



# Saturday February 23, 2019

## Snowshoe Kachina Trail - Flagstaff

Approximately 150 Miles and 3 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack".

Type: See Desc.	Max Rating/Points: 4 / 1	Elev. Change: 600ft	Length: TBD
Start Time: 8:30am	Duration: Up to 6 hours	Max No. of Part: N/A	Last Scouted: 1/2016

Check all that apply  
(give details in Desc.)

- Major Hike:
- Cross-country:
- Exploratory:
- Individual Effort:
- Options :
- Pass/Fees Rqd:

### Contact Information

	Coordinator	Alternate
Name	Tom Isham	
Work Ph		
Station		
Home Ph	602-943-6104 (Cell phone only)	
Email	t_hiker@centurylink.net	tsishams@centurylink.net

**Required Equipment:** Snowshoes, Ski/trekking poles with baskets. Hiking boots & warm socks. If you have other than full leather hiking boots or snow boots, then gaiters are necessary. Waterproof breathable jacket & pants. Thermal base layers if really cold. Multiple upper body layers. Gloves or mittens. Warm hat. Sunscreen. Sunglasses. Foam Pad, 18"x24" minimum for sitting down in the snow if tired. Water in insulated sack. Food. The Snow Bowl Parking Lot is NOT the place to mate the snowshoes with your boots for the first time. Try them on at home. If any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

**Recommended Equipment:** Gaiters. Whistle. Binoculars. Camera. Extra socks. Extra gloves or mittens. Windbreaker. Ball cap or beanie. Goggles or dark glasses for the glare if sunny. Kactus Kicker 2-way radio set to channel 6.

**Cautions and Special Preparations:** **Anyone interested must speak with Trip Leader.** Trip Leader will assist participants with clothing and gear recommendations. Be prepared for altitude (approx. 9000feet) and uncertain trail conditions. Trying to adjust snowshoes in the parking lot will freeze your hands and may seriously delay the start of the hike for everyone. So be prepared.

**Description:** Most trails on the San Francisco Peaks head right for the top of this extinct volcano, the tallest mountain in the state of Arizona. The Kachina Trail breaks this pattern by setting an easy course across some of the mountain's more moderate topography. Don't let that discourage you if you think maximum altitude provides maximum enjoyment. This friendly pathway provides access to a healthy portion of the mountain's most beautiful scenery. Its gently rolling course winds along the mountain's middle slopes almost entirely within the boundaries of the Kachina Peaks Wilderness Area. It follows a moderate gradient through stands of white barked aspen and groves of tall mixed conifers separated by broad meadows. At a number of points, the trail breaks free of the trees to offer good views both of the rocky upper slopes of the mountain and of the forests surrounding its base. Portions of the city of Flagstaff and its suburbs are visible as well. We will follow the trail as best we can but usually get off track pretty quickly if a lot of snow has fallen. Then we just go our merry way and enjoy all of the snow.

**This activity is labeled "Exploratory" because of unknown winter trail conditions.**

A backcountry permit is required for accessing the Kachina Peaks Wilderness through the Snowbowl ski area. I am in the process of getting a group permit.

**\*\*The Trip Leader reserves the right to cancel the trip on Friday, February 22, due to poor road conditions, a poor weather report, or a poor trail condition report from the US Forest Service. Please contact Trip Leader to sign up for the trip and to provide your contact number and e-mail so you can be notified of updates or a postponement. If there is not enough snow for the snowshoe, we will have an option to hike the Kachina Trail as a day hike. I will notify all the participants of the conditions and see what everyone wants to do.**

**Winter tips:** Layered lightweight clothes work best: you do not want to sweat. It will be chilly in the parking lot then will become considerably warmer after starting due to the exertion. Bring a heavier coat to put on for when we stop to rest or eat. You will cool off very fast and will be happy you brought one. Snow shoeing involves a slow steady pace, which is maintained throughout the hike. A small thermos with a hot drink or soup can be carried for lunch.

**Driving Directions:** I-17 N to Flagstaff, AZ 180N to Snow Bowl Road. Go about 6.7 miles to the Snow Bowl. Driving time will be determined by the road conditions in the high country. Allow extra time for slow conditions if present. Car pooling is possible and recommended.

Drive into the first parking lot on the right (south) as you enter the Ski Resort. The Kachina trailhead is located at the south end of the parking lot.