THE POCONO MOUNTAINS, 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 Honesdle, 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 - Fun cruising at Blue Mountain Resort in Palmerton, PA. Blue Mountain is one of several exciting Pocono Mountains ski areas and resorts.
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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