

Catskiing in Macedonia

It's going to be our first winter on the Balkan. After our successful two seasons in the Caucasus we expand our operation in our **third season** to Macedonia. We will operate only one cat with a maximum of 12 freeriders. An additional snowcat is available as back-up machine in a ski area not too far away.

Itinerary

- **Arrival day:** Saturday, arrival Skopje (SKP).
Pick up at the airport & transfer to our lodge (about 1 hour by minibus and then 1 hours by snowcat).
[Situationally, it could be necessary to do an overnight stay in Skopje or at hotel in Shar mountain, and head to the lodge in the morning.]
- **Day 1:** brunch, safety meeting, catskiing.
- **Days 2 to 6:** catskiing in the mountains around the lodge.
- **Departure day:** Saturday, after breakfast transfer to the airport.
[Due to the situation, the transfer could be carried out the evening before. Overnight would be in Skopje.]
Departure Skopje (SKP).

Optionally, the last night can be spent in Skopje with local guide, that will take you to restaurant/park/museum or nightlife based on your wants. Of course there is also the possibility to extend the stay in Macedonia and ski in one of the resorts on the Balkan.

Services included

- Pick up at Skopje airport and **transfer** to the lodge and back.
- 5-7 nights in a **simple mountain lodge**.
- **Breakfast, packed lunch and Macedonian dinner**.
- Depending on the situation up to 2 nights near the airport (arrival & departure).
- 5-6 days catskiing.
- **Local guide & safety guide**.
- German or English speaking contact persons with local knowledge.
- Skopje local guide (if wanted)

The group size is limited to a maximum of **12 participants** (there are 12 seats in the cabin).

Price: 1'950,-€ per person (including guiding)

Dates

- January 2019 till February 2019

For our pioneer season on the Balkan we have chosen just the weeks with the highest likelihood of good snow conditions. In January we should start on a proper snowbase and will finish end of February before the risk of high temperatures is becoming too high.

Requirements

- safe freeriding in alpine terrain.
- safe technique in downhill and ascent even in difficult conditions.
- Condition for short ascents.
- Patience (for alpine conditions, weather and the situation in a transition country like Macedonia).

Please keep in mind that there must always be a reserve for a safe expedition. We move here in undeveloped terrain. External support is virtually impossible. We are on our own. Experience shows that in particular weaker participants suffer injuries more often than average.

Accommodation

For our pioneer season on the Balkan we will establish a mobile lodge on a sheepfold at around 1'900 meters. There are no other buildings in this area. Bottleneck is always the water and electricity supply. We will have to get along with little number of toilets and showers this time.

It is a pioneer season with adventure and for sure unforeseen surprises...

Guiding

In Macedonia we cooperate with a group of experienced guides, who know the area, are well trained and speak very good English. For our groups in our pioneer season, we will have two guides per cat – one head guide and one safety guide.

Safety Equipment

Airbags and other avalanche safety equipment can be rented on-site. A timely reservation of the material is necessary because our stock is limited.