

explore

smuggs

THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE MOUNTAIN LIFESTYLE



WINTER TWENTY SEVENTEEN-EIGHTEEN
VOLUME TWENTY NINE

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Our wall mounted gas fireplaces are both clean and versatile. Bring a modern warmth to your living environment.

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Location: Green Peppers in the upper lodge.
Riga-Bello's in the lower lodge.

Also check out the Stowe Gas Stove in the warming yurt at the base of Sterling Mountain, and the Champlain Gas Stove in the Sterling Summit Building.



Heritage Wood Stove

Stay warm all winter with our bestselling stove, the Heritage. It's a wood lover's dream, with convenient side load door, single lever control and efficient secondary combustion.



HearthStone designs and assembles the best wood stoves in the world; just over the hill in Morrisville.

We live and breathe Vermont and we invite you to check out a sample of what we offer in the HearthStone Comfort Zones around Smugglers' Notch this season.





For 2½ - 3 year olds who want to learn how to ski ... and dollies of all ages.

INCLUDES: a full day of *TREASURES* child care, individual lesson and fun in the snow with their equipment (weather permitting), lunch, rest time and indoor fun!

\$139/day, includes equipment provided at *TREASURES*. Offered daily, requires advance registration.

Call extension 1180 for more information or to sign-up.



TOP OF THE NOTCH SNOWSHOE ADVENTURE DINNER

A dramatic weekly gourmet dining feature atop Sterling Mountain for adults. The Sterling lift transports you to the Top of The Notch, a mountain cabin lit only by candles. After dinner, work off those calories with a 40-minute snowshoe down to the Base Lodge.

**\$85 per person. Ages 18 & older
Tuesday 4:10 pm - 8:30 pm**

Advance registration at the Guest Service Desk is required. Function will be cancelled in the event of severe weather. Sign-up deadline Tuesday at 12:00 noon.



The Hearth & Candle RESTAURANT

Enjoy the Hearth & Candle's cozy atmosphere for casual family dinners, or quiet white-tablecloth dining for adults only in the Birch Room. Our complete dinner menu features steaks, chicken, fresh fish, and seafood. And, we serve local organically grown vegetables and salads, and we'll tempt you with a delicious selection of homemade desserts. A full-service bar and extensive wine list will complement your dining experience, or you can relax with a cocktail at our cozy bar.



Located in the heart of Smugglers' Village — the whole family is invited and we have a complete children's menu, too!

**DAILY 5:00 PM - 9:30 PM
802.644.1260**

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR DINNER



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Country Store

Located in Smugglers' Village Center.

NEW THIS WINTER — GRAB & GO MEALS!

- Meat or vegetarian lasagna
- White cheddar mac & cheese
- Chicken with biscuits
- Sheppard's pie
- Italian subs
- Beef stew with biscuits
- Macaroni & beef

The Country Store has just about everything you may need including a variety of coffees, grocery items, soups, stews, fruits & veggies, Cabot cheese, packaged meats, sandwiches & salads perfect to take with you while exploring all Smuggs has to offer!

Open daily 7:30 am - 10:00 pm • Extension 1196

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America's Family Resort™

Explore Smuggs Magazine

Winter 2017-18

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WELCOME

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING SMUGGLERS' FOR YOUR FAMILY'S WINTER VACATION. WE'RE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU!

If you are looking for family fun and adventure during your stay, Explore Smuggs will guide you. I hope you'll take a moment to read about some of the enticing activities you might sample, such as maple themed snowshoe outings and a chocolate class, described in "Sweeten your vacation." Read on, and you'll also get the scoop on the variety our ski and ride terrain offers, gather some tips on helping your child learn to ski or ride, meet one of the talented members of our entertainment team, and learn how pairing a beverage with an activity can create a memorable vacation experience for you ... it's all right here. Plus, Chow Time and Events will fill you in on delicious dining opportunities and special happenings to check out at Smugglers' and locally.

You may have chosen Smugglers' for your family's vacation because of our decades-long focus on supporting family fun. Rest assured that we continue to innovate with our programming and enhance the experience we offer to families. Our \$4.2 million investment in *FunZone 2.0* is the most recent example — be sure and check out the excitement this indoor playground provides for all ages! I hope you'll join us in celebrating accolades that we were honored to receive

recently. Smugglers' was selected by SKI magazine readers for the fourth time as the #1 Kid Friendly Resort in the East — we are the only resort to have been honored in this category since it was launched in SKI's annual survey in 2014. SKI Magazine readers also chose Smugglers' as the #1 resort overall and #1 for service in the East.

The SKI recognition, as well as other recognition Smugglers' receives, reflects the commitment to excellence held by the resort team supporting your vacation. Each and every employee is intent on delivering a great experience for you and your family during your stay with us. Our guest service is focused on the individual, as our culture emphasizes treating every guest as a Guest of One. Don't be shy — please let us know if there's anything we can do to make this your best vacation ever. We want you back!

Bill Stritzler
Owner and managing director

Building on one legacy, creating another.



"Plein Air in Vermont," oil by Kenneth Dewaard

Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main Street, Jeffersonville, VT 05464
802-644-5100 www.bryangallery.org

Bryan Memorial Gallery Presents

November 9 – December 23, 2017

Fantastical Landscapes and Imaginary Places
- Main Gallery

GEMS - Middle Room

2017 Legacy - East Gallery

February 1 – April 1

Living Legacy Collection - Main Gallery

Love Lost and Found - Middle Room

Pop Up Gallery - East Gallery

Cabin Fever Lecture Series - See our website

May 4 – June 24

Introducing 2018 Legacy Collection - Main Gallery

2018 Legends of Legacy - Middle Room

Gallery closed December 24 – Feb 1 and April 2 – May 2.



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HOURS:

Monday through Friday: 7am—6pm

Saturday: 8am—4pm

Sunday (December only): 10am—4pm

Rest of the year closed on Sundays.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JHRVT.com | (802) 635.7282

Visit us at: 1442 VT Route 15 Johnson, VT



**WINTER FUN +
PERK BEVVIE =**
Vacation Perk-fection

WHAT'S YOUR IDEA OF VACATION FUN? Taking run after run down Madonna? Discovering on a guided snowshoe trek which snack food makes a surprisingly great emergency fuel during winter adventures? Blissing out during a lavender scented massage? All worthy vacay experiences for you to enjoy while at Smuggs, to be sure. But, take it from the Explore Smuggs team, you may be missing one teensy tiny addition, an addition that we guarantee will enhance your chosen Smuggs activities. All you have to do is add a stop at The Perk — prior to or après fun — and order up a beverage. You're in, you say?

JOIN US AT THE TOP OF OUR WORLD ON THE CAT TRAX EXPRESS

Our 12-passenger cabin snowcat ride gives your family thrills like you have never experienced before!

Whether you join the fireworks run on Thursday evening or one of the early evening mountain tours on Monday or Saturday — you'll want to come back for more!

EVENING UPPER MOUNTAIN TOUR Monday & Saturday, 4:45 pm
Thursday, 5:45 pm

TOP OF MORSE FIREWORKS TRIP Thursday, 7:30 pm

\$49 per person, recommended for ages 6 & older. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Weather permitting. Advance registration required, stop by the Guest Service Desk or call ext. 1293.

Additional trips may be added once the scheduled departures are full. Please check with the Guest Service Desk, ext. 1293, for more information and additional times.



To show you the way, we've lined up a guide who is expert at matching up Smuggs activities with the eye opening-thirst quenching—"mmm" producing beverages she and her staff create at The Perk. Hally Glasser has been manager of The Perk since it opened in 2015. In addition to being a master of latte art (hearts on Valentine's Day, shamrocks on Saint Patrick's), she's a keen observer of her customers' taste preferences as they go about their Smuggs business. So when we asked her to give us her thoughts on pairing Perk potables with selected Smuggs activities, Hally had lots to share.

Explore Smuggs: Let's start with your pick for a morning beverage. Maybe one of our guests is mulling over their day, and they've wandered into the Village while they think about what their day holds. What would you suggest?

Hally: One good way to start the day is with a Sunrise Smoothie. The ingredients are good morning flavors like pineapple, mango, and orange juice, with a little yogurt mixed in to provide creaminess. For confirmed coffee drinkers, I'd recommend a latte. In fact, the most common request we get is for a skinny latte made with skim milk. Or, you could enhance your latte, skinny or not, with the rich flavor of maple, because when in Vermont, you have to have maple! Ours is sourced from Davis Family Maple right down the road in Underhill.

Explore Smuggs: Sunrise Smoothie or latte; either one of those suggestions sounds delish. Let's move on to activities. We've picked a few that are definite favorites with our guests, and we'll lob those your way so you can give our readers a few ideas on how beverages might make an already great experience a fantastic one. There's always been a lot of talk about pairing beverages such as wine or beer with food. But this concept of choosing particular coffees, teas and smoothies to enhance vacation fun — we're thinking we're real innovators here at Smuggs!



TAKE OUT AVAILABLE — CALL EXT. 1247

SOUPS Soup du Jour • French Onion Crock
New England Clam Chowder • Smugglers' Mountain Chili Cup

SIDE SALADS House Salad • Caesar Salad

APPETIZERS Buffalo Chicken Wings • Buffalo Quesadilla
Maple Ale Glazed Chicken Wings • Garlic Cheese Toast
Buttery Garlic Parmesan Chicken Wings
Southwest Guacamole Dip • Mediterranean Tapas Platter
Smokey Spinach and Artichoke Dip
Smugglers' Nachos *(also available with chili and/or guacamole)*

GRILLED FLATBREADS *Add a side salad for a great combo!*

Artisan Cheese Flatbread
Vermont Flatbread apple chutney, bacon, spinach, VT cheddar
cheese blend & honey mustard
Smokehouse Flatbread pulled pork, bacon, red onion, VT cheddar
cheese blend and chipotle ranch drizzle

SANDWICHES & WRAPS *All sandwiches, wraps, and signature sandwiches are served
with a pickle and your choice of house fries, carrots & celery, house coleslaw,
curly fries (gluten-free option available) or housemade maple baked beans.*

Grilled Buffalo Chicken Wrap • Cod Sandwich
Pulled Pork Sandwich • French Dip Sandwich
Turkey Club • Farmer's Wrap

**CUSTOM CREATIONS— 3 EASY STEPS; CHOOSE YOUR PROTEIN,
CHOOSE YOUR STYLE AND CHOOSE YOUR SIDE!**

PROTEIN OPTIONS: 100% ground beef patty, fried chicken breast, grilled chicken breast
or veggie patty (vegan & gluten free) *Gluten Free Bun available for gluten free option.*

*All served with a pickle, lettuce, tomato and onion with your choice of house fries, carrots & celery,
house coleslaw, curly fries (gluten-free option available) or housemade maple baked beans.*

Classic or classic with your choice of cheese: Swiss, Cabot cheddar,
American, Cabot pepper jack, or blue cheese crumbles.

Smokehouse: cheddar cheese, bacon, bbq sauce and sautéed onions

Pub: American cheese, bacon, pickle slices, crispy onions & pub sauce

Cajun: Seasoned with Cajun spice, pepperjack cheese, bacon and jalapeño aioli

KIDS' MENU *All kids' entrées include a starter, one side dish, beverage and dessert.*

Pasta with marinara sauce or butter • Hot Dog • Hamburger • Cheeseburger Grilled
Cheese • Mozzarella Cheese Stick Platter • Cheese Pizza • Pepperoni Pizza
Combo Basket – chicken tender & mozzarella sticks • Breaded Fish Filet
Chicken Tenders • Mac & Cheese • Grilled Chicken with house vegetable

Morse Mountain GRILLE

SERVING BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

Daily, 8am - 9pm • Extension 1247 • Located in Smugglers' Village Center

ENTRÉE SALADS — ADD YOUR FAVORITE SALAD TOPPER!

Entrée Salad Toppers: Pan Seared Chicken Breast, Garlic Shrimp,
Crunchy Chicken Tenders, Buffalo Chicken Tenders, or Firecracker Salmon

Sycamore Salad • Chopped Cobb Salad • House Caesar Salad
Winter Beet & Squash Salad

Dressings: House Maple Poppy, House Chipotle Ranch, House Honey Cider Vinaigrette,
Bleu Cheese, Maple Balsamic Vinaigrette, Ranch, and Caesar.

HOUSE FAVORITE ENTRÉES

Side Options: *mashed potatoes, rice pilaf, house fries, curly fries (gluten-free option available),
hand-cut fries, carrots & celery, house coleslaw or housemade maple baked beans.*

Firecracker Salmon • Mushroom & Butternut Squash Risotto
Garlic Parmesan Chicken • Mountain Grille Ribeye
Prohibition Ale Fish-n-Chips
Pulled Pork Macaroni & Cheese *(also available without pork)*
Chicken Tenders *plain, Buffalo, maple ale glaze or garlic Parmesan glaze*
Smuggs-Style Barbecue Ribs *(8 or 4 rib portions)*

HOUSEMADE DESSERTS

Vermont Maple Cheesecake • Hershey's Chocolate Mousse Cake
Seasonal Crème Brûlée • Cinnamon Bun Bread Pudding
Hershey's Chocolate Brownie Sundae

Starter *(pick one):* tortilla chips & cheese sauce, applesauce, veggie plate
with ranch dip or Mandarin oranges

Side Dish *(pick one):* applesauce, rice, house vegetable, coleslaw, maple baked beans,
mashed potato, curly fries, veggie plate with ranch dip, or Mandarin oranges

Kids' Dessert *(pick one):* Hershey's cupcake, ice cream sandwich or popsicle

All right, first, what do you recommend for
skiers and riders taking on the Black Hole or
other black diamond trails at Smuggs?

Hally: No question, the Triple Black Diamond! Talk about
an eye opener — it's three shots of espresso in a cup
of our freshly ground organic coffee from Mountain
Grove Coffee Company. Mountain Grove, which is in
White River Junction, fresh roasts all of our coffee in
small batches, and the family that owns it has been in
the coffee business for over 25 years. We can prepare
the Triple Black Diamond hot or iced, customer's
call. The majority of our guests do ask for it hot.

Explore Smuggs: Do you have a recommendation
for a drink to enhance mountain fun like the Cat Trax
groomer ride? Or first tracks? Or, combining the

two — first tracks from the Cat Trax? What's a drink
that would pair well with that level of excitement?

Hally: I think the Snowmaker Smoothie would be
perfect before or after that mountain adventure.
It's a delicious chocolate and espresso smoothie.
Most of us don't see the snowmakers in action, but
you can always find a Snowmaker at The Perk!

Explore Smuggs: Let's move on to another
winter sport, snowshoeing. What would hit
the spot after an energetic snowshoe?

Hally: I'd recommend the Green Mountain Refresher.
We sell a bunch of them; I always laugh when people
try it and say, "It's so ... refreshing!" The Refresher is
our only dairy free smoothie. It's made with spinach,
pineapple, banana, and orange juice, and is very thirst
quenching so it's a natural match with an energetic
activity like snowshoeing or cross country skiing.



Don't miss our tableside entertainment!

The *Friendly Pirate* – Monday, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm & Friday, 8:00 am - 10:00 am • *Marko the Magician* – Tuesday, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Explore Smuggs: Time to dial it down a bit and focus on relaxation. If you're heading to yoga or a massage, what might you recommend that would maintain the serenity and calm offered by those types of experiences?

Hally: We have a selection of decaffeinated Tazo teas to choose from. I think Tazo's Passion, RefreshMint and Zen would be a nice choice for continued relaxation. If you want to think of your tea as a bridge back to other activities, we can make a Chai Tea Latte. We can add a bit of perkiness to a Chai Latte with a shot of espresso or a shot of decadence with some dark chocolate.

Explore Smuggs: Last but not least, may we ask you to share your thoughts on which Perk drink or drinks would be fun for families? Let's say they're heading off to bingo or the family dance party. Or maybe they're calling it a night and are heading back to their condo - always a great time to relax and reflect on the day's family fun. Is there a beverage that would put them in the family fun state of mind, or keep the happy vibe going as they wind down and talk about their day?

Hally: Well, I'd suggest that they take a look at our mascot drinks. They were developed for kids but you know, everyone at Smuggs is a kid at heart. I'd recommend the Mocha Mouse chocolate smoothie for chocolate lovers or the Billy Bob Berry smoothie for those who like a berry blast to end the day. As for the frappe, everyone goes bananas over the Friendly Pirate, right? So of course the Friendly Pirate Frappe has bananas in it, along with our vanilla yogurt smoothie mix, and it's topped with a chocolate drizzle and sprinkles. You mentioned families winding down at day's end — parents may like to know that there's no added sugar in the fruit we use in our drinks.

Explore Smuggs: Wow, there are so many enticing choices for beverages as well as activities, we appreciate your helpful suggestions, Hally. And to Explore Smuggs readers, cheers to discovering a favorite activity and beverage pairing that Perk-fects your vacation!



In addition to the variety of coffees, teas, and smoothies offered at The Perk, you won't want to miss the delicious sweet breads, cookies, brownies, muffins, scones, and granola freshly made by local bakeries Sweet Crunch, Joey's Junction and Foothills. Whether your pick is a chocolate ganache brownie or a maple cookie or a guilt-free granola bar made with oats, nuts, raisins and more, be ready to hear your taste buds singing a happy song.

During the winter, The Perk is open from 7:30 am until 9:00 pm.



FUN ZONE 2.0

Smugglers' one-of-a-kind 26,000 square foot indoor playground for all ages!

Inside the FunZone 2.0, the Ozone delivers classic family fun like ping-pong and mini golf, and giant inflatables. Younger kids let their imaginations run wild in the Littles' Loft with its Country Store, arts and crafts station, and Big Blue Blocks for construction fun.

Is your family looking for thrills? Then the pay-to-play Go Zone is your happy place. A state-of-the-art arcade, a climbing wall, laser tag, laser maze, slot car racing, Leap of Faith platform jump and warrior course with trapeze bars, cargo nets, foam obstacles and more satisfy thrill seekers of all ages.



LEARN MORE AT
SMUGGS.COM/FUNZONE

It's always creemee time at the ReFuel Café with 10 flavors available including Vermont Maple!



Refuel at the ReFuel Café with a delicious pizza, salad, panini or wrap, or with snacks such as popcorn, mozzarella sticks or buffalo wings. The Café also serves hot and cold drinks, beer and wine, and much more.

Check out the menu at smuggs.com/refuel

REFUEL CAFÉ

AT THE FUNZONE 2.0



ENJOY
A LIFETIME OF
MEMORIES



Enjoy the many benefits that are included with full and fractional vacation home ownership at Smugglers' Notch Resort — from special discounts on lift tickets and lessons to Summer children's programs, use of pools, waterparks, and recreational facilities, as well as discounts in our sport shops. Plus, you'll receive potential rental income and the ability to exchange your vacation home through RCI (Resort Condominiums International) for other vacation opportunities worldwide!

To learn more about the benefits of Real Estate Ownership at Smugglers' Notch visit us in the Village Center while you are here, stop by our Open House or call extension 1122 or 802-343-0014 to make an appointment.

BETTY BRGANT, BROKER

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BLAZING A TRAIL TO SUCCESS

5 WAYS

TO HELP YOUR KIDS **THRIVE**
AT SNOW SPORT UNIVERSITY

Earlier this year, SKI Magazine named Smugglers' Notch the #1 kid-friendly resort in the Eastern U.S. and Canada for a fourth time in as many years. That accolade is due, in large part, to the thoughtful and effective programs created by the resort's ski and ride school, Snow Sport University (SSU). Having experienced three of these offerings personally — the Women's Program and Mini and Mitey Mites programs — I can say it's an honor that's very well-deserved.

Kids can join SSU as young as three years old, or even younger, says Shelly Schaffer, director of the resort's Treasures Child Care Center, if they're "able to potty train and able to exist without a nap for a day." The youngest students often start out at Treasures participating in Little Rascals on Snow, where "the hope every day is to expose our young children to winter in Vermont — to love the feel, the taste, and the spirit of outdoor play in the snow," says Schaffer. To achieve that, the staff at Treasures might start with activities such as "making snow angels, making foot tracks, and listening to the sounds outside on a quiet, snowy, winter day. Even if we're playing outside and just making tracks with our ski boots, or pulling kids on a snowboard, at least they're outside and part of that dynamic."

BY ANGELA ARSENAULT

The Broken YOKE

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Located just 12 minutes away from Smugglers', Angelina's Restaurant has been family owned since 1985. Serving quality homemade brick-oven pizza, subs and calzones. All our dough and sauces are made fresh daily.

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The big picture goal remains the same for kids of all ages. Harley Johnson, SSU's director, explains that the ski and ride school's full-day programs are designed for maximum impact. "We see the most success with (this format) because the kids are getting a lesson in the morning, they're talking about it at lunch, they're getting to know their instructor more and the instructors are getting to know them," she explains. After having lunch together, students and instructors alike take "all of that learning of who they are and what they worked on in the morning into the afternoon to have more fun on the slopes. It really helps build their skills a little more than what a two-hour lesson can do."

One rather unique feature of Smugglers' full-day program is the afternoon entertainment, something my two kids were particularly fond of when they started snowboard lessons at ages seven and five. The indoor programming (think affable pirate or a pair of funny science-

focused magician-types) is served with a side of cookies and hot chocolate. On its face, this portion of the day may seem unrelated to your kid's snow sport education, but consider the importance of positive associations when trying to spark a budding interest. Consider, too, the convenience of having high-quality childcare until 4 p.m., which means time for parents to stay out until the last run or enjoy a warming drink after a full day in the cold.

WHERE YOU COME IN

It's this holistic approach that sets SSU apart. All you need to do as a parent is follow their lead. **To start with, think about your child's ski or snowboard lesson well before drop-off time.** Both Johnson and Schaffer agree that one of the best ways to set your little one up for success on the slopes is let them play with all of their gear when they're off the slopes. "It's really helpful if parents can let skis inside their home and let kids play

with skis and boots and helmets as a prop or as a toy," explains Schaffer.

"If you're traveling to the mountain as a destination guest and you're renting equipment, get the rental equipment the night before. Our rental shop stays open late enough on most check-in nights so you can do that. Or you could even get your rentals before you check in," offers Johnson. This will allow your child time to become familiar with the hardware and make for a less harried morning. "Of course our coaches are going to teach kids how to put (their gear) on and take it off and how to move around in it, but having some initial play in it is great," Johnson says.

Another important piece of the "stuff" puzzle is proper clothing. Johnson says to choose synthetic fabrics over cotton for layers and socks. Your kids will be moving from inside to out a couple times a day and cotton will trap sweat, turning that soft base layer into a cold, damp shirt pressed

against their skin. Also opt for mittens instead of gloves — and make sure they'll stay on. I was thrilled to discover mittens with both cinch closures at the wrists and tiny zippered pockets to hold hand warmers, which can be purchased in the resort's retail shops and which instructors may recommend on very cold days.

And let's talk about those instructors. My, oh my, do I adore the instructors we encountered through SSU. The women and men coaching the youngest skiers and snowboarders have been selected not just for their teaching ability, but for their temperament and experience working with three- to six-year-olds, says Johnson. They are nurturing and excited, reassuring and in charge, all at the same time. These qualities were evident to me on the first day of our lessons, which allowed me to leave my kids in the care of SSU and take off on my own learning adventure as part of the Women's Program.

That “leaving” bit is key. It can be tempting to linger at drop-off, especially if your child is upset, but “you just have to go,” Johnson says. “Don't be afraid to say goodbye to your child and then walk out the door. It's going to be okay. Our instructors are trained to calm and redirect your child so they can begin having fun. We are not going to let your kid scream all day - we'll call you (if necessary). But we have lots of tricks up our sleeves. We'll do everything we can to help your child feel comfortable and safe and be happy to learn how to ski or snowboard.”

Once you're gone, trust the process and have reasonable expectations for what your young child is going to learn in a day. Through the Flaik GPS system, you can view your kid's miles, vertical feet, and trails covered, but don't be surprised if you discover they didn't travel very far. “Sometimes parents are confused about why their kid is inside for so long in the morning on the first day,” says Johnson. But what that parent may not realize is that the time was spent getting to know the gear, getting comfortable with the instructors, and building other foundational skills.

Johnson compares these initial steps to learning math skills. “You have to have a foundation to build to the next skill and you don't want to have gaps in that learning. It might take you longer to get to that end result but when you get there, the quality of what you're doing is going to be better.”

The very best way to understand the quality and the result is to spend time on the mountain with your kids. This is the final piece of the puzzle when it comes to ensuring success for your child - realizing, of course, that “success” is a relative term. Schaffer reminds parents to leave time in your vacation to ski or ride with your kids - even if it's just a few minutes. “A lot of parents think you need to do a whole day, but I'm saying find 15 to 30 minutes, maybe at the end of the day, to enjoy the snow together as a family and share the love of skiing and riding together,” she says.

Use your time together as a family to observe and play, not to critique or correct. Let your child show you what she or he has learned without the burden of getting it right. This can be challenging for parents who are experienced skiers and riders, as well as those of us who will spend our whole lives on the greens. So set the intention before you get on the lift or head over to Sir Henry's Learning Hill, and then allow any display of enthusiasm, curiosity, growth, or determination on the part of your child to qualify as a success.

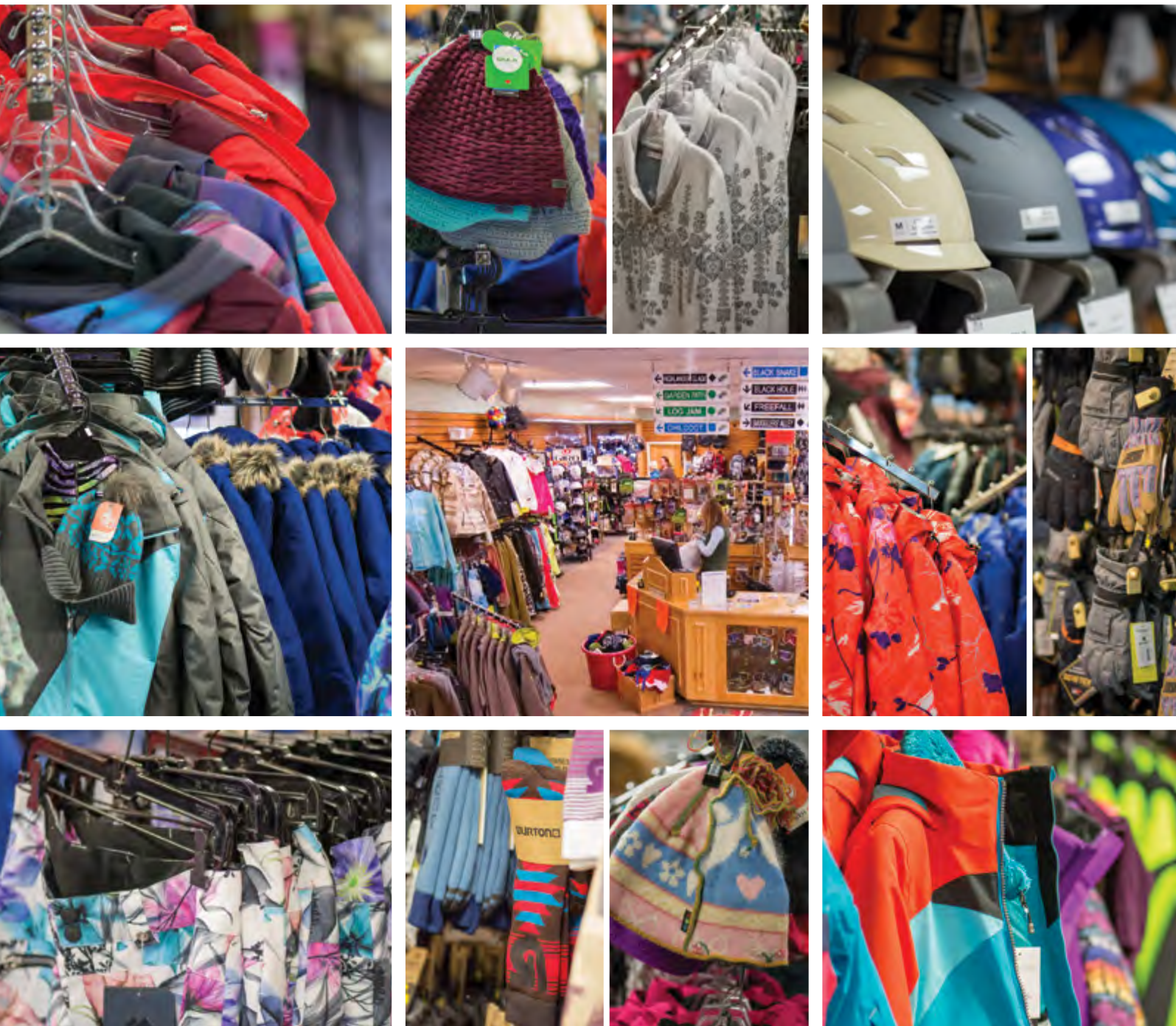
Angela Arsenault is a freelance journalist and co-creator of the podcast, “Where Was I...?”, about the journey back to work after taking a career break to care for your young children. She lives in Williston, Vermont with her husband and two winter-loving kids.





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GET THE FACTS ON FLOWGROUND

MADONNA MOUNTAIN'S NEW PARK

Head over to Madonna Mountain to take a run through Flowground, the exciting new park on Lower FIS. Flowground is a flow park, designed to use natural and man-made features to provide a unique experience for skiers and riders.

“The idea for Flowground came from wanting to provide something unique for our skiers and riders, but we also wanted to provide a trail that could be used for teaching and skill development purposes.

The features in the Flowground will in some ways mimic features used in the teaching concept known as Terrain Based Learning. This park will give intermediate level skiers and riders the opportunity to strengthen their skills in a fun and safe environment,” says Mike McAdoo, Mountain Operations Director.

The Flowground will incorporate subtle features that will enhance the natural terrain on Lower FIS. Natural turning areas will be pitched to accommodate flowing turns. High terrain will be built up to give skiers and riders a taste of the steeper terrain available at Smuggs. This will aid their skills progression and build their confidence to take on more challenging terrain.

The features will emulate the softer side of terrain parks and will include features like rolls and mild hips, which will help skiers and riders fine tune their transition and balance skills. Combining a flat groomed trail and park features provides an interesting mix that will enhance skills while also providing a new and innovative type of park for any intermediate level or above skier or rider.

Smugglers’ grooming manager Arlo Pouliot points out that “the Flowground will be different than parks we’ve previously built.” Emphasizing the park’s accessibility to skiers and riders, he adds, “The elements in the park will be accessible and approachable for any intermediate skier or rider. The rollers and low bank turns will help encourage skill development in a totally different way.”

Check out the Flowground park on your next trip up Madonna Mountain; it can be accessed from either the Madonna 1 or Madonna 2 lifts.



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Sweeten your Vacation

Whether you visit Smugglers' Notch Resort for the week or the day, your time at the resort is precious — it's a reprieve from daily routine and a chance to recharge and reconnect. While many resort guests are drawn to the slopes, don't miss one of the many off-slope activities that offer sweet indulgences for your mind, body, and palate.

Consider an escape to the Nordic woods, which can be both refreshing and invigorating. With over 33 kilometers of cross country ski and snowshoe trails, there are endless places to explore for beginner and advanced adventurers alike. While some choose to indulge in the solitude, others are drawn to the guided programs led by local and knowledgeable guides.

Snowshoeing is an increasingly popular form of winter recreation. Why? Paul "PK" Kayhart, the Nordic director, explains: "There's no real learning curve — you become an expert at it the first time you try. The best part for families is that everyone is on the same level, and everyone can do it together. The key for all our programs is just getting people into the woods."

The Nordic Center's Sugar on Snow Trek does exactly that — with no set destination, this trek is designed to get families into the woods to start exploring and playing. From four year olds to grandparents, this trek is geared for everyone to enjoy. "The Sugar on Snow

by Marissa Saltzman



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Trek is a way to pull everyone in, especially the kids,” PK observes. “Snowshoeing can be playful, and we incorporate a lot of games and fun. People come back for it every single year, and it’s different every time. Plus, it can be different for every single family participating.” Several Smuggs families have made this trek a yearly tradition.

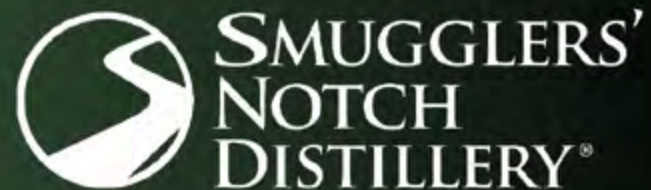
While there is a lot of freedom for the group and the guide as they decide where to explore, there is one staple: the sugar on snow. Once the group has reached a destination, the guide brings out the maple syrup, Vermont made, of course! The kids collect some fresh snow as the guide cooks the syrup over a fire or camp stove. While many people know that changing sap to syrup requires boiling out the water, many are surprised to learn that if boiling continues past the syrup stage, other sweets emerge. “We cook the syrup to the softball stage,” PK explains. If you’re doing this in a traditional kitchen, that’s roughly 235 degrees. But out in the woods, it takes the keen eye of the Nordic guide to tell where that temperature point is. Once the syrup is hot enough, the guide pours it over the frozen snow. As the syrup cools, it becomes chewy and almost taffy-like, a favorite sweet for kids and adults.

For guests that are looking for a longer trek to clear the mind and soak in the beauty of the Vermont woods, the Nordic Center’s staff recommend the Maple Experience Snowshoe Trek. Sugaring is a long-standing tradition that many Vermonters take part in. While some tap and boil syrup on the hobbyist level, others boil on a larger commercial scale. “Regardless of whether you are hanging buckets on trees when the snow is deep, or checking tubing, there are people who wear snowshoes all day, every day,” PK explains. “Snowshoes are not just for recreation, they are a necessary tool and a way to get around efficiently in Vermont if you have a sugarbush.”

While the season for sugaring is only a small window of weeks, there is still plenty to see in the woods throughout the winter. This trek combines information about the maple trees with an

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opportunity to take a closer look at the collection tank and some of the tubing lines that are left up year round by the Edwards farm, which sugars from the resort's maples. "We pick a tree and really test the snowshoes to see if we can get there," PK says. "Sometimes we look for the super steep to climb up and go down." The Nordic Center uses Atlas Snowshoes for their programs and rentals. These snowshoes fit right around winter boots to help keep the wearer moving on top of the snow. They have crampons underfoot — strong teeth that bite into ice or harder snow, ensuring steady footing and a surprisingly sturdy grip.

If maple isn't enough and your palate yearns for more sweets, the Herbal & Aromatherapy Winter Chocolate Delights class should definitely be your next stop. Led by Kelley Robie of Horsetail Herbs, this class is for chocolate lovers. "We're hoping that the different chocolate projects will appeal to multiple people," says Kelley. "If they have a love of chocolate, there will be something here that they will like."

"Chocolate has been around since the time of the Aztecs and Mayans," Kelley explains. "They were the first people to utilize the cocoa bean from the cocoa tree. What they did was a little different than what we do now — they ground the cocoa bean into powder, mixed it with cornmeal, cold water, and hot spices like chili or cayenne — and drank it like that. What they were drinking was a quite bitter, spicy, cold drink, much different than what we have now. After the Spanish brought this drink back to Spain, it changed — they added hot water and sugar - and only the rich drank that."

In the first part of the class, participants will add different spices and herbs to a hot chocolate base to make some unique hot chocolate blends, such as a Mexican hot chocolate, Vermont Maple hot chocolate, Stress Buster Herbal hot chocolate, or a Chai Spiced hot chocolate. By assembling the blends in dry form (a bag is provided), participants can bring the hot chocolates back to their condo or home and just add hot water or milk when they are ready to enjoy their tasty creation. The class also makes a Chocolate Peppermint Cordial to take home (participants under 21 get to make a second hot chocolate blend). Don't worry: there will also be hot chocolate and some cordial to try during the session!

There are many health benefits from dark chocolate, Kelley says, and the darker the chocolate, the better. She says, "Chocolate enhances circulation, gives energy, and has been used as a tonic for infectious disease and digestive disorders. Real chocolate is an incredibly complex substance."

The second part of the class focuses on chocolate products that are good for the skin. "Cocoa butter is part of the cocoa bean, and is in a lot of topical body products," says Kelley, adding that in the class, "We will be using cocoa butter, shea butter, olive oil, beeswax, and other ingredients to make a smooth and creamy moisturizing body butter." In addition, the class makes a Sweet Mocha Honey Scrub, using cocoa powder, sea salt or sugar, honey, and oils. "Especially in the winter, hands and feet can get really dry and cracked," observes Kelley, explaining that "the scrub exfoliates and softens the skin — it's moisturizing and refreshing, and then you could use the butter after."



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“People are so happy to be on vacation,” Kelley notes, “and they are also happy to go home with things.” Her hope is that this class will inspire people to bring a piece of their Smuggs vacation home and keep creating more chocolate recipes. She says, “Most of the ingredients in this class are things they will be able to get at home. Just because they go home with a particular recipe doesn’t mean they have to follow it to the “T”. This class is for people who like to experiment with ingredients, and we will talk about ways to change the recipes up.”

While it’s nice to bring a bit of vacation home, the stressors of real life also can follow vacation travelers arriving at Smuggs. Stacey Comishock, the resort’s Activities and Aquatics director, observes that “everyone’s lives are extremely busy between kids, chores, and work. Add packing, getting in the car and driving — by the time their vacation starts, folks are really ready.” A soothing massage for mind and body may be just the thing. “Massage is wonderful for relaxation and taking time for yourself — a mental break of sorts,” advises Stacey.

Andrea Houston is one of the massage therapists at Smuggs who offers the Luxurious Lavender Herbal Massage at the resort’s Mountain Massage

Center. “Lavender is really rejuvenating, uplifting and relaxing,” Houston explains. “A lot of people are attracted to the aroma. Lavender is safe to use for children and during pregnancies — it’s a safe essential oil and herb for all purposes.” Lavender is known for its calming properties. It can also help with reduction of pain and muscle tension.

The Lavender Herbal Massage starts off with towels that have been heated up in a lavender herbal tea. The towel is placed first on the back. “Once your skin has absorbed the warmth, we start the massage,” says Andrea. With a focus on Swedish massage for your back, legs, arms, and shoulders, she explains that “it’s a great way to release stress.” The session wraps up with smoothing on a Vermont-made lavender body butter. “The butter has a really nice soft texture that leaves your skin feeling soft and moisturized,” notes Andrea.

Kristy Haley, of Crystal Garden Herbs in Bethel, Vermont, creates the lavender products used in this massage. “Vermont is such a sweet little state and there are so many artisan niches,” she says. “I’m thrilled to be making products for this massage for Smuggs.”

While your days at Smuggs may be packed with family, friends and activity, make sure that you are also taking the time to relax and indulge. Between these and other specialty programs, there’s plenty to sweeten your vacation!

Marissa Saltzman has spent many years working in outdoor environmental education in Massachusetts and as a Nordic instructor and hiking guide at Smugglers’. She is currently the director of an after school program in Williston and has been enjoying having access to the Vermont mountains in all the seasons.



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Advance registration required at the Mountain Massage Center, ext. 1262 or the Guest Service Desk, ext. 1293.

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Ready to sweeten your vacation?

The Maple Experience snowshoe trek is offered on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

The Winter Chocolate Delights class is offered on Tuesdays from 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm.

The Sugar on Snow family snowshoe trek heads out on Wednesdays from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

The Lavender Massage and other massage treatments are arranged by appointment at the Mountain Massage Center.

Please refer to the Resort Information Guide for additional information. Enjoy!

Read more about Crystal Garden Herbs at crystalgardenherbs.com

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“NOTE”-WORTHY AT SMUGGS:

“JAMMIN’ SAM” AVERBUCK

Sometimes, life jumps the tracks... and a new day brings a turning point.

Sam Averbuck was studying music at Johnson State College when a serious motorcycle accident confirmed that path. Realizing that he could no longer sustain the physical toll of his work as a machinist, he had to seek new opportunities and drew on his experience with music.

“Suddenly I was forced to make ends meet by doing something with music. I didn’t know what I was going to do,” notes Sam. “I was in a weird spot. I thought, I can still play guitar and I can still hold a microphone.”

And, as Smuggs calls back so many, it called to Sam. He had a track record at the resort, working in Housekeeping in previous years. Seeking a gig at Bootleggers’ Lounge, Sam met Charlie Rice.

“Goodtime Charlie,” as he is known, was sitting in a meeting when Sam appeared, demo tape in hand. “I told him, ‘I’m not interested in your tape. I want you to come in and play,’” Charlie grins. “At Smuggs, it’s all about the families, the blend of music and entertainment, and rapport with the audience.” With that warm (Vermont-style) welcome and encouragement, Sam Averbuck became “Jammin’ Sam,” joining the Smuggs entertainment team along with Charlie and the Friendly Pirate, Rockin’ Ron Carter.

BY VICKY TEBBETTS



Please take a look at the Resort Information Guide for complete information on evening entertainment for adults hosted by the resort's Entertainment Team in Bootleggers' Lounge and in the Black Bear Lounge at the Madonna/Sterling Base Lodge on weekend afternoons. Teen Jam is held Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm in Teen Alley.

In the winter, you're likely to find at least one member of the trio anywhere at the resort where there's a good time — which is practically, well, anywhere. From Bootleggers' Lounge music and game show-style activities for adults, to family welcome parties around the bonfire, to Black Bear Tavern après ski parties, and the Teen Jam — at any given time, Sam, Ron, or Charlie is probably singing, dancing, leading — and playing — Smuggs. "One minute you're playing 'If You're Happy and You Know It.' The next minute it's 'Hotel California,'" says Sam, adding, "There is a vast difference between being a musician and an entertainer: with the latter, it's not just playing music. It's 'here comes the party.'"

Among the many musical programs at Smuggs, kids' karaoke appeals to the very youngest. Resort guest Tani Gonzalez remembers when *Frozen* premiered. Their family's musical life centered upon "Let it Go," and her five-year-old son Gabriel would sing the song on stage with Sam. "My son had a part where he rolled his shoulder — and Sam would do the shoulder thing. It became known as Part Gabriel, and even when Gabriel didn't sing, Sam would do Part Gabriel." At Smuggs, music forges relationships. "He brings out the best in people, and he has taken the time to create that special relationship with us," Tani notes.

Although Sam ended up on the performance track rather than pursuing his original music education path, while in school he led bands and camps for kids. Sam's background, seasoned by ongoing guest relationships and sprinkled with the magic of Smuggs, has evolved into one-of-a-kind musical programming on the mountain for older kids as well. When Sam came on board, Charlie had been seeking a way to showcase kids' talents during their Smuggs vacations, and Teen Jam was born.

Talented young adults become the star of their own shows at Smuggs Teen Jam, a pick-up jam band led by Sam. "If they play an instrument it's usually a band instrument, and usually they don't have a chance to really jam," says Sam. At Smuggs, they have that opportunity.

As the years go by, Sam has watched kids come of age through Teen Jam. "I watch them start off with 'Old MacDonald' and then they're coming in singing Katie Perry. They grow so much that it's hard to recognize them from year to year, but they're like, 'Hey Sam ...'"

Conner Fabrega, whose family visits Smuggs twice a year, is a singer. His mom, Stacy, recalls that Conner was still quite young when he started with Sam. She observes, "Teen Jam gives kids confidence and an audience, and they become mini celebrities in their own right." A true Vermonter, Sam has a way of drawing kids out. "He comes across as so understated — he's just this guy, he's going to show up and play a little — but his talent goes far beyond that. He makes us feel like Smuggs is our other home," says Stacy.

By Smuggs standards, Sam has always been the new guy in the entertainment trio. Now with nearly a decade under his belt, he is the young 'un compared to Goodtime Charlie's nearly 50 years of performing at the resort, with Rockin' Ron's longevity falling in between the two.

"I've had so many families that have grown up with me, and the children now come with their children," says Charlie. "It's all about the families, and it's great having Sam. People have really enjoyed him; they've grown to love him."

"Smuggs is a hard thing to explain. You really have to be part of it," reflects Sam. "I wasn't expecting anything like this coming into it." But somehow, everything is right on track.

Born and raised in southern New England, Vicky Tebbetts drifted north, eventually making her way to Vermont. A freelance writer with a passion for the Green Mountains, she spends most of her work time playing with words. Hiker, skier, and swinger of birches, Vicky loves "Old MacDonald" as much as Katie Perry. She and her family jam with Spotify at their farm in Cabot.



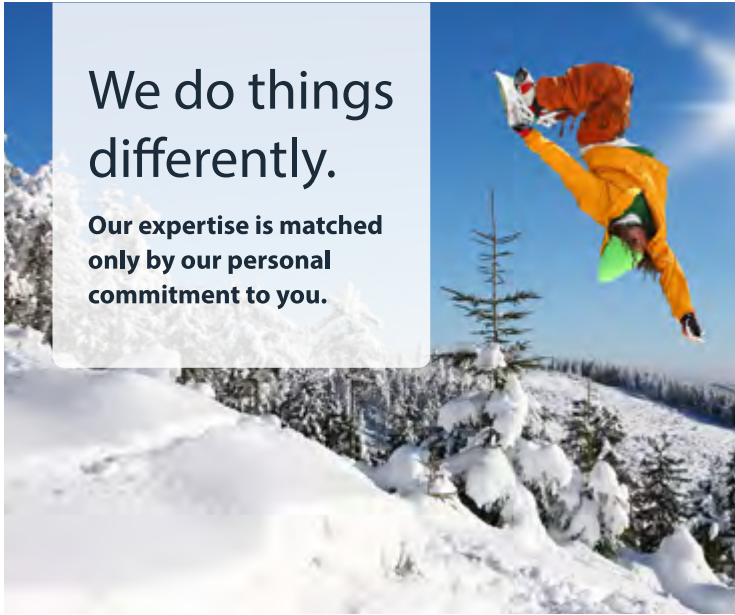
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TERRAIN TALK

SMUGGS FANS WEIGH IN

In a yearly rite of early spring, SKI Magazine surveys its readers to determine rankings for the magazine's Best Resorts. In the survey, readers rate the resorts they've been to during the previous two seasons on a number of characteristics related to the experience offered by the destination. Beyond Smugglers' longstanding recognition for family fun, the resort typically ranks highly in a number of other categories — like terrain variety and challenge. Describing our trails and glades, SKI's reader comments bubble over with adjectives like "super," "awesome," "excellent," and "amazing."

But as a skier or rider, perusing a comment or two with those happy adjectives is like having one bite of chocolate — a nice little morsel of sweetness, but you want and need more to truly get what a mountain is all about. You want something you can really chew on, right? So we turned to a few of our community members and gave them a homework assignment: please take a look at some of the SKI reader comments, and share your thoughts in response. They obliged, and we hope their insights open your days to endless mountain adventures!

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"THIS IS A HIDDEN GEM FOR STEEPS AND WOODS"

I'm pulling three key words from this statement to give you an idea of what this means to me as a full time ski instructor, and long time local here at Smugglers' Notch.

The first word is hidden — this resonated with me in a couple ways. One is that even if you are familiar with the terrain at Smugglers' there is almost always somewhere that is new and different. I've skied here close to 30 years, and I'm still finding places to make turns, and that is incredibly fun. Another part of this is that the terrain not on the trail map is hidden. Having local knowledge can lead to untouched snow that often can be just two trees further off to one side of a trail or the other. This also leads to snow being good well after a snowstorm hits. I can recall many times when the mountain would receive a foot or so of snow and being able to find undisturbed snow three or more days afterwards.

The second word is steep, Smuggs most certainly has the steeps. Our double black diamond terrain can hang with anything in the east, and our black and blue terrain often is much harder and steeper than most other ski areas. Another thought here, which piggybacks on my last topic, is that a lot of the unmarked terrain that falls in the 750 additional acres of skiing is steep, really steep, and hidden, which will leave it from getting skied out early in a day.

The third word is woods, I feel like Smuggs doesn't get enough credit for the gladed terrain we have. "There are other resorts that get so much recognition, but in my opinion it's not nearly as good as what we have here at Smugglers'. That's probably due to the hidden part of ours, Smuggs has gladed terrain EVERYWHERE!"

We have tree skiing appropriate from beginner level 3 to as much as the highest level 9 can handle. You literally can get from the top of every single peak to the bottom through the woods all day long and never ride the same line twice. The mountain between the boundary lines also naturally funnels everyone back to the same bottom area, so each run you can get around 2000 vertical feet of tree skiing, which is unique, and what makes Smugglers' amazing!

One really cool thing about Smuggs is that our guests have an opportunity every single day to book a private lesson and ask that instructor to be your guide for your time together. It's your lesson, you choose the adventure, because I bet we can take you somewhere new. Enjoy your winter time at Smugglers' Notch, and maybe I'll see you on the steeps or in the woods.

— Matthew McCawley, ski instructor

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"AWESOME TERRAIN FOR BEGINNER TO EXPERT. NEVER BORED!"

I love teaching at Smuggs. I think our terrain fosters continuous learning and progression for any skier and rider of any ability level.

Morse Mountain provides the perfect learning environment for beginner to intermediate snow sliders. This mountain is the sole home of our green terrain. This means you can progress at your own pace without the fear of being buzzed by experts charging down the mountain at hypersonic speed. Definitely take a lesson. We will show you tactics on this terrain that will aid your progression and really prepare you for some of the blues and blacks on Madonna and Sterling. But don't disregard Morse as "the bunny hill." It is its own little world of a mountain! Snow Snake is a fun blue trail where you will find a bit more pitch to expand your comfort circle without having to take a bus ride up the hill. If you crave some bumps, you can find some under the top of the Village Lift. Morse is really the heart of our family mountain — all types of terrain are accessible to satisfy the whole family.

If you're craving a bit longer of a run and some awesome trees, venture up to Sterling and Madonna. Madonna hosts the only triple black diamond trail in the East, the Black Hole. This is a really fun and challenging tree run but don't forget to explore all of our other tree stashes. Smuggs has an awesome off trail philosophy; anything between two open trails is fair game. You are responsible for your safety as these areas are not patrolled, and you must enter and exit on open trails only. Don't know where to go then? Don't explore alone! There are lessons on Madonna and Sterling as well. Tell your instructor you want to find the goods. They will give you the best tour of the mountain no map could ever show you.

No matter who you are or how long you have been visiting Smuggs, there is always new terrain to explore.

— Danielle Berg, snowboarding instructor

"TRUE NORTHEAST SKIING WITH SOME OF THE BEST TERRAIN ANYWHERE. IN BOUNDS WOODS ARE SOME OF THE BEST ANYWHERE."

"BIG ENOUGH TO BE CHALLENGING FOR ALL, SMALL ENOUGH TO SKI TOGETHER ..."

Both comments are central to why many of our adult guests choose to ski with SSU groups. More and more, the guests I ski with express terrain-based goals. Often their children have returned from camps or lessons having skied or ridden some of our more challenging trails or woods and want to share their discoveries with parents and siblings. Parents are therefore motivated not only by the possibility of expanding their own horizons, but by the opportunity to create and continue a tradition of skiing and riding together as a family.

We are lucky at Smuggs to have access to some of the most interesting, playful, and yes, challenging terrain anywhere in the east. Trails like Freefall, Madonna Liftline, and Robin's Run offer so many different options for skiable lines that decisions about strategy become increasingly important. Some guests find it helpful to stop above particularly challenging sections and, with

the help of a guide, pick a line and strategy that is appropriate to their level of confidence and skill, while others find that watching and following as a guide picks a path allows them to comfortably negotiate terrain that they might otherwise find intimidating. We are also lucky to have some easier ungroomed trails and glades that allow skiers and riders to assess their current abilities, identify necessary skills, and practice them in a comfortable setting. Trails such as Harvey's, Dan's Ford and Full Nelson as well as woods such as Penny Lane and Bermuda act as stepping stones to some of our more challenging terrain.

Many visitors to Smuggs are just scratching the surface of what we have to offer. Consider this an invitation to come ski with us at SSU and discover some of what has kept a loyal community of skiers and riders happy for years.

— Oliver Blackman, ski instructor

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"... TERRAIN IS AWESOME
WITH HUGE RANGE OF DIFFICULTY LEVEL BOTH
ON GROOMED TRAILS AND IN THE GLADES."

**"SMUGGS IS A
SKIERS' MOUNTAIN.**
THE TERRAIN IS SECOND
TO NONE IN THE EAST."

In my over 40 years of skiing and teaching at Smuggs the terrain variety has always impressed me as a major contributor to the resort's uniqueness. Both Sterling and Madonna Mountains have routes from their summits that will get any intermediate skier or rider safely and enjoyably down to the bottom. However, those same mountains can provide challenge, thrill and maybe even a little trepidation for the most seasoned of adrenaline lovers. Interests of this latter group of riders might be best served by buddying up with some local knowledge, easily found within Snow Sport University.

It's important to recognize that the trail map is like one of those treasure maps that has forever lead its followers away from, rather than directly to the desired prize. Our trail maps are great and serve their intended purpose well. But I always think the one addition the map might need is that famous phrase from nearly every TV infomercial, "But wait...there's more!"

While lots of resorts have their so called "secret stashes," coveted by the locals and shared sparingly with visitors, Smuggs locals love to share their faves. They'll proudly show you not just where the rabbit hole entry is but also explain why a particular pitch might hold or accumulate snow better than some other aspect based on prevailing winds, sun exposure or other factors. Local knowledge is a valuable commodity anywhere, but it is particularly so at Smuggs where the number of options and opportunities is so vast.

That rich variety of options is one reason we don't mind sharing knowledge of where to find the goods. Late in the day as the afternoon sun is fading, we know that chances are still good for finding an old favorite route that's still largely untracked.

-Glen Findholt, ski instructor

"MY KIDS BECAME EXPERT SKIERS AT SMUGGS ..."

When I was just 2 years old, I went to Treasures. I remember going on the magic carpet, I would ride up the "windy" carpet and then fly down the hill. Even though I was going about one mile an hour it still felt like I was a queen riding down that small 20-foot mountain. Now I am skiing down all the trails at Smugglers' Notch. Actually right now, writing this, I am wearing my Smugglers' Notch sweatshirt ... and on it, it says "I am a Smuggler." Now that I think of it, I am a smuggler, and I don't want this to sound cliché, but I am. I go there every Saturday in the winter and ski with the same friends I had at Treasures nine years ago. I now love to explore the woods with my family and friends.

—Gabrielle Schaffer, Smuggs fan (11 years old)

"3 MOUNTAINS FOR 3 SKIER TYPES EQUALS FUN FOR EVERYONE!"

This quote went out to our Facebook friends and we asked, "Are you a three mountain family? What are your family's trail picks for Morse, Sterling and Madonna?" Here are a few of their 3-mountain trail votes:

Snowsnake/Highlander
Glades/Upper Chilcoat
Snowsnake/Shakedown/Exhibition
Log Jam/FIS/Rumrunner
Family Fun Run/Boot Nack/
The Angry Gash

Wait, what?? Any guesses to ID this last grouping of trails one family gave their own unique names to?

MADONNA MOUNTAIN

I stare at the trees. Ice is formed around the trunks. There is fluffy snow gathered on the tops of the trees looking like marshmallows. The sky is bright although the sun isn't directly shining, the wind seems like it is singing a soft tune. When the wind hits the ground and meets the light fluffy snow they danced together. In dance they swirl and shake until they blow away.

We are getting to the top of Madonna Mountain. I could tell by the incline in the mountain. My mom starts to get ready, she rides a snowboard so she has to turn almost all the way around to get comfortable. I remember when I was little and needed help to get off the lift, she would grab my waist and we would slide down the platform — mostly in sync. Sometimes my mom's dismount was unsteady and I got a face full of snow before I even touched the ground. The platform is coming up, we lift the bar and skate off. The snow is light and fluffy and flies by my legs and chest when I ski through it. I look around while my mom buckles into her snowboard.

We glide through the light snow and I take some quick turns and a sudden twist just to get into it. I have been skiing at Smugglers' Notch since I could walk. It makes me feel so happy to ski down this beautiful mountain. The wind is hitting the parts of my face that my mask and goggles aren't covering and I make adjustments. The evergreens pop out compared to everything else. I stop and look out. On top of Madonna you can look out to the White Mountains of New Hampshire and on a clear day north to Canada. Today is different; darker than normal, and the snow that fell from the night before covers the tops of the trees. Clouds are fluffy and small.

I have been skiing at Smugglers' Notch forever and I know the trails and secret passages. FIS to FIS woods is one of my favorite trails. There is a way to get to the trail that has jumps and moguls as you go down. I dance a little bit to have some fun before skiing down. My mom and I sit on the trail for a moment looking down at the mountain. We can see thick moguls and we consider our path. There's a sharp shiver down my body as I lay on my back. I snuggle closer to my mom like I did on the chairlift. I open and close my eyes and think that I must be in a movie because this is too beautiful to be true. It is silent except for the carving "whoo hooing" skiers around me and the wind against the trees. I watch the skiers and snowboards "yee haw" down FIS and then take my turn.

— Gabrielle Schaffer, Smuggs fan



Green Peppers

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chowtime

Find it all at the **Morse Mountain Grille**: breakfast, lunch, cocktails, and dinner in a comfortable and casual space. A hearty Vermont breakfast is a morning favorite with a selection of pancakes, the Grille's unique French toast, omelets, meats, baked goods, and more. Lunch includes appetizers and a wide variety of sandwiches, soups, salads, and signature burgers. The Grille's unique grilled flatbreads are a tasty appetizer prior to lunch or dinner, or with a side salad for a meal. Try the Vermont Flatbread; it is delicious! Dinner features an array of beef, fish, poultry, pasta, and vegetarian dishes, with delicious Vermont products incorporated. Relax in front of the fieldstone fireplace in the Pub with a special beverage and munchies and watch the skiers and riders sliding down Morse Mountain. Be sure to check out the great wine by the glass options, and full wine list. Children will enjoy the Little Smuggs Fun Menu. The Grille is open daily 8:00 am to 9:00 pm; the Pub is open 11:00 am to 9:00 pm. Extension 1247.

Heading to *FunZone 2.0* for family frolic? Enjoy a bite to eat at the **ReFuel Café**, offering a variety of sandwiches, salads, pizza, snacks, drinks, beer, and wine. Satisfy your sweet tooth by choosing from 10 flavors of soft serve ice cream (creemees), including Vanilla, Vermont Maple, and 8 flavorburst flavors that can be added to your Vanilla. Dine in or call for take-out. Open daily 11:30 am until 8:30 pm.

Riga-Bello's offers a taste of Italy in northern Vermont! Choose from pizzas with traditional toppings as well as combinations unique to Smugglers'... for example, the Sterling, a delicious blend of white meat chicken, broccoli, tomatoes, and zing of fresh garlic. Also serving calzones, pasta, meatball subs, salads, and more. Open daily for dine-in or take-out meals from 11:30 am until 9:00 pm; until 10:00 pm Fridays and Saturdays. Extension 1142.

Enjoy the **Green Mountain Deli's** fresh baked cookies, muffins, pies, and light breakfast items. Start your morning with a hot cup of coffee, flavored coffee or cappuccino. Lunch features freshly made sandwiches, salads, vegetarian options, and specials daily. The Green Mountain Deli is located in the Village Lodge and is open on weekdays from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm and on weekends from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Extension 1141.

Ice cream, the perfect treat in all seasons! The **Ben & Jerry's Scoop Shop** at Smuggs is located in the Village Lodge and is open Monday through Friday 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm. Tempt your taste buds with a selection of ice cream flavors, sorbets, and low fat frozen yogurt in cones, sundaes, or shakes. More than 15 unique and fun flavors to choose from — sample a different flavor each day of your stay! Extension 1303.



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Stovetop Cheeseburger Macaroni & Cheese Makes 8 cups

Ingredients

- Salt for pasta water plus ¼ teaspoon, divided
- 13 to 14 ounces dry pasta, such as fusilli, rotini, or macaroni
- 2 tablespoons [Cabot Unsalted Butter](#)
- 1 shallot, minced
- 2 tablespoons plus 1 teaspoon King Arthur All-Purpose Flour
- 1 ½ cups fat-free milk
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 6 ounces of [Cabot Seriously Sharp Cheddar](#), shredded
- ½ pound ground beef
- 1 medium Roma tomato, diced

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. **2.** When water boils, prepare pasta according to package. Drain well. **3.** Melt butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add shallot and cook, stirring until the shallot is slightly softened, 1 to 2 minutes. Make roux by sprinkling flour over the shallot and stir to dissolve flour into the butter. Whisk in milk and continue whisking until all of the flour is incorporated into the milk. Scrape along edges of the saucepan with a heat-proof spatula make sure no roux remains in the corners. Whisk in Dijon, garlic powder, ¼ teaspoon salt and pepper. Whisking constantly, increase heat to medium-high and bring to a simmer and cook until thickened, 2 to 3 minutes. **4.** Remove the sauce from the heat. Stir in cheese and whisk until completely melted into the sauce. **5.** Meanwhile, brown ½ pound ground beef in a large skillet over medium high heat until cooked through. **6.** Stir the hot cooked pasta, sauce, browned beef and tomato in the pasta pot. Serve immediately.

chowtime continued

The Hearth & Candle serves dinner nightly in a cozy setting right in the center of Smugglers' Village. Seasonal menu items with locally sourced ingredients include an innovative selection of beef, poultry, and fish. After dinner, satisfy your sweet tooth with a triple chocolate truffle cake, cheesecake, or Vermont apple crisp. Dining rooms available for family friendly and adults only dining. Children's menu available. Open for dinner nightly 5:00 pm – 9:30 pm. Extension 1260.

Smugglers' Madonna and Sterling Mountains Base Lodge offers a variety of daytime and early evening options for upper mountain dining. The **Base Lodge Cafeteria** serves breakfast, lunch, beverages, and snacks and is open weekdays 8:30 am to 3:00 pm and weekends 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. **Green Peppers** features appetizers, soups, entrée salads, panini sandwiches, wraps, specialty pizza and tavern burgers, as well as beer and wine. Green Peppers' hours are Monday through Thursday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and Friday through Sunday from

10:30 am to 3:00 pm, extension 5132. **The Black Bear Tavern's** generously sized bar accommodates additional seating as well as plentiful draft beer choices, with 20 varieties on tap and additional packaged options to choose from. Don't miss Smugglers' own Prohibition Ale brewed by Vermont's Long Trail Brewery. The Black Bear also has a tavern menu available with waitstaff service. Enjoy appetizers, soups, sandwiches, hearty Winter fare, and more. The Black Bear is open Sunday – Thursday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm, and Friday and Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Extension 5003.

Smugglers' **Waffle Cabin** offers grab-and-go slopeside treats located near the Madonna II lift. Baked fresh and on demand, the enticing aroma will draw you in and the delicious flavor will keep you coming back. Open Thursday to Monday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.



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CHEF SALAD

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Flatbread Pizza

MARGHERITA Zesty tomato sauce with fresh
mozzarella balls as a topping

BIANCA A white pizza with fresh mozzarella
balls as the base and pesto, ricotta, and garlic as
flavorful toppings.

POLLO A hearty combination of grilled chicken
and roasted red peppers with tomato sauce and
fresh mozzarella balls.

ITALIANO Italian sausage as a topping adds punch
to a traditional pizza with tomato sauce and fresh
mozzarella balls.

Pizza

HAND TOSSED or THICK SICILIAN-STYLE
Toppings: pepperoni, meatballs, sausage, ham,
bacon, mushrooms, red onions, green peppers,
black olives, pineapple, broccoli, hot peppers,
tomatoes, roasted red peppers, & chicken.

Specialty Pizza

MOUNT MANSFIELD Refueling after a day
outdoors? This hearty combination of pepperoni,
sausage, mushrooms, red onions & green
peppers certainly does justice to its imposing
namesake, Vermont's tallest mountain!

DOC DEMPSEY Our black diamond Doc Dempsey is
named for a local doctor who skied Smugglers' in the
early years. Combining green peppers, mushrooms,
red onions, broccoli, black olives and sliced
tomatoes, we think this tasty vegetarian combination
would meet with the good doctor's approval!

3 MOUNTAIN This is the Smugglers' pizza; three
mountains, three toppings! And it's a fave with meat
lovers due to its generous helpings of pepperoni,
sausage and meatballs. Which mountain corresponds
to which topping? That's for you to decide!

HAWAIIAN Who doesn't love the sweet and
salty combo of pineapple and ham? We take
it a step further and add bacon for a meaty
Hawaiian pizza that's unforgettable.

GARLIC LOVERS And white pizza lovers, this one's
for you! This delicious white pizza blends a base
of ricotta and mozzarella cheeses, with savory
toppings of garlic, broccoli and sliced tomatoes.

BUFFALO CHICKEN Looking for something hot
& spicy? Look no further! This scrumptious pizza
combines tender white chicken pieces in a zingy
buffalo sauce with creamy ranch dressing — all
the flavors of classic Buffalo chicken wings, but
on a pizza! Additional toppings can be added
to make this spicy creation uniquely yours.

chowtime continued

THE VILLAGE TAVERN'S hot pretzels and beer cheese
dip are the perfect snack after a day of skiing & riding.



For convenience that can't be
beat, try the **Morse Highlands Day
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before hitting the slopes. The lodge
also serves lunch, snacks, and
beverages. The lodge is accessible
by shuttle or the Dixie's Knoll trail
adjacent to the Morse Highlands
lift. Morse Highlands Lodge is open
daily from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm
for food service. Extension 8514.

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received rave reviews. Choose the
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hash for a hearty start to the ski
and ride day. Open Wednesday
through Monday. 802-644-6371.

Located in downtown Jeffersonville
just minutes from Smugglers' in
the historic Smugglers' Notch Inn,
the **Village Tavern** serves hearty
pub-style appetizers, soups,
salads and entrées nightly. Try
the Boyden Burger, made from
locally raised beef that is grilled
to your liking. Tavern favorites on
the menu include fish and chips
beer battered with Vermont's own
Long Trail Ale. Enjoy the casual,
family friendly atmosphere and a
meal that will top off your day with
flavor and substance. Children's
menu available. 802-644-6765.

158 Main Restaurant and Bakery is
housed in the historic Windridge
Farms Building, located in
downtown Jeffersonville. There
is literally nothing missing at 158
Main, with full breakfast, lunch,
and dinner menus, all of which
encompass everything from classic
favorites to diverse specials sure
to tempt every palate. 158 Main
also offers an extensive bakery
selection of breads, pies, cookies,
and the baker's daily surprises.
So whether you are looking for a
before skiing breakfast, a break
for lunch, an après ski dinner,
or the perfect dessert to cap
your day, 158 has it all! Open
Tuesday-Sunday. 802-644-8100.

Above 158 Main, the **Jeffersonville
Pizza Department** serves pizza,
pasta, wings, and salads daily. Eat
in or take out. Open Wednesday-
Sunday. 802-644-5550.

158 MAIN RESTAURANT & BAKERY



BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

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SOME OF JACK'S FAVORITES

Crab Cake Benedict – crab cakes, poached eggs, spicy hollandaise, homefries

Farmers' Breakfast – eggs, sausages, bacon, homefries and pancakes or french toast

French Toast – Grand Marnier and vanilla bean French toast made with homemade baguette and deep fried

Baby Spinach Salad – baby spinach, egg, mushrooms, potato, red onion, swiss & warm maple bacon dressing

Grilled Salmon Salad – grilled salmon, baby greens, mango, strawberries, tomato, red onion, carrots with maple balsamic dressing

Veggie Wrap – grilled eggplant, zucchini, portabellas, onions, oven-dried tomatoes and goat cheese on a spinach wrap

158 Club – roast turkey, roast beef or maple ham, bacon, tomato, and lettuce with house mayo and your choice of bread

French Onion au Gratin Soup – caramelized onions in a hearty beef broth, house croutons, and melted Swiss cheese

Classic Pizzette – tomato sauce, homemade mozzarella, fresh herbs, toasted on focaccia

Tuna Nachos – rare peppered seared tuna, Asian slaw, fried wontons, soy ginger ponzu and wasabi

Broiled Seafood Trifecta – haddock, shrimp and scallops broiled in white wine, butter and lemon

Filet Mignon Au Bleu – served with bleu cheese demi glace and mashed potatoes

Sesame Seared Yellow Fin Tuna – seared rare tuna, jasmine rice, wok-seared vegetables and wasabi

Calamari Capellini Fra Diabolo – fried calamari, spicy tomato sauce, capellini pasta and roasted garlic aioli

Worcestershire Shepard's Pie – ground beef, carrots, corn, peas, Worcestershire tomato gravy, topped with mashed potatoes and cheddar cheese

JEFFERSONVILLE PIZZA DEPARTMENT

Located right above the 158 Main Restaurant in downtown Jeffersonville

**calzones & stromboli • gourmet pizza • hot & cold subs
specialty pastas • wings • salads**

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chowtime continued

The Family Table at the intersection of Route 108 and 15 in Jeffersonville has a loyal following who give rave reviews to its innovative menu and use of high quality fresh ingredients. Tops on the list of recommendations are the buttermilk fried chicken, penne with wild mushroom pesto and spinach, and beef dishes such as the rib eye steak dry-aged for extra flavor and juiciness. Extensive wine list and full bar. Children's menu available. Open Thursday – Monday for lunch and dinner; serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner Saturday and Sunday. 802-644-8920.

A fixture in Cambridge since 1985, **Angelina's** offers quality homemade Italian pizza, pasta, cold and hot subs, calzones, and breads. Try the steak bomb – steak, mushrooms, onions, and peppers – as a pizza or hot sub. 802-644-2011.

In Johnson, east of Smugglers' on Route 15, **The Downtown Pizzeria** is a full-service eatery offering quality homemade food with family-friendly value. Everything is made from scratch, including the most popular item on the menu, the hand-breaded fried mozzarella triangles with marinara and balsamic reduction. Choose from entrées such as ziti with vodka sauce, chicken parmesan, and, of course, pizza New York-style. The Vermonter specialty pie features chicken, apples, ham, a cheddar/mozzarella blend

of cheese, alfredo sauce, and a maple drizzle. Enjoy a full bar with more than 10 beers on tap, a pool table, darts, and acoustic music. (802) 635-7626.

Much more than just a wings joint, **Wicked Wings** offers a variety of appetizers, chicken sandwiches, salads, ribs, and burgers. Sides for burgers and sandwiches (or just for fun) include hand-cut French fries, homemade coleslaw, and chips and salsa. When ordering wings, choose a heat from mild to "melt-your-face hot," and a dozen sauce choices that range from barbeque to Jamaican jerk to Wasabi. Take-out is available. Open daily on Main Street in Johnson and at 1 Market Place #25 in Essex. (802) 730-8134

Head east on Route 15 to downtown Morrisville's historic train station to find **10 Railroad Street**, specializing in pub fare with a sophisticated twist. Enjoy steaks, prime rib, clams, fish, burgers, sandwiches, macaroni & cheese, and more – the varied menu changes seasonally. Local beer, a selection of wines, and specialty cocktails complement your meal. Open daily (802) 888-2277.

Wet your whistle with one of **Rock Art Brewery's** craft brews. The brewery has a tasting room where you can sample flights of beer and enjoy the bird's eye view of the production area. Savor Rock Art's flagship

DOWNTOWN PIZZERIA SERVES UP

classic New York-style pizza and so much more.





**FIND THE PERFECT AFTERNOON
SNACK AT THE PERK:**

Tazo herbal tea and pumpkin bread from Joey's
Junction Bakery in Highgate Vermont.

chowtime continued

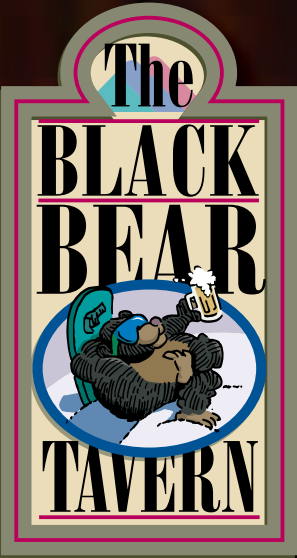
ale, smooth and bold Ridge Runner, or double IPA Twin Tip brewed for the winter season, or a lager such as Bohemian Pilsner, as well as additional double IPAs and IPAs. This brewery's electrical needs are now fully met with solar power. Rock Art is located at 632 Laporte Road in Morrisville and is open daily. (802) 888-9400.

As your vacation travels bring you into and around our area, you may be seeking specialty foods, quick meals, or ingredients to make your own meals in your Smugglers' vacation home. **The Country Store** at Smugglers' supplies all your grocery staples like bread, meat, vegetables, fruits, snacks, and beverages. The store also stocks a wide variety of Vermont specialty items such as **Lake Champlain Chocolates** and jams and syrups from **Butternut Mountain Farm** in nearby Johnson. Don't miss **The Perk**, the Country Store's specialty beverage café open daily and serving espresso, cappuccino, lattes, chai tea, and mochas prepared both hot and cold by the café's baristas. A variety of fresh fruit smoothies and locally prepared pastries and fresh baked goods are also available.

On Jeffersonville's Main Street, just down from 158 Main, is **The Farm Store**, offering a variety of fresh organic produce and natural foods, plus cleaning and personal products and more. Open daily. (802) 644-9463.

The Cambridge Village Market at 113 South Main Street (Route 15) in Cambridge continues the location's 100-plus years of serving the community and visitors with groceries, sundries, and more. Choose from fresh produce, deli meats (with breakfast and deli sandwiches to go), a large beer and wine selection, and brand name and private label groceries and sundries. Open daily. (802) 644-2272.

You'll find an additional option for provisions in Fairfax, where **Steeple Market** offers fresh fruits and veggies, meat and seafood, a deli with sandwich and salad choices, and wine and beer (plus a growler filling station with three brews available). Steeple Market also features weeknight hearty dinner specials, plus pizza, rotisserie chicken and wings, and paninis and subs. Located at 1098 Main Street in Fairfax, the market is open daily. (802) 849-6872.



Full bar and table service available for a selection of sandwiches, individual woodfired pizzas, salads, snacks, soups, chili, apps and beverages. Featuring the largest variety of beer and cider in the area with 30 varieties available (20 draft tap lines and 10 packaged offerings).

Sun. - Thurs. 10:00 am - 4:30 pm
Fri. & Sat. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm



Join us on Friday,
Saturday & Sunday
at 2:00 pm for après
sport parties with music,
trivia, prize giveaways,
and more! It's a great
place to meet other riders
and skiers and some of
the locals. 12/8/17 - 4/8/18



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Advance sign-up is required at the Guest Service Desk or Nordic Center, space is limited. Weather permitting.

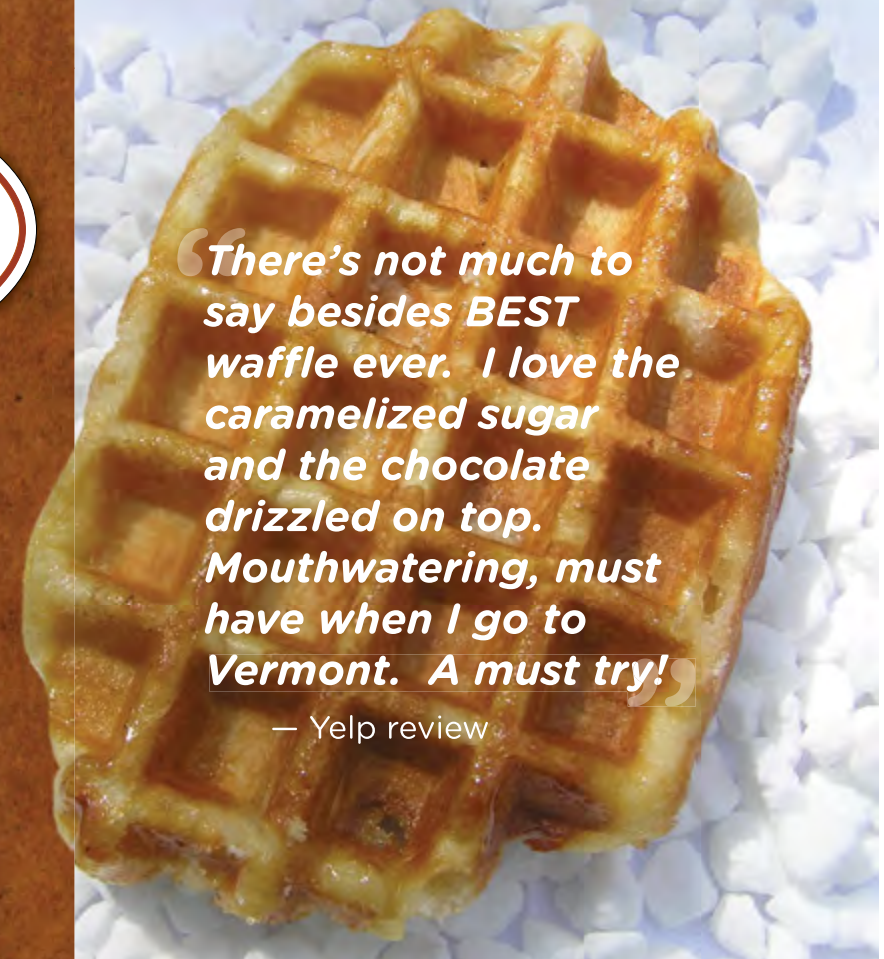


Take a break without even leaving the slopes! Stop by the Waffle Cabin for a grab-and-go slopeside treat. Baked fresh and on-demand, the enticing aroma will draw you in and the taste will keep you coming back for more. Cap off your perfect run with a perfect waffle treat!

Located next to the Madonna II lift.

**Open Thursday through Monday,
10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

*Hours and days available are subject to
change - look for the open flag!*



*“There’s not much to say besides **BEST waffle ever.** I love the **caramelized sugar and the chocolate drizzled on top.** Mouthwatering, must have when I go to **Vermont.** A must try!”*

— Yelp review



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events calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING? Plenty! So we'll offer a bit of friendly advice: check out the Resort Information Guide — that'll be your go-to for all the regularly scheduled happenings at the resort. As for special events, read on for the scoop...



Saturday, December 9

23RD ANNUAL BREWFEST, PART 1.

Beer lovers, you're in the right place — Vermont has the highest number of breweries per capita. Our BrewFest highlights some of our state's excellent breweries plus regional favorites and craft ciders. A DJ spins the tunes and the Mountain Grille puts on a tasty appetizer buffet. 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm in the Meeting House. Tickets are available at the door; \$20 entry includes 8 samples, munchies, and a souvenir sampling glass. 21 & older, please. Plan a return visit for spring skiing — BrewFest Part 2 is March 31, 2018!

Saturday, December 16 & Sunday, December 17

VERMONT ICE WINE & COCKTAIL OPEN HOUSE AT BOYDEN WINERY.

Visit the Boyden Valley Winery for their annual open house from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Enjoy cocktails using Boyden Vermont Ice and take home the recipes, sample Vermont Ice wines and crème liqueurs, and enjoy a warm mug of Glögg while gazing at the Vermont winter landscape surrounding the winery. While sipping a cocktail, you can also save 20% off Vermont Ice wines, specials on Glögg, gift boxes with Boyden favorites, and much more. The winery is located at the intersection of Routes 15 and 104 in Cambridge. Visit boydenvalley.com for more information.

Friday, January 26 & Saturday, January 27

SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE WINTER CARNIVAL.

The top NCAA alpine ski racers in the East will be at Smugglers' racing giant slalom on Jan 26th and slalom on Jan 27th beginning at 9:30 am on the Practice Slope. These college athletes are some of the best in the country, and you may see some of these names on the World Cup circuit and the US Ski Team. Colleges competing are Saint Michael's College, whose home mountain is Smugglers' Notch, and the University of Vermont, with one of the top Slalom skiers in the East, Taylor Wunsch, who is also a Smugglers' Notch Ski Club alumni. Other colleges competing are: Middlebury College, the University of New Hampshire, Boston College, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Bates College, St. Lawrence University, Plymouth State University, Colby-Sawyer College, Colby College, and Williams College.

Sunday, February 4

SUPER SUNDAY.

Come watch Super Bowl LII, live from the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, MN, at our Big Game Football Party! Settle in to your seats in front of a gigantic television screen and enjoy a half-time Super Sunday Snack Buffet with all your favorite munchies! Doors open at 6:00 pm in the lower level of the Meeting House. Game time 6:30 pm.

Tuesday, February 20

VERMONT SPECIALTY FOOD TASTING IN THE VILLAGE COURTYARD.

Mosey through the courtyard and sample delicious food products made with ingredients from our Green Mountain State. Enjoy Cabot Cheese, maple products and much more! 10:30 am - 2:30 pm.

Thursday, February 22

FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE WINTER CARNIVAL.

Always a family favorite, FamilyFun Magazine teams up with Smugglers' for this special winter carnival featuring music and live entertainment plus face painting, games, a bonfire, giveaways, and an outdoor barbecue. The festivities begin at 2:00 pm on the Village Green.

Saturday, March 3

EXTREME SKIING CHALLENGE — Day 1

The Smugglers' Notch Ski and Snowboard Club hosts this fun event — an opportunity for junior and adult freeskiers to show their stuff on some of the most difficult terrain Smugglers' Notch has to offer! The course on Saturday is planned for Sterling Mountain — Full Nelson to Practice Slope. The Extreme Skiing Challenge is IFSA (18 yrs & under) and FWQ2 (19 yrs & older) sanctioned allowing Eastern skiers to garner ranking and seeding points in these competitive series. In addition, the Extreme Skiing Challenge is the 4th stop on the Ski The East Freeride Tour. \$45 entry fee (includes t-shirt) and \$39 lift ticket available. The field will be capped at 120 competitors.

Not participating? Why not come out to watch the action, 8:30 am - 11:30 am? As the competitors run the course, from Full Nelson to the Practice Slope, spectators can view from a roped off area.

Sunday, March 4

EXTREME SKIING CHALLENGE — Day 2

The Smugglers’ Notch Ski and Snowboard Club hosts this fun event — an opportunity for junior and adult freeskiers to show their stuff on some of the most difficult terrain Smugglers’ Notch has to offer! The course on Sunday is planned for the Madonna headwall, an ungroomed steep with a double fall line descent filled with cliffs, bumps, trees, chutes, and stumps. Competitors will be judged on line, control, fluidity, technique, and style.

The Extreme Skiing Challenge is IFSA (18 yrs & under) and FWQ2 (19 yrs & older) sanctioned allowing Eastern skiers to garner ranking and seeding points in these competitive series. In addition, the Extreme Skiing Challenge is the 4th stop on the Ski The East Freeride Tour. \$45 entry fee (includes t-shirt) and \$39 lift ticket available. The field will be capped at 120 competitors.

If taking on the headwall isn’t your thing, why not come out to watch the action? As the competitors run the course on the headwall from just below Catwalk to just above Madonna midstation, the best seats in the house for watching the excitement will be on the Madonna summit lift. Spectators also can view from a roped off area at the Red Fox Glades near the finish area at the base of the Madonna headwall, easily accessed from midstation.

Sunday, March 11

MOLLY FUND BENEFIT RAIL JAM

This special rail jam benefits the Molly Rowlee Fund, which supports families with children undergoing treatment for cancer. This is the fifth year at Smuggs for this event, and it promises to again be awesome - come out and have some fun and support this great cause! The good times include music, giveaways, and a raffle. Registration starts at 9:00 am at the Yurt in Parking Lot 1, the Jam starts in the Zone Terrain Park at 11:00 am!

Saturday, March 24 & Sunday, March 25

MAPLE OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND.

This weekend is Vermont’s official celebration of our state’s maple sugaring heritage, when sugarmakers across the state open their doors to visitors with tours and an array of maple products for sale. Visit www.vermontmaple.org/ for a listing of open sugarhouses. Typically our friends at nearby Boyden Valley Winery host a variety of family friendly activities centered around their sugarhouse on this weekend; see boydenvalley.com for details.

Saturday, March 17 through Sunday, April 1
MAPLEFEST AT SMUGGLERS’.

Smugglers’ hosts our fourth annual MapleFest celebrating Vermont’s rich history of maple production. During MapleFest, chosen in its second year as one of the Vermont Chamber of Commerce’s Top 10 Winter Events, our guests can visit sugarhouses and learn about the process directly from enthusiastic maple sugarmakers. Other activities include maple-themed snowshoe and walking treks, and specialty food and beverage samplings. There will also be plenty of dining specials at Smugglers’ and local restaurants as well as local maple themed specials. MapleFest is one sweet getaway!

Saturday, March 31

23RD ANNUAL BREWFEST PART 2.

Sample the finest in craft beers and regional favorites, plus ciders! A DJ spins the tunes and the Resort’s Mountain Grille puts on a tasty appetizer buffet, plus music, munchies, and prizes. From 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm in the Meeting House. Tickets are available at the door. \$20 entry includes 8 samples and souvenir glass. 21 & older please.

Saturday, April 8

7TH ANNUAL POND SKIMMING.

Elvis, a gorilla, guys in bikinis—you’ll see it all in the Zone Terrain Park during pond skimming! Registration for this free event starts at 10:00 am in the Base Lodge and the first skimmer launches toward the pond at noon. Prizes awarded for best costume. A “don’t miss” for spectators!

Saturday, April 8

CHILLIN’ & GRILLIN’ ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY.

Blue skies, long sunny afternoons ... ahhhh, spring! Chillin’ & Grillin’ brings together our mountain community in a celebratory summit of the parking lot parties that go on all season long in Parking Lot 1. Awards of cash and prizes to winners of the following categories: best overall tailgate presentation with 4F technology (food, flair, festive, fun); best original recipe; and best Smuggs-themed tailgate.



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