

Week 9: Dog Days and Sunsets 9km

This week we will be starting at the Dog Trails parking lot. This area has a separate entrance about 300 m east of the entrance to CNSC.

IMPORTANT: A substantial part of this week's tour takes place on Dog Friendly trails where you will definitely meet DOGS. As well, we want to ensure that DOGS are the BOSS. This is their special territory so PLEASE ski with caution and be aware that DOGS RULE and they are EVERYWHERE. Please read the rules about the use of leashes and cleaning up poop if Fido is accompanying you.

Starting at the parking lot head west (right) up the hill on Dog on It. Keep left to loop back, passing through Lost Dog Junction and K9 Crossing where you will keep right onto Top Dog. At the well-marked turn off you will take a left on to our new trails! Very exciting! Keeping left you will ski the dog-friendly Sun Dog loop, moving clockwise up, then double dog down the hill and back to the turnoff through a scenic aspen forest.

This time you will veer left up a long uphill, Raven's Col. *THIS* section does not welcome dogs, so if your furry friend *DID* join you, you will have to go back to the Dog Trails. After a bit of cardio testing climbing, you will reach Birch Bend. Keep left for more uphill fun and some exhilarating downhill as well. This rolling one way trail will give you many different vistas and you will wonder whether you have been transported to a different world! So beautiful! The sun peeking through the deciduous forest is a wonder.

Once again, remember to keep yourself safe on some of the steeper downs and corners. Birch Bend ends in a T intersection with Ravens Col. There are warning signs as you approach this intersection so, please pay heed. Keeping right onto the beautiful flowing Ravens Col you will pass the now familiar intersection at Birch Bend and replace your uphill grind with step turns and snowplows back down to the junction heading back to the Dog Trail area.

Keep left onto Top Dog for a more relaxed downhill, where you may have to pause for a pug or plow for a poodle. Back at Lost Dog Junction, hang a left and loop right down to the parking lot. Put Fifi on the leash, make sure the poop is flicked and off to the car you go!