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## Black Bay Ski Trails

### Birch Trail – Novice

Distance: 0.9 miles

The Birch Trail travels through a mostly level birch forest. It is ideal for a short day or moonlight ski.

### Pine Trail – Intermediate

Distance: 5.1 miles

The Pine Trail offers easy grades and good striding through an evergreen forest. After the trailhead, turn left at the first junction. Cross a small beaver pond and turn right at the junction with the Ridge Trail. Proceed east. A shortened loop (3 miles) can be made by taking the return trail option at the mid-route picnic table. The Pine Trail joins the Birch Trail for the last 0.4 miles.

### Ridge Trail – Advanced

Distance: 6 miles (*temporarily closed*)

The Ridge Trail is a longer, more challenging ski, featuring travel on and off a rocky ridge. A few short steep grades with turns are found on the north and east sections of the trail. The trail rejoins the Pine and Birch Trails for a progressively easier ski back to the trailhead. Adequate snow cover is a must for successful travel.

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## Need Skis?

Voyageurs National Park, International Falls Community Education Department, and the Friends of Voyageurs National Park have teamed up to offer cross-country ski rentals at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center. We have a select number of adult-sized skis, boots, and poles for daily rental. Children's skis and equipment are free-of-charge. **Skis may be rented between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**

All proceeds go to the International Falls Community Education Department for maintenance of ski equipment.

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## Winter Safety

- When traveling on frozen lake surfaces, travel with others and carry survival gear. Minimum survival gear includes extra clothes, food, a compass, matches, a map, and a signal mirror.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. Follow your plan.
- Be alert for all ice-covered rocks and ridges. Do not overdrive your headlights.
- Know where thin ice areas are located. Check with a ranger before you go if you have any questions.

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## Regulations

- No pets allowed on ski trails.
- Ice fishing shelters must be registered with the state.
- A fishing license is required by the State of Minnesota.
- Fishermen must break up their ice blocks as soon as they are removed from the water so they will not be a hazard to snowmobiles.
- The maximum speed for snowmobiling is 45 mph on lake surfaces and 25 mph on land portages. The maximum auto speed on the ice road is 30 mph.
- All snowmobiles must be registered according to state law.

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**Voyageurs National Park**  
International Falls, MN 56649  
(218) 283-6600

[www.nps.gov/voya](http://www.nps.gov/voya)

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Voyageurs National Park

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## Black Bay Ski Trails

### Map and Guide



Black Bay beaver pond

## Rainy Lake Visitor Center Winter Hours

Open Wednesday – Sunday  
(218) 286-5258

*October 1 – December 31*  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*January 2 – mid-May*  
10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

# Black Bay Ski and Snowshoe Trails

