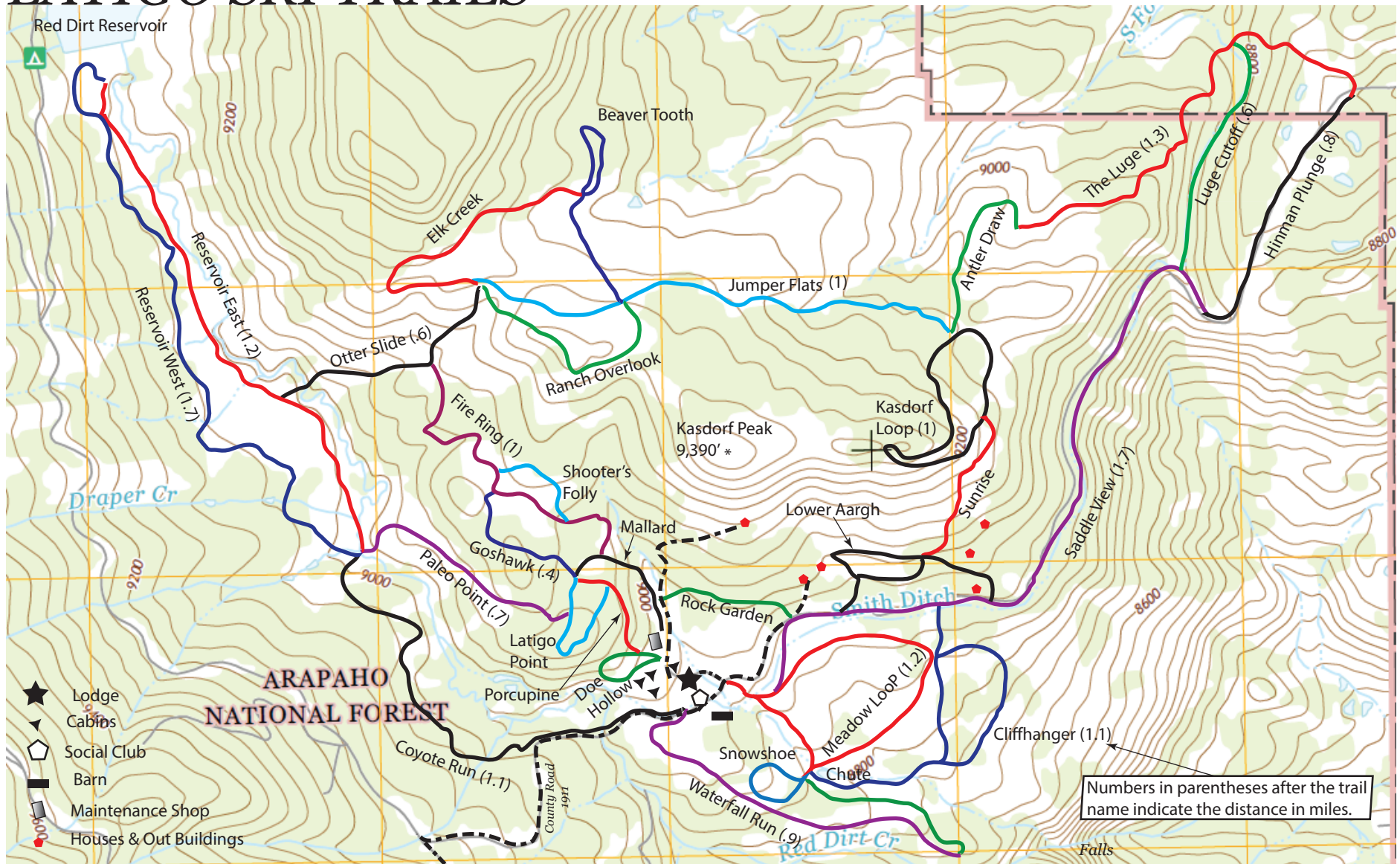


# LATIGO SKI TRAILS

Note: Colors do not indicate the degree of difficulty.



Latigo Ranch is an equal opportunity service provider on the Arapahoe/Routt/Medicine Bow National Forest.

## HINTS FOR SAFE WINTER RECREATION

† DO NOT SKI ALONE † INFORM SOMEONE OF YOUR ROUTE AND EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN † BE PREPARED FOR SUDDEN, DRAMATIC WEATHER CHANGES  
 † CARRY A TRAIL MAP † GUARD AGAINST SUNBURN AT THIS ALTITUDE † ADJUST TO ALTITUDE GRADUALLY; DON'T OVERDO IT THE FIRST DAY † TAKE  
 PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FROSTBITE AND HYPOTHERMIA, ESPECIALLY IN WINDY CONDITIONS WHICH PREVAIL IN OPEN TERRAIN † INQUIRE CONCERNING  
 TRAIL CONDITIONS BEFORE LEAVING LODGE † CARRY YOUR CELL PHONE (RANDY'S NUMBER IS 970-531-1302). † HAVE FUN † ENJOY THE SCENERY

<<< TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS ARE ON THE BACK >>>

# GUIDE TO LATIGO NORDIC SKI TRAILS

Because people rate their abilities so differently, we briefly describe each trail, avoiding the designations beginner, intermediate, advanced. Please talk with us if you have questions about your ability to negotiate a given trail. We don't list the time required to cover the trails, because that varies dramatically, depending upon skier ability.

## LOWER LOOPS

**WATERFALL & WATERFALL RUN:** It is a gentle downhill drop 90% of the way to the waterfall - that means 90% uphill coming home! Beautiful view of valley and Continental Divide. We recommend this run for people just arriving at Latigo; it is not as strenuous as some and helps you acclimatize more gradually. To see the waterfall itself, take a right at the sign at the eastern tip of the groomed trail and parallel the creek until you come to the falls, 1/4 mile beyond. From the sign, the trail is not groomed and may be quite challenging, but worth it. TERRAIN: Short runs of medium downhill with long stretches of gentle downhill ACCESS: Begin near barn or at trail head to east of lodge.

**SNOWSHOE LOOP:** A short loop good for beginner practice. TERRAIN: Medium downhill ACCESS: Arena Run or Meadow Loop.

**SLALOM HILL:** This wide, packed hill offers lots of fun for all levels of skiers who want to practice turns, stops or Telemark techniques. TERRAIN: Medium hill. ACCESS: Either through Snowshoe Loop or Meadow Loop.

**MEADOW LOOP:** This loop is great for practicing strides or for those who want long, flat stretches with very little uphill or downhill. You get some wide open views from the meadow.

TERRAIN: Flat, open ACCESS: Trail head to east of lodge.

**CLIFFHANGER:** This run is work! And fun! Upper route near Meadow Loop is gentle, easy. Run to the bottom is very steep, but great for telemarking off the track. TERRAIN: Upper run gentle, middle run medium hills, lower loop very steep. ACCESS: Waterfall Run, Saddle View or Meadow Loop.

## MIDDLE TRAILS

**SADDLE VIEW:** Paralleling the irrigation canal, this favorite trail is quite flat. A quiet ski in spectacular stands of aspen, it offers great protection on windy days. 2 miles from Latigo the saddle overlooking Red Dirt Creek Valley is a

view you won't forget. TERRAIN: Flat, aspens, pine. ACCESS: East of lodge.

**HINMAN PLUNGE:** This is the beginning of a commitment. A wonderful straight downhill zoom for a mile. But that means return uphill! TERRAIN: Long, gentle slope. ACCESS: Saddle View or Luge.

## THE PRETZL

**DOE HOLLOW, MALLARD & ROCK GARDEN:** Good warm-up trails, these short loops are very close to the cabins and easy to get to, with little elevation gain. Doe Hollow is perfect for beginner practice on a gentle slope with a gentle turn. Mallard is a flat loop, and Rock Garden connects to Saddle View. TERRAIN: Flat, gentle slopes, except east end of Rock Garden which has a steep, sharp turn. ACCESS: Trailhead above lodge near guest cabins.

**PORCUPINE CLIMB:** This gorgeous climb through mixed conifers gives access to the high routes and western valley. TERRAIN: Uphill for ½ mile. ACCESS: Doe Hollow just above the cabins.

**LATIGO POINT:** A close-in loop affording a commanding view of the Ranch and the valley below. TERRAIN: Flat with one curving pitch. ACCESS: Porcupine Climb or Mallard.

**FIRE RING & SHOOTER'S FOLLY:** These run in and out of the pines giving practice on all types of terrain. Good for beginners who want to discover new areas. TERRAIN: Undulating. ACCESS: Mallard or Porcupine Climb

**GOSHAWK:** Goshawk dives off to the left near the far end of Fire Ring, circling back to meet Latigo Point. Protected from wind. TERRAIN: One moderate pitch. ACCESS: Fire Ring or Latigo Point trail.

## HIGH ROUTES

**JUMPER FLATS:** No, it's not "juniper", and we have no idea why the oldtimers named it "Jumper". Maybe you can figure it out! For spectacular views of the Continental Divide and the Rabbit Ears Range to the North, climb to Jumper Flats. Best skied from the west, which is steep and gains several hundred feet elevation to put you on top of this flat mesa. Elk, deer, coyotes, snowshoe rabbits and ermine frequent the area. Be prepared for windy conditions on top. TERRAIN: Steep approach to top; flat on top. Variety of open areas and timbered slopes. ACCESS: Fire Ring, Otter Slide, Homestead, Sunrise. Once on top, take RANCH OVERLOOK for a great view of Latigo and the Old Park Valley.

**ELKCREEK, BEAVER TOOTH, ANTLER DRAW:** These remote trails are demanding because of their distance from the ranch, the climb to get to them and their challenging hills. Super views. Be prepared for windy conditions. TERRAIN: Flat ridges

dropping in and out of long, deep gullies. ACCESS: Jumper Flats.

**KASDORF LOOP:** For an immense view of Latigo, Eagle's Nest Wilderness, Middle Park Valley and the Continental Divide, push to the top of the loop! Watch for signs of elk. TERRAIN: Long, steep hill. ACCESS: Sunrise or Jumper Flats.

**THE LUGE:** This idyllic trail from Jumper Flats to Saddle View is exhilarating - a long, downhill run with lots of turns through spruce and fir. Ski it from west to east (top to bottom). For an unforgettable ski, whoosh downhill all the way from the top to Hinman. (See note on Hinman first!). Also watch for a short-cut from Luge to Saddle View. TERRAIN: steep, narrow, winding. ACCESS: Jumper Flats or Sunrise.

**SUNRISE:** As a shortcut to and from Jumper Flats, Sunrise offers a beautiful view, but is steep and difficult. Sunrise is also a good access to the top of the Luge, saving over a mile. TERRAIN: steep, straight, very fast. ACCESS: Jumper-Flats-to-Luge trail, Aargh! or Saddle View.

## WESTERN VALLEY TRAILS

**PALEO POINT:** From Latigo Point this gorgeous route meanders gently through pine forest, opening up into a long, gentle descent to Coyote Run and Red Dirt Res Trail. Great trip for adventurous beginners. TERRAIN: Gentle slopes, inding. ACCESS: Latigo Point.

**RED DIRT RESERVOIR:** The round trip to Red Dirt Reservoir by way of the creek valley covers about 6 miles. The trail passes through pine forests and parallels a mountain stream fringed with willows, somewhere under the snow! TERRAIN: Gentle uphill to reservoir. ACCESS: Paleo Point, Coyote Run, or Otter Slide.

**COYOTE RUN:** You get a little bit of everything on this one. Steep hills, flats, timber turns. It's a favorite run, but probably not for the beginner's first time out. Most enjoyable skiing from Doe Hollow. TERRAIN: Medium to steep hills, flat runs. ACCESS: Doe Hollow or trail by road entering Latigo.

**OTTER SLIDE:** The slide connects the High, Middle and Western routes. It is very steep at times. TERRAIN: Steep. ACCESS: Jumper Flats, Red Dirt East or Fire Ring.

## OFF TRAIL

**If you want challenging off-trail skiing and Telemark skiing, talk with us!**

## TRAIL PROFILES

**Helpful elevation profiles of some trails are posted in the Social Club by the hot tub room.**