



## Loon Mountain Resort Lincoln, New Hampshire



Loon as seen from Mt. Liberty (2008)

Located in Lincoln, New Hampshire, Loon Mountain Resort is one of the largest and most popular ski areas in New England.

### Development of Loon

In the early 1960s, old mill town Lincoln, New Hampshire was on the verge of a drastic change. Spurred by President Dwight Eisenhower's Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, Interstate 93 was being constructed from Boston to Lincoln. At the same time, the winter sport of alpine skiing was exploding in popularity.

President Eisenhower's former Chief of Staff [Sherman Adams](#) grew up in Lincoln and went on to become President of the Dartmouth Outing Club and Governor of New Hampshire. Following his time in Washington, he returned to the White Mountains in search of a mountain to build a ski area.

While [Sawyer River Skiway](#) looked like a compelling place to build a ski area, his longtime home of Lincoln seemed more promising, due to improvements to the Kancamagus Highway, the expansion of Interstate 93, and the urging of his wife Rachel. Work started in the fall of 1965 on a \$700,000 project at Loon Mountain, designed by Sel Hannah. A veteran of the logging industry, Adams was hard at work on the mountain nearly every day during construction.

### Loon Opens

Loon debuted in December of 1966, served by a four person gondola and two double chairlifts. A dozen trails covering 80 acres dropped some 1,744 feet from the top of the gondola. The new area featured a Carroll Reed ski shop and a Jon Putnam ski school.

A new 45 room hotel debuted for the 1967-68 season adjacent to the base area, complete with a restaurant, lounge, and indoor swimming pool.

After sometimes being referred to as 'Medicare Mountain' due to its largely intermediate and novice trail network, Loon expanded into the East Bowl (later known as the [Fast Basin](#)) for the 1968-69 season. A Hall double chairlift was installed to serve three new trails, as well as to provide an alternative way to get to the summit.

Following a rough winter in 1969-70, Loon installed the first portion of its snowmaking system. Billed as a 'computer-controlled automatic operation,' the initial installation covered 23 acres. The system was expanded to 40 acres for the 1971-72 season.

### Expansion West, North, and South

Loon's next big expansion took place starting in 1978-79, when the first West Basin chairlift was installed. A base lodge was constructed at the foot of the chairlift for the 1979-80 season, followed by a second West basin chairlift for 1980-81.

For the 1984-85 season, the \$1.7 million [North Peak](#) area debuted, serviced by a triple chairlift. The new area also featured snowmaking and a lodge. Meanwhile, condominium development was in full swing with 730 units built by that time.

Loon Mountain Resort Details	
Status:	Open
First Year of Operation:	1966
Vertical Drop:	2,100 feet
Lifts in Operation:	1 gondola, 3 high speed quads, 1 quad, 1 triple, 3 doubles, surface lifts
Lifts Removed/Non Operational:	1 gondola, 1 triple, 3 doubles, surface lifts



The 1970s Loon base area

Additional chairlifts were installed for the 1985-86 and 1986-87 seasons. [Sherman Adams](#) passed away in the fall of 1986.

The two decade old gondola was replaced with a new Doppelmayr for the 1988-89 season. Also around this time, Loon was working on what originally was to be a \$27 million expansion project that included 7 lifts and 39 trails. While the proposal was scaled down in 1990, the eventual [South Peak](#) project was be delayed for nearly two decades due to continued red tape, threats, and lawsuits.

**New Ownership**

Further modernization efforts took pace in the 1990s, including the replacement of the West Basin lifts with a high speed detachable quad in 1995. On February 26, 1998, [Booth Creek Ski Holdings, Inc.](#) purchased Loon Mountain, bringing it under the same ownership as [Cranmore](#) and [Waterville Valley](#).

[North Peak](#) received a new high speed detachable quad for the 2004-05 season. In January of 2007, [Booth Creek Ski Holdings, Inc.](#) sold Loon to [CNL Income Properties, Inc.](#), retaining operational control. Later that year, [Boyne USA Resorts](#) took over operational control and opened the long awaited [South Peak](#) complex. Though slowed due to economic issues, improvements have been gradually deployed at South Peak in subsequent years.

In June of 2014, the proposed [new beginner area at South Peak](#) was approved by the White Mountain National Forest, paving the way for future expansion.

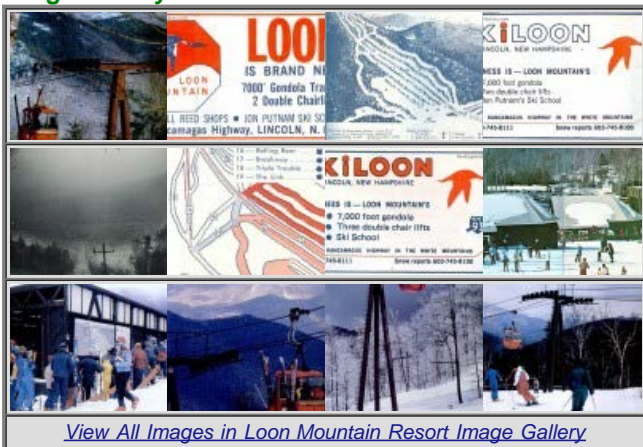


The Lincoln Express Quad under construction on South Peak (2007)

**Expansion History**

Expansion History		
Project Name	Season	Status
<a href="#">Beginner Area at South Mountain</a>	2010s	Proposed
<a href="#">East Basin</a>	1968-69	Open
<a href="#">North Peak</a>	1984-85	Open
<a href="#">South Peak</a>	2007-08	Open
West Basin	1978-89	Open

**Image Gallery**



[View All Images in Loon Mountain Resort Image Gallery](#)

**Lifts**

Click on lift name for information and photos

Name	Type	Brand	Installed	Removed After	Details
<b>Standing Lifts</b>					
<a href="#">East Basin Double</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Hall-Doppelmayr-CTEC	1968-69		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Gondola</a>	Gondola - 4 Person	Doppelmayr	1988-89		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Kancamagus Express</a>	Chairlift - Quad - Detachable	Doppelmayr	1995-96		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Kissing Cousin Double</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	CTEC	1986-87		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Lincoln Express</a>	Chairlift - Quad - Detachable	Doppelmayr-CTEC	2007-08		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Little Sister Double</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Hall-CTEC	1966-67		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">North Peak Express</a>	Chairlift - Quad - Detachable	Doppelmayr-CTEC	2004-05		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Riverside Connector</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Doppelmayr	2010-11		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Seven Brothers Triple</a>	Chairlift - Triple - Fixed	CTEC	1985-86		<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Tote Road Quad</a>	Chairlift - Quad - Fixed	Doppelmayr-CTEC	2007-08		<a href="#">Details</a>
<b>Past Lifts</b>					

<a href="#">Gondola</a>	Gondola - 4 Person	PHB	1966-67	1987-88	<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">North Peak Triple</a>	Chairlift - Triple - Fixed	CTEC	1984-85	2003-04	<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">Seven Brothers Double</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Hall	1966-67	1984-85	<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">West Basin</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Hall	1978-79	1994-95	<a href="#">Details</a>
<a href="#">West Basin II</a>	Chairlift - Double - Fixed	Hall	1980-81	1994-95	<a href="#">Details</a>










### Skier Visit History

Season	Skier Visits	Source
<b>2010s</b>		
2011-12	374,845	New Hampshire Business Review
2010-11	389,958	New Hampshire Business Review
<b>2000s</b>		
2005-06	301,000	New Hampshire Business Review
2004-05	301,000	New Hampshire Business Review
2003-04	322,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2004
2002-03	359,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2004
2001-02	301,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2004
2000-01	385,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2002
1999-00	304,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2002
<b>1990s</b>		
1998-99	297,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2000
1997-98	350,000	Booth Creek Form 10-K 2000
1989-90	344,646	Lewiston Sun Journal
<b>1980s</b>		
1986-87	348,000	Nashua Telegraph
1984-85	232,000	Providence Journal
<b>1970s</b>		
1977-78	130,000	Boston Globe

### Ticket Price History

Weekend Full Day Lift Ticket

Season	Price	Source
<b>2010s</b>		
2014-15	\$83.00	loonmtn.com
2013-14	\$81.00	loonmtn.com
2012-13	\$79.00	loonmtn.com
2011-12	\$78.00	loonmtn.com
2010-11	\$76.00	loonmtn.com
2009-10	\$73.00	skinh.com
<b>2000s</b>		
2008-09	\$73.00	loonmtn.com
2007-08	\$69.00	loonmtn.com
2006-07	\$67.00	loonmtn.com
2005-06	\$65.00	loonmtn.com
2004-05	\$59.00	loonmtn.com
2003-04	\$54.00	SkiNH
2002-03	\$54.00	Brochure
2001-02	\$51.00	loonmtn.com
2000-01	\$49.00	loonmtn.com
1999-00	\$47.00	Brochure
<b>1990s</b>		
1998-99	\$46.00	loonmtn.com
1997-98	\$45.00	loonmtn.com
1996-97	\$45.00	atplay.com
1992-93	\$38.00	Boston Globe
1991-92	\$36.00	Boston Globe
1990-91	\$38.00	Boston Globe

1989-90	\$36.00		Boston Globe
<b>1980s</b>			
1988-89	\$30.00		Boston Globe
1987-88	\$32.00		Boston Globe
1983-84	\$20.00		Brochure
1982-83	\$20.00		Rand McNally Winter Recreation Map
<b>1970s</b>			
1977-78	\$11.00		Boston Globe
1970-71	\$9.00		Boston Globe
1969-70	\$9.00		Boston Globe
<b>1960s</b>			
1967-68	\$7.50		Eastern Ski Atlas

## Visitor Memories

Add a memory of Loon Mountain Resort	
First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
E-Mail Address:	<input type="text"/>
Comments:	<input type="text"/>

## External Links

- [Loon Mountain](#) - official site

*Last updated: July 7, 2014*

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