

BEST of the EAST • from NEW ENGLAND to PA & the POCONOS

BEST of the EAST • VOLUME 18 • NO. 25 • EASTERN EDITION FEATURING the FINEST LODGING and SKI RESORTS from NEW ENGLAND to PA & the Poconos



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River Walk
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GONDOLA to YOUR DOOR: HOW RIVERWALK at LOON IS REDEFINING MOUNTAIN LIVING in the WHITE MOUNTAINS

LINCOLN, NH — On a bluebird winter morning in Lincoln, N.H., the lobby at RiverWalk Resort looks less like a gathering of hotel guests and more like a family reunion. New owners swap ski tips with families returning for school break; a toddler in a puffy snowsuit presses a nose to the window, eager to play in last night's fresh snowfall. This is the quiet magic of Phase II at RiverWalk: not simply more rooms or new amenities, but a larger circle of people who call this place home, even if it is just for a week at a time.

The resort's expansion has landed with unmistakable warmth. The West Wing opened last year to a chorus of owners describing that cherished "home away from home" feeling: spacious suites that feel like a modern home, public areas that hum without shouting, and a roster of comforts that read like a wish list written by multigenerational travelers. There are the on-site winery and tasting room, a destination spa, and one of New England's largest lagoon pools, plus fitness studios, restaurants, and a Grand Ballroom that is becoming the premier wedding and event destination in the area. These features are not novelties anymore; they are simply how life unfolds there, the everyday luxuries that make vacationing with grandparents, toddlers, and teenagers so convenient, and some of the many reasons people choose to purchase there as well.

However, the RiverWalk story is as much about place as it is about property. The resort sits at the heart of two vibrant towns, Lincoln and Woodstock, where cafés, breweries and trailheads are stitched together by the shared culture of the Western White Mountains. The sense of community is tangible: kids trading trail maps at breakfast, locals pointing visitors to a favorite pizza spot, and owners who return often enough to be greeted by name. It is a village energy with mountain ambition.

That mountain ambition has been defined by one of the largest and most popular ski resorts in the East for nearly 60 years. The next chapter of this groundbreaking resort is crystallizing just across the river. Loon Mountain's Flight Path: 2030, a decade-long plan to "Pioneer the NEW New England", has already reshaped the South Peak side



LINCOLN, NH— The RiverWalk at Loon has completed their West Wing expansion and now plans to add more convenience to this beautiful property with a door-to-mountain gondola slated to begin operation for winter 2026-27.
Photo courtesy of RiverWalk at Loon Mountain

of the mountain with new trails, lifts, and a broadened footprint that pushes skiable terrain past 400 acres. The expansion adds breadth for families learning together and depth for skiers seeking quiet, gladed mornings, an evolution that strengthens Loon as a true four-season hub, and when completed will be nearly 1,000 skiable acres, making it one of the largest ski resorts in the East.

While Loon Mountain continues its march toward elite ski destination status, the connection and accessibility to the surrounding community is what truly makes the overall destination special. Connection is both the theme and the headline for RiverWalk, who, in partnership with Loon and South Peak Resort, will soon be directly linked to the mountain by New England's first Pulse-Gondola: a 1,300-foot river-spanning lift with twelve enclosed cabins, slated to begin operation for the 2026-27 winter season. For owners and guests, it promises something rare in the East, car-free access from Main Street to first chair, from après back to the fireside, and an effortless hand-off between the

rhythms of town and the pull of the peak.

That same gondola will be a cornerstone of South Peak's emerging village plan, a walkable base area envisioned with dining, retail, nightlife, and family-friendly winter and summer activities. Imagine mornings that begin with groomer laps, drift into a long lunch in the village, and end with a wine tasting and dinner looking up at the headlights of the groomers, prepping tomorrow's perfect corduroy, an arc of the day that transforms convenience into core memories.

What sets RiverWalk apart in this coveted mountain destination is not just its address, two hours from Boston, steps from Lincoln's Main Street, but its identity. Owners describe joining a "family," and the resort seems built for that word: kitchens that invite big, messy breakfasts; balconies angled to mountains that spark dinner-table plans; and staff who remember which kid prefers hot chocolate to cider. In a marketplace where second homes can drift toward the transactional, RiverWalk leans into belonging.

Moreover, that is the promise: a premier ownership experience that reads less like a real-estate pitch and more like an invitation to return to the same view, the same trails, the same neighbors, season after season. With Phase II fully alive and Loon's next decade accelerating, RiverWalk stands at a rare confluence of family, community and connection. The mountain is getting closer. The circle is getting wider. And the best days, powder or pool, feel designed to be shared.

Please view, read and share this page at: www.skiernews.com/East2026-Lincoln2.pdf

For more, please listen to the RiverWalk at Loon Mountain podcast episode, easily found via a link on the East Section label at: www.AlwaysUpright.com

For Sales, please call 603-728-6205

For more information on reservations, ownership and all things RiverWalk Resort, call (603) 745-7500.

For inquiries and more info about RiverWalk, please visit: www.riverwalkresortatloon.com

GREAT CHOICES for GREAT LODGING STAYS OFF of I-93's EXIT 32

LINCOLN, NH — An easy ride on Interstate 93 will get you to Lincoln, an extremely accessible ski destination city from anywhere in New England. Exit 32 is a scenic 100 miles north of the Massachusetts border. In the town you will find a large choice of hotels, lodges, restaurants of all types, ski shops and stores. Conveniently located on the west side of the interstate, North Woodstock is home to the Woodstock Inn and Station with its award winning brew pub and bed-and-breakfast lodging. Most of the lodges in the area offer lift ticket packages to Loon as well as the nearby resorts of Waterville, Bretton Woods and Cannon.

Below, and continued on page 3, is a brief description of lodging that SKIER NEWS staff has experienced and highly recommend.

Mountain Club on Loon

Since it is slopeside, The Mountain Club on Loon Resort and Spa is the closest you can stay to the main slopes without pitching a tent next to the gondola. The property recently completed a \$9 million renovation and now guests can enjoy all new clubrooms, studios and

suites. Whether delighting in the awe-inspiring views of Loon Mountain or countless other White Mountain peaks, your everyday world is a distant memory within minutes of arriving at The Mountain Club on Loon.

Please continue on Page 3 top left and Page 4 lower half of the page



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► Convenient to Loon, Waterville Valley, Cannon and Bretton Woods



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**EXIT 32 LODGING PROVIDES
NEARBY CHOICES to FIT EVERY
BUDGET in LINCOLN or
NORTH WOODSTOCK, NH**

Continued from Page 2 are further descriptions of Exit 32 lodging that SKIER NEWS staff has experienced and highly recommend. There are more hotels and lodges to be found on Page 4 as well.

Mountain Club on Loon (continued)

The property is located slopeside on a bluff overlooking the Pemigewasset River in Lincoln. The Mountain Club provides year-round experiences and a carefree ambiance ideal for families, couples and groups alike. Enjoy the thrills of navigating 55 mountain trails right outside your door on Loon Mountain and enjoy many other local activities as well.

The Mountain Club is New Hampshire’s only ski-in/ski-out lodging. In addition, for your convenience, guests receive complimentary covered garage parking. The award-winning Spa and Wellness Center features professional services along with an indoor lap and heated pool, complete cardio and workout rooms. Fitness classes, racquetball/squash, indoor basketball, steam and sauna, lockers and towels.

Room amenities include fully equipped kitchens, complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee makers, and hair dryers. Some rooms feature balconies and whirlpool tubs. Indulge in pampering treatments at the on-premise Viaggio Spa and Wellness Center. Enjoy delicious cuisine at the Black Diamond Pub and Seasons Restaurant. Alternatively, experience the simple delights of pool time with your family or a tranquil soak in a hot tub under a starlit sky.

Easily accessible, The Mountain Club is located just over three miles off Interstate 93, which makes it a convenient two-hour drive from Boston. Escape to the breathtaking White Mountains area to a fun-filled place that is a destination all its own, with a relaxing setting and attentive service.

Please view, read and share this page online. It is easily found at: www.skiernews.com/East2026-Lincoln2.pdf

For more information, please listen to the Mountain Club on Loon podcast episode, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find them linked from the East section label.

Please read about three more great area properties: The Woodstock Inn Brewery in North Woodstock, the Kancamagus Lodge and the Holiday Inn Express in Lincoln on Page 5. Find the Kancamagus Lodge and the Holiday Inn Express in Lincoln ads on Page 2.

For Great Lodging deals in Lincoln and North Woodstock near Exit 32, close to four major I-93 ski resorts, also see pages 1, 2 & 5 & link online via: www.skiernews.com/LodgingEast.htm

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* Based upon double-occupancy and availability.
 Some restrictions apply. May not be combined
 with any other offer or discount.
 Ask about early and late-season specials.

PATS PEAK: BIG MOUNTAIN FEEL, SMALL MOUNTAIN CHARM

HENNIKER, NH – Pats Peak has long been a favorite among New England skiers and riders. Known for its welcoming atmosphere and dedication to delivering a quality experience, the mountain has built a reputation as one of the region’s best values in skiing and riding. As Pats Peak looks ahead to the 2025-26 season, its 63rd year under the same family ownership, there is even more to get excited about, from classic programs to a major slate of capital improvements. This continuity is rare in the ski industry and speaks to the family’s deep commitment to preserving Pats Peak’s character while continually investing in its future.

Day and Night Skiing

One of Pats Peak’s most beloved features is its extensive day and night skiing. With 28 trails, 11 lifts, and nearly 100 percent snowmaking coverage, the mountain offers terrain for all ability levels, whether you are a first-time skier, a family on a winter getaway, or an expert chasing steeper thrills. What truly sets Pats Peak apart is its comprehensive night skiing. With one of the largest operations in New Hampshire, it is easy to hit the slopes after work or school when the mountain transforms into a twinkling winter playground.

Saturday Night POP Deal

The famous Saturday Night POP (Pay One Price) deal is a must-do winter tradition. For one affordable price, guests enjoy skiing and riding under the lights, tubing, rentals, and even beginner lesson tips. POP Nights deliver one of the best values in New England skiing and are perfect for introducing friends to the sport or enjoying a lively evening outing.

Passport Program

for Beginners

For newcomers, Pats Peak’s Passport Program is a true game-changer. This pre-paid package includes four beginner lessons, lift tickets and rentals at a price that lowers the barrier to entry. Participants who complete the program will earn a free season pass, plus a new pair of Elan skis or an Elan snowboard, depending on which program they choose.

The program has introduced thousands to skiing and riding, building not just skills but lifelong passions.

2025-26 Capital Improvements

The upcoming season brings exciting upgrades designed to enhance the guest experience both on and off the slopes.

The highlight is the Hurricane Quad, a new SkyTrac fixed-grip quad chairlift replacing the Hurricane Triple. With a loading conveyor and redesigned approach, the lift boosts uphill capacity by 25 percent, reducing wait times and improving access to summit terrain. A new route from the lodge streamlines flow while opening valuable space for beginners.

That expanded Beginner Area has been freshly graded to create a more confidence-building environment for newcomers.

Snow quality got a lift, too, with snowmaking improvements. Reconfigured base area piping increases early-season efficiency, while groundwork for a new summit power line sets the stage for even greater capacity in future years.

Guests will also enjoy elevated dining across the resort. The Sled Pub adds savory BBQ; Après Sweets debuts with

indulgent treats; and the Valley Lodge introduces a made-to-order deli station.

The rental shop also welcomed new skis, snowboards, and boots, giving guests access to high-quality gear.

A Mountain for Everyone

Pats Peak continues to raise the bar for value and quality. Whether you are a longtime passholder or a first-timer just discovering the slopes, the 2025-26 season promises faster lifts, better access, tastier food, and even more reasons to love this New Hampshire gem.

Please take the time to view, read and share this page at: www.skiernews.com/East2026-PatsLincoln.pdf

Listen to the Pat Peaks podcast with SKIER NEWS by clicking the East label on www.AlwaysUpright.com

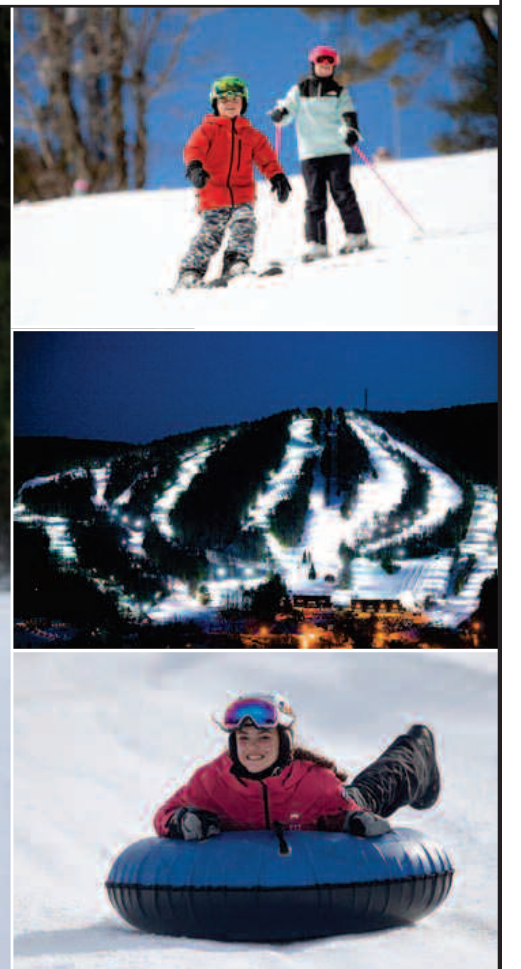
For details on their pricing, programs or snow conditions, please visit their website at: www.patspeak.com



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The WOODSTOCK INN BREWERY in NORTH WOODSTOCK, the KANCAMAGUS LODGE and HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, in LINCOLN, NH, OFFER GREAT DEALS and COZY COMFORT at THREE GREAT LODGES – NEARBY to EVERYTHING

Continued from Page 3

Kancamagus Lodge (Please see their ad on pg. 2)

Ready for an unforgettable mountain getaway? The Kancamagus Lodge in Lincoln offers cozy, clean and comfortable rooms at unbeatable rates, all within a delightful lodge complex complete with on-site dining in the just added Grateful Skier Restaurant and Pub. Plus, it is just steps away from tax-free shopping at nearby shops and outlets.

Perfectly situated just one mile from Loon Mountain and minutes from Cannon Mountain and Bretton Woods, this lodge is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts. This winter, they are offering an incredible deal: the “Midweek Winter Lodging Pass.” Starting at just \$550 plus tax, you can enjoy seven midweek nights. You can use the pass for any Sunday through Thursday nights, whether it is one night at a time or spread out across multiple midweek stays.

Not only is this a great deal, but the Kancamagus Lodge is known for its outstanding service, earning several TripAdvisor’s “Certificate of Excellence.”

The lodge offers 34 beautifully decorated rooms, ranging from double, queen, or king beds, all equipped with modern comforts like TV, fridge, air conditioning and more. All rooms are non-smoking and have easy access to the heated indoor pool and game room, making it the perfect stay for both relaxation and fun. With six room types to choose from, you will find just the right fit.

Looking for more? With a new on-site restaurant and within walking distance of many more, you are all set for a convenient and delicious dining experience.

Experience the charm of The Kancamagus Lodge. It is your perfect White Mountains escape,

To start planning your perfect stay online, please visit www.kancamaguslodge.com or call (603) 745-3365.

Woodstock Inn Brewery (Please see their ad on pg. 3)

How about enjoying some freshly brewed beers without

having to drive back to your hotel? That is one of the perks of staying at the Woodstock Inn Brewery. With bar games, delicious food and a vibrant atmosphere, it is a perfect spot for a good time.

Located at the base of the White Mountains in North Woodstock, N.H., the Woodstock Inn Brewery has been welcoming guests for over 40 years. It features more than 40 uniquely styled rooms, suites and houses, an award-winning restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner with multiple bars, live entertainment and a seasonal igloo dining patio.

The Brewery is the heart of the venue. What began as a brewpub in 1995 has grown into a state-of-the-art 30-barrel production facility, launched in spring 2023. Brewery tours are available at noon Friday-Sunday.

“We love welcoming both locals and visitors to our corner of New Hampshire,” says Scott Rice, owner of Woodstock Inn Brewery. “We can’t wait to share our wonderful property with new friends and families, as well as those returning for more.”

Scott reflects, “Looking back at our growth, I’m grateful for our dedicated employees and special customers. I never imagined people would take our beer to celebrate hiking a mountain and tagging us in the photos. We feel fortunate.”

With so much to offer, Woodstock Inn Brewery is the perfect destination for weddings, corporate events, special parties or a spontaneous getaway. With signature beers, award-winning food, entertainment and the beauty of New Hampshire, all that is missing is you.

Please view, read and share this page online at: www.skiernews.com/East2025-Lincoln+PatsPeak.pdf

For more, please listen to the Woodstock Inn Brewery podcast episode, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find them linked from the East section label.

Please call 603-745-3951 or follow them via Facebook and Instagram. You can also find them find them online at www.woodstockinnbrewery.com

Holiday Inn Express, Lincoln (Please see their ad on pg. 2)

The recently renovated hotel earned their new name with a beautiful remodel. Since transitioning from the Comfort Inn, and then the Express Suites, everything has been further upgraded at the Holiday Inn Express from the Free Express Start Hot Breakfast Bar to the bedrooms.

The hotel is easily located off of Exit 32, left on Hwy 112 (The Kancamagus Highway) and at the next light, Railroad St., make a left.

You will find the hotel quietly nestled a few hundred yards back from the highway on your left. It is also convenient to the famed Ice Castles and other attractions.

The slopes are ten minutes away.

Find Express essentials like their real breakfast of champions, the kind that is complimentary and waiting for you every morning. They have a whole buffet full of offerings ready to help kick start your day.

Recharge in their recently renovated rooms and power up while you power down. Did we mention the pool and inviting hot tub?

You will find bedside power outlets to recharge your devices and a pick of pillows and a plush duvet with a quiet place to settle down so you can recharge yourself for your next day on the slopes.

Check out more specials online and package price offers for midweek and weekend deals.

Call (603) 745-6700, or log on and see for yourself and get the best prices for your stay at: www.hielincoln.com

For more, please listen to the all the Lincoln podcast episodes, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find them linked from the East section label.

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You can also link directly to all of these fine lodges from: www.skiernews.com/LodgingEast.htm

SNOWBOUND EXPO, BOSTON'S ANNUAL SKI and SNOWBOARD EVENT RETURNS NOV. 14-16, 2025

The Expo continues at the Menino (Boston) Convention & Exhibition Center with much to offer

BOSTON, MA – Snowbound Expo will bring together over 22,000 skiers, snowboarders and families from New England to shop over 250 brands and resorts this November. The event provides inspiration for the coming season by hosting an incredible line up of speakers, Olympic athletes, record holders and more, plus a weekend's worth of interactive fun for families. Previously known as the Boston Ski & Snowboard Expo, the show will take place, Nov. 14- 16, 2025, at the Menino (formerly Boston) Convention & Exhibition Center.

More than 250 brands and resorts to explore

Numerous brands will be selling the latest in gear, apparel, accessories and technology. To name a few that are included: Blizzard Tecnica, CARV, Ferreol Skis, Fischer, Head, Kulkea, Minus33 Merino Wool, Nivis Gear, SkiSoxx, Subaru of New England, Viridis and Wildtrack Nordic. The full list can be found at: snowboundexpo.com/exhibitors.

Ski resorts and organizations to be seen include: Attitash Mountain, Burke Mountain, Chic Chac, Gunstock Mountain Resort, Jay Peak Resort, Killington Resort, LAAX, Les 3 Vallees, Mont-Sainte-Anne Pleasant Mountain, Saddleback Maine, Smugglers' Notch Resort, Stowe, Sunday River, Tourisme Laurentides, Tremblant, Valle Nevado, Wachusett Mountain and many more. The full list can be found at: snowbound-expo.com/feature/resorts-village

You can stop by the SKIER NEWS booth, J110 or C80, and sign up to possibly be awarded with a lift ticket to a great Northeastern ski resort.

The Colorado Ski Shop Retail Zone is back and even bigger this year. They will be offering an extensive range of gear, apparel, boots, accessories, skis, snowboards, bikes, shoes, and more at up to 70 percent off. Visitors can take advantage of expert boot fittings, bindings and personalized advice from their knowledgeable staff to gear up perfectly for the winter season. Do not miss out on exclusive Snowbound specials. Leave the expo with everything you need to hit the slopes in style.

Live Action and New Features for Families

The weekend offers a packed hall of live action and features for families to get interactive and join in the fun. Visitors can try out new attractions like the Epic Pass Winter Arcade and the Snowboard Zone by East Street Archives. The show stopping trampoline displays are back too. Snowbound is a big family day out with the Kids' Zone and Learn to Ski by Wachusett Mountain and children under 12 go free. All interactive features



JACKSON, WY - Jackson Hole Mountain Resort is one of the destination resorts that is attending this year's expo. Other destination and several regional resorts are also listed at: www.snowboundexpo.com

Photo courtesy Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

are included as part of the visitor ticket.

Stephen Morgan, Managing Director of Snowbound Expo commented, "The Snowbound team and all the brands and resorts are stoked to get back to the expo this year to start the 2025-26 snow sports season. Discounted tickets are offered for visitors in New England to ensure they can afford the day trip to this huge celebration of snow sports. The speaker lineup includes some of the most prolific and inspirational skiers and snowboarders in the USA and welcomes a huge crowd from the Northeast. We cannot wait to bring the winter and outdoor snow sports community together again. It's coming around fast, so do not wait until the entrance of the show to get your ticket."

An All-Star Line-Up of Speakers

Included in the standard ticket, visitors will be able to attend the full program of content on The Inspiration Stage, where they can listen to motivational expert speakers and grab selfies and autographs after each session. Headliners for this year's Snowbound Expo include Zeb Powell, Amie Engerbretson, Donny Pelletier and Shannon Dunn.

Zeb has become a snowboarding sensation in the past 5 years, becoming the first black X-Games gold medalist. Zeb will explore style progression, community influence, and the

next wave of freestyle culture in an exclusive fireside chat. Freeride skier and Teton Gravity Research (TGR) athlete Amie Engerbretson will also be making her Snowbound debut. Known for combining technical big-mountain lines with a strong voice on sustainability and environmental conservation in outdoor recreation, Amie's sessions is set to inspire. Donny returns after being a fan-favorite at Snowbound Expo 2024. The viral alter ego of Olympian Troy Murphy, Donny has gained a cult following for his parody of 1990s-style ski culture and his iconic Maine accent. Behind the humor lies a serious message about accessibility and attitude in skiing.

A fantastic array of other speakers is heading for Snowbound this November, the full list can be found at www.snowboundexpo.com/speakers.

Read on for heavily discounted tickets

Tickets are priced at \$32 for a weekend pass, which includes all three days, whilst single day tickets are priced at \$16. You can find a deal on the website for \$16 weekend passes and \$8 day tickets when you use the SKIER NEWS' discount code "SKIERNEWSHALF" by Oct. 26. Children under the age of 12 and caregivers are admitted free. Here is the direct link, please write it down and type it into your browser: If it is too long, see more below for the discount:

snowboundexpo.seetickets.com/event/snowbound-expo-2025/menino-convention-exhibition-center/3389718?OfferCode=SKIERNEWSHALF

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If you are interested in exhibiting or sponsoring the show, please contact Stephen Morgan via his email address: steve.morgan@raccoonmediagroup.com

Read on for deep discounted tickets if you hurry

To get the discount and for more info, please visit: www.snowboundexpo.com and use the discount code "SKIERNEWSHALF" to save 50 percent on tickets. Please hurry this is a limited offer.

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For more, please listen to the Snowbound Expo podcast episode, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find it linked from the East section label.

If you are interested in exhibiting or sponsoring the show, please contact Stuart Dacre via his email address: stuart.dacre@raccoonmediagroup.com



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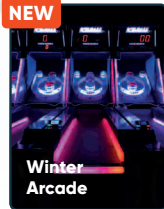
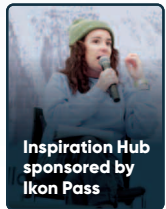
Ready! Set! Snow!

Snowbound Expo is where winter starts. Find epic gear, save up to 70% in the retail zone, plan your trips & get inspired for the 25/26 season.

Join us Nov 14-16 at the Menino Convention & Exhibition Center (MCEC), Seaport to shop 250 brands, discover 40+ resorts and hear epic line up of legendary speakers.

DON'T MISS:

Mega deals on gear, apparel, skis, boards, boots & more



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ELK IS CLOSE to HOME with GREAT GROOMING and SNOWMAKING

UNION DALE, PA — It all started in 1959, when a mountain became a new recreation complex for skiing. Elk Mountain, as it was named, started out with only a handful of trails. Today Elk Mountain Ski Resort has evolved into a sprawling 27 trails and some of the most challenging terrain in Pennsylvania. During its opening year, Elk featured a small base lodge (now the picnic lodge), a 2,200-foot T-bar and several slopes. There were also some rope tows and a small warming hut built a few years earlier by the Scranton Ski Club.

The first Hall double chair was installed in 1961, heralding the development of five expert trails and various intermediate trails from the top. Elk's first expert trail, completed before the chairlift itself, was host to the 1960 Pennsylvania State Championships. Enthusiastic competitors and gatekeepers actually walked to the summit from the top of the T-bar to run the race.

A year later in 1962, snowmaking was installed and a new A-frame base lodge was built. Skiing at Elk got a lift - quite literally - with the installation of a beginners J-bar in 1964 and a double chairlift from the lower parking lot to the top of the mountain in 1965.

The original T-bar was replaced with a chairlift in 1969, and the J-bar was retired for a double chairlift in 1973. Skiers saw Elk in a whole new light when, in 1966, lighting was installed on the East and West slopes for night skiing. Lighting was installed along three summit trails in 1972. Now a large number of trails are lit for night skiing, including the entire beginner area.



UNIONDALE, PA – Elk Mountain is an independent mountain dedicated to great grooming and snowmaking. It is a big mountain experience without the drive. Scan the QR in the ad to buy lift tickets online.

Photo courtesy Elk Mountain

Elk Mountain continued to build on that legacy of great skiing when it upgraded its snowmaking ability by adding tower mount snow guns on the Tecumseh trail. Additional guns were also placed on Stomping Grounds Terrain Park. These guns helped to ensure better coverage in the most challenging ski seasons.

From the recently upgraded and resurfaced parking lots to the more than 1,000 Norway and White Spruce trees that were planted slopeside, your Elk experience is always a pleasant and environmentally friendly one from arrival to departure.

First-time skiers, established skiers, or snowboarders looking to learn or fine-tune their skills can do so with a lesson from a member of the Elk Mountain Ski School.

The school is a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA) and utilizes the American Teaching System. With a staff of approximately 75 trained instructors, Elk has a program and the staff to meet your individual needs. Class sizes are limited to provide a quality experience. Lessons may be sold out during busy periods so check online. Details are available at the ski school desk.

The perfect time to learn to ski is while you are young, and the staff wants to make your child's skiing experience fun. They offer programs that allow parents to enjoy themselves while children learn to ski with confidence.

You can view, read and share this page online at: www.skiernews.com/East2026-ElkBear.pdf

Scan the QR code above to buy tickets and ski school online. Please call Elk at 1-800-233-4131 or log on to: www.elkskier.com and get your Elk visit started online.



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www.BCMOUNTAINRESORT.com

BEAR CREEK MOUNTAIN RESORT NEW for WINTER 2025-26

MACUNGIE, PA – At Bear Creek Mountain Resort, they have made some significant investments that promise to make the 2025-26 ski season bigger and better than ever. Their team was hard at work over the summer months, investing in new improvements and guest experiences designed to make your winter getaway even more enjoyable. From enhanced snowmaking capabilities to exciting new food and entertainment options, Bear Creek is ready to welcome skiers, snowboarders and families to the slopes for another fantastic season.

Expanded Snowmaking for Better Coverage
Snowmaking is the backbone of any ski resort. For this season, Bear Creek has made a major investment in ensuring consistent, top-quality snow. They have added more than 4,500 feet of new snow-making pipe, which significantly increases their ability to cover the mountain more quickly and efficiently.

In addition, they have installed 10 new fully automated snow guns. These state-of-the-art machines can adjust automatically to weather conditions, maximizing snow production when temperatures drop. This means more terrain that is open earlier in the season and a longer-lasting snowpack for those late-winter turns. Guests can look forward to smoother coverage, better trail conditions, and more time on the slopes no matter what Mother Nature has in store.

New Dining Options on the Mountain
Skiing and riding work up an appetite and they are excited to bring new food and beverage options to Bear Creek this season.

First, The Snack Shack at Kodiak and Black Bear: Located where the Kodiak slope meets Black Bear, their new snack shack will be the perfect mid-mountain stop for a quick bite. Whether you need a warm drink, a snack to recharge or just a short break, this new spot adds convenience and comfort right where you need it most. Next is the new Coffee & Hot Chocolate Stand: The former Polar Bar space is being reimagined as a cozy coffee and hot chocolate stand. Start your ski day with a steaming cup of coffee, or warm up after a few runs with a decadent hot chocolate topped with whipped cream. It is sure to become a new favorite gathering place for families and friends. Also, the Return of the Waffle Cabin: Back by popular demand,



MACUNGIE, PA – Bear Creek Mountain Resort is home not only to a great ski, snowboard and tubing mountain but also a great hotel, conference center and wedding venue.

Photo courtesy Bear Creek Mountain Resort

the Waffle Cabin is returning to Bear Creek. Few things say "ski day" quite like a warm, fresh Belgian waffle drizzled with chocolate or maple syrup. Whether it is an afternoon treat or an après-ski indulgence, the Waffle Cabin adds a sweet touch to your mountain experience.

Entertainment on the Deck and in the Lodge
At Bear Creek, the fun does not end when you step out of your skis or snowboard. This season, they are enhancing their après-ski atmosphere with frequent live entertainment both on the outdoor deck and inside the Lodge.

A Season Full of Energy and Excitement
With these new additions and improvements, the 2025-26 ski season promises to be one of their most exciting yet. Their snowmaking upgrades ensure reliable conditions, while new dining options and entertainment make the overall experience at Bear Creek more vibrant than ever.

They are also committed to continuing the warm, welcoming atmosphere that makes Bear Creek such a special place. Whether you are a first-time skier, a season passholder or a family looking for a fun winter escape, they are there to make your time with them unforgettable. They cannot wait to see you on the slopes.

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For more, please listen to the Bear Creek Mountain Resort podcast episodes, visit: www.AlwaysUpright.com and easily find them linked from the East section label.

Visit Bear Creek Mountain Resort directly at: www.BCMR.com or info@bcmr.com

CELEBRATING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY!



Tickets & info at
ShawneeMt.com

SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN CELEBRATES THEIR 50th ANNIVERSARY

SHAWNEE-ON-DELAWARE, PA – Shawnee Mountain Ski Area is celebrating a major milestone: its 50th Anniversary Season. Since opening in 1975, Shawnee has been a favorite Pocono destination for families, first-timers and lifelong skiers. This golden anniversary will be packed with special events, fun giveaways and plenty of chances to honor five decades of mountain memories.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Guests can expect exciting anniversary-themed happenings sporadically this season. From on-snow events and live entertainment to commemorative giveaways and family-friendly festivities, Shawnee will be buzzing with reasons to celebrate. A special “golden” 50th Anniversary chairlift will also be on display, perfect for photo ops and capturing memories of this milestone year.

Snowmaking Upgrades

True to its tradition of reinvestment, Shawnee has once again boosted its snowmaking system for reliable conditions from the first chair to spring skiing. Upgraded snow guns, pipelines, and improved efficiency mean better coverage, faster trail openings, and quicker recoveries after warm spells. The result is consistently better snow for skiers and riders of all levels.

New PistenBully 400 Snowcat

To keep the slopes in top shape, Shawnee has added a brand new PistenBully 400 snowcat to its grooming fleet. This state-of-the-art machine will ensure smoother trails and a more enjoyable ride for every skier and snowboarder.

Lodge Deck Renovations

Guests will also notice improvements off the slopes. The resort has refurbished portions of its lodge decks, offering more inviting spaces to relax, regroup, and soak in the mountain views between runs.



SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN, PA – Shawnee Mountain is celebrating its 50th Anniversary Season in 2025-26. Since 1975, Shawnee has been family owned and family friendly, offering a welcoming atmosphere for skiers and riders of all levels. This milestone season features anniversary-themed events, fun giveaways, and the same great skiing and riding guests have enjoyed for five decades. Recent upgrades include a new PistenBully 400 snowcat, snowmaking improvements and refurbished lodge decks.

Shawnee is also a proud Indy Pass member, offering access to one of the last remaining independent resorts in the Poconos. Parking is free, and skiers 70+ always ski free.

Photo courtesy of Shawnee Mountain

Sustainability Commitment

While the on-mountain upgrades are new this season, Shawnee continues to build on its commitment to sustainability. As part of a long-term agreement with ENGIE, Shawnee operates entirely on renewable energy sourced from the Priddy Wind Farm in Texas. This ongoing effort reflects the mountain's responsibility to protect the environment that makes winter sports possible.

An Indy Pass Member

Shawnee Mountain is proud to be a member of the Indy Pass, giving skiers and riders even more value and variety. Indy Pass holders can enjoy Shawnee alongside dozens of other independent resorts across the country.

Always Family Friendly

As always, Shawnee remains committed to affordability and accessibility. Parking is free, and skiers age 70+ continue to ski free. Whether you are there for day or night skiing, snowboarding, or snow tubing, Shawnee offers a welcoming atmosphere for all.

With exciting anniversary events, upgraded snowmaking, a new snowcat, and fresh lodge improvements, the 2025-26 season is shaping up to be one for the history books.

About Shawnee Mountain

Shawnee Mountain is located in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, off Interstate 80 at Exit 309. For snow conditions, operating hours, and event details visit www.shawneemt.com.

Shawnee Mountain is in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, off of Interstate 80 at Exit 309.

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For general information, call (570) 421-7231.

Email: info@shawneemt.com

Follow Shawnee at: Facebook.com/skishawnee, @Skishawnee and www.shawneemt.com

PLAN YOUR WINTER ESCAPE to the SHAWNEE INN and SKI SHAWNEE

SHAWNEE-ON-DELAWARE, PA – Escape to a winter wonderland at The Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort. Enjoy an unforgettable ski and stay getaway at Shawnee Mountain, the family friendly ski resort for beginners and seasoned enthusiasts. After a thrilling day of skiing, tubing, and fun on the slopes, unwind by the fire at the historic Shawnee Inn.

The Shawnee Inn goes above and beyond to ensure your stay is hassle-free. Say farewell to hidden fees, resort fees and parking charges, as everything is included in your package. That is right – they even offer a complimentary shuttle to and from Shawnee Mountain, making your winter escape even more convenient.

Ski and Stay packages at the Shawnee Inn start at just \$122 per person for double occupancy

midweek, offering lift tickets to Shawnee Mountain and a complimentary breakfast. Families can make the most of Shawnee Mountain's acclaimed Learn-to-Ski program and Ski Wee for the little ones. Thanks to a high-speed lift, you will spend more time on the slopes and less time waiting in line.

For a unique experience, explore the microbrewery on the property and savor delicious brews at the Gem and Keystone Tavern. Wrap up your day with live entertainment at the ShawneeCraft Taproom.

After an action-packed day on the mountain, unwind at the Shawnee Inn's pool or Jacuzzi. For the ultimate in relaxation, treat yourself to a rejuvenating session at Spa Shawnee, offering all-natural and organic treatments with a dedication to pure ingredients.

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Listen to the Shawnee Inn podcast easily found on the East label at: www.AlwaysUpright.com

To book your ski and stay getaway or to find out more information about the Shawnee Inn, please call 1-800-SHAWNEE (1-800-742-9633) or please visit them at: www.ShawneeInn.com

With no hidden fees, all-inclusive packages, and a range of exciting activities, a winter getaway at The Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort not only promises adventure but also remarkable savings, averaging \$321 of savings per night for a family of four.

Visit www.ShawneeInn.com or call: 1-800-SHAWNEE to make a reservation today.

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www.njssc.org

THE POCONO MOUNTAINS ARE the ORIGINAL WINTER WONDERLAND with INDOOR WATERPARKS, TUBING, SKIING, RIDING and SO MUCH MORE

POCONO MOUNTAINS, PA – When Richard Smith wrote the classic song “Winter Wonderland” in 1934, he had in mind the glistening, snow-covered scenery of his hometown of Honesdale, Pa., and the surrounding countryside of the Pocono Mountains. Just a 90-minute drive from New York City and Philadelphia, the Poconos region remains a haven for lovers of frosty weather, whether you prefer to build a snowman in the meadow, dream and conspire by the fire in your own cozy cabin, or get bundled up for a wide variety of cold weather adventures. The region’s average winter temperatures range from highs of 31 to lows of 16. That, along with a winning combination of natural and manmade snow at six area ski resorts, makes the Poconos a wonderland for winter recreation.

Nearly 150 slopes and trails beckon, ranging from easy to extreme. The varied landscape provides both gentle slopes and drastic drops, including Pennsylvania’s highest vertical, Razor’s Edge, at Blue Mountain Resort in Palmerton. Snowboarding terrain parks make up nearly 50 percent of the slopes at Lake Harmony’s Big Boulder Ski Area, while its sister resort, Jack Frost Mountain in nearby Blakeslee, offers plenty of inviting and groomed trails. Both Shawnee Mountain Ski Area in East Stroudsburg and Ski Big Bear at Masthope Mountain in Lackawaxen are ideal for families and first-timers while also offering challenging runs for any advanced skiers and snowboarders in your group. The largest ski resort in the Poconos, Camelback Mountain in Tannersville, offers 39 ski trails and 166 acres of slopes.



POCONO MOUNTAINS, PA - Sliding a rail at JF/BB, this person is having a fun, blue sky day.
Photo Courtesy of the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau

All six ski resorts feature rentals and dedicated local instructors ready to share their lifelong love of the sport and get newbies gliding down the mountain. Make time for a lesson or encourage friends and family members to join you on the slopes. Glide over the snowy ground and feel your cares fly away.

Looking to ease your way onto the slopes? You should try snow tubing. You will find the country’s two largest snow tubing parks at Blue Mountain Resort and Camelback Mountain. Both mountains feature after dark tubing with LED light shows. Slide down a snowy 200-foot vertical drop and relive the childhood fun of an afternoon spent sledding and racing your friends down the hill. Each of the region’s ski areas has snow-tubing chutes to experience.

Enjoying winter sports is just one of many ways to spend a snowy day in the Pocono Mountains. The region also boasts pristine cross-country ski and snow shoeing trails in many area state parks. Book a guided tour or find snowshoeing rentals with local outfitter Naturfi. Try dogsledding, jingle all the way in a horsedrawn sleigh or turn up the adrenaline with a snowmobiling trip or winter UTV ride. Many communities host winter fest celebrations with vendors and seasonal specialties, and you will also find exciting ski events at Pocono ski areas.

Be sure to check out what is coming up on the calendar on: www.poconomountains.com/events.

When you are ready to get warm and cozy, there are many après ski activities. Historic and charming towns like Stroudsburg, Jim Thorpe, Honesdale and Milford are filled with one-of-a-kind shops and boutiques. Cafes and coffee houses offer hot chocolate and espresso creations, a must for a snowy afternoon. Enjoy a hearty meal at delicious restaurants or sample handcrafted beverages at local wineries, breweries and distilleries. Lovers of craft beer, wine and spirits will want to download the free Pocono Beverage Trail digital passport to access discounts and earn points towards prizes. From museums to art galleries, from escape rooms to axe throwing, take your pick from numerous indoor attractions. Adults looking to continue the fun can head to Mount Airy Casino to try their luck on the casino floor or get tickets to see a show. There are lots of live music and entertainment venues across the region, including Penn’s Peak outside Jim Thorpe, which regularly hosts concerts from big-name artists.

Lodging options throughout the Poconos range from quaint bed and breakfasts to renowned resorts. Discover historic, AAA Four Diamond rated properties like Skytop Lodge or take the family to all-inclusive Woodloch Resort, voted the No.1 Family Resort in the country. Rekindle your romance with a luxurious stay at adults-only accommodations or book a couple’s treatment at award-winning spas. Plan an idyllic winter getaway for groups of all sizes in vacation rentals, cabins and cottages either nestled in the woods or located alongside a frozen lake.

To add a little splash time to your ski trip, turn the temperature up to 84 degrees, 24/7, 365 days a year at some of the biggest and most impressive indoor waterpark resorts in the country. Properties like Great Wolf Lodge, Kalahari Resorts & Conventions and Camelback Lodge & Aquatopia Indoor Waterpark offer the best of both worlds with summer fun included in your snowy vacation.

Discover the magic of the original winter wonderland with a getaway this season to the beautiful Pocono Mountains.

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Discover the magic of winter in the Pocono Mountains with a getaway the whole family will love. From skiing, snowboarding, and tubing to snowshoeing and even dog sledding, endless adventures await on the mountainside. When it’s time to unwind, cozy up at welcoming spots offering delicious food and drinks to recharge for your next thrill. Start planning your perfect winter escape today at PoconoMountains.com.



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