

National Ski Club Newsflash

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STAY & SKI GRAND TARGHEE STARTING AT \$85

Grand Targhee is now offering a stay slopeside or in Teton Valley in a condo, townhouse or private home. for four or more nights starting at just \$85 per person per night. Stays include 4 full days of skiing at Grand Targhee and lodging per person per night, based on double occupancy in the Targhee Lodge during Value Season.

STEAMBOAT WILL UPGRADE ELKHEAD LIFT TO HIGH SPEED QUAD

Steamboat Springs will upgrade their Elkhead chairlift to a high-speed quad (from a fixed-grip quad) this summer and the main base area will get a mountain coaster that will operate year round and mini-golf course for the summer. Both the mini-golf course and mountain coaster will run out of the main base area, where the Gondola, Christie Express six-pack and Christie III three-seater all begin. The mountain coaster will be similar to one at Blue Mountain in Ontario, another Intrawest resort, in that speed will be semi-controlled by the riders, and the ride will be open during the winter.

HELMET USAGE INCREASES ACROSS US SKI RESORTS

According to the National Ski Areas Association, helmet usage has increased for the 13th straight year, from 25 percent of skiers and snowboarders using helmets in 2002 to 78 percent this past season. NSAA states that 97 percent of skiers and snowboarders ages 9 and younger wore helmets this past season. More.

NEW JERSEY SKI AREA TRANSFORMS INTO NON-PROFIT FOR KIDS

The website Frst Tracks reports that the National Winter Sports Education Foundation (NWSEF) announced the rebirth of New Jersey's former Hidden Valley ski area in Vernon into the National Winter Activity Center (NWAC), which they say is the nation's first private 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated winter sport facility for kids. Children ages 6 to 17 will learn to ski and snowboard during the seven-session program in a 1-to-8 instructor ratio with PSIA and United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) trained coaches. The children are fully equipped with gear.

NEW INDOOR SNOW CENTRE COMING TO SAUDI ARABIA

The Majid Al Futtaim company which runs Ski Dubai and is currently completing Ski Egypt has announced its third indoor snow centre will be in one of two new malls it plans to construct in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The ski slope will begin construction by mid-2017 and be completed by 2022, the company says.

NEW ARTIFICIAL SKI SLOPE FOR JAPAN

Japan's Prince Hotels, a long standing investor in the country's ski industry, has announced plans to install a year-round artificial slope at the Kagura ski resort in Yuzawa, Niigata Prefecture.

The company says the new slope will allow its guests to ski even during the summer or when there is too little snow on the ground to ski normally. The new slope is expected to attract 25,000 guests in summer 2016.

COURT ORDERS CLOSURE OF WORLD'S LONGEST INDOOR SNOW SLOPE

A French court has ordered the closure of the world's longest indoor snow slope at Amnéville in Lorraine.

The 620 m-meter-long slope, which has hosted Europa Cup international competitions owes 4 million Euros in rent. The Court of Auditors has recommended the closure of the slope as soon as possible, however Amneville's mayor hopes it may still be saved with a new advertising campaign and if new investors can be found. The city is reported to have invested 20 million euros to keep the slope operating recently, however it averages only 92 visits per day.

VERBIER OFFERS SELF-TRACKING DRONES TO SKIERS

Ski resorts the world over are currently agonizing over what to do about drones. On the one hand, ever more skiers and boarders are wanting to use them to film themselves, on the other they have potentially dangerous consequences if they collide with ski lift machinery or they fall out of the sky and hit people on the head. Most resorts seems to be moving towards a position where drone use is restricted to licensed individuals, sometimes professional drone film crews that skiers can hire to film them, often in restricted areas pre-determined by the resort as safe. Verbier says it is offering a European first by allowing skiers and boarders there the chance to rent a Hexo+ self-tracking drone to film themselves.

There is no remote control needed as these innovative drones can accompany you on your descents and jumps thanks to a system of Bluetooth used with a Smartphone App. Rental is 400 Swiss Francs 400 per day or 250 Swiss Francs for a half day. Borovets Tops Table For Most

SKI RESORTS WITH THE MOST BARS PER SQUARE KILOMETER

The UK's Crystal Ski Holidays has conducted research to find out which ski resort has the most bars per square kilometer, and the winner is Borovets in Bulgaria. "This reasonably priced and cheerful resort has approximately four bars per square kilometer, ahead of the French resorts of Meribel and Courchevel, in 2nd and 3rd place respectively. The lively resort of Pas de la Casa in Andorra came in 4th with around 1.8 bars per square kilometer followed closely by the more traditional Austrian ski resort of Schladming," a Crystal news release, describing Borovets as, "the ultimate après-ski resort."

HUGE TROJAN HORSE APPEARS IN ST MORITZ

A 'Trojan Horse' measuring 46 feet high, 66 feet long and weighing in at 5.2 tons has appeared on the frozen lake at St Moritz. The Trojan Horse appeared at the Night Turf arena at 5pm

February 5, 2016, where horse races were taking place on the frozen lake. That's the same location where, a few years ago, a submarine appeared out of the ice of the frozen lake overnight. As with the submarine however, the horse is a work of art, and its hollowed-out body has been made into a private lounge capable of holding private events for up to 10 people. Both ideas came from The Kulm hotel, the first hotel in St Moritz and where famously the first winter snow holiday recorded took place in 1864-65.

The Trojan Horse will remain in situ until the last White Turf race of 2016 is run on 21 February, and will make further appearances at White Turf in 2017 and 2018, before being put out to pasture.

In between White Turf appearances The Trojan Horse will be able to graze in the Kulm Park (the extensive grounds in which the Kulm Hotel stands).

THE REMARKABLES IN NEW ZEALAND HAVE JOINED THE MOUNTAIN COLLECTIVE

Coronet Peak/Coronet Peak and The Remarkables in New Zealand have joined The Mountain Collective™ as a full partner for the 2016-2017 season. This addition expands the breadth of the Collective with full partner destinations in four countries, and affiliates in three more.

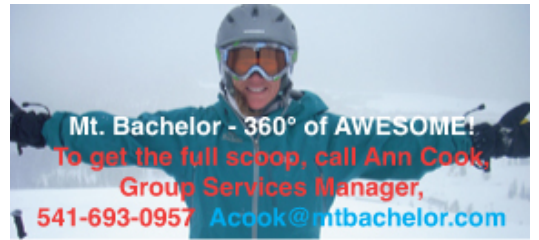
Members of the Mountain Collective are now Coronet Peak/The Remarkables, Thredbo, Stowe, Taos, Sun Valley, AltaSnowbird, Aspen Snowmass, Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, Jackson Hole, Mammoth Mountain, Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows, and Whistler Blackcomb in this alliance of 12 iconic destinations.



The National Ski Club Officers' Newsflash is emailed each month to America's ski club officers by The National Ski Club Newsletter on a year-round basis to augment our four printed issues which published in November, January, March, and May. If you wish additional club officers to receive the Newsflash, please email their names, club name, their office within the club, and email addresses to wilbanks@ski-club.net.



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