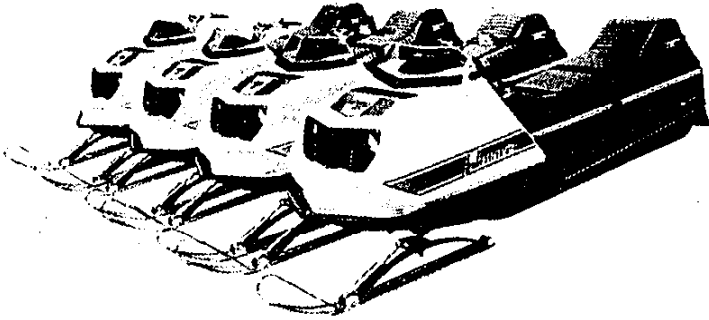


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Michigan

LANSING

Michigan and snow are synonymous and thousands of eager snow fans are already dreaming of the days ahead when the state is blanketed with the fluffy white. Operators of the state's 74 ski resorts and more than 125 snowmobile areas are ready, so bring on the snow.

Getting the snow to Michigan's slopes and trails is usually no problem, according to the Michigan Tourist Council. Michigan traditionally has more snowfall than any other state east of the Rockies, except for a few isolated spots in New England. The surrounding Great Lakes, which moderate the climate, serve to set off the dumping of some 30 to 140 inches of soft white flakes from southern Michigan to the Upper Peninsula in an average year.

Many winter sports centers are prepared to greet the 1972-73 season with increased facilities. Several have added new ski slopes and runs; others have installed additional chair lifts, pomalifts and T-bars. A few resorts have expanded accommodation and dining facilities. And some now offer cross country or ski-touring as well as downhill skiing.

One new resort has arrived on the Michigan scene and two others are under new ownership. The newest ski center is Royal Valley Ski Resort, located two miles north of Buchanan. Royal Valley features eight ski runs and trails including an expert hill, together with seven rope tows and a T-bar, and snow making and grooming equipment. It has a rest and refresh lodge with a fireplace and cafeteria; a ski shop and rental department, with rentals including mini skis and children's equipment. Royal Valley also features a secluded beginner's ski area, ski school with 18 instructors and a mini ski program. Lodging is available at nearby hotels and motels or campgrounds.

Tyrolean Hills Resort, formerly Pinnacles Ski Resort, is under new ownership. Located 14 miles east of Gaylord, the resort has undergone renovation including the construction of a two-story addition to the lodge and the installation of a teenage recreation center. Tyrolean Hills, which will be open daily this year, has accommodations for 160 people.

Also under new management is Michawaye Slopes, formerly the Au Sable Lodge and Ski Club, located five miles south of Gaylord. For the

1972-73 season, Michawaye will operate two slopes, two pomalifts and two rope tows on weekends only. It will feature a warming hut with snack bar, a ski school and rental equipment.

Michigan ski resorts are not just for the well-equipped accomplished skier as more than half offer rental equipment and individual or group ski instruction at reasonable prices. And several resorts offer the modern Graduated Length Method of ski instruction.

In addition to more than 400,000 skiers who are expected to take to the slopes, Michigan expects more than 200,000 snowmobilers to hit the trails. Snowmobiling has mushroomed rapidly as an individual and family sport. Several ski resorts maintain snowmobile trails for guests and some have machines for rent. The majority of Michigan's state parks and recreation areas have areas set aside for snowmobile enthusiasts. And there are marked trails in many state game areas and forests as well as in national forests. In addition, there are more than 80 public snowmobile areas maintained by local governmental units and businessmen.

Michigan offers more than skiing and snowmobiling during the winter months, however. There are festivals galore and ice fishing, tobogganing, ice skating, sleigh rides, ice boating. Anything that can be done in winter-time can be done in Michigan.

For additional information on Michigan winter activities, write to the Michigan Tourist Council, Lansing, Michigan 48926.



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