

What's New in New Hampshire Winter/Spring 2011

What's New on the Ski Slopes

Most of New Hampshire's ski areas offer special ski and/or "Ski & Stay" packages throughout the Winter/Spring 2011 season. Among them:

- [Cannon Mountain](#) – Tuesdays & Thursdays 2-for-\$67 or 1-for-\$42; 10 Pack
- [Gunstock Mountain Resort](#) – 6-packs and Bakers' Dozens; Take 50 Card
- [Ragged Mountain](#) – Monday Madness; Friday Freedom
- [The Balsams](#) – Five Day Ski & Stay Package
- [Waterville Valley](#) – 2 for 1 Mondays and Fridays

[Cranmore Mountain Resort](#), North Conway – Cranmore Mountain is located in the heart of North Conway Village in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, only 2.5 hours from the Boston area. Cranmore underwent a [\\$6 million revitalization](#) this winter with a new children's center, mountain coaster, enhanced snow making capabilities and more.

- [Arlberg Children's Center](#) – To help introduce its new children's center to families, Cranmore is offering one free day-long kids camp with the purchase of any two full price adult lift tickets during select midweek periods this season. Guests who purchase the tickets Mon. – Thurs. from Mar. 14 – Mar. 24 get 1 FREE Penguin or Adventure Camp to be used the same day. These camps are full-day ski or snowboard instruction for ages 4-14 and retail at \$115. Children requiring rental equipment may add it for an additional \$10.
- [Mountain Coaster](#) – Popular in Europe, the Coaster is thousands of feet of twisting, turning fun through the woods. You control your speed so you may take a leisurely ride or get your thrills at speeds up to 25 mph. The Cranmore Mountain Coaster is located at the base of Cranmore Mountain and adjacent to the South Quad chairlift.

[Attitash Resort](#), Bartlett – The new [Nor'Easter Mountain Coaster](#) carries visitors 1,420 feet up Attitash Mountain on twin stainless steel rails, providing spectacular views of the White Mountain scenery before descending on a thrilling 2,880 foot ride down through the forested mountain terrain, dropping 316 vertical feet through a series of banked curves, dips and straight-aways at rider-controlled speeds of up to 25 miles per hour.

[Loon Mountain Resort](#), Lincoln – Along with \$1.8 million in upgrades for the current ski season, a new [zip line](#) has been added at the resort. Riders can soar more than 700 feet across the river, and then fly back on a separate line to cross over to the Adventure Center. The Loon Zip Line Adventure is unique because of its river crossing, and is the latest addition to the growing number of adventure and activity offerings at Loon Mountain. Also new at Loon:

- **[Droppin' In Women's Snowboarding Camp presented by OAKLEY](#)**- This great girls-weekend alternative is a camp specifically designed for women that focuses on teaching participants all the nuances of riding the terrain park. Taking place March 5-6, 2011, participants will get firsthand coaching from acclaimed instructors Mary Walsh and Carla Hess, the chance to meet Oakley pros, the opportunity to design and purchase custom goggles at the Oakley Goggle Bar, and receive 2 day lift tickets as well as a goodie bag.

[Cannon Mountain](#), Franconia Notch – The new [Mittersill double chairlift](#) integrates the Cannon Mountain ski area and Mittersill, the historic New Hampshire ski area adjacent to Cannon that had been closed since the 1980s. State and federal officials in 2009 signed an agreement for a land exchange that transferred ownership of Mittersill to the state, facilitating a \$4 million expansion of the Cannon Ski Area into Mittersill's terrain. Mittersill is believed to be the earliest ski area in the country to incorporate a "ski village" within a ski area.

[Campton Mountain](#), Campton – This 1969 ski area has been renovated and just re-opened by the Waterville Estates District in Campton. It features an old fashioned rope tow and a double chair lift. They offer day skiing on Saturday and Sunday from 9am-4pm, and night skiing from 5-10pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Lodging/Restaurants:

[The Inns & Spa at Mill Falls](#), Meredith – The Winnepesaukee Ballroom, along with several other meeting and event rooms at Church Landing, have long been top destinations for business and social events in the historic Lakes Region of New Hampshire. And soon there will be even more meeting space at this favorite Meredith location. The Inns & Spa at Mill Falls is renovating a covered parking area at Church Landing to offer more options to groups that require additional breakout rooms, vendor space, and dining areas. Construction is underway to enclose the carport at Church Landing, which will provide 1,700 additional square feet of meeting space, as well as an expanded lobby area of 955 square feet. This new facility, called the “Carriage House,” will also have fourteen-foot ceilings and offer expansive views of Lake Winnepesaukee. In keeping with the style of Church Landing, the rooms will be decorated with dark wood and other Adirondack features.

[The Balsams Grand Resort Hotel](#), Dixville Notch – “La Cave” is a new wine bar at the resort and was originally a bar at the hotel in the 1950’s. It offers lighter fare (artisanal cheeses) and a wonderful selection of wines, mixed drinks and beer. There’s also live piano music.

The Balsams also is offering several [specials](#) throughout the winter/spring 2011 season:

- **Cooking Classes at The Balsams** – “Taste of the Balsams” classes; different theme for each class
- **Homecoming Week Package** - \$99 per person, per night, based on double occupancy
- **Grand Adventure Winter Plan** – Includes accommodations, meals and unlimited skiing

[The New London Inn](#), New London – Local realtor Dan Wolf and restaurateur Jerod Rockwell recently purchased the iconic inn, which is known for its double-decker porch and mountain views. The inn building has been a part of downtown New London since 1792, and they're planning to upgrade the heating system and renovate the rooms.

[The Copper Door](#), Bedford – T-Bones owner, Great NH Restaurants Inc., will open a new, upscale concept restaurant in 2011. The Copper Door, to be located in the Bedford Hills development of Bedford on Route 101, will be a departure from the company’s other casual dining offerings, T-Bones and Cactus Jack’s. Founder of the firm, Tom Boucher, says he wants to create an atmosphere that is elegant, classy and tasteful without being stuffy.

[Omni Mount Washington Resort](#), Bretton Woods – Whatever their experience on the mountains, guests will find a warm welcome at the historic property that is fresh from the latest phase of a comprehensive, **\$60 million expansion and renovation**. All guest rooms, suites and corridors of the Omni Mount Washington Hotel have been spruced up with new color schemes, wall coverings and artwork. Several casual dining venues have been renovated, including **The Cave** – an original Prohibition Era speakeasy, now dressed up in a classic English style – and **Stickney's**, a newly designed pub-style steakhouse. Family-style diners will enjoy **Fabyan's Station** set in a former train station arrayed with vintage railroad art and faux-train track flooring. The 1,400-square-foot **Family Suite**, complete with a living room, fireplace and two separate children's rooms, was also renovated.

[Susty's Vegan Café](#), **Northwood, NH**- Specializing in organic and vegan cuisine, Susty's Vegan Café's mission is to nurture and support a compassionate community through artfully crafted meals that are good for both the planet and the consumer. A Northwood staple since 1998, Susty's recently began serving brunch on the weekends starting at 11am and offers culinary classes on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 for those who want to try their hand at vegan cuisine.

Onions Pub and Restaurant, Tilton - Onions Pub and Restaurant at Tilton Inn, formerly 1875 Inn, is almost complete after going through an extensive remodel and renovation. A ft opening is anticipated for March, with further modifications to be done to the building and Inn after the winter.

Attractions:

[Granite Skate](#), Nashua – Project Granite Skate will bring the region's first indoor skate park to downtown Nashua. Construction is underway, and the park is scheduled to open at the end of March 2011. The 22,000-square-foot facility will be the second-largest skate park in New England. Granite Skate will be open six days a week, year round, and is designed to appeal to skaters of all ability levels, with coaching and skateboard camps to cater to young kids and tough terrain for die-hard skaters.

Arts & Culture:

[New Hampshire's New Culture & History Tour](#) – This two-day itinerary, developed by the NH Division of Travel & Tourism Development, takes visitors on a culture and history tour through several regions of the state – the Seacoast, Merrimack Valley, Monadnock and Lakes Regions.

[Currier Museum of Art](#), Manchester – Intimate art museum features a changing selection of American and European paintings, sculpture, glass, ceramics and more. Groups welcome for tours. Coming up in March, [Jon Brooks: A Collaboration with Nature](#): New Hampshire wood artist and Manchester native Jon Brooks (born 1944) has been a leading member of the studio furniture movement for the last 40 years. A sculptor and furniture maker, Brooks is known for the innovative quality and poetic imagery of his work, as well as for his exploration of the line between function and art.

[Flying Monkey Movie House](#), Plymouth – 1920s-era theater has new name and a funky style to match. Dinner theater serving Common Man cuisine is available for groups. The Flying Monkey features comedians, performance artists, theatrical plays and recognized hypnotists.

Culinary:

[Winter Wine Festival](#) at Wentworth by the Sea, New Castle – Through February 27th, guests – both novice and connoisseurs alike - have the opportunity to meet renowned national and international luminaries in the culinary and wine worlds. Grand Vintner's dinners, flight nights, rare vintage tastings, celebrity chefs and winemakers, classes, Bubbles and Jazz Sunday brunches, and educational seminars with notable oenophiles will offer something for everyone.

[Lindt Chocolate](#), Stratham – Another expansion plan is in the works at the Lindt chocolate factory, where the Swiss-based chocolatier has operated its U.S. headquarters for 20 years.

[Restaurant Week](#), Portsmouth – March 24-31, 2011, Restaurant Week Portsmouth is a bi-annual culinary event that spotlights Portsmouth and the Seacoast area as a culinary destination with a vibrant arts and cultural scene and a wealth of historic attractions. Restaurant Week Portsmouth features special 3-course prix fixe menus at participating restaurants throughout Portsmouth and the Seacoast of New Hampshire. Area hotels and inns also offer special rates & packages during the event.

[Maple Sugaring Season](#) in New Hampshire – Each year, the New Hampshire maple industry produces close to 90,000 gallons of maple syrup. Maple sugaring time in New Hampshire runs from mid-February to mid-April. In late February, New Hampshire maple producers tap their sugar maples by drilling a small hole in the trunk and inserting a spout. It takes approximately forty gallons of sap to make one gallon of pure maple syrup.

- Guests are invited to stop by any of New Hampshire's sugar shacks in March to see how maple syrup is made. Most owners are happy to walk you through the process. Visit here for a list of all maple sugar houses: <http://www.nhmapleproducers.com/house.html>
- [Maple Sugar Weekend](#), Enfield Shaker Museum, Enfield – Guests will enjoy sugarhouse tours, sleigh rides and crafts. Cocktail reception and Sugaring Off Dinner Saturday evening. On Sunday, "Simply Shaker" breakfast and more activities.
- **Currier & Ives Maple Sugar Weekend & Progressive Dinner March 18-20** – Three quintessential New Hampshire inns - [Rosewood Country Inn](#), [The Candlelite Inn](#) and [Henniker House Bed & Breakfast](#) are offering a weekend getaway amidst a backdrop that's right out of a Currier & Ives scene. The two night package includes a mapped, self-guided tour of neighboring sugar houses where guests can see maple syrup made the old-fashioned way, and learn the history of the time honored tradition from the Native Americans to the present. The guide also includes suggestions for antiquing and tax-free shopping, and areas for snow shoeing and cross country skiing. After a day of touring, guests can treat themselves to a romantic sleigh ride over the river and through the woods at the Rosewood Country Inn (optional spring sleigh rides are weather dependent and \$25 per person. Pre-registration is required). This two night lodging package is priced from \$210 for the Henniker House and from \$258 for the Rosewood Country Inn and Candlelite Inn, based on double occupancy. The Progressive Dinner is \$39 per person exclusive of tax and gratuity.
- [The Rocks Estate](#), Bethlehem, NH – Maple tours are back on tap at The Rocks Estate this spring. Discovering the history of maple sugaring, participating in the process of tapping trees and making syrup, horse-drawn wagon rides through the scenic Rocks property, and tasty treats have made these tours a favorite springtime tradition. Maple tours at the 1,400-acre Rocks Estate, owned by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, are scheduled for

March 12, 19-20, 26-27, and April 2, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Reservations are recommended. Visitors learn how to identify the sugar maple trees that produce the sweet sap for making syrup, hear the history of maple sugaring, and see part of the process demonstrated at the on-site New Hampshire Maple Experience. And for those looking to turn the springtime Maple Experience into a weekend-long North Country stay, The Rocks collaborates with local inns to offer weekend vacation packages. Visit www.therocks.org/vacations.php to find participating lodging establishments.

Winter/Spring Adventure Events & Activities:

[Appalachian Mountain Club](#), White Mountains – Half, full or multi-day guided adventures, skills and nature educational programs, and mountain style dining are just some of the services available for groups – updated each season.

[Dog Sledding](#), Jefferson – A [New Hampshire Grand](#) sled dog adventure is a perfect way to see the quiet trails and wide open fields of the region and two outfits - [Muddy Paw Sled Dog Kennel](#) offers a variety of experiences, even getting to mush the team yourself. Muddy Paw Sled Dog Kennel offers rides at The Rocks Estate in Bethlehem and at the Omni Mount Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods. Experienced mushers drive, while passengers are snug in the sled. When the musher gives the word to the team, you are off and running.

Awards & Honors

[Church Landing at Mill Falls](#), Meredith – Church Landing at Mill Falls has been named on the prestigious [TripAdvisor 2011 Traveler's Choice Awards](#) as one of the Top 10 Hotels for Romance in the United States. Winners are based on millions of real and unbiased reviews and opinions from travelers around the world.