Winter Use Reservation Information & Parking Permit

TRIP ORGANIZER: Please be sure to share this information and other reservation information with your group prior to departure! Please bring your confirmation letter with you and post it in the designated location when you arrive at the hut.

HUT AMENITIES: Janet’s Cabin has 20 beds, divided among 4 bunk rooms. Overflow camping around the huts is not permitted. Janet’s Cabin is equipped with propane cooktops, wood burning heat stove, firewood, cooking/eating utensils, mattresses, solar-powered lighting, indoor composting toilets, a wood burning sauna, toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies.

CAPACITY: The capacity of Janet’s Cabin in winter is 20 people. Groups are limited to registered guests only. Overcrowding is in violation of SHA’s US Forest Service Permit and will be subject to fines and restrictions on all future reservations.

HUT USER RESPONSIBILITIES: The success of SHA depends on the care provided by our guests. You are responsible for cleaning the cabin when you arrive and depart. This includes sweeping floors, cleaning the kitchen, washing your dishes, wiping down and spraying all surfaces, and hauling out ALL FOOD AND TRASH (trash bags are provided). Other instructions and rules are posted in the cabin. Please do not snowshoe on the stairs or decks and do not lean skis or poles up against the windows.

HUTMASTERS AND VOLUNTEERS: SHA realizes that groups that reserve the entire cabin are seeking privacy. However, SHA does not prevent hutmasters or volunteers from staying in the downstairs Hutmasters’ Quarters, even when one group has booked the cabin. All hutmasters and volunteers are expected to respect the privacy of cabin guests while carrying out their maintenance duties. Maintenance staff is at the cabin once a week and guests should not be surprised to encounter hutmasters or volunteers during their visit.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE: ARRIVAL TIME IS 2:00 PM AND DEPARTURE TIME IS 11:00 AM. Please time your travels so you arrive at Janet’s Cabin after 2:00 PM. Upon departure, have your bags packed, cabin clean and other items on the “Before Departure Checklist” finished. Be ready to depart by 11:00 AM.

NO MOTORIZED ACCESS: During the winter season (November to May), motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, are prohibited near Janet’s Cabin within the 60-acre envelope designated by the US Forest Service. Violations are punishable by law. Please plan to access Janet’s Cabin under your own power, carrying your own gear.

NO DOGS: Dogs are not permitted at or near the huts. This is due to social, aesthetic and wildlife concerns, and because of the need to melt snow for water. A US Forest Supervisor’s Order prohibits dogs within 200 feet of Janet’s Cabin. Violations are punishable by law.

NO FIRES: Due to the potential forest fire danger, campfires are not permitted. Outdoor cooking is also not permitted as it attracts bears and other wildlife. It is illegal to discharge fireworks in the National Forest.

NO DAY USE: Day use is not permitted.
STANDARD WINTER ROUTES to JANET’S from COPPER MTN/UNION CREEK TRAILHEAD

DIRECTIONS TO PARKING AT THE ALPINE LOT & SHUTTLE INFORMATION

From I-70, turn onto the Highway 91/Copper Mountain exit. Go 1/2 mile past the Copper Mountain Resort Main Entrance to "Free Parking" signs and turn RIGHT. Take the first RIGHT into the ALPINE LOT.

PARKING & SHUTTLE: Park along the perimeter of the North side of the ALPINE LOT by the Transportation Center. If ALPINE LOT is full, go across the street to the FAR EAST LOT and park along the perimeter of the parking lot. Post your parking permit on the dash and make extra copies if your group requires more than one vehicle. Next, take the free shuttle from the Transportation Center to West Village/Union Creek. DO NOT PARK AT THE WEST VILLAGE/UNION CREEK.

JANET’S CABIN FROM UNION CREEK TRAILHEAD/2 ROUTE OPTIONS

Guller Creek drainage is the standard winter route to Janet’s Cabin. Begin at the Union Creek Trailhead at Copper Mountain Ski Area, where you have two choices. The popular option begins by riding K and L lifts to the top of West Tenmile ski run OR begin by skinning or snowshoeing up Roundabout and West Tenmile ski runs. Important Lift Access Details: For lift operation times, contact Copper Mountain at 970-968-2882. If utilizing the lifts, you can get a one-ride lift ticket for the K & L lifts by presenting your 10th Mountain confirmation email at the Union Creek ticket window. Please note: Guests using snowshoes or who are pulling sleds are not permitted on the lifts and should access Janet’s via the Roundabout/West Tenmile option.

RIDE THE K & L LIFTS OPTION 3.7 miles (mileage is from the top of the L lift)

After riding K and L lifts (aka Kokomo and Lumberjack), ski about ¼ mile down the extreme west (skier’s LEFT) side of the West Tenmile ski run to a backcountry gate in the ski resort boundary at 10,640’ (an altimeter eliminates guesswork here).

OR SKIN OR SNOWSHOE UP ROUNDABOUT & WEST TENMILE SKI RUN OPTION 4.9 miles (mileage is from the bottom of the Roundabout ski run)

From Union Creek Trailhead, skin or snowshoe up the extreme west (looker’s RIGHT) side of Roundabout ski run 0.6 miles to the base of L lift. Continue up the extreme west (looker’s RIGHT) side of the West Tenmile ski run to a backcountry gate in the ski resort boundary at 10,640’ (an altimeter eliminates guesswork here).

FOR BOTH ROUTE OPTIONS: Once you get to the backcountry gate, leave the ski area by following the blue diamond marked route west, through the gate and into the forest. Continue on an obvious trail-cut (take your skins off) as it traverses then drops west into the Guller Creek drainage to cross Jacque Creek and Guller Creek in an open area at 10,460’. From the crossing, the trail stays on the north side of the creek for 2 miles to approximately 11,120’. Here the valley widens and becomes very low angled. Switch to the south side of the creek here, and continue up the drainage another mile to where the valley steepens and narrows. If you haven’t done so already, put your skins on here. Continue up to Janet’s Cabin.
MORE CHALLENGING WINTER ROUTE to JANET’S from VAIL PASS TRAILHEAD

For experienced groups only, this challenging route requires more difficult route-finding and trail-breaking than the popular Union Creek Trailhead options. This route forms the bulk of the hut-to-hut connection between Janet’s and the Shrine Mountain Inn. Most of the route follows timberline, skirting high around several mountainsides. It’s a more interesting trip than Guller Creek, with tremendous views and plenty of challenging navigation.

DIRECTIONS TO VAIL PASS TRAILHEAD

To reach the Vail Pass Trailhead, drive I-70 14.3 miles east from Vail or 5.4 miles west from Copper Mountain Resort. Take Exit 190 and park at the indicated overnight parking area.

JANET’S CABIN FROM VAIL PASS TRAILHEAD 5.7 miles

Begin at the Vail Pass Trailhead. Put your skins on and ski south across Tenmile Creek, then take a slightly climbing traverse south then southwest into Wilder Gulch. Cross south through Wilder Gulch at the 10,600’ level. Leave Wilder Gulch and climb 1 mile up the south ridge of Wilder Gulch to a shelf at 11,280’. Move south off the ridge here, and take a traversing climb another mile to timberline at a small saddle and knob in the Stafford Creek Drainage (11,640’). Traverse the head of Stafford Creek by following an 11,600’ contour, and gain an open saddle on the south ridge of the drainage at 11,680’. Take a slightly dropping contour southeast from the saddle 1/4 mile down to Janet’s Cabin at the head of Guller Creek. The hut is just below the last timber a few hundred feet northwest of Guller Creek. If you find yourself above timberline you have gone too high.

VAIL PASS WINTER RECREATION AREA FEE: This hut is located in the Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area. Use of this hut during most of the winter requires payment of additional fees to the US Forest Service that will be charged at the time you make your reservation. This is not a parking fee; it applies regardless of which trailhead is used. The $10.00 per person per night fee is in effect from Thanksgiving through the end of April, children 15 and under are free.

SELF RELIANCE REQUIRED: You are on your own on the trail and at Janet’s Cabin. You must be self-reliant and prepared for emergencies. Plan ahead and be prepared to execute a self-rescue. In the event of an emergency call or text 911, or call Summit County Non-Emergency Dispatch at 970-668-8600.

MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Summit Huts Association
Office | PO Box 2830 Breckenridge, CO 80424
Phone | (970)453-8583
E-mail | summithuts@summithuts.org
Website | www.summithuts.org
Janet’s Cabin is located in the White River National Forest and operates under special use permit from the Forest Service - USDA. SHA is an equal opportunity service provider.

*For use at ALPINE LOT, FAR EAST LOT, or Vail Pass Trailhead – Winter only*