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## What's New in New Hampshire Spring 2013

### ***Ski Resort Improvements***

Gunstock Mountain Resort, Gilford, NH - Gunstock Mountain Resort will further expand their Adventure Park for the 2013 summer season. Plans are underway to add new adventure excursions providing even more opportunities for family fun. [www.gunstock.com](http://www.gunstock.com).

Granite Gorge, Keene, NH - Granite Gorge will be open year-round starting this summer with some new offerings. Stay tuned for the summer schedule and pricing! [www.granitegorge.com](http://www.granitegorge.com).

### ***Attractions***

Surf's Up New Hampshire, Nashua, NH - SkyVenture NH will be adding an 11 thousand foot addition to their facility, called "Surf's Up New Hampshire." It will feature a Surfstream surf machine, Fishpipe, Rock wall, Oasis food cafe and surf side party space. This will be the first multi-sport venue with surfing and skydiving. The all-season indoor SurfStream® will be connected to the skydiving facility and features a retractable glass roof for seasonal open air operation, glass walls for enhanced spectator viewing, surfside lounging, and a café. With programmable controls and modular inserts, the SurfStream® creates multiple wave types in one machine. For experienced surfers the signature wave is the 5' barreling wave with 28' of face to carve on. This set of wave modules can be assembled in both right and left breaks accommodating goofy and regular foot riders. For broad appeal, the system also features training and intermediate waves which operate at lower power. [http://www.skyventurenh.com/surfsup\\_nh.php](http://www.skyventurenh.com/surfsup_nh.php).

Dinner and Sunset Cruise, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, Holderness, NH - Groups start the evening with a delicious dinner at Walter's Basin Restaurant followed by a 90-minute sunset cruise on pristine Squam Lake. This guided tour aboard a canopied pontoon boat showcases the beauty of Squam Lake including its natural history, wildlife, and people. Other group offerings from Squam Lakes Natural Science Center including Squam Lake Cruises, trail walks on the animal exhibit trail where visitors see live native New Hampshire animals, and custom animal education programs. [www.nhnature.org/programs/group\\_tours.php](http://www.nhnature.org/programs/group_tours.php).

### ***Lodging and Restaurants***

British Beer Company, Portsmouth, NH - A piece of England is coming to downtown Portsmouth on the corner of Hanover Street and Portwalk Place in 2013. The British Beer Company pub will fill about 5,800 square feet with an interior design of rich mahogany wood, leather seats, stained glass windows and furniture made in England, including the bar. The pub will feature 38 taps that will include a selection of local and international beers as well as a full-service restaurant with about 165 seats. British Beer Company opened their first New Hampshire pub in Manchester in June 2012. The tentative opening date is May 1<sup>st</sup>. <http://www.britishbeer.com/portsmouth/>.

Town Square, Waterville Valley Resort, Waterville Valley, NH - Visitors to Waterville Valley Resort this year will find several new shopping and dining opportunities in Town Square, the hub of the year-round resort village in the White Mountains. New to the resort's Town Square are The Lantern, an upscale, family-oriented restaurant with a focus on classic New England cuisine, and the Blue Moon Café, an eclectic eatery offering breakfast and lunch. And longtime visitors might notice new names, new looks and new offerings in some familiar spots: PigPens, a modern take on a '50s ice cream parlor and candy store, replaces the former Mountains of Chocolate, a seasonal ice cream shop; The Valley Brand, an upscale retailer of Waterville Valley brand clothing and accessories, replaces the former Waterville Valley Shirt and the former Jugtown Sandwich Shop has expanded and become the PotBellies deli and café. [www.visitwatervillevalley.com](http://www.visitwatervillevalley.com)

Leaven, Somersworth, NH - Situated on the corner of Market Street and Canal Street, the 44 Market Street building will be home to this new hip food and drink establishment. The location, which sees over 15,000 cars per day, is slated to be the next hot restaurant attraction of downtown Somersworth, with ample parking and an inspired lunch and dinner menu. Leaven's menu pivots on locally fermented sourdough bread. The menu will provide a host of lunch and dinner tapas options, made with fresh ingredients right on premise. There is currently no opening date set as fundraising is still happening for Leaven. [www.leavenNH.com](http://www.leavenNH.com).

Follansbee Inn, North Sutton, NH - Follansbee Inn has added a 16' *Swampscott Dory* to their fleet of boats. Guests can now choose sailing as an activity, along with kayaking, rowing, canoeing, fishing, or just swimming, while staying at Follansbee Inn on beautiful Kezar Lake. <http://www.follansbeeinn.com/>.

### **Arts and Culture**

The Winnepesaukee Playhouse, Meredith, NH - The Winnepesaukee Playhouse will be opening a new location on the site of the former Annalee Doll Complex and Gift Shop for the Summer 2013 Season. With 11 peaceful country acres, The Playhouse grounds offer paths for strolling, a covered bridge and picnic area. An unforgettable experience for your group outings! Comfortable, handicapped accessible, spacious, air conditioned seating for 200. 2013 schedule includes Mystery, Comedy, Drama and Musical performances! On-site catering available. <http://www.winniplayhouse.org/>.

### **Tours/Events**

Lost River Gorge, North Woodstock, NH – New lantern tour offered by Lost River Gorge, providing a whole new adventure at night. The caves are lit by lanterns and boardwalks are lit by headlamps (feel free to bring your own or one will be provided during the tour. They also sell headlamps in the gift shop). This guided tour takes about 1.5 hours and begins at dusk. Lantern tours are by reservation only and take place on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Please contact Lost River Gorge for a complete schedule. [www.lostrivergorge.com](http://www.lostrivergorge.com).

Cherry Tree Festival, Portsmouth, NH - Saturday afternoon, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013, is the first ever Cherry Tree Festival, celebrating the cherry trees gifted to both Portsmouth – planted near City Hall – and Washington D.C. (yes, THOSE famous trees) by Japan in thanks for the diplomacy that led to the signing of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty. Portsmouth, New Hampshire celebrates its cherry trees on Mother's Day weekend with special events at Wentworth By the Sea Hotel and Spa. In 2012, four symbolic trees were planted at the iconic sites of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Trail: the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, where the Treaty was signed; Wentworth By the Sea Hotel where the diplomats stayed; Strawberry Banke Museum, where the Shapiro House is a representative of the citizen diplomacy at work in Portsmouth in 1905; and the John Paul Jones House Museum where the exhibit on the Portsmouth Peace Treaty is installed. [www.GoPortsmouthNH.com](http://www.GoPortsmouthNH.com).

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hit the Decks, Portsmouth, NH - Scheduled for Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, this event goes all day and night, from opening to closing, celebrating that Portsmouth and the Seacoast are open for business for the summer season. We don't have to wait until July to enjoy all the Seacoast has to offer. It's not just about the restaurants who serve on their decks, it's about ALL Seacoast businesses opening their doors for the start of the new season. More than eighty-five business will be offering specials for this ONE DAY ONLY. Sam Adams is sponsoring with a launch party on the decks along the Piscataqua River. Like the Hit The Decks Portsmouth Facebook page to stay up to date on all the special offers posted by participating businesses. [www.GoPortsmouthNH.com](http://www.GoPortsmouthNH.com).

Live Free and Play, Seacoast, NH – It's opening weekend for Seacoast area attractions on May 31, June 1 & 2. The weekend fun starts Friday night with the kickoff party in downtown Portsmouth for the summer season of Shop Portsmouth Friday Nights, when participating shops stay open late until at least 8:00 every Friday night until Columbus Day. Shops will roll out the red carpets with sales up to 30% off in many shops during the kickoff party. Throughout the weekend the Seacoast attractions will be hosting festivals, offering special deals, and inviting New Englanders to come out to the coast to enjoy the opening weekend for all the attractions. [www.GoPortsmouthNH.com](http://www.GoPortsmouthNH.com). Sample events include:

- Shop Portsmouth Friday Nights Kickoff Party
- Cruises – Isles of Shoals, Portsmouth Harbor, Gundalow
- Moffatt-Ladd Old House Festival
- Prescott Park Arts Festival Chowder Fest
- Portsmouth Historic Homes – 7 sites open for free
- Seacoast Mavericks – Home Run Derby
- Portsmouth Gaslight Restaurant – live music all day & night
- Seacoast Science Center – BOGO admission & special visitor program
- Strawberry Banke Museum Native American storyteller
- Scoot Me Now specials on scooter rentals.

Tough Mudder, Gunstock Mountain Resort, Gilford, NH - Gunstock Mountain Resort will host Tough Mudder on June 1-2, 2013. Over the past three years, Tough Mudder has built a series of more than 50 events around the globe. The Gunstock event is just a short drive from the Boston and Portland, ME, metropolitan areas and expects to draw more than 12,000 participants throughout the weekend. Tough Mudder is a 10- to 12-mile obstacle course challenge designed by British Special Forces to test all-around strength, stamina, camaraderie, and mental grit. Participants may don traditional running attire, but costumes and mullets are encouraged, with best-of awards being given out for both. Participants will charge onto the course with fellow Mudders and will proceed through 20 to 25 obstacles, each designed to test strength in a very different way. Participants will brave freezing cold water, wade through thick mud, tackle underwater tunnels, finesse high ropes and scramble through multiple cargo nets before finally navigating their way through a gauntlet of electrified wires to earn the coveted orange headband and the right to be called a Tough Mudder. [www.ToughMudder.com](http://www.ToughMudder.com).

Granite State Growler Tours, Portsmouth, NH – Granite State Growler Tours, LLC., will soon make regular departures with a customized 14-person shuttle, visiting several local breweries during the four-hour excursions. Guests will be given exclusive personal tours at each site, be entertained while on board the bus with stories of New Hampshire's rich and foamy history of brewing, and best of all, taste the best of the beers made here in the Granite State. The shuttle bus, affectionately nicknamed, "Greta the Growler Getta," is currently being transformed and decorated in preparation for the official launch dates, tentatively scheduled for early April 2013. In addition to the regularly scheduled tour dates that will expand with the busy summer season, Granite State Growler Tours will also make the bus available for private and corporate functions, birthday parties, bachelor and bachelorette parties, and other events. [nhbeerbus.com](http://nhbeerbus.com).

## **Culinary**

Wine, Cheese & Chocolate Tour, DTTD - What's better than wine and cheese? Wine, cheese and chocolate! The New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development has added the *Wine, Cheese and Chocolate* itinerary to its Tasty New Hampshire collection, which currently includes the *Brewery Map*, *Ice Cream Trail* and *Chocolate and Martini Tour*. The new itinerary features three loops around the state, from the "Near Coast Trail" to the "Valley Vineyards, Orchards and Dairies" and "Meandering the Merrimack and Lakes". Covering 31 wineries, cheesemakers and chocolatiers in New Hampshire, the *Wine, Cheese and Chocolate* itinerary contains a wealth of information about each property, including detailed listings with website, phone number and location information. <http://www.visitnh.gov/planning-and-travel-tools/itineraries/tasty-new-hampshire.aspx>.

## **Miscellaneous**

Ride the Wilds, Coos County, NH - Saturday, June 15, 2013 is the grand opening of Ride the Wilds, Coos County, the new 1,000-mile+ interconnected ATV trail system. The all day event will be held at Coleman State Park in Stewartstown and will be presented by the Coalition and the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails. <http://www.nhatv.com/pages/events.html>.

*For more information on any of these items, please send an email to Tai Freligh, Communications Manager, NH Division of Travel and Tourism Development. [tai.freligh@dred.state.nh.us](mailto:tai.freligh@dred.state.nh.us) or call (603) 271-2665.*