

COPPER PEAK: THE AREA'S #1 ATTRACTION

The Copper Peak Adventure Ride provides visitors a most unique experience involving the 800 ft. chairlift ride to the top of the hill and the 18-story elevator ride to the main observation deck, near the top of the world's largest ski jumping platform. The view is, without doubt, the most awe-inspiring vista in the Midwest. Some visitors are challenged by the walk of the 8-story stairwell to the very top. From the main observation deck, or from the very top of the structure, one can overlook more than 2,500 sq. miles of the Lake Superior Basin. One can also get the ski flyers perspective of what it takes to strap on a pair of 8-foot skis, accelerate to 65 mpm down the 469 ft. inrun, and with leap of faith soar more than 600 ft. down near the bottom of the hill. A typical reaction is: "They must all be a little crazy." No, they're the finest, most talented athletes in the world.

The view from atop Copper Peak is untainted by uncontrolled development. On a clear day it is possible to see some 85 miles across Lake Superior to Northern Minnesota near the Canadian border. One can also observe such historic landmarks as the Apostle Islands (40 miles to the NW), Isle Royale (80 miles NNE), the Porcupine Mountains (25 miles to the NE), the Gogebic-Penokee hills (to the south), and the three area ski hills (Indianhead, Blackjack, and Big Powderhorn).

From the observation deck it is possible to see and

learn about numerous historic sites such as Historic Madeline Island, site of the 1842 treaty signing which opened up the Upper Peninsula to mining exploration; the Lafayette Mine, the first Copper Mine (1843) in the Porcupine Mts.; the Colby Mine (1884), the Gogebic Range's first iron ore mine in Bessemer; and many more historic sites.

Fall Color, as viewed from Copper Peak, is as good or better than anywhere in the world. It usually peaks the last week in September or the first week in October.

Visit the five waterfalls on the nearby Black River and numerous other waterfalls found throughout the area.

Copper Peak is a registered Michigan Historic site and a member of the Western Upper Peninsula Heritage Trail Network. The network contains 70 of the most scenic and historic sites in the six western counties of the Upper Peninsula.

The Adventure Ride is open daily from mid-June to Labor Day, Tuesday through Sunday (Closed Mondays) and on weekends after Labor Day to about mid-October when the color is down. Hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CDT. Group rates. For more information call 906-932-3500 or visit our website at www.copperpeak.org. Copper Peak is located 10 miles north of Ironwood and Bessemer on Black River Road (County 513).

GEOCACHING

What is Geocaching?

Geocaching ("jee-oh-caching") is a relatively new activity that combines hiking, treasure-hunting and the Global Positioning System (GPS). Think of it as a high-tech scavenger hunt. Geocaching requires an inquisitive mind and the skills to solve a puzzle. Where is the cache hidden? Only latitude-longitude coordinates are given along with a hint or two. A GPS unit is used to get the geocacher close to the cache. Then it's

up to the seeker to find the prize. Several geocache locations are available in the area. Once you have found a geocache, sign the logbook and return the geocache to its original location. Afterward, share your geocaching stories and photos online! Be mindful of the environment, practice **Cache In Trash Out**.

For more information on geocaching visit www.geocaching.com.



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