

Harold Price Web Write Up

Description

The Harold Price Cabin is far away from groomed, tracked and lighted trails and it offers a different experience of the great outdoors whether you decide to go there with your backcountry skis during the winter or for a summer hike.



The cabin is located 27 km north of Smithers as the crow flies in the headwaters of Gramophone Creek. Harold Price Cabin is located between the Babine Provincial Park and the Blunt Range to the northwest. The cabin is at the same elevation as the Joe La Orsa Cabin in the Silver King Basin. The area is not designated as an official recreation area or a park.

The cabin and the surrounding area provides great opportunities for winter recreation. The meadows are great for tour skiing and the nearby ridges (1600 – 1700 m) to the east provide great views and some opportunities to do telemark skiing. The ridges provide a panoramic view of many of the nearby mountains: Blunt Mt and Seaton to the NW, Natazul Mt and Goat Mt to the north, Hudson Bay Mt and Roucher Deboule Range to the west, and Cronin to the east.



For the more adventurous the cabin can be a take off point for Grassy Mt, Riester Lakes, or Sliver King Basin.

There are also opporutnities for wildlife observation: bear, moose, wolf, wovlerine, goats, marten, weasels, and numerous birds species.

Details:

Elevation – 1440 metres

Located: at N 55 01.342 W 127 06.125

Topographic Maps:

- 93L/14 Smithers (1:50,000)
- 93M/3 Moricetown (1:50,000)
- 93L Smithers (1:250,000)876.8943
- 93M Hazelton (1:250,000)

Google Earth Link: Harold Price Cabin.kml – *need to figure out how incorporate a kml file in a web page*

Google Map Link: [Harold Price Cabin](#)

Cabin:

The cabin has a sleeping loft that can accommodate from 6 to 8 adults (though it has housed up to 11 people, including children).

You will find:

- Woodstove , fire wood, an axe
- Pots, a few dishes and utensils
- Foam mattresses

- Fire extinguisher
- First aid kit (but bring yours for when you are away from the cabin)
- Emergency toboggan
- shovel, broom, dustpan
- games, cards, magazines

The cabin is normally equipped with:

- White gas lantern and white gas
- kerosene lantern and kerosene

User Fees:

Users fees are used to maintain the cabin. Users are asked to pay **\$5/person per night**.

Cabin use must be reserved by calling **Pat Becker** (Lady Patricia) –**847.5041** or **876.8943**. Email: **becker at bulkley.net** or **ladypat at yahoo.ca**

Please, contact Pat even if you plan a visit for a day (in order to respect other users' privacy and wilderness experience).

Payment for fees

McBikes in Smithers

1191Main St,

Smithers, BC V0J 2N0

Tel. : 847.5009

History

Harold Price Cabin was built in 1988 by the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club with assistance and authority from the BC Forest Service. The purpose of the cabin was to provide a shelter that benefited the general public.

The log cabin was originally built in 1983 by students in Construction 12 from Smithers Senior Secondary School. It was subsequently located on Joe Nessman's Billeter Road property. In 1988 Joe donated the cabin to the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club. The cabin was disassembled and trucked to a staging area. From there it was moved by helicopter and reassembled at its present location by volunteers and help from the forest district.

The cabin is maintained by members of the Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club and other interested persons.

Access:

Summer access to the cabin is relatively easy (2-3 hours):

- Meed Creek Road (9000) and trailhead at Km 10
- Meadow Creek Road (8000) at Km 14 – this intersects the Moricetown – Cronin Trail – 6.5 km



Winter access has become increasingly difficult. There has been no recent logging and therefore neither the Meed Creek or the Meadow Creek Roads are plowed. This adds a long uphill climb to connect to either trailhead. Some have asked friends with snowmobiles to take them to the trailhead so the trip can be made in a reasonable time of 2-3 hours. Others have chartered helicopters and then skied out to Telkwa High Road.



Snowmobile Use in the Harold Price Area:

The Harold Price Area is a popular winter destination for both back country skiers and snowmobile users.

In the winter of 1995-96, 250 people signed the cabin register. Unfortunately, the increased use by snowmobile users created problems for skiers from noise and frozen machine tracks and ruts. There was an effort to try and reach a consensus between back country skiers and snowmobile users. No consensus was reached. For more information about the pre-1999 situation, see the Forest Practices Board December 1998 report FPB/IRC 12

<http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=4096>.

In 1999 the cabin and lower meadows, and the Meed Creek access were designated by the forest district manager as non motorized. The Meadow Creek access was undesignated and the Blunt access was designated motorized.

