

SKI BUTTERNUT and CATAMOUNT PERFECTION in the BERKSHIRES

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA – Skiing and snowboarding in the Berkshires mountains has never been more enjoyable than it is now. Two great mountains are only a few miles apart on Route 23, and an award-winning ski town lies between them with many lodging and dining options. New England mountains, Ski Butternut in Great Barrington, Mass., and Catamount in South Egremont, Mass., have a great variety of terrain that is covered by 100 percent snowmaking at Ski Butternut and 99 percent snowmaking at Catamount. Combined with average annual snowfalls of eight to 10 feet and 100 percent grooming, both mountains can offer excellent snow conditions and reliable snow depths from December through early April. With 1,000-foot vertical drops, there is enough terrain to satisfy skiers and riders for a day or a long weekend. Located under 2.5 hours from New York City, Long Island, Boston, Northern New Jersey and much closer to Connecticut, Ski Butternut and Catamount are easy to get to via interstate and state highways.

These family-friendly ski areas have had loyal skiing families visit them for decades and these families continue to visit year after year with their children and grandchildren because the mountains are fun. An easygoing and comfortable atmosphere greets you upon arrival in their parking and drop-off areas, which are an easy walk to the ticketing and rental locations as well as the base lodges and lifts.

The primary base to summit lifts at each mountain are the Ridge Quad at Catamount and the Top Flight Quad at Ski Butternut, both rising 1,000 vertical feet and providing access to most of each mountain's trail network. Ski Butternut has two other quad chairlifts, a triple, a double, four learning carpets and a Poma surface lift servicing the racecourse. Catamount has six lifts, including the Ridge Quad chairlift, a triple, two doubles and two carpet lifts.

These lifts take skiers and riders to many fun and classic New England trails at each mountain. Favorite runs at Ski Butternut are the Freewheeler trail and the Upper and Lower Applejack trails. Freewheeler is an intermediate rated trail accessed by the Overbrook Triple. As one of the less frequented trails on the mountain, Freewheeler often



SOUTH EGREMONT, MA – Groomed to perfection with a view to boot! The slopes at Catamount Ski Area on the New York-Massachusetts border, on Route 23. Ski Butternut is minutes away and these two great mountains have family-friendly pricing that keeps everyone happy. Photo courtesy of Catamount Ski Area

holds its groomed morning corduroy into the afternoon. The Applejack intermediate trails, with their twists and turns, extend up to a mile from summit to base. For more advanced skiers, there are fun black diamond trails like Lucifer's Leap, Downspout and Chute.

There are 22 trails and an eight-lane tubing park at Ski Butternut. Ski Butternut offers several beginner trails and a large, yet separate, beginner area with a double chairlift and four learning carpet lifts. Snowboarders and freestylers can test their jib style, grinds and airs in the mountain's popular terrain parks. The Twisted Terrain Park is located on the Twist and West Way trails, while those just learning to enjoy park features should seek out their progression park on Cruiser.

At Catamount, the wide variety of terrain includes the intermediate Sidewinder trails extending a mile from summit to base. This is a fun cruiser with turns and terrain changes. The intermediate Ridge Run trail to the green circle Promenade trails extends nearly two miles from the

summit. Popular black diamond runs are Glade and Alley Cat as well as the Off Stage trail with moguls. Experts meet the challenge of the double diamond Catapult trail. Very steep and often with moguls, everyone is under the watchful eyes of the Ridge Quad riders. For beginners, the expansive Meadows area, accessed by the Meadows Triple, takes skiers and riders to seven green circle trails. There are 33 trails in all, including Catamount's two first-timer trails in the learning area serviced by two carpet lifts. Snowboarders and freestylers are attracted to Catamount's three terrain parks, a 400-foot halfpipe and a bordercross track on Sunrise.

Both Ski Butternut and Catamount have excellent snowsports programs. The children's programs teach kids skiing from the age of 4 to 12 and snowboarding from ages 7-12. Ski Butternut's Adventurer program has daily offerings, and Catamount's Mountain Cats program operates weekends and holidays. Reservations are highly recommended at both mountains. Learn to Ski and Snowboard programs are popular and are offered daily throughout the season. For \$75 at either mountain, first timers receive rental equipment, group lessons and a beginner area lift ticket. Special return-to-learn packages are offered at Catamount and Ski Butternut. Private and group lessons are offered daily at each mountain. Private lesson reservations are highly recommended.

If you are a midweek skier, the best values in snow country are at Ski Butternut and Catamount with Monday through Friday non-holiday ticket prices of \$25 and \$29, respectively.

Visit www.skibutternut.com or www.catamountski.com for information on affordable season passes, lift tickets, lessons, rentals, lodging and more.

You can view this exact page online and link to both resorts at www.skiernews.net/PA-NH2012-Berkshires.pdf

You can log on to Ski Butternut and Catamount from links on the homepage of www.skiernews.com or visit www.catamountski.com or www.skibutternut.com for info on season passes, rates, lessons, rentals, lodging and more.



2 GREAT MOUNTAINS CLOSE TO HOME!





A SHORT DRIVE FROM NYC, LI, CT & MA IN THE BEAUTIFUL BERKSHIRES

2 great mountains just minutes apart. Enjoy a family oriented ski vacation close to home in the Berkshires. Stay at one of the many B&B's, Country Inns and Motels in the Great Barrington area. Both areas offer affordable deals, exciting terrain parks, learning programs & much more! Visit us online for more info or call for a FREE brochure.

www.SkiButternut.com | 413.528.2000

www.CatamountSki.com | 413.528.1262