

Forbidden Drive Ski Trip

For those rare occasions when Philadelphia gets more than about 5-6 inches of snow and then it stays cold for a few days, the Forbidden Drive multiuse trail takes on Vermont-like qualities as a local ski destination. There are many skiers out setting a nice track along the edge of the wide path that is mostly respected by the many walkers and joggers. The gentle slope makes striding easy and skating is often possible until the ultimate thaw, dirt, tire tracks, and dogs' "brown wax" makes it unskiable. It's one of the best local places to ski at these special times and definitely worth the trip from the burbs into the city. The choice parking is at P1 across the bridge from the trail but the larger P4 lot is just a short walk. Parking and starting at P1/P4 along Bells Mill Road is the most convenient, but is also possible at P2 and on the street at P3 (for a slightly longer trip.)

Follow the Wissahicken Gorge path along the creek and forget that you're in a city. Your destination is Valley Green Inn (VG) about 2 miles away where you can stop for a light meal or snack and then head back to the car. You can Google Bells Mill Rd for directions.

