



# EPIQUEST

## CHUGACH POWDER GUIDES ADDRESS

By [Chris Owens](#)

We have the freezer packed with fish, the rafts and kayaks are put away and we've reaped all of the rewards of another amazing Alaskan summer. It would be tough to see it end if we didn't know what it means. It's already getting cold here and the snow is half way down the mountain at [Alyeska](#). As the first ski and snowboard magazines hit the mailbox and the ski films start to show in the local brew houses, that familiar tingle starts to hit. The season is coming and we can't wait to start making turns.



While 2009 was a challenging year with a tough economy and a testy volcano making things interesting, we were also fortunate to receive the best snow quality that we've seen in recent years with more than our fair share of blower powder. With the market approaching 10,000 again and Mt. Redoubt back on a "Green" (no significant threat) alert level, we can only hope that our snow quality trend continues. We are all looking forward to another surreal season in the Chugach and Tordrillo Mountains. Check out some of the latest news from the EpicQuest Alaskan operations below.

### Schedule

Our 2010 season will begin on February 13 in [Girdwood](#) and February 27 at the [Tordrillo Mountain Lodge](#). The Tordrillo winter program is nearly 75% full already, so if you are planning on skiing or snowboarding in this 1 million+ acre zone this year, now is the time to get locked in. In Girdwood, we've added a number of packages including [resort / heli](#), [snowcat / heli](#) and [long week-end snowcat packages](#) for those of you who need your powder fix but are running on a tighter budget this year. [CLICK HERE](#) to download a full rate and price schedule for both Girdwood and the Tordrillos. Don't miss out on the great discounts on 5 and 7 day packages in week one (Feb. 13 – 21) in Girdwood.



Photo: Clark Fyans

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Elyse Saugstad rips the CPG cat terrain. Photo: Ian Coble

## Happenings in Girdwood

Over the years our [heli-ski program based out of Alyeska Resort in Girdwood](#) has gained a reputation for having more options and versatility than any other heli-ski program in the world. With 2500 acres of world class snowcat skiing terrain and a 60 person tram at the back door, our ski options for no-fly days assure that you will be riding premium lines even if it's snowing to beat the band. This sure beats drinking the day away in an oil town bar or staring at the walls in your motel room.

You might recall that last year we acquired a new snowcat and opened an additional 1500 acres of terrain in our snowcat area, effectively doubling our capacity and our ability to find the lines you're looking for on storm days. This year the effort continues as we build a new bridge and make select alteration to the terrain to make this some of the best snowcat skiing to be found anywhere. Now, terrain that was once accessed only by helicopter is prime snowcat terrain.

The new management at [Alyeska Resort](#) hasn't been letting any grass grow under their feet either. This year their massive quality overhaul project has continued with vigor as the trail crew has been working on the North Face all summer, and the fruits of their labor have resulted in five new ski runs featuring gladed terrain accessed through the new North Star Gate. Offering expert tree-skiing, this new terrain will be a huge addition to a slope

that already has more continuous vertical than any resort run in North America. As always, our guides look forward to showing you their favorite runs and secret stashes on storm days. If you've experienced the North Face of Alyeska with us before, you know that the 750+ inches of average annual snowfall at this resort means that there are often fresh refills on every run. That's a pretty darn good way to spend your day while Mother Nature prepares your ultimate heli runs!

## GIRDWOOD HIGHLIGHTS

- Snowcat backup on "No Fly" days
- Lodging at the amazing Hotel Alyeska
- Professional Massage and Spa services
- Easy access from Anchorage without additional flights
- 750,000 Acres of exclusive terrain
- Great resort skiing at Alyeska Resort
- Indoor pool, hot tub and workout facilities
- A great resort town with excellent dining
- Thursday night party at Seven Glaciers
- Round trip airport shuttle service



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## Happenings in the Tordrillos

[Mike Overcast](#) and the crew spent the entire summer building and working on the [lodge](#). Among other things, this year we plan on having a resident ski plane at the lodge to expedite access to remote terrain. We have so many program improvements at the Tordrillo Mountain Lodge that it requires it's own letter. To get the full scoop on what's new at the Tordrillo Mountain Lodge, check out the [STATE OF THE LODGE ADDRESS](#) by Mike Overcast. Due to a bit of pent up demand resulting from last years volcano excitement, we anticipate a quick sell out for the [winter program](#) and for [Kings and Corn](#). We want you to get the space and schedule you want, so now is the time to book!



## Customer Incentive Program

We've found over the years that our best sales people are the returning powder enthusiasts who can't help but share the immensity of this Epic experience with friends. Accordingly, we've decided that it's high time we showed our appreciation for your efforts in a meaningful way. As such, we happily present our Customer Incentive Program. From now on, we're going to make it worth your while to introduce us to fellow snow fanatics. For each friend who has never skied or boarded with us before that you bring to any of our locations, we'll give you a 5% discount on your own package. If you bring more than a heli load (a group of four including yourself) of new friends, we'll add an additional 1% for each new guest. This calculates as follows:

# of New Guests	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12+
% Discount	5	10	15	21	28	36	45	55	66	78	91	Free Trip

We would love nothing more than to give you a free trip with us, so bring some friends and reap the rewards!

## Returning staff

In this game, experience is everything. It makes us especially proud to have such a dedicated team of professionals who return to us year after year to share the mountains with you. When you come back to see us this year you can expect to see [Clark Fyans](#), [Lel Tone](#), [Greg Harms](#), [Bill Dyer](#), [Jon Hunt](#), [Jesse Weeks](#), [Mike Welch](#), [Henry Munter](#), [Jimbo Collins](#), [David Marchi](#), [Jeff Hoke](#), [Brad Cosgrove](#), [Rob Durnell](#) and more. If you have favorite guides that you want to ride with, please let our office staff know and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

We are all looking forward to seeing you in Alaska this season for powder and memorable times. If you don't make it to see us this year, we wish you bottomless powder and a truly "Epic" season at your home resorts.

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