



The Heart of Smugglers' Notch Quest

Smugglers' Notch, Vermont

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Equipment Needed: Cross country skis.

Estimated Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes to 1 hour and 45 minutes

Open Winter Solstice through Vernal Equinox. Bring a pencil to answer questions along the way.

How to get there: Smugglers' Notch Resort is located on Vermont Route 108, 5.5 miles south of the village of Jeffersonville. Jeff is located on Vermont Route 15, 2 miles east of Cambridge Village and 9 miles west of Johnson. To get to Cambridge from the city of Burlington, take exit 15E off Interstate 89, onto Route 15. Follow 15 for approximately 20 miles to Cambridge. When you enter the Resort, take the left at the road split. Then take your 3rd left turn into a parking lot. The Nordic Center is a very short walk down from the parking lot. It looks like a gray sugarhouse and is next to a giant white and green inflated structure. Start at the Nordic Center.

A nice ski route along beginner and moderate-level trails. It winds through a meadow with a gorgeous view, then through a mixed woods stretch and reaches yet another meadow, where the end point is a heart-shaped hole in a standing supported dead tree, located slightly into the woods at the lower side of the meadow.

Clues:

Now you've got some Nordic skis
To move upon the snow with ease.
Cross over the brook, so cool and wide
Put on your skis to kick and glide.

Q. What is the name of the XC trail you are on? _____

Ski off downhill, almost due west,
Beneath a bridge and up to a crest.
Turn around to catch the sight,
And count the ways to see at night.

Q. How many black street lamps can you see? _____

Now you're having too much fun,
Ski right along on Hubbard's Run.
Be careful that you don't get lost,
How many bridges have you crossed?

Q. How many bridges have you crossed over or under since you left the Nordic Center?

Ski Hubbard's run in early light,
Take Country Road – go straight, not right.
On up the grade, you'll walk like ducks,
And cross a drive for cars and trucks.

Q. What does the red and white sign say? _____

Round the curves and catch the view,
Then through the trees, the route is true.
This stretch seems long, but so serene,
And finally a field is seen.

Q. What are the big evergreens you passed under? _____

Now cross the bridge, not far to go,
'Til you're beside the wide meadow.
As you go, look to the right,
Three boulders soon come into sight.

After those, just thirty feet,
Stand four big trees, not very neat.
There a rock just from the ground,
And points where treasure can be found.

Still puzzled as to where to look?
Your prize is in a heart-shaped nook.
Can't you see the heart at all?
Perhaps it's 'cause you're not too tall?

Congratulations!!!

The Nordic Instructors at Smugglers' Notch Resort created this Quest.

This Quest is part of the Ski Vermont Nordic Quest Program. For more information and other Quests, please go to their website: <http://www.skivermont.com/kidzone/nordic.php>.