

# Pat's Peak Review

- Joanna Rosen

I am sure that while plenty of us love skiing, most of us do not want to become Olympic medalists or anything like that. We simply want to enjoy the snow, hang out with friends, eat good food, and just have fun. At Pats Peak Ski Area in Henniker, New Hampshire, there is an abundance of opportunities for fun. From the expert trails to the beginner areas, there is something for everyone at Pats Peak. If you are not a fantastic skier, you can enjoy the easier runs and avoid the moguls. If you are hungry, you can stop by the cafeteria or the Sled Pub restaurant. Ultimately, Pats Peak is a great place for skiers who are looking to have fun.

Pats Peak has 26 trails, most of which are simple and good for beginners or low level skiers. There are a few more trails of varying difficulty and four "Expert" trails. I've been going to Pats Peak with my family every year since I was around nine, so I've skied the entire mountain multiple times. In fact, they just opened a new intermediate trail. Most of the mountain is not challenging, but there are a few diamond trails that are steep and full of glades. If you are already experienced and want to push yourself to become a better skier or snowboarder, Pats Peak probably is not the best choice. But it is perfect for those who don't care and just want to have fun.

What better way is there to have fun than to eat great food? Pats Peak has two cafeterias and a restaurant, the Sled Pub. At both cafeterias you can order drinks, snacks, and cookies -typical cafeteria food. The Sled Pub features an American grill menu that includes selections for kids, so it is great for families. Unfortunately, their vegetarian selection is not vast: a veggie chili, a salad, and macaroni and cheese seems to be all they have. But if you are not like me and enjoy eating meat, then this would be a wonderful restaurant for you!

When I was little and my family went skiing, my dad would always take me out for a few runs, just father-daughter. After we came in, we would get hot chocolates and sit together by the fire upstairs in the Sled Pub. From then on, it has always been our tradition to get hot chocolate whenever we go skiing. And the hot chocolate at Pats Peak is exceptional. So if you do decide to go check it out, I recommend a huge mug of their hot chocolate.

If you want to relax and spend time with friends, head to Pats Peak in New Hampshire. It is no Jay Peak, but it is family friendly, convenient, and relaxing. Because the mountain is not overwhelmingly challenging, you can focus on your friends and family and not on the difficulty of the trails. When you get too cold, you can go inside and sit near the fire, and maybe have a burger or a hot chocolate. You might think I am biased because I have been going to Pats Peak since forever, but if you spend one day there, I would be willing to bet that you will like it just as much as I do.