



Walking In A Winter Wonderland - Adirondack Style

Adirondack region hosts snowshoe events; with opportunities to rent or borrow equipment and trails throughout the region

Fresh snow is about to fall in the Adirondack region of upstate New York later this week, meaning that outdoor winter adventure will be in full swing this weekend. One of the easiest ways to enjoy the fresh snow is by snowshoeing through the Adirondack wilderness, or along established, well-groomed trails throughout the region.

Snowshoeing is a great activity for those who are not familiar with outdoor winter sports. Generally speaking, "if you can walk, you can snowshoe." This phrase, which is entirely accurate, is one that makes people realize that they can feel comfortable with this easy introduction to the outdoors.

The Adirondack Park comprises 6.2 million acres in upstate New York, nearly half of which is state-owned land, accessible to everyone. Flat trails, lower-elevation hikes, cross country ski trails, golf courses, mountain bike trails, along with trails that skirt many of the local villages, offer convenient snowshoe opportunities throughout the region. Trails are often multi-purpose, allowing visitors to snowshoe, walk, hike, or cross country ski. There are also challenging trails throughout the Adirondacks for those who prefer to test their skills; and snowshoes are recommended, if not required, for those hiking many of the region's mountains.

One well-known trail in the region, the <u>Jackrabbit Trail</u>, is a 50-kilometer trail, beginning in Keene, and meandering through Lake Placid and Saranac Lake, to Paul Smiths. It connects with four ski centers and several backcountry routes along the way. Other trails are located throughout the region - along lakes, climbing low-elevation mountains, through the region's towns and villages. The CATS trails, on the eastern edge of the Adirondacks, allows visitors to take in breathtaking views of the high peaks to the west and Lake Champlain to the east.

Some hotels and resorts have snowshoes available for guests' use on their trails, or on trails located nearby. Lapland Lake Vacation Center in Northville has 12 kilometers of trails specifically designated for snowshoeing, with equipment available for guests. Lake Clear Lodge also boasts a 25-acre property with miles of groomed trails that lead to the Jackrabbit trail, or other backcountry adventures.

The Dewey Mountain Recreation Center in Saranac Lake, Mt. Van Hoevenberg in Lake Placid, the Cascade Welcome Center in Lake Placid along with many outdoor sports outfitters offer snowshoe rentals.

The Adirondack Interpretive Centers in Newcomb and Paul Smiths, along with The Wild Center in Tupper Lake offer snowshoes for visitors. Travelers to the Adirondacks can find many businesses throughout the region that rent snowshoes. Even some local town libraries offer snowshoes as part of a program to encourage outdoor adventure.

This winter, there are a number of snowshoe events throughout the region.

- The <u>Adirondack Snowshoe Fest</u> in Saranac Lake builds on the success of the World Snowshoe Championships in 2017. Festivities take place throughout Saranac Lake, with snowshoe races at Paul Smith's Visitors Interpretive Center and Dewey Mountain. February 19, 2023 (5k, 10k and 15k snowshoe races) 8023 NY-30, Paul Smiths NY
- The Adirondack Mountain Club offers an introductory program entitled <u>Backcountry Snowshoeing for Beginners</u> for those who want to take their skills into the Adirondack wilderness. The course enhances participants' understanding of equipment, techniques and safety considerations needed to snowshoe on any terrain.
 February 4, 2023 9:00 am 4:00 pm
 1002 Adirondack Loj Road, Lake Placid
- Great Camp Santanoni in Newcomb is hosting three "winter weekends" one in January,
 February and March offering group snowshoeing or cross-country skiing to the great
 camp where participants can enjoy and learn more about its history.
 Route 28N, Santanoni Road, Newcomb
- In Tupper Lake, visitors to the region can take part in one of the community's most popular events - the <u>Tupper Lake BrewSki</u>. Participants can ski or snowshoe along the beautifully maintained James C. Frenette Sr. Recreational Trails to different stations

along the route. Breweries from around the region will be on hand to pour samples as participants gather and mingle by fire pits located at each brew station.

Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 12-4 p.m.

Taking part in outdoor activity in the Adirondacks during the winter months requires additional thought and preparation, no matter your physical ability, activity or destination. Properly preparing for winter conditions is essential for an enjoyable and safe experience. Learn more about winter preparedness, including some important tips, on the New York State Department of Conservation's website.

The Adirondack Mountains offer some of the best opportunities for outdoor recreation in a beautiful, natural setting, all within a day's drive for 25% of the entire North American population. Winter weather, spectacular scenery, a snowy backdrop, the love of winter, and taking part in a new outdoor activity is enough to make anyone an outdoor enthusiast in the Adirondacks. Whether snowshoeing along the region's trails, along a lake or taking part in a regional event, the region offers many opportunities to embrace snowshoeing in the Adirondacks.

The Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism is the destination marketing and management organization for Hamilton and Essex counties, including the communities of Lake Placid, Tupper Lake and Saranac Lake, all located within the Adirondacks in New York state.

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