

Nature Meets Luxury *at Rocky Gap Casino Resort*

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PHOTO BY LANCE C. BELL



Western Maryland's Rocky Gap Casino Resort attracts guests and visitors from near and far to enjoy its spectacular mountain setting, abundant amenities, and wealth of activities. Located within Maryland's popular Rocky Gap State Park, the AAA4-Diamond Resort sits alongside Lake Habeeb, where it faces Maryland's only Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course.

"We have something for everyone," says Wanda Holt-schneider, the resort's director of marketing.

Golfers will find unique challenges as they navigate the course's 18 holes, evenly split between the front nine's hilly,



PHOTO COURTESY ROCKY GAP

tree-lined terrain and the more forgiving meadows of the back nine.

The popular 24 hour casino plays a starring role within the resort, with more than 600 machines and popular table games.

For those seeking conference space for meetings and special events large

and small, an additional 15,000 square feet has been added to accommodate groups from 10 to 400. The resort offers entertainment periodically within the Allegheny Event Center.

Guest rooms feature views of the lake or the golf course. Recent updates include renovated bathrooms and new

bedding, carpet and drapes. All rooms are equipped with a microwave and refrigerator, flat-screen TVs, items for personal and clothing care, and safes for valuables. Other amenities include room service, free wireless internet, cable TV and free copies of *USA Today*. Guests can also use the fitness center, indoor swimming pool and whirlpool located downstairs.

Also located on the lobby level, The Spa at Rocky Gap caters to resort guests and visitors with a full range of services, including massages, facials, waxing, body treatments, manicures and pedicures.

The resort provides guests and visitors with multiple choices of atmosphere, cuisine and beverages. The Lakeside Restaurant offers breakfast daily and dinner Wednesday through Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and Thursday through Sunday thereafter. A Little Munch is a grab-and-go eatery located within the lobby that is open 24 hours a day. Patrons of the



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SPA & RESTAURANT PHOTOS COURTESY ROCKY GAP

Top: Rocky Gap's 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course.

Above: The Spa caters to guests with a full range of services (left). The Lakeside Restaurant is one of several dining options at Rocky Gap.

Below: Nestled in the mountains of Western Maryland, every season has beautiful scenic views overlooking Lake Habeeb.



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Signatures Bar & Grill can watch sports on a multi-TV screen wall or live entertainment on the patio from April through October. Casual dining, a full bar and extensive wine list are featured at LB's Place. Both Signatures and LB's offer outside dining during warmer weather.

"We've made major changes to our back yard," says Wanda, referring to the recently opened Lakeside Terrace where guests can relax and enjoy views of Lake Habeeb and Evitts Mountain. Seating is available near several fire pits, beneath a spacious pergola, or in Adirondack chairs along the shoreline of the lake. The Terrace Bar, open seasonally, offers a variety of beverage choices.

The resort's location within Rocky Gap State Park has its advantages. With its specialty golf course, lake, and mountains located just outside the resort walls, guests can enjoy a wide range of outdoor activities. Those wanting to explore Lake Habeeb by boat can rent their choice of canoes, kayaks, pedal pontoons and yolo boards (also known as standup paddleboards). Other lake options include swimming, fishing or picnicking nearby. The Touch of Nature Trail is paved and fully accessible. Mountain bikers can test their skills on designated trails. Hikers can explore the Lakeside Loop along the lake shoreline, Rocky Trail, Canyon Overlook Trail, and Evitts Home-site Trail that offers panoramic views of the resort and its surroundings after an uphill climb.

For more information about the Rocky Gap Casino Resort, go to www.rockygapcasino.com. Readers interested in the resort's history can go to www.mountaindiscoveries.com, click on the link under the tab "Past and Present Issues," click on "Fall/Winter 2013" issue, then "Rocky Gap Casino Resort."

Top to bottom: Guests can rent their choice of canoes, kayaks, pedal pontoons or standup paddleboards. Swimming beaches and fishing are nearby.

The Resort's 24 hour casino has more than 600 machines and table games.

The recently opened Lakeside Terrace is located at the Resort's back yard where guests can relax and enjoy views of Lake Habeeb and Evitts Mountain. The Terrace Bar, open seasonally, offers a variety of beverage choices.



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No one under the age of 21 permitted on the casino floor. Please play responsibly, for help visit mdgamblinghelp.org or call 1-800-GAMBLER.



BOTTOM THREE PHOTOS COURTESY ROCKY GAP