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, the glistening, snow-covered scenery he had in mind was 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 is still a haven for lovers of frosty weather, whether you would prefer to build a snowman in the meadow, dream and conspire by the fire in your very 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, and 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, from easy to extreme. The varied landscape provides both gentle slopes and drastic drops, including the state'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 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. Camelback Mountain in Tannersville offers 39 ski trails and 166 acres of



POCONO MOUNTAINS, PA - Having fun with friends and family that is what the Poconos are all about, with many winter activities 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 let the beautiful passing scenery whisk your cares away.

Looking to ease your way onto the slopes? Try snow tubing. You will find the country's two largest snow tubing parks at Blue Mountain Resort and Camelback Mountain. Camel-

back Mountain is home to out-of- this-world galactic tubing after dark, with the slopes lit by an LED light show. Snow tubing is the easiest way to have fun sliding down a snowy 200-foot vertical drop. Relive the childhood fun of an afternoon spent sledding and race your friends down the hill. Each of the region's ski areas as well as many of the regions' resorts have snow-tubing trails.

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. Try dogsledding, jingle all the way in a horse-drawn sleigh or turn up the adrenaline with a snowmobiling trip or winter ATV ride. Many communities host winter fest celebrations with vendors and seasonal specialties.

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 brewed-on-site 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. Connoisseurs of craft beer, wine and spirits will want to download the free Pocono Beverage Trail digital passport to access discounts and earn points as you check in at different locations. 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 four-star resorts. 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 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.

Visitors can enjoy events and festivals throughout the Poconos all winter long. Browse events on the Poconos Events page www.noconomountains.com/

Discover your winter wonderland with a getaway this winter to the beautiful Pocono Mountains.

To book your Poconos adventure and much more, please scan the QR code in the ad on the left.

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To find the long Pocono links above please visit: www.PoconoMountains.com

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way down a mountainside, or want to give snow shoeing

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or dogsledding a try. Afterwards, plenty of cozy hot spots