

# Snow country pumps it up south of the border

BY ROCHELLE LASH, SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE NOVEMBER 16, 2012



Try the high-wire canopy tour, top, or ice-climbing at Smugglers' Notch Resort in Vermont.

More snow on the slopes and more kicks off the slopes are the two hot trends at resorts throughout the northeast U.S.

Visitors to major areas can ski and snowboard to the max, but they also can unbuckle for an increasingly varied choice of après-slide amusements: How about a hot-rock massage, a nighttime gondola to a mountaintop gourmet dinner or indoor surfing in a weatherproof water park?

“The winter scene has evolved so much that about 50 per cent of Stowe’s visitors don’t ski — they come to spa, to dine or to shop,” said Jeff Wise of the Stowe Mountain Resort. “Of course, the other 50 per cent are here for snow sports.”

The other major movement is vastly increased snow-making. Downhill areas, and even some cross-country centres, are stoked for a longer, more consistent season with more snow guns on the mountains. The industry’s finest engineers and technicians are toiling diligently to find innovative, energy-efficient ways to create the perfect storm, even without Mother Nature.

Follow these links to find the scoop from snow country in the northeastern United States.

[Vermont ski resorts are on the rise](#)

[New England cross-country centres turn to snowmaking](#)

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