



What's New in the Adirondacks Summer 2025

Activities & attractions

Adirondack Rail Trail - The Adirondack Rail Trail is being built on the old New York Central railroad line these miles of former rail line, between Lake Placid and Tupper Lake, are being converted into a multi-use recreation trail with restored train service south of Tupper Lake and a multi-use trail from Tupper Lake to Lake Placid. The Adirondack Rail Trail is one of the nation's premier, year-round recreation trails for bicyclists, runners, walkers, birders, and wheelchair users, as well as for snowmobiles in winter. Construction on this route is underway with 25 of the 34 miles complete, connecting Lake Placid with Floodwood Road. The final phase from Lake Clear to Tupper Lake will be complete in 2025.

Adirondack Rail Trail Shuttle Service - BikeADK offers a one-way shuttle service for bikes and riders from Lake Placid, Saranac Lake, or Floodwood Road in Lake Clear. The shuttle accommodates up to 6 people and 6 bikes, and includes BikeADK stickers, stories, and plenty of bad jokes. Bookings are by appointment only and must be made at least 48 hours in advance. Email fun@bikeadk.com with details, and BikeADK handle the rest.

Fort Ticonderoga commemorates 250 years since the battle for independence. The national 250th commemoration of the American War for Independence will take place from 2024-27, and Fort Ticonderoga will begin its programs, events and other commemorative plans. The region along the Lake Champlain shoreline, at the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains, was critical to American victory in the Revolution and was recognized early on as the site of remarkable human achievements combined with some of America's most dramatic scenery.

102 Fort Ti Road, Ticonderoga | 518-585-2821

- <u>"No Quarter!" events</u> taking place May 9-11 at Fort Ticonderoga, commemorating the fort's capture from the British by Ethan Allen, Benedict Arnold and the Green Mountain Boys.
- The Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (ROOST) has developed an interactive, self-guided challenge to mark the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and the important contributions of the Adirondack region to the nation's history.
 - <u>The Lake Champlain Revolutionary Quest</u> invites visitors to follow a themed trail, using their mobile device to guide them along the route. Quest participants will have access to information about the attractions along the way as they are guided to key sites throughout the Lake Champlain region.

 The quest is scheduled to be available on May 3, ahead of the anniversary marking the capture of Fort Ticonderoga from the British on May 10, 1775. That pivotal event is considered by many historians to be the Continental Army's first victory of the Revolutionary War.

Noctourism

The Adirondack Park's six million acres are largely free from light pollution, making its villages and wilderness areas prime locations for stargazing. Visitors to the Adirondacks have myriad opportunities to take part in stargazing - as a casual observer with the naked eye, with binoculars, or with a personal telescope. People visiting the <u>Adirondack Sky Center and Observatory</u>, the Adirondacks' only public astronomy-based organization, can experience close-up views of deep space through high-powered professional telescopes.

The Adirondack Sky Center and Observatory has recently established its astronomy hub, featuring a portable StarLab Planetarium in downtown Tupper Lake. Visitors can take part in an exciting immersive planetarium experience each Thursday and Saturday. The organization is also proud to boast three NASA as Solar System Ambassadors; part of a nationwide network of volunteers, helping to bring NASA's groundbreaking work and discoveries to audiences across the country.

Anniversaries

100th anniversary of **Ticonderoga Golf Course**

Founded in 1925 and designed by the renowned architect Seymour Dunn, this beloved course opened as a 9-hole layout in 1926 and expanded to 18 holes in 1932, providing a century of memorable experiences for golf enthusiasts. With a par of 71, greens fees between \$35 and \$90, and stunning mountain views, the course offers a unique challenge, with Trout Brook meandering through seven holes to add intrigue. Ticonderoga Golf Club's rich history is reflected in its landscape, which played a role in the French and Indian War during the "Snowshoe Battle," commemorated by a plaque on the 3rd hole. The community's golf legacy also extends to the Ticonderoga pencil, developed in 1815 when a local entrepreneur patented the lead pencil after ore was discovered on nearby Lead Mountain.

100th Anniversary of Craig Wood Golf Course

Formerly known as the Lake Placid Golf and Country Club, Craig Wood Golf Course is named in honor of Lake Placid's native son, who won both The Masters Tournament & US Open in 1941 and 21 other PGA Tour events over his hall-of-fame career. Built in 1925 by Seymour Dunn, this 6,554-yard 18-hole layout will test players, while marveling at the beautiful surroundings including a spectacular view of Whiteface Mountain.

25th Anniversary of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail

The Northern Forest Canoe Trail (NFCT) celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2025, an occasion that will be marked with dozens of community events throughout the Northeast.

The NFCT is a mapped inland water trail tracing 740 miles of Indigenous and historic travel routes across New York, Vermont, Québec, New Hampshire and Maine. The NFCT offers a chain of possibilities: inspiring day trips, weekend getaways, weeklong vacations or even an end-to-end thru-paddling expedition. The canoe trail starts in Old Forge, NY, and ends in Fort Kent, Maine, traversing 23 rivers and streams, 59 lakes and ponds, 45 communities and towns, and more than 65 portages. What started as an idea to inspire paddlers to explore the historic waterways and communities of the Northern Forest has grown to an institution that maintains and enhances environmentally-sustainable outdoor infrastructure, promotes accessibility in paddlesports, hosts races and community events and fosters new generations of paddlers and outdoor enthusiasts.

To celebrate, the NFCT, in collaboration with community partners across the Northeast, will host a diverse array of community programming in 2025. This includes races, instructional courses and community paddles. The NFCT will host five races in three states this year. These races range from short, family-friendly challenges to multi-day stage races for more experienced paddlers. The lineup includes:

- 'Round the Mountain Canoe & Kayak Race, May 10, Saranac Lake, NY
- Rangeley Oquossoc Adventure Rendezvous, June 21-22, Rangeley, Maine
- Missisquoi Paddle-Pedal, July 12, Richford, Vt.
- Adirondack Canoe Classic (90-Miler), Sept. 5-6, Adirondacks, NY
- Long Boat Regatta, Sept. 20, Long Lake, NY

25th Anniversary of the Ausable River Two-Fly Challenge

The Ausable Two-Fly Challenge takes place each May along the famed west branch of the Ausable River. The event, now in its 25th year, brings more than 100 anglers to the Adirondack region of upstate New York. The event promises some of the best fishing in the region with three competitive categories: men, women and professional. The premise of the two-fly challenge is that anglers must catch fish on the west branch of the Ausable River, from the ski jumps in Lake Placid to the bridge in the center of downtown Wilmington, using only 2 flies that they choose each morning.

100th Anniversary of John's Brook Lodge

Accessible only by foot, Johns Brook Lodge is a backcountry lodge located at the base of the Great Range in the heart of the Adirondack High Peaks outside of Keene Valley, NY. This lodge offers an opportunity to experience a remote wilderness setting with some frontcountry comforts. It's a popular base camp for trips up many high peaks, including Big Slide, Marcy, Gothics, and others in the Great Range. The lodge sleeps 28 people in co-ed bunk rooms. During July and August visitors can expect breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily; from Labor Day to late-June the lodge operates under caretaker service requiring guests to . provide and cook their own food at the JBL kitchen.

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Businesses

River Trail Beerworks opened in downtown Saranac Lake. Developed by the owners of Lake Placid Pub & Brewery, and Big Slide Brewery & Public House, the new venture promises an unparalleled fusion of craft brewing excellence and riverside charm. Embrace the serenity of the flowing waters as you indulge in deliciously crafted brews. River Trail Beerworks will boast a seven-barrel production brewery with an indoor/outdoor bar and 60-item menu with many farm-to-table offerings, located on the shore of the Saranac River, which meanders through downtown Saranac Lake. RiverTrail will serve its own creations along with beers from many local Adirondack and NY breweries. 79 Woodruff Street, Saranac Lake, NY