

# Fare trails

Gourmet treats and sweet delights found on snowy trails.

WHILE TRAVERSING MICHIGAN'S snow-covered trails, skiers and snowshoers can work up an appetite. This winter, at four Michigan locations, they will have a chance to enjoy gourmet foods and tasty fare at stops along their snowy routes.

Treetops Resort in Gaylord, (treetops.com), is hosting **Skiable Feast**, a gourmet ski-and-eat adventure along its 6-kilometer intermediate trail. The four- to five-hour excursion through snowy woods brings skiers to five food and beverage stations where warm, savory fare will be served.

**Wilderness Sleigh Ride Dinners** also are planned at the resort's Wilderness Cabin, where a four-course meal and assorted craft beverages are served up in a cozy lodge atmosphere.

Skiable Feast and Wilderness Sleigh Ride Dinner dates are open to both resort guests and day-trippers on most Saturdays in January and February. Reservations are required by calling 866-348-5249.

Towering hardwood forests, hemlock groves and pine stands provide the picturesque setting for the March 4 "**Worel's Woods Taste and Glide**," sponsored by Friends of Valley Spur (valleyspur.org). The local group maintains the 27-mile ski, snowshoe and bike trail system. The ski and eat event takes place along the B Trail and in the lodge.

Located in the heart of the Hiawatha National Forest 5 miles west of Munising, Valley Spur benefits from lake effect snow.

It often has stellar conditions for cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snacking along



Kabobs anyone? Skiers at Treetops Resort enjoy treats during a Skiable Feast event.

the trail. The lodge provides a place to warm up, as well as a buffet station, beverages and live music. For more information, call 906-387-4918.

A scenic chairlift ride to the top of Boyne Mountain's Hemlock chairlift takes snow trekkers to the rustic Eagles Nest restaurant for the "**Summit-to-Stein's Snowshoe Supper**," every Saturday between Jan. 7 and March 11.

Spiced wine and cocoa are served, as guides prepare to lead the group on a twilight tour along the snowy mountain top.

Spiced wine and cocoa are served, as guides prepare to lead the group on a twilight tour along the snowy mountain top. A bonfire and hot toddies (or hot chocolate) at the halfway point are a warm welcome, before descending down Cold Springs toward Stein Ericksen's. A three-course meal of cheese fondue, prime rib and shrimp buffet and a decadent dessert of chocolate fondue complete the seasonal experience.

An **Aonach Mor Moonlight Dinner** is offered daily during the holidays and every Saturday in January and February at Boyne Highlands in Harbor Springs. After a sleigh ride to the top of the North Peak, guests mingle at an outdoor fire before gathering at linen-covered tables, illuminated by candlelight, for an elegant and romantic dinner.

For information or reservations for Summit-to-Stein's Snowshoe Supper, call 844-286-9936 (boynemountain.com). For the Aonach Mor Moonlight Dinner, call 855-405-3176 (boynehighlands.com).

— Dianna Stampfler

