

LAKES REGION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ITINERARY

4 days/4 nights

Following is a tentative schedule for your hiking tour in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. It may change depending on trail conditions, time of year, weather, group needs or other unforeseen circumstances.

Arrival Day/Night:-

Complimentary airport pick-up (Manchester, NH) scheduled for 4 PM. Alternative pick up location under Travel (see below). For those driving standard check in is 3 p.m. on. Orientation at 6:30 p.m. at Wolfboro Inn followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

SOME OF THE HIKES:-

We will have three and a half days to explore on foot this unique area of New Hampshire called the Lakes Region. There are some great walks/hikes right in town and we will also tackle the nearby mountain or two for some diversity and slightly more demanding hikes.

Day One: -

We begin our week at Castle of the Clouds Conservation area. Twenty-eight miles of trails traverse the 5,500 acres of the Castle in the Clouds property. This landmark property is part of the Ossipee Mountain ring dike, a circular formation of volcanic origin nine miles in diameter whose impenetrable terrain has discouraged roads and settlement for hundreds of years and has preserved a true wilderness habitat for a wide range of wildlife and vegetation, including several rare and endangered species. Seven of the Ossipee Mountains' most prominent peaks are on the Castle property, including two of the most popular hiking destinations in the region — Mt. Shaw, the highest at 2,975 feet, with its panoramic view of the White Mountains to the north, and Bald Knob, with its spectacular view of Lake Winnepesaukee to the southwest. The trails, many of which were originally built by Tom Plant as carriage roads, are well maintained, marked, and mapped, with options for every hiking ability.

Day 2:-

Today we take a short drive around Lake Winnepesaukee to the Mt. Major Belknap area in Gilford. Hiking options are endless with trails such as Brook Trail, Saddle Trail, Blue Trail, East Gilford Trail, Boulder Trail, Round Pond Link, Red Trail, Quarry Trail, Mount Major Trail.

Easier options for the day might include Knights Pond or Lockes Hill Loop. Knights Pond is a wonderful example of private land protection. The Lakes Region Land Trust owns only a small portion of this 307-acre wildlife refuge. The rest remains in private ownership, protected from development by permanent easements. Snapping turtles and largemouth bass share the pond, and seven native orchids (including the endangered small whorled pogonia) live within the protected land. Loons and eagles frequent the pond, which was created and is maintained by a crew of resident beavers. A 2-mile loop trail around the pond invites visitors to explore the woods and leads to the beaver dam. Lockes Hill is a loop which offers several places to stop and rest, picnic, or just relax and

take in the scenery.

Day 3:-

Again today we find ourselves with seemingly unlimited walking/hiking choices. Mt Cardigan, Red Hill, **Mounts Morgan and Percival just to name a few**. One of our favorites is **Mt. Cardigan** with its sweeping 360 degree panoramic views. The mountain is often compared to Mt. Manadnock because of its similar height and bald top. Several choices of trails lead us to the top.

Red Hill, located near Center Harbor, features views of both Lake Winnepesaukee and Squam Lake, a view that was admired by Emerson, Melville, and Thoreau. For guest looking for a more challenging option there is **Mounts Morgan and Percival** will take you over two peaks in the Squam range, which of course offer views of New Hampshire's most heavily protected body of water, Squam Lake.

Day 4:-

Our last morning of hiking takes us to West Rattlesnake Mountain. A moderate/easy hike that offers fantastic views of Squam Lake and its many islands. The flat rock slabs at the top offer the perfect spot to enjoy a snack or picnic.

TRAVEL:-

Arrivals:-

Complimentary airport pick up at Manchester Airport 4:00 PM. Your guides will be waiting for you at the Delta ticket counter.

If the scheduled pick-up time does not work for your flight, you will need to rent a car and drive to the Wolfeboro Inn.

If you are planning to use our airport shuttle and are going to be delayed, please call our office at 1-800-869-0949 and leave a message. On the arrival day we will be in and out of the office in the morning checking messages and available by phone an hour prior to pick up.

If arriving by private car, the check-in time is 3:00 PM at Wolfeboro Inn. Directions can be found below or by visiting www.wolfeboroinn.com (see lodging information below).

Departures:-

Departure by car: approx. 1:30 - 2 PM

Departure by air: Our complimentary drop-off at Manchester Airport is at 3:00 PM.

Bus and Train Travel:-

Arrive by Bus: Our complimentary pick up at the Trailways Bus Station, Concord, NH is at 3:45 PM. Our drop-off is at 1:30 p.m.

Our Inns:-

Sunday & Monday
Wolfeboro Inn
90 North Main Street
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Reservations: (800) 451-2389
Guests: (603) 569-3016
Fax: (603) 569-5375
Web site: www.wolfeboroinn.com

Tuesday & Wednesday
Church Landing at Mill Falls
281 Daniel Webster Highway
Meredith, NH 03253
Reservations: (800) 622-6455
Guest: (603) 279-7006
Web site: www.millfalls.com

Packing Information:-

For weather. We have chosen to run this tour during the later part of the summer and of course fall foliage.

For our summer departure, warm daytime temperatures ranging from the upper 70s to the low 80s.

For our September departure, daytime temperatures ranging from the upper 60s to the low 50s. With the end of summer fast approaching evening temperatures can start to drop into the low 50s creating cool mornings with the higher elevations perhaps dipping into the mid 40s of an evening.

Suggested Equipment & Clothing List:-

Water bottle or hydration system – Minimum 2-quart capacity
VERY IMPORTANT!!!

Day pack - large enough to carry personal items, such as extra clothes & water.

Footwear - hiking boots. Please do not plan to hike in tennis shoes. Breaking in newer footwear prior to your trip will make your trip more enjoyable.

Rain gear - lightweight and waterproof jacket for carrying on the trail. Pants are optional, but are often nice to have to put over your shorts if it is chilly.

Jacket - For summer tour light weight fleece, and or layers are an option for those choosing to do summits with higher elevation. Autumn tour heavy fleece or other warm parka and our layers are recommended for colder morning and days, summits, and nights.

Dinner evening wear - Smart casual suggested. Nice pants and collared shirts are great for men and women alike. Casual sports attire is appropriate during the day.

Hiking attire - t-shirts, shorts, pants, sportswear and seasonal layers, warm hat and

gloves for autumn tour.

Socks - Enough pairs to keep your feet dry. Ones that wick away moisture (those made with a good percentage of nylon, wool, or polypropylene) are best.

Sun hat, caps or visor

Sunglasses - Should have UV protective lenses

Toiletries – Include plenty of high-SPF sunscreen and lip balm

Optional Miscellaneous Personal Items -

Medications

Bathing suit

Camera, film

Hiking poles

Binoculars

Insect Repellent – Occasionally needed (Summer tour)

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE WOLFEBORO INN IN NEW HAMPSHIRE:-

FROM I-95 to Wolfeboro

(approx. driving time 2 hours from Boston, MA)

Take Rte. 95 North into New Hampshire. Near Portsmouth you will take a left hand exit onto the Spaulding Turnpike (Rte. 16). You will go through two small toll booths and will get off at Exit 15. This exit will put you on Rte. 11 West. Take 11 West until you come to a traffic circle (the only one you will see, in Alton, NH). Here you will get on Rte. 28 North. This will bring you into Wolfeboro (about 15 minutes from circle). As you come into town, on the right hand side of the road you will see a Citgo Gas station. Go straight ahead at the Citgo station. Do not veer right. The Wolfeboro Inn is less than a mile from the Citgo station, on your left hand side.

FROM I-93 to Wolfeboro

(approx. driving time is 2 hours from Boston, MA)

Take Rte. 93 North into New Hampshire. In Concord, you will take Exit 15E (the sign will say Rte. 202 and Rte. 4). Follow this road (you can only go in one direction when you get off 93 North) until you come to the Epsom traffic circle (first traffic circle you come to) where you will get on to Rte. 28 North. Rte. 28 North will bring you all the way into Wolfeboro. As you come into town, on the right hand side of the road you will see a Citgo Gas station. Go straight ahead at the Citgo station. Do not veer right. The Wolfeboro Inn is less than a mile from the Citgo station, on your left hand side.

FROM NORTH OR WEST SIDE OF WINNIPESAUKEE

From the north or west side of the Lake Winnepesaukee, take Route 25 to 109 into Wolfeboro. The Wolfeboro Inn is located at the corner of North Main Street and Sewall Road, in the heart of the village.