

**A3 AVALANCHE COURSE Level 1**  
**Avalanche Fundamentals**  
**Certified American Avalanche Association (A3)**  
**24 Hours of Instruction / 40% Classroom 60% Fieldwork**



**Prerequisites:** Participants are required to be in good physical condition. No formal avalanche education is required. Strongly Recommended: Winter skills, Snowshoeing or Backcountry Skiing experience, first aid, introduction to avalanche safety, SWS Mountain Guides recommended reading list.

**Recommended Reading Avalanche Level 1:**

Snow Sense: a guide to evaluating snow avalanche hazard. (2011 edition) 5th ed, S. Fredston and D. Fesler, Alaska Mountain Safety Center, Anchorage, Alaska –**Included in the Avalanche I Course**

Avalanche Essentials: A Step by Step System For Safety and Survival (October 2013 edition) by Bruce Tremper

**Description:** Avalanche Level 1- Avalanche Fundamentals, introduces students to the real and potential avalanche hazards that exist in the winter environment. Throughout the course we will learn how to recognize, gather and record information about these hazards, apply this information into various decision-making and judgment methods. Learn how to manage the observed hazards and how to minimize them. Finally, learn how to give us a safety zone and how to rescue ourselves from our misjudgments.

**Certified Course:** Our course curriculum fulfills the "New Level I" when taken with an one day Avalanche Rescue Course and is Certified by the American Avalanche Association (A3) and meets or exceeds requirements for the National Park Service, Forest Service, and various Guide & Avalanche Associations for Level 1 courses. Give us a call if you have any questions.

**Meeting:** Course starts at **8:00 am** on the first day of the course.

**Location:** Bear Valley, California.



## SWS Mountain Guides

210 East Lake St.

Mt. Shasta, Ca. 96067

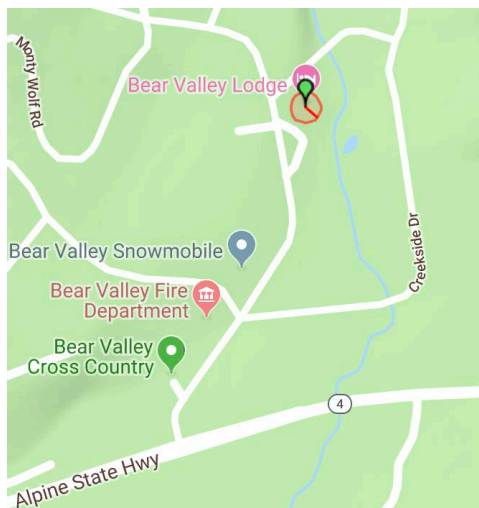
mail@swsmtns.com

[www.swsmountainguides.com](http://www.swsmountainguides.com)

Phone: 888.797.6867 / Fax: 877.797.6867

**What to Expect:** Participants will not be traveling fast. We will be skiing/snowshoeing over calculated routes that afford as much in the way of safely accessible avalanche terrain as possible. Stops will be made frequently for discussion of terrain, snow conditions, vegetation, weather, and anything related to avalanches. Your instructor will be thinking out loud, giving reasons for choosing a certain route or for not crossing a certain slope. Participants will put into practice all the techniques of field hazard evaluation.

**Meeting Location:** Meet at **8:00 am** at California Ski Guides Office, 265 Bear Valley Rd, Bear Valley, CA . 95223  
Address: 1 [Bear Valley Rd, Bear Valley, Ca. 95223](#)



**Food and Lodging:** Food and Lodging is not included in this course. Lodging is available at the [Bear Valley Lodge](#), [Tamarack Lodge](#), or in the towns of Arnold (18 miles away) or Murphys (25 miles away) We will meet our California Ski Guides Bear Valley Office each day and return to Bear Valley each evening. More information give us a call at 1-888-797-6867.

**Food:** Food is available in Bear Valley, you are welcome to bring you own lunch and snacks.

**Level:** Participants are required to be in good excellent physical condition. Some snowshoeing or skiing experience is recommended but not required.

**Dates 2019:** January 4-6, January 25-27, February 8-10, March 15-17

**Additional course dates or group courses are available upon request.**

**Cost:** \$425.00 (Tuition Only)

**Includes:** Professional instruction/guides, avalanche rescue equipment, course materials, permits, and permit fees.  
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