



Cascade News

Cascade Lodge and Restaurant
3719 West Highway 61
Lutsen, MN 55612

November 2011

A Stunning Summer!

The historic Cascade Lodge and Restaurant is owned and operated by Michael and Maureen O'Phelan, proudly serving you since 2004.

As I write these words, we are enjoying the end of November with one of the best summer/fall seasons we have ever had. The weather was perfect nearly all summer long. Very nice temperatures with highs in the low 80's dropping down to the 60-70 degree range at night. We had none of the hot, humid conditions found around the country. As a result our summer lodging was up signifi-

cantly and our fall was the best occupancy we have ever experienced! We thank all of you for that of course and we certainly hope the trend continues. Also, we had a total of 10 students this summer, 4 from the US and 6 from Eastern Europe. These were really great kids who had a lot of fun working and enjoying the North Shore. Finally, we completed our first year in operation with our new

pub open and I am happy to report that nearly all of our guests LOVED the change! We enjoyed live music on Fri-Sat nights all winter long and Saturday nights all summer. Not only did our beverage sales rise significantly, our entire restaurant business was up substantially from previous seasons. Overall, we are feeling very thankful to all of our repeat and new guests this year and we sincerely appreciate your business.



Cascade Lodge
Cascade Restaurant



New Packages Available

Bed and Breakfast

We implemented this package in early summer and it has proven to be the single most popular package we have offered. The bed and breakfast package includes your accommodation as well as daily breakfasts for each person in your party registered with the reservation. You can order anything you like off of our extensive breakfast menu and it also includes a standard beverage. Leave the cooking at home and enjoy some hand-crafted breakfasts at Cascade Restaurant on Lake Superior!

Cross Country Ski

This package is based on our summer hiking package, the popular Hikers delight. The 3 night versions includes skiing a short ski near Cascade on arrival then Day 1: Eat Breakfast and pick up trail snack. Shuttle to Massie Loop Trail head. Ski from Caribou Trailhead and upper Hall and Massie Loops back to Cascade Lodge (12K). Day 2: Eat Breakfast, pick up trail snack. Shuttle to Deer Yard Trailhead. Ski Main Loop and back to Cascade Lodge (13K). We also offer a 2 night version with the shuttle to either trail head.

Wine and Dine

This is very similar to the Bed and Breakfast but includes one dinner for two persons with an ice cold beer or a glass of house wine. This is a great way to enjoy a care free morning and an excellent meal off of our regular menu on one of your evenings together at Cascade Lodge. Our Restaurant is open every day of the year and in the winter we feature live music on Friday and Saturday nights. Reservations are recommended on these nights.

Christmas

Gift

Certificates!

Still searching for that perfect gift item for somebody special? Cascade Lodge offer gift certificates for any amount you choose. We will send to you or your loved one. Treat somebody to a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the north shore. Call 800-322-9543

What's New At Cascade

We completed the re-finishing of the Main Lodge floor and the results are stunning! Many guests felt more welcome by the new look and took time to simply relax and enjoy the ambiance of this newly updated space. We also did a major road/stream restoration project to minimize sediment runoff into Lake Superior. All of our roads were re-graded to direct water

into a natural holding pond area where sediment can settle out before being introduced into our stream. I don't know if it's related or not, but we saw trout in our stream this summer! We completed most of a new deck addition on our motel building and by early spring we expect to have nice little private alcoves for each motel unit which will look out at Lake Superior.

As I write this we are starting a complete remodel of 204's bath, installing new low water usage toilets in 204, 5c and 5d and replacing the very worn out vanity in 5d. We plan on painting all lodge rooms/baths this winter season and will hopefully complete remodeling of 2 other lodge bathrooms—212 and 202. This old Lodge is getting newer all the time!



Above: Main Lodge living room is both comfortable and functional.

Below: Deck being built



Foxes and Wolves and Bears, Oh My!

While our area moose count is on the decline, we have seen a big rise in the wolf count.. Foxes have been seen on a regular basis as well. Our hunters this year felt the deer count was down due to this increase but in actual-

ity, the overall deer count was only about 7% less than the previous year and that was near a record high. I for one, saw a nice 190 lb six point buck taken behind the resort. One night we came home to a pair of bear cubs up

in a tree about 30 feet from our house on the back part of Cascade Lodge's property. The Mama bear was at the base of the tree simply letting them play around up there. I suppose she needed a break...



Work Week May 13-20th 2012!!!

We had a successful 2011 work week with over 16 fun and hardworking people!. Sign up now for the 2012 work week and we will gladly exchange rooms and meals for your skills and efforts. Typically, we need people skilled in painting, carpentry, electrical, plumbing yard work etc. The plan this year is that we will be finishing

the motel deck, getting our flower beds ready and other projects. Here's how it works: You arrive on Sunday and check in to a free basic room. On Monday thru Friday we provide you with a breakfast at 8am and then by 8:30-9 we begin working on projects. We break for lunch about 12 noon and we finish up about 3 pm. The rest of the day is yours. On Fri-

day the lunch is light and we will typically finish up by 12 noon. Saturday you are on your own for meals, but the Lodging is free, checkout is Sunday. Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of this years adventure and a chance at some new friends. We have limited availability so please make plans early! Call Michael now at 218-387-1112!

Green Initiatives

We have replaced approximately 1/2 of our old water hungry toilets with modern low flow toilets. We expect to have a total of 7 more replaced before next spring. We are also implementing more modern low flow shower heads in most of our lodge rooms. The old units while doing their job, left the shower head too low making it difficult to get a comfortable shower. We put in new Anderson high efficiency windows into cabin 9 this fall and they look—and work—beautifully. We also took a close look at our propane costs and made a strategic decision to purchase our own tanks

allowing us to purchase propane from the least expensive source. Another obscure initiative is the purchase of a new Kubota 1100 RTV groomer by the Norpine Ski Trail Association last season which allowed us to groom about 1/2 of the time with this machine costing about 1/2 the fuel cost of our pisten bully. It not only fulfilled the diesel fuel reduction promises, it did a great job for our skiers with our new Ginzu style groomers! We continued to replace all incandescent bulbs with CFL bulbs and we began experimenting with LED bulbs. We now have 2 LED TV's.

Broadband Internet

We are told it is coming before the end of 2012 and we can't wait! Probably our number one complaint is the lack of fast internet. **While we presently have the BEST system money can buy for our area,** it is still slow in comparison to what people are used to. Broadband will bring a dizzying array of both speed enhancements as well as TV and Phone options. We will be implementing Broadband as soon as the fiber optic cable hits our door and will evaluate TV and Telephone options as they become more clear. We are always working to improve our guests experience.

Winter Activities Calendar 2011-2012

As the busy summer and fall months fade away we now have visions of a different season. A season where a pillowy white blanket covers the landscape and opens up a whole host of new activities! Yes winter on the North Shore! The deep fluffy snow will soon provide ample opportunity for Nordic and Alpine Skiing, Snowshoeing, Sleigh Rides and Snowmobiling. We are

excited to welcome back Marco and his team of Draft Horses for the fourth year of Sleigh Rides on our trail through the woods. Last year over 1000 people enjoyed a ride followed by hot chocolate and a toasty campfire. Snowshoe trails and a snowmobile spur trail are accessible directly from the Resort as well. Cascade Lodge has Nordic Ski and Snowshoe rental gear for

the whole family & group discounts available too! The 4th Annual Volks Ski Fest will be held the week of February 11 and will feature lots of great events and activities all across Cook County. Last year we hosted a candle lit ski as well as the Volks 400 ski event with a fun gathering in our pub to announce the results. Make plans to enjoy the winter season at Cascade Lodge!



Sleigh Ride Driver Marco Good along with Jack and Julie can pull up to 15 people on their sleigh!

A Season of New Faces

Year eight of our adventure here up north resulted in the last original staff member we hired in 2004 to seek out a new opportunity. So we now have 100% of our 29 permanent staff members turnover in the 8th year of operation. We are proud of our new staff and have worked hard to train all our staff in friendliness, knowledge of the area, accu-

racy and follow up and above all, treating our guests with the dignity and respect they deserve. We hope you have noticed. Please welcome newcomers: Jessica & Amanda N-waitress, Amanda O-marketing, desk, server, housekeeper, Mellissa-housekeeper, Kevin & Mike-cooks, Jackie &

Dawn-Housekeepers, Adam-Chores/Grooming. All of our children now work for the resort as well; Sarah & Shannon-server, Elizabeth-front desk and dishwashing, Sam-Wood, Dishwashing. Overall, we are proud and happy to be keeping so many busy in this recessionary time.



The bar area of the new pub featuring Guinness on tap! There is also table seating in the pub that has added 35 seats to our overall capacity.

Late Fall & Winter Lodging Specials!



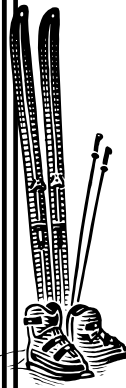
Ring in the new year
at Cascade Lodge
and Restaurant!

Make Winter Ski Plans January 3 for 2!

Reserve any Room or Cabin for 2
nights at Regular price and get the 3rd
night free! It's a savings of up to 40%

Great Midweek Specials All Winter Long

(Excludes 12/23-1/1). All Units Marked down 20% Sun-
Thursday. 40% off midweek now until December 23rd!



Cascade Lodge Ski & Stay Packages Excellent Value!!

At the Upper Midwest's Premier Ski
Area... **Lutsen Mountains...** 90
runs, 4 mountains, new terrain
park and chairlifts. Call today or
visit online to book your ski and stay
package with us!



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Call Cascade Lodge for Reservations:

218-387-1112 or 1-800-322-9543

-or- visit our Website:

www.cascadelodgemn.com

Cross Country Ski Package

3 Nights Lodging

Breakfast and Trail Snack
each day & Two Shuttles to
great trailheads

Available 1/2/11 - end of
season

Includes 25K of excel-
lent Cross Country Ski-
ing on our 57K system.

Ski some of the most scenic
groomed trails on the North
Shore of Lake Superior!