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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A LONG LIST OF FAMILY FRIENDLY THINGS TO DO Green Mountain Inn is great home base for summer activities

STOWE, VT – So much to do, so many choices. All family friendly. All nearby from your home-away-from-home at the Green Mountain Inn.

Nearby Lake Champlain, the 6th largest lake in the U.S. surpassed only by the Great Lakes, is celebrating the 400th year anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival to the region in 1609. Many commemorative happenings are planned this summer from shipwreck tours to the Festival of Nations, Franco-American and French-Canadian Days to the Lake Champlain Maritime Festival.

Make a point to get out on - or into - this amazing lake. Ride the ferries and view Lake Champlain's spectacular vistas via routes from Charlotte to Essex, Burlington to Plattsburgh or Grand Isle to Cumberland Head. Kiteboard, windsurf, kayak, canoe, sail. Experience Burlington's beautiful waterfront while pedaling, running, walking or rollerblading along its highly touted bike path. Sightsee from the deck of the Spirit of Ethan Allen II or the Northern Lights. Assist researchers on UVM's floating research vessel the *Melosira*. Explore the history and wonders of the lake at the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Visit the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Take a trip back in time by boarding the replica canal schooner *Lois McClure*. Bring a picnic and have a swim at North Beach or the Sandbar, Knights Point or Grand Isle state parks.

Visit the Rock of Ages granite quarry in Barre. Take in the splendor of Shelburne Farms via a horse drawn wagon ride. Step back in time at Shelburne Museum. Try the Catamount Outdoor Family Center's trail running or mountain bike series in Williston. Take in a Vermont Lake Monsters Minor League Baseball game in Burlington. Be amazed at the Birds of Vermont Museum in Huntington. Savor the Lake Champlain Chocolates tour in Burlington. Get in touch with your inner-brewer at the Magic Hat Brewery in South Burlington. Visit the Morgan Horse Farm in Burlington. Thrill to the 800 foot zipline at Sugarbush. Check out the Vermont Teddy Bear factory in Shelburne. Visit St. Johnsbury's Fairbanks Museum. Taste Vermont's world famous ice cream at the Ben & Jerry's factory tour in Waterbury. Watch Vermont's finest cheese being made at Cabot Creamery. Stop in at the Cold Hollow Cider Mill in Waterbury

There's nothing like an old-fashioned county or state fair and Vermont has plenty to offer. Experience the 88th annual Champlain Valley Fair, the Tunbridge Worlds' Fair, the 163rd Vermont State Fair or one of many county fairs running throughout the region.. Other festivals and events include the Champlain Valley Folk Festival in Ferrisburg, the Jane Austen Weekend in Hyde Park, the Vermont Reggae Festival in Alburgh, Burlington's Dragonboat festival, Warren's Blueberry Moon festival, Super Science Days at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, Circus Smirkus in Greensboro, Essex and Montpelier, and the Kingdom Aquafest in Newport. Stowe's list of events includes the Taste of Stowe Arts Festival, the Kaleidoscope Show, Cobras in the Mountains Conclave, the Stowe Summer Arts Festival, Steam Powered Autos of America Meet and the Stowe Antique and Classic Car Meet.

Get outside. Hike. Ride the gondola to Mount Mansfield's Cliff House. Explore Smuggler's Notch. Bike, golf, swim, play tennis. Stroll along Stowe's scenic bike path. Whip down the mountain on the Alpine Slide at Spruce Peak. Enter the Vermont 8-Mile Road Race or bike or run to the top of Mount Mansfield in the Race to the Top of Vermont.

Take in one of the areas numerous theatre and music venues: Very Merry Theater and Vermont Stage Company in Burlington, the Lamoille County Players in Hyde Park, St. Michael's Playhouse in Colchester, or the Stowe Theatre Guild. Enjoy evening concerts in the heart of Stowe at the Gazebo Summer Series, by the waterfront at Burlington's City Arts Battery Park series or picnic at Shelburne's Concert on the Green series.

The list goes on and on. Start planning your list of fun things to do for your visit to the Green Mountain Inn.

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