

CUSTOM AND PRIVATE TRIPS

As always, we are happy to offer custom trips to better fit your schedule and goals. From intro level skills to advanced ski mountaineering techniques, we can build your dream trip! Call 719-333-2940 or email: usafarfting@gmail.com to check availability and pricing for your custom experience.

DISCLAIMERS

A High Risk Activities Worksheet (AF 4391) is required to participate in ANY high risk activity, for ALL Active Duty Personnel. It is required and must be completed before they participate in most of our Outdoor Rec Adventure Programs. This responsibility lies solely on the Active Duty participant and must be submitted to CC or AOC.

OAP CANCELLATION POLICY

- Full payment for all trips is due at time of registration.
- Cancellations within ONE WEEK of the activity date will NOT be refunded or rescheduled unless otherwise stated.
- Cancellations 30 days or more before a multi-day activity start date are refundable in full unless otherwise stated. Cancellations within 30 days of a multi-day activity will not be refunded unless someone takes your place on the activity. Any refunds issued in this case will result in a service fee of 10% of the total price for the activity.
- “No Shows” are non-refundable and will not be rescheduled.
- All trips are subject to cancellation due to unsafe weather or conditions outside of our control. In this event, the trip will be rescheduled or you may opt for a refund minus irretrievable deposits. In the case of cancellation due to insufficient participation, a full refund will be issued.
- Refunds may be given within 30 days of the activity when a medical emergency or military TDY/PCS orders prohibit participation. A dated and signed doctor’s note or signed orders must be presented within 72hrs of the document issue date in order to receive a refund in these cases. If a refund is given for a multi-day trip in this instance, OAP will retain a service fee of 10% of the total price for the activity. No refunds will be given in these cases after 30 days from the trip start date.

usafasupport.com

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:30 am–5:30 pm

Wed 8:30 am–Noon


Sat 7 am–3 pm (Nov–April), 8 am–3 pm (May–Oct)


Closed Sundays and Holidays

United States Air Force Academy
Outdoor Recreation Center Bldg. 5136
719-333-2940/4475




10/23



AIR FORCE

OUTDOOR RECREATION

2023-24
AVALANCHE SAFETY
AIARE Courses & Custom
Avalanche Education



OFFICIAL PROVIDER OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR AVALANCHE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

USAFA Outdoor Adventure Programs is the only accredited provider of AIARE Courses in the Air Force and only the second provider DoD wide outside of the Mountain Warfare School in VT. We are proud to have in-house instructors and course leaders who have decades of experience in the avalanche industry as guides, ski patrollers and educators. All of our courses include state-of-the-art backcountry equipment and avalanche safety gear, as well as transportation to our field locations and all online or tangible materials needed for your course at no extra charge. As the leading adventure programming office in the DoD, we are excited to be able to offer you these courses at discounted rates, while maintaining the highest level educational product.



OUR BACKCOUNTRY GUIDES

USAFA is proud to have indisputably the most experienced and highest trained staff in all of military MWR. We don't contract our trips out to other outfitters, instead, we make sure our guides are consistently at the forefront of guide training and avalanche education in the industry, often exceeding the standard for the commercial industry. As a center for excellence, USAFA OAP only hires the highest quality staff and provides nationally and internationally accredited training for our guides and our guests. Guiding in and around avalanche terrain is a complex and difficult job. Each USAFA AIARE instructor has completed at a minimum avalanche safety Pro Level 1, has at least six seasons and 200 days of experience leading groups in avalanche terrain, is certified in Wilderness First Responder (WFR) or Wilderness First Aid (WFA) and has been through an extensive training and evaluation process to vet their guide quality. Our head guide is a certified AIARE Level 3 Avalanche Professional, Professional Member of the AAA, AMGA/IFMGA Certified Mountain Guide, and has 15 years of backcountry guiding experience guiding in Colorado, Alaska, Europe and Canada. Our guides are exceptional educators. They are patient and excited to share their craft with you. They are lifelong backcountry users and professionals and are committed to delivering an incredible experience while prioritizing group safety. By ensuring your guides are thoroughly qualified, we can confidently say your trip will be of the highest quality!

For a list of our guides, their backgrounds and training, please visit our website at

usafasupport.com/outdoor-adventure



The American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) is the only internationally recognized mountain guide training organization in the United States. As a member of the International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations (IFMGA), the AMGA offers the most robust and highest standard of education in this industry. It requires years of experience, course work and examination to gain credentialing as a mountain professional. Our guides undergo training from the AMGA in many mountain disciplines and our AMGA Certified Instructors and trained guides constantly offer in house continuing education and mentorship. For more information on the extensive training our guides pursue, visit amga.com

AVALANCHE CLASS AND COURSE

AIARE 1: Fundamentals of Avalanche Safety Course

This course is designed for all winter backcountry users and is the minimum standard of knowledge for safe travel in the Colorado high country. The course is comprised of self-paced online learning and either 2 evening online instruction sessions or in person classroom days and field days. Classroom and evening sessions go over key concepts, developing a common language in snow science, and basic rescue techniques. Field days are spent digging observation pits and evaluating the snowpack and practicing both safe travel and terrain evaluation techniques on Monarch Pass. Any user of the Colorado winter backcountry should have the knowledge taught in this course in order to have fun, stay safe, and help others if needed in the wintery wonderland we love to play in. All equipment, field transportation and instructors are included in this interesting, and exciting course. Classes are taught by certified AIARE instructors, AMGA/IFMGA Mountain Guide and avalanche professionals. No prior experience is needed, but we recommend taking an Intro to Backcountry day to iron out how to use your equipment and move in the backcountry so you can focus more on this course curriculum rather than fiddling with your gear.

Cost: \$585 – Includes instructors, field transportation, avalanche safety equipment and ski/snowboard/snowshoe equipment. Commercial value for all inclusions ~\$650

- **Dec 15-17**
- **Jan 5-7**
- **Feb 16-18**
- **March 22-24**

Call 719-333-2940 or email usafarfting@gmail.com for more information.

RecOn discount may be available.



ACCREDITATIONS AND TRAINING

The American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE) Provider is on the forefront of avalanche safety training and is the national standard for education in winter backcountry travel. As an AIARE provider, we offer four levels of avalanche safety training including our free evening Avalanche Awareness Class, one-day Avalanche Rescue Course and three-day Recreational Level 1 and 2 safety courses. Accredited through the American Avalanche Association (AAA), these courses allow backcountry users to develop decision making in and around avalanche terrain, which is plentiful in Colorado. These skills are developed through mentorship, feedback and hands on experience. We aim to create educated backcountry travelers that will be less likely to end up in avalanches and more likely to have long and happy lives in the mountains. For more information, visit avtraining.org

AIARE 2 Avalanche Safety Course

The next step in the avalanche educational progression, this course is designed for the backcountry user who has had at least one season of applying the skills learned in AIARE 1 and is ready to dive in to snow science and group decision making a little further. This course emphasizes more time and terrain in the field with a mentor, and is best suited for folks who are likely to be facilitating small groups of friends on hut trips or backcountry excursions. Students must have completed a AAA accredited level 1 course and a single day AIARE Rescue Course in order to sign up for the Level 2. This course is comprised of self-paced online learning, two evenings online instructional sessions and two full days of field work on Monarch Pass. Classes are taught by AIARE Instructors and an AMGA/IFMGA Mountain Guide.

Cost: \$600 – Includes all course materials, transportation, instructors, avalanche safety equipment and rental backcountry equipment if needed. Commercial value ~\$675

Dates: Custom groups only, call for available dates

AIARE Rescue Course

Dec 23, 30, Feb 3. Custom dates available.

This single day course is designed to teach and practice the essential companion rescue skills needed to venture into the Colorado backcountry landscape. Learn to use the basic and advanced functions of your avalanche transceiver, probe and shovel in a multitude of mock rescue scenarios building muscle memory and good habits. These are the skills you never want to use in reality, but need to have dialed in in the unlikely event you need them. This course can be taken before or after the AIARE Level 1, but is a requirement for Level 2. Learning the most up to date search patterns and techniques will give you the tools to help your partners when they need it most, and for you to feel confident your partners can help you too!

Cost: \$200 – Includes all avalanche rescue equipment, transportation, instructors and rental backcountry equipment if needed. Commercial value ~\$250.