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## **Great Conditions at New Hampshire Ski Areas Just in Time for the Holidays**

A cold and snowy start to the holiday season means New Hampshire ski areas have plenty of trails to ski and ride – and plenty of fun activities both on and off the slopes. Across the state, ski areas are busy making snow, with many offering top-to-bottom skiing and riding by Christmas.

Beyond the great conditions, ski areas have planned a wide range of activities to celebrate the holidays and kick off the winter season. If you're looking to get away and spend some time outdoors with friends and family, there's plenty to do at New Hampshire's ski areas this holiday season.

### **Snow across the State**

The early season snowfall has added to snowmaking operations across the state, providing great conditions and ample trail options at the state's ski areas. The forecast calls for continued good snowmaking temperatures most nights between now and New Year's Day, along with a couple of potential snowfall events. Daytime forecasts generally call for comfortable temperatures with some sunny days that will make for perfect holiday week skiing. You can find a full report of New Hampshire alpine and cross-country ski conditions at [www.skinh.com/conditions](http://www.skinh.com/conditions).

### **Celebrating the Holidays**

Here are a few of the great holiday deals and special events happening at New Hampshire's ski areas:

- Bretton Woods has many family-friendly activities during the holidays, including a \$30 lift ticket for all ages from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Christmas Day. The Slopeside Pub in the Bretton Woods Base Lodge will be offering live entertainment between 3-5:30 p.m. daily between Monday, December 26 and New Year's Eve. Kids ages 4-12 can also enjoy après ski fun each of these same days. Each uniquely themed après party includes live entertainment, games, activities and refreshments from 3-5:30 on the Heaven Level of the Bretton Woods Base Lodge. Parents can leave their kids in this supervised program while they enjoy entertainment downstairs in the Slopeside Lounge.

- Celebrate the season at Loon Mountain with a Tree Lighting Christmas Eve Service at the Governor Adams Lodge, featuring Christmas carols, a living nativity scene, and a nondenominational candlelight service hosted by Loon Mountain Ministry. On Dec. 26 keep the Christmas spirit going with cocktails and ugly knitwear at the Ugly Sweater Après Party. Loon Mountain will also celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this season on Dec. 27 with birthday cake outside the Governor Adams Lodge, and on Dec. 31, Loon will host its Bunyan's Legendary Nights: New Year's Eve Party with music, champagne toast, and hors d'oeuvres. Throughout the week there will be evening activities for children, including Kid's Karaoke and Kid's Night Out.

- Active United States military personnel and their dependents, and retired U.S. military personnel can ski or ride for free until Dec. 24, as part of King Pine at Purity Resort's Military Appreciation Days. Military I.D. card must be presented. On New Year's Eve, King Pine invites families to ring in the New Year with an evening of skiing, riding, music and fun – complete with torchlight parade and fireworks. King Pine will also have its snowtubing, ice-skating, and XC & Snowshoe Reserve open starting Dec. 26.

- Cranmore Mountain Resort is offering frozen online ticket prices for Christmas Day. Buy online in advance of the holiday for the best deal. During Christmas vacation week, Cranmore will have music in Zip's Pub, family activities, s'mores, C-more appearances, and more each day. Cranmore is also ringing in the New Year with a holiday-themed Cranapalooza party, featuring a DJ in Schneider Square, an appearance by Bobo the Clown, a fire dancer, live music, fireworks and other family activities.

- On Dec. 27, Cannon Mountain will host its Mittersill Project Celebration, including the dedication of the Valar T-bar and a Celebration Party in the Peabody Base Lodge. On New Year's Eve, Cannon will host a Family Fun Night with Torchlight Parade and Fireworks Show, with live music and promos in the Cannonball Pub for adults over 21, a bouncy house, children's movie and evening parade and fireworks. As always New Hampshire residents can ski for \$25 on Wednesdays with a valid New Hampshire ID, even during Christmas vacation week.

- Granite Gorge will kick off COSMIC tubing on Dec. 24, and on Dec. 30, Granite Gorge will begin its season-long weekly Friday Night Special, which includes all you can eat pasta, a beer and 2 hours of tubing from 6-8 p.m. for \$25.

- Pat's Peak will be offering its Pats Peak's POP (Pay One Price) program on Dec. 31, which includes skiing/riding, lesson tips and New Year's Eve entertainment for \$49. The evening celebrations feature skiing, snowboarding, snowtubing, a comedy show, Monte Carlo for raffle prizes, dancing to "The McMurphy's", tasting stations, party favors, champagne toast and a midnight fireworks display. The evening will offer a number of family-friendly activities. The party begins at 6 p.m., and the slopes are open until 10 p.m.

- Gunstock makes it easy for those who love night skiing to spend New Year's Eve on the slopes under the lights until 11:30pm. After 3 p.m., anyone with a season pass or primetime lift ticket can enjoy all the festivities. Add to the fun with a ticket to catch a ride at the Thrill Hill Tubing and Big Air Bag Launch. Guests should be sure to stick around for the fantastic mountainside fireworks at midnight.

- Waterville Valley will kick off its 50<sup>th</sup> season on Dec. 27 with the Bruce the Moose Birthday Bash from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., including games, a scavenger hunt and resort mascot Bruce handing out cupcakes. On Dec. 28 enjoy the Starry Nights Celebration with gourmet mountainside dining around a fire inside the Sunnyside Timberlodge, and on Friday and Saturday evenings take a thrilling 2 mile Mountain Taser Ride with the Valley Snow Dogz. Waterville will also feature races during the day of New Year's Eve, host a 60s throwback party and finish the night with fireworks in the Town Square.

- At Mt. Sunapee, celebrate New Year's "Sunapee style" at Goosefeathers Pub, which will remain open until 8:00 p.m. featuring a DJ playing music. Fireworks begin at 9:00 p.m. on Eggbeater just outside the Pub.

- During Christmas vacation week, relax with music, drinks and food after you hit the slopes at Black Mountain in the Lostbo Pub. There will be live music each day during vacation week from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Ski NH is the statewide association representing 34 alpine and cross country resorts in New Hampshire. For more information on ski areas, trail conditions, vacation planning, and updated winter events at Ski NH resorts, call Ski NH at [603.745.9396](tel:603.745.9396) or visit the Ski NH website at [www.SkiNH.com](http://www.SkiNH.com). For statewide travel info, visit [www.visitNH.gov](http://www.visitNH.gov).