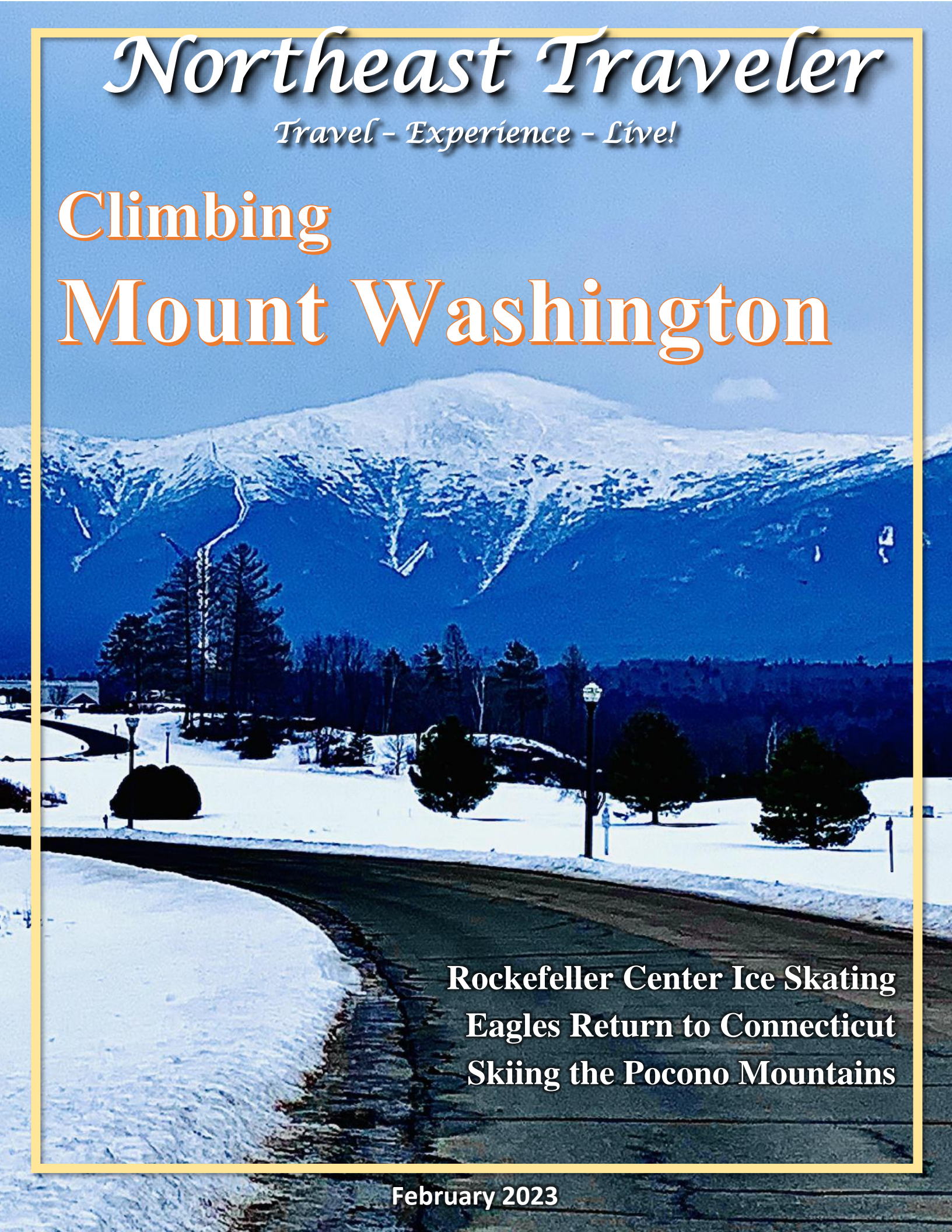


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Climbing

Mount Washington



**Rockefeller Center Ice Skating
Eagles Return to Connecticut
Skiing the Pocono Mountains**

February 2023



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Northeast Traveler

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Museum of Modern Art

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The Northeast's Highest Peak Mount Washington

Feature By
Paul Pence

*Everyone had been to the top of
Mt. Washington except me, so I
finally took the drive to the peak.*



As I set out on my journey up Mt. Washington, I couldn't help but feel a sense of excitement and anticipation. I had lived in New England for 25 years and making the trip up the highest peak in the Northeast seemed to be a critical rite of passage that I had somehow missed.

The amazing views, the rapid change from stifling summer heat to near-winter chill, and the white knuckle drive up and back down the mountain had been described over and over by almost everyone I knew, so I couldn't wait to experience it all for myself.

The most adventurous (and athletic) would take to the summit on foot, at times scrambling on hands and feet. Others would take a leisurely and memorable ride on the cog rail, but I chose to drive up the 7.5 auto road, taking about 20 minutes and climbing over 4000

feet in the process. It may be nerve-racking for newcomers like me, but there are only about a dozen car accidents of the 45,000 cars that make the climb each year, so I wasn't toooooo nervous.

The journey up the auto road began at the base station in Pinkham Notch between Gorham and Jackson New Hampshire. When planning your trip, it's important to note that the Mt. Washington Auto Road is only open from May through October (weather permitting) and the road can be closed due to inclement weather, so be sure to check the

road's website for updates before you go. Also, bring warm clothes and a jacket, even in the summer, as the weather on top of the mountain can be unpredictable and much colder than at the base station.

As I made my way up the mountain, I was treated to panoramic views of the White Mountains, including the Presidential Range, the Franconia Range, and the Green Mountains of Vermont. The road was paved and well-maintained, but it was quite



steep and winding in some areas, so I had to be prepared for a bit of a rollercoaster ride.

One of the highlights of the Mt. Washington Auto Road is the opportunity to stop at various viewpoints along the way. The first viewpoint is the Waterfall, which offered a glimpse of the



Ammonoosuc River and the valley below. The next viewpoint is the Alpine Garden, where I could see a wide variety of alpine plants and wildflowers.

As I continued my ascent, I passed through the treeline and entered the alpine zone. Here, the

views became even more breathtaking, with rugged peaks and rocky outcroppings all around me. The road also became steeper and narrower, so I had to take it slow and occasionally stop to enjoy the scenery. Here and there, even in the middle of the summer, there

were patches of snow in shaded gullies and under outcroppings.

I didn't see any wildlife since I was concentrating on the road, but people who slow down more than I did, stop at the viewpoints to make the drive more leisurely, and pay attention to more than the road are



often rewarded with views of some of the creatures that make Mt. Washington home.

Mt. Washington is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including both alpine and subalpine species. Some of the most common wildlife that can be seen when visiting the mountain include white-tailed Deer grazing in the alpine meadows near the summit, moose in the lower elevations of the mountain, near the base station., and perhaps even a black bear, also in the lower elevations of the mountain, near the base station.

Smaller creatures including the



snowshoe hare, rabbit-like animals called pika, and marmots -- large ground squirrels are often seen near the summit and in the alpine zone.

The mountain is also home to a wide variety of bird species, including the Peregrine Falcon, the Bicknell's Thrush, and the Spruce Grouse, along with a wide variety of insects, including butterflies, moths, and dragonflies.

It's important to note that wildlife sightings can be unpredictable and it's not guaranteed to see all of them. Also, it's important to always respect the wildlife and maintain a safe distance, as these animals can be dangerous if they feel





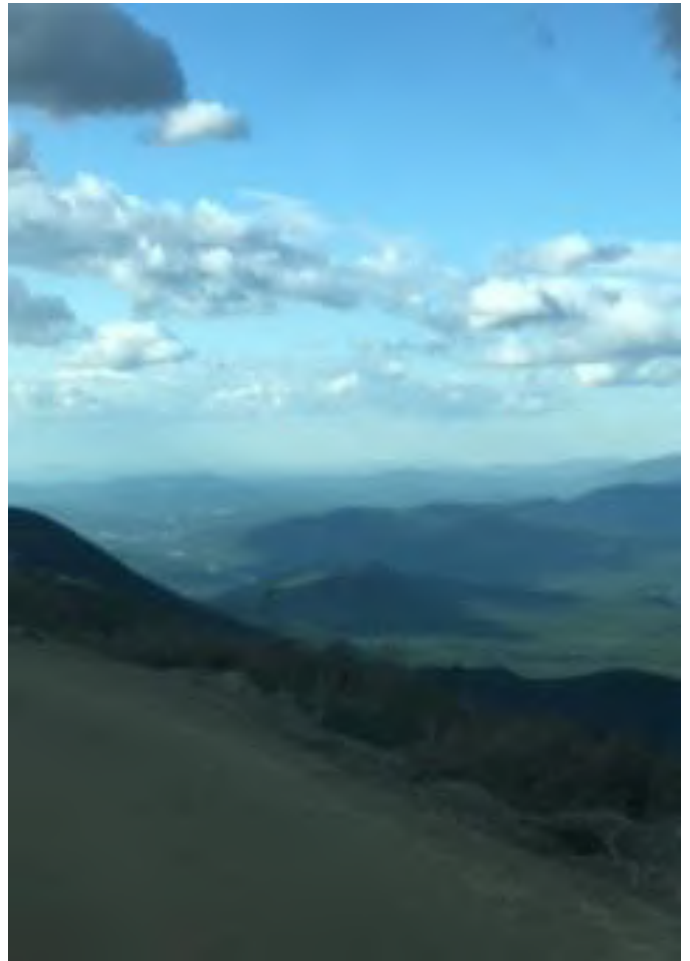
threatened.

But I pressed on, since getting to the top was my goal.

The air at the top was cold enough that I had wished I had packed even more warm clothes for the trip. It was also noticeably thinner. And windy. On the day of my visit, the clouds felt like they were just an arm's length above me as they rushed by the peak. They cast shadows on the forests and towns below. On other days it's not unusual to get to the top and find the clouds swirling around you in a dense fog, or sometimes even a completely empty sky.

I was thrilled when I finished the final part of the climb from the parking lot to the rock cairn marking the mountain's apex. I might not have climbed the mountain with pitons and ice picks like an alpine adventurer, but driving it was enough of an accomplishment for me.

The top of the mountain is a 60-acre state park with the Sherman Adams Summit Building, a large concrete building housing the weather observatory, snack bar, gift shop, and museum. Nearby is the stone "Tip Top House Museum", the only survivor of a





massive 1907 fire that destroyed the original observatory.

Tip Top House is a small hotel serving visitors who rode horse-drawn carriages and wagons to the chill air at the top of the mountain. It features a single large common room and side room with double-stacked beds that resemble ship bunks or perhaps the bunks in a

train providing the shelter from the winds.

I explored the Mt. Washington museum, where I learned about the weather and climate of the White Mountains along with the history of Mt. Washington and the surrounding area. The observatory has been collecting weather data on the summit since 1932, and the exhibits feature information on the extreme weather conditions that have been recorded on the mountain, including high winds and sub-zero temperatures. There I learned about the work of the observatory's scientists, who have studied everything from atmospheric pressure to the



formation of clouds. Additionally, there is a display of the instruments that have been used to collect weather data over the years, including barometers, thermometers, and anemometers.

There are also interactive exhibits that delve into the natural history of the mountain and the surrounding area. The exhibits explore the geology, flora, and fauna of the White Mountains and explain how the unique weather conditions on Mt. Washington have shaped the ecosystem.

I also learned about the early exploration of the White Mountains and the development of the tourism industry in the region.

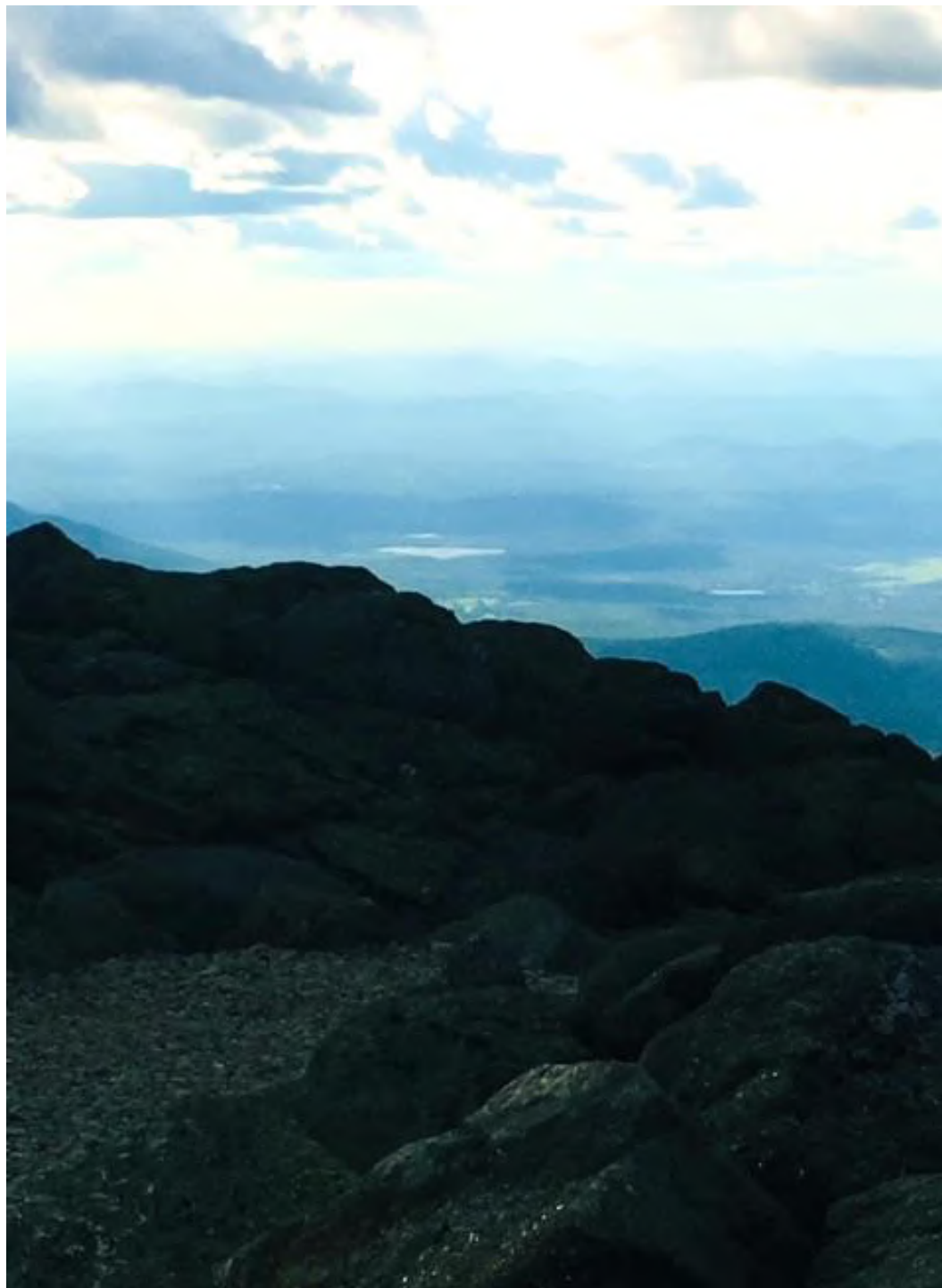


Additionally, there are exhibits on the first ascent of the mountain, by Darby Field in 1642, as well as the construction of the Mt. Washington Auto Road, which was completed in 1861.

Visitors can take a guided tour of the summit buildings and learn about the daily operations of the observatory and the work of the



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world. With wind gusts recorded at 231 mph, it stood for decades as the highest recorded wind speed ever recorded on the surface of the earth. The summit is also the site of the world's worst weather, with temperatures dropping as far as minus 47 degrees Fahrenheit, and visibility dropping to zero.

Hiking up to the top of Mt.

Washington would have been a challenging but rewarding experience. It's also not for the unprepared, unfit,

weather observers.

Of course I also had to stop at the gift shop that sells souvenirs, books and other items related to the mountain and its history.

The summit of Mt. Washington is also home to some of the most extreme weather conditions in the

or faint-of-heart since over 160 people have died in the process over the years. No, you don't need to be a mountaineer climbing sheer cliffs, but you do need to be fit, prepared, and not prone to taking stupid risks.

No matter which of the several trailheads chosen, the first part of the hike would have taken me through dense forest, where I would have been surrounded by tall trees and lush vegetation. As I hiked higher, the trees would have thinned out, and I would have been presented with stunning views of the surrounding mountains. The trail would have been rocky and uneven in places, so I would have needed to pay attention to my footing.

Under ideal conditions and on the fastest trail, it takes a minimum of four hours to get up the mountain, but few climbers experience ideal conditions.

As I approached the summit, I would have encountered steep and rocky terrain, which would have required some scrambling and the



use of my hands. The trail would have also become much steeper, with an elevation gain of over 4,000 feet. The final stretch to the summit would have been the most challenging, with the wind picking up as I got higher, making it harder to hike.



cog train to the summit, a unique and scenic way to experience the mountain. The Cog Railway is an historic railway that has been operating since 1869, and takes passengers

The quieter and slower pace would have given ample time for soaking in the natural beauty and greatly increasing the chance to spot some of the mountain's wildlife.

Reaching the summit would have been a truly unforgettable experience, standing on the top of the highest peak in the northeastern United States, and the views from the top would have been spectacular, soaking it in with the feeling of accomplishment that I had climbed the mountain on my own two feet.

But I drove it... Adventure enough for me.

Many people prefer to take the

from the base station in Bretton Woods all the way to the summit.

The train is powered by a steam engine. As it chugs its way up the mountain, it offers stunning views of the surrounding landscape. Passengers can enjoy panoramic views without having to concentrate on keeping the car on the road.

As the train makes its way up the mountain, passengers can learn about the history of the railway and the surrounding area from the knowledgeable onboard staff. The train also makes several stops along the way, where passengers can disembark and take in the

views from different vantage points.

It's also possible to visit Mt. Washington in the dead of winter, riding snow cats up the auto road to the summit to experience the extreme weather in person. The



level of preparation and cost makes this the adventure for a select few.

For me, after the museums and snack bar, admiring the view and taking lots of pictures, the rest of the trip was the ride back down the mountain. I was warned to keep my car in low gear and pulse my brakes to avoid overheating them.

What they didn't warn me about was that I had chosen a day and time that I would encounter a road rally of hundreds of Mini Coopers working their way up the mountain. It wasn't scary, it was just a weird sight that made a humorous ending to a great

adventure.

Overall, Mt. Washington is a must-see destination for any traveler visiting New England. With its stunning views, historic significance, and extreme weather conditions, it's an adventure that you won't soon forget. Just be sure to plan ahead, pack accordingly, and drive safely, and you're sure to have an unforgettable experience!

For More Information

- Mt-washington.com
- Thecog.com
- Mountwashington.org





PROMETHEUS TEACHER IN LIGHT A BIRD
HAT HATH PROVED TO AVIATE A BIRD

Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Just Like The Movies



*Manhattan's iconic skating rink is
open all winter long, come and
experience it!*



The Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink, a winter wonderland located in the heart of Midtown Manhattan, is a must-visit destination for any traveler to New York City. You may never have visited New York City, but certainly you know Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink since it has appeared again and again in movies and television like *Elf* and *Home Along 2*, making it an iconic symbol of Manhattan.

The rink, which has been a beloved tradition since it first opened in 1936, is situated in the Rockefeller Plaza, a complex of 19 commercial buildings built by the

Rockefeller family. The rink is surrounded by some of the city's most famous landmarks, including the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree, the NBC Studios, and the Top of the Rock Observation Deck.

The rink, a large and rectangular shape, can accommodate up to 150 skaters at a time. It is open to the public from October to April, offering both recreational skating and figure skating performances. Skating lessons are also available for those who are new to the sport.

One of the best things about the Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink is the atmosphere, a festive and magical place to visit. The rink is surrounded by twinkling lights and decorated with holiday decorations. Skaters can take a break and enjoy hot cocoa or other

treats at the rink-side café, while watching the skating action.

Another great feature of the rink is that it is open to the public, so anyone can come and skate. However, it is always crowded, especially during the holiday season. It's highly recommended to buy the tickets online in advance, to avoid long waiting lines.

Despite the crowds, the rink is well-managed and the staff is friendly and helpful. Skate rental is available on-site, so you don't have to worry about bringing your own skates.



For those who want to take in the sights of the rink without actually skating, the Rockefeller Center offers a number of great viewing spots, including the rink-side café and the Top of the Rock Observation Deck. From the observation deck, visitors can take in panoramic views of the city and the rink below.

The Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink has a rich history dating back to the 1930s. The rink was first opened in December 1936 as part of the Rockefeller Center, a complex of commercial buildings built by the Rockefeller family in

the heart of Midtown Manhattan. The rink was designed by architects Raymond Hood and Wallace Harrison as a way to attract visitors and tenants to the newly-built complex.

The rink was an instant success, drawing thousands of visitors each day. The rink was initially open for only four months a year, but due to its popularity, it was soon opened year-round. The rink was also used for figure skating competitions, with some of the most famous skaters of the time, such as Sonja Henie, performing there.



During World War II, the rink was closed to the public and used for training by the United States Coast Guard. After the war, the rink was reopened to the public and continued to be a popular destination for ice skaters.

Over the years, the rink has undergone several renovations and upgrades, including the addition of the rink-side café and the installation of a refrigeration system to keep the ice frozen despite warm spells during the skating season. Despite these changes, the rink has remained true to its original design and continues

to be a beloved winter tradition for New Yorkers and visitors alike.

In addition to the ice skating, the Rockefeller Center also offers a number of other winter activities, including the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting, the Saks Fifth Avenue holiday window displays, and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. These events and activities make the Rockefeller Center a popular destination for both holiday shoppers and winter tourists.

The Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink is known for its iconic status and festive





atmosphere, but there are a few unexpected facts about the rink that may surprise visitors:

- The rink is not the largest in the city: While the rink is one of the most famous in New York City, it is not actually the largest in terms of size. There are other rinks in the

city that are larger, such as the Wollman Rink in Central Park.

- The rink is not only for skating: The rink is also used for other activities, such as yoga and fitness classes, during the summer months. The rink is also used for special events and corporate parties, allowing guests to enjoy the iconic setting and atmosphere of the rink even when there is no ice.

- The rink is not only for the public: The rink is also used for professional figure skaters to practice. The rink is open to the public during the day, and during the evening the rink is used by professional figure skaters, Olympic and World Champions, to train.

- The rink is not the most economical: Skating at the rink is not the cheapest activity, it is a bit more expensive than other ice skating rinks in the city. Skating

admission is \$33 and skate rental is around \$20.

- The rink is not only open in the winter: The rink is open to the public year-round, and not only during the winter months as one might expect. The rink is closed only for maintenance and cleaning, usually in the summer months.

- The rink is not exclusively for skating: In the past, the rink has been used for roller skating and even for a fashion show. The rink has been transformed into a dance floor and a stage for live performances.

Overall, the Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink is a must-visit destination for anyone traveling to New York City during the winter months. With its festive atmosphere, beautiful setting, and abundance of activities, it is the perfect way to experience the magic of the city during the winter. Whether you're a seasoned skater or a first-timer, the Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink promises to be a highlight of your trip.

For More Information:

- www.rockefellercenter.com



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**Bald Eagles in Connecticut
They're Back!**



*The Watch Is On As Eagles
Return To Western Connecticut's
Litchfield Hills*



Some snowbirds head to Florida in the winter, but the majestic American bald eagle doesn't have to travel so far for a choice retreat. Every year Bald Eagles fly down from more frigid climes in search of the annual fish buffet provided by the running waters of the Shepaug Dam on the Housatonic River in Southbury, a town in Connecticut's Litchfield Hills.

They favor this spot because the turbulence of the dam water pushes the fish to the surface where eagles can swoop down and feast on their favorite dish.

The bald eagle is a bird of prey found in North America -- its range

includes most of Canada and Alaska, all of the contiguous United States, and northern Mexico. It is found near large bodies of open water with an abundant food supply and old-growth trees for nesting. The adult

Bald Eagle is mainly brown with a white head and tail, with large and hooked beaks. The plumage of the immature is brown. Bald Eagles are not actually bald; the name derives from the older meaning of the word, "white headed". In the late 20th century the Bald Eagle was on the brink of extirpation in the continental United States, while flourishing in much of Alaska and Canada

Populations recovered and stabilized, so the species was removed from the U.S. federal government's list of endangered species and transferred to the list of

threatened species on July 12, 1995, and it was removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in the Lower 48 States on June 28, 2007.

The Bald Eagle requires old-growth and mature stands of coniferous or hardwood trees for perching, roosting, and nesting. Selected trees must have good visibility, an open structure, and proximity to prey, but the height or species of tree is not as important as an abundance of comparatively large trees surrounding the body of water. Forests used for nesting should have a canopy cover of no



more than 60 percent, and no less than 20 percent, and be in close proximity to water.

The best place to watch the swoops and glides of these graceful winter guests is the Eagle Observation Area near the Shepaug Housatonic Hydroelectric Station, where an organized eagle watch takes place every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through mid-March. Wednesdays are popular with school groups.

In spite of the record snowfalls in 2011, 3,500 visitors came to the Shepaug Dam. On an average day, they saw seven eagles, but lucky viewers on the best days spotted as many as 21 eagles. The low count day saw only one lone eagle.

Chances are best on cold clear days when the surfaces of most other rivers and ponds have frozen.

Over 133,00 people have visited



the observation area since it was opened to the public in 1986. The shelter, maintained by FirstLight Power Resources, is located 1000 feet from the river, affording safety for the eagles while providing an excellent vantage point. High powered telescopes are set up on tripods for visitors and volunteers from Connecticut Audubon are on hand to assist in spotting and

answer questions about the birds. The volunteers have set up an informative web site with facts and figures about these fascinating birds.

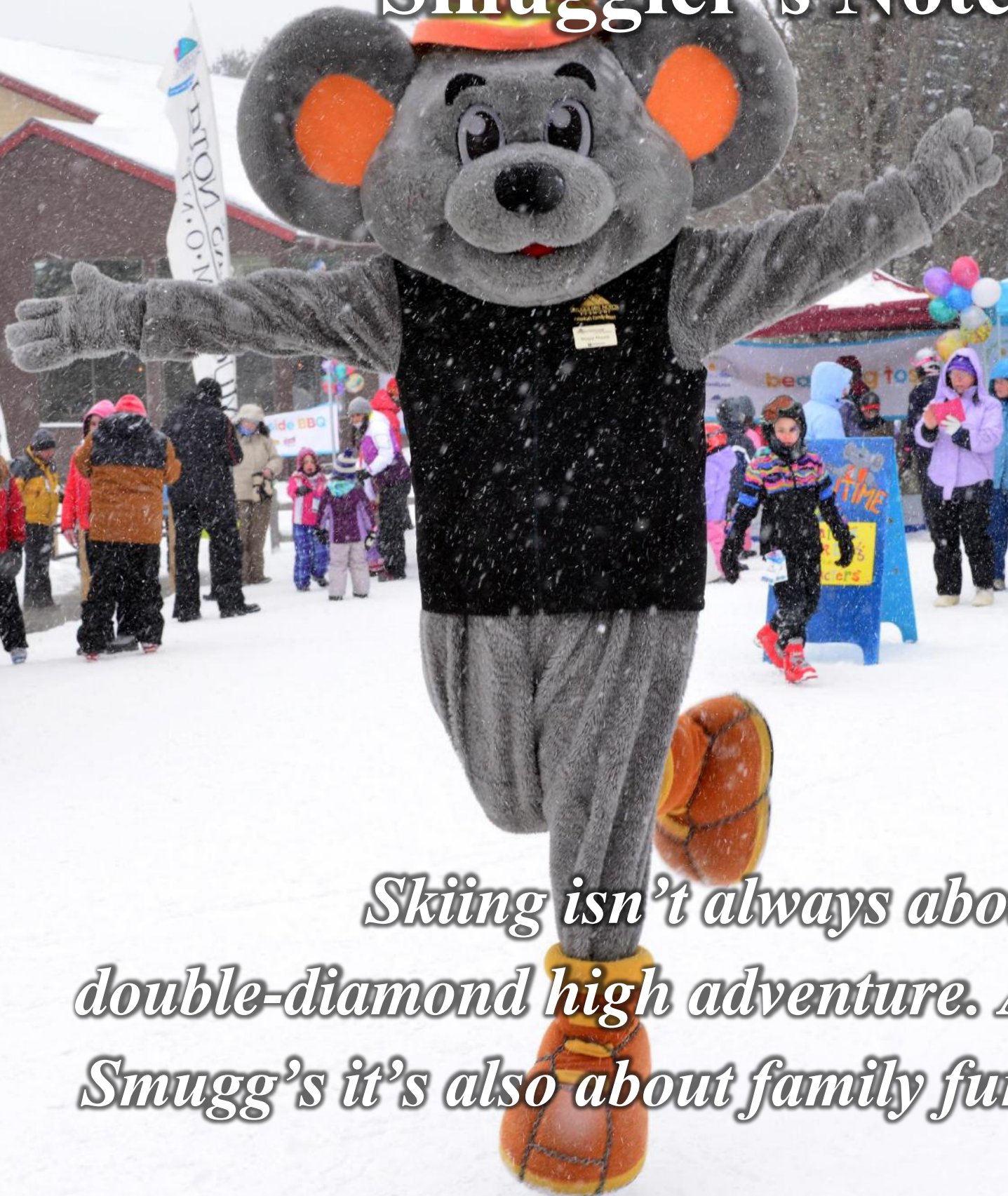
Admission to the viewing area is free, but advance reservations are required to ensure that the observation site is not overcrowded.

For more information:

- www.litchfieldhills.com
- www.shepaueagles.info



Family Winter Fun At Smuggler's Notch



*Skiing isn't always about
double-diamond high adventure. At
Smugg's it's also about family fun!*



You might expect Smuggler's Notch, nestled in the Green Mountains of Vermont, to be a great place to ski. And it is, with its excellent skiing and snowboarding opportunities in the winter on a variety of slopes and terrain for skiers and snowboarders of all skill levels. But it's also amazingly family-friendly.

The resort has three main ski areas: Morse Mountain, Madonna Mountain, and Sterling Mountain. Morse Mountain is the perfect place for beginners, with its gentle slopes and easy terrain. Madonna Mountain is a great choice for intermediate skiers and

snowboarders, with a mix of groomed and ungroomed runs. Sterling Mountain is the most challenging, with steep and moguled terrain for advanced skiers and snowboarders.

In addition to skiing and snowboarding, Smuggler's Notch

also offers other winter sports such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and tubing. The resort also has an indoor pool and hot tub, as well as a fitness center and spa, perfect for relaxation after a day on the slopes.

The resort also has a state-of-the-art snowmaking system, ensuring that the slopes are well-covered with snow throughout the winter season. Furthermore, the resort has ski and snowboard rental and tuning services, and expert ski and snowboard instructors to help you improve your skills, from beginner to advanced.

But it is also a year-round vacation destination that offers a wide range of activities for families and children. In addition to its skiing and snowboarding in the winter, “Smugg’s” is known as well as hiking, biking, and swimming in the summer.

One of the main draws for families is the resort's children's programs, which are designed to keep kids entertained and engaged while allowing parents to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. The programs are divided into age groups, with activities tailored to each group. For example, the





exercises. All of the programs are led by experienced and trained instructors who are dedicated to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all participants.

In addition to the children's programs, Smuggler's Notch offers a variety of

"Explorers" program is for children ages 3-4 and includes activities such as arts and crafts, nature walks, and games.

The "Adventurers" program is for children ages 5-7 and includes activities such as hiking, swimming, and rock climbing. The

"Mountain Adventure" program is for children 8-12 and includes activities such as ziplining, rock climbing, and horseback riding.

The "Teen Scene" program is for teenagers and includes activities such as paintball, rock climbing, and team-building

other activities that are perfect for families. These include skiing and snowboarding, snowshoeing, tubing, and ice skating. The resort also has an indoor pool and hot tub, as well as a fitness center and spa.

The resort also has several amenities that are perfect for





families, such as a playground, a game room, and a movie theater. There are also several dining options available, including a restaurant and a deli.

When it comes to accommodation, Smuggler's Notch offers a variety of condos for rent. The condos are fully equipped with everything you need for a comfortable stay, including fully-equipped kitchens, comfortable living areas, and private bedrooms. Some of the condos even have private hot tubs, fireplaces, and balconies.

Overall, Smuggler's Notch is the perfect destination for families looking for a fun and engaging vacation. With its wide range of children's programs and activities, as well as its comfortable condos for rent and other amenities, it's no wonder that this resort is a popular choice for families. Whether you're looking for a winter getaway or a summer vacation, Smuggler's Notch has something for everyone... including the kids!

For more information:

- www.smugs.com



Newport's Preservation Society Winter Lecture Series



*Gilded Age Lecture Series explores
a fascinating period*



A wide range of topics, from dressmaking to cocktails to music, will be explored in the winter edition of The Preservation Society of Newport County's ongoing Gilded Age Lecture Series.

The series examines all aspects of the American Gilded Age, a period of great change and innovation that spans roughly 1870-1910 – a time when the grandest of the Preservation Society's historic houses were built, including The Breakers, Marble House, The Elms and Rosecliff.

Here is the lineup for the Winter Gilded Age Lecture Series:

Fashioning America: African American Designers and Dressmakers

Live at Marble House and via Zoom Thursday, February 9, 6 p.m.:



'I'll Have Another' – Cocktail Culture in the Gilded Age"

Live at Marble House and via Zoom Thursday, February 23, 6 p.m.:

The Gilded Age was also the “Golden Age of Cocktails,” when discriminating palates discovered the delights of new concoctions that

became the classic cocktails of today, including the Martini, the Manhattan and the Old-Fashioned. Sharing a taste of this entertaining topic will be Cecelia Tichi, author of “Gilded Age Cocktails” and the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of English Emerita at Vanderbilt University.

Who were the designers and dressmakers who skillfully created garments for privileged Newporters in the past? We will learn about a Newport-based dressmaker from the Gilded Age as well as the designer of Jackie Kennedy’s wedding dress. Our two expert panelists include: Theresa Guzmán Stokes, President of the 1696 Heritage Group and Executive Director of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society; and Elaine Nichols, Supervisory Curator of Culture at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.





Gilded Age Orchestra of Newport

Live at The Breakers and via Zoom Thursday, March 2, 6 p.m.:

Step back in time to experience live music the Gilded Age way, played by many of the actual musicians who performed on “The Gilded Age” show. Two authorities on music of the period will provide the historical background and conduct the music: Dr. Christopher Brellocks of SUNY Schenectady and Vassar College, who appeared as composer/conductor John Knowles Paine in the HBO series; and Dr. Mark A. Stickney, the Artistic Director of the Seacoast

Wind Ensemble and founder of the nonprofit Historic Music of Newport.

The Preservation Society of Newport County, Rhode Island, is a nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. It is dedicated to

preserving and interpreting the area's historic architecture, landscapes, decorative arts and social history. Its 11 historic properties – seven of them National Historic Landmarks – span more than 250 years of American architectural and social development.

Tickets for each lecture cost \$20 for in-person attendance, or \$15 for Preservation Society members. Zoom registration costs \$10 for members and non-members.]

For more information:

- NewportMansions.org



Maine's Artistic Centerpiece: Portland Museum of Art



*American Perspectives: Stories
from the American Folk Art
Museum Collection showing
through May*



Portland, Maine is home to a treasure trove of art and culture, and the Portland Museum of Art is at the forefront of this scene. The museum is located in the heart of downtown Portland, making it an easily accessible destination for both locals and tourists alike.

The museum's collection is diverse and extensive, featuring works by some of the most renowned American and European artists, including Winslow Homer, Claude Monet, and Andrew Wyeth. The museum also has a strong focus on contemporary art and works by Maine-based artists,

offering a unique and varied experience for visitors.

One of the highlights of the museum is the Charles Shipman Payson Building, a stunningly restored 19th-century building that houses the museum's permanent collection. The building's architecture is a work of art in itself, with its elegant columns,

grand staircases and skylights that allow natural light to flood the galleries.

The museum also offers a wide range of educational programs, including tours, lectures, and workshops for adults and children. The programs are designed to help visitors of all ages and backgrounds to understand and appreciate art. The museum also offers school and youth programs, making it a great destination for families and school groups.

The museum also hosts special exhibitions and events throughout the year, such as film screenings and lectures by artists and art historians. These events provide visitors with an opportunity to learn more about art and artists, and to experience the museum in new and exciting ways.

Running through May 7, over seventy significant works from the American Folk Art Museum's collection, is



featured in a special exhibition. It offers insight into the diverse landscape of folk and self-taught art in the United States from the eighteenth century to the present day. Capturing thoughts and experiences, the dynamic artistic production on view functions as a witness to history, a carrier of cultural heritage, and a reflection





of the world at large. The idea of art's entanglement with our shared and complex past—and the ability of artists to speak to, counter, and nuance those histories—animates this vibrant installation.

Four primary sections, organized under the titles

“Founders, Travelers, Philosophers, and Seekers,” explore the roles, ideas, and firsthand testimonies of artists of various backgrounds and perspectives. A wide range of forms—from quilts, embroidery, and assemblages to pottery, paintings, and sculpture—reveals aspects of American identity, nationhood, and histories, and celebrates the multiplicity of insights art can offer on these questions. Through the interweaving of historical and contemporary works that speak to the beauty, complexity, and contradiction of this country, American

Perspectives affirms that everyone has a story to tell.

Each piece in the exhibition holds a unique and intimate viewpoint from a broad collection of artists. “The individual stories and ways that these works of art



carry these stories forward is reflected beautifully in this show. Visitors have the opportunity to delve deeply—to go down a rabbit hole, so to speak—with each piece, and you can really fall in love with these objects and their makers,” says Ramey Mize, PMA’s Assistant Curator of American Art. “It’s an invitation to look closer and to look at things differently, to adopt a new perspective.” American Perspectives stages questions regarding U.S. identity, nationhood, and histories, creating space for a multiplicity of viewpoints on these issues and embracing the dynamism and diversity of American life.

This Exhibition has been organized by the American Folk Art Museum, New York, with support provided by Art Bridges

Art Bridges is the vision of philanthropist and arts patron Alice Walton. The mission of Art

Bridges is to expand access to American art in all regions across the United States. Since 2017, Art Bridges has been creating and supporting programs that bring outstanding works of American art out of storage and into communities. Art Bridges partners with a growing network of over 190 museums of all sizes and locations to provide financial and strategic support for exhibition development, loans from the Art Bridges collection, and programs designed to educate, inspire, and deepen engagement with local audiences. The Art Bridges Collection represents an expanding vision of American art from the 19th century to present day and encompasses multiple media and voices.

For More Information:

- www.portlandmuseum.org





What's New at Pocono Ski Resorts

Article By
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*Seven new chairlifts - new trails -
snowmaking enhancements - and
more!*



The Pocono Mountains, located in northeastern Pennsylvania, offer some of the best skiing in the eastern United States. With several ski resorts to choose from, the area offers a variety of terrain for skiers and snowboarders of all levels.

One of the most popular ski resorts in the Poconos is Camelback Mountain Resort. This resort offers a diverse range of terrain, with 34 slopes and trails, including a terrain park for freestylers. The resort also offers night skiing, making it a great option for those who want to hit the slopes after a long day of work.

Blue Mountain Resort boasts the largest ski area in the state, with 42 slopes and trails. The resort also offers a variety of terrain parks for freestylers and a halfpipe for snowboarders. In addition to skiing and snowboarding, the resort also offers snow tubing, making it a great option for families and

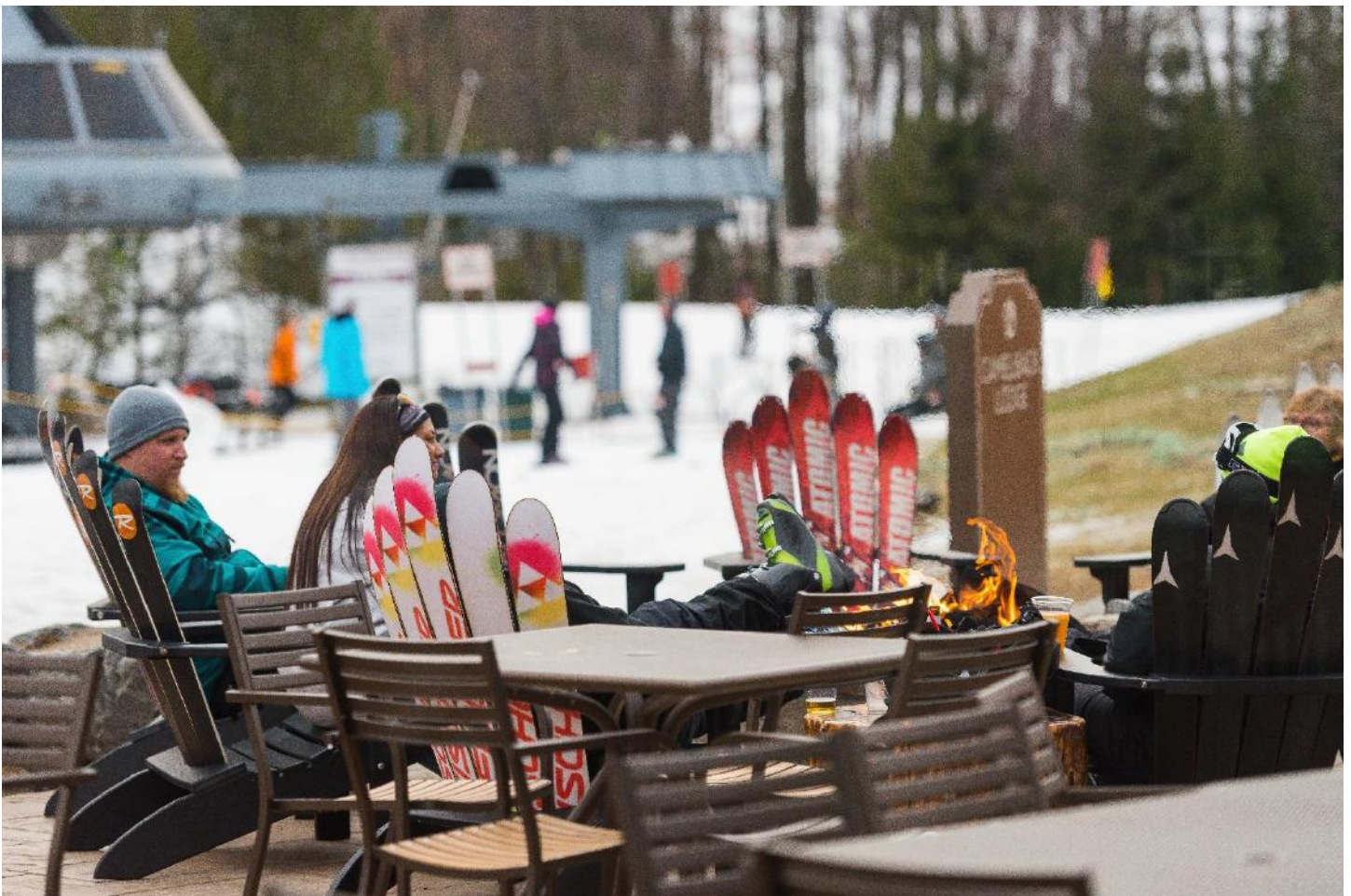
groups looking for a fun winter activity.

For a more secluded skiing experience, Ski Big Bear offers 12 slopes and trails and is known for its family-friendly atmosphere. The resort also offers snowboarding and snow tubing, as well as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

In addition to the ski resorts, the Poconos also offer a variety of options for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area offers miles of groomed trails for cross-country skiing, as well as

several trails for snowshoeing. The area also offers stunning views of the Delaware River and the surrounding mountains.

When it comes to après-ski, the Poconos offer a variety of options for dining and entertainment. The area is home to several cozy bars and pubs, as well as a variety of restaurants that offer everything from casual dining to fine dining. There are also several spas, including the famous Kalahari Spa, which offers a variety of services, including massages and hydrotherapy.





The Pocono Mountains' six ski resorts have unveiled new, exciting enhancements on and around the slopes on top of the country's two largest snowtubing parks, cutting-edge snowmaking systems, and award-winning learn-to-ski and snowboard programs led by seasoned instructors.

Big Boulder and Jack Frost Mountain

- Five new high-speed, four-person chairlifts (three at Jack Frost, two at Big Boulder).
- The Epic Lift Upgrade chairlift replacement project has helped create four new trails at Big Boulder.

Blue Mountain Resort

- A new high-speed lift named the Main Street Express will transport riders from top to bottom in under five minutes and

accommodate 3,000 guests per hour. The lift dramatically improves connectivity and access to terrain on the western part of the mountain.

- New nighttime, after-dark Sonic Tubing with music and disco lighting. Blue Mountain boasts the country's largest snowtubing park with 46 lanes, each over 1,000 feet long.
- Enhanced snowmaking automation, including new snow guns and LED lighting to make night skiing available on the 40th trail, which opened last season.
- A renamed trail, Curzi's Cabin (previously Widow Maker), serviced by the new Main Street Express and a renamed terrain run, Trails End (previously Terrain Run).

Camelback Mountain

- A new high-speed, six-person enclosed lift named Black Bear 6 replaces the smaller Sullivan Express. The new lift rises 667 vertical feet with an uphill capacity of 3,000 passengers per hour.
- New location for the terrain park and enhancements including



automation, new designs, and a Next Gen Pisten Bully Park Pro 400 for creating precise and uniform park builds.

- Continued automation advances including updates to last year's new Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) system, which offers hands-free, streamlined, and efficient lift access. Additionally, SkiLynx is being added to the resort's app, allowing guests to live-track their total trails, miles, vertical feet, as well as find friends and view real time lift wait times.

Shawnee Mountain

- As part of a multi-year, multi-million-dollar snowmaking upgrade project, Shawnee has added three new fan guns to the beginner's area, two efficient snowmaking pumps, and continues to replace pipes across

the mountain. Snowmaking covers 100 percent of all Shawnee's 125 acres of skiable terrain, of which is now 90 percent fully automated.

- Replaced all 221 bridge boards, purchased 160 new snow tubes including double tubes for families, large Information Technology upgrades, and cosmetic enhancements across the resort.
- Purchased hundreds of new ski boots, skis, snowboards, and snowboard boots. The new Head snowboard system allows snowboards to be stored with the binding on, making the process faster and more efficient for employees and guests.

Ski Big Bear at Masthope Mountain

- New rental equipment including snowboards and snowboard boots.
- Expanded snowmaking capabilities with the addition of 30 snow guns.

For More Information:

- PoconoMountains.com



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