

Wintergreen Resort

‘Cliffhanger Challenge’ Invades Wintergreen Resort for Memorial Day Weekend

3rd Annual Mountain Bike Race Shifts to Sunday, Joined By Inaugural Trail Run on Saturday

Resort’s 9th Annual ‘Blues, Brews & BBQ’ Festival Highlights Weekend Lineup



WINTERGREEN, Va. (April 21, 2015) – Runners on your mark, get set, go. For the first time ever as part of [Wintergreen Resort](#)’s family-friendly, fun-filled Memorial Day weekend, that phrase will be bellowed as the inaugural Cliffhanger Challenge Trail Run makes its debut Saturday, May 23.

For nearly a decade, the Blue Ridge Mountain-based property has made Memorial Day weekend special by hosting the Blues, Brews & BBQ Festival, as well as an array of other activities, events and entertainment designed for the entire family. For the first time ever, one of those events – the [Cliffhanger Challenge](#) – will not only feature a mountain bike race but the newly added trail run.

The Cliffhanger Mountain Bike Challenge returns for its third year and this year shifts from Saturday to Sunday (May 24). Part of the [2015 Virginia Off-Road Series](#), the cross-country race is designed for all ages and skill levels – beginner (one lap), sport racer (two laps) and expert racer (three laps). The race starts at noon over a [six-mile course](#) that travels through Wintergreen’s ski terrain from Acorn to Highlands, with several challenging elevation changes.

Registration is \$34 for the expert and sport categories and \$24 for the beginner category, and can be completed online by visiting [www.bikereg.com/cliffhanger-challenge](#). Race-day registration also is available from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on the resort’s Blue Ridge Terrace.

Cash and gift prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each category at a post-race ceremony set for 4 p.m. Sunday. More information about the Cliffhanger Mountain Bike Challenge is available at the race website, [www.wintergreenresort.com/Cliffhanger](#).

Saturday's trail run offers both a 14K (8.7 miles) and a 7K (4.35 miles) over a course similar to the bike event. Race day begins at 7 a.m. with check-in and on-site registration, with a mass start scheduled at 9 a.m. for runners in all three divisions: men's, women's and juniors (only 7K). An awards ceremony begins at 12:30 p.m.

Registration for the trail run is available by visiting www.runreg.com/cliffhanger-challenge-trail-run. Entry fees prior to May 1 are \$20 for all three 7K divisions; and \$25 for the men's and women's 14K. Beginning May 1, the fees increase across the board by \$5. The deadline to register online is 5 p.m. EDT Thursday, May 21. Proceeds from the event support the Wintergreen Nature Foundation. More information about the Cliffhanger Mountain Trail Run is available at www.wintergreenresort.com/Cliffhanger.

Beyond mountain bike races and trail runs, Wintergreen Resort's Memorial Day weekend will be highlighted by the ninth annual "Blues, Brews & BBQ," set for 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday (May 23-24) on Blue Ridge Terrace. Two popular competitions return: "Battle of the Bands" with blues music acts facing off, and "Battle of the Brews" with local breweries serving up a selection of light, medium and dark microbrews. Plus, an arts-and-crafts showcase operates from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday on Blue Ridge Terrace.

Other holiday weekend highlights include:

- **Friday, May 22:** Bonfire with Storyteller (8 p.m., Discovery Ridge) and Live Entertainment (9:30 p.m. to midnight, The Edge).
- **Saturday and Sunday, May 23-24:** Breakfast Buffet (7 to 11 a.m., Copper Mine Bistro), Children's Program (9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Treehouse) and Live Entertainment (9:30 p.m. to midnight, The Edge).
- **Saturday, May 23 (only):** Block Party with Kids Activities (1 to 4 p.m., Blue Ridge Terrace/Courtyard) and Outdoor Movie (9 p.m., Discovery Ridge Adventure Center).
- **Sunday, May 24 (only):** Interdenominational Church Service (9 a.m., Lookout Building).
- **Monday, May 25:** Day at The Lake with Beach Olympics (11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Lake Monocan).

Room rates vary based on type of accommodations, ranging from studios to multi-bedroom houses. For more information, visit the resort's website at www.wintergreenresort.com and click on "Accommodations," or call (434) 325.2200.

A complete Memorial Day Weekend schedule of activities at Wintergreen Resort is available by visiting www.wintergreenresort.com/Memorial-Day.

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About Wintergreen Resort: Wintergreen Resort is an 11,000-acre, four-season resort located in the Blue Ridge Mountains southwest of Charlottesville, Va. This beautiful hideaway is the ultimate vacation and conference spot, nearly 230 condominium-style accommodations; 45 holes of championship golf; snow skiing, snowboarding and

snow tubing; an award-winning tennis program; a full-service, destination spa; 40,000 square feet of meeting and event space; and savory dining options. The resort is located adjacent to the Blue Ridge Parkway in beautiful central Virginia near Charlottesville, just 90 minutes from Richmond, Va., three hours from Washington, D.C. and Raleigh, N.C., five and a half hours from Philadelphia, and eight hours from Atlanta. For more information, guests can call 888-329-5828 or visit the resort's web site at www.wintergreenresort.com.

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