

Getting Here, Parking and Drop-offs on Weekends, Holidays and Peak Days

January 11, 2024 - With the late start to winter and the high demand to recreate on Mt. Hood, all resorts and Sno-Parks in the area are experiencing heavy visitation. The best way to arrive at Mt. Hood Meadows at your preferred time is to plan ahead, and leave earlier than you'd expect is necessary, as snowy road conditions, increased traffic, wrecks, etc. will extend your travel time.

There is a change to our drop off policy as compared to previous seasons. What we have been seeing our guests being let past the roadblocks to drop off and then not coming back as directed. Instead, they are parking in places that block parking lot lanes causing an inability for shuttle buses to get by. This results in long delays for our shuttles and negatively impacts other guests. We are considering alternative roadblock pass options, however, below is current information to help you arrive on time for your lessons.

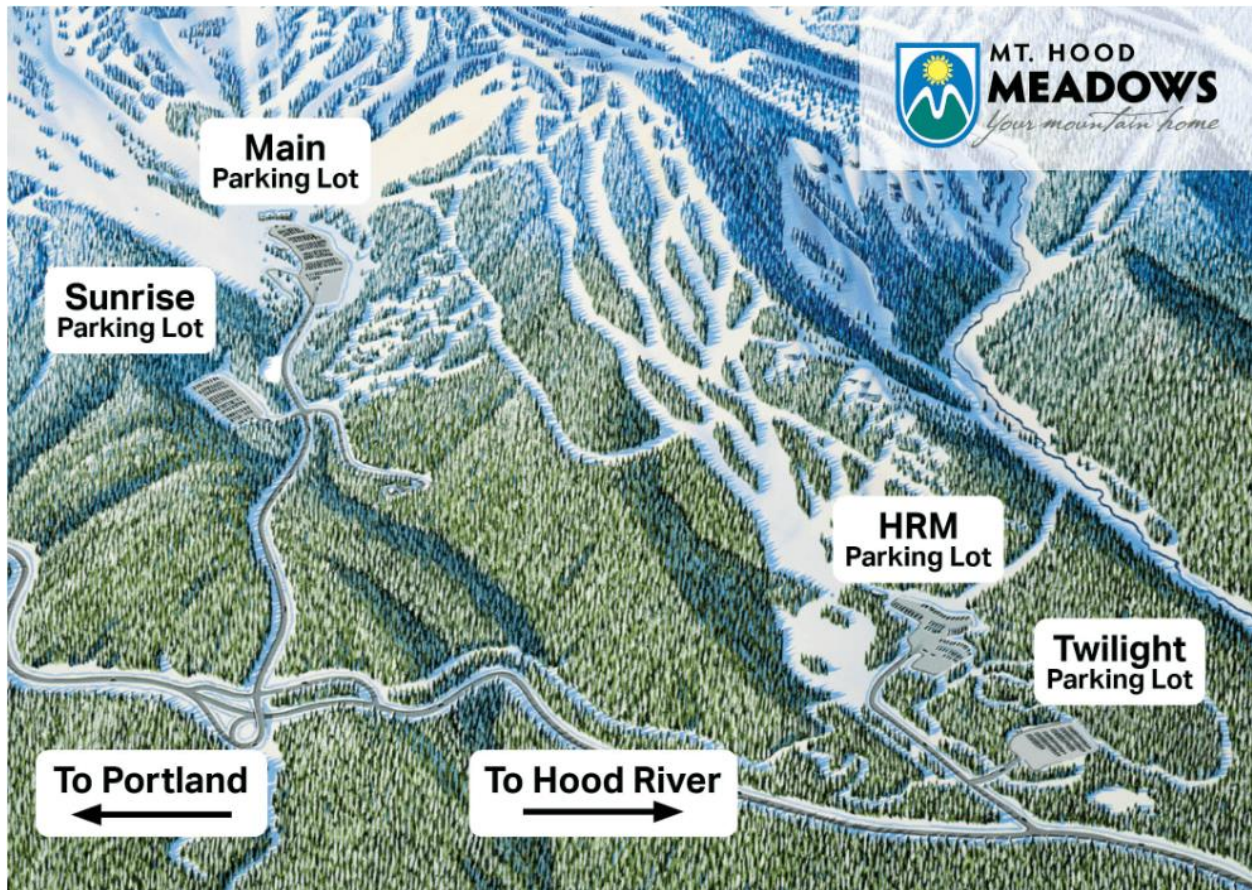
Options for getting to Mt. Hood Meadows

- Take I-84 to Hood River, then head south on OR Hwy 35. If you're coming from the Portland metro area, the total distance may be farther, but the estimated arrival time is likely more accurate because there is usually less traffic and congestion, and fewer mountain passes to cross
- Catch the Columbia Area Transit (CAT) Gorge-to-Mountain Bus from Hood River and be dropped off right at our front door. The 7:40 AM bus from the Hood River Event Site arrives at Mt. Hood Meadows at 8:40 AM, which is plenty of time to make your morning lesson or first chair. The CAT Bus schedule can be found here: <https://www.ridecatbus.org/gorge-to-mountain-express/>
- If you are driving and have your own ski or snowboard equipment, consider parking at the Hood River Meadows lot and get early load" laps on the Hood River Express chairlift, which opens at 8:30 AM on weekends, holidays and Peak Days – you get an extra 30 minutes of skiing and riding in! And since you don't need rental equipment, there is no need to park at the Main lot
- If you are driving and want to park in the Main lot, you should plan to arrive by 7:45 AM or earlier. The Main lot is the first lot to close, and we can never know exactly

what time that will happen

- Delay your visit until after 2 PM. There is plenty of daylight for a few runs before the lights come on, and there's a variety of terrain open at night - from our beginner slopes, to terrain parks to black diamond runs in The Bowls

Parking at Mt. Hood Meadows



Because Mt. Hood Meadows participates in the Oregon Sno-Park program, all of our parking lots are first-come, first-serve and require an Oregon State Sno-Park permit, which may be purchased for a single day, or for the season, at retailers in town, at Mt. Hood Meadows or online at:

https://www.oregon.gov/odot/dmv/pages/vehicle/sno_park_permits.aspx

- **The Main lot** is closest to the most services we offer and is ski-in/ski-out for both day and night operations

- **The Hood River Meadows lot** has food services, lift ticket/pass sales and public restrooms at the Hood River Meadows Day Lodge. Hood River Meadows is also home to the Meadows Nordic Center, located on the far east end of the parking lot, which has Nordic lessons and rentals as well as snowshoe rentals and tours. The Hood River Meadows lot is ski-in/ski-out during daytime operations
- **The Sunrise lot** is located 1/4 mile from the Main lot and has shuttle service to the Main lot with a skiable trail to return to the Sunrise lot from the main base area during day and night operations (however, it is not lit up at night so ski and ride carefully)
- **The Twilight lot** is located 1/3 of a mile from the Hood River Meadows lot with shuttle service to the Hood River Meadows lot and the Main lot. Shuttle buses depart every 10 to 15 minutes. Travel time from Twilight to Hood River Meadows is 5 minutes. Travel time from Hood River Meadows lot to the Main lot is 12 minutes. Foot travel to and from the Twilight lot is not recommended as the access road is very narrow and it's 15 to 20 minutes by foot from Twilight to the Hood River Meadows Day Lodge or Nordic Center. Foot traffic on the Nordic trail system is not permitted.

Dropping Off

Scenario 1: Main Lot is closed, actively parking Sunrise Lot

If the Main lot is closed and the Sunrise lot is being parked, there will be a roadblock at the Sunrise parking lot intersection. You may drop off your party at the Sunrise shuttle bus stop, where they can catch the shuttle to the main base area. You may then park at Sunrise or any of the other open lots.

Shuttle buses depart from the Sunrise lot every 10 to 15 minutes with a travel time of 5 minutes to the Main lot and it drops off right at the front of the lodges. Shuttle buses also pick up in front of the lodges and depart every 10 to 15 minutes for Sunrise, Hood River Meadows, and Twilight. Foot travel to and from the Sunrise lot to the Main lot is not recommended. There is a run that is open day and night for those that wish to ski or snowboard back to their vehicle parked at the Sunrise lot.

Scenario 2: Main Lot and Sunrise Lot are closed

There will be a roadblock when the Main lot and the Sunrise lot are closed. At the junction of the main access road cloverleaf and Hwy 35, there will be a drop off queuing lane where you may obtain a roadblock pass to drop off at the main base area.

Scenario 3: All lots are closed

If all lots are closed, no drop offs are allowed. Usually, one or all the parking lots will re-open by early afternoon, typically before 2 PM. To be notified by text message when parking lots re-open (and other operational updates), please subscribe to our daily text alerts at the URL below. Numbers are unsubscribed at the end of each day, so you'll need to re-subscribe to receive the text alerts for your next visit.

Sign Up for Text Alerts: <https://www.skihood.com/explore/SMS-Texting>

We hope this information helps you prepare for your visit to Mt. Hood Meadows.