

FOR: **THE OSTHOFF RESORT**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**DREAM OF A WHITE CHRISTMAS — BUT LET THE OSTHOFF RESORT DELIVER
HOLIDAY FUN NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER**

Old World Christmas Market Reminiscent of Medieval Europe

ELKHART LAKE, WISCONSIN – There is no guarantee, of course, of a white Christmas—or of snow any time during December—even when you travel within the northern tier of states. However, head for The Osthoff Resort in the village of Elkhart Lake in east central Wisconsin and you *are* guaranteed a sack full of holiday-time joys to help make the season bright.

These include holiday hayrides (with plenty of warm blankets and hot cider) and rides in a horse-drawn carriage (complete with jingle bells). There is cookie decorating and ornament making with Mrs. Claus, “Breakfast with Santa” and—a seasonal favorite at The Osthoff—“Brunch with St. Nicholas and his Reindeer.” Find plenty of photo ops here, especially with a live reindeer as a visitor.

And, should the weather cooperate, there are plenty of outdoor activities guaranteed to bring rosy glows to cheeks and a sparkle to young eyes. These include ice skating on the pond, downhill sledding and cross-country skiing.

Repeated this year is one of the Osthoff’s most popular seasonal events, the **Old World Christmas Market**. This European-style Christmas Market, reminiscent of the centuries-old *Christkindlesmarkt*, features dozens of vendors occupying timber booths adorned with boughs of fresh greens. Their booths are packed with authentic European gifts, hand-carved wooded toys, blown-glass ornaments and a variety of jewelry, clothing and CDs with holiday music. Food booths ply Christmas shoppers with hot mulled wine and Nuernberg bratwurst, while the air is filled with the aroma of gingerbread and roasting almonds.

Should the weather be particularly inhospitable, well, “Baby, it’s warm inside”—because the entire market is enclosed within a giant tent equipped with heaters. **This year’s market runs from December 2 to December 11.**

This entire calendar of seasonal events take place on selected dates throughout the month of December—although the season gets off to a delightful start with Thanksgiving Day Buffet on November 24. It comes complete with turkey and all the trimmings, along with pumpkin pie. The fun culminates with a stylish New Year’s Gala on December 31, reviving what has long been a tradition within the resort village of Elkhart Lake.

An extra present for this year’s holiday guests is the recent completion and opening of a new four-story wing. This 135,000-square-foot expansion brings an additional casual fine-dining restaurant, Lola’s on the Lake, where dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows overlook pretty Elkhart Lake.

Also part of this seamless addition is Aspira – the Midwest’s newest destination spa. This state-of-the-art facility offers a full menu of services, any of which can arrive wrapped as a pampering holiday gift. Treatments include massages, facials, colortherapy, hydrotherapy, balneotherapy, salon services, spa manicures and spa pedicures.

The resort has earned AAA Four-Diamond ratings for the last seven years. It offers spacious all-suite accommodations, each with kitchen or kitchenette, dining area and living room with gas fireplace and private balcony. A two- or three-bedroom suite (which also has a convertible sofa in the living room) is perfect for extended families or couples traveling together. A stove and refrigerator make preparation of meals a viable option.

The Osthoff Resort is just an hour north of Milwaukee and a little over two hours from Chicago. For more information contact The Osthoff Resort, 101 Osthoff Avenue, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020-0151, 800-876-3399—or check the Web site at www.osthoff.com.

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September 2005