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Ski Minnesota

Winter turns the Minnesota terrain into an exhilarating, challenging experience for novice and expert skiers alike. You can choose from 30 downhill ski areas, over 300 cross country ski areas and 2,500 miles of cross country ski trails. Whether you are just starting out on your first pair of skis or you have mastered many a ski slope, Minnesota-style skiing offers adventure, affordabilty and an extra long season.

The ski season in Minnesota usually extends from November through March. Major downhill ski facilities help prepare the skiing base by making artificial snow before the first major natural snowfall, usually sometime in November. This base is adequate for skiing even if the natural snowfall does not come immediately. Ski conditions are usually excellent through March, temperatures permitting, with the help of these mechanized snow-makers.

Cross country skiing trails in Minnesota offer challenge as well—from the pine-covered northwoods overlooking Lake Superior to the gently rolling hills of southern Minnesota to the lowlands along the Canadian border. But, best of all, Minnesota slopes and trails offer the entire family and friends a marvelous opportunity to enjoy the outdoors together!

The Minnesota Travel Information Center can help you with your trip-planning information as well as the latest on snow depths and skiing conditions. Free brochures on accommodations, arts and attractions, regional points of interest are also available.

Listed below are the downhill ski areas in Minnesota. For a complete listing of cross-country areas, call or write for information. In Minneapolis-St. Paul, call 296-5029; or write the Minnesota Travel Information Center at 240 Bremer Bldg., 419 N. Robert St., St. Paul, MN 55101.

Downhill Ski Areas

Arrowhead

DULUTH:
Chester Municipal Park—
1 rope tow, vertical drop 160 ft., longest run 1,000 ft.

Spirit Mountain Ski Area—
5 lifts, 5 chairs, vertical drop 600 ft., longest run 2,800 ft.

ELY:
Hidden Valley Recreation Area—
3 lifts, vertical drop 165 ft., longest run 1,800 ft.

GRAND RAPIDS:
Sugar Hills Lodge Resort—
6 lifts, 2 chairs, 3 T-bars, vertical drop 400 ft., longest run 4,000 ft.

HILL CITY:
Quadna Mountain Resort & Conference Center—
4 lifts, 1 chair, 2 T-bars, vertical drop 325 ft., longest run 3,800 ft.

LUTSEN:
Lutsen Mountains Resort—
5 lifts, 3 chairs, 1 T-bar; vertical drop 700 ft., longest run 7,000 ft.

TAYLORS FALLS:
Wild Mountain Ski area—
6 lifts, 4 chairs, vertical drop 300 ft., longest run 4,500 ft.

VIRGINIA:
Giant's Ridge Recreation Area—
2 lifts, 2 chairs, vertical drop 450 ft., longest run 3,700 ft.

Heartland

BEMIDJI:
Buena Vista Ski Area—
4 lifts, 4 chairs, vertical drop 200 ft., longest run 1,600 ft.

BRAINERD:
Ski Gull Ski Area—
4 lifts, 1 T-bar, vertical drop 250 ft., longest run 1,300 ft.

LONG PRAIRIE:
Eagle Mountain Resort—
2 poma lifts, 3 rope tows, vertical drop 200 ft., longest run 2,000 ft.

ST. CLOUD:
Powder Ridge Ski Area—
6 lifts, 2 chairs, 1 T-bar, vertical drop 310 ft.

Metroland

BLOOMINGTON:
Hyland Hills Ski Area—
6 lifts, 2 chairs, vertical drop 175 ft.

BURNSVILLE:
Buck Hill Ski Area—
9 lifts, 4 chairs, 1 J-bar, vertical drop 306 ft., longest run 3,000 ft.

CRYSTAL:
Lion's Valley Place Park—
2 rope tows, vertical drop 75 ft., longest run 150 ft.

HASTINGS:
Afton Alps Ski Area—
18 lifts, 18 chairs, vertical drop 330 ft.

MINNEAPOLIS:
Theodore Wirth Regional Park—
3 rope tows, vertical drop 150 ft., longest run 350 ft.

ST. PAUL:
Como Park—
2 double ropes, longest run 500 ft.

Southern Minnesota

LAKE BENTON:
Hole-in-Mountain County Park—
2 rope tows, vertical drop 175 ft., longest run 1,000 ft.

MANKATO:
Mt. Kato Ski Area—
5 4-place chairs, 3 double chairs, vertical drop 240 ft., longest run 2,500 ft.

RED WING:
Mount Frontenac Ski Area—
5 lifts, 1 chair, 2 T-bars, vertical drop 420 ft., longest run 3,000 ft.
Welch Village Ski Area—
9 lifts, 5 chairs, 2 T-bars, vertical drop 350 ft. longest run 4,000 ft.

SLEEPY EYE:
Golden Gate To Fun Campground—
2 lifts, vertical drop 150 ft., longest run 4,000 ft.

Vikingland

ALEXANDRIA:
Andes Tower Hill Ski Area—
4 lifts, 1 chair, 3 T-bars,d longest run 3,000 ft.

DETROIT LAKES:
Detroit Mountain Ski Area—
5 rope tows, 1 T-bar, 1 chair lift, vertical drop 235 ft., longest run 2,400 ft.

FERGUS FALLS:
Old Smokey Ski Area—
1 lift, vertical drop 115 ft., longest run 1,000 ft.
Viking Valley Recreation Area—
6 lifts, vertical drop 180 ft., longest run 1,400 ft.

GLENWOOD:
Barsness Park and Chalet—
1 rope tow, vertical drop 300 ft., longest run 700 ft.

Statewide road condition information is available by calling the Minnesota Department of Transportation at (612) 296-3076.

Get Winterized.
Show Special

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