

Southwest Michigan offers family-oriented ski areas ...

Kalamazoo, Michigan—

Southwest Michigan is home to three quality, family-oriented ski areas -- all within a five-hour drive from Chicago and most lower Michigan and northern Indiana cities.

Timber Ridge Ski Area, located about a half-hour from Kalamazoo, boasts the highest natural vertical rise in southwest Michigan and has 100 percent snowmaking capabilities. A two-person chairlift is new this season on the challenging Hemlock slope, bringing the total count to one quad lift, one triple chair, two doubles and a poma lift. The area also has several rope tows on beginners runs.

Timber Ridge has a ski shop that sells equipment, clothing and accessories, a cafeteria and two bars that also serve food.

Timber Ridge works with area hotels, motels and inns to offer skier discounts. Groups of 20 or more may receive special sking rates. Call 1-800-253-2928 for reservations and information. For snow conditions, call 616-694-9158.

Near Timber Ridge is Bittersweet, off of River Road in Osego. Bittersweet offers five chairlifts, five rope tows and 15 runs, ranging from beginner to advanced. They also have a lounge and cafeteria.

The area has a full ski shop, ski rental and a certified ski school with special children's programs.

Bittersweet has 100 percent snowmaking capabilities and sking under lighted slopes nightly. Call 616-694-2032 for more information. For snow conditions, call 616-694-2032.

A bit farther south is Swiss Valley in Jones, Michigan. Swiss Valley offers 11 runs and seven lifts, including two quads, one triple and four rope tows.

Swiss Valley's longest run is 1,800 feet with a vertical of 225 feet. The area has an uphill capacity of 9,800 skiers per hour, making for short lift lines.

Also available are rentals, a ski shop and repair center, night sking, a cafeteria and numerous children's programs.

Group rates are offered for groups of 20 or more, and ski schools and clubs are eligible for weeknight programs. Swiss Valley also has racing and free-style programs that start in January.

Call 616-244-5635 for more information on rates and reservations. Call the Swiss Valley Snow Phone at 616-244-8016 for 24-hour updates.



SHORT DRIVE AWAY— Southwest Michigan's three downhill slopes cater to first-time skiers and are within easy driving distance of Chicago, northern Indiana and lower Michigan cities.

... scenic golf courses near orchards and sandy beaches

St. Joseph, Michigan—

Imagine an elegant all suite hotel in a charming harbor town with cobblestone streets and sandy beaches. Add to that enough golf courses to keep you busy for several days. What you have is a golf getaway in St. Joseph, Michigan at the Boulevard All Suite Hotel.

For serious and novice golfer's alike, the Boulevard's Tee For Two package features suite accommodations, continental breakfast, two golf towels, and 18 holes of golf with cart at one of six area golf courses. Participating golf courses include Blossom Trails, Byrn Mawr, Brookwood, Indian Lake Hills, Lake Michigan Hills and The Oaks.

In Southwest Michigan you will find the atmosphere on the courses is relaxed and the scenery beautiful enough to take your mind off a poor shot. Rolling hills, orchards and streams set up challenges for the serious golfer.

Lake Michigan Hills Golf Course describes their best hole as #10. "If the wind is in your face on this 100-foot elevated tee, you should reach the ideal plateau. Hit too far, and

you are faced with a downhill lie for your second shot that must pass a very narrow neck of water left and right and miss the trees beyond. Your third shot is a wedge to a small, well guarded green."

At the Oaks Golf Course #10 is equally challenging: "Your opening shot requires accurate placement to an elevated corner of a severe dogleg. A solid second shot between trees leaves 100 to 150 yards to a narrow, deep green surrounded by woods. You can reach the green in two with a big fade off the tee and a 225 yard second shot."

Elegant hotel accommodations finish off the Tee For Two golf package. The Boulevard Hotel is situated on a high bluff overlooking the lighthouse and sandy beaches of Lake Michigan. Stunning sunsets and a view of the lake set the mood for a relaxing evening. Nearby shopping museums and beaches offer alternative entertainment for your golf outing.

For more information about the Tee For Two golf getaway, call Darcy Peters at (800) 875-6600. Prices range from \$129 to \$149 plus tax, per night, double occupancy.



PUTTING AMONG THE APPLES— Golfers at Southwest Michigan's Indian Lakes Hills putt, pitch and drive in an orchard-like setting.

More Reasons To Visit Erie County, Ohio



In Every Season

There are lots of reasons why Erie County makes a terrific destination at any time of the year. Stay one day or two, or make us a stop along your way. Nestled in the center of Ohio's lake Erie coastland, Erie County offers hundreds of things to see and do for people of all ages!

Spring Forward with a Look at the Past

Edison's birthplace and the Milan Museum • Merry-Go-Round Museum, operating carousel and authentic carving shop • Learn about the lakes at the Great Lakes Historical Society Museum • Civil War and Victorian era Museum • Narrated tours of Sandusky aboard a trolley, or with your own personal guide

It's Summertime

Cedar Point amusement park, home of the world-class Magnum XL-200 roller coaster • Walleye and perch fishing charters • Island-hopping cruises to Kelley's Island and Put-in-Bay • Ice cream cones and dairy viewing at Tott's Dairy • Summer stock theatre productions

Fall Foliage and Harvest

Vineyard Days Fall Festivals • Fall foliage and big-screen football Lake Erie cruises • Winery tours and tastings • Pick-your-own apples at local orchards • Homemade cider, apple butter making and fresh apple fritters

Holiday Happenings

Strickfaden's Holiday Shop, Ohio's largest year-round Christmas store • Milan's Christmas Tree Lane • Christmas shopping at over 50 factory outlet stores • Deck the halls at the nautical port of Harbour Town 1837 • Tour of historic homes, donated for the holiday season

For more information, please visit or call:



ERIE COUNTY VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU, INC.
231 W. Washington Row, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 • Fax: (419) 625-5009

1-800-255-ERIE