



A Little History of Skiing and Growth of Bear Valley Resort

This article is based upon the Cub Reporter's The Fifth Age: A Brief History of Bear Valley's Owners Thank You Eric Jung!

If you like endings, The Lord of the Rings is for you. It has four: the fall of Sauron, the crowning of Aragorn, the Scouring of the Shire, and the departure of Frodo, Gandalf, and Bilbo with the Elves.



Clint Eastwood waits his turn to complete at a Bear Valley racing event in early years, 1971.

At his coronation, Aragorn announces that the Age of Man has begun. The Elves and Wizards are leaving, taking their hocus-pocus with them.

Bear Valley is entering its Fifth Age, the Age of Managers, those being Karl Kapuscinski and Tim Cohee.

Skiing started in 1967. Before that, there were summer cabins,

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Cali Pass holders can enjoy unlimited skiing and snowboarding

propane refrigerators and lights. They were boarded up half the year.

This was the First Age, the Age of Orvis. Skiing transitioned from an exclusive sport of the rich, to an accessible option for the middle class.

Rancher and skier Bruce Orvis, along with the Schimke family, framed the new resort. Dave McTaggart, and Maury Rasmussen, a logger and lumber mill operator, helped.

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New Quad Lift for 2024/2025

Bear Valley Mountain Resort has taken major strides to enhance guest's winter experience with exciting new improvements for the 2024/25 season.

A major upgrade was made to the historic Koala chair lift. As the first chair you see when arriving, the Koala lift has carried countless memories for generations of skiers and riders.

This summer, there was an impressive display as helicopters lifted and placed the new towers.

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at Bear Valley, China Peak, Dodge Ridge, and Mountain High.

But the adventure doesn't stop in California. Cali Pass holders receive a bonus of 48 Free tickets to explore the slopes at 16 Powder Alliance Resorts around the world.

They include the snow-covered wonderland of Sierra at Tahoe to the breathtaking international peaks of New Zealand.

Imagine experiencing the thrill of the slopes without the burden of massive crowds, long lines, or exorbitant prices.

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Spend Your Time on the Slopes, Not on the Road or Long Lift Lines

What do skiers and boarders look for when planning a fun filled day, weekend outing or extended vacation?

Let's start with a four hour or less drive to their destination. Their ultimate day would see blue skies with lovely corduroy groomed slopes, no crowding and fast moving lift lines, quick access to a variety of food and beverages, all at an affordable price.

Wow. This perfectly describes

Bear Valley Resort. It is a Central Sierra resort on the west slope offering terrain, acreage and elevations comparable to Tahoe ski resorts.

Bring your friends and family to enjoy Bear Valley, from those just learning to walk to grandparents enjoying their retirement. Escape to the slopes to experience the thrills as you forget the busy and stressful life at home.

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Brad Cumberland Named New Bear Valley General Manager

Brad Cumberland, a senior manager with Bear Valley for most of the past eight years, has been named the resort's new General Manager, announced Tim Cohee, President of the California Mountain Resort Company.

"Brad is the ideal selection to lead Bear Valley into a new era of growth, service and mountain excellence," said Cohee. "He has a strong under-

standing of all facets of our resort, inside and out, and our department managers enjoy his can-do attitude and willingness to do whatever it takes to get the job done."

Cumberland was born and raised in Alberta, Canada and enjoyed a stellar freestyle skiing career, competing for nearly a decade and earning podium results in World Junior Championships. He was a member of the Canadian Freestyle Team, competing at the World Championship level.

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurial Management, with additional studies in accounting and finance. His son Lance, 18, is a freshman at Washington University in St. Louis, studying architecture.

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Snowmakers Open Slopes for Longer Resort Season

Mother Nature is fickle. Some years she treats us to massive snow fall events. These can start in early November and last through April or longer. At other times she is stingy and provides very little snow fall.

As you know a snowmaking system at Bear Valley is instrumental to getting the slopes open as soon as possible. The goal of the operating staff is to enable the snowmaking team to create enough snow so every lift can be operational before Christmas and hopefully a significant number will be available by Thanksgiving.

You ask “what’s the difference between natural and man made snow? Can skiers and boarders tell the difference?” Great questions. Here are the answers.

Man made snow is made by snowmaking machines pumping water droplets at high speed through a condenser, rather than naturally falling from the sky. Natural snow has a complex crystalline structure whereas snow from snow machines is simply frozen fragments.

It’s good to ski on and most skiers can’t tell the difference between a groomed slope with machine snow and one that’s all natural, unless you compare it to fresh powder. Machine-made snow is denser and a tiny bit rougher to ski on and it packs down into ice faster.

Today, most ski runs are a combination of natural, weather-made and machine-made snow. Thus the actual ski run surface is blended together over time.

So what components go into making snow? Well, you need labor, water, compressed air or fans, electricity, cold temperatures, the proper humidity and a computer system. Electricity runs the fans, pumps and pressure jets. Computer systems constantly monitor humidity and temperature and adjust the pressure to maximize snow conditions. Labor provides the skilled workforce to manage the machines, keep them running, move them around the slopes and a small army of snow cats to groom the snow.

Cold Temperatures - 28°F or below. At this temperature, more snow can be produced and it is less at risk of melting as soon as it is made. On a warmer day, snowmaking machines can be set to make smaller droplets so more of them freeze. On a colder day they can be set to make larger droplets and more snow.

It can get too cold for snowmaking machines to operate. If the machine is running below -2°F and the water stops because of a power outage, the pipes can freeze, explode and destroy the expensive machines.

Humidity - snowmakers use the wet-bulb temperature (WBT) to determine if they can operate a machine. This is the temperature read by a thermometer covered in a water-soaked cloth plus moving air similar to what the water droplets experience when thrown from the snow gun. The lower the humidity the more snow produced per hour. The ideal humidity is less than



While most people are getting a good night’s rest, the Bear Valley snowmaking crew are out in the cold, monitoring the snow guns that are strategically located all over the slopes.

30%. The best weather for production is cold and dry.

Snow guns use compressed air or fans to fire water at very high speed into the air, thus splitting the liquid up into tiny particles that freeze, travel further into the air and eventually fall on the slopes below.

Natural snow develops when water vapor in clouds freezes and falls to the ground. Snowflakes are made up of hundreds of these frozen crystals that form around small specs of dirt in the air.

Snowflakes grow in complexity and size as they fall to the ground. Once it hits the ground, snow can take on many forms.

A major benefit of machine snow

is that it lasts longer and is more resistant to rain. It is fantastic for making a good base for natural snow to fall onto. It is also very good for ski competitions.

If it rains, machine snow is more likely to hold together for longer periods, but it gets slushier faster because of the inherent higher water content.

The entire management and staff at Bear Valley hope that your experience on the slopes is an enjoyable one.

The goal is to provide Bear Valley guests with a longer season and excellent snow coverage that this expanded snowmaking operation allows.



Major ski resorts have invested in snow making systems that help them get the slopes covered as early as possible to enable them to offer services to guests by the holiday season.



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Bear Valley Ski Patrol Team's Main Focus is Visitor Safety

One of the most important aspects of ski area management is the safety of skiers and snowboarders as they enjoy their time on the slopes.

At Bear Valley, this responsibility belongs to the Ski Patrol Director, Fred Ackerman and the team of volunteer and professional patrollers.

Ackerman together with Pat Kamman, the Assistant Director & Risk Manager, and Brian Kline, the Hill Coordinator, manage a highly trained group of around 50 National Ski Patrol volunteers and 20 paid staff.

avalanche science and rescue, explosive handling, rope rescue, and skiing in difficult snow with a heavy rescue toboggan.

The days run from 7:30 in the morning until 4:30 in the afternoon, but avalanche mitigation mornings often start before dawn and search and rescue efforts occasionally last through the night.

"Icy wind, sub-zero cold, driving snow or freezing rain, we'll still be out there loving it," declares Ackerman, "...mostly loving it."

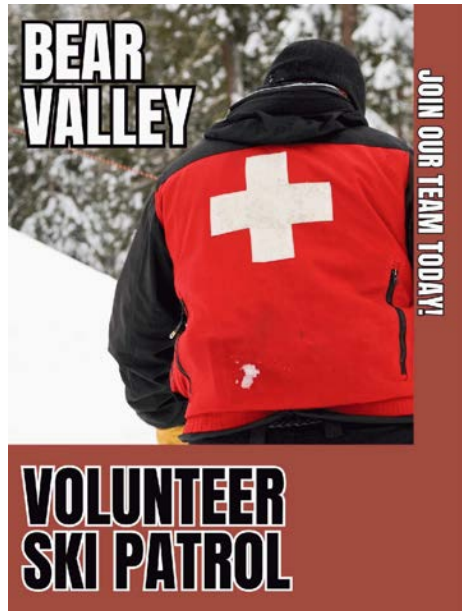
Still, the benefits are many. From being first on the mountain, watching an avalanche rip down Grizzly Bowl in the early morning light, or being the last to ski down after the lifts shut down, to the intimate knowledge gained about the terrain and where to find the best snow, and the tight-knit family of friends gained by working alongside one another in tough conditions and trying situations.

That's before mentioning the more tangible benefits like discounted gear, free season passes or simply skipping a long lift line and skiing until your legs burn.

Most people think of ski patrol as primarily existing to provide medical service, and while it's true many patrollers are drawn to that aspect



The Ski Patrol team is charged with keeping guests safe as they move about the slopes. Here a team member has tossed an explosive device that will help reduce avalanche risk.



Want to be a patroller? Well, the job requires commitment. It involves a substantial amount of training in topics from first aid to

of the job and all practice those skills frequently, prevention is really the goal.

Ackerman emphasizes, "Our patrollers take accident prevention very seriously and manage the snow, terrain and people with that always in mind. We want everyone to have tons of fun but get home safely at the end of the day."

"We currently have a small, young and enthusiastic professional squad and a large, seasoned and selfless

group of volunteers," says Ackerman, "but we're always looking to grow this little team of ours. We're proud of our accomplishments on both sides and constantly striving to grow our skills and improve the customer experience at this mountain we all love. It's all love at Bear Valley, baby!"

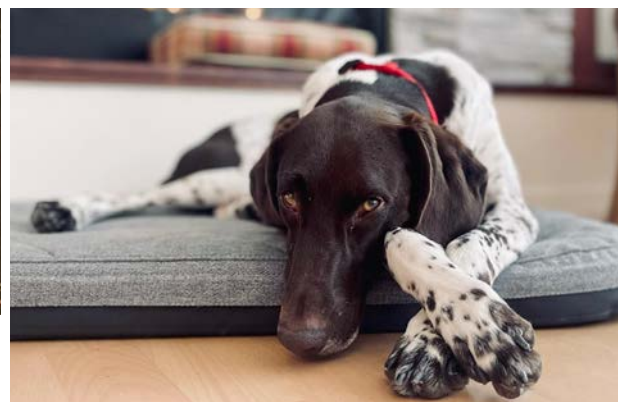
To join, you can contact the professional patrol at bvskipatrol@bearvalley.com or the volunteer patrol at bvnsip.info@farwest.org



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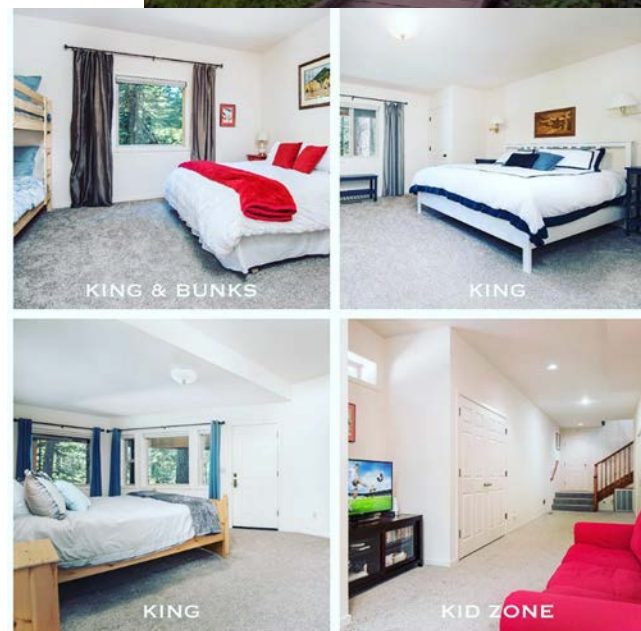


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Snowshoeing has gained popularity across the country as a wonderful way to exercise in the winter. You can try it by buying or renting a set of snowshoes from local merchants.

Come Work at Bear Valley for Good Jobs and Some Really Great Perks During Your Time Off

Are you ready to be part of a dynamic team where collaboration and camaraderie thrive?

At Bear Valley Mountain Resort, we believe in working together towards a shared goal, just like a synchronized ski team.

Working at Bear Valley Resort means embracing challenges and adapting to ever-changing conditions. It's an environment where you'll develop resilience, problem-solving skills, and a sense of accomplishment with each day.

Join our team and be part of an exhilarating atmosphere that fosters lifelong connections and shares a

profound love for the mountains.

Turn your passion into your profession and create memories that will last a lifetime! We value our team members and offer a variety of perks to enhance your experience at Bear Valley Mountain Resort.

Positions available include Lift Operators, Ski Shop Repair, Food Service, Bartenders, Ski Patrol, Night Janitors, Guest Services, Ski Race Coaches, Ski and Snowboard Instructors, Retail Sales, Snow Removal and more.

Apply at bearvalley.com/careers and Select the Apply Now Button. (209) 753-2301.

Not Into Skiing, Just Drop the Others Off and Go Snowshoeing

How do you get started? It's easy. As the saying goes, "If you can walk, you can snowshoe."

It's also inexpensive. You only need snowshoes, hiking boots, warm clothing, gloves, head gear and perhaps poles. That's it!

What started as a necessary means of travel thousands of years ago has evolved into a popular alternative winter activity for recreation and fitness. Why? Well, it's fun. That's why.

Snowshoeing offers participants a low-impact, aerobic exercise that helps you stay in shape during the winter. It's versatile. You can get an easy workout or be aggressive. Plus, your dog can follow along.

Trail etiquette is important. You will often be sharing the trail with cross-country skiers. Try to make your own trail whenever possible, staying out of the tracks these skiers have worked so hard to set. Skiers have the right-of-way on trail systems. This is obvious, since it's easier for you to step off the trail safely than it is for a cross country skier to stop or go around. Always be polite to the folks you meet along the trail.

Your stance should be wider than normal when you're on snowshoes in order to keep you from stepping on the insides of your frames.

Consequently, you may feel your hips and groin muscles ache after the first few times out. If possible, walk in the steps made by the person in front of you.

Always pay attention to your physical condition, the environment and your gear. Stick to established trails at first.

The local Sno-Park areas have cross-country ski trails that those snowshoeing can share. That way, you're never too far from others, and you're not likely to encounter avalanche hazards. Do not snowshoe alone.

Be aware of winter hazards like creek crossings, changes in weather along with tree or rock wells. If you plan to venture away from a patrolled ski area, be sure you and your companions are prepared.

Carry a topographic map of the area, a compass and possibly an altimeter or a GPS to help you navigate. Know how to use them. The winter backcountry is not the best place to learn. Before heading out, leave your trip plans with a responsible person and let them know whom to contact in case you don't return on time.

Know the signs of hypothermia. Stay hydrated. Drink water to keep your muscles functioning and helping your body fend off hypothermia.

Keep your water from freezing by using an insulating cover for your water bottle. A vacuum bottle with hot drinks will keep you hydrated and warm.

There are regional sporting good outlets that rent and sell snowshoes. They include Bear Valley Adventure Co., Ebbetts Pass Sports, and Sierra Nevada Adventure Co.

All will fit you with a pair that is appropriate for you. You don't need special shoes for snowshoeing, just waterproof hiking boots.

It's easy to learn to use snowshoes. Within five minutes you'll be having a good time. You're not going to be able to go as far as you can walk.

So if you are used to walking five miles on a hike during the summer, you are probably going to go about



Snowshoeing is an energetic sport and you should not venture out on your own alone.

two and a half miles in that same amount of time.

The size of snowshoes are dependent on how much a person weighs. The heavier a person is the larger snowshoes they'll need to keep them from sinking into the snow.

The sales staff at the store from which you bought or rented them will make sure you have the right ones for your height and weight.

New App Tailored to the Resort With a 3D Map

Explore the slopes like never before with the Bear Valley App, your exclusive guide to Bear Valley. The all-new app is your gateway to an unparalleled skiing experience.

Great detailed insights and features tailored to the resort and local skiers. Receive real time lift statuses, weather updates, and live views of the mountain to plan your perfect day.



Navigate effortlessly with comprehensive 3D maps, manage your ski passes, and track your downhill achievements all in one location. The Bear Valley App also fosters a vibrant skiing community, enhancing your social and immerse experiences on the slopes. Your mountain adventure starts here!

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Fixed Grip Quad Koala Chair Adds Access to Wide Variety of Runs

(continued from page 1)

“This was a big step forward for Bear Valley with the new fixed-grip quad Koala chair. The future is looking bright for Bear Valley. My lift maintenance crew has been working diligently to provide a new, fun experience for skiers and riders of all ages and skill levels, and we can’t wait to see the excitement on our guests’ faces this winter,” said Eric Bledsoe, Director of Lift Operations.



Bear Valley Mountain Resort features many chairlifts like this triple lift in action.

This lift will provide access to a wide variety of terrain, from beginner slopes to advanced runs, making it an essential part of the Bear Valley skiing experience. It will also play a key role in many of the resort’s ski races, including the world-re-

nowned World Pro Ski Tour.

This enhancement is part of a series of improvements under the new ownership of California Mountain Resorts Company, signaling a bright future for Bear Valley. With their commitment to elevating guest experiences, the 2024/25 winter season is set to be one of the best yet.

“The lift improvements for the 2024/25 winter at Bear Valley will have a dramatic effect on the overall mountain experience. The new Kuma beginner lift is more comfortable and adds 50% more capacity, the new Koala quad gives us a much more reliable lift in challenging weather and also adds 50% more capacity, and while Grizzly remains the same iconic lift serving world class bowl style terrain, the work we’ve done this summer on virtually every phase of it’s mechanics render it almost a new lift as well,” shared Tim Cohee, President of the California Mountain Resort Company.

First, the Koala double will be removed and replaced with a used fixed grip quad. Koala dates back to 1968 and the new machine is a 1992 Poma fixed grip quad recently removed from Taos, New Mexico.

For the second project, the Kuma triple will be shortened from its original length to become a beginner lift with the top station moving downhill.



The new fixed grip quad Koala chair comes from the Taos Ski Resort and is shown above from its previous location in New Mexico. It moves 2,400 people per hour up the slope.

Kuma hasn’t been needed in its current base-to-summit configuration since the parallel Mokelumne Express opened in 2017.

The existing Cub double will be retired. Finally, the Super Cub double will receive new chairs that will be easier for beginners to load. This entire lift shuffle is expected to be completed this summer and will reduce the mountain’s fleet of aging Riblet lifts from four to two. In addition to base area projects, Bear Valley also expects to complete significant summer grooming and lift repairs in Grizzly Bowl.

Bear Mountain: Chair 2 + Magic Carpet 1 + Magic Carpet 2

Bear Mountain, California, home of one of the first terrain parks, is rebuilding chair 2 to make it more beginner friendly and to make it

easier to access the beginner terrain. In addition, 7 & 14 (both magic carpets) are being realigned to make it easier to access from the base. Chair 2 is currently a triple and will remain as such.

Bear Valley is on a tear to renovate and replace its aging fleet of Riblet lifts. From replacing the Koala double to the new Koala fixed grip quad to open up Koala Top and some of the intermediate glades at that peak. Fun Fact, the quad came from Taos NM. In addition, the beginner triple will be shortened significantly to become the new Beginner Lift. They’re also installing new chairs on two other lifts as well.

Stay tuned for more updates, and get ready to make unforgettable memories on the slopes with us this winter!

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GENERAL STORE — All your essentials from wine, beer, light groceries and cooking supplies, to the latest Bear Valley logo items and outerwear.

GRIZZLY LOUNGE — A cozy spot offering seasonal cocktails, a variety of beers on tap and a menu of delicious dining options. A favorite among locals for enjoying great food and drink in a laid-back environment.

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Creekside Bistro - Bear Valley
209 753-2327 • BearValley.com



House of Pita - Murphys
209 813-7003 • TheHouseOfPita.com



Pickle Porch Café - Angels Camp
209 890-3650



Angels Creek Café - Angels Camp
209 736-2941



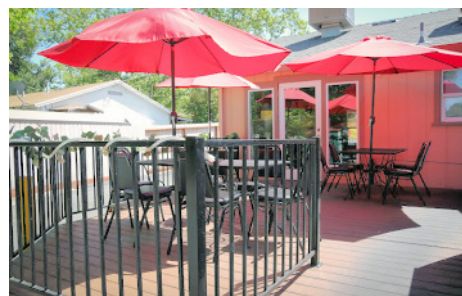
Cured Belly BBQ - Murphys
209 297-3427 • CuredBelly.com



La Hacienda - Angels Camp
209 736-6711 • LaHaciendaAngelsCamp.com



Pizza Factory - Arnolds
209 890-3401 • PizzaFactory.com/arnold/



Angels Mexican Kitchen - Angels Camp
209 813-7250



El Vaquero - Arnold
209 795-3303



Lemon Tree Bakery - Angels Camp
209 736-9511



Sierra House - Arnolds
209 813-7018 • SierraHouseOfArnold.com



Aria Bakery - Murphys
209 728-9250 • AriaBakeryCafe.com



Gabbys Mexican Cuisine - Murphys
209 813-7043 • GabbysCuisineMurphys.net



Lila and Sage Catering - Murphys
209 728-2604 • LilaandSage.com



Sky High Pizza & Pub - Bear Valley
209 753-2327 • BearValley.com



Arnold Chinese Restaurant - Arnold
209 795-6368 • ArnoldChineseToGo.com



Giant Burger - Arnold
209 795-1594 • GiantBurgerArnold.com



Mikes Pizza - Angels Camp
209 736-9246 • AngelsCampMikesPizza.com



Toscano's Restaurant - Murphys
209 728-8800



Bistro Espresso - Arnold
209 890-7849 • TheBistroEspresso.com



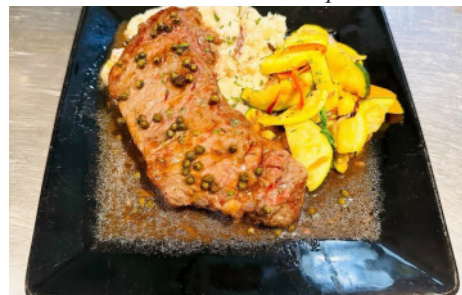
Gold Country Roasters - Murphys
209 202-3331 • GoldCountryRoasters.com



Murphys Hwy 4 Dinner - Murphys
209 728-9300



V Restaurant, Bistro & Bar - Murphys
209 728.0107 • VRestaurantBistroBar.com



Camps Restaurant - Angels Camp
209 729-8181 • GreenhornCreek.com



Gold Leaf Deli - Murphys
209 728-1251 • IronStoneVineyards.com



Murphys Pizza - Murphys
209 728-8666 • MurphysPizzaCo.com



Doke Sushi - Murphys
209 890-3963



Cascabel Restaurant - Angels Camp
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The Watering Hole - Murphys
209 890-7146 • MurphysWateringHole.com



Kalamata Mediterranean Cuisine - Arnold
209 813-7060 • KalamataArnold.com

Calaveras County Sheriff's Team for Search and Rescue

Mission Statement
"To aid the lost, injured, and imperiled"

The Calaveras County Search and Rescue (CCSAR) Team was unofficially formed by groups of volunteers throughout the county in the 1970s. Beginning in the 1980s the team was incorporated into the Calaveras County Sheriff's Office.

Since then, the CCSAR team members have donated thousands of service hours participating in Search and Rescue Operations.



Searching for missing people is the primary responsibility of the SAR team members.

They have provided aid to persons injured or lost in the Calaveras County wilderness as well as mutual aid to the other 57 counties in California under the direction of the California Office of Emergency Services (OES).

Team members are trained in various search and rescue disciplines including: orienteering, tracking, wilderness/winter survival, first aid/CPR, swift water, high/low angle rescue, helicopter safety, search techniques and search management.

These skills facilitate their ability to respond to a variety of urban and wilderness emergencies.

They train constantly, as these skills perish with time. They earn nothing, expect nothing, and are grateful for searches that end well, although they know that does not always happen.

Each team member is responsible for providing all of their personal equipment to be mission-ready. The cost of hiking apparel, boots, backpacks, sleeping systems, food, etc., is all donated by each member, typically costing \$2,500 each.

In addition to SAR missions and monthly training, members also donate hundreds of service hours to other non-profit organizations in the area and sponsor events to promote safety in the outdoors.

Information on Joining the Team

The Search and Rescue Mountaineering Team is always looking for volunteers with a love of the outdoors and a passion for giving back to their community.

Caution, this is a major commit-



Several members of the Search and Rescue team have prepared a patient for transport down the mountain to an awaiting ambulance. Consider joining them as a volunteer.

ment! Members are required to participate, to hone skills, keep those skills on the cutting edge, commit to regular trainings, be ready to mentor new recruits, walk out the door on a moment's notice to search for someone.

This is 100% commitment to the folks in the community. Members will be on call 24/7/365. They won't get paid a cent and must love this work. The men and women of this group are the elite. They become friends for life. **They are a TEAM.**

As a volunteer-run organization, the Calaveras County Search and Rescue (CCSAR) team is always recruiting for new members! There is always a need for a variety of skill sets. You just have to be committed to the CCSAR team mission.

If you have something to give, great, they need you! Just apply. Download and fill out the document, "Volunteer Application" at calaverassar.org/volunteer. Follow their directions from that point.

Help them save lives! Make a donation today. With your contributions they can improve training and upgrade equipment, as they strive to maintain the highest level of preparedness for every rescue emergency that they encounter.

Sometimes it is just the slightest edge in the field that makes the life saving difference. We want that edge. Make a donation online at calaverassar.org/donations. All donations are tax deductible.

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Earn the Burn at Bear Valley, With Short Lift Lines and Great Terrain

(continued from page 1)

While the mountain is well known to Central Valley riders, Bay area and Central Coast skiers and riders should note that it is just a four hour drive from the Bay area and just two hours from Stockton.

Let's talk about the mountain. It has many features, including:

Terrain: 1,680 acres of skiable terrain with over 75 trails, including beginner, intermediate, advanced, and expert runs



An excellent lift system moves skiers and riders up the slopes at Bear Valley Resort.

Lifts: Nine lifts, including high-speed quads, high-speed sixes, double chairs, triple chairs, and surface lifts to get you around the mountain.

Snowmaking: 100 acres of snowmaking to supplement the annual snowfall of around 355 inches.

Terrain parks: Two terrain parks with features for all levels and all

ages of skier and riders.

Cross-country skiing: Over 3,000 acres of Nordic trails for those that enjoy something different, like snowshoeing, track, and skate skiing.

Snowcat tours: Adventure into the untracked powder with an exciting snowcat tour.

Racing history: Bear Valley is one of two resorts in California that operates a NASTAR course almost every weekend during the winter.

Family-friendly: The resort caters to families with atmosphere, prices, and services, including a magic carpet ride to the bunny hill.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is finding the energy to keep going all day. To fuel that energy, Bear Valley has a great cafeteria at the resort that cater to every hungry appetite.

After a day on the slopes hangout at the Creekside Bistro, Sky Line Pizza or the Grizzly Lounge to partake delicious items from pizza to fine dining..

You can stay nearby to get a jump on the day when the lifts open at 9 a.m. The Bear Valley Lodge offers you overnight accommodation. There are also a wide variety of other chalets, inns, motels and resorts with lodging opportunities.

Now that you know the answer to "Why ski Bear Valley?" you have no excuse for not planning a trip in the near future.



Bear Valley Resort is a wonderful winter wonderland for skiers and riders. There is terrain for participants of all levels. Take time off to fuel up with delicious food and beverages.

Brad Cumberland Will Serve as Bear Valley's New General Manager

(continued from page 1)

As Bear Valley's new General Manager, Cumberland shares his vision: "Our goal is to create lasting memories where every guest feels like a valued part of our mountain family. This starts with nurturing a culture of adventure, respect, and passion. We want to create a place where guests and staff alike feel connected to something truly special here at Bear Valley. By embracing the rich history of the area and acknowledging the contributions of locals who have called it home for generations, we aim to create a space that feels inclusive and welcoming to all. Our leadership team and dedicated staff are focused on adapting to the changing needs of our guests, ensuring that both locals and visi-

tors can experience the vibrant and inviting atmosphere that makes Bear Valley a place people can deeply connect with."

Brad Cumberland assumed his new role on October 23.



Brad Cumberland has been named as the new General Manager at Bear Valley Resort.



Your Adventure Is Our Inspiration

Cross country skiers and snowshoers can enjoy our extensive trail system with over 40 miles of groomed paths extending over 3,000 acres. Take advantage of 38 carefully maintained trails and enjoy our four scenic warming huts throughout the trail system. Snow tubing and sledding hills provide fun for the whole family, and everyone is welcome to venture out to our snowbound Reba's Meadow Cafe for a tasty meal or beverage on a sunny deck.



- Ski, Snowshoe, Sled/Tubing Rentals • Sledding/Tubing Hills
- Ski School for All Ages • Special Events/Races
- Well Stocked Store • 24/7 gas station

Snowshoeing has gained in popularity with modern lightweight and user-friendly equipment. Cross country ski trails for snowshoers contributes to this fun winter adventure. We sell and rent snowshoes in a variety of sizes. No special shoes necessary. Snowshoeing is definitely fun for everyone!

1 Bear Valley Rd., Bear Valley, CA 95223 • (209) 753-2834

www.BVAdventures.com

All guided ski, bike, hike and kayak programs are operated under Special Use Permit, Stanislaus National Forest.



How to Winter Proof Your Dog for Outdoor Adventures

If you have a furry friend or two, chances are you like taking them wherever you go. This is especially true with those who enjoy general snow play, cross country skiing or snowshoe hikes.

Outdoor dogs are not picky about where you take them. Getting to romp through the snow somehow seems like they're living their best lives. But cold temperatures and snowy conditions introduce new concerns for your canine. So, it's wise to take precautions during your winter outings together.

Dr. Bill Rosolowsky, a retired veterinarian, knows a lot about canine care. For 33 years he worked in the field. Here he shares tips to help you make sure your dog's prepared for winter days.

First, assess your dog's overall health. Paw care is indeed a key concern, but the paws are connected to the rest of the dog. So, first consider whether your dog is healthy enough for a winter adventure.

In general, "arctic" breeds, such as huskies, Samoyeds and malamutes, do well in winter. They have a thick fur, an undercoat cover, thick fat deposits under their paw pads and robust circulatory systems. Other breeds have these characteristics, but to a lesser degree.

If your dog is out in the snow and the outer coat collects only snow, but not any ice, it's a sign that it's reasonably well adapted to winter. If you see a lot of ice forming, that's a sign that you need to take extra precautions to keep your dog warm.

Because ice and cold can be especially hard on paws, you do want to pay special attention to them. Inspect your dog's pads, just as you would before a summer hike. Examine the paw pads closely to en-

sure there are no injuries that your planned outing might aggravate.

Try winter dog booties. You can find dog winter boots, too, that are fleece lined for warmth. If you get a pair, make sure they fit properly. Take time to acclimate your dog to wearing them. It's also important to recheck and readjust the fit after 15 minutes or so of wear.

Break in new booties by working them with your hands first. Then put them on your dog so it can move



A dog's paws are in need of protection when spending a lot of time on the snow.

incrementally from having them on briefly, to short sessions in the house, to walks of increasing distances.

Use dog paw wax: Sled-dog owners will tell you that a great way to prevent ice balls from forming on dog paws is to prevent snow from adhering to them in the first place.

Once snow accumulates, the dog's body heat can melt and then refreeze it into clumps of ice. Rubbing your dog's paws with some type of "musher's wax" helps keep snow from sticking to its paws in the first place. These paw waxes are also formulated to be nontoxic should a dog lick the wax off.

Should you trim paw hair? If your dog breed is well adapted to snow and cold, then there's no need to trim paw hair because ice buildup is less of an issue.

Waxing, though, is still wise. If your dog is prone to ice accumula-



It is fantastic to share all types of adventures with your furry friends year around in a variety of outdoor recreational activities. Just make sure they are ready for the activity.

tion on its fur, then trimming paw hair is prudent—and then waxing is a must because having snow collect on the stubble can lead to ice accumulation close to the skin.

Trim your dog's nails: It's always wise to keep your dog's nails neatly trimmed: A broken nail can sometimes bleed, a complication you don't want in winter (or summer).

In addition, long nails can splay toes farther apart when a dog walks, which open up tender spaces between



Periodically check your pet's paws for ice or frost. This helps protect them in the winter.

toes to snow and ice accumulation.

A dog's body prioritizes core warmth over extremity warmth, so steps that maintain a healthy level of overall warmth will also aid the paws' cause. Not surprisingly, the same things you do to keep yourself warm on winter outings will also

help your dog

Dress your dog warmly. Your dog's fur and undercoat serve as a nice base layer. If the temperature is sufficiently cold, consider adding a sweater as an outer layer.

Feed your dog high-calorie food: Dogs metabolize food to stay warm, so they need to ingest more calories and carbohydrates in winter. Make sure that any new food is tested out at home to be sure your dog tolerates it well.

Give your dog extra water: Cold air is dry air and a dog's panting expels water with each breath. So be sure to give your canine companion plenty of water on your excursions. Lukewarm water works better, too, because your dog doesn't need to expend calories to warm it up.

Keep your dog moving and out of the wind during breaks. Activity generates heat, so a moving dog is generally a warmer dog.

Watch for signs of hypothermia in dogs. Listlessness, curling up, reluctance to move and shivering are all signs that your dog is struggling.

When you see these, it's time to head back to a warm place. Small dogs are more susceptible to the effects of cold, so you should carry your dog back to warmth if they are small enough to do so.

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The Early Days as Bear Valley Transitioned Through the Years

(continued from page 1)

He brought progressive thinking, impeccable business sense, and mechanical expertise.

But, Bruce made a decision he regretted, making the village development company, separate the ski hill.

Bruce spent a lot of time here, and his kids grew up in the new town. Maury and his sons, Dennis and Clayton, all had homes here.



Original advertising and front panel for the Bear Valley Trail Map, early on in 1968.

From the start of the ski area in 1967 through the 1970's, sheer demographics and the novelty of skiing guaranteed a profit. Just open the ticket window and turn on the lifts. You got a 10% or greater increase in skier days every year.

But, there were problems on the development side in town. Lot leases were not turning into sales.

Then Maury died. Dennis took over. Town development floundered. The Mountain lost traction. As his son Clayton said, "Things would have been different if Maury were still around".

Baby Boomers peaked in 1983. More ski areas started competing for each other's customers. A race began for better lifts and more amenities.

The Mountain tried to correct Bruce's mistake and bought the Lodge, putting the resort under one management. It didn't work. Lack of capital caught up with them. Thus began the Second Age, the Age of Bottomley. Jim Bottomley was a most successful seller of beer. His sons Tim and Eric grew up skiing in Bear Valley. Jim bought the ski area, but wanted no part of the town.

Jim was a bighearted man, who worked his way up from poverty to great success. He charged into the new ski business with confidence.

Within a year, he stopped coming to most meetings. He was bedeviled by rules. He had to genuflect to the Forest Service, the County, Cal Trans.

He retreated and left the running of the ski area to Tim and Eric. No experienced ski area management was brought in, while the numbers of skiers went down. The area retained a local flavor. They made improvements on the hill, with snow-making and a couple better lifts. The Day Lodge was expanded. But the financial picture didn't improve.

Meanwhile down in the village, the picture was changing. The Old Guard, middle class homeowners from Stockton, were being replaced by upper class Silicon Valleyites with more money. Employees moved to Arnold as housing in town shrank.

The occupancy rate in town went down, as richer owners didn't come up to their Bear Valley homes until Music Festival.

Thus began the Third Age, the Age of Dundee. They bought out the Bottomleys. Dundee was a Canadian development company which backed into the ski business while trying to do real estate.

They were a little better than absentee owners, with two of their managers spending most of their time here.

Their tenure was short. The realities of demographics, maintenance of an aging ski area, difficulty of getting real estate development going, had them looking for the exit.

The Bear Valley Mountain Co-op formed and tried to buy them out, but fell a little short financially. They were still trying when Dundee found a buyer with more horsepower.

Thus began the Fourth Age, the Age of Skyline. Skyline was a bigger Canadian development company with several resorts in their portfolio. They said all the right things when they introduced themselves to the community. Hopes were high.

Then Skyline's true nature came out. They are a bottom line company, run by bean counters in Toronto. After a short honeymoon with the village, they tried to grab the Co-op's funds and became unfriendly.

They got over that and reverted to an attitude of benign neglect. They sent down a young middle manager who excelled in flakspeak but fell short on administration, hampered by a short leash from Toronto and a meager budget.

He left after a year or so, and we never saw another Dundee executive in town again – well, maybe a couple short visits.

It became clear that Bear Valley wasn't the favored item in their portfolio. The General Store was pared down to a convenience store.



Actors at BV in the 70's. Top left Bill Shatner, Merv Griffin, Clint Eastwood, James Drury, and James Brolin. Bottom left Tony Brill, Peter Brinkman, Doug McClure, Lloyd Bridges, and Joe Canon.

The Creekside restaurant was often closed to the public in favor of group bookings.

The pizza parlor had a disaster which shut it down. It stayed closed for the whole ski season as Skyline dickered with the insurance company over reimbursement. Employees got harder to find, and the Mountain ran short occasionally.

Thus begins the Fifth Age, the Age of Managers. Kapuscinski and Cohee negotiated for months with Skyline, who began with an inflated

idea of the value of their Bear Valley holdings.

With the prospect of another killer winter looming, Skyline finally did the right thing and sold.

There is more reason for hope this time, although we could be excused for being gun shy after the disappointments of previous Ages.

Tim and Karl are proven ski industry experts, with good reviews from their other areas like Dodge Ridge and China Peak.

All hail our new Managers!



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Younger Guests Can Learn to Ski or Ride With the Cub Club Instructors

The Bear Valley Cub Club is for guests from 4–12 years old. Here youngsters can learn to ski or ride with the option of a Full Day or Half Day session.

The program provides the kids with lessons, rental equipment, and a lift ticket. Each lesson is grouped up by age and ability level.



Bear Valley Cub Club is a program for youngsters that want to learn to ski or ride.

Full day Cub Club lesson

Participants check in at 9:00 am, with the lesson start time at 10:00 am sharp. The afternoon session begins at 12:30 pm and ends at 2:45 pm.

Please note this program does not include a supervised lunch break. Students need to be picked up at 11:30 am and returned to the Learning Area at 12:30 pm to begin their progressive afternoon session.

PM Half Day Cub Club Lesson

Group lesson setting for skiers/snowboarders 4-12 years, suitable for first-timers through advanced ability. Lesson begins 1:00 pm daily, with pick-up at 2:45 pm. Lesson

only - does not include rental equipment or lift ticket.

Lesson Age Groups

Ages 4-5 • Age 6-8 • Age 9-12

Lesson ability description

First Time / Level 1: we will focus on getting used to our equipment; learning to control speed and STOP; introduction to the magic carpet. This is the most important lesson in the progression, and sometimes it takes more than one session to master. Once we can stop, there is no stopping us ;)

Beginner / Level 2: now it's time to turn! Focus on turning comfortably in both directions with speed control; introduction to green terrain accessible by chairlift

Int/Adv / Level 3+: we can ride the chairlift and turn comfortably on green terrain, so now it's time



to move on. Here we are refining our technique and creating healthy habits through solid fundamentals. Exploring blue terrain and beyond, in a supportive environment to keep us progressing.



The team members of the Sierra Nevada Adventure Company

Sierra Nevada Adventure Company

Sierra Nevada Adventure Co. is a one-stop sports shop for all the things you may need to enjoy winter recreation on the Hwy 4 corridor.

Referred to as SNAC by customers, they have provided service for 28 years in selling them quality outdoor equipment at affordable prices.

SNAC is conveniently located on Hwy 4 as you enter the town of Arnold, across from Meadowmont Shopping Center. You'll find a spacious and well-merchandise retail environment, with plenty of parking and a friendly and knowledgeable staff.

A wide selection of winter clothing, footwear and accessories for all the members of your family is always on hand. These include Parkas, Pants, Bibs, Snow Boots, Helmets, Goggles and Gloves for Men, Women & Kids (even the smallest kids)!

SNAC also sells or rents a great selection of downhill skis, snowboards, cross country skis, snowshoes and snow play gear, as well

as local Sno-Park passes.

Already have own gear? SNAC can mount, tune, repair or wax skis or boards, quickly and efficiently.

Not a big snow enthusiast? Visit the downtown Murphys store, across from the Historic Murphys Hotel. You'll find a beautiful selection of men's and women's casual lifestyle clothing and footwear.

You are always invited to come meet the expert staff, available seven days a week to help you get outfitted for your snow adventures!



Sierra Nevada Adventure Company owners Shawn and Jill during a recent canoe trip.



WAKE UP AT THE LODGE.

Nestled in the historic village, The Bear Valley Lodge offers a perfect blend of rustic charm and modern comfort. Relax in our grand, wood-paneled lounge, the heart of the lodge, where modern lighting meets the warmth of a rustic open fire.

Enjoy on-site restaurants, a cozy coffee shop, and a general store, all designed to enhance your stay.

BOOK AT BEARVALLEY.COM/LODGING ...OR CALL (209) 753-2327 X100.

Stay midweek, non-holiday, for up to 39% Off. Call for details.

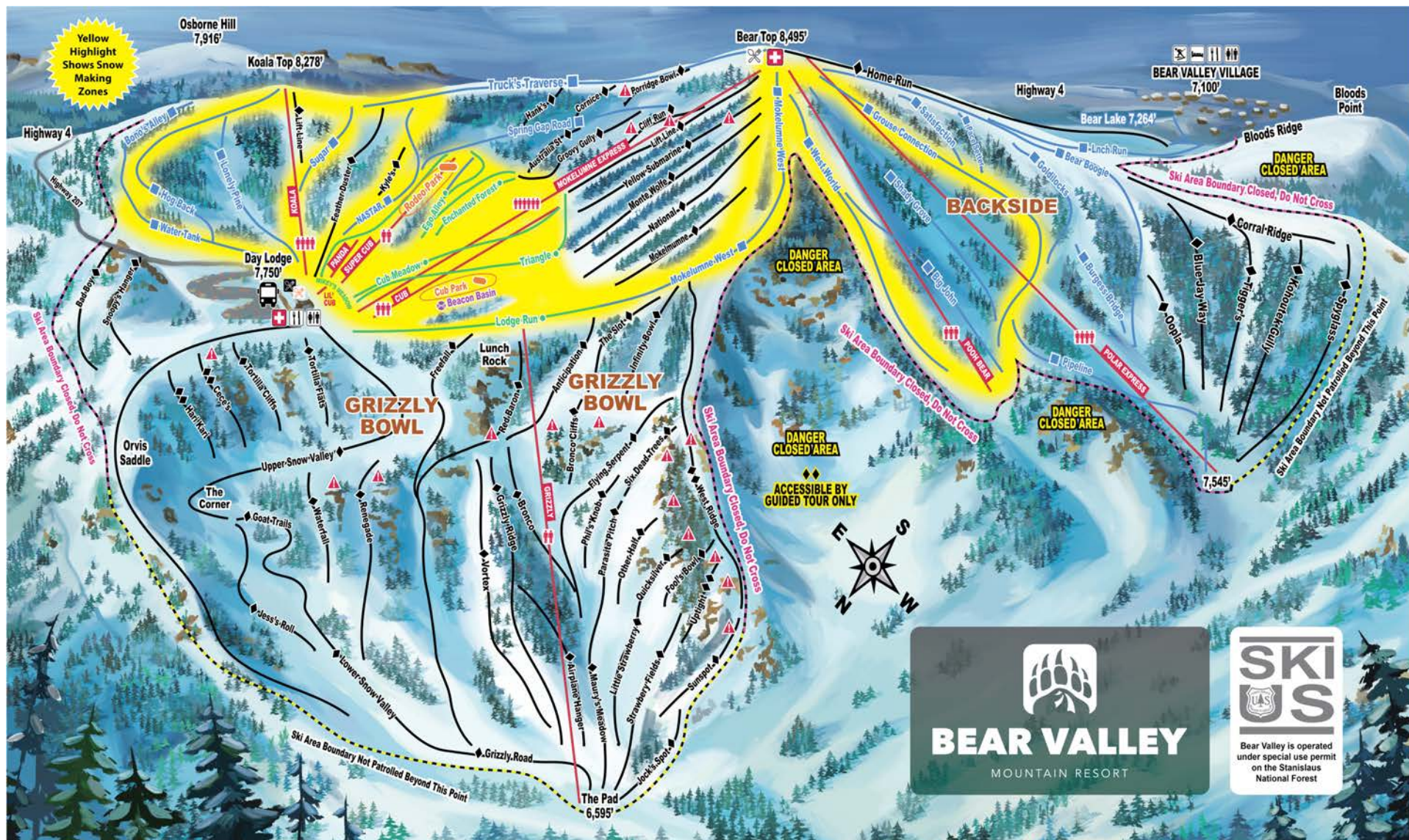
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BEAR VALLEY
MOUNTAIN RESORT



BEAR VALLEY TIMES

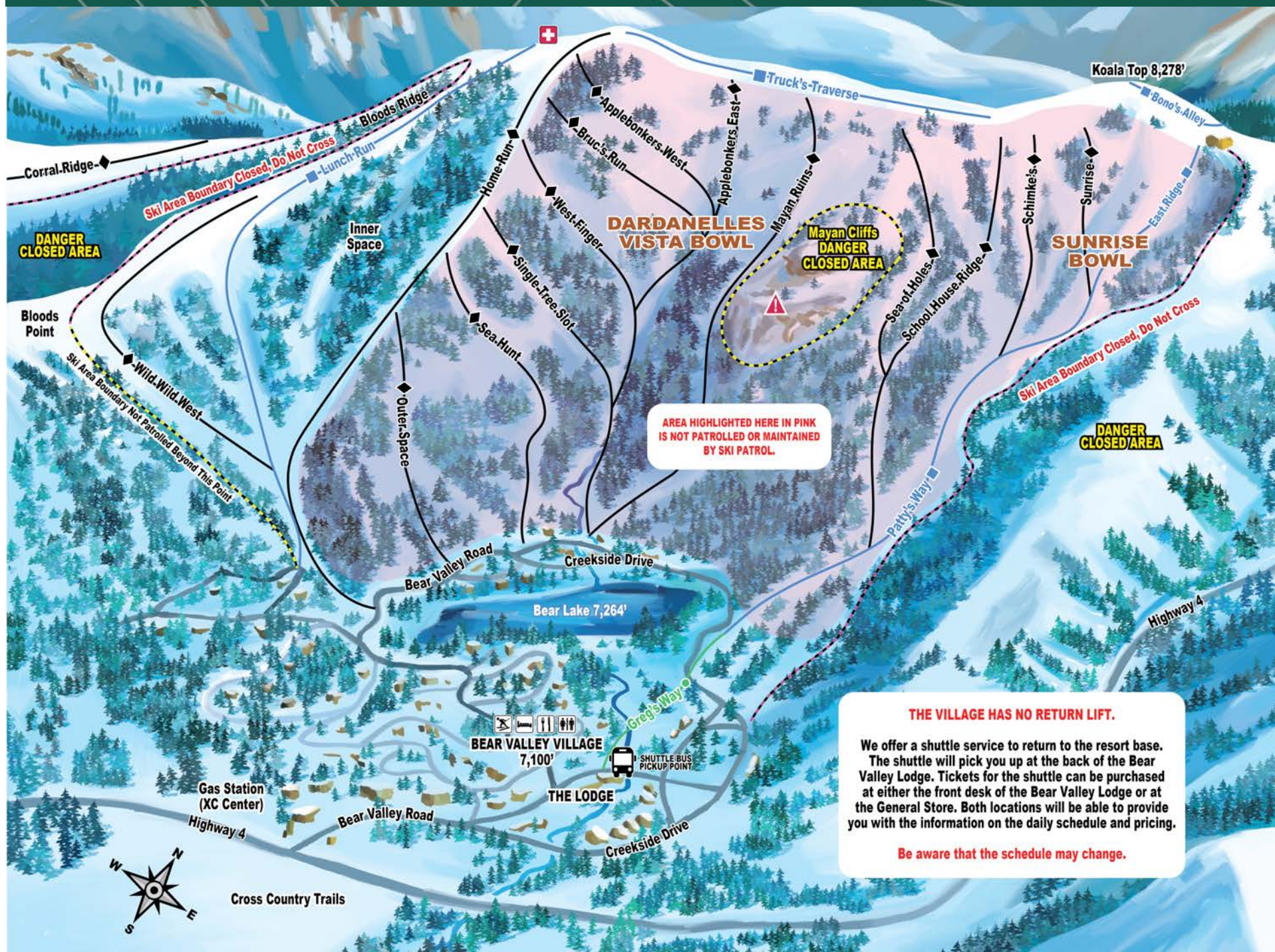


LIFT INFORMATION

LIFT	TERRAIN RATING	VERTICAL RISE
Koala Chair	◆	500 ft.
Panda Carpet	●	15 ft.
Lil' Cub Carpet	●	3 ft.
Super Cub Chair	●◆	253 ft.
Cub Chair	●	204 ft.
Mokelumne Express	◆◆◆	800 ft.
Grizzly Chair	◆◆◆	1,267 ft.
Pooh Bear Chair	◆◆	745 ft.
Polar Express Chair	◆◆	953 ft.

MAP LEGEND

- LIFT
- FREESTYLE TERRAIN
- TRANSCIVER TRAINING PARK
- SNOW MAKING ZONE
- EASIEST (beginner)
- ◆ MORE DIFFICULT (intermediate)
- ◆◆ MOST DIFFICULT (advanced)
- ◆◆◆ EXTREME (expert only)
- ▲ CLIFF AREA (use extra caution)
- ⊕ SKI PATROL / FIRST AID
- 🚌 SHUTTLE BUS
- 🏠 CROSS COUNTRY TRAILS
- 🍽️ RESTAURANT
- 🚻 RESTROOMS
- 🏠 LODGING



New Snow Cats Provide Ability to Groom More Efficiently

Each night, after most employees have left the mountain, Evan Rodegard, Snow Surfaces Manager, and his crew load into their snow cats, and begin knocking down moguls and smoothing roughed up snow.

Their goal is to transform the mountain by morning, replacing "used" snow with smooth pristine corduroy on runs designated as "groomed," so guests can have the best possible skiing and riding experience every day.

"Grooming is all about the last six inches of snow surface, what it looks like and feels like, first thing in the morning," explains Charles Blier, the Vice-President of Sales for Prinoth's North America. Prinoth has been a leader in snow cat development since 1923.

Snow cats are large tractors, equipped with blades on the front and tillers on the back. With each pass over the snow, the front blade mows down moguls, churns up crud, and grinds the snow, while the rear tiller erases the snow cat tracks, smoothing everything out and leaving a white carpet of lightly lined snow, that looks like corduroy fabric (hence, the name)."

Grooming is recognized as an art. Groomers are trained to prepare the slopes to allow for the best skiing experience, which actually makes skiing and riding safer.

In addition to laying down perfect corduroy, snow cats are also used to build freestyle terrain parks as well as race course preparation, which need to be frozen and fast.



The second new piece of equipment at Bear Valley is the Prinoth Leitwold snow cat is perfect for parks. It features a huge custom designed X Blade for precise cutting, and has a powerful engine.



One of the two new snow cats, a Prinoth Bison equipped with a winch, is seen in action grooming a steep slope to provide a smooth, pristine corduroy surface for the skiers and riders soon to come.

The process starts at the beginning of the season with snowmaking. Then, through a process of tilling, grooming and reblading, groomers homogenize the snow into a solid, hard race surface.

Winch cats are used for grooming steep pitches. A winch cat is a snow cat mounted with a cable that extends from the cat to anchors on the ski run.

The cable holds the weight of the snow cat as it travels down the hill. When the cat gets to the bottom of the pitch it turns around and the cable helps pull it back up the hill.

A winch cat operator spends the night working alone, communicating with other groomers to help them avoid the cable.

Snow grooming takes a lot of skill. Novice drivers basically begin


as apprentices, working with experienced operators and taking turns controlling the groomer until they are ready for their own machine. Like every job, there are tradeoffs and rewards.

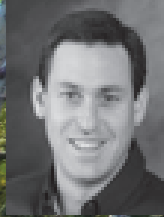
Operators also have to stay alert while working through the night and to accept responsibility for safety, both for themselves, fellow groomers and other employees out on the mountain.

They are also responsible for providing the best snow possible, every day of the ski season.


As for the rewards, here are three: Groomers get to drive a big, fascinating machine. They know that skiers and snowboarders appreciate and enjoy their work. And, since they work all night, they've got at least some time each day to ski.

Representing 90% of all sales in the Bear Valley area







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Broker Assoc.
DRE 01364875



Pamela Barnett
Agent
DRE 01762943




Eric Jung
Broker
DRE 00874663



Jeff Gouveia
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Aloria Vineyards Tasting
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Black Sheep Wineries
221 Main St, Murphys



Bodega del Sur Winery
457 S. Algiers St., Murphys



Boyle MacDonald Wines
448B Main St, Murphys



Brice Station Vineyards
3353 CA-4, Murphys



Broll Mountain Vineyards
454 Main St, Murphys



Four Winds Cellars
219 Main St, Murphys



Frog's Tooth Winery
380 Main St Suite 5, Murphys



Gossamer Cellars
380 Main St Suite 5, Murphys



Hatcher Winery
425 Main St., Murphys



Hinter Haus Distilling
925 CA-4 S2, Arnold



Hovey Winery
350 Main St A, Murphys

If you enjoy a glass of fine wine relaxing with friends and family then you are going to love exploring the many wineries scattered throughout Calaveras County.

Perhaps you're looking for a romantic getaway featuring lots of exciting things to do, again Calaveras County is the place to go

The Calaveras Winegrape Alliance invites you to discover the tremendous variety of premium hand-crafted wines and unique varietals that are available to you.

Most of these wines are made in small batches. They are created by family run operations dedicated to sustainability and organic practices.

Calaveras is a perfect growing region for hearty Spanish and Italian varietals like Barbera, Tempranillo, Mourvedre, Nebbiolo, Grenache, Graciano, Toringa, Albarino, Marsanne, Verdelho and Symphony as well as old vine Zinfandels, hearty and robust Cabernet and Petite Sirah.

Calaveras wine country is unique and ranges from modern wine-bars, large estates with vineyard views, to century-old buildings that house modern wine facilities. There's something for everyone!



Indian Rock Vineyards
1154 Pennsylvania Gulch Rd, Murphys



Ironstone Vineyards
1894 6 Mile Rd, Murphys



Jazz Cellars
380 Main St #3, Murphys



Jordan Oaks Vineyard
4853 CA-4, Angels Camp



La Folia Winery
263A Main St, Murphys



Lavender Ridge Vineyard
425 Main St # A, Murphys



Locke Vineyards
949 Green Meadow Ct, Murphys



Milliaire Winery
276 Main St, Murphys



Renegade Winery
8345 Main St, Mokelumne Hill



Stevenot Winery & Tasting Room
2849 Batten Rd, Vallecito



Tanner Vineyards
435 Main St, Murphys



Twister Oak Winery
4280 Red Hill Rd, Vallecito



Valduvino Winery
634 French Gulch Rd, Murphys



Villa Vallecito
263 Main St Suite C, Murphys



Vina Moda Winery
147 Main St, Murphys



Many long hours, under less than ideal conditions, are logged by both the dedicated Caltrans and CHP members. Keep them safe. Slow down in winter's snowy conditions.

Thanks to Caltrans' 10 Crew Travelers Stay Safe on Hwy 4

A new day, a new shift. The crew gathers and grabs supplies for the day: a thermos of hot coffee, breakfast burritos, jerky for a quick snack later, dry gloves and any essentials that might make the outdoor, chilly shift more comfortable.

This is no 8-5 shift, in fact this is no eight-hour shift; the days are long and cold, and the nights are even colder.

Weekends don't exist and neither do holidays. Mother Nature dictates when this crew gets to take a well-deserved break and some years she is more generous than others.

An important group in the Caltrans Crew 10 are responsible for Highway 4 and Highway 49.

Their job is really critical in the winter months. The crew covers over 50 lane miles on State Route 4 between Angels Camp and Bear Valley. The crew members can easily tell you where each large boulder, sharp turn and roadway oddity is. For many on this crew, this familiar stretch of road is home.



Please slow down on the winter highway and make sure the Caltrans crew stays safe.

The surrounding communities of Angels Camp, Murphys and Arnold rely on this crew. Without them, wintertime tourism would be difficult, routes to school would be inoperable and those who travel to the Central Valley for appointments, work and errands would be unable to complete their to-do list.

The crew consists of at least 12 crew members (re-enforcements are brought in from other areas as need-

ed) that split the 12 to 15-hour shifts.

During these shifts, crew members can be found manning six plow trucks, two blowers, and two graders. Frequently the seat of the equipment never has a chance to get cold, because as soon as one person exits the vehicle another crew member enters, and work continues.

As locals and visiting tourists lay in warm beds, half of the crew is using dump trucks, loaders and blowers to remove the fresh snow from local parking lots. It is trucked to the outer edges of town making room for those who will be hitting to road to reach their favorite outdoor winter sports destination.

The other half of the crew can be found sanding roadways and clearing out local snow parks for visitors who will be coming up for the day.

As the sun rises and crowds descend upon the area, the crew will spend a portion of their day partnering with California Highway Patrol to enforce chain control at varying locations.

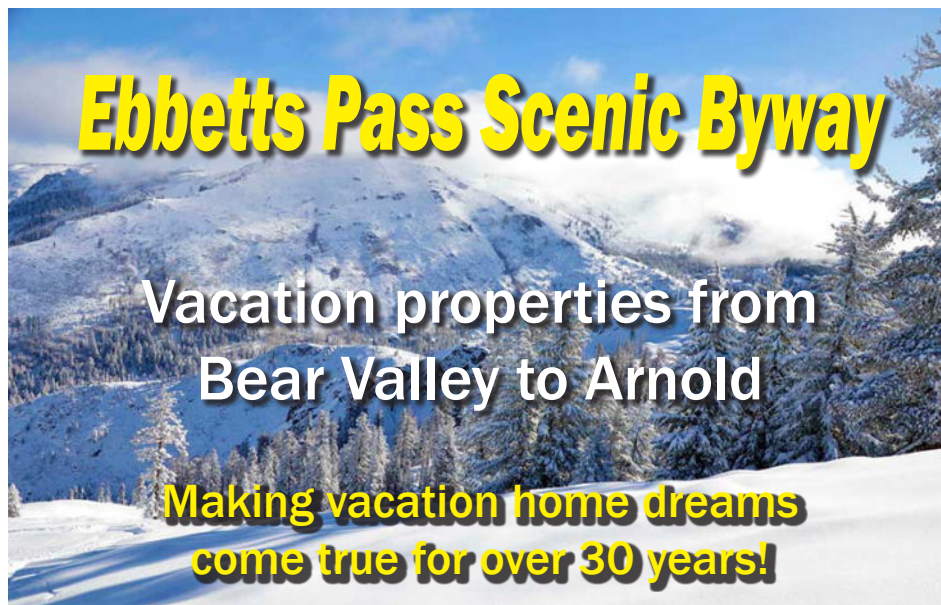
Those not working the chain control areas are out using a road grader to peel the snow pack and ice off the road and the blowers to get the snow off the road to give a safer and wider travel space for motorists.

Days prior, the crew went into Storm Protocol, the process of planning and executing last-minute repairs, culvert cleaning, weather monitoring, pothole filling, and preparations for any environmentally sensitive areas that are susceptible to flash floods or rock slides.

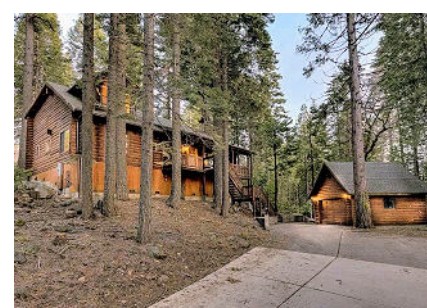
The crew carefully times when the storm might hit and just how much time they can spend at home with families before Mother Nature calls them to work.

So, when plan to take a drive up Highway 4 to the Ebbetts Pass region for a leisurely weekend, don't forget to show your appreciation to the crew.

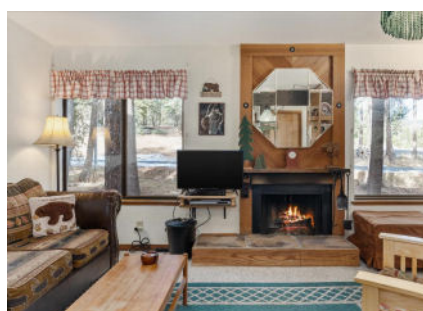
The best way to acknowledge their hard work is to give them plenty of time and space to do their work and remember #DontCrowdThePlow!



2060 Baywood View, Arnold. Blue Lake Springs area, backs up to national forest. 3 bedroom 2 bath plus a loft. sits on 1.25 Acres 202401467 \$499,900



1618 shoshone drive, camp connell. Exquisite log cabin. High quality throughout. Secluded .6 acres with many large evergreen trees. 202400065 \$849,900



74 Bear Valley Road, Bear Valley. fully furnished super clean Condo. This low maintenance one bedroom unit has a wood burning fireplace and large windows for enjoying the trees and views outside. steps to the slopes! 202401969 \$200,000



44 Campell lane, camp connell. Get-away cabin, close to Bear Valley, Big Trees State Park, the river, and all the outdoor activities you can enjoy. The Cabin included two extra parcels for privacy or possible extra units 202400724 \$284,900



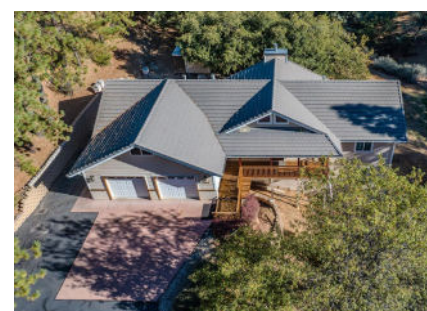
1470 Pebble Beach, Arnold Impressive 1768 square foot cabin located in Blue Lake Springs. This beautiful cabin features cathedral pine ceilings and many windows. 4 bedrooms and a bonus room. 202401510 \$475,000



836 Moran Road, Arnold. Sitting on 7.65 private acres you will find this picture perfect home Built in 1934, this sprawling, 2,994-sq. ft., 4-bdrm, 2-bath, With amazing local history. Apple Orchard, gardens, out buildings. 202401640 \$849,000



2802 Pine Drive, Arnold, Grand, spacious, and quality construction are just a few ways to describe this beautiful custom home. Large 1700+ sq ft structure has room to park up to four+ cars, boats, or recreational toys. It also includes a sizable workshop for hobbyists, lined with cabinetry and featuring a bath. 202401808 \$759,000.



5591 Stampede Canyon, Hathaway Pines Private Mountain Retreat with Luxury Finishes and Scenic Views. Open floor plan offers an amazing friends and family gathering space for entertaining. The chef's kitchen stands out with high-end appliances, expansive granite countertops, and ample cabinetry 202401919 \$624,900

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Winter Safety Tips Regarding Propane Storage and Utilization

Winter brings the opportunity for lots of outdoor recreational activities as the snowfall blankets the terrain. While snow provides for skiing, boarding and snow play, it can create problems and may present some safety issues of which all of us need to be aware.

Of particular interest in winter to a service business offering propane, is how to help properly educate customers regarding their use of your product during the winter season.

Here are some important suggestions from local propane companies, particularly for mountain residents, those with a second home in the region or if renting a cabin.

1. Check your levels. Especially before a snowstorm or other inclement weather, it is important to know how much propane is left in your tank. It is best to arrange for a tank to be filled once it is around the 20% mark. This way you can ensure you have enough to last you through the storm, and then some, as delivery afterwards could be delayed due to road conditions.

2. Make sure you have marked the location of your propane tank with a flag, stake, or pole. The marker should be higher than the typical snowfall for the area. This will help avoid having the tank damaged as you or someone else is clearing

snow with a plow or shovels. It will also let your delivery driver know exactly where the tank is.

3. Clear the snow away from the tank, and any lines or valves. Clear snow away from any exterior roof or side vents that are used to expel carbon monoxide from your propane appliances. You don't want carbon monoxide leaking into your home. Heavy piled ice and snow can also pose a risk of causing damage to the tank and its components. It's a good idea to keep the tank cleared in general. Use a broom or brush to gently remove snow, as a shovel may damage the tank.

4. Make sure that you maintain a clear pathway to the tank. If delivery trucks normally park in your driveway, make sure that is clear too. If the tank is not accessible your propane cannot be delivered on time or cause an additional charge.

5. To alert you to possible leaks, propane gas contains an additive that gives the naturally odorless gas a pungent, unpleasant smell, sometimes described as rotten eggs or a decaying animal. Make sure everyone in your household knows what propane gas smells like.

If you smell this gas at any time, make sure to do the following. Put out all open flames and do not turn on any appliances, lights, or phones. Turn off your main gas line immediately and



For your safety, it is a good idea to keep the propane fuel lines and regulator free of snow during the winter. Paying attention to important suggestions give you peace of mind.

call your local propane dealer. Open windows to allow for ventilation. Evacuate the area as soon as you can.

It is important to be aware of dead and dying trees near your propane tank. When you encounter really heavy snow and need to shovel off a roof, be careful not to dump it off the roof onto your propane tank. This can damage the tank as well as the pipes and fittings, causing gas leaks.

Finally, never use a stove or bring a gas grill indoors for space heating. Only use appliances indoors that are designed and approved for that purpose. Never store, place, or use a propane cylinder indoors or in enclosed areas. Never use outdoor

propane powered appliances indoors or in enclosed areas. Without proper ventilation, deadly carbon monoxide (CO) fumes produced can build up.

Carbon Monoxide is a tasteless, odorless gas. Detection in a home environment is nearly impossible by humans.

The symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu. Nausea, vomiting, confusion, sore muscles, headache, dizziness, light headedness, loss of balance, etc. Often, people who experience these symptoms simply go to bed thinking they are coming down with a cold. Some never wake up.

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Pooping Outside: A Winter Guide. Use Wag Bags, Portable Toilets, or Simply Take the Crap With You

Young or old, the urge to quickly find a bathroom is considered by most to be a near emergency. So planning ahead is a good idea.

Therefore, some suggestions are in order to make your adventures out in the winter snow more enjoyable in an emergency.

Keep in mind that the basic rule in the forest any time of the year is "Leave No Trace". Leave the forest exactly as you found it.

You cannot dig through several feet of snow to bury your load. Your best options are an RV if you have one, a portable or bucket toilet, and

a wag bag.

If you have no other choice, you can do your business on the snow away from others and remove the results to a plastic bag.

For #1, males can use a bottle, this is much more difficult for women. Fortunately, nowadays there are solutions for women to consider. Several are listed and available online at Amazon.com.

For #2, the key is being prepared. Use biodegradable plastic bags. Always travel with hand sanitizer, a trowel, Ziploc bags and toilet paper.

Once you have everything you

Traveling Tips for Winter Outings to Ensure Your Adventure is Safe

What a great morning! It rained all night in the Central Valley and it is snowing at Bear Valley. The ski report lists two feet of powder.

No matter the day, you're going skiing! So make a plan. You need to carry chains, check tires inflation. Keep the fuel tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-up. Bring a cell phone. Pack blankets, kitty litter, shovel, gloves, hats, food, water and any medication in your vehicle.

If you become snow-bound, stay with your vehicle. It is a temporary shelter. Don't try to walk in a severe

storm. Don't over exert yourself if you try to push or dig your vehicle out of the snow.

Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled up window to signal distress. At night, keep the dome light on. It will make it easier for rescuers to find you.

Run the engine and heater just long enough to remove the chill and conserve gasoline. Make sure the exhaust pipe isn't clogged.

But, why worry. You're prepared! Hit the slopes and enjoy yourself!



The essentials for "taking care of business" when roaming around the mountains on an adventure, fall, winter, spring or summer. Gathering these supplies will make a difference.

will need, you can use the Koala bear technique to get the job done.

This is when you hug a tree while dangling with your legs at precisely a ninety-degree angle. Next, you

just do what you do when your dog is done. Double bag everything, even though the bags should be leak-proof. Hopefully, you can avoid this whole process!

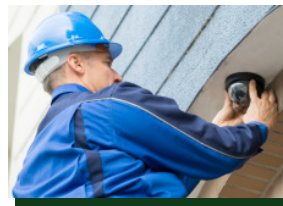


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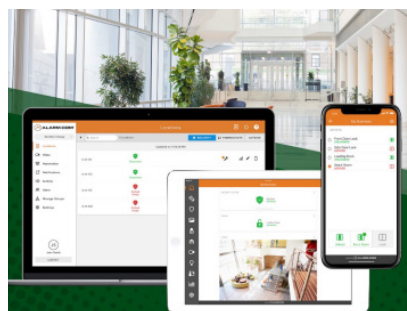
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Mountain Cyclists Enjoy Winter as Fat Bikes Gain in Popularity

Cross country skiers, people on snowshoes and those riding snowmobiles are seeing more bicyclists on the snowy trails.

So don't be overly surprised this winter to see a fat bike rider cruise by you on a wintry day.

Mountain bike enthusiasts are no longer forced to pack away their rides and wait for the snow to melt. More and more cyclists are gearing up with fat tire mountain bikes.

So what's a "Fat Bike"? They are



More mountain bikers are taking to snowy mountain trails to get their regular exercise.

defined as mountain bikes sporting tires with a width of 3.5 to 4.8 inches.

Even with fat tires to help the bikes float on the snow surface riding in winter still has its own set of challenges. For starters, it doesn't take much warming for the snow to soften and make pedaling a challenge, particularly for beginners who ar-

en't used to lowering tire pressure for extra traction. And stopping in deep snow can come with another problem. If the snow is soft it's easy to post hole a leg which can result in a tumble.

Snow riding also means riding in cold weather which necessitates layers of clothes. And once the rider gets moving he or she needs to manage the outerwear to avoid overheating which can lead to sweat soaked clothes and a sudden chill.

Aspiring winter riders need to consider safety. Mountain bikers heading out in the winter need to be especially prepared for the conditions.

In general, not only is there less daylight and higher cold weather risks, there tend to be fewer people in the backcountry in the winter which increases the isolation factor.

You're just more exposed, you are out on your own. You are in the wilderness and far away from safety.



Fat bikes feature tires ranging from 3.5 to 4.8 inches, opening the winter to cyclists.



Cruising along astride your fat bike on a wintry backcountry trail can be exhilarating. This activity is gaining in popularity as it opens winter outdoor exercising to cyclists.

Powder Alliance Program Now Has 20 Destinations in Three Countries

Imagine - one pass - then endless powder all winter long for just one ticket purchase.

Purchase a Season Pass to any participating Powder Alliance resort and receive three **Free** days at all the rest. That's **57 Free Tickets**. Some restrictions apply.

The Powder Alliance includes 20 premier winter destinations including the West, Southern Rockies, Rockies, Pacific Northwest, New Zealand and Canada.

More information can be obtained along with a full list of all the participating ski resorts can be found online at the Powder Alliance website which you can find at powderalliance.com.

Says John McColly, Powder Alliance, "Bear Valley is the definition

of authentic skiing in the heart of the Western Sierras and now you can experience this incredible mountain for free with a season pass to any Powder Alliance resort."

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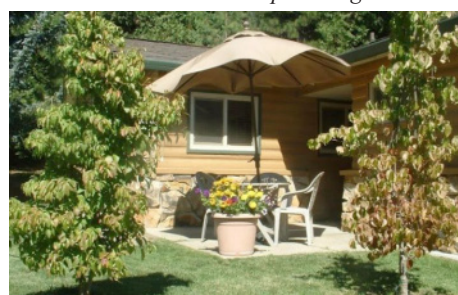
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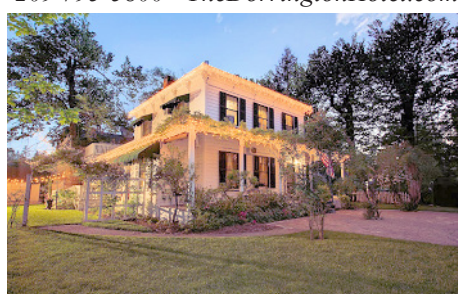
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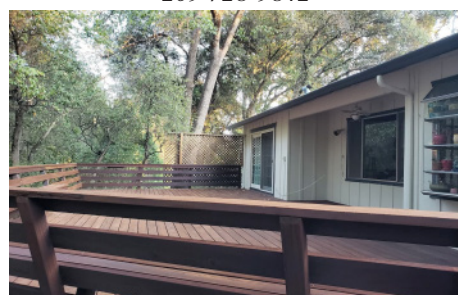
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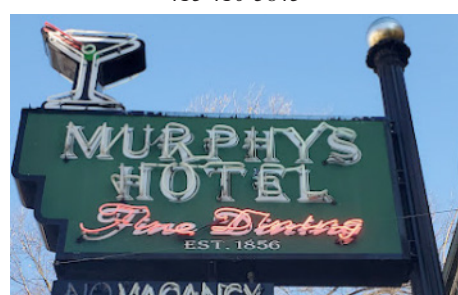
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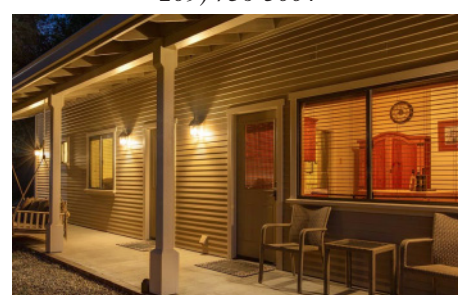
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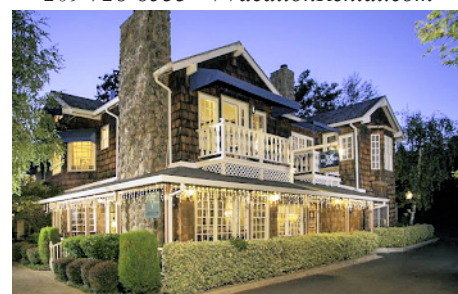
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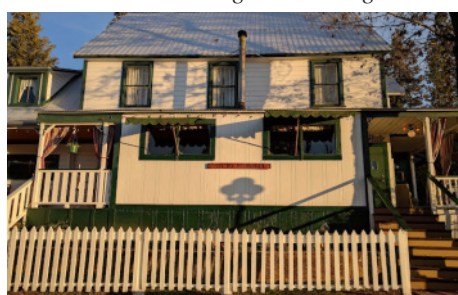
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Adaptive Sports Program Encourages Those With Disabilities to Participate

The Adaptive Sports Program at Bear Valley Mountain Resort is geared for people of all ages with varying types of disabilities.

The Mountain has several specifically trained and certified instructors on staff.

In addition, all-inclusive ski packages with equipment, lift ticket and instruction make adaptive learning at Bear Valley convenient and enjoyable to participants.

Adaptive lessons are by prior arrangement only and more information is available on the Bear Valley Mountain website BearValley.com.

Recently the Bear Valley Snow-

sports Foundation added its support for the Adaptive Sports Program with strong fund raising and other tasks to make the Adaptive lessons more affordable.

The Adaptive Program instructors have assembled a list of needed equipment.

Work is underway to develop a plan to support and expand the Adaptive Program at Bear Valley.

More information will be available soon. In the meantime, BVSEF and the Adaptive Program would cherish your donation. Make sure you indicate your donation is for the Adaptive Program.

Reba Sport Shop Has Large Equipment Line

The Bear Valley Reba Sport Shop staff prides itself on having nearly everything you may need while out on the slopes.

You will find a great variety of skis and snowboards, along with boots, helmets, goggles, gloves, hats, jacket and lots of other clothing options.

If you have any questions, just ask one of the professional staff members for assistance. They will be happy to help!

So stop by and see what's on the shelves. The store is open daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.



In addition to a full line of goggles, Reba Sports has skis and boards to get you going.



You can get all the gear you need to enjoy your time out on the slopes at the sports shop.



The Bear Valley Racing program features something for all age groups. They have wonderful sponsors and a lots of volunteers. You can help with a donation at TeamBV.com.

Bear Valley Race Team Builds Ski Racing Skills, Grit and Character

By Jeff Millar

Ski & Board Team Supervisor

The Bear Valley teams program is off to another great start and we are keeping our fingers crossed that Mother Nature will provide us with plenty of snow for our team opening weekend, scheduled for December 14-15th.

Once again we have record enrollments, with 457 athletes participating in the team program!

Our All Mountain program consists of 26 youth ski teams, 4 youth snowboard teams, 6 adult ski teams and one adult snowboard team.

We also have 4 Race Development teams along with our competitive Race and Freeride teams who represent Bear Valley Mountain Resort at competitions throughout the Sierra.

The Team program is supported by a dedicated staff of 60 coaches, whose primary goal is to provide quality instruction while introducing a love of winter sports to our athletes in a safe, supportive, and fun atmosphere.

We truly have something for everyone who is interested in developing their ski and boarding skills at Bear Valley.



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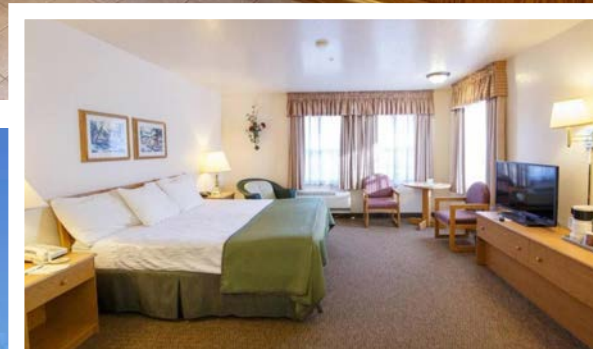
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When you exit the chair always move away from the landing area as quickly as possible. Keep yourself in control as you ski or board down the mountain to avoid accidents.

Careful Planning Leads to Safety When It Comes to Winter Travel

What's in your trunk? Well, when you're planning a trip into the mountains during the winter months, there are some things that should be in everyone's trunk!

Naturally you need to carry chains with you when you drive to the mountains during the winter months.

Aside from keeping your vehicle in good condition, you need properly inflated tires and a full fuel tank.

The image to the right shows you all the items that might help keep you safe if your break down or if the weather turns really ugly.

Stay with your vehicle if you get stuck in the snow. It provides temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to locate you.

Don't try to walk in a severe storm. It's easy to lose sight of your vehicle in blowing snow and become lost. Don't over exert yourself trying to push or dig a vehicle out of the snow.

Tie a brightly colored cloth to your vehicle antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled up window to signal distress.



But hey, no worries. You have prepared yourself for any extra adventures. So hit the slopes and enjoy yourself!



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Always Ski and Board in Control When You Go Down the Slopes

Keeping in control helps make sure you and others on the hill stay safe and are having a great time.

Skiers in front of you have the right of way. If a slowpoke is blocking your line, give them space so you don't hit them.

When it is time to rest, stop somewhere sensible like on the side of the piste or where you can be visibly seen and don't get run into.

Use the free trail maps provided to make sure to know the trail you are taking. Stop and help fellow skiers who have fallen or look hurt. If you see a downed skier go over and see if they need the ski patrol.

Don't duck ropes or ski into closed areas. There's a reason it hasn't opened yet, and it usually has something to do with your safety.

Skiing and boarding off groomed runs in powder is one the best parts of the sport, but take precautions. Watch for tree wells and deep snow.

Deep snow can trap you and then you cannot pull yourself out. ALWAYS ski and ride with a partner. Keep each other in sight at all times.

It is your responsibility to know how to ride a chair lift safely. Ask the lift attendant for help. Smallest kids should load closest to the attendant.

Children under 51" tall are required to ride with an adult, and if in a lesson must always ride with an

instructor. Remove and carry backpacks. It is OK to miss a chair and wait for the next one.

Bear Valley maintains an open boundary policy. The terrain beyond the ski area boundary is in its natural state and entering the backcountry involves risks including those posed by deep snow, avalanches, steep terrain, cliffs and other terrain variations.

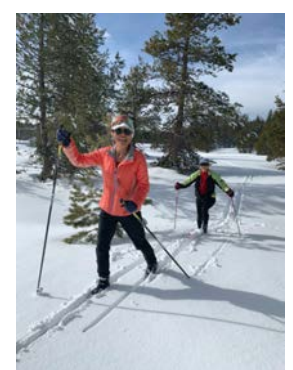
The ski area assumes no responsibility for skiers or snowboarders beyond the ski area boundary. Areas beyond the ski area boundary are not patrolled or maintained. The cost of rescue in the backcountry, if available, will be the responsibility of you or your heirs.

Persons involved in a skiing or boarding accident, who leave the scene of the accident knowing or having reason to believe that any other person involved in the accident is in need of medical or other assistance, except to notify the proper authorities or to obtain assistance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The use of electronic devices with headphones while skiing, snowboarding and riding lifts or using surface transport is unsafe and discouraged by Bear Valley Mountain Resort. Snow cats, snowmobiles, other vehicles and snowmaking equipment and operations may be encountered at any time.



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Building a snowman with your family is a wonderful way to spend an afternoon during the winter in the Sierra Nevada. Below is a brief description on "How to Build a Snowman".

Building a Snowman and Decorating It Is a Wonderful Way to Spend Family Time

Here is a fun idea! When winter arrives and heavy snow piles high, get the family and your friends together to build a snowman!

It is not that hard. What could be more simple than rolling up three snowballs and stack them with the largest on the bottom and the smallest on top.

Next you go wild with your artistic side as you decorate your new friend. Hey, they need a face, arms, clothes and who knows what!



To make a snowman, start by rolling up a ball of the cold stuff that will be the bottom!

Check for snow that's moist and packable. Scoop some up and press it together. If it easily forms into a ball, you can make a snowman. Build your snowman on a flat surface. Try to put him in the shade.

This will help the guy last longer. And who doesn't like a snowman who can last longer.

Roll up your snowman by packing a snowball with your hands for the bottom section. Continue adding to it and make it into a round shape. Wear warm, waterproof gloves to protect your hands from handling cold snow.

Create a smaller middle section and put it onto the bottom ball. Make sure to center it on the bottom. Form a one foot snowball for the head and put it on top. Then pack some snow between the sections to the snowman a uniform look.

For a little different look, create a really large fat body and put a head on top of it.

Now the real fun begins: bringing your creation to life. Stick the traditional carrot in his face for a nose. For the eyes, use charcoal, buttons or pebbles. Make a mouth with a row of pebbles, charcoal or a couple of sticks.

Place two sticks for the snowman's arms. If you want, put a shirt or coat around the snowman's body. Top him off with a hat, scarf, a tie, sunglasses, or other accessories to make your snowman stand out from others.

If You Get Lost - Hug a Tree It Isn't Just for Kids - It Works

The Sierra National Forest is a wonderful place to visit, explore and recreate. Sometimes the more daring and curious among us seek adventures that lead to unwanted results for all concerned.

So, for as much fun as the great outdoors can be, parents, grandparents and group leaders should all take a moment before heading out.

Consider the risks that may be taken. Have a plan for what to do in certain situations, after all, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" as the old saying goes.

There is no shortage of books that have been written on wilderness preparation and survival. Now let's just take a minute to think about how prepared kids may be, or may not be, in the event they get separated from the family or group.

One of the best answers comes from the "Hug-A-Tree and Survive" philosophy. This came about through The National Association for Search and Rescue group.

It promotes a fantastic program that actually works, known as "Hug-A-Tree and Survive" or simply "Hug-a-Tree".

This program was developed in 1981 by Ab Taylor. He was an expert man tracker who served with the U.S. Border Patrol for more than three decades.

The program is simple by design and intended to help children remember what to do if they become lost or separated. But by no means is this plan for kids though, it can work equally well for big kids too!

Seven steps to important process:

1. Hug a Tree once you are lost.
2. Carry a trash bag and whistle.
3. My parents won't be angry at me.
4. Make Yourself Big.



5. There are no animals out there that can hurt you in this country.

6. Friends will be looking for you.

7. Take an imprint of your child's footprint prior to hiking.

The goal is to have fun. Enjoy the great outdoors. Do it with the minimal amount of risk. Preparation and planning go a long way to a fantastic memory making trip!

For more details about the "Hug-A-Tree and Survive" program, visit website at: <http://www.nasar.org/education/hug-a-tree>.



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Cali Pass Gives Access to Four Challenging California Ski Resorts

(continued from page 1)

The California Cali Pass makes this dream a reality. Say goodbye to the stress of navigating through hordes of people and traffic jams at popular winter resorts.

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Enjoy unlimited skiing & snowboarding at 4 classic California winter resorts **Plus** three days each at 16 Powder Alliance resorts worldwide including Sierra At Tahoe and Mt. Shasta Ski Park.

That's up to 48 FREE tickets! All this **Minus** the crazy traffic, huge crowds, and absurd prices.

Take advantage now and don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to make the 2024/25 winter season the most memorable one yet.



Your Cali Pass will unlock a world of exciting skiing and snowboarding adventures for you in places of which you may have only dreamed.

Experience unrestricted access at Bear Valley Mountain Resort, Dodge Ridge Mountain Resort, China Peak Mountain Resort, and Mountain High Resorts.

Bear Valley Resort

Nestled off scenic highway 4 in the Central Sierra Mountains and Stanislaus National Forest, Bear Valley Mountain Resort offers world-class terrain at 7,000 feet. Easily accessible from all of Northern and Central California, a retreat for both beginners and experts seeking space and breathtaking views. At Bear Valley, you'll find the big mountain experience with small town vibes.



Mountain features nine lifts, 75 trails, 1,680 Acres, 1,900 vertical drop and 359 inches of annual snowfall. Details at BearValley.com

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- Show Your Cali Pass at checkout
- 20% Off Lessons (Adult Group, Weekday, Non-Holiday)
- Purchase at any Ticket Window.
- 20% Off Mountain Bike Lift Tickets
- Purchase at any Ticket Window

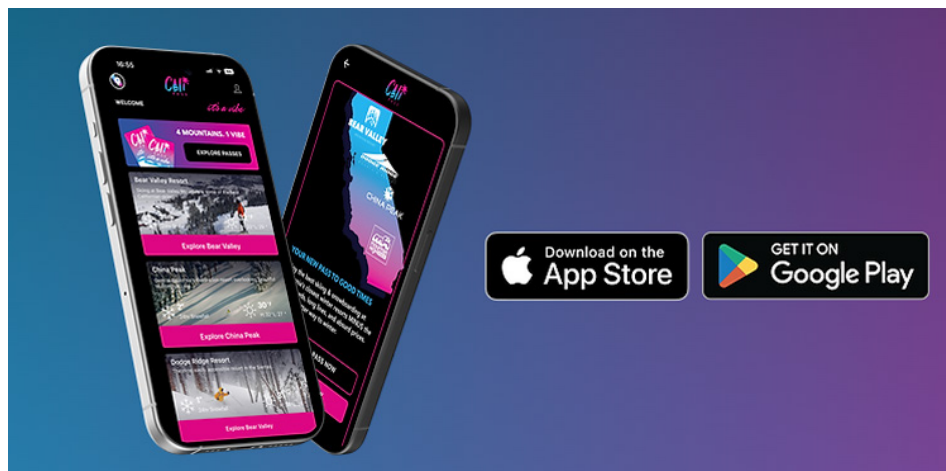


30% Off Lodging at Bear Valley
Show your 24/25 Cali Pass at check-in

30% Off Lodging at China Peak
Book online at BearValley.com, use Promo Code CALI at checkout.

China Peak Mountain Resort

Central California's destination resort overlooking beautiful Huntington Lake. One of the Sierra's 10



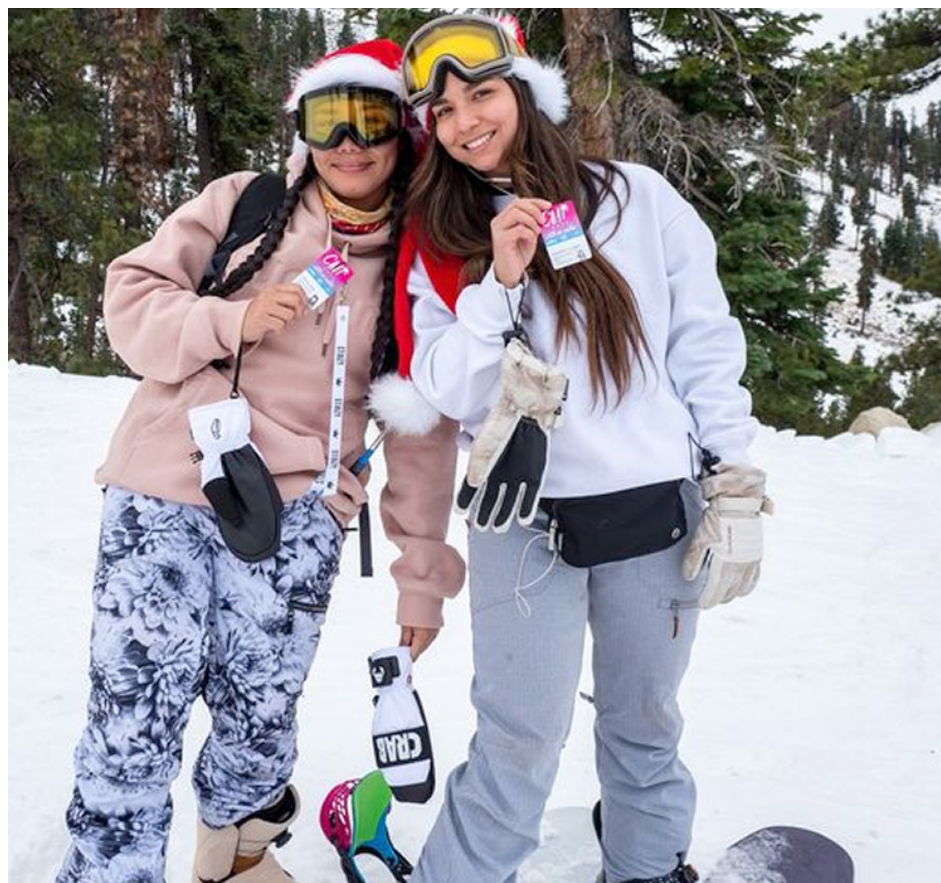
largest resorts with trails up to 2.5 miles in length and a handful of the steepest groomed ski trails in California. Even on big days, lift lines are nearly non-existent.

Mountain features 11 lifts, 47 trails, 1,200 acres, 1,679 vertical drop and 325 inches of annual snowfall.

Cali Pass features at China Peak

Up to 50% Off Tickets (1 Per Day)
China Peak Pass Holders purchase at any Ticket Window. Cali Pass holders from other resorts, please purchase your discounted tickets at Guest Services.

- 10% Off F&B (Non-Alcoholic)
- 10% Off Retail (Non-Sale Items)
- Show Your Cali Pass at checkout
- 20% Off Lessons (Adult Group, Weekday, Non-Holiday)



Two young ladies have taken advantage of the Cali Pass perks as they take a rest from the excitement they are experiencing on the slopes! Get your own Cali Pass for the season.

20% Off Mountain Bike Lift Tickets
Purchase at any Ticket Window

30% Off Lodging at China Peak
Book online at SkiChinaPeak.com
Use promo code CALI at checkout.
Show Cali Pass at check-in

Dodge Ridge

The most easily accessible resort in the Sierras. Close to most major cities from Santa Cruz to San Jose. You'll think you're in Tahoe... minus the traffic and crowds.

tion located just 90 minutes from downtown Los Angeles. The area consists of two separate mountains (East Resort & West Resort) offering a wide variety of lifts, trails, and world-class terrain features, all with a California vibe.

Night skiing and riding is available Wednesday to Sunday peak season. Snowmaking covers more than 80% of the resort.

Mountain features 12 lifts, 50 trails, 500 acres, 1,600 vertical drop with 120 inches of annual snowfall

Cali Pass features at Mountain High

Up to 50% Off Tickets (1 Per Day)
Mountain High pass holders will be emailed coupon codes. Redeem them at the resort.

Cali Pass holders from other resorts, please purchase your dis-



Mountain features 10 lifts, 70 trails, 800+ acres, 1,600 vertical drop and 350 inches of annual snowfall

Cali Pass features at Dodge Ridge

Dodge Ridge Pass Holders purchase at the ticket windows. Up to 50% Off Tickets (1 Per Day)

- 10% Off F&B (Non-Alcoholic)
- 10% Off Retail (Non-Sale Items)
- Show Your Cali Pass at checkout
- 20% Off Lessons (Adult Group, Weekday, Non-Holiday) Call 209-965-3474 to reserve your lessons
- 20% Off Mountain Bike Lift Tickets
- Purchase at any Ticket Window
- 30% Off Lodging at China Peak
- Book at DodgeRidge.com Use Promo Code CALI at checkout

Mountain High Resort

Mountain High is Southern California's closest winter destina-

counted tickets at the VIP window at the West Resort.

- 10% Off F&B (Non-Alcoholic)
- 10% Off Retail (Non-Sale Items)
- Show Your Cali Pass at checkout
- 20% Off Lessons (Adult Group, Weekday, Non-Holiday) Call 760-316-7863 to reserve your lessons.

- 20% Off Mountain Bike Lift Tickets
- Purchase at any Ticket Window
- 30% Off Lodging at China Peak
- Book online at MtHigh.com, use Promo Code CALI at checkout.



Winter Family Fun - Enjoy the Three Sno-Parks Along Highway 4

Ebbetts Pass Snow Play areas can be found up and down Highway 4. Young and old alike enjoy the sport of playing in the snow, whether it is careening in a saucer down a banked mountain course, making snow angles in fresh powder, or crafting a giant snowman.

For many who have rented cabins above the snow line, the best place to frolic in the snow is right outside your back door. For those who drive up from below, however, finding a safe place for children to play can sometimes require a short drive.

Sno-Parks are parking areas maintained in the winter to allow people to park safely and pursue winter activities such as cross-country skiing or snowmobiling. They have pit toilets available.

There are three Sno-Parks on Highway 4. One at the Spicer Meadow Road turnoff. Another at the end of the plowed highway near Lake Alpine. The third is Round Valley, off Highway 207 leading to the Bear Valley Ski Resort.

Sno-Parks have two big advantages over other spots along the highway - toilets and parking.

The Spicer Sno-Park is open to cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snow play. It is a favorite for families to build snowmen and have snowball fights.

It features snowmobile trails to Union and Utica Reservoirs, Summit and Elephant Rock Lakes, and the Spicer Reservoir Power House.

Experienced riders may go on the ungroomed route along Slick Rock Road to access Lake Alpine. Pick up a Over Snow Vehicle Use Map at the Calaveras Ranger Station.

The facilities at the Round Valley Sno-Park are the newest. Snowmobiling is not allowed at Round Valley. A nearby slope is popular for saucers, tubes, and similar sliding activities. It is a favorite for families who want to play in the snow and for cross-country skiers.

Lake Alpine Sno-Park is located at the winter closure gate on Highway 4. It is a favorite for cross-country skiing, dog sledding, snow play and snowmobiling. From there the Bear Valley Access trail runs 1.5 miles from the Lake Alpine Sno-Park to Bear Valley Village.

During the winter months, Highway 4 is groomed for snowmobile use from the closure gate 2.5 miles east of Bear Valley to the top of Ebbetts Pass (approximately 15 miles) and to Highland Lakes.

This trail has numerous segments, appropriate for different skill levels from novice to expert. As the trail climbs towards the pass, the views are spectacular.



Winter visitors to the Ebbetts Pass Corridor can take advantage of three Sno-Parks at which they can enjoy outdoor adventures like snow play, cross country skiing and more.

Opportunities exist for expert riders to continue riding on the ungroomed portion of the Highway on the east side of Ebbetts Pass.

(Note: The groomed portion of Highway 4 is a multi-user trail, and is heavily used by Nordic skiers as well as snowmobilers, particularly in the Lake Alpine region.)

It is against the law to park on highway interchanges. Parking illegally along the highway, not in a designated slot, and without a permit. This is dangerous, as your vehicle may be hit by snowplow equipment.

A day (\$15) or season (\$40) permit is required for every vehicle parked at a Sno-Park from November 1 through May 30. The permit must be displayed on the left side of the vehicle dashboard, where it can

be seen clearly from the outside of the vehicle. Those not in compliance may be cited.

Sierra Nevada Adventure - 2293 Hwy 4 in Arnold (209-795-9310).

Ebbetts Pass Sporting Goods: 925 Hwy 4 in Arnold (209-795-1686).

Bear Valley Adventure - 1 Bear Valley Rd., Bear Valley (209-753-2834).

Overnight parking, including in-vehicle camping, is allowed except where noted at Sno-Park sites.

When overnight parking is allowed, tent camping or sleeping outside a vehicle in the parking area is prohibited at all Sno-Park sites.

Vehicles parked overnight need to be staked at all four corners with 1x2-inch by 8-foot poles to prevent accidental damage by snow removal equipment.

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California Law and How to Use Snow Chains for Winter Travel

If you are planning to visit regions offering winter activities like Bear Valley or the local Sno-Parks, you need to know the rules regarding snow chains and how to properly use them.

Snow chains or cables are devices fitted to a vehicle's drive tires. They add traction when driving through snow and ice. They are usually purchased to match the tire size (diameter and tread width).



California Vehicle Codes regarding chains are written to keep driver's safe on the road.

From November 1 to April 1 in California, all vehicles are required to carry tire chains (or cables) when they enter a chain control area, even if it isn't snowing at the moment.

Consequences of not having them in those areas could include fines and charges for damages from an accident. You might also have to pay towing fees if a law enforcement officer stops you and decides the safest thing to do is to have your vehicle towed out of the snow area.

That all sounds pretty daunting. However, if snow conditions could be predicted with accuracy, it would



If you have never put chains on your vehicle, then practice before you hit the highway.

be easy to know what to do, Mother Nature can change her mind about

weather quickly in the Sierra Nevada.

A drive that starts out on a sunny afternoon along the Central Coast or further inland could take you into a situation where you'd not only need chains, but you'd need to put them on in a hurry.

Or you could drive to your destination and encounter little snow on the way, but wake up in the morning to a blizzard.



Without chains or cables on your vehicle, you may end up off the road and in trouble.

California's winter weather is inconsistent, with wet years and dry years. In general, it will probably snow sometime during the winter in the mountains. It could snow as early as November. By late April, snow season is usually over.

Beyond that, it's hard to know ahead of time what might happen. For advance planning, you may want to know what the chances of snow falling are for your destination. Search online for any of your favorite weather apps but be sure to pick your weather location at the highest elevation you plan to visit.

For up to date road conditions and closures you can follow Caltrans on their website or get their app for your mobile device. The following are the California DMV levels of snow chain requirements. You'll see them listed on signs like the one on this page.

Requirement One (R1): Chains, traction devices or snow tires are required on the drive axle of all vehicles except four wheel/ all wheel drive vehicles.

Requirement Two (R2): Chains or traction devices are required on all vehicles except four wheel/ all wheel drive vehicles with snow-tread tires on all four wheels.



The CHP is active in monitoring chain control in the winter months to keep you safe. Without proper use of chains, vehicles can slide over the center line into oncoming traffic.

(NOTE: Four wheel/all wheel drive vehicles must carry traction devices in chain control areas.)

Requirement Three (R3): Chains or traction devices are required on all vehicles, there are no exceptions.

Regulations require that you MUST carry chains when driving in designated chain control areas, marked by a sign that says, "CHAINS REQUIRED" - even if you are driving a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Unless it starts to snow, no one is likely to stop you and search your vehicle to see if you have chains with you.

During a snowstorm, Caltrans or the CHP may close the roads to all motorists who don't have chains on their tires.

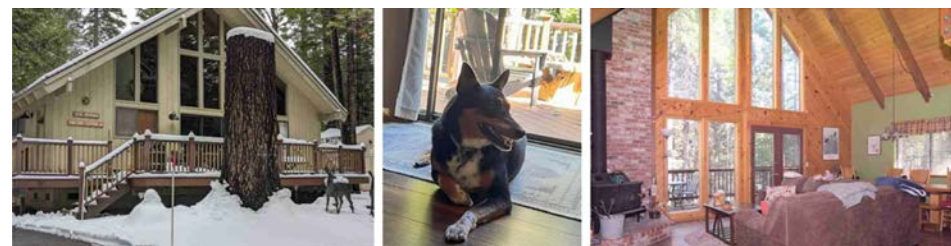
And in the rare instance that you got in without chains and snow starts when you didn't expect it,

you might get a traffic ticket, and/or your vehicle could be towed out of the snow area at your expense.

Few car rental companies allow you to use chains or cables. If they do they will hold you responsible for any damage they cause, so you will need to check with yours to be sure.

To find out if you have snow tires on your vehicle look on the wall of the tire for the letters MS, M/S, M+S or the words MUD AND SNOW - or an icon of a mountain with a snowflake. If any of those are present, you may be able to drive without chains in R-1 and R-2 conditions.

You can buy chains at auto parts stores, tire companies and sporting goods stores. A set will cost \$40 or more. When you buy your chains or cables, ask someone to show you how to put them on. Then try it yourself so you will learn to know how.



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Common sense is one of the most important things you can bring with you for a winter outing. Be aware of all that can happen and do your best to avoid being inconvenienced.

The Slopes Are Beautiful, But You Must Be Careful on Winter Outings

By Shannon Ofinn
Staff Reporter

Traveling for the winter, or taking a nice break into the mountains for vacation is always nice. Maybe you're out to ski, or go snowmobiling.

Perhaps you wanted to build a snowman. Whatever the reason, it's important that your vacation stays as fun as possible. Thus, you need to understand snow safety.

First, you need to be prepared. Do your research! Too many people get to the mountains before realizing there is a different way of life there.

Do everyone a favor. Don't ask locals to chain up your car. When you buy them, learn to put them on. This will keep you safer.

Plan ahead, make sure you pack the proper clothes and equipment before setting off on your journey. Understand the climate you'll be facing. You don't need to be an expert, you just need to know the basics.

Next, remember snow has the potential to cause harm. Despite being gorgeous, icicles, falling snow, and the wildlife can be dangerous.

Trees falling, branches breaking, all, relatively common, and even expected. The snow atop the trees can be so heavy that when it falls, it can crack windshields.

When playing in the snow, know the dangers. If you hear cracking noises, make sure you're not underneath any trees. Be mindful about how deep the snow is, and be careful driving on icy roads.

Make sure to use your common sense. It is truly a spectacle to see how many people are willing to sled near the main highway and in busy parking lots.

You wouldn't play in the road at home, so why here? Have fun. But, please do it safely.

Lastly, make sure that the mountain stays clean! Pick up your trash, it helps no one to leave it laying around. Arnold, Bear Valley, and the surrounding areas are vacation spots for a reason, and it's not because the area is trashed.

The Sierra Nevada are enthralled with natural beauty, and it would truly be a shame to see parts of that beauty become watered down due to litter. Leave the mountains better than you left them.

For whatever reason you are visiting, the most important aspect is

to have a good time, and hopefully others can have a good time with you. We're happy to welcome you to the mountains, the locals are lovely, and nothing beats a smiling face visiting from elsewhere.

The best way to ensure that happens is to ensure your safety, as well as the safety of others. Treat the mountains kindly, and appreciate their beauty while understanding their danger.

Driving on Snow Covered Winter Roads Can Prove to Be Very Tricky

Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids.

Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.

Drive slowly. Everything takes longer on snowy roads. Starting, stopping, turning – nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement.

The normal dry pavement following distance of 3 to 4 seconds should be increased to 8 to 10 seconds. Know your brakes.

Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal. Slamming on the brake pedal can cause you to skid!

Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start

moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.

Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning.

Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed as slowly as possible.

Don't stop going up a hill. There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road.

Stay home. If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can.

Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.



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Development/IT Justin Cringle



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Max McCormick



Director of Human Resources
Lisa Brand



Snow Surfaces Manager
Evan Rodegard



Director of F&B (Village/Resort)
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Race Teams Supervisor
Jeff Millar



Show Your Artistic Talent and Create a Unique Snow Angel

After the first dusting of snow it's mandatory that you put your snow gear on and run outside and make a snow angel! For good luck you must do this first before building a snowman or a snowball.

To make the perfect snow angel you need fresh snow that's deep enough so you won't see the ground behind it and the top should be powder. Once you are outside and find a spot fit for a snow angel, how do you enter?

You must fight your instinct and bring your legs together in the air before you hit the ground. When you land, your body should look like the letter T.

This is so that when you expand and contract your legs in the snow, a wall of it does not form between your legs as it would have had you landed in a star shape. The robes of your angel will look flowing and majestic.

Once you are done expanding and contracting your arms and legs, you can get up within the angel you have created, then jump away from it again so that you don't leave footprints too near to it. With your snow angel complete, you can now admire it or even make another one.

Then keep your arms as straight as you can and swing them almost to the top of your head and then almost straight at your sides. You



A fun family adventure involves teaching your kids how to make Snow Angels. All you need is some fresh powder snow, and a slight bit of coordination to stick your landing!

World Cup Skier and NCAA All American Nick Cohee Loves It Here!

"The recent addition of Bear Valley to the California Mountain Resort Company is one for the pure skiers and riders looking for maximum enjoyment and minimum hassle as they search for slopes.

Reasonable travel times, short lift lines, friendly staff, classic California terrain, and a cold bevy waiting for me.

Bear Valley's rich history attests to what skiing and riding is all about—it is embedded in the rock.



Stoked to have them on board!" Nick Cohee, World Cup Skier, NCAA All-American.

only need to do this a couple times.

Carefully stand up as to not disturb the snow next to you and then sit back and enjoy the perfect snow angel you've created.

The laughter, the teamwork, and the shared joy of crafting the perfect snow angel stand as a testament to the simple pleasures winter offers. Remember, even the coldest season can be filled with warmth and connection when spent with loved ones.

Let your snow angel serve as a reminder of the beauty and wonder of winter. Embrace the spirit of adventure and creativity that it ignites within us.

Whether you're building a snowman, having a snowball fight, or simply enjoying a peaceful walk in the snow, each moment spent outdoors creates memories that will warm your hearts long after the snow has melted away.

So, bundle up, step out into the crisp winter air, and embrace the magic of the season.

Let the joy of family, the power of imagination, and the thrill of adventure guide you on your winter journey. Create lasting memories that will forever remind you that the greatest treasures are found not in the warmth of the sun, but in the warmth of shared experiences with the ones you love.

Bear Valley Web Cam Highlights the Activity

Check out all the action on the slopes at Bear Valley online by clicking on the Web Cam link.

This first hand visual source will show you the latest conditions and much more.

The Web Cam is operational on 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Add it to your favorites!

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Food and Beverage Options When You Visit Bear Valley

No matter your ability level on the slopes, you eventually are going to need to refresh yourself with food and beverages.

Bear Valley and Bear Valley Lodge have several spots at which you can make that hungry or thirsty feeling go away.

Sunrise Cafe

Nestled in the Sunroom within Bear Valley Mountain Resort, Sunrise Café is your go-to spot for quick and delicious grab-and-go options. Whether you're preparing for a day on the slopes or relaxing after your adventures, we've got you covered with freshly brewed coffee, lattes, tasty snacks, and made-to-order deli options. Stop by for a morning pick-me-up or a quick bite to refuel—Sunrise Cafe is the perfect stop before or after your mountain experience!

Maurys Mustang Bar

Maury's Mustang Bar pays homage to the Rasmussen family's legacy, named after the founder of the ski area Maury Rasmussen, welcoming you into a unique space infused with Bear Valley's legendary mountain spirit. Enjoy a variety of cocktails, wine, and cold draft beer while taking in spectacular views of the slopes. Whether you're unwinding after a day on the mountain or gathering with friends, Maury's

Mustang Bar offers a vibrant atmosphere for everyone.

Ebbetts Grill

Ebbetts Grill offers a convenient spot to fuel up before or after a day on the slopes. Located within the resort, this eatery features breakfast staples, a hot food bar with freshly made options and a rotating soup of the day. Choose from made-to-order sandwiches, burgers, and hot dogs, or grab quick snacks if you're on the go. Whether you're stopping by for a warm meal or a quick snack, Ebbetts Grill has what you need to stay energized on the mountain.

Monte Wolfe Saloon

Monte Wolfe Saloon is named in honor of the legendary hermit and trapper Monte Wolfe, who once called the Mokelumne wilderness home. Wolfe lived off the land for over seven years in the 1930s, residing in a secluded cabin deep in the forest until he mysteriously vanished, leaving only tales of his rugged survival. Today, Monte Wolfe Saloon offers guests a chance to raise a glass while taking in the scenic views of Mokelumne Peak from its deck—an ideal spot to unwind and soak in the history and beauty of the surrounding landscape.

Basecamp Pizza

Basecamp Pizza is Bear Valley Mountain Resort's newest addition,



A couple of tired guests are enjoying their favorite libation along with a delicious pizza at Sky High Pizza which is located inside of the Bear Valley Lodge. Come in and try one!

conveniently located across from Ebbetts Grill. Designed for quick refueling, Basecamp Pizza serves fresh, hot pizza by the slice so you can grab a bite and get back to the slopes in no time. With classic toppings and satisfying flavors, it's the ideal stop for those who want a fast, delicious meal without missing a beat on the mountain!

Bear Valley Lodge Restaurants

Kofi Haus Cafe

Kofi Haus Cafe, located within Bear Valley Lodge, is the perfect spot to enjoy breakfast and coffee before a day on the slopes. Start your adventure with our delicious breakfast options, freshly baked pastries, and aromatic coffee from Gold Country Roasters, proudly roasted in Murphys, CA. Whether you're catching up with friends or fueling up before hitting the trails, Kofi Haus offers a cozy, welcoming experience right in the heart of our lodge.

Sky High Pizza

Sky High Pizza, located within the Bear Valley Lodge, offers signature pizzas made with fresh, seasonal ingredients on house-made dough, plus a menu full of appetizers, sandwiches, salads, and a full bar. With multiple TVs, it's the perfect spot to hang out with friends, catch a game, or enjoy a family meal. Dine in or take out—always a crowd-pleaser!

General Store

The Bear Valley General Store has all your Winter essentials, from wine, beer, and cooking supplies to the latest Bear Valley outerwear. This season, enjoy a sweet addition with ice cream crafted locally by Jomas Ice Cream in Murphys, CA. Whether you're gearing up for the slopes or stopping in for a cozy treat, the General Store is here for all your needs!

Grizzly Lounge

The Grizzly Lounge is a cozy spot offering seasonal cocktails, a variety of beers on tap and a menu of delicious dining options. Whether you choose to relax at the bar or settle into the lounge area, this welcoming space is a favorite among locals for

enjoying great food and drinks in a laid-back environment—perfect for unwinding after a day outdoors.

Creekside Bistro

Creekside Bistro, located inside the Bear Valley Lodge, presents an upscale dining experience where every meal is crafted from the highest quality seasonal ingredients and locally sourced products. Our seasonal menu features a variety of innovative dishes that highlight the freshest flavors available.

Complementing your meal, our carefully curated wine list enhances the dining experience, making Creekside Bistro the perfect destination for a memorable meal.

Bear Valley Events for Winter 24/25

- Nov. 23rd – Winterfest (Opening Weekend)
- Nov. 26th - Bear Valley Snowsports Foundation Ski Swap
- Dec 6th - Murphys Christmas Parade
- Dec. 7th - Angels Camp Christmas Parade
- Dec. 7th – Winter History Night at the Bear Valley Lodge
- Dec 14th Makers Markets @ BV Lodge 2 pm - 6 pm
- Dec. 25th - Christmas
- Dec. 31st - N.Y.E Party in the village
- Jan (TBD) - Ski California Safety Day
- Jan 4th-5th - Rasmussen Classic
- Jan 9th - 12th - Berkeley CAL band
- Jan. 18th - Torchlight Parade/Winter Explosion
- Jan. 19th –Dodov Avalanche Safety Event @ Cathedral Lounge
- Jan 25th-26th- USCSA
- Feb 2nd- Boarding for Breast Cancer
- Feb. 7th - 9th - World Pro Ski Tour *tentative
- Feb. 14th - Valentines Day
- March 3rd - March 6th - Employee Appreciation Week
- March 7th - National Employee Appreciation Day
- March 8th - Cali Pass Banked Slalom
- March 13-16 / March 20-23 - Blaise Bootcamp
- March 15th- Irish Days in Murphys
- March 23rd - Nickolay Dodov Slopestyle + Reggae on the Mountain
- March 29th - The Grizz Challenge
- April 12th or 19th - Pondsiskim and Brewfest

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Celebrate Your Wedding Here at Bear Valley - Year Around!

“We are pleased to be able to host every aspect of your wedding on-site, making the planning effortless and stress-free”, says Mariah Mathews, Group Sales Manager.

“From rehearsal dinner, ceremony, reception and rooms for all of your guests. We will ensure the utmost attention to detail, making sure your wedding is everything you have imagined and more!”

“You can choose from one of our All-Inclusive Wedding Packages or work with us to execute your own unique vision.”



You have reception options for gathering friends and family after the actual ceremony!

“We want your wedding day to be everything you’ve dreamed of, and we will customize each aspect of your special day to ensure that it is a true reflection of the two of you.”

Mountain Top Vista

Located at the top of Bear Valley Resort, our breathtaking mountain top venue is just a short three min-

ute chair lift ride up our high speed sixpack. This awe-inspiring venue offers our signature 360-degree mountain views of the incredible Sierra Nevada Mountain scape as your backdrop.

Scenic Vista

This beautiful location is at the base of Bear Valley Resort. The venue offers a breathtaking view of Mokelumne Peak. Appreciate the serenity of the Sierra Nevada Mountains as you walk down the aisle on your special day.

Creekside Patio

This seasonal venue is located right off of the Creekside Dining Room. Enjoy the fresh mountain air while sitting next to a flowing stream and appreciating the sights and sounds of the Sierra.

Cathedral Lounge

Our beautiful indoor venue located in the Bear Valley Lodge creates a perfect rustic-chic setting, including a stunning four-story fireplace.

Schedule your venue and site tour and enjoy a complimentary night’s stay at the Bear Valley Lodge! Not available on Saturdays.

Receptions

Options for your gathering of friends and family after the ceremony include two locations. They also include an excellent menu selection for hors d’oeuvres, dinner choices



Brides can select from a variety of beautiful locations to experience her special day at Bear Valley. Use one of the All-Inclusive Wedding Packages or create your own vision! and bar packages.

Creekside Dining Room

A breathtaking venue ideal for an elegant reception dinner. Available for additional seating when using the Cathedral Lounge.

Creekside Patio

This seasonal reception area is located outside, right off the Creekside Dining Room. It offers wonderful views of the Sierra.

Vendors

The Bear Valley website lists a wide variety of vendors specializing in weddings, featuring a complete assortment of services. You will find all the assistance you need.

Accommodations

Enjoy a cozy, rustic night’s stay amid the Sierras.

The newlyweds can settle in to a large corner room with a very com-

fortable king bed, double bay window seat, large bathroom, double sink and a full-size bathtub.

Family and friends can relax in a room with a comfy memory foam mattress, a flat screen TV with cable, a bay window seat and a private bathroom.

There are five different room types to suit the needs of all of your guests: Single Queen, Double Queen, Queen and Twin, Family Studio with a Queen and Bunk Bed or a Single King.

All guests, have access to free Wi-Fi, complimentary morning coffee and to the pool during the warmer summer months.

For further details or to schedule your wedding, please contact Mariah at (209) 753-2327 ext.110 or mariahm@bearvalley.com.

BEAR VALLEY SNOWMOBILE RENTALS

Where Fun Adventures Begin!



BVSnowmobile.com



Our snowmobiles are ready to go at the following trail heads:

Lake Alpine Trail: (No People Trailers) 2 Hours - \$229 3 Hours - \$339

Spicer Reservoir Trail: (Four Hour Minimum, Four Machine Minimum. Advance Reservations by phone only. No People Trailers) 4 Hours - \$425

Bear Valley Village Area: (Open Thursday thru Sunday and holidays) 1 Hr - \$129 People Carrier - \$75/hour

A 24 hour cancellation notice before check in time is required for a full refund.

(209) 753-2323



Join the Bear Valley Snowsports Foundation - Support the Athletes

Founded in 2001 as the Bear Valley Race Team Foundation, Bear Valley Snowsports Foundation has evolved to support all Bear Valley's teams including All Mountain Development (Devo), Freeski, Snowboard as well as the Race team.

Working in close collaboration with Bear Valley Mountain, BVSF provides support in ways which otherwise would not be possible for the Mountain.

Located in Northern California's Sierra Nevada Mountains between Lake Tahoe and Yosemite, Bear Valley is the ideal location for kids, families and outdoor enthusiasts of all ages to build their snow sports skills while enjoying the world class beauty of the environment.

The Mission of The Bear Valley SnowSports Foundation (BVSF) is to dedicate support for Bear Valley's snow sports athletes in achieving their athletic, academic and personal goals.

The programs supported promote the development of essential skills; stimulate interest in competitive events and the positive values of sportsmanship, self-discipline, goal setting, character building and the pursuit of healthy lifetime activities.

BVSF assists Bear Valley's competitive and development teams in many ways including team commu-

nication and administrative tasks.

Coaches and support staff are select and trained to provide the best possible skills development for all athletes. Members assist coaches with training setup, safety monitoring, team communication and administrative tasks.

Through fundraising, and on mountain volunteer work, Bear Valley has the necessary parent and community support to develop highly competitive ski and snow sports teams.

Athletes are supported with communication and information resources for all teams through the TeamBV website, social media and regular email updates.

The Rasmussen Classic SL Race, the Far West USSS Central Series races and Slush Cup at Bear Valley are organized annually.

NASTAR races at Bear Valley are underwritten and organized by the group.

Coach education and participation in USSA annual Congress Assist is subsidized with training setup, safety monitoring, team communication and administrative tasks

Equipment and supplies including radio equipment, gates, timing equipment, safety gear, course wiring and other hill supplies are procured. More details at TeamBV.com.



You can check out the current conditions at Bear Valley by visiting the BearValley.com website, select The Mountain link and the select the Webcam link. Operates 24/7 daily.

Webcam Views Are Available at Each of the Cali Pass Resorts

Each of the Cali Pass Resorts has one or more webcams so potential visitors can check out the facility prior to coming up to ski or ride.

First you have the system at Bear Valley which presently features a single webcam.

So explore the beauty of Bear Valley Mountain Resort by visiting the Webcam page on the BearValley.com website.

This live webcam feed offers a captivating view of all the skiing and riding action taking place on the slopes in front of the Cub Club. These serene surroundings, showcase the natural wonders of this stunning destination.

You can spend hours immersing

yourself in watching the activity.

The China Peak webcam can be found at SkiChinaPeak.com and clicking on Webcams on the top of the page. Here are four winters cameras for you to explore.

At Dodge Ridge you can view all the action offered by the three webcams installed at the resort. Visit DodgeRidge.com, select Mountain and then Webcam/Weather.

Mountain High has four webcams from which you can view folks taking advantage of all that resort has to offer. Go to MtHigh.com, select The Resort link and then the Live Cams link.

So, visit each resort and decide where you will go next!

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Whether you are buying or selling a home or just curious about the market, our team is eager to be your local resource throughout the entire process. We know our community - both as agents and neighbors. We have the knowledge and local expertise to get the job done for you in today's market.



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*The Mountains are calling and they will fill your soul,
Come and explore Calaveras and say yes to new adventures!*



Big Trees State Park



Calaveras Wineries

So many directions to go, "day tripping" from the lodge!
YES, Arnold is the heart of the Sierra and your gateway to the High Sierra.

Book your stay today!



Arnold Meadowmont Lodge is a non-smoking facility offering 19 clean, comfortable rooms that are appointed with extra amenities for your comfort and relaxation.

Pets are allowed only in select rooms (1 dog per room). Contact the Lodge to reserve your pet friendly room prior to arrival. If you do not reserve in advance, we may not be able to accommodate your stay.

Room Types: Doubles, Queen, Queen Suite, King, King Suite, and Adjoining Rooms.

