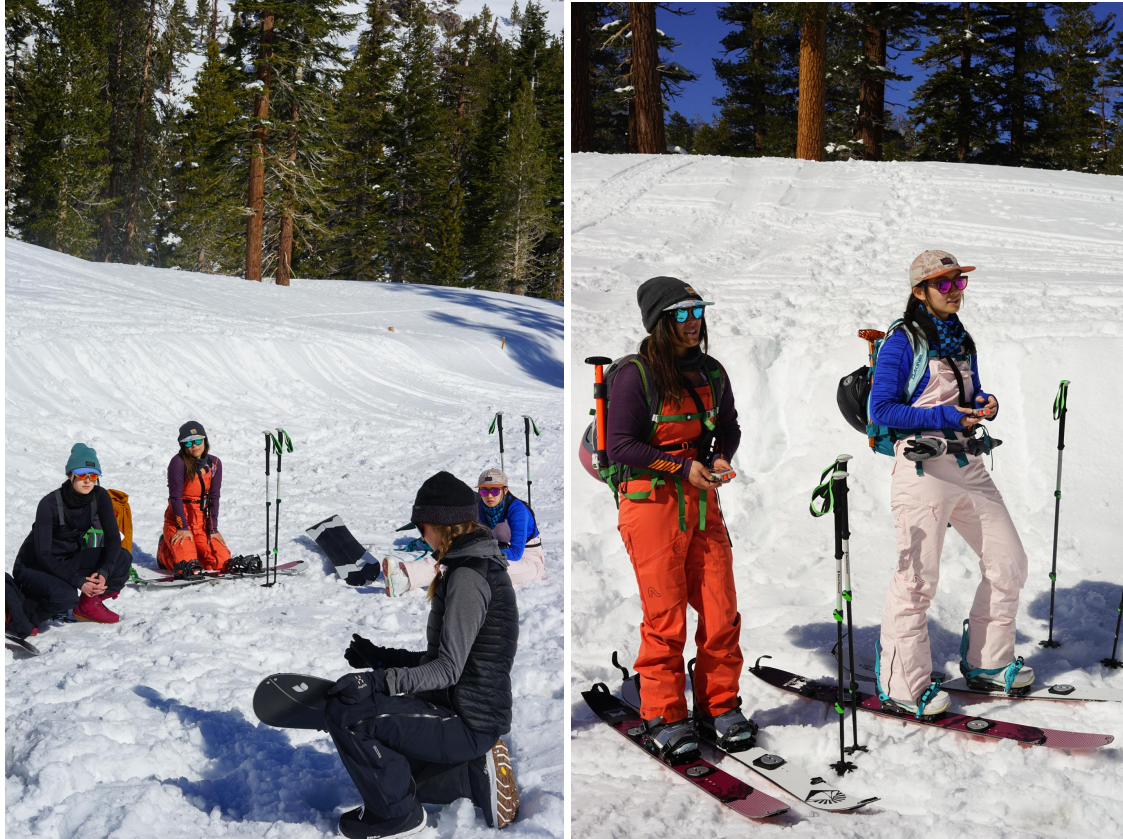


Ladies Weekend Out Splitboard Event Takes on Mammoth Lakes Backcountry for Round Two



Blue skies, snow storms, powder, cold beer and an all ladies splitboard crew? Yes please. We got a little bit of everything at the second iteration of Golden State Guiding Ladies Weekend Out splitboard clinic. Four gals, along with the badass female guides Tailer Spinney and Sammy Rubin, took to the backcountry to learn the basics of splitboarding and enjoy some touring in Mammoth Lakes scenic mountains with an all-female crew.

The group all came together at our incredible Airbnb Friday night and got situated for the weekend, receiving their Weston splitboards, skins, beacon, shovel, and probe. We all got acquainted and chatted for a bit before heading to bed early so we could be well rested for our clinic. We woke up early and had some coffee and breakfast, packed up our gear and hopped in the car to head to our trailhead for the day.



We arrived at Earthquake Dome, a beautiful, standout feature that is just outside the Mammoth Mountain village on the way up to the mountain, making for an accessible and scenic first tour. We geared up and began our first session of the day, getting familiar with transitioning our boards to split mode. Tailer and Sammy explained the steps of breaking apart a split, getting bindings situated, and putting skins on. All of the ladies practiced getting familiar with their gear and breaking it down to tour mode. We then rolled into our beacon check, understanding the different features with our beacons and how to conduct a check at the trailhead. Once everyone had their boards set up and beacons beeping, we talked through a few tips and tricks to touring then set out for the skin track.



The squad got the hang of skinning pretty quick and the terrain provided a great warm up to learn the basics. We walked to a spot in the trees that had a small downhill, the ideal learning grounds to hone in some further touring skills. We moved into our progression clinic, learning how to do kick turns, AVA turns, and downhill skiing.



Once everyone had a few rounds of practicing kick turns uphill then skiing down, we ate some snacks and prepared to carry on uphill. Tailer led the pack as we began our ascent, conversations flowing and sun shining. The ladies crushed it for their first split as a group, as we climbed up Earthquake Dome through trees and open slopes. We arrived at a beautiful vista, finding the perfect spot for a lunch break and taking in the views of a successful ascent.



After everyone enjoyed a long lunch break in the sun, we geared up to make the final push to our summit of Earthquake Dome. Once we arrived at the top, we took in the sweeping views of Mammoth Mountain, the Minarets, and the surrounding Sierra's.



Tailer and Sammy taught the crew how to transition their boards from split mode back to a solid and we prepared to make our descent down the north side of the dome. We were able to find some untouched, powdery snow, gliding down through protected trees and open gullies. The run was long and rewarding, as we rode all the way down to the bottom of the dome before finding ourselves in a flat spot to transition back to touring mode. We then had a long skin out and around the dome back to the trailhead, arriving at our cars and cracking open some cold beers from Pure Project Brewing and Rove Adventure Beer to cap off an epic first day of splitboarding. A few of the gals headed to Mammoth Brewing to enjoy some drinks and food to finish off the day, while the others cruised home to wind down for the night.



The following morning, we woke up to some fresh snow on the ground and flakes falling. We spent the first part of the morning cozying up in the Airbnb, learning from our guides about how to navigate the avalanche center online resources, how to plan a route, and steps to prep for a successful day in the backcountry. Once we went over all of the online resources, we gathered our gear and loaded up to head out for our second and final day of the clinic. We arrived at the Mammoth Rock trailhead and did some stretches in the parking lot. We put on our extra layers to prepare for the stormy day ahead and set off for our tour.



The squad did a fantastic job of transitioning their boards on their own, putting all the skills they had learned from the previous day into practice. We cruised uphill through the snow, chatting and enjoying the stormy weather. We made it up to Mammoth Rock and found a nice protected spot in the trees to transition. Once we all switched over to ride mode, we party lapped down a beautiful pitch, weaving through open slopes and some fun trees.



Everyone was cheering each other on and enjoying some soft turns in the fresh snow. We made it back to the bottom, thrilled to complete a powdery run as a crew. Two of our gals had to take off to make it back home, while the other clients were thrilled to get one more run in. Tailer and Sammy took them up for another lap, returning to the parking lot soaked in snow but all smiles and stoke. We gave high fives and hugs, said our farewells and concluded our time together for our Ladies Weekend Out Splitboard clinic. All of the gals made huge leaps and bounds in their progression and knowledge as splitboarders and new friendships and touring buddies were formed. It was another successful LWO event and we are thrilled to bring this event back yet again next season.

