

# Rustic inn offers guests a spa, skiing and a pool

BY ROCHELLE LASH, SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE MARCH 3, 2011



L'Auberge du Vieux Moulin, in the heart of snow-sports country, has added a spa and indoor pool.

**Photograph by:** Tourisme Lanaudière

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“Upgrade” is the key word at l'Auberge du Vieux Moulin.

Moulin is a rustic lodge specializing in snow sports, but it has added several indoor indulgences, so it is not dependent on the caprices of the weather. After a \$600,000 renovation and expansion, Moulin remains rustic, but the rooms are brighter and fresher. And a Nordic-style spa and a swimming pool add a new dimension to this mini-resort.

“We have a lot of snow, but we want to be a destination lodge that goes beyond winter activities,” said Sylvie Marcoux, who owns Vieux Moulin with her husband, Yves, a chef. “Now we have guests who come simply to relax and have a spa getaway. And we are almost full for April, which usually is down time in the countryside.”

The new attractions are the heated pool in a greenhouse-style addition, and a Nordic spa with indoor and outdoor hot tubs, saunas and a steam bath. Some of the whirlpools are set amid the snowbanks, so you are in for a bracing spa day. When the ice melts and the Rivière Noire starts to flow again, hardy guests can brave an invigorating dip in the chilly waters.

Moulin has 10 rooms and six suites updated with stylish white-covered beds and country furniture that has a contemporary look. Larger groups can take over one of two four-bedroom chalets. The Auberge is simple and serviceable, a good getaway for families or couples who want to head to a modest resort in the mountains.

