



McMillan Ski Club's Guide to Mt Hotham

Welcome to McMillan! If you're a first timer or if you haven't been here recently, here's some information to help you enjoy your holiday.

Entry Fee and Parking at Hotham

You can now only buy your resort entry either online or at the RMB Office during business hours. Go to <http://www.mthotham.com.au/travel/entry/> for further information and to buy your pass.

Overnight parking is in designated roadside zones or car parks which are just down the road towards Dinner Plain. Unload your gear in the loading zone near Jack Frost, park your car in the overnight car parks, and catch the bus back up (see below). Use the car parks to avoid the small chance that your car may be damaged on the roadside by snow clearing.

Getting Around

The free Village Bus Service starts at 6.45am, and runs regularly until late (usually around 2am) between the overnight parking areas and Hotham Central. Look for the blue and yellow signs. Our nearest bus stop is Bus Stop 7, just outside Jack Frost, Big D is Bus Stop 5 and Hotham Central is Bus Stop 1.

The (\$8Ad/\$4Ch each way) Dinner Plain Shuttle Bus operates from Hotham Village (in the car park opposite Hotham Central) or from outside the Big D throughout the day for most of the season (check the timetable in the lodge or grab a copy from Guest Services). Make sure you let the driver know that you are just visiting Dinner Plain to avoid having to pay the resort entry fee. A Dinner Plain Night bus also runs for part of the season on Wed and Sat nights.

Ski Lift tickets can be purchased just across from McMillan at Jack Frost. The ticket office is open every day from 8am to 5.30pm, but stays open until 9pm on Fridays and Sundays during peak season. If you are an intermediate skier or above, you can then cross the road and access the main Village ski runs via Frosty Drop and the Davenport Access Trail (snow permitting). Tickets can also be purchased from Big D or Hotham Central. You can purchase your tickets for the next day from 3pm to avoid having to line up in the morning when you're heading out for first tracks!

Kids Ski School

All kids' lessons commence at the Big D (Bus Stop 5). Milo Mighty Mites for kids 3-5 years and Milo Kids Klub for kids 8-14. There are no bookings – just turn up at the designated times and sign your kids in. **Get there early. Latecomers might not get into lessons. Best to arrive by 9am at the latest. Purchasing a lesson ticket does not reserve a place in the programs and there are no refunds.** Kids should be ready in their gear, including ski boots, helmet and gloves. Children should wear goggles or sunglasses to protect their eyes and if the weather is particularly bad, a neck warmer is a great idea (check the Big D shop for prices less than \$20). Don't forget the sunscreen.

NOTE: There is no Hire at Big D. The closest equipment hire location is Jack Frost.

There are half day and full day programs (full day includes lunch). For Mighty Mites, the half day program runs until noon, and the full day program to 3.00. For Kids Klub, the half day program finishes at 12.15-12.30pm and the full day program finishes at 3.15-3.30pm. Snacks and drinks are provided for both programs. There is no afternoon only lesson.

It can get busy in the mornings, so if you can organise tickets and ski hire the day before (tickets for the next day can be purchased after 3pm), it will make it much easier on the day.

(Kids Ski School continued)

The contact number at the Kids Snowzone is 03 5759 4451.

Milo Mighty Mites (3-5 years old)

Mighty Mites start inside Big D on the ground level from 8.30 to 9.30am – sign them in and drop them off to their own special area (no parents allowed!) There are lessons for all levels of skiers (no snowboard lessons for Mighty Mites). The Ski Instructors are fantastic with the little ones and will often start beginners inside to get their confidence up, before taking them out to the special "Magic Carpet".

Make sure you are there early with the kids ready to go in their ski boots and ski clothing, including helmet, gloves and goggles/ sunglasses.

On your first day for the season, you will also need to have the Mighty Mites registration form filled out – this can take some time, so it is best to fill it out the night before if possible. You can pick one up from the Big D, Hotham Central or Jack Frost.

The kids can sometimes get a little teary when you drop them off, but don't worry - the instructors will help them settle in and in most cases, they are fine after you leave! The 3 year olds have their own groups and a special room to make it easier for them to get started. If they still don't settle, you will get a call to let you know. For some children, a private lesson might be the best way to get started, or it might be worth waiting another year – every child is different. The best spot to watch is upstairs at the Big D – grab a coffee and your camera to capture their first moment on skis!

Kids Klub (6-14 years old)

For kids 6-14 there are lessons for all levels of skiing and snowboarding, starting outside Big D from 9am-9.30am.

Again, don't be late or your kids may miss out. Try to arrive by 9.00am with the kids all ready to go in their ski/snowboard boots.

You will also need to complete a plastic registration tag – these are at Big D or you can grab one from any of the ticket counters or Guest Services beforehand. The tag will need to be attached to your child's jacket/pants along with their ticket. You do not need to complete the Mighty Mites registration form. When you are ready, just look for the signs (skiing or snowboarding) and speak to one of the instructors who will sign your child into the appropriate group. Participants in Levels 1 (Koala), 2 (Platypus), 3 (Possum) will not require poles, so it is best not to bring them along.

Older Kids (15 years +)

Kids 15 years and older can participate in Adult lessons which are held at 10am or 1.30pm, starting outside Hotham Centre in the main Hotham Village. No bookings required, just turn up with a valid lift and lesson ticket.

Private Lessons for Kids

Private lessons for kids can be arranged at the Private Lesson counter downstairs at the Big D.

Childcare – Upstairs at the Big D

Hotham Day-care is licensed to cater for children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years and is a "Class 1 Children's Services Centre" approved by the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Contact Hotham Day Care to make your booking - advanced bookings recommended. Phone: 03 5759 4418 or email: daycare@hotham.com.au

Adult Ski School

Adult ski and board lessons are at 10am or 1.30pm (Afternoon lessons only during the peak season), commencing outside Hotham Central in the main Hotham Village. If you are dropping your kids off for lessons first, you should still have time to catch the bus from Big D to Central. Lessons are 2 hours – stand in front of the sign that matches your ability or talk to one of the instructors (in red). Get there early as latecomers may not be accepted. Have a valid lift and lesson ticket.

(Adult Ski School continued)

A range of private lessons are available and can be booked through the Hotham Snowsports Centre at Hotham Central or by calling 03 5759 4450.

Ski Hire

There are a number of ski hire outlets at Mt Hotham. The closest ones to McMillan are:

Hotham Sports Equipment Hire at Jack Frost –at Hotham Sports, you can package your lift ticket, lesson and equipment hire. There are also outlets at Hotham Central and Dinner Plain if you need to change over or return your gear. Jack Frost hire is open from 8am to 5.30pm, except Fridays and Sundays where it is open until 9pm during the peak season.

Hoys Ski Hire at Jack Frost – a family run business with discounts for McMillan members and guests. Refer to the sign at McMillan for discount rates. There are also outlets at Hotham Village and Dinner Plain. Usually open late, particularly on Fridays and Sundays. Located just opposite McMillan at the rear of the Supermarket. For further information: www.hoysskis.com.au

Valet Snow Sports - No more long waits in line for your hire equipment after the drive from home. Just fill in your online rental form, be sure to let them know you're staying at McMillan as well as your arrival time and your gear will be waiting for you. They will also come and pick up the rental gear after your stay. They have the latest gear and offer low prices, friendly service and a welcoming atmosphere. For further information: <http://www.valetsnowsports.com.au/>

First Tracks

On Wed to Sun during the peak season, the Heavenly Valley lift opens early at 7.30am for first tracks (snow permitting). Catch the bus to the Village, don't use the Davenport Access Trail, as the main Village Chair doesn't start until 8.30am. The ticket office at Hotham Central opens at 7.30am on these days if you need to grab a ticket.

Hotham Guest Services

Got a query about Hotham? Ask the Guest Services team. Guest Services is located in Hotham Central in the Hotham Village, near the ticket counters. Or look out for the Green jackets on the slopes. First time at Hotham, or if it has been a long time since you have skied at Hotham? You can request a free guided tour (beginner and intermediate runs only). Ask at the Guest Services desk or contact them on 03 5759 4470.

There are lots of other winter activities to enjoy such as Sparkling Sunset tours, snowshoe tours, snow grooming tours, Spa treatments, sled dog tours and scenic flights. Grab a brochure or a "What's On" newsletter from Guest Services for all the activities and weekly events.

Other Activities for the Kids:

- Harry the Snowdragon performs on stage every Wed and Sat at 4pm at the Big D Kids Snowzone.
- Night Skiing is on at Big D on Wed and Sat from 6.30pm-9.30pm (weather permitting). Only \$9 per night. If you're not too keen to hit the slopes, there's supervised night skiing/boarding for kids (6-14) at intermediate level and above on these nights from 7pm to 9pm. Cost is \$25 per child (includes the night lift ticket). Contact Guest Services to book or for further information. Registrations close at 2pm on the day.
- Kids snowmobiling – operates every afternoon at the top of Big D (subject to weather and snow conditions). \$15 per child for 15 mins – mini snowmobiles for kids, so no licence required! Purchase tickets at Big D ticket office. Sorry – kids only!
- Supervised Game and Movie nights are also available for 6-14 year

(Hotham Guest Services continued)

olds – contact Guest Services for more information.

Eating Out

The closest restaurants/bars are:

Upstairs at Jack Frost (just across from McMillan) - Family friendly dining with a tapas style menu. Open for dinner from 6pm every day. Drink specials available most nights between 4pm and 6pm and live music on Thurs to Sunday. Bookings recommended on 03 5759 3586.

The General (just near Big D) –pizza and bistro style food. Relaxed, family friendly pub, with takeaway and kids menus available. Open every day from 8am for breakfast, lunch and dinner. For bookings, call 03 5759 3523.

There are a number of other restaurants and bars at Hotham and Dinner Plain, ranging from casual cafes to fine dining. Just contact Guest Services, check the Hotham website or ask the McMillan members for recommendations.

Alpine Babysitting

Alpine Babysitting offers professional and qualified babysitters who are used to caring for children of various ages and they come to you. Babysitters can be booked by calling Jo English on 0408 990 828 or via email: info@alpinebabysitting.com.au. For more information check out www.alpinebabysitting.com.au

Emergency and Related Services

Medical Centre

The Mount Hotham Medical Centre is located behind the day car park in Hotham Village and is open every day from 10am to 5pm. No appointments required – just turn up. Emergencies are seen to first, so you may have to wait a little while. No bulk billing, so be prepared to pay a fair bit for a visit, although you should be able to claim some of back from Medicare when you return home.

Police

Situated opposite the General Store, the Hotham Police Station provides general policing as well as Search and Rescue resources. Contact number is 57593535. However, for emergencies, please call 000.

RACV /Towing

For on-mountain RACV service call 13 11 11

Alpine Towing 0418 689 951 or 5759 257

**HAVE A
GREAT STAY
AT McMILLAN**