



**SWS Mountain Guides**  
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**A3 Avalanche Rescue Clinic**  
Avalanche Level 1 requirement  
Avalanche Fundamentals  
Certified American Avalanche Association (A3)  
8 Hours of Instruction / 20% Classroom 80% Fieldwork



A3 Avalanche Rescue Course is a new component of the American Avalanche Associations (A3) progression of avalanche education. The fundamental goal of the course is to give participants the skills necessary to safely perform a companion or team rescue in the event of an avalanche incident.

**Recommended Reading Avalanche Rescue Course:** Avalanche Essentials: A Step by Step System For Safety and Survival (October 2013 edition) by Bruce Tremper

**Description:** The A3 Avalanche Rescue Course revolves around four core curriculum areas: Avalanche Rescue Principles, Avalanche Equipment and Applications, the Companion Rescue Process, and Avalanche Victim Basic Care. With the completion of this one-day course, participants should have a better skill set for understanding the hazards of avalanches, what is required to perform a search of one or more buried individuals, and what is necessary to rescue a victim once found. While this course can be taken by itself, it is not intended to replace the A3 Avalanche Level 1 Course. Additionally, the A3 Avalanche Rescue Course is a prerequisite for people looking to take the American Avalanche Association (A3) Recreational or Professional track avalanche series; Avalanche Level 2, Pro-1, Pro-2, and the ProSAR courses.

**Instructor Staff:** Our staff is a combination of A3 certified avalanche instructors, A3 professional member with experience as ski patrollers and professional backcountry ski and splitboard guides. All of our A3 avalanche education staff members have real-world avalanche experience from years of guiding around the world. They will be your instructors in some of the critical, essential hands-on learning that you could ever do.

**Certified Rescue Clinic:** Our clinic curriculum fulfills the "New Avalanche Level I" when taken with a three-day Avalanche Level 1 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 Rescue Clinics.

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



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**Location:** Bear Valley, CA. / Calaveras National Forest -  
California Ski Guides / SWS Mountain Guides Office at: 265 Bear Valley Rd, Bear Valley, Ca. 95223

**What to Expect:** We will be spending the day outside with demonstrations, and scenarios of Avalanche rescue. Participants will not be traveling far from the trailhead, skiing/snowshoeing over to calculated areas that afford as much in the way of the accessible regions for training. Expect to be outside all day and please include lunch, snacks, and appropriate clothing for your time out. Participants will put into practice all the techniques of field avalanche rescue techniques & evacuation.

**Lodging Bear Valley:** 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, CA (18 miles away) or Murphys, CA (25 miles away) or at various Airbnb's in the Bear Valley area. We will meet our California Ski Guides/ SWS Mountain Guides Bear Valley Office each day and return to Bear Valley Office each evening. More information give us a call at: 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 physical condition. Some snowshoeing or skiing experience is recommended but not required.

**Equipment Required:** Avalanche beacon, shovel and probe is require for this course rentals available - book online or give us call

**Pricing and Dates:** For updated pricing and dates please visit our website

**Includes:** Professional instruction/guides, course materials, permits, and permit fees.  
V23.1