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**NEW HAMPSHIRE INVITES VISITORS TO “MAKE THE MOST OF MARCH” WITH
EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS TO WRAP UP WINTER AND WELCOME SPRING**

Granite State Hotels, Ski Areas and Attractions Offer Visitors Last-Minute Winter Getaways

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE (February 25, 2016) – Travelers can head to New Hampshire (www.visitnh.gov) to take advantage of special events, promotions and hotel packages aimed at helping visitors “Make The Most of March.” After an unseasonably warm winter, the state’s ski areas, hotels and attractions have banded together to offer visitors a chance to experience one last blast of winter and welcome spring with a host of special offerings. Please see below for a full list of upcoming events and deals:

March Special Events/Happenings:

Nordic Marathon Weekend – Bretton Woods, NH

March 5-6, 2016

Nordic Marathon Weekend at the Bretton Woods Ski Area has quickly become an early spring tradition in the Granite State. The 42-kilometer, classic format, cross-country ski race showcases one of the largest Nordic systems in the northeast.

The Nordic Marathon, held on March 5, is staged between the historic Mount Washington Hotel and majestic Mount Washington. Following the event is the Tuning, Tunes and Brewskis Party, a complimentary event where partygoers can learn how to care for their skis with hands-on learning opportunities while also enjoying food, beverage and music.

The Mount Washington Cup, held on March 6, is a 10-kilometer freestyle (skate-ski) event. The 2016 event will mark the 41st running of this annual race, and the Après ski awards party follows the festivities with cookie medals for top racers and tasty snacks for all.

The cost of the Marathon is \$85-\$100 (includes trail pass for Friday, March 4th, plus event day) while entry to the Mount Washington Cup is \$30-\$50 (ski trail pass included). For more information, please visit brettonwoods.com/winter_sports/nordic/race_results/marathon#top.

St. Patrick's Day – Bretton Woods, NH

March 17, 2016

Guests who show their Irish spirit by wearing green on St. Patrick's Day will get a free companion Alpine ski ticket with purchase of a full price ticket on St. Patrick's Day. Nordic skiers can also celebrate the holiday with \$17 trail passes, including lift-serviced access to the High-Country terrain on Mt. Stickney. For more information, please visit www.brettonwoods.com.

Appalachian Mountain Club – Gorham, NH

Guided Lodge-to-Hut Adventure: Women's Snowshoe to Lonesome Lake Hut

March 7, 2016 - March 9, 2016

The Appalachian Mountain Club invites lady outdoor enthusiasts on a special girlfriend getaway on this new guided excursion. Participants will kick off the weekend with an overnight at AMC's Highland Center. After breakfast, guests will travel to Franconia Notch and strap on their snowshoes for a hike to the Back Country Hut at Lonesome Lake. The group will arrive to steaming hot chocolate and will help prepare a group dinner before one final night. For more information, please visit activities.outdoors.org/search/index.cfm/action/details/id/86014.

Adult Adventure: Ski and Snowshoe in Pinkham Notch

March 8, 2016 - March 10, 2016

Guests are invited to spend two days and two nights at AMC's Joe Dodge Lodge in the heart of the White Mountains to experience the summit of Mount Washington. With this adventure, guests will enjoy comfortable accommodations, spectacular mountain views and days packed with guided activities. Activities include snowshoeing, cross country skiing, winter ecology lessons and a trip on the Mount Washington Snow Coach, which will drive visitors above the tree line at the 4.5 mile mark on the Mount Washington Auto Road. Guests will have the option to snow shoe back down the Auto Road and evenings will be spent recounting the day's adventures with new friends by the fire. For more information, please visit activities.outdoors.org/search/index.cfm/action/details/id/86034.

For more information about the Appalachian Mountain Club, please visit www.outdoors.org or call 603-466-2721.

Funspot- Weirs Beach, NH

March 12, 2016

On Saturday, March 12, 40 four-person teams will gather at Funspot, the Guinness Book of World Record holder for being the Largest Arcade in the World, for a full day of arcade games, mini-golf and bowling competitions to benefit the New Hampshire Humane Society and the Care of Animals. All team members will receive an event shirt and a free pizza lunch. Awards are given out for the best and worst scorers, best team costumes and there will also be a bonus raffle drawing. For more information, please visit www.funspotNH.com.

The Pats Peak Ski Area– Henniker, NH

25th Annual Hawaiian Weekend Celebration

March 12-13, 2016

Pats Peak is hosting the 25th Annual Hawaiian Weekend Celebration this March, featuring two days of fun for the whole family that celebrates spring skiing/riding, tropical decorations, hot tubs and a rail jam. Throughout the weekend skiers/riders will enjoy the sounds of Jah Spirit Reggae Band at the Après-Ski Party in the Sled Pub.

Annual Pond Skim Contest

March 19, 2016

A fun springtime event for all, participants can ski or snowboard across a man-made pond while trying not to take an icy plunge into it. The event starts at 1:00 p.m. on the Gusty slope and registration is from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Entry is free but the purchase of at least a Bluster Area Lift Ticket (or Pats Peak Season Pass) and a costume is required to enter the contest. Prizes will be awarded for Best Costume, Best Splash and Best Skim.

For more information, please visit www.patspeak.com or call 603-428-3245.

Granite Gorge Motor Mayhem – Keene, NH

March 19 - March 20, 2016

Granite Gorge is hosting the second annual Motor Mayhem event this March. Gates open at 10:00 a.m. and racing continues until 5:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 and are free for children under 10 years old. During the event, mega trucks race side-by-side up the BB trail, while at the same time snowmobiles race up the Main Street Trail reaching speeds over 100 miles per hour. Tubing remains open for all to enjoy both days, with admission starting at \$18 for a two hour session. On Saturday the East's only COSMIC Tubing runs from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., which includes a bonfire at 7:30p.m. For more information, please visit www.granitegorge.com or call 603-358-5000.

March Hotel Deals:

Stonehurst Manor – North Conway, NH

Midweek Package

Available Now until March 17, 2016 and March 20, 2016 through mid-June

Available Sunday - Thursday nights from \$68 - \$98 per person per night (depending on room category), Stonehurst Manor's Midweek Lodging Special includes dinner and breakfast, as well as complimentary hors d'oeuvres which are passed around every night in the Library Lounge. Also offered as midweek specials are midweek ski packages that start at \$45 per person, for a total savings of \$30. For more information, please visit www.stonehurstmanor.com or call 603-356-3113.

Omni Mount Washington - Bretton Woods, NH

Stay Here, Ski Free' Package

Available All Week during Non-Holiday Period through the Ski Season

The 'Stay Here, Ski Free' Offer at the Omni Mount Washington includes luxurious accommodations as well as two complimentary ski lift tickets, per room, per night at the hotel. The Omni Mount Washington has been a favorite New England retreat of presidents, poets and celebrities, and it is located near some of New Hampshire's biggest and best ski areas. For more information, please visit <http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/bretton-woods-mount-washington> or call 603-278-1000.

The Bartlett Inn – Bartlett, NH

March Ski and Stay Special

March 1-31, 2016

This March, The Bartlett Inn is celebrating Spring Skiing by offering a midweek package starting at \$59.50 per person as well as a weekend packages starting at \$63.50 per person. Both "Ski and Stay Special" packages include two nights' accommodations in a cottage room with private bath, cable TV and a gas fireplace. Also included is one lift ticket per person, free snow tubing, cross country skiing or snowshoe trail passes, a daily hot country breakfast, afternoon cocoa/tea and cookies by the wood fireplace, and use of the outdoor hot tub. For more information, please visit www.bartlettinn.com or call 603-374-2353.

Kancamagus Lodge - Lincoln, NH

Make the Most of March Mid-Week Offer

March 1 - 31, 2016

Guests who book two nights at Kancamagus Lodge will receive the third night free during March. Discount ski tickets are available at the lodge for Loon Mountain (located approximately one mile away), and Loon's South Mountain Trails are visible from hotel rooms. Rooms start at \$89 + tax per night. For more information, please visit www.kancamaguslodge.com or call 603-745-3366.

Village Condominium - Waterville Valley, NH

March Special Discount Rates

March 1 - 31, 2016

Travelers can celebrate spring in the heart of the White Mountains with 15 percent off regular season rates. All two-to-five bedroom condominiums are complete with a fully equipped kitchen, washer/dryer, color cable TV, and a fireplace. Guests also have access to the outdoor heated pool. Village Condominium is located a short walk away from shops and restaurants as well as outdoor attractions. Condos start at \$225 per night based on double occupancy. For more information please visit www.villagecondo.com or call 1-800-532-6630.

1785 Inn - North Conway, NH

March Special Discount Rates

March 1 - 31, 2016

Located in the beautiful and quaint village of North Conway in the Mount Washington Valley, the 1785 Inn is offering a March package with a starting rate of \$79 per person per night that includes a full country breakfast for two. The classic country inn is nestled among the White Mountains and is located near spectacular spring skiing, hiking and fishing as well as shopping opportunities, scenic tours and 100+ restaurants and boutiques. For more information, please visit www.the1785inn.com or call 603-356-9025.

ABOUT THE DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, works with the state's seven travel regions to increase visitation, travel and visitor expenditures in order to expand business activity and employment throughout the state. The division is responsible for domestic and international advertising and public relations, literature publication and distribution, www.visitnh.gov administration, grant administration and research to monitor and measure the impact of travel and tourism to the state. For more information about New Hampshire tourism, call 603-271-2665 or visit www.visitnh.gov.

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