

Seesaw's

PERU,
VT

LODGE

EST.
1924

JOHNNY SEESAW'S





1804

The town is renamed "Peru" after the gold-rich South American country. The first sawmill is built in the area. Logging becomes the dominant industry for more than a century.



1924

After passing through a series of hands, the land is sold to Russian immigrant Ivan Sesow and his wife Vinnie. They built the Wonder View Log Pavilion, a roadside dancehall.



1932

The federal government establishes the Green Mountain National Forest, laying the groundwork for the local ski industry to thrive.



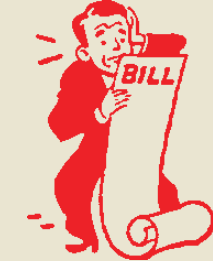
1938

At the encouragement of his mother, avid skier Lew deSchweinitz along with his brother-in-law Bill Parrish buy the neglected property and turn it into a ski lodge. They open on December 26th and are fully booked within days.



1974

The deSchweinitzes retire from the business, while the Parrishes help transition the property to its new owners who fail to attract new guests and the operation struggles.



2015

Ryan and Kim Prins see an opportunity to reimagine Seesaw's and embark, with partners, on a three year plan to rebuild the property ensuring the Seesaw's legacy will continue for generations to come.



Seesaw's Lodge History

1761

Originally called Brumley, the town is chartered by the Royal Governor of New Hampshire Benning Wentworth.



1805

Benjamin Barnard Jr. buys the land where Seesaw's stands today for \$400, building a small log house and a barn that reportedly became a tavern.



1931

As the Great Depression deepens, Sesow and his wife take out multiple loans to keep the Wonder View afloat. Contrary to local legend, Sesow doesn't lose the property in a poker game, but defaults on a loan.



1933

The Civilian Conservation Corps constructs the first downhill trail on Bromley Mountain.



1942

The Parrishes establish the High Mountain Farm on the inn property, enabling Johnny Seesaw's to stay open and attract tourists to the area in lean times.



1980

Gary Okun and his wife Nancy buy the property and become great stewards of Seesaw's in the modern era, operating seven days per week, always bustling with locals and out-of-towners.



2018

The newly restored and thoughtfully reimaged Seesaw's Lodge and Johnny Seesaw's restaurant open their doors, welcoming back old friends and inviting new ones to celebrate all that Vermont has to offer.

Historical Destination @ Base of Bromley Mountain

built 1924
renovated 1938
revived 2015



Overview

positioning

Seesaw's Lodge is an all-season destination built on a century-old tradition of community and camaraderie.

Fresh fare rooted in tradition. **Johnny Seesaw's** serves up simple inventive food with deep connections to the surrounding area and the inn's heritage. Incorporating local ingredients with a fresh twist, our menu celebrates Vermont and elevates comfort food

tagline

All-comers welcome.



It all started with a spark.

A spark of an idea to build a special kind of gathering place. A lively place made for merriment and camaraderie.

John Sesow built the Wonder View Log Pavilion with his own hands in 1924 as a hideaway travelers could make home, and locals could call their own. The roadhouse was a destination for celebration, whether dancing, reveling, or tipping moonshine.

The restored inn was beloved for its tight-knit community, becoming the favored getaway of the new owners' elite inner circle. Despite its high-profile guests, Seesaw's retained the rustic charm of the early days, earning a reputation for a convivial spirit, sporting atmosphere and warm hospitality.

15 years later, Lew deSchweinitz and Bill and Mary Parrish carried the torch, converting the Wonder View into an all-season inn dubbed "Johnny Seesaw's" in honor of its first proprietor.



Guests gathered for summer swimming and winter skiing, morning strolls and evening bridge, quiet reflection and spirited conversation around the inn's iconic fire pit. That flame burned bright for decades, drawing loyal guests and local families season after season.

Today the fire is rekindled as Seesaw's welcomes back cherished guests and host a new generation of travelers. Lovingly restored and imaginatively revamped, the new Seesaw's is designed to honor the lively traditions of the inn and inspire new ones.

Seesaws

Core Values

The beliefs that define who we are and what we stand for.

Spirit

Camaraderie

Community

Craft

Lore

A person wearing blue pants and white socks is walking on a large, dark log in a forest. The ground is covered with fallen leaves, and the background is a blurred forest scene with trees and foliage. The overall atmosphere is natural and serene.

core values

Spirit

Starting with the settlers who embraced the region's rugged beauty, Peru has attracted independent spirits since its founding. Grit, ingenuity and self-reliance have guided the inn's owners through the ages, from the bold bear hunter behind the Wonder View Log Pavilion to the newest stewards of Seesaw's Lodge. Intrepid and industrious, each successive innkeeper has pursued a bold vision for the property and transformed it in his own way, promoting outdoor adventure and community.

core values

Camaraderie

From the rough and tumble crowd at the Wonder View Log Pavilion to the exclusive set that frequented Johnny Seesaw's, guests have always made merry at the inn. The natural gathering place has inspired generations of joyful celebration and rollicking fun. Whether toasting with moonshine or sipping hot cocoa, hitting the slopes or unwinding by the fire, a convivial spirit has always been a hallmark of the inn.

core values

Community

The lodge was as much for the town as it was for tourists, providing employment as well as merriment by establishing the region as a ski destination. Seesaw's need for reliable power even helped bring electricity to the area. With a new restaurant, takeout Hut and year-round activities, the tradition continues today, warmly welcoming locals into the Seesaw's community year round to make new memories and celebrate cherished ones.

core values

Craft

Since Ivan Sesow harvested pine logs to build his roadhouse by hand in 1920's, Seesaw's has reflected the local emphasis on craft. Every generation has poured work into making and remaking the inn, using natural materials and traditional techniques. Honoring the authenticity that distinguishes Seesaw's, new owners restored the inn to its former glory, incorporating antique finds and local treasures true to the inn's heritage, utilizing local craftsmen.

core values

Lore

From a fabled poker bet to a ghost pacing the halls, the history of Seesaw's is rife with legends—some true, some merely myths.

the gold rush

Brumley (later Bromley) was renamed Peru to lure new residents, hoping the association with the gold-rich country would tempt people to relocate to the rocky land. The name stuck around, and so did the new settlers—even though little gold actually turned up.

the gamble

Legend has it that Johnny Sesow bet the farm (or in this case, roadhouse) in one of his notorious late-night poker games. While he did eventually lose the property, it wasn't because of a bet—the Sesows defaulted on a loan.

the ghost

Generations of guests have awoken in the night to the sound of a woman walking the halls with a crying baby. There may not be proof, but regulars swear a ghost haunts the inn.

the pabst connection

To get Johnny Seesaw's off the ground, founder Lew deSchweinitz teamed up with Fred Pabst Jr., the owner of the local ski area. Little did he know that his partner was related to the brewing company by the same name—a fact that came in handy when Pabst helped the inn stay open as America entered World War II in 1941 and the High Mountain Farm was born.

the seducerie

A plush hideaway filled with cushions and pillows on the former bandstand of the lodge, the "Seducerie" lived up to its name, inspiring more than one marriage proposal in its time.

Seesaw's

PERU, VT LODGE EST. 1924

Seesaw's Staff

Warm and authentic, the Seesaw's voice embodies decades of genuine hospitality to introduce guests to the surrounding area and welcome them to the community.



Inclusive

We're a diverse staff comprising of local and international employees from US, Caribbean and Asia that work seasonally or year round. Draw from local, national and international candidates. Dependent on local job force, international visas and employee housing.

Personal

A deep connection to Seesaw's has kept generations of guests coming back and maintained Seesaw's staff continuity. Our human touch and authentic manner honor the powerful relationships that are the lodge's foundation, with a long-standing history of guests deciding to make VT home.

All-Comers Welcome

Visitors from near and far:

- *Local community nights
- *Strong local support year round
- *Lodging guests – drive market, intl
- *Partake in area activities



Thank you!

Contact details:

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