

TUPPER DESIGNATED ACCESS ROUTE

FOR ACCESS/EGRESS TO CONNAUGHT, LOOKOUT, STONE ARCH, PORTAL PATHS AND TUPPER TRAVERSE EGRESS

- Length: 2.6km
- Vertical Gain: +162m / -83m (Values are for access. For egress, reverse the values.)

STONE ARCH RESTRICTED PARKING

- Status: Restricted
- Parking Permit: Stone Arch Parking Permit Required
- Overnight Parking: No
- GR: 692 871
- Elev: 1082m
- Which side of Road: West

GET THE NEW PARKS CANADA
ROGERS PASS BACKCOUNTRY ACCESS APP

<https://pc.gc.ca/apps/wac>

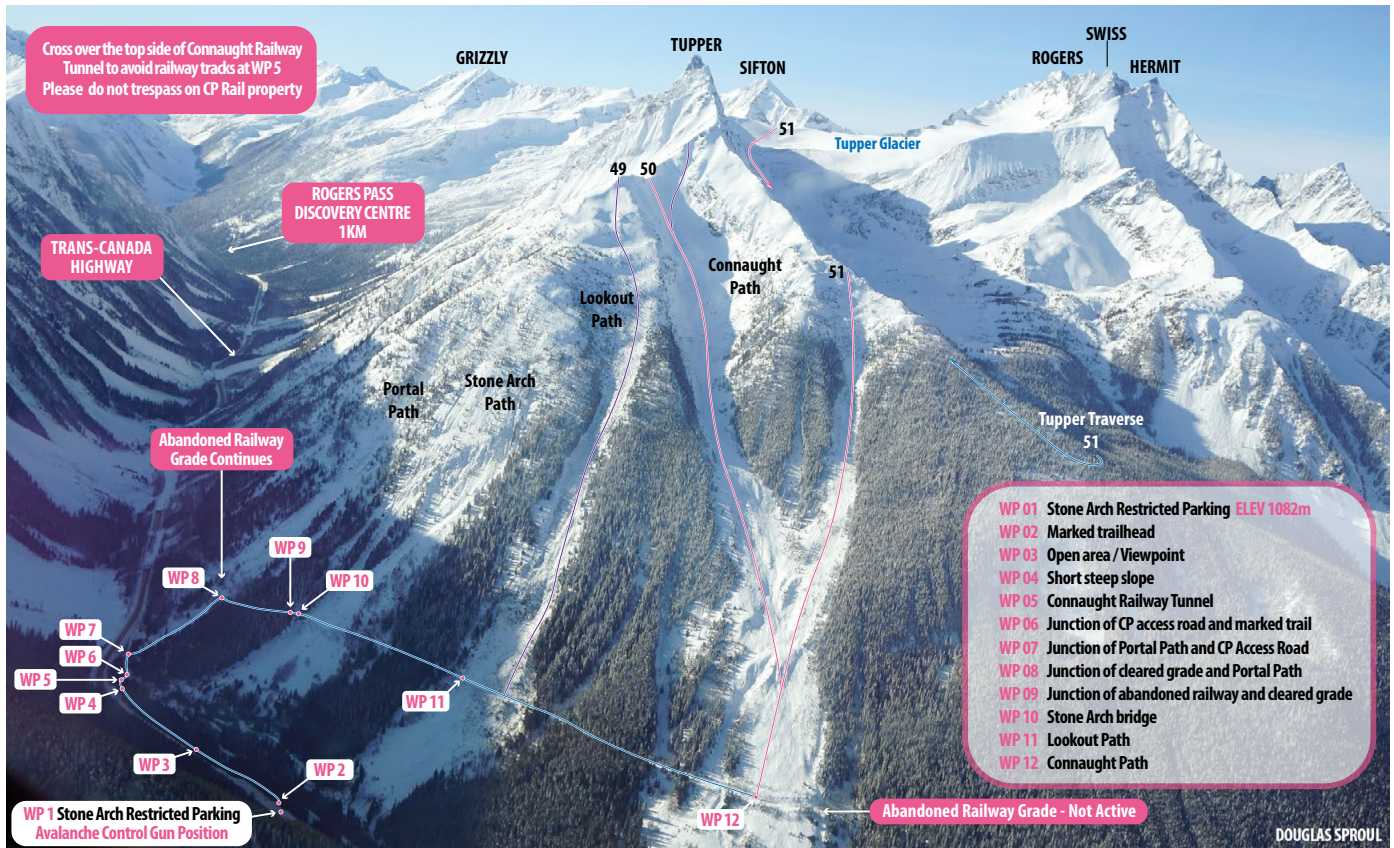
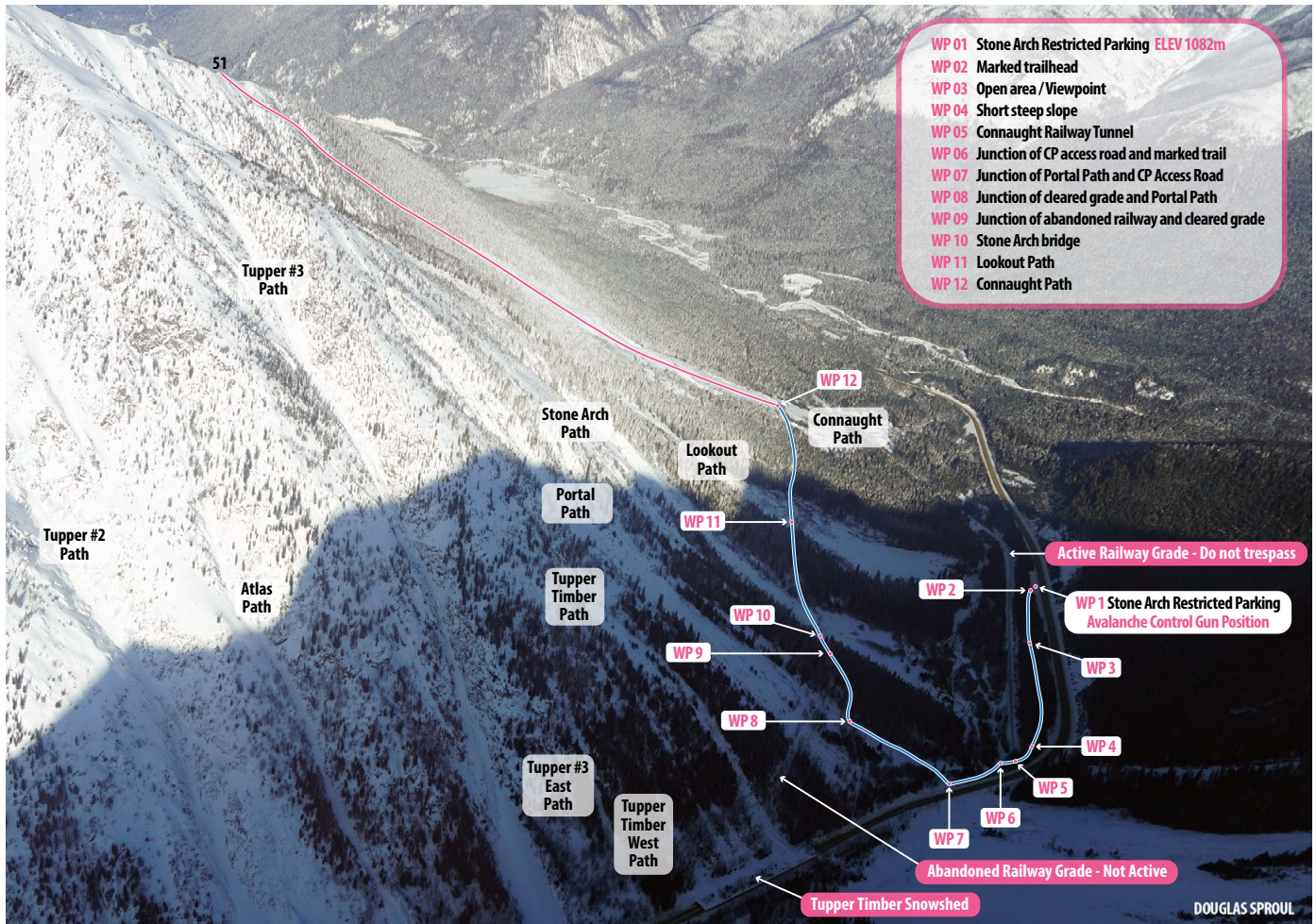
INFO

- Requires a valid Winter Parking Permit (Stone Arch Parking Permit). Permits are available at the Rogers Pass Centre and are only issued when the parking area is designated as open for the day.
- Everyone in your group must have a valid National Park Pass.
- Do not park on the military gun-ring on North side of parking area.
- No overnight parking.
- Small parking area, park vehicles close-together but do not block anyone. Be careful of the proximity to the highway traffic.
- Park at Stone Arch Restricted Parking (WP 1) which requires a valid Parking Permit. The parking area must be designated as open for the day before permits will be issued. Annual Permit holders must also check to see if the area is open. A National Park Pass is also required for every member of your group.
- This access route travels up the runout zone of a crossloaded and leeward, solar aspect avalanche path and then crosses three more paths. Be certain of snow stability before heading out.
- Backcountry skiing on the Lower East Side of Rogers Pass via Stone Arch Restricted Parking is fairly low elevation with the parking area being at only 1082m. This side of The Pass generally receives less snowfall than Rogers Pass centre and Rogers Pass West which overall means a lower snowpack that can often be firm especially at the lower elevations.
- In Spring, the trail through the forest from the parking area to the Connaught Tunnel can be frozen which makes for a difficult section as the terrain is steeper for a bit through here. Ski Crampons can be useful for this section.
- Visit the Parks Canada Rogers Pass Discovery Centre (RPDC) for required National Parks Passes, Parking Permits and Winter Permits for backcountry skiing as well as info from the knowledgeable and helpful staff.

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USEFUL LINKS - PARKS CANADA

- **Parks Canada Ski Touring with the Winter Permit System:**
<http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/glacier/visit/hiver-winter/ski/>
- **Current Winter Restricted Area Status:** http://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/tcond/cond_e.asp?oPark=100205
- **Backcountry Avalanche Bulletin - Glacier National Park:**
<http://avalanche.pc.gc.ca/bulletin-eng.aspx?m=1&d=TODAY&r=3>
- **Designated Access Routes - Shaughnessy, Tupper, Ross Peak, Smart, Fortitude and Flat Creek:**
<http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/glacier/visit/hiver-winter/ski/designes-access>

ACCESS ROUTE

1. A bit more to the SW side of the centre of the parking lot, you'll see a red diamond trail marker on a tree (WP 2). This is the trailhead for the Tupper DAR. On a deep snow season, the snowbank may be covering the trail marker but if you climb up the bank, you'll see the obvious route with a few Parks Canada info signs and more trail markers.

Climb up the snowbank and duck down the other side of it to the info signs. Be sure to stop and read the sign-age. Travel easily to the SW along the trail, following the red trail markers. The trail travels just below and parallels the highway.



Stone Arch Restricted Parking and trailhead



Info sign at parking area



Trailhead over snowbank



Marked trail travels just below and parallels the highway

2. Travel easily to the SW along the trail, following the red trail markers. The trail travels just below and parallels the highway. At WP 3, you'll come to an opening. Take a moment here to take in the view of your route with a good view of the abandoned rail grade visible through the runout of the Stone Arch Path. The Stone Arch bridge is also visible from here.



Stone Arch Path from WP 3

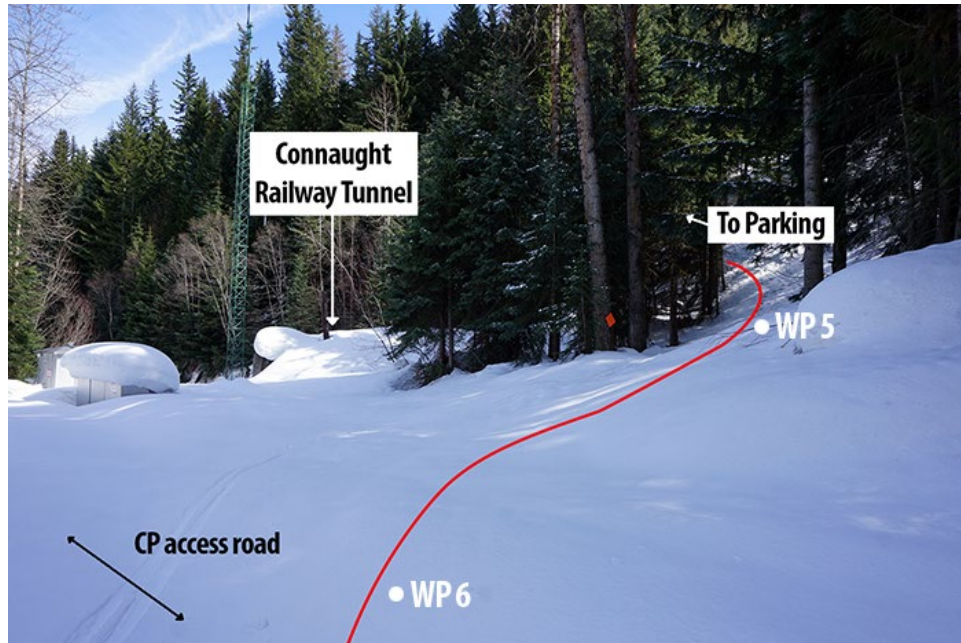
3. After 560m from the trailhead, you'll come to a short steep section at GR 689 866 / 1113m (WP 4). This short section can be difficult in firm snow conditions. Ski crampons may be useful in certain conditions.



WP 4 Short steep section

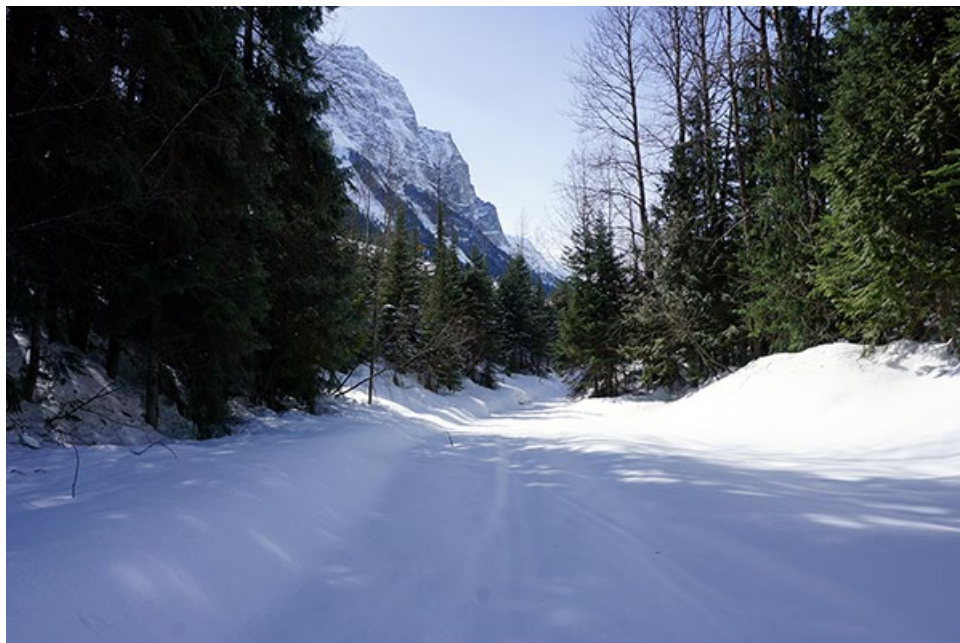
GPX and KMZ files available FREE at [GeoBackcountry.com](http://www.geobackcountry.com)
<http://www.geobackcountry.com/rogers-pass-addendum/>

4. As you near the bottom of the short slope, you'll see the railway on your right and the Connaught Railway Tunnel. Cross over the tunnel at GR 689 866 / 1106m (WP 5), still following the trail markers. You'll soon come out in to the open to the CP Railway access road and a small communications tower on your right.



Cross over the CP railway tunnel (WP 5) and turn left on the CP access road (WP 6)

5. Take a left on to the access road (WP 6) and travel W/SW slightly uphill and along the road crossing a creek after about 85m and then at approx 100m, you'll see two trail markers on your right (can be hard to see, look hard) where the route enters the runout zone of Portal Avalanche Path, GR 687 866 / 1100m (WP 7).



Looking W/SW from WP 6 up the CP access road. Travel up the road ~100m to WP 7

You will now be traveling in avalanche terrain for much of the remainder of this route

6. After approx 100m on the CP access road, you'll see two trail markers on your right (can be hard to see, shown in image below) where the route enters the runout zone of Portal Avalanche Path, GR 687 866 / 1100m (WP 7). Turn right at WP 7 and ascend the Portal Path runout up for ~70 vertical metres to a well cleared grade at GR 685 867 / 1170m (WP 8). When ascending the path, aim for the climber's right (East) side of the path where the obvious cleared grade comes out of the forest.



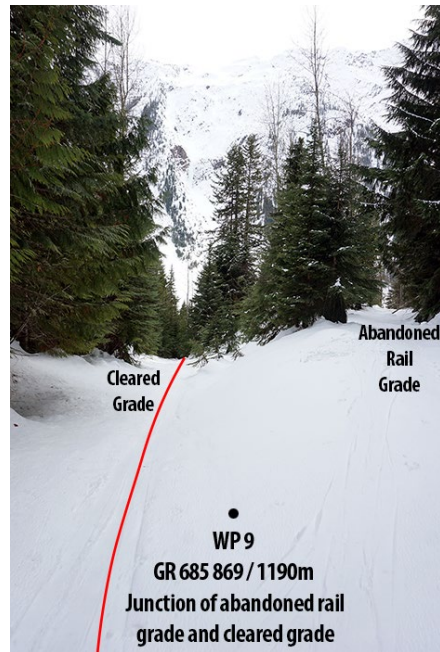
Trail markers for the entrance to Portal Path runout (WP 7) from the CP access road

7. At GR 685 867 / 1170m (WP 8), turn right on the cleared grade and follow it Northeast as it rises slightly uphill.



WP 8. Turn right on cleared grade

8. At GR 685 869 / 1190m (WP 9), the cleared grade junctions with the abandoned main line grade of the CP railway. You will see the famous Stone Arch Bridge (WP 10) just to the North of you. Make sure you stop and marvel at the incredible craftsmanship of this structure. Even after being in an avalanche path for over one-hundred years, the all-stone structure still stands unscathed! Quality work!



WP 9. **Note:** Image is taken looking looking South.

9. Continue following the abandoned rail grade N/NE, passing through the runout zones of Stone Arch Path (WP 11), Lookout Path (WP 12) and eventually ending at Connaught Path at approximately GR 689 880 / 1165m (WP 13).



WP 10, Stone Arch bridge.



Looking up Stone Arch Path



Looking up Lookout Path



Looking up Connaught Path from WP 12

EGRESS ROUTE

1. At approximately GR 689 880 / 1165m (WP 12), permit holders finishing the Tupper Traverse will reach the abandoned rail grade. Turn right at this point and follow the rail grade southwest.
2. Continue along the rail grade for approximately 1.2 km, traveling through a series of avalanche paths: Lookout Path (WP 11) and Stone Arch Path.



Looking up Connaught Path from WP 12

3. Continue along the rail grade traveling through a series of avalanche paths: Lookout Path (WP 11) and Stone Arch Path.



Looking NE from WP 11 on the abandoned rail grade at Lookout Path



Looking south towards Mt. Macdonald



WP 10 - Stone Arch bridge

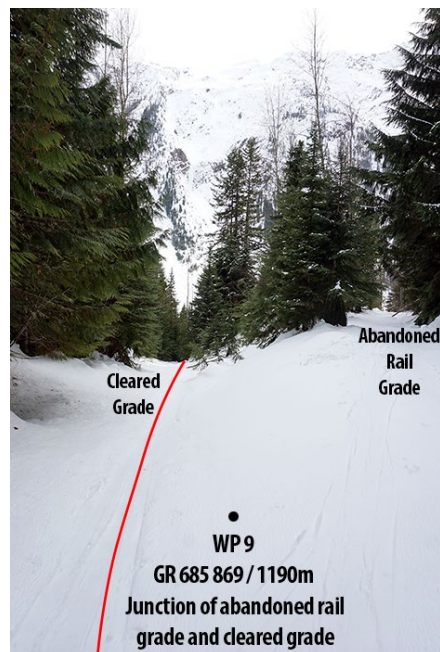
4. Make sure you stop and marvel at the incredible craftsmanship of the Stone Arch bridge (WP 10).

Even after being in an avalanche path for over one-hundred years, the all-stone structure still stands unscathed! Quality work!



5. After crossing through Stone Arch Path and over the historic CPR Stone Arch bridge (WP 10) the route comes to a junction where the rail grade continues its contour and a well cleared grade splits off left and head's slightly downhill. Junction is at GR 685 869 / 1190m (WP 9).

From the junction, head slightly downhill, continuing along the well cleared grade for 200m where you will come to the Portal Path GR 685 867 / 1170m (WP 8).

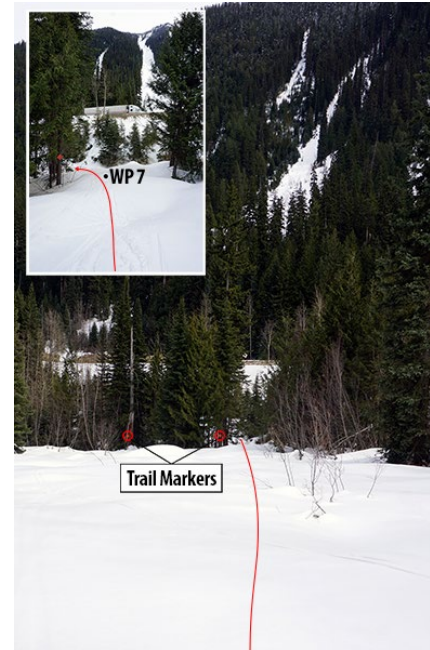


Looking SW from WP 9

6. From WP 8 on the cleared grade, descend the Portal Path runout to where it pinches off at the bottom. There are two red trail markers to show the route to the CP access road GR 687 866 / 1100m (WP 7).



Looking down Portal Path from WP 8



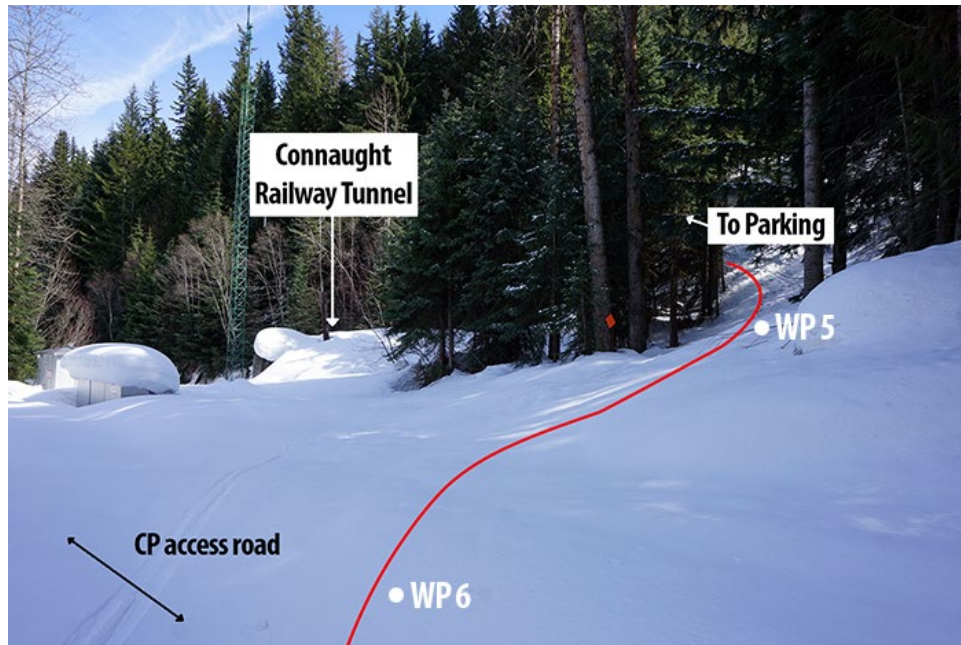
Nearing bottom of Portal Path

7. There are two red trail markers to show the route to the CP access road GR 687 866 / 1100m (WP 7). Turn left on to the CP access road and travel East slightly downhill and along the road crossing a creek after about 15m and then at approx 100m (WP 6), you'll see the railway on your right and the Connaught Railway Tunnel.



Image above is looking UP access road from near WP 6

8. Take a right at WP 6 and leave the access road before the small communications tower and into the forest on a marked trail. Cross over the railway tunnel at GR 689 866 / 1106m (WP 5), still following the trail markers.



Wp 5 & 6. Route leaves access road and crosses over CP railway tunnel and into forest on marked trail.

9. Follow the trail markers up a short steep section at GR 689 866 / 1110m (WP 4). The next 50m of trail can be difficult in firm snow conditions. Ski crampons may be useful.



Short steep section of trail for 50m

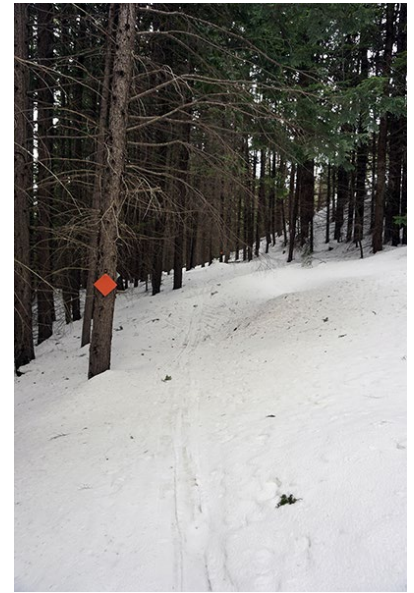
10. Open area - Viewpoint. Follow the trail to the NE following the red trail markers. The trail now travels just below and parallels the highway. At WP 3, you'll come to an opening. Take a moment here to take in the view of the Stone Arch Path and the Stone Arch bridge.



Open area at WP 3 looking NE



View of Stone Arch Path from WP 3



Marked trail just below highway

12. Travel the marked trail easily to the trailhead then climb up the snowbank and duck down to the parking area.



Trailhead

13. Stone Arch Restricted Parking.



Stone Arch Restricted Parking and Tupper DAR trailhead

GPX and KMZ files available FREE at [GeoBackcountry.com](http://www.geobackcountry.com)

<http://www.geobackcountry.com/rogers-pass-addendum/>

Disclaimer The activities described in this publication are hazardous and should only be undertaken with a full understanding of all inherent risks. This publication is only a guide, and although every effort has been made to ensure that route descriptions are up-to-date and accurate, no liability whatsoever is assumed for the use of the information presented in this publication or for the consequences of any mistakes or errors in content or representation.

Route-finding through mountainous terrain is involved, and knowledge of avalanche hazards, glacier travel, basic mountaineering and map reading skills is assumed. It is a guide to trips that can be done, not an indication that any are safe or in condition to ski at any particular time. These routes are only possible in safe avalanche conditions. It is assumed that persons attempting any of these routes have the necessary skills to assess the difficulties and dangers involved. You assume all responsibility for your own safety in the backcountry. None of the routes are for novices. For those new to backcountry travel, it is recommended that you accompany an experienced group or hire a mountain guide.