



# POCONO MOUNTAINS

VISITORS BUREAU

## 2011 INFORMATION & FACTS

*Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania*

**ALICIA M. QUINN**

Director of Public Relations

1004 West Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA

P: 570 421 5791 ext 3121/C: 570 578 2473

[alicia@poconos.org](mailto:alicia@poconos.org)

Visit us online at [800poconos.com](http://800poconos.com) or stay up-to-the-minute with regional information by following **PoconoTourism** on the following sites or texting **POCONOS to 77950**:



### LOCATION

The Pocono Mountains: 2,400 square miles of mountains, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and woodlands in the northeast corner of Pennsylvania, encompassing Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties.

### TOWNS

County seats of the respective counties above are **Jim Thorpe, Stroudsburg, Milford and Honesdale**. All offer quaint, historic atmospheres, unique shops and restaurants, authentic historic sites, art galleries, friendly faces and more.

### THE ORIGIN OF "POCONO"

Pocono is a Native American word meaning, "stream between two mountains." The Delaware Water Gap is the true namesake, for the area where Delaware River cut a gap between two mountains and formed what is now known as the "Gateway to the Pocono Mountains."

### STATISTICS

- **Number of visitors per year:** 23.8 million person-trips, combining both overnight and day trips  
*\*Travel USA © 2008 Visitor Report for the Poconos done by Longwoods International in April 2008*
- **Highest point:** Mt. Ararat, Preston, in Wayne County. Elevation: 2,654 feet.
- **Lowest point:** Bushkill, Pa., in Pike County. Elevation: 340 feet.
- **Total lakes:** 150.
- **Total river miles:** 170 (includes Delaware, Lehigh and Lackawaxen rivers).
- **Natural springs and brooks** are scattered throughout the Pocono Mountains region.
- **Total State Parks:** Nine State Parks covering a total of 35,537 acres. The parks are Beltzville, Big Pocono, Gouldsboro, Hickory Run, Lehigh Gorge, Promised Land, Prompton State Park, Tobyhanna and Varden Conservation Area.
- **Two National Parks:** The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area covers 40 miles of the Delaware River from north of Milford, PA to south of Delaware Water Gap, PA. Total acres are 70,000. The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River stretches 73.4 miles along the Pennsylvania and New York border. It includes riffles and Class I and II rapids between placid pools and eddies.
- **State Forest:** 81,958 acres of State Forest Land.
- **Hiking trails:** 126 total trails equaling 261 miles of trails.
- **Ski areas:** Eight major ski areas all offering alpine skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing. Major ski areas are Alpine Mountain Ski & Ride Center, Big Boulder Ski Area, Blue Mountain Ski Area, Camelback Mountain Resort, Jack Frost Mountain, Shawnee Mountain, Ski Big Bear at Masthope Mountain and Skytop Lodge.
- **Ski trails and terrain parks:** over 185 trails.
- **Snow making:** 100% snow making; nearly 3,000 snow guns in the Pocono Mountains.
- **Golf:** More than **35 golf courses**.

### SPRING/SUMMER RECREATION

- **Lehigh River:** Six whitewater rafting outfitters. Most also offer multiple-day trips, float trips, canoeing/kayaking, mountain biking, Skirmish, outdoor barbeques, group specials and themes.
- **Delaware River:** Five canoeing outfitters. Most offer lessons, kayaking, whitewater rafting, float trips, tubing, camping, paint ball, group specials and themes.
- **Fishing Areas:** 122 miles of stocked river; 11,285 acres of stocked lakes, including Lake Wallenpaupack.
- More than **35 golf courses**, which are home to hundreds of holes, including championship courses built by Donald Ross, Jack Nicklaus, A.W. Tillinghast and Robert Trent Jones.
- More than six sites to view spectacular **Fourth of July fireworks**.
- Over 15 **museums** showcasing the historical, cultural and artistic importance of the region.
- **Pocono Raceway** is home to the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series; Pocono 500 and Pennsylvania 500.
- **Cultural/heritage** sites and 23 self-guided, **scenic driving tours** highlight views of rolling mountains, country roads and quaint towns.
- **Nineteen waterfalls:** most are free and open to the public.
- **Two Outdoor Waterparks:** Camelbeach Waterpark and Costa's Family Fun Park.
- **Two Indoor Waterparks:** Great Wolf Lodge and Split Rock Resort.

### FALL RECREATION

- **Fall foliage:** Over 127 varieties of trees, shrubs and plants can be found. Three zones of coloration occur in the Pocono Mountains. A Fall Foliage Forecast is available to check conditions of the changing leaves online at [800poconos.com](http://800poconos.com) or via phone at 570-421-5565.
- **Eighteen ways to view fall foliage:** Hiking, strolling, mountain biking, chairlift rides, hot air balloon ride, horseback riding, fall foliage rail excursion, rafting, kayaking, canoeing, sail boating, hayride, golfing, fishing, during a drive through the countryside, from a scenic overlook, rock climbing and from the porch of a quaint bed and breakfast or country inn.
- **Festivals/Fairs:** Four county fairs; over 20 festivals celebrating culture, heritage, music and food.
- **Old-fashioned train rides:** Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway, Inc., Jim Thorpe, Pa.; Steamtown National Historic Museum, Scranton, Pa.; Stourbridge Line Rail Excursions, Honesdale, Pa.
- **Hiking trails:** 126 total trails equaling 261 miles of trails.
- **Cultural/heritage** sites and 23 self-guided, **scenic driving tours** highlight views of rolling mountains, country roads and quaint towns.

### WINTER RECREATION

- **On the slopes:** There are seven major ski areas that offer alpine skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing. Lessons, children's programs and group rates are available.
- Eight places to **ice skate** (indoor and/or outdoor).
- Four properties offer **horse-drawn sleigh rides**.
- Eleven properties and parks offer **snowmobiling**.
- Fifteen properties and parks offer **cross-country skiing**.
- Four properties offer **Tobogganing/Sledding**.
- Seven properties and parks offer **Snowshoeing**.
- Five properties and parks offer **Ice Fishing**.
- Two properties offer **Dogsledding**.
- **Two Indoor Waterparks:** Great Wolf Lodge and Split Rock Resort.
- **Shopping:** abundant antiquing, numerous unique shops located in quaint towns and The Crossings Premium Outlets (home to over 100 name-brand factory stores).