

ONTARIO SLEDDING DESTINATION

SUNDRIDGE

STORY & PHOTOS BY CRAIG
NICHOLSON, THE INTREPID
SNOWMOBILER



If you're planning to head north to find snow, check out the region between Huntsville and North Bay, where three adjacent OFSC districts deliver great trails...

STAGING LOCATION

The Village of Sundridge is located just off Highway 11 on the shore of Lake Bernard, midway between Huntsville and North Bay in

the tourism region called Explorer's Edge. This positioning at the south end of OFSC District 11 (Near North Trails Association) places Sundridge in between Muskoka and Lake

Nipissing right in the heart of an 8000-square kilometre swathe of Canadian Shield called the Almaguin Highlands. It's a quieter community since the 4-laning of Highway 11, which bypassed many area small towns on route. But it's still rolls out the white carpet for snowmobilers and has all the amenities riders need for their sledding getaway.

WHY SUNDRIDGE

Staging out of Sundridge makes sense for several other reasons. One, it's close enough that most Southern Ontario riders can trailer there after work for a long weekend getaway. Two, it's big enough and offers more than enough trails to ride a different loop each day. Three, there are sufficient trailside services for food and fuel. And four, the area has elevation and is in the lee of Georgian Bay, both of which contribute to frequent and reliable snow. What's more, it's located just far enough north to be slightly colder than Southern Ontario



and that can make a big difference when it comes to trail consistency.

STAGING OPTIONS

From Sundridge, snowmobilers can stage several different day rides through Explorers' Edge. Note that sledding east from Sundridge is not an option because there are no snowmobile trails into Algonquin Park. So the north-south running TOP Trail D, which parallels the Park boundary is as far east as you can go out of Sundridge. But that leaves many other points of the compass to discover...

1. Southern Loop

This loop south head to Kearney and Burk's Falls and includes viewing the ice caves at the end of Trail AL301. Lunch & gas can be found at the Edgewater Park Lodge on Sand Lake. If you want to make this ride longer, loop farther south into the northern part of OFSC District 7 (Muskoka).

2. Northwest Loop

This ride to the northwest loops through Port Loring and Restoule and includes the Loring deeryard. Good lunch stops include Roxie's Dinner or Jake's Place in Port Loring (fuel available).

3. Southwest Loop

This ride goes southwest into OFSC District 10 (Parry Sound-Muskoka) and can include both Magnetawan and Ahmic Harbour, with a stop for lunch & fuel in Sprucedale (OFSC District 7 - Muskoka).



WHERE WE STAYED

Caswell Resort, Sundridge
www.caswellresort.ca
Phone: (705) 384-7600

Located on the west shore of Bernard Lake at Highway 11 exit 276, this venerable lodging offers both motel-style units and rooms in the main lodge, along with on site restaurant open for both breakfast and dinner, indoor

pool, gym, hot tub, sauna, adequate parking for trucks & trailers and direct trail access from TOP Trail C104D.

GET MORE INFO

Explorers' Edge - explorersedge.ca
OFSC District 11 - nnta.ca
OFSC District 7 - ofscdistrict7.com
OFSC District 10 - pssd.ca GSOM