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CASUAL AND FINE DINING WITH A WATERFRONT SETTING

Offering menu options that satisfy sophisticated tastes as well as casual cravings, the two lakeside restaurants at The Pines Resort delight diners with good food, great views and gracious hospitality.

Ducey's on the Lake is the resort's signature restaurant. Though it has changed hands and locations since it was founded in 1941, the welcoming ambiance of this popular gathering place remains the same. With all the warmth of a refined mountain lodge – including a stone fireplace, dark wood furniture and historic resort photos – the restaurant charms locals and guests alike. Enhancing the dining experience, every table at Ducey's boasts a view of Bass Lake.

The Ducey's on the Lake breakfast menu includes a mix of scrambles, pancakes and combination meals plus lighter sides such as yogurt, fresh fruit, muffins and cold cereal. Classic Eggs Benedict with a side of Country Potatoes, Ducey's Quiche and Blueberry-Stuffed French Toast are among flavorful ways to start the day.

The restaurant re-opens each evening for dinner. As the setting sun sparkles across Bass Lake, guests select Tenderloin Carpaccio, Fresh Mozzarella and Heirloom Tomato, Wedge Salad and other starters. Tempting entrée selections include Beef or Vegetarian Wellington, New Zealand King Salmon Filet, Tomato Basil Pasta and Chicken Serranto, with sides such as Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Fresh Seasonal Vegetables.

Following a full meal, diners enjoy luscious desserts complemented by sparkling wines, dessert wines and cognacs. Some come from local Madera wine country standouts like Quady Winery and Westbrook Wine Farm; the wine list also showcases California blends as well as red and white favorites from other regions.

For lunch and casual dinner fare, guests head upstairs to the newly remodeled Lakeside Grill, which debuted in 2008 with nature-inspired décor and refreshed menu options. Diners order at the counter and enjoy a self-serve soda fountain, and then choose from indoor or outdoor lake view seating. In addition, restaurant staff members deliver meals to diners who are on the docks, at the beach or relaxing around The Pines Resort pool.

The Lakeside Grill menu includes tasty quick bites, sandwiches, burgers, fish and chips and fresh salads. Specialty cocktails and non-alcoholic "mocktails," plus craft beers, wines, juices and sodas, quench guests' thirst. For dessert, diners savor classic desserts, including thick milkshakes, sundaes and soft-serve ice cream.

The restaurant's revitalized decor includes new paint and carpet, knotty pine trim and poster-sized, sepia-toned prints showcasing The Pines Resort of days past. Sports fans can keep up on the latest games on several plasma-screen televisions.