



Homeschool Day at Fort Ticonderoga Friday, September 6, 2024 | 9:30am-5pm

10:15 a.m. 1:15 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour (Begins at Large American Flag)

Discover the incredible story of Ticonderoga and the great experiences we offer. Learn about the iconic battles of Carillon & Ticonderoga within the French & Indian War and the Revolutionary War. Explore groundbreaking preservation and reconstruction efforts that allow Fort Ticonderoga to bring to life its heroic tales today and for generations to come!

10:30 a.m. Carillon Boat Cruise (Carillon Boat Dock near the King's Garden)

During this 75-minute narrated boat cruise on Lake Champlain, panoramic mountain vistas surround you while sonar readings present unforgettable images of shipwrecks.

Reservations are required. Visit the tent outside of the Log House Welcome Center at least 15 minutes before the cruise to purchase tickets. *Additional fee required. Additional cruises are offered at 1:00pm and 3:30pm by reserving in the Log House Welcome Center at least 15 minutes before the cruise. Tickets are sold on a first-served basis.

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Soldiers' Dinner (In the Parade Ground of Fort Ticonderoga)

At the end of the French & Indian War, the British Army ordered soldiers to grow much of their food. See the hearty meals that soldiers enjoyed with army rations & fresh produce.

11:00 a.m. Musket Demonstration (Demonstration Area)

Meet the British soldiers in 1774 with their muskets and bayonets. Go beyond loading and firing to discuss what traditions remained and what tactical innovations the British Army in North America adopted after the French & Indian War.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Musket Maintenance (Ground Floor Soldiers' Barracks)

Each shot of black powder fouled the muskets' moving parts and ate away at its metal, unless thoroughly cleaned. Watch as hot water, grease, and a little brick dust keep these weapons working; lock, stock, and barrel.

11:30 a.m. Guided Tour of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum (Beginning on the Parade Ground)

More than a century of collecting has allowed Fort Ticonderoga to acquire North America's largest and most important collection of 18th-century military material culture. This guided tour will give you the scoop on the most significant, rare, and interesting pieces in the collection.

11:45 a.m. Breaking Ground: A Guided Tour of the Historic Gardens (Begins in the King's Garden)

From military garrison gardens to a Colonial Revival Garden, explore one of the oldest cultivated landscapes in America. Discover the layers of horticultural history of the Ticonderoga peninsula.

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Heroic Corn Maze

Share time with family and friends while exploring this unique six-acre corn maze! The maze design reflects our 2024 theme: 1774, a fortification proudly under British rule. As you make your way through the maze, hunt for all the history-themed stamps along the way, and sign the wall of fame at the end!

12:30 p.m. & 1:15 p.m. Bateau Row (Boat House near King's Garden)

This homeschool family exclusive opportunity provides a new perspective of the Ticonderoga peninsula as you row across Lake Champlain in our reproduction 18th-century bateau (a flat-bottomed boat).

Reservations are required. For ages 9 and up. Visit the tent outside of the Log House Welcome Center at least 15 minutes before the row to purchase tickets. *Additional fee required.

1:15 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour *See 10:15 a.m. description.*

2:00 p.m. Cannon Demonstration (Demonstration Area)

In addition to soldiers, a handful of British artillerymen maintained the guns of Ticonderoga, a legacy of the great campaigns of the French & Indian War. Discover the British naval training used to safely fire cannons from the fort walls.

Soldiers' Gardening 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (King's Garden)

Gardening was a common military duty within the British Army, but after the French & Indian War, these gardens became more elaborate and important for keeping peacetime soldiers fed, wherever they served in America.

2:30 p.m. Guided Tour of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum *See 11:30 a.m. description.*

2:45 p.m. Breaking Ground: A Guided Tour of the Historic Gardens *See 11:45 a.m. description.*

3:00 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour *See 10:15 a.m. description.*

4:00 p.m. Mount Defiance Witness to History Guided Tour (Atop Mount Defiance)

See the commanding view of Mount Defiance over Ticonderoga and learn how this vantage point shaped events in the French & Indian War. Explore the exciting chapters to come for Mount Defiance during the Revolutionary War. Mount Defiance is located at 72 Defiance Street. The token you received upon arrival allows you access to drive up the mountain; otherwise, you are welcome to walk up.

Ongoing Throughout the Day

Shoemaking (Ground Floor Officers' Barracks)

Examine the construction of British soldiers' shoes in 1774 and discover the science of recreating original shoes from shipwrecks. Flex the supple calfskin of shoe uppers and rap on the hard soles as you explore how these shoes were repaired wherever soldiers marched or rowed.

Tailoring (2nd Floor Officers' Barracks)

On the eve of the Revolutionary War, clothing soldiers was an efficient science within the British Army. See how economy and comfort were balanced at the end of a tailors' needle in British garrisons all around the globe.

Maritime Trades (Boat House near King's Garden)

Bateaux and bigger vessels were part of each British garrison along vital waterways like Lake Champlain. Explore the carpentry, sail-making, and rigging work used to build and maintain these flat bottomed wooden boats, even as shipwrecks loomed out of the lake in the King's Shipyard at Ticonderoga.

***In His Majesty's Service* Scavenger Hunt (Ground Floor Soldiers' Barracks)**

Make the most of your Homeschool Day with *In His Majesty's Service*, an engaging Student Scavenger Hunt! Explore Fort Ticonderoga's exhibits and talk with our living history staff to find the answers to questions about the many layers of Fort Ticonderoga's story.

LOOKING AHEAD! Every year is a new experience at Fort Ticonderoga! Join us again next year and step into the first year of revolution at Fort Ticonderoga in 1775!