

Weather and snow conditions vary enormously in Scotland with club trips graded for typical conditions. Therefore on the day a further assessment of conditions should be made before setting off

Effort	
Easy (1)	Although the trip should start at the snow line, thaw conditions may require skis & boots to be carried for some time to reach the snow.
	Typically skiing up a single Munro with a similar or nearby descent line and the day lasting no more than 6-7 hours
Moderate (2)	Likely to involve a longer ski carry and/or significant distance skinning across a number of Munro summits. Bike access may be utilised
	More remote peaks involving a longer approach with a full day typically taking 8 hours or more
Strenuous (3)	Full day or overnight covering varied terrain, which may be technical or cover long distances with over 1500m of ascent. Significant ski carrying likely and/or the use of mountain bikes to access remote peaks.
	A high level of mountain fitness and experience necessary, with the possibility of starting or finishing in darkness. A 10 hour day would not be unreasonable

Ski Ability	
Beginner off piste (1)	Confident and controlled piste skier, just beginning to venture on to off-piste slopes of up to 'red' run angle (approx. 20 - 25°) in favourable snow conditions.
	May have skied 'side country' at resorts
Experienced off piste (2)	Used to skiing off-piste with a pack in the majority of snow conditions and competent in the skills of of skinning, side-slipping, traversing and kick-turning.
	Able to link turns confidently and continuously in most snow and to control speed and follow a precise line in confined spaces and across moderately steep slopes
Advanced off piste (3)	Skis the fall-line on most slopes and in most conditions.
	Uses appropriate techniques to ski gullies or restricted slopes safely and at a reasonable speed.

Mountaineering Skills	
Little mountaineering experience (1)	Has been up Munros in summer
	Has little experience of ice axe/crampons. Able to use a map/compass to safely get off the hill.
Reasonable experience (2)	Has used ice axe and crampons and has been up a number of Munros in winter conditions
	Able to navigate back down off a hill using map and compass in poor or nil visibility
Significant mountaineering experience (3)	Has walked or skied extensively across a significant number of Munros & very comfortable using ice axe & crampons.
	Likely to have climbing experience, has been in the winter mountains in all conditions and likely to have some experience of winter camping.