Public Feedback Survey: 2023 Blackcomb Winter Public Access

1. Have you used any of the Blackcomb public access routes this winter?

Yes	64%
No, but I plan to use one or more of these routes.	28%
No I do not plan to use any of these routes in the future.	8%

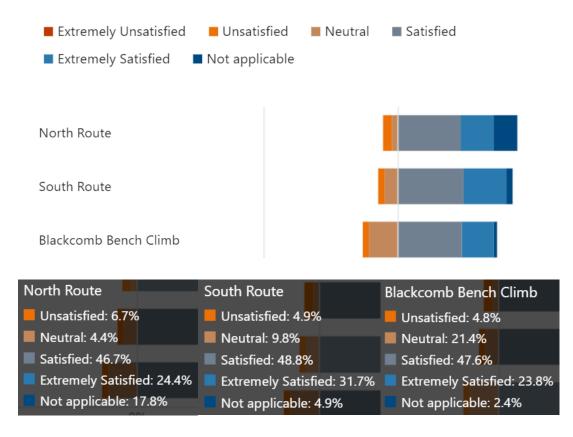
2. Yes, I have used the following: (choose all that apply)

North Route (to Phalanx area)	30%
South Route (to Seventh Heaven)	39%
Blackcomb Bench Climb (Lower access and uphill route to j unction of the North and South routes, and Excelerator Co nnector.	30%

3. No, but I plan to use one or more of these routes: (Choose all that apply)

North Route (to Phalanx area)	32%
South Route (to Seventh Heaven)	34%
Blackcomb Bench Climb (Lower access and uphill route to unction of the North and South routes, and Excelerator C	5
nnector)	

4. If you have used the winter public access routes, please indicate your satisfaction of use.

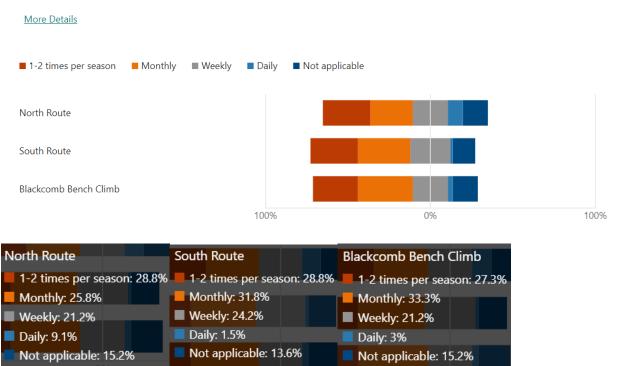


5. If you have used more than one access route to Garibaldi Park, was there a route you preferred?



6. If you have used, or intend to use, the public access routes, please indicate your frequency of...

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7. If you did have a preferred route, can you tell us why?

Bench Trail because didn't need avalanche gear

Depends on my objective

Gets me to disease ridge

Love 'em all

My route use depends on the conditions, snow level, safety, weather. Various options are useful to decide what is the best option.

None of the above!

Personal

Possible access to phalanx area when alpine access is unavailable

Prefer the narrow trails and access to optional descents..

South Route because of its access to a wider range of backcountry options vs Phalanx

South route is easier skinning and faster to reach skiable BC terrain.

South route is preferred as it is less remote (more time spent in controlled area).

South Route was most direct access to Garibaldi and Spearhead Traverse. North Route was really lovely though. I can see it being used more by Whistler locals than as a destination.

South route, because it is quicker and easier travel to the alpine than north route, and puts you in a more central part of the blackcomb/spearhead.

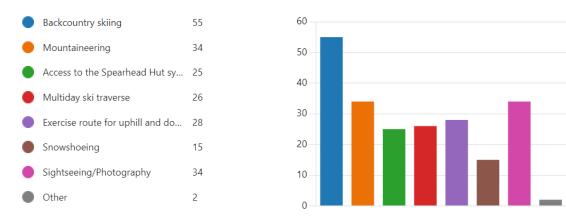
South route. Shortest route to Spearhead Range. Least elevation gain.

The access allows enough time to safely get to the backcountry without disrupting the resort operations. If this option was not there, it would cause users to skin up more disruptive paths and increase risk to resort and backcountry users.

The North Route doesn't seem to go anywhere in a timely manner. It still needs a lot of work if it's a serious proposition. The Bench climb as it has been developed makes sense if we can access while the lifts are open. The fact that we have to go up in the early morning hours long before the lifts are open makes Cruiser a much quicker alternative. This is especially true if the time constraint is to clear the base of 7th by 9:30. That's too early for slower groups especially those coming from Vancouver.

 When it comes to winter public recreation and use of the public access routes within and through the Blackcomb Controlled Recreation Area, please identify your recreation interests? (Check all that apply)

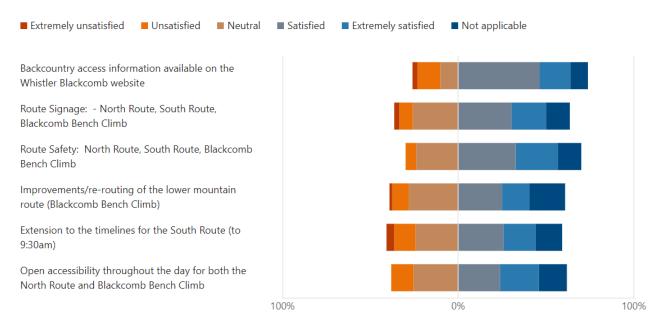
More Details



Backcountry skiing	25%
Mountaineering	16%
Access to the Spearhead Hut system	11%
Multiday ski traverse	12%
Exercise route for uphill and downhill skiing inbounds	13%
Snowshoeing	7%
Sightseeing/Photography	16%
Other	1%

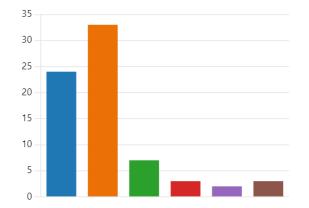
Other: "Good Mental Health", "Single Day Spearhead Traverse"

9. If you have used any of the Blackcomb uphill public access routes, please indicate your satisfaction with each of the following:

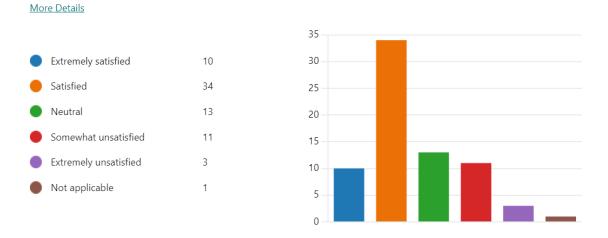


10. Whistler Blackcomb reduced the Backcountry Lift Ticket price for the 2022-2023 season from \$62 to \$45. Please indicate your satisfaction with this price reduction:



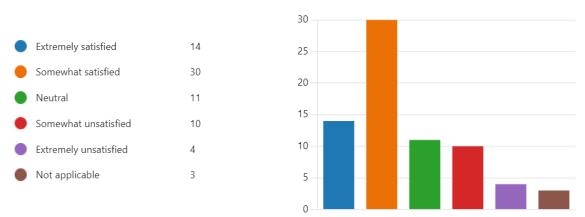


11. Overall, how satisfied are you with the options that are available for uphill winter public access through the Blackcomb Controlled Recreation Area to Garibaldi Park?

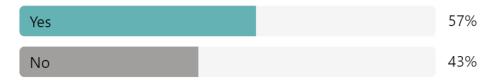


12. Overall, how satisfied are you with the public access plan that has been made available by Whistler Blackcomb for the 2022-2023 winter?

More Details



13. Are you currently a Whistler Blackcomb Seasons Pass holder?



14. Do you have any additional comments regarding the Blackcomb uphill public access routes and the overarching public access plan:

12 is a bit vague. I've bought a 5 day edge card this year. Would like to do an epic pass and winter some year visiting a lot of resorts but am most interested in backcountry access. I grew up downhill skiing and once owned a cabin in whistler but am no longer a big fan of mechanized lift access. It would be a huge and inexpensive improvement if the time for the south route were extended to 11am. I primarily access the area for backcountry day trips from Vancouver.

Access should be unrestricted by a time limit.

All day and all weather access to both the north and south sides of the mountain should be the priority, imo. Thanks

Are they going to patrol the area?

Blackcomb bench climb takes to an extremely limited part of Garibaldi. Further access requires exposed travel to avoid Blackcomb boundary. The cutoff time for south route makes it unfeasible for most users.

Blackcomb Glacier has an ascent route. It was excluded from the access options. Snowshoe access to the Spearhead Range is inadequate.

Climbing options can utilize bike and hiking trails, options for descending start points.

designed parking area at the bottom of blackcomb . route from the bottom of creek side or special shuttle from the free parking to the bottom of the route

good job to all involved! Thanks Vail Resorts for making this possible.

Gov't should be promoting use of parks thru better trail grooming & building thru ski areas.

Hopefully the south route is made permanent - I am unsure what 'interim' means.

I would like to have a map, Hope I can find one

Just do it... most of these engagement sessions are the government procrastinating

Make it safer

No

North route is well marked (orange boundary tape, blue route tape, pink Crystal exit tape, signage overall). Deadfall work is appreciated and reasonable for 2m snow pack. A bridge (or some tree fall) over Crystal Creek wld improve things (especially early season). Shouldn't have taken so many years and political intervention for Vail to finally honor their CRA obligation.

North route signed needs improvement, sufficient flagging and the flagging color (blue) is very difficult to see in a snowy forested environment.

Should not be time limited

The Blackcomb uphill public access routes and public access plan are great. Anything that allows for safer and better access for all, is excellent for community building and accessibility.

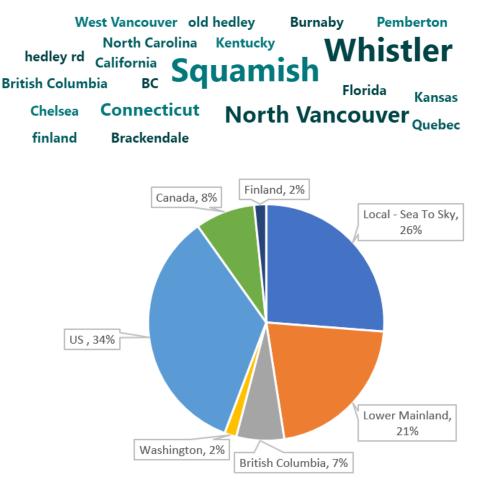
The phalanx route goes through extremely steep terrain then enters phalanx which is heavily used by blackcomb heli. Travelling past phalanx would not be possible in a day. But accessing the lower phalanx area as a day trip from the lake near twist and shout could make a good day trip.

There needs to be a better access to the Spearhead via Blackcomb Glacier

Very poor design, in no way designed to meet original intents. Much parkland given to resort for CRA without a satisfactory access to the much more distant park boundaries...

Wish the South Route could still be open longer. It really seems to be the most elegant way to access the Spearhead Traverse or at least some of the runs in the zone. I know you'd need to start early to do the full Spearhead, but a dedicated route off-piste would really be the ideal.

Yes I have some additional comments. I had a really bad experience trying to access the park through the whister side on day in 2019. I according tp Whistler ski patrol wasnt allowed to leave the resort and subsequently had my season pass revolked for the 2019/2020 season. This left me with very upset that I missed skiing with my child who was 4 at the time. I feel that it should be a right to access the park in all conditions at that use should be decided by the user. Whistler Blackcomb should provide access points that are safe, properly visible and marked. They should also not be able to treat their customers in such a way that i was treated for trying to access a park. Also conditions change, snow levels change, WB needs to change to adapt to make access available under changing conditions. In my opinion a route that connects the bottom of harmony to symphony needs to be added. If you need to contact me for more details



16. Area of residence

■ Local - Sea To Sky ■ Lower Mainland ■ British Columbia ■ Washington ■ US ■ Canada ■ Finland