

SADDLEBACK HAS NEW GLADE

44 acres of inbound ungroomed skiing!

This year Saddleback Maine will offer skiers and snowboarders a new glade called Casablanca. It will be the largest glade in the Northeast, with 44 acres of inbound un-groomed tree skiing. The mountain will open its 66th trail, a single black diamond called 'Family Secret.'

Casablanca will offer a challenging double black diamond glade experience, with chutes, steepes, tight lines, and open areas for cruising. There is so much space that skiers and riders will think they have the place to themselves. Locals and employees are excited because they predict there will be "freshies" nearly every day. The on-mountain trail crews also predict that the nature of how the glade lays on the mountain it will catch, keep, and hold large quantities of snow.

"Our latest improvements are designed to capitalize on what makes Saddleback different from other mountains in Maine. The new glade at Saddleback will draw people to the mountain who are eager to get off the groomed trails and experience a high alpine adventure unlike any other in the East," stated Warren Cook, CEO and general manager of Saddleback Maine. "The terrain and the beauty, complemented by our Saddleback Guest Service, will create an unforgettable experience."

Saddleback is also introducing two new snow groomers and tillers to the grooming fleet, one of which is an impressive Winch Cat. There will be snowmaking improvements as well.

Saddleback Realty is completing 12 on-mountain condominiums prior to winter as well. The new South Branch condos offer elegant wood frame construction with wood shingle siding, all surrounded by scenic views of the mountains. Still in the works for next season are a new chairlift and an expanded base lodge.

For more information, visit www.saddlebackmaine.com or call 866-918-2225.

Sugarloaf enhances snowmaking capacity

As part of its ongoing resort-wide improvements, Sugarloaf embarked on more than \$1.8 million in improvements over the summer, with new snowmaking, modifications to lifts to improve wind resistance, and upgrades the Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel topping the list of upgrades. The off-season investment makes a total of more than \$11 million in capital improvements to the resort since it joined the Boyne Resorts family in 2007.

On the heels of substantial improvements to its snowmaking system in 2007 and 2008, Sugarloaf is once again committing significant resources toward enhancing its snowmaking capacity, with an eye toward improved efficiency and increased early-season terrain. Upgrades will include a new snowmaking line, hydrants, and guns on Gondola Line Extension, which will allow Sugarloaf to open a signature expert trail covering more than 1500 vertical feet from the summit early in the season.

Additional snowmaking upgrades will include electricity for additional Boyne Low-Energy Fan guns on the Sidewinder Snowboardcross Course and 5000 feet of new snowmaking pipe throughout the mountain, including a new main line across Peavey Cross-Cut, which will provide increased flexibility and capacity to central mountain areas, including the PipeDreams Superpipe.

"We've committed a lot of resources over the past few years to improving our snowmaking system, and the results were extremely evident dur-

ing the first few weeks of the season last year," said John Diller, Sugarloaf General Manager. "The upgrades this summer will continue with the same objective, which is to make more snow and open more terrain early in the season."

Moving into the second phase of last summer's resort upgrades, Sugarloaf will complete the replacement of lift buildings and trail signage throughout the mountain, and will continue with renovations to the Base Lodge.

Sugarloaf will also work to reduce the effects of wind on its lifts, with new wind fencing at the top of the #3 T-Bar and Double Runner Lift, as well as new sheave train configurations on the SuperQuad.

In addition to Sugarloaf's \$1.8 million capital improvement plan, the Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel will see more than \$600,000 in upgrades through the Sugarloaf Mountain Condominium Center Association (SMCCA). Improvements will include new flat panel televisions throughout the hotel, as well as new Boyne Beds in each hotel room. Boyne Beds are found exclusively at Boyne Resort Hotels, and feature a custom designed sleep system with a 13.5 inch coil-on-coil mattress.

"Thanks to the great commitment we've seen from Boyne and CNL Properties, as well as the contribution of our condo association owners, we've been able to continue towards our ultimate goal of a rejuvenated Sugarloaf," Diller said. "These upgrades will provide our guests with a greatly improved overall resort experience."



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