

HOOK
Culture, Art & Community
in the Lower Hudson Valley

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FEB/MARCH ISSUE 2021

ART
WINTERSCAPES
ADIRONDACK
GREAT CAMP
+ MORE





TRAVEL



THE POINT

STORY BY Janet A. Wortendyke

PHOTOGRAPHY BY Janet A. Wortendyke, Ryan Baker and Courtesy of The Point

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Winding between miles of tall, snow-brushed evergreens, I feel a slight elevation shift. There is that distinct outdoorsy smell of fresh oxygen as the road ends at an Adirondack style wooden gate heralding The Point's entrance. Besides its location on an expansive part of Upper Saranac Lake, this iconic Great Camp resort offers distinct upscale luxury amidst beautiful nature with the authenticity of grand summer residents of former times. With eleven very intimate guest rooms, The Point spans 75 acres on lake shores, each room boasting a lake view.



The camp was originally built in 1929 by William Avery Rockefeller, Jr., a nephew of the main lineage and was a gift to his wife, who loved to entertain. One of the buildings includes a magnificent boathouse on the lake enjoyed by guests and for elegant gatherings. The main lodge was tailored for Rockefeller's family and designed by William G. Durkin. Private and remote, the lodge is key to that sense of being in the Adirondacks specific to the structure of the lake. There is limited public access to Upper Saranac Lake, and every room is designed differently, with its own historical décor and beauty reflecting the Rockefeller's concept of an ideal camp with the very essence of the Adirondacks.

Upon arrival, guests are greeted with a glass of champagne. Fine art, opulent fabrics, 19th Century oil paintings and objets d'art further enrich one's sense of place. The guest rooms are replete with crafted wrought iron stone fireplaces, rustic beds from hand hewn wood, commanding a deep richness enhanced by, thankfully, a space void of dark TV monitors, digital light pollution. This at-

Ryan Baker of The Point stands ready for drink requests at the firepit and lean-to at the tip of Upper Saranac Lake. Here you can lay back on luxurious pillows and take in the view or sit around the firepit.



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THE POINT

GRAIN "RISOTTO"
 PARMIGIANO REGGIANO, CHERVIL
 BURGUNDY TRUFFLE
 -
 TASMANIAN TROUT
 BEETS, FENNEL, HON SHIMEJI
 BLOOD ORANGE GASTRIQUE
 -
 CLOS FLORIDENE
 MUSCADELLE
 BORDEAUX, FRANCE
 2014
 -
 WAGYU BEEF TENDERLOIN
 CHANTERELLES, LEERS, SWEET POTATO DAUPHINOISE
 RED WINE JUS
 -
 LOWER EAST
 CABERNET SAUVIGNON
 COLUMBIA VALLEY, WASHINGTON
 2016
 -
 CITRUS MERINGUE

Breads: Cheddar, Challah, Whole Wheat
 Vermont Creamery Butter

Mohawk Guest Room

atmospheric calmness throughout the property sparks conversation and spontaneity. Curling, ice skating, bonfires on the lake or a visit to the ice bar sculpted right on the lake, are a few of the many engaging wintertime activities. Getting to know the staff and meeting interesting people who share a passion for the region is a commonplace occurrence in a relaxed house party atmosphere while being taken care of at the highest level.
 Two well stocked baskets of choice doggie treats were left in the room during my stay, as very special attention is given to your pet by the staff; addition-



ally, exceptional hiking is there for you and your furry friend with spots to sit and ponder life's beauty. How about a hot mulled wine at the amply supplied bar in a nearby lean-to? Here you can lay back on luxurious pillows and take in a lake view or sit around the fire pit engaging in conversation with other guests.

In winter, cheeses, eggs, chickens and root vegetables are sourced from the cellars from Harmony Hills. The savory Ricotta Gnocchi I had played on its textures and flavors elevating it to a whole other level — indescribably delicious by the Chef! When I bit into the citrus meringue it evoked a perfect balance and composition, The Point truly is an epicure's delight.

In summer, boating is a main event with the Hackercraft, a large mahogany boat that is a newer version of Mr. Rockefeller's 1929 boat, reigning as the ultimate Adirondack touring boat. A fleet of bikes are available with a variety of bike trails, including one that creates an eight-mile loop; of course there is hiking, archery on the lawn, fishing and island lunches on the lake — and bonfires at night.

This atmospheric calmness throughout the property sparks conversation and spontaneity. Curling, ice skating, bonfires on the lake or a visit to the ice bar sculpted right on the lake, are a few of the engaging wintertime activities.





Entrance to Weatherwatch



The Point is a perfect example of five-star service. Guests know they will be taken care of. A staff member mentions, "When we are able after Covid, to have a more communal setting, we do a dining experience which is hosted by the management team with stories around the dinner table."

There is a maximum of only 25 guests on the property (but may vary with a wedding) with a ratio of 2-3 staff per guest. The Point closes for the season in mid-February, reopening in late-May/early-June with Special Holiday Celebrations in wintertime.

thepointresort.com
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