

## Boyne Mountain for All Seasons

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In 1947, a young man named Everett Kirchner made a \$1 real estate investment in a stunning northwestern Michigan locale. Today, his Bavarian-style Boyne Mountain resort is a Michigan vacations destination treasured year-round by couples, families and friends. Located 250 miles from Detroit, near Bluegreen's Mountain Run Resort, Boyne Mountain is a pristine wilderness, inviting nature lovers to explore her hardwood forests,

glistening fish-filled lakes and rivers, and of course, the mountain itself.

Boyne Mountain, the Midwest's largest ski area with 140 inches of snow a year, is most often associated with its winter recreational offerings. These include a cornucopia of snow sports, from ice skating to snowshoeing to downhill. The resort's legendary Austrian American SnowSports Academy teaches or enhances skiing and snowboarding skills for winter athletes of all ages, while 35 kilometers of breathtaking trails traverse stunning outdoors Michigan.

Skiers make use of 14 lifts to ferry them to 50 trails of varying difficulty; the resort's "Super Bowl" is where black-diamond runs occur. Snowboarders slice and dice through Terrain Park. If winter chill starts to overtake exhilaration, the toasty Snowflake Lounge invites with hot toddies and live entertainment. Thinking ski resorts + Michigan? Just think Mountain Run.

Prefer a lighter winter wardrobe? Pack your swimsuit and plan on spending your day at Boyne Mountain's Avalanche Bay Water Park. It's Michigan's largest indoor water park, and features rides, slides, climbing walls, kids' pools, climbing walls, a lazy river, and a surf simulator.

Summer visitors have just as many options from which to choose. They can hit the links on a championship golf course, play miniature golf, take a horseback ride or hike scenic trails. A tubing park and tennis center offer even more warm-weather choices. Anglers of all types will simply be thrilled. Stocked ponds at the resort provide catch-and-release opportunities; charter guides offer salmon fishing on Lake Michigan; and fly fishing is superb on the nearby Bear and Ausable Rivers, as well as in Sturgeon Bay. Mountain bikers will likewise make great memories while tackling steep trails.

Of course, a fall visit is going to be spectacular, with the full splendor of foliage in hues of yellow, orange and red. Photographers may never want to leave if they arrive during the peak of leaf season.

No matter what time of year one visits Boyne Mountain, a world-class spa also awaits, as reward for a day's outdoor activity or as sanctuary in which to rejuvenate from the tribulations of the real world. Named "One of the best spas in the world" by Spa Magazine, The Solace Spa tempts with a full complement of services, including the Petoskey Hot Stone massage, which soothes sore muscles and melts away worries. A Thai or Swedish massage would feel better than ever after a day of

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snowshoeing or golf. . . Michigan recreation with a bonus.

Consider heading straight for the resort's newest attraction, Zipline Adventures. Excitement-loving guests launch from treetop platforms and fly through the mountain canopy at 25 mph. Zipline Adventure will be offered year-round with limited days during winter. This exciting ride lasts two hours and is open to anyone 60-275 pounds and at least three feet high.

Boyne Mountain books all sorts of exciting entertainment throughout the year with countless weekend events, so check the online schedule before your visit. The City of Boyne, Michigan, at the base of the mountain adds its own complement of events, dining options and shopping. Drive a bit farther to explore Petoskey or beautiful Harbor Springs. With four gorgeous seasons and beautiful natural surroundings, you'll find lots to see and enjoy. No matter what your recreational bent, the Boyne Mountain area will make your stay at Bluegreen's Mountain Run one of your best vacations ever.

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