

Happy
Holidays

The Fishwrapper



COME JOIN US FOR A FUN WINTER AT BLUEFIN BAY

What Our Guests Say

I had the pleasure of bringing 26 moms from St Paul on a retreat to Bluefin Bay this past weekend. I just want to take a minute to rave about your staff and facilities.

I have been to Bluefin several times with my family and knew that it was the ideal place for a bunch of moms to relax. Our group eventually grew to fill six condos. As you can imagine, the arrangements became complicated as the months went by. Your group coordinator, Cindy, was extremely helpful, pleasant and patient. She was readily available and promptly returned my phone calls. Cindy was well acquainted with all the condos and offered creative solutions for our group.

I also want to thank your friendly, calm front desk staff. These days it is hard to find front desks that have enough knowledgeable staff to handle Guest's

needs in such a gracious manner. Hats off also to your housekeeping and maintenance folks - what a beautiful place. Many of us also enjoyed excellent meals at the Coho and the other restaurants.

And finally, many of us had the pleasure to use your recreation services. My group raved about Nathan's friendly leadership on the skiing and snowshoeing outings. From waxing skis to fitting equipment to teaching new skills, he was patient, cheerful and helpful. We really appreciated his expertise - what a great service! It is staff like this that makes Bluefin stand out.

Obviously, we had a fabulous time. The only complaint we had was that it was too short. We'll be back next year!

—Susan A. Nagel, St Paul

Food & Spirits Renaissance

It has been an exciting and evolutionary year for the award-winning restaurants at Bluefin Bay. First, North Coast Farms, maker of Bluefin products sold at Lunds, Byerlys, Kowalskis and many gift shops along the North Shore, became demanding enough that Chef Tracy Jacobsen decided to devote his full time efforts to his position as Executive Chef of North Coast Farms. Since that time, North Coast Farms has expanded with both new products and with new customers including Rainbow Foods, Cub Markets and numerous restaurants.

In order to fill Tracy's shoes, The Bluefin Restaurant found Kim LaBarge as Food & Beverage Manager and Barret Stavseth as our new Chef. Kim comes to Bluefin Bay with more than 20 years of restaurant experience starting with a stint as Corporate Chef for Time Magazine in Lake Placid, New York. He spent many years as troubleshooter for the Doubletree Hotels, he has owned his own restaurant, has been a

food service consultant and managed a country club. During his career, Kim earned his CFBE (Certified Food & Beverage Executive) from the American Hotel and Lodging Association and a Level 3 Wine & Spirits Advanced Certification. Sounds like a big title, but, as Kim wrote in an article for FOOD & WINE MAGAZINE, "Wine is for everyone. Removing the mystical elitism from the process of dining with wine is important." So the next time you are dining at the Bluefin Restaurant, ask Kim what to order with your meal. As Kim said, "Helping Guests is a privilege and perhaps the most fun aspect of my job."

Speaking of food, we are fortunate to have found Barret Stavseth to continue the tradition of great food at Bluefin Bay. Barret grew up in Virginia, Minnesota, graduated from Virginia High School and then earned an Associates Degree at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. He attended Sierra Nevada (continued on back)

Great Winter Specials

WARM UP TO WINTER

Stay three days and get one day FREE.
Available in December
EXCEPT Holiday Periods.

JANUARY 3 for 2 SPECIAL

Stay three days and receive one day FREE.
Available January 4 - 31
EXCEPT Holiday Periods.
Purchase a 2 day lift ticket and get a third day
FREE at www.lutsen.com.

4 for 3 Special over MLK weekend

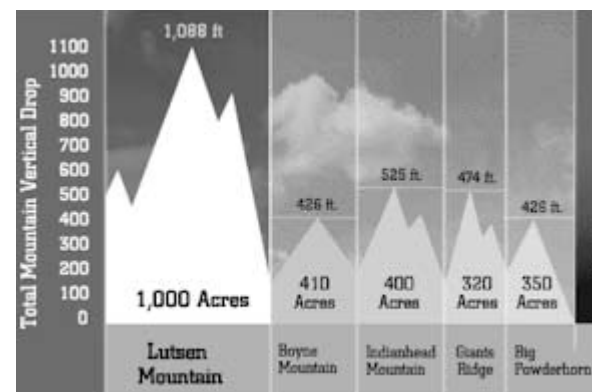
FEBRUARY 4 for 3 SPECIAL
Stay four days and get one day FREE.
Available in February

FAMILY SKI WEEKS SPECIAL

Purchase a 4+ day adult ticket Sunday - Thursday, at regular rates, and get a 4+ day Childs ticket FREE along with 3 FREE child ski lessons and FREE child rentals. Stay at Bluefin Bay for 4+ days Sundays-Thursdays and for each paid adult, one child stays free and eats free (from our kids menu).

WEEKENDS AT MIDWEEK RATES

Stay 3 or more nights and receive all at midweek rates. Available March 15 - 31.



HOW DO THEY COMPARE?

LUTSEN MTS WINS - HANDS DOWN

A WINTER OF FUN

Lutsen Mountains continued its improvements this year with an expanded entertainment venue to accommodate the great bands which they bring up every year. In addition, they have expanded their snow making capability to allow for earlier openings, better snow through the season and closing dates well into April.

The Sugarbush Cross-Country Ski Trail System, with over 70 km of groomed trails for cross-country skiing (skate&traditional), snowshoe and skijoring, has undergone a substantial renovation with the help of the Sugarbush Trail Association, the US Forest Service and the North Star Ski Touring Club. These groups combined their efforts to clear the trails of underbrush and install nearly 100 new trail maps, intersection markers, sign posts/backboards and informational and directional signs throughout the system. For information, logon to www.sugarbushtrail.org

The North Shore Mountain Challenge Cross Country Ski Race will be held on these Sugarbush Trails February 14, 2004. Both a 25km Freestyle/Classical Race and a 10km Classical Race/Tour are planned.
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Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2003

GALES OF NOVEMBER & DECEMBER SPECIAL

- 1 Winter Activities Start at Bluefin Bay
- 4-7 & 11-14 The Ice Fishing Play (Grand Marais Playhouse)
- 21 Winter Solstice
- 23 Last day of autumn quiet time at Bluefin Bay
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 Boxing Day (Canada)
- 31 New Year's Eve

JANUARY 2004

JANUARY 3 for 2 SPECIAL

- 1 New Year's Day
- 10 Winterfest at Lutsen Mts.
- 18 & 19 Grand Portage Passage Sled Dog Race
- 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY 2004

FEBRUARY 4 for 3 SPECIAL

- 2 Ground Hog Day
- 14 Valentine's Day - Happy Birthday Dennis
- 16 President's Day

MARCH 2004

MARCH WEEKENDS at MIDWEEK RATES

- 7 John Beargrease Sled Dog Race
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Old Time Dance (North Shore Music Assn)
- 20 Spring Equinox
- 28 Spring Fever Special and Spring Quiet Time start at Bluefin Bay.

APRIL 2004

SPRING FEVER SPECIAL

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 6, 1981 Bluefin Vision Began
- 18 Mt Melt Down at Lutsen Mts - Free Skiing

MAY 2004

SPRING FEVER SPECIAL

- 7&8 Food & Wine Lover's Weekend at Bluefin Bay
- 9 Mother's Day
- 16 Senior's Weeks start at Bluefin Bay
- 21 & 22 Spring Birder's Weekend at Bluefin Bay
- 31 Memorial Day

F.Y.I.

STRUCTURAL INTEGRATION

What the heck is that? Well, just another leading edge process which Carol Einwalter and her great staff of massage therapists bring to Bluefin Bay every day. "Although we don't usually give it much thought, we are all affected by the field of gravity in which we exist. When we live with physical restrictions and imbalances in our bodies, we can feel weighted down, since gravity exerts its force on us unevenly. Structural Integration as practiced at Bluefin Bay, frees us from some of these restrictions by establishing a vertical line of organization through our structure thereby achieving a higher level of functioning. This is done by manipulating the connective tissue known as fascia." This is a bit hard to explain, so just give the Front Desk a call to schedule this rejuvenating process on your next visit.

SCREEN SAVER

Thanks to Darren Peck, In-House Technical Wizard and Guest Service Manager, you can now download a Screen Saver consisting of the 2004 Bluefin Calendar photos. Just go to www.bluefinbay.com. Currently the Screen Saver is PC compatible.

BIRDER'S WEEKEND AT BLUEFIN

The 2nd annual Birder's weekend will take place May 21 & 22, 2004. Events include bird netting & banding, bird ID hikes, and more.

FOOD & WINE LOVERS

Be sure to make your reservations early for our next FOOD & WINE LOVERS Weekend at Bluefin Bay, May 7&8, 2004 featuring the wines and culinary delights of Hess Vineyards, California. The Hess wine maker and culinary staff will come to Bluefin Bay and help the Bluefin Staff in creating a memorable weekend.



VOLLEYBALL ANYONE? THIS YOUNG MOOSE WAS WANDERING THROUGH BLUEFIN LOOKING FOR A FEW PLAYMATES

ORTON'S LIBERATED LEFSE

The following Lefse recipe was recorded by Eleanor Sjoberg who wrote that Margit Rodne and Mrs. Andrew Tofte worked it out, thus saving hours of boiling and ricing potatoes. Sjoberg cautioned that using any more flour than "absolutely necessary" would result in tough Lefse. Tire patch material?

4c. instant potatoes

4c. milk

1 Tbs. salt

2 Tbs. sugar

Mix together. The milk can be cold. Allow to stand for a half hour or until all the milk is absorbed. Then add:

1/6 pound melted butter

1 1/2 c. flour (or less!)

The dough may be soft, so a little more flour could be added. Let set for a few minutes before rolling. Using 1/4 cup of dough, roll out for a nine inch Lefse on well-floured surface. Place on an ungreased griddle. A silverstone griddle or fry pan works well. If you use an electric fry pan, set the heat at its highest temperature. Pierce the bubbles and turn over to cook the other side when brown freckles appear. This recipe makes 15 to 20 cakes. The cakes can be refrigerated and heated on a warm skillet when ready to serve.

Serve warm with butter, sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon and roll each up, folding one end over to keep the butter from running out. "Eat it like a candy bar," Sjoberg wrote. "You have pure ambrosia in my estimation."

Why did they name it ...

Temperance River

Named because it is the only river on the North Shore without sand "bars" at its mouth.

Lake Superior

Indian word Kitchigumi or GitcheGumee. Superior means the upper lake of the Great Lakes, or Superior Lake. The French referred to it as "Le Lac Supérieur" which means "upper lake".

Knife River

Ojibway word Mokomani-Zibi meaning sharp stones. the first North Shore newspaper, "North Shore Advocate," was established here in 1857.

Burlington

Named in honor of the Vermont city of that name from which came one of the two first settlers.

Split Rock Cliff

From the water the cliff appears to be split in two parts, hence the name.

Castle Danger

Some say the cliffs along the shore resemble a castle, while others claim a boat by the name of Castle ran aground there.

A Winter of Fun (continued)

There are nearly 200km of groomed and tracked cross country ski trails in the North Shore Ski Trail System.

CONTEST

Attention Photographers - The 2004 Calendar is complete and the Tenth Annual Calendar Contest is underway for the 2005 Calendar. We need your help! If you have quality, color photographs in HORIZONTAL format of the North Shore and/or Bluefin Bay, you could win one of 12 prizes including the Grand Prize of \$1000 in Bluefin lodging and dining (some restrictions apply) if your photo is chosen for use in the Calendar.

In order to enter the contest, just send your photo entries to our Twin Cities Office:

Bluefin Bay Photo Contest
2325 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 130
Minneapolis, MN 55405

See the back of any Bluefin Calendar for details or go to www.bluefinbay.com. DEADLINE is May 1, 2004.



KIM LABARGE - Food and Beverage Manager

Food & Spirits (continued)

College and earned his Bachelors Degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management from the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Barret started his cooking career at the Wayside Cafe on Lake Vermillion and completed two internships during his college training - one at Millers Country House in Buffalo, MN and the other at the Hyatt Regency, Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, Arizona. He brings lots of education and experiences to Bluefin, along with a love for cooking and creating great meals for Guests. As Barret said, "I am really happy to be back in Minnesota, on the North Shore of Lake Superior, working with a great staff to create a wonderful experience for our Guests at one of the best resorts in the Upper Midwest."

Winter Activities

Once again Bluefin is proud to announce our Enhanced Guest Services for the winter. Activities provide varied and unique opportunities for all ages. Some of the activities that will be offered are:

- Crafts & Indoor Games
- Guided Snowshoe Tours
- Guided XC Ski Tours
- XC Ski Waxing Lessons
- Pizza Feed & Movie Night
- Campfire, S'mores, Hot Drinks, and Ice Skating
- Therapeutic Massage
- Daily Shuttle Bus Rides to Lutsen & XC-Ski Trailheads

Please call 800-BLUEFIN for more details or visit www.bluefinbay.com.