

WEEKEND RUNAWAY: BOYNE MOUNTAIN SKI TRIP



You'd need a Hot Tub Time Machine to cover all 114 downhill trails sprawling over 845 acres of northern Michigan's **Boyne Mountain**, the biggest ski resort in the Midwest.

We're not telling you where we found one, but here are the next-best **secrets to make your trip the best** it can be.

A \$60 day pass (\$50 during the week) gets you access to both Boyne Mountain and neighboring **Boyne Highlands**, the latter of which we recommend for the perfect ski getaway six-and-a-half hours northeast of Chicago.

What to do

In addition to skiing and snowboarding, Boyne offers the full range of snow activities (dog sledding to ice skating to snowmobiling). Our favorite activity is the **zipline adventures**, which will have you flying down the mountain on a rope at top speed. *600 Highland Drive, Harbor Springs (231-526-3000)*

Where to stay

The modern yet rustic 2-bedroom ski-in, ski-out condos at Boyne's **Alpine Village** are tough to beat. With a **fireplace, Whirlpool and deck in each room**, once you ski in you may find it hard to ski back out. Conveniently located near main lodge. *5062 Alpine Overpass (269-519-3367). Rooms start at \$313 for 2 nights.*

Where to eat

Take a sleigh ride on a Saturday night to the North Peak lodge for the **Aonach Mor Moonlight Dinner** atop the mountain, including French onion soup, roast tenderloin, and **chocolate fondue served via candlelight**. Check out the lights of the Mackinac Bridge through wall-to-wall windows as acoustic guitars play. *\$69. 600 Highland Drive (231-526-3000 x 3579)*

Where to drink

Hit up Boyne's surprisingly happening **Zoo Bar** on the weekends for **live music in a cozy ski lodge**. Sip hot chocolate after coming down the slopes and rock out to local jam bands with fellow skiers. The place gets pretty packed, so grab a table early. *600 Highland Drive (231-526-3000 x 3017)*

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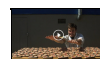
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