about. Overall, a good read but I think I will keep looking for a better source of knowledge related to this topic

good book. on time delivery. thanks.

Lots of specific skill sets and ideas for surviving crises in the backcountry, where resourcefulness and improvisation is everything. A good book when it comes to technical skills/ strategy/ survival skills. A little lacking in avalanche education with only 1 chapter, but this is not the focus of the book

Good information to know if you are going to get into backcountry and especially if you want to do it safely. I know I definitely wanted to just go and not know any information but now I am glad I do and I have now become more safe.

The book was brief and as definitive as could be done in the given length. I thought systems

approach to rescue was a little too brief and the outlines in imagery were less than optimal.

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