

Eyrie in Winter

We're excited to offer the opportunity to enjoy Morse Mountain, Seawall Beach, and the Bates Morse Mountain Conservation Area in Winter. When we rebuilt Eyrie in 2002, we decided to replace the original house with a winterized structure that we could use in all seasons. Eyrie now provides a unique opportunity to appreciate and hike, snowshoe, or ski through this beautiful remote area all Winter long.

Although Winter conditions vary, it is usually cold and you can count on a brisk, sometimes howling, wind. Some years, there has been relatively little snow and it was easy to hike most of the Winter, as long as one has footwear to prevent slipping on the ice that forms routinely on the road down to the beach. Some winters, heavy snows in December linger for much of the Winter and provide excellent cross-country skiing that can be thrilling on the mountain road. With crashing waves breaking over Low Tide Rock and Snow Buntings flashing along the upper beach, Seawall Beach is remarkably different and beautiful in Winter.

Renting Eyrie in Winter presents special challenges and Winter rentals should be viewed as something akin to "comfortable adventure camping." First, the road is not plowed and Eyrie is approximately 1 mile from the parking area, with a moderately steep 200 ft. climb. If there is snow and/or ice, cross country skis, snowshoes, toboggans or sleds, and backpacks, are essential for hauling food and getting around. Toboggans are available for your use behind the Kiosk in the parking area near Rte. 216. Cleats are essential as the road is often icy.

Eyrie is very tightly built and insulated, has heat in the bathroom floors and a great wood stove that heats the house in an hour or two. Wood is provided. There is a complete kitchen and 4 bedrooms.

We do not provide cleaning or trash service in Winter. We expect guests to leave the house in a thoroughly clean condition and pack out their trash. We will charge \$100 should it be necessary to clean after a guest.

As with any remote Winter experience, we want to remind guests that safety needs to be a high priority. Driving on the Morse Mountain Road is at your own risk. Roads, outside steps, and steep areas are often icy and require extra care. If there is a major wind event the house may be without power for a day or two. Guests are advised to make decisions according to their comfort with the unexpected, including light by lanterns and flashlights, outdoor refrigeration, and water from melted snow.