



POCONO MOUNTAINS

VISITORS BUREAU

2016 INFORMATION & FACTS
Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania

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LOCATION

The Pocono Mountains: 2,400 square miles of mountains, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and woodlands in the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, encompassing Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties.

TOWNS

County seats of the respective counties are Jim Thorpe, Stroudsburg, Milford and Honesdale. All offer quaint, historic atmospheres, unique shops and restaurants, authentic historic sites, art galleries, friendly faces and more.

THE ORIGIN OF "POCONO"

Pocono is a Native American word meaning, "stream between two mountains." The Delaware Water Gap is the true namesake, for the area where Delaware River cut a gap between two mountains and formed what is now known as the "Gateway to the Pocono Mountains."

STATISTICS

- **Number of visitors per year:** 25 million person-trips, combining both overnight and day trips **Travel USA* © 2012 *Visitor Report for the Poconos* done by Longwoods International in April 2013
- **Highest point:** Mt. Ararat, Preston, in Wayne County. Elevation: 2,654 feet.
- **Lowest point:** Bushkill, Pa., in Pike County. Elevation: 340 feet.
- **Total lakes:** 150.
- **Total river miles:** 170 (includes Delaware, Lehigh and Lackawaxen rivers).
- **Natural springs and brooks** are scattered throughout the Pocono Mountains region.
- **Total State Parks:** Nine State Parks covering a total of 35,537 acres. The parks are Beltzville, Big Pocono, Gouldsboro, Hickory Run, Lehigh Gorge, Promised Land, Prompton State Park, Tobyhanna and Varden Conservation Area.
- **Two National Parks:** The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area covers 40 miles of the Delaware River from north of Milford, PA to south of Delaware Water Gap, PA. Total acres are 70,000. The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River stretches 73.4 miles along the Pennsylvania and New York border. It includes riffles and Class I and II rapids between placid pools and eddies. The National Park Service will celebrate its 100 anniversary in 2016.
- **State Forest:** 81,958 acres of State Forest Land.

- **Hiking trails:** 126 total trails equaling 261 miles of trails.
- More than **30 golf courses**, which are home to hundreds of holes, including championship courses built by Donald Ross, Jack Nicklaus, A.W. Tillinghast and Robert Trent Jones.
- **Shopping:** abundant antiquing, numerous unique shops located in quaint towns and The Crossings Premium Outlets (home to over 100 name-brand factory stores).
- **Festivals:** From family-friendly fairs to chic food and wine events, the region's year-round festivals provide memorable fun for everyone.
- **Ski areas:** Seven major ski areas all offering alpine skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing: Alpine Mountain Ski and Snow Tubing Center, Big Boulder Ski Area, Blue Mountain Ski Area, Camelback Mountain Resort, Jack Frost Mountain, Shawnee Mountain and Ski Big Bear at Masthope Mountain. Skiing is also available at Skytop Lodge.
- **Ski trails and terrain parks:** over 170 trails.
- **Snow making:** 100% snow making on 690 skiable acres

SPRING/SUMMER RECREATION

- **Lehigh River:** Known for its whitewater rafting outfitters. Most also offer multiple-day trips, float trips, canoeing/kayaking and additional activities such as mountain biking, Skirmish, outdoor barbeques, group specials and themes.
- **Delaware River:** A bit calmer makes for excellent canoeing trips. Most canoeing outfitters also offer lessons, kayaking, whitewater rafting, float trips, tubing, camping, paint ball, group specials and themes.
- **Fishing Areas:** 122 miles of stocked river; 11,285 acres of stocked lakes, including Lake Wallenpaupack.
- Over 15 **museums** showcasing the historical, cultural and artistic importance of the region.
- **Pocono Raceway** is home to the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series; Axalta "We Paint Winners" 400 and Pennsylvania 400 as well as IndyCar Pocono 500.
- **Nineteen waterfalls:** most are free and open to the public.
- **Two Outdoor Waterparks:** Camelbeach Waterpark and Costa's Family Fun Park.
- **Treetop Ropes Courses:** These exhilarating obstacle courses, found throughout the region, are set in the natural mountain environment, with aerial obstacles suspended between trees. The courses include ziplines, suspended bridges, scramble nets, swinging logs and much more.

FALL RECREATION

- **Fall foliage:** Over 127 varieties of trees, shrubs and plants can be found. Three zones of coloration occur in the Pocono Mountains. A Fall Foliage Forecast is available to check conditions of the changing leaves online at 800poconos.com or via phone at 570-421-5565.
- **Twenty-Five ways to view fall foliage:** Hiking, skydiving, mountain biking, ziplining, horseback riding, fall foliage rail excursion, environmental education events, rafting, kayaking, canoeing, sail boating, hayride, apple or pumpkin picking, golfing, fall foliage air tour, vineyard tours, fishing, during a drive through the countryside, fall festivals, walking tour, camping, Blue Lightning Tubing and the Mountain Coaster, playing disc golf, treetop adventure courses, and from the porch of a quaint bed and breakfast or country inn.
- **Festivals/Fairs:** Four county fairs; over 20 festivals celebrating culture, heritage, music and food.
- **Old-fashioned train rides:** Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway, Inc., Jim Thorpe, Pa.; The Delaware Lackawaxen & Stourbridge Railroad, Honesdale, PA; Steamtown National Historic Museum, Scranton, Pa.
- **Hiking trails:** 126 total trails equaling 261 miles of trails.

WINTER RECREATION

- **On the slopes:** There are seven ski areas that offer alpine skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing. Lessons, children's programs and group rates are available.
- Eight places to **ice skate** (indoor and/or outdoor).
- Eight properties offer winter **horseback riding** or **horse-drawn sleigh rides**.

- Six properties and parks offer **snowmobiling**.
- Thirteen properties and parks offer **cross-country skiing**.
- One property offers a **Toboggan Run**.
- Four properties and parks offer **Snowshoeing**.
- One property offers **Dogsledding**.
- Four **Indoor Waterparks**: Camelback Lodge & Aquatopia Indoor Waterpark, Great Wolf Lodge, Kalahari Resorts and Conventions and Split Rock Resort & Golf Club.
- **Ice Tee Golf Tournament** turns a frozen Lake Wallenpaupack into a golf course for one weekend each winter.
- **Crystal Cabin Fever** is an interactive ice display made from over 100 tons of ice. The annual event features a 50-foot dual-run ice slide, ice carving demonstrations, interactive displays, ice carving competitions and much more.

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