

**Viking Tour Monday, March 14, 2022**  
**M-H Parc des Bouleaux, Back Country trail network.**

Hello tourers,

The weather gods were with us again when 8 frisky Vikings set out on one of our favourite outings. The sun shone brilliantly, and the weather hovered around 0°C. Derek, Jarmila, Katherine, Linda, Jack, Judy, Richard and myself set off from the parking lot onto the Lover's Leap trail. Katherine and I delayed our start putting on our new skins, but we soon caught up due to our superior climbing ability. Our route continued right (east), on the Swiss, crossing Lac Green, left onto the Viking West. N.B. This is no longer Viking trail although many, many years ago it did start/finish at Viking. We continued north on this scenic section turning left (west) on the Rapide Blanc. From there we paused at the junction of the Lac Green where we usually start our way back, however our leader Derek decided to continue on the Rapide Blanc to the top of the Lac Green trail on southern tip of Petit Lac Vert. It is worth mentioning that the Lac Green trail and Lac Green over which it crosses, has nothing to do with the colour green, but refers to the Green family who lived at the corner of Rang 4, and Rte 329.

At this point the snow, particularly in the sun, started to get sticky and most of us stopped to put a coat of silicone on our ski bases. I put mine right on top of my skins, which worked out well.

So, continuing south on the Lac Green trail turning right on the Swiss, across Lac Green and down Lover's Leap. At this point, tired by the rough skiing (me, for sure!) the steep curvey trail was a bit of a challenge, and I was happy to get to the parking lot standing up!

I estimate that we skied 10kms in 3 hours.

Après ski, 4 of us repaired to the La Fouine restaurant on chemin Watchorn for a delicious bowl of soup. There, we found Jean and past president of Viking Lou Lukanovich, who hosted many a Saturday tour from their Lac Notre-Dame residence years ago. It was good seeing them again.

The weather for Thursday is showing +11C by 2 pm, which may be a bit warm, but perhaps we can get in a nice ski starting from the church at Montfort, backward on the Red to E or P and back on the Blue Ridge and either the Amical or the Blue back to the Tour Montfort and the Church. It will probably dip to 0 overnight, with +6 at 10am suggested start time, and +9 at 1pm. Could be a great day of spring skiing. Stay positive and let's see on Wednesday afternoon!

Kind regards,

Gordon