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**Press Contacts:**

Connie Anderson

Email: [connie@theabbiagency.com](mailto:connie@theabbiagency.com)

Phone: 775-323-2977

**Beyond the Slopes in North Lake Tahoe**

**North Shore offers activities beyond the mountain**

**North Lake Tahoe, Calif./Nev. (Winter 2015-16)** — The first snow already dusted the high peaks that rim Lake Tahoe, stoking skiers and snowboarders on a fun winter to come. But they're not the only ones who will enjoy North Lake Tahoe's world-class winter season. The area is a playground for all, with activities ranging from sledding to ice skating to fine dining and more.

Check out this roundup of winter activities, and go to [GoTahoeNorth.com](http://www.gotahoenorth.com) for more.

**Be entertained**

North Lake Tahoe is home to numerous winter festivals sure to entertain the whole family.

Returning for its second year is WinterWonderGrass Tahoe at Squaw Valley. WinterWonderGrass is a world-class winter music and beer festival featuring three nights of more than 20 of national, regional and local bluegrass bands and acoustic roots artists, complemented by dozens of California craft breweries, local wines, spirits and foods. Squaw Valley and the Sierra Nevada stand as a glowing backdrop for families and friends to dance from midday into nightfall, mingling beside crackling fire pits in the heart of the music and the spirit of true connection.

The North Lake Tahoe SnowFest is also an annual hit, with a multitude of events scheduled March 4 through 13. And the music never stops in North Lake Tahoe, with venues such as the Crystal Bay Club and Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats boasting hot lineups of live music scheduled throughout the season.

**Sliding around**

Whether 5 years old or 40, everyone loves sledding. Granlibakken resort above Tahoe City offers a sledding area with saucer rentals, while Soda Springs Winter Resort on Donner Summit has a more extreme option with its snow tubing area, Tube Town. Soda Springs also has Planet Kids, which includes a play area for children ages 8 and under with tubing lanes, tube carousels, and a climbing volcano. Other North Shore resorts that offer groomed sledding or tubing hills include Boreal Mountain Resort, Squaw Valley, Alpine Meadows, Sugar Bowl Resort, Northstar California and Tahoe Donner Downhill.

Got your own sled? Head up Mount Rose Highway and slide for free on the wide-open slopes of Tahoe Meadows, or find mellow sled hills in Tahoe City and Truckee. But beware: Sledding poses its dangers, and hills should be chosen wisely.

For those seeking more power than gravity can provide, Coldstream Adventures out of Truckee and Lake Tahoe Snowmobile Tours on Brockway Summit offer snowmobile rentals and tours. SnoVentures at the base of Squaw Valley has mini snowmobile rides for kids in addition to snow tubing, and the Resort at Squaw Creek has dog-sledding and horse-drawn sleigh rides.

Winter visitors can also strut their skills on the ice. The Northstar Village Ice Skating Rink and the Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District's ice rink at Truckee River Regional Park offer skate rentals and are open seven days a week. Squaw Valley offers ice skating with a view, as patrons can ride up the aerial tram to High Camp, where they can also drink and dine.

**Eat and Drink Well**

The West Shore Cafe will offer "brunchish" lunch this winter starting at 10 a.m., with new options such as the basket of beignets, steak and eggs, breakfast burritos, brunchish potatoes, eggs Benedict, $20 endless mimosas and more.

There is no shortage of wine along the North Shore and staples like Petra and Uncorked showcase a large selection of limited production wines from around the world. For those who would prefer a cold beer, visitors and tourists alike flock to Mellow Fellow in Crystal Bay. With 40 craft beers on tap, locally made sausages to snack on and an abundance of board games to play, they usually end up here longer than anticipated.

Looking for a beverage to kick-start your day? Try Tahoe Central Market in Kings Beach where made-to-order juices, smoothies and wheatgrass boost energy and immune health. Need to warm up? The Wild Thai Seafood soup is a local favorite at Wild Alaskan in Incline Village. This locally owned and operated restaurant specializes in seafood but truly has something for everyone. Dining options are endless, from fine to casual, eclectic to familiar. Often times most challenging, is narrowing where to go.

**Other activities**

While Lake Tahoe may lose its swimming appeal in the cold winter months — with the exception of the Gar Woods Polar Bear Swim on March 1 — visitors can still enjoy the lake on a paddleboard or kayak, or with a cruise aboard the Tahoe Gal out of Tahoe City.

Those looking for exercise can enjoy a peaceful snowshoe hike or cross-country ski tour, or take the workout inside at any of North Lake Tahoe's numerous yoga and Pilates studios. Guests also have a plethora of shopping options, with artisan shops located across the North Shore.

For more information and to plan your visit check out [www.GoTahoeNorth.com](http://www.GoTahoeNorth.com).

**About North Lake Tahoe**

Lake Tahoe is a crown jewel of the Sierra. Formed approximately two million years ago, it is the largest alpine lake in North America and the second deepest in the United States. North Lake Tahoe spans two states and boasts two dozen beaches, twelve ski resorts, hundreds of miles of biking trails, half a dozen communities, and a growing number of nationally recognized human-powered events, races and festivals. North Lake Tahoe is a 45-minute drive from the Reno Tahoe International Airport, two hours from Sacramento International Airport and just over three hours from San Francisco International Airport. Visitor information centers are located at 100 North Lake Boulevard in Tahoe City and 969 Tahoe Boulevard in Incline Village. For the latest deals, check out the [Deals](http://Deals) tab on [www.gotahoenorth.com](http://www.gotahoenorth.com/" \t "_blank).

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