

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

Mount Washington chocolate festival to a video harness for phones

By Neece Regis | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT FEBRUARY 01, 2014



HANDOUT

Annual Chocolate Festival in New Hampshire.

here

SWEET DAY ON N.H. SKI TRAILS

Calling all chocoholics! The Mount Washington Valley Ski & Snowshoe Foundation is hosting its 25th annual Chocolate Festival (Feb. 23, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.). Cross-country ski or snowshoe along a network of trails, stopping at participating inns and trailside businesses for treats

such as brownie sundaes, chocolate-dipped strawberries and pretzels, chocolate fountains and fondue, chocolate cookies, and more. A complimentary shuttle van visits select stops (1-5 p.m.), or you can drive. Ticket includes trail pass, chocolate treats, use of the shuttle, and a chance to win a \$200 gift certificate at participating businesses. Advance ticket \$30; day of event \$35. 603-356-9920, www.mwuskitouring.org/Chocolate-Festival.html

HOTEL WEEK BOSTON DEBUTS

A staycation just got easier with the debut of the first Hotel Week Boston (school vacation week Feb. 16-23). At least 20 hotels are offering packages with deep discounts including The Charles Hotel (pictured; \$219 a night for deluxe room, skating passes, free parking, and daily breakfast); The Four Seasons (25 percent off their best available rate); and the Lenox Hotel (30 percent off the “Fireplace Package,” which includes a bottle of wine). Guests receive exclusive deals at cultural organizations, such as two-for-one tickets at the Institute of Contemporary Art and the Franklin Park Zoo. Website lists all hotels and partner attractions. www.hotelweekboston.com

there

VIRGINIA VALENTINE-PAMPERING

Celebrate Valentine’s Day in high style at Salamander Resort & Spa, a 340-acre resort in the heart of Virginia’s horse and wine country. Guest suites at the estate, an hour’s drive from downtown Washington, offer views of the Blue Ridge foothills. The Valentine’s Day Package includes one-night accommodations, bottle of Perrier Jouet champagne, and romance-encouraging amenities (Feb. 14-15). Rates from \$599 per night, per couple. Add on Thursday or Sunday night for \$250 per night. For more pampering, enjoy a dual massage in the spa Couple’s Suite, featuring patio and garden, outdoor whirlpool, pedestal tub, multi-jet shower, and fireplace (\$320-\$475). 866-938-7370, www.salamanderresort.com

COUPLES DAY SPA TREAT IN TORONTO

On Valentine’s Day — or any day — couples visiting Toronto can relax and rejuvenate at the Ritz-Carlton day spa, where romantic Cloud 9 suites offer privacy for side-by-side treatments. The signature couples treatment, Floating on a Cloud . . . Together, includes a warming foot exfoliation with oils of rosemary, rosewood, and mint, followed by a full-body massage with aroma-therapy oils. After the treatment, relax in the suite with a refreshing glass of sparkling wine (120 minutes, \$600). Other face, body, and massage treatments are available, as well as a state-of-the art gym, glass-enclosed pool with sweeping views of the city, and hair and makeup services. 416-572-8000, www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/Toronto/Default.htm

MARDI GRAS GUIDE GOES DIGITAL

Let the good times roll in New Orleans. For the first time, the entire contents of Arthur Hardy's best-selling annual magazine, the 160-page Mardi Gras Guide, is available in digital format. The 2014 edition includes a history of Mardi Gras, a Royalty Gallery featuring photos of the kings and queens of more than 30 parades, maps of more than 50 parades, an illustrated glossary of terms, and more. As a bonus, the digital edition provides updated information on last-minute parade route changes or the addition of celebrity riders. This year's festival is March 4. Digital or print guide: \$4.99. 504-913-1563, www.mardigrasguide.com

everywhere

NETWORKING TRAVEL SITE DEBUTS

Are you a jet setter or a jet seeker? A new website ImFlyingIn.com is a global members-only networking portal aiming to connect both groups. Newly launched and designed to bridge the gap between social networking and local dating sites, it connects those who travel with those who stay in one place. Members can grow their national and international network of friends, expand corporate contacts, and find fun and possibly romance. Connections are based upon member location, personal profiles, social preferences, travel schedules, and airport codes. Membership of \$30 for three months guarantees at least three connections during every quarterly subscription. www.ImFlyingIn.com

VIDEO HARNESS FOR PHONES

Adventurers looking for a simple way to record their bungee jumping, downhill skiing, snowboarding, paragliding, and other travel experiences can shoot point-of-view action videos without fancy camera equipment with the Subtech Sports X-Mount. Simply strap on a harness, snap your smartphone to the chest mount, and go. Designed to rotate phones 360-degrees, the product allows you to document your hijinks in all types of travel and extreme sports. \$49.95. www.subtechsports.com