

## Winter Facts:

**Cross-country skiing** (commonly abbreviated **XC skiing**) is a [winter sport](#) in which participants propel themselves across snow-covered terrain using [skis](#) and poles.



A **Snowshoe** is [footwear](#) for walking over the [snow](#). Snowshoes work by distributing the weight of the person over a larger area so that the person's foot does not sink completely into the snow, a quality called "flotation".

### Where can I find Cross Country Skis and Snowshoes?

- The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center Loans out snowshoes on their property free of charge.
- Solstice Outdoors on Main Street rents and sell cross country skis and snowshoes.
- Northland College Outpost rents and sell cross country skis and snowshoes.

### Why Cross Country Ski or Snowshoe?

There are a number of reasons to enjoy the benefits of cross country skiing & snowshoeing:

Great cardiovascular exercise for adults and for kids

An entertaining social group activity



For more information call 715-682-2500  
[www.visitashland.com](http://www.visitashland.com)  
[www.travelashlandcounty.com](http://www.travelashlandcounty.com)

## Book Across the Bay February 16, 2013 6 pm



**Book Across the Bay** is the upper Midwest's most unique winter event, open to skiers and snowshoers of all ages and ability levels.

The 10-kilometer course, which is groomed for both classic-style and skate skiing, starts in Ashland and ends in Washburn, and follows a route not on land, but over the frozen surface of Lake Superior, the world's largest lake.

The event is held at night, and the course is lit by the stars above and up to 1,000 candles in ice luminaries that line the entire route.

[www.batb.org](http://www.batb.org)

It's winter and you want to get out and enjoy the white stuff!

## Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoeing

When the snow is here... It's sure fun to be out there!

Simple to learn and easy to access places with snow

A fun, inexpensive and active way to visit the outdoors



## Cross Country Ski Trails



· **Ashland Ski Trails:** Most trails provide a combination of skating and classical skiing with two trails for classic only. The trails are gently rolling to flat terrain meandering through pine forest comprising several loops totaling 5 kilometers. The trails are maintained by volunteers. ASTA (Ashland Ski Trail Association) receives no funding from city, state, or federal governments. They ask for a nominal \$3.00

donations when using the trail to help continue the operation and maintenance of the trails. **Directions:** From Hwy 2 turn south on Beaser Ave. Travel approximately 1 mile to Maple Lane. Turn right on Maple Lane and travel west at the 3rd driveway on the right turn right in to the parking area.



### **Chequamegon Bay Golf Course Trail:**

Trail is located west of the 19th hole (clubhouse).

**Directions:** Take Hwy 2 west to Sanborn Ave. Take Sanborn Ave south to Hwy 137 make a right on 137 and proceed 1/4 mile. Golf Course is on the left.

**Copper Falls State Park:** Trails come complete with spectacular river scenery including copper-colored water and numerous frozen rapids and water falls. The park has four loops, beginner-intermediate and is generally well groomed and maintained. Total of 8.3km.

**Directions:** From Ashland drive south on Hwy 13 to Mellen. Turn left on Hwy 169. Follow the signs to the park approximately 2.5 miles.



*Full size trail maps and trail conditions are available on our website.*

*Just go to [www.visitashland.com](http://www.visitashland.com) and click on the Recreation tab and Cross Country Skiing.*

**Penokee Mountain Trail:** One-way interconnecting loops. In the Chequamegon National Forest. More Difficult/Classical. \$5.00 parking pass.

**Directions:** From Ashland drive south on Hwy 13 24 miles to Mellen. Turn right (west) on Hwy GG and drive 3 miles to trail.



**Mt Ashwabay:** Mt. Ashwabay offers both cross country skiing in a magnificent setting featuring stunning views of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and the Chequamegon National Forest. Cross country trails cover 30km with ratings from beginner to expert. All trails are groomed and tracked weekly or more frequently as necessary.

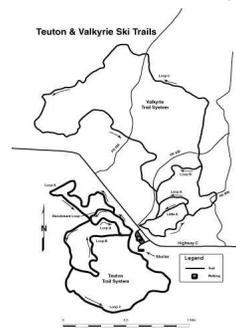
**Directions:** From Ashland take Hwy 2 West to Hwy 13.North. 10 miles toward Bayfield. Left on Ski Hill Rd.



### **Mt. Valhalla -Teuton and Valkyrie Ski Trails:**

Valhalla Winter Sports Area is nestled in the Chequamegon National Forest. It offers two systems of cross-country ski trails developed by the US Forest Service and groomed by local volunteers. The three Valkyrie loops run through red and Jack pine forests, with magnificent views of the area on the Sun Bowl Loop. The Teton Ski Trail also features three loops in a minced birch and maple forest with a roller coaster near the end of Loop B. C Loop is groomed for skating. Valkyrie loops are easy and good for classic & skating. Teuton loops are classic and more difficult.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 2 west . Turn left on Hwy 13 north. Follow US13 6.7miles to County Hwy C in Washburn. Turn left on C and drive 8.5 miles to the trail head.



## Snowshoe Trails



### **Northern Great Lakes**

**Visitor Center** allows guest to check out snow shoes and snowshoe on the trails behind the center. **Directions:** Take Hwy 2 West to County Hwy G. Turn right on County Hwy G. First driveway on the right.

**St. Peters Dome** is another great place to snowshoe!

The hike to St. Peter's Dome is 3.6 miles round trip. The trail has moderately steep climbs. It is a good idea to take water along on this hike. To reach St. Peter's Dome cross the log bridge over Morgan Creek where the trail forks and hike up the gradually climbing trail. Soon you will come upon an old campground that was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's. The old brick fireplaces, an artesian well, and a round cistern are all that remain of the campground. The trail becomes narrow as you walk across much steeper slopes. There is a lake sized beaver pond to your left. As you continue east the trail drops in elevation and crosses a rocky stream bed. Beyond the stream the trail becomes steeper and the tread is rocky. In a bit the grade becomes more gentle and you cross a snowmobile trail. At the base of the granite outcrop that is the dome you will find a jumble of large broken rock. From the quarry. The trail follows the old road for a hundred feet and then turns left off the road and begins to climb earnest. After two switch backs the trail reaches a grassy opening. Continue on the trail and climb to the overlook and shear drop on the north face of St. Peter's Dome. On a clear day you can see the Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands. \$5.00 parking pass.

**Directions** From Ashland drive south in Highway 13 about 13 miles to Highway C (about 1 mile south of Marengo). Turn right on C and follow it 4.8 miles to Midway Road. Continue straight on Midway Rd 1.2 miles to County Line Road (FR 199). Turn left (south) on County Line Rd and drive 3.9 miles to the parking lot which is on the left (east) side of the road.

**Houghton Falls:** To get to Houghton Falls take HWY 13 north of Ashland and travel 3.5 miles north of Washburn on HWY13. Turn Right on Houghton Falls Road and go 1/2 mile to Houghton Falls Nature Preserve parking lot on your right. There is currently no fee for hiking or parking and pets are allowed if leashed and cleaned up after!

