

adirondacks, usa



The Adirondack Park is a unique patchwork of private and public lands that cover over 6 million acres of New York state and contains more than 2,000 miles of marked hiking trails, 3,000 lakes and ponds and 1,200 miles of rivers fed by 30,000 miles of brooks and streams.

Early trappers, hunters and writers used local guides and their guideboats to navigate this landscape. Now you can take the controls of the Virtual Adirondack Guide at www.adirondacksusa.com to explore the very real, visually stunning mountains, lakes and communities that comprise the largest protected wilderness in the contiguous United States.

Return often as images are continually added to enhance this virtual expedition!

adirondacksusa.com | www.facebook.com/AdksUSA | [@adksusa](https://twitter.com/adksusa)

FAST FACTS

The word “vacation” was invented in the Adirondacks. In the early 1900s, people in cities were beginning to realize that summer heat and deadly fevers went hand in hand. Rather than spending the summer in the city waiting for a fever, the upper class vacated the city for the fresh clean air of the Adirondacks. The term “vacating,” or evacuating, is the reason Americans take “vacations” instead of a British “holiday.”

SIZE

- The Adirondacks offer some of the finest opportunities in the eastern United States for outdoor recreation in a superb natural setting, including hiking, boating of all kinds, camping, picnicking, hiking, mountaineering, cycling, hunting, fishing, swimming, downhill and cross-country skiing, ice skating and snow-shoeing.
- The Adirondack Park is comprised of about 6.1 million acres (9,375 square miles).
- The park is the size of the state of Vermont.
- There’s no marked boundary to the park, no "entrance gate" and no admission fee.
- The Adirondack Park is the largest protected area in the contiguous United States, delineated by the famous “blue line.”
- The Adirondack Park is larger than Yellowstone, Everglades, Glacier and Grand Canyon National Parks combined.

- The park is a patchwork of public and private lands.
- State-owned Forest Preserve comprises 2.6 million acres (42%) and is protected by the state constitution as “forever wild.” One million acres of the Forest Preserve is further classified as wilderness.
- Approximately 3 million acres are privately held but sparsely populated.

GEOGRAPHY & RECREATION

- The Adirondack Park contains 85% of all wilderness in the eastern United States. It is the largest wilderness area east of the Mississippi.
- The Adirondack Park has over 2,000 miles of hiking trails; these trails comprise the largest trail system in the nation.
- The western and southern Adirondack area is a gentle landscape of hills, lakes, ponds and streams, along with the highest mountains in the state. The 46 High Peaks (over 4,000 feet) include Mount Marcy, the highest point in New York at 5,344’.
- One of the park’s most unique features is the nonstop juxtaposition of mountains and water.
- Within the park are 3,000 lakes and ponds and more than 1,200 miles of rivers fed by an estimated 30,000 miles of brooks and streams.

PROTECTED WILDERNESS

- The New York State Legislature created the Adirondack Park in 1882 by enacting measures that guaranteed public lands would remain “forever wild” – the strongest such law in the United States.
- During the last 100 years, state purchase has increased the Forest Preserve from the original 680,000 acres to its present 2.6 million acres.
- The “blue line”, originally encompassing 2.6 million acres, now encircles nearly 6 million acres (roughly the size of Vermont).
- The Adirondack Park Agency was created in 1971 to encourage wise land use planning for the region.

VISITOR AND RESIDENT STATS

- Approximately 137,000 people live in the Adirondacks twelve months of the year.
- The park is home to 200,000 seasonal residents. Hamilton County has the largest percentage of 2nd homeowners in the nation.
- There are over 100 villages and towns within the park but no cities. It is the largest area without a city in the state.
- The Adirondacks welcome an estimated 7-10 million visitors the region annually.
- 60 million people live within a days’ drive of the Adirondack region.
- The region offers over 11,000 rental rooms in hotels, motels, inns and cottages, along with almost 12,000 campsites.
- About 70 percent of visitation occurs during May and October.

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

You are welcome to INVENT YOUR OWN PERFECT DAY in Lake Placid



For some, it's a walk around Mirror Lake in the morning, an afternoon spent reading on a porch followed by a Sinfonietta concert in the park. For others, the day begins with a hike, paddling a kayak, shopping on Main Street, then dinner at the pub.

Sheltered in its magnificent Adirondack setting, Lake Placid invites all to select from a limitless menu of experiences to invent their own perfect day.

lakeplacid.com | www.facebook.com/LakePlacidAdk | [@lakeplacidadk](https://twitter.com/lakeplacidadk)

GET CLOSE in the Whiteface Region

Few places on earth can claim to be THIS CLOSE to this much. World class fly fishing waters, breathtaking mountain trails, Santa's reindeer, Whiteface mountain ski and bike runs, and shopping in an artists' community. Easily accessible, convenient and surprisingly affordable.

whitefaceregion.com | www.facebook.com/WhitefaceNY

EXPLORE THE ADIRONDACK COAST of the Lake Champlain Region

This awe-inspiring region offers a unique blend of striking scenic beauty, endless outdoor recreational opportunities and celebrated heritage. Play a round on an historic links-style course; pick a bike route past historic forts and farmland, sail, fish, swim, or search for the elusive Lake Champlain monster (Our "Nessy"!).

lakechamplainregion.com | www.facebook.com/AdirondackCoast

MAKE ADIRONDACK BASE CAMP in the Schroon Lake Region

Natural beauty, a thriving arts community and long sandy beaches; remote wilderness tracts and endless waterways; the Schroon Lake Region is both the perfect base camp for the rugged outdoor enthusiast and the perfect destination for a family getaway.

schroonlakeregion.com | www.facebook.com/SchroonLake

VISIT THE ADIRONDACKS' COOLEST PLACE; Saranac Lake

Sure, in the winter it sometimes earns the distinction of being the “coolest” temperature, but Saranac Lake is cool in a whole host of ways. It’s a mecca for paddling, fishing and all things water, with a robust arts community, eclectic restaurants and shops, and significant history, the vibe here is cool all year round.

saranaclake.com | www.facebook.com/SaranacLakeNewYork | [@saranaclake](https://www.instagram.com/saranaclake)

GET THE REAL WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE in Hamilton County

Whitewater rafting and home of the Adirondack Museum, this part of the region is the heart of the wilderness. With backcountry hiking and paddling galore, many of the region’s villages include the word “lake” in their names for a reason!

adirondackexperience.com | www.facebook.com/AdirondackExperience | [@adkexperience](https://www.instagram.com/adkexperience)

PLAY IN TUPPER LAKE

Sitting on the 9-mile long Lake for which it’s named, the community hosts an exciting calendar of special events, cultural activities and athletic competitions, and is home to the museum that interprets the natural history of the Adirondacks; the Wild Center.

tupperlake.com | www.facebook.com/tupperlakeny | [@tupperlakeny](https://www.instagram.com/tupperlakeny)

VISIT MALONE

The Malone region is a quiet gem just waiting to be discovered, with rolling hills, farm land, sparkling streams, and friendly locals. The region boasts five scenic golf courses including the internationally hailed Malone Golf Club, dozens of campgrounds, Titus Mountain Ski Resort, and small villages with mom-and-pop shops.

www.facebook.com/visitmalone | [@visitmalone](https://www.instagram.com/visitmalone)

ADIRONDACKS RESOURCE

The Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism/Lake Placid CVB (ROOST) is a 501c6 not-for-profit corporation and accredited Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) that is responsible for promoting the destinations within New York's Adirondacks to the traveling public, with a focus on leading economic growth through tourism.



In addition to leisure travel promotion, ROOST is responsible for sales and marketing for the Conference Center at Lake Placid and town-wide conferences and conventions. (meetingslakeplacid.com)

The organization employs ~24 staff, and operates a main office in Lake Placid and one in Crown Point on Lake Champlain, along with several visitor centers throughout the region. www.roostadk.com

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