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# White weather camping - why not?

By Sarah Rogers

**F**or the hardest among us, winter weather is nothing to fear.

In fact, there's nothing better than the great outdoors under a freshly fallen blanket of snow.

That's why you should pack your cross-country skis and your warmest sleeping bag and head to Glen Sutton over the holidays for a woody weekend overlooking the Mississquoi River valley.

Au Diable Vert is a hidden gem for campers and outdoor enthusiasts any time of the year. The mountainside campground sprawls across 200 acres of what used to be a Loyalist farm.

Now, the site is home to campsites and a number of rustic, year-round cabins that make for a true get-away.

"Most people that come here come because it's quiet and isolated," said Au Diable Vert co-owner Julie Zeitlinger, who came to Quebec from Austria 10 years ago. "It feels like you're getting away from it all."

Of the nine cabins, two of them are perched 15-feet up trees, providing the adult answer to the treehouse.

Or you can try the round fibreglass shelter called the Treeglou.

All of Au Diable's cabins are secluded and fitted with rustic camp kitchens, a table and chairs and woodstove to heat with.

The campground offers prospector tents too - for the most resilient of outdoorsmen - which are also fitted with woodstoves.

But really, you're not there to stay inside all day.

From the top of the hill at Au Diable Vert, your eyes can scan the river valley, with Owl's Head as a backdrop to the east, across to the highest peak of the Sutton mountain range and south to Vermont's Green Mountains and Jay Peak.

The campground boasts 14 kilometres of trail for snowshoeing - snowshoes can be rented at their main office - and six kilometres of that is tracked for cross-country skiing. Au Diable Vert's trails even link up to a larger network of trails managed by Sentiers de l'Estrie and the Green Mountain Nature Reserve.

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\*This offer is available until the end of December 2010

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