

adirondacks, usa

STORY IDEAS

WHAT'S NEW 2015

Wild Walk at The Wild Center

Opening in the summer of 2015, the Wild Walk is an elevated path that will take visitors up a winding trail of bridges and platforms from ground level to the treetops of the Adirondack forest. The new interactive exhibit has been in the planning and development stages for more than eight years. The Wild Walk experience includes a four-story twig tree house and swinging bridges, a spider's web where people can hang out, and chances to just sit and observe the forest below. A full-sized bald eagle's nest is perched at the highest point, where visitors can imagine life as one of the raptors that have made such an astounding comeback in the Adirondacks. www.tupperlake.com/activities/wild-center

Waterway tours at Fort Ticonderoga

Fort Ticonderoga has acquired the Carillon cruise boat, a 60-foot replica 1920s 1000 Islands cruise boat. Plans are underway for 2015 waterway tours and programs at the Fort, beginning Memorial Day Weekend in May. www.lakechamplainregion.com/news/2015/01/fort-ticonderoga-offer-waterway-tours-beginning-spring-2015

ALSO AT THE FORT:

Fort Ticonderoga has a partnership with Amtrak and is now offering shuttle service to Ticonderoga's Best Western hotel and the museum campus daily Memorial Day through early September. They are promoting a full and multi-day experience this year including four new museum exhibits, daily programming highlighting 1756/New France, a Mount Defiance experience, two new gardens in the King's Garden, new behind-the-scenes and evening tours, a Carillon Battlefield hiking trail, tons of special events and reenactments, and more! www.forticonderoga.org

HERITAGE

"Historic Essex," an "unspoiled" community on Lake Champlain, is known for its architecture, with most of its main street listed on the National Register of Historic Places. lakechamplainregion.com

Saranac Lake - the COOL that cures: Saranac Lake's tradition of revitalizing peoples' health and well-being began in the late 1800s when Dr. E.L. Trudeau recognized that the mountainous environment seemed to provide a cure for tuberculosis. The development of a pharmaceutical remedy for the disease in the 1950s brought the cure era to a close, yet Saranac Lake's wellness movement continues, and many of its cure cottages and porches remain open to the public for tours. saranaclake.com

Adirondack Great Camps: The Adirondack Great Camp tradition began in the late 19th century soon after the publication of William H.H. Murray's "Adventures in the Wilderness" in 1869. Murray's book put the Adirondack Mountains and Hamilton County on the map as a tourist destination; grand hotels were built and the rich and

famous from around the world were soon spending their summers here. Visit Great Camp Sagamore on Raquette Lake or Camp Santanoni in Newcomb for a glimpse into the past! adirondackexperience.com, schroonlakeregion.com

GOLF

The Adirondacks are home to a number of championship golf courses. From nearby Malone, with five courses and 90 holes, to the historic links at Saranac Inn, Lake Placid, and Westport on Lake Champlain, there are plenty of stops to make on the Adirondack Golf tour. lakeplacid.com/golf, golfmalone.com

GREEN

The Adirondacks enjoy a very long history of environmental leadership and vision. The Blue Line that defines the boundaries of the Adirondack Park was established in 1892 in order to protect timber and water resources. Groups from the Adirondacks have had a role in the establishment of national and statewide legislation aimed at eliminating acid rain and other related issues.

Eco Properties in the Adirondacks: The protection of our natural resources benefits both residents and visitors. Now, three of the highest rated eco-sustainable properties in the country can be found here in the Adirondack Park! Gauthier's Saranac Lake Inn, Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort in Lake Placid, and Hohmeyer's Lodge on Lake Clear each have been awarded Audubon International's highest rating - Platinum (formerly 5 leaf). Shaheen's Motel in Tupper Lake boasts a Gold certification. www.lakeplacid.com/lodging/green-lodging

MEETINGS

The Conference Center at Lake Placid opened in the spring of 2011, and was designed with its location in the Adirondacks and contemporary meeting market needs in mind. Technologically savvy and environmentally sound, the Center incorporates optimized energy performance, renewable, recycled materials and natural daylight, and offers over 90,000 square feet of flexible meeting and exhibition space, with a total of 12 breakout rooms available for concurrent sessions, state-of-the-art audio visual technology, a ballroom and a full-service production kitchen. meetingslakeplacid.com

OUTDOOR RECREATION

The Adirondacks not-as-High Peaks - Family-Friendly Hiking: The Pharaoh Mountain Wilderness in Schroon Lake is one of the two wilderness areas that surround the historic resort community. With a lake, river, and pond-filled network of lower-elevation trails, this is a great destination for families. www.schroonlakeregion.com

Champlain Area Trails (CATS) is a new network of trails that connect communities of New York's Adirondack Coast of Lake Champlain, with a variety of hikes on terrain that ranged from easy to moderate difficulty. www.champlainareatrails.com

2015 EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

2nd Annual CATS Grand Hike

May 9 - The Inn-to-inn tour from Westport to Essex on Lake Champlain is a family-friendly hike in which participants can hike the entire day-long trek or select sections of the hike, with shuttles available to return hikers to their vehicles or to the block party finish! www.champlainareatrails.com/our-events/grand-inn-to-inn-hike/

5th Annual Whiteface Mountain Bike Fest

June 5-7 - A mix of uphill, downhill, serious competition and family fun, this Bike Fest includes the Uphill Bike Race — part of the BUMPS series— to the top of Whiteface Mountain, and the Wilmington Whiteface 100k Race, a qualifier for the Leadville 100. www.whitefaceregion.com/events/wilmington-whiteface-bike-fest

Lumbercon Coming to the Tupper Lake Woodmen's Days...

July 11-12 - Calling all "lumberjacks" and "lumbersexuals," you are invited to Lumber Con, part of the Tupper Lake Woodsmen's Days. Break out your flannel and dust off your Redwings, because you are no longer just a spectator at the annual Tupper Lake Woodsmen's Days. Lumber Con will have events similar to those for our competitive Woodsmen but tailored for the everyday Jack and Jill. www.tupperlake.com/events/lumber-con

Family Fun and Adventure in the Adirondack Park

Six ways to play in the six-million-acre Park

adirondacks, usa - Combine the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park and its clear waters and crisp mountain air with 2,000 miles of hiking trails, 6,000 miles of rivers, significant history, unique attractions and a few days, and the result is the perfect backdrop for family fun.

From classic attractions to hiking, biking, fishing or paddling in the Adirondack outdoor paradise, this is the ideal place for families to stay and play.

There is an endless list of summer activities, but here is a six-pack sampler to get started!

1. The Wild Center in Tupper Lake: Learn about the Adirondacks at the region's natural history museum. Here kids can meet Adirondack wildlife up close with the living exhibits that include two very active otters, walk the nature trails and play in The Pines.
2. Adirondack Museum at Blue Mountain Lake: An open-air museum preserving the history and culture of the Adirondacks. Exhibits at the Adirondack Museum explore outdoor recreation, boats and boating, transportation, the fine arts, work and industry, tourism, and community life.
3. Explore the forts at Crown Point and Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain and learn how America changed the course of world history forever. Built by the French and British militaries in the 18th century, these strongholds were critical posts during the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Now open to the public, both host special reenactment events, artifacts on display and self-guided tours.
4. Visit Ausable Chasm, one of the oldest and most popular natural attractions in North America, offering on-site rafting, canoeing, rappelling, hiking, mountain biking, camping and lodging. Families can explore the cliffs on a unique, guided evening lantern tour and descend into the chasm to watch the lights dance along towering rock walls, or rappel, traverse and climb along the chasm's Adventure Trail.
5. Take a hike! The amazing hiking opportunities draw most of the region's visitors, whether it is to hike the 46 High Peaks with elevations over 4,000 feet or one of an endless list of shorter day hikes such as in the Pharaoh Mountain Wilderness in Schroon Lake and the Champlain Area Trail network on the Adirondack coast of Lake Champlain.
6. Drive to the top of an Adirondack High Peak: The top of Whiteface Mountain can be reached on foot, on bike or gondola, but the Whiteface Mountain Veterans Memorial Highway offers easily-accessible 360-degree views of the spectacular landscape below via an eight mile uphill drive. Not to be missed!

Of course there are plenty of other attractions, historic sites and other things to do, plus shopping and dining to round out a visit. For post-adventure respite, the region offers a variety of places to stay, from hotels to cabins to resorts. Visitors are encouraged to view the many available lodging packages online by visiting any of the region's destination websites:

lakeplacid.com

lakechamplainregion.com

schroonlakeregion.com

whitefaceregion.com

tupperlake.com

saranalake.com

adirondackexperience.com