



**DO YOU
LOVE THE
ADKS?**

**TIME TO
SHOW IT.**

While you enjoy your visit, please keep the Seven Principles of Leave No Trace in mind. These principles will not only improve your own nature experience, but they help preserve this unparalleled natural wonder for generations to come.

Learn more at
www.LoveYourADk.org

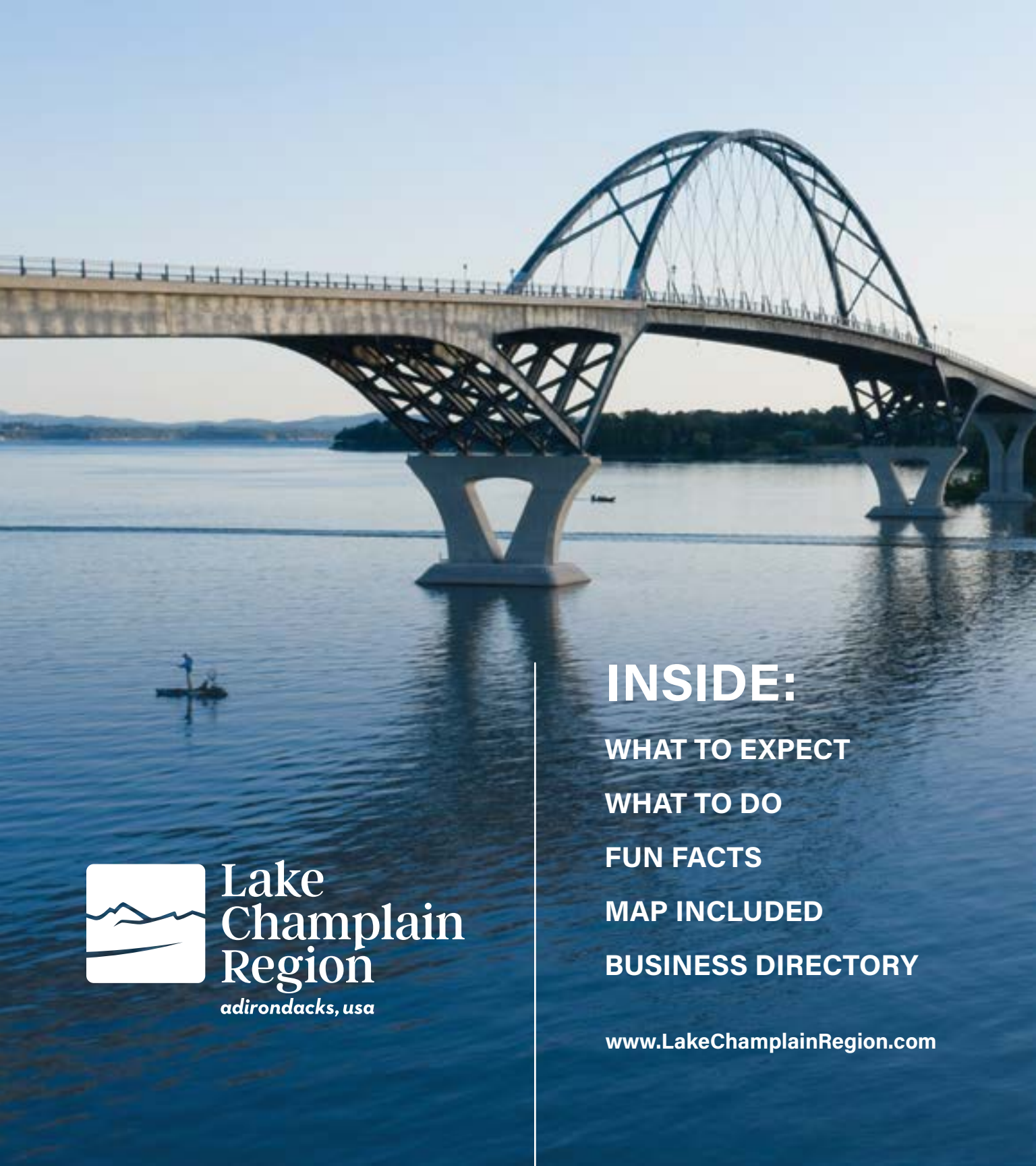


Lake Champlain
REGION

adirondacks, usa



ADVENTURE GUIDE



Lake
Champlain
Region

adirondacks, usa

INSIDE:

WHAT TO EXPECT

WHAT TO DO

FUN FACTS

MAP INCLUDED

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

www.LakeChamplainRegion.com

Welcome

Find your way through the Lake Champlain Region. From Ausable Chasm to Fort Ticonderoga, and the mountains to the lake shore, there's so much to explore!

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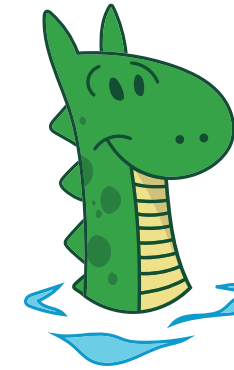


Open spaces, legendary places.

Meet Champ



Plenty of people have tried to take my photo, but I'm shy. No paparazzi in the lake, please!



Meet Champ!

Our biggest resident is also our most fascinating! Dive into Lake Champlain to meet everyone's favorite lake monster.

A Legendary Mystery

"Lake monster" sounds scary, but to us, this water-loving creature is a friendly, shy fellow who happily frolics in the deep waters of the lake. We're not afraid of him; we love him!

Named after the lake he lives in, people have been spotting Champ, or one of his relatives, since at least the 1600s. Because he's so hard to spot, it's impossible to know exactly what he is. The original dwellers of the area, the Abenaki and Mohawk, spoke of a huge serpent. Some say he's a gigantic gar or sturgeon while others compare him to

the long-extinct plesiosaur, an aquatic dinosaur with flippers and a long neck.

Celebrating the green monster

Champ is a star here and even if you don't spot him, you can join in the fun. Visit the selfie-friendly Champ statue in Port Henry, or really get into the swim of things by attending the annual Champ Day Festival!

If you see him, remember the principles of Leave No Trace: give him plenty of room to swim and do not disturb him. He was here first, after all. Try to get a photo though; we'd love to see it!

Fun on the Water



Water you waiting for?

Boating, floating, paddling, and swimming — there are tons of ways to explore these legendary waters. Try one out for yourself!

From the bow of a boat, these lake views look like they'll never end!

Jump on in

The Lake Champlain Region is full of opportunities to enjoy the water. The biggest, and most obvious, is Lake Champlain itself, but there are dozens of gorgeous drops of

water sprinkled around this incredible area. With more publicly accessible waterfront than anywhere else on the lake, there is sure to be a place for everyone to make a splash. Take in the views from the sandy beaches of Ticonderoga, Port Henry, Willsboro, and Westport. For a quieter setting, stroll through the charming picnic area of Lincoln Pond, or see one of the countless lakes, ponds, and rivers that interconnect this stunning region.

Get out there

You can't experience it all from the shore! The water bodies of the Lake Champlain Region are calling your name, and there's no better way to answer than to go see them yourself. There are plenty of ways to experience the grandeur of Lake Champlain and its surroundings — from leisurely cruises and tours to thrilling water adventures. Choose from dozens of access points across the region's vast waterfront. Many of the local marinas will be able to give you the info and gear you need to get out on the water yourself. Catch a glimpse of the Champlain Valley's open spaces from the water. Rent a



boat, take a cruise, or learn to sail on one of North America's largest freshwater lakes.

Not your oar-dinary paddle

From relaxing and scenic flatwater, to adventurous whitewater, the Lake Champlain Region has all types of paddlers covered. There is an incredible variety of paddling to be done in the

Adirondacks. Sheltered bays make for calmer paddles while the open water offers a perspective of the unparalleled scope of the region. Seemingly endless lakes, ponds, and rivers weave throughout the region, interconnecting and forming limitless multi-day routes for paddling. Rent or bring your own kayak, canoe, or stand-up paddle board to explore backcountry Adirondack flatwater. For the more daring, take a guided tour down the rushing Ausable Chasm, or discover the long, uninterrupted stretches of river that make the Adirondacks so unique.

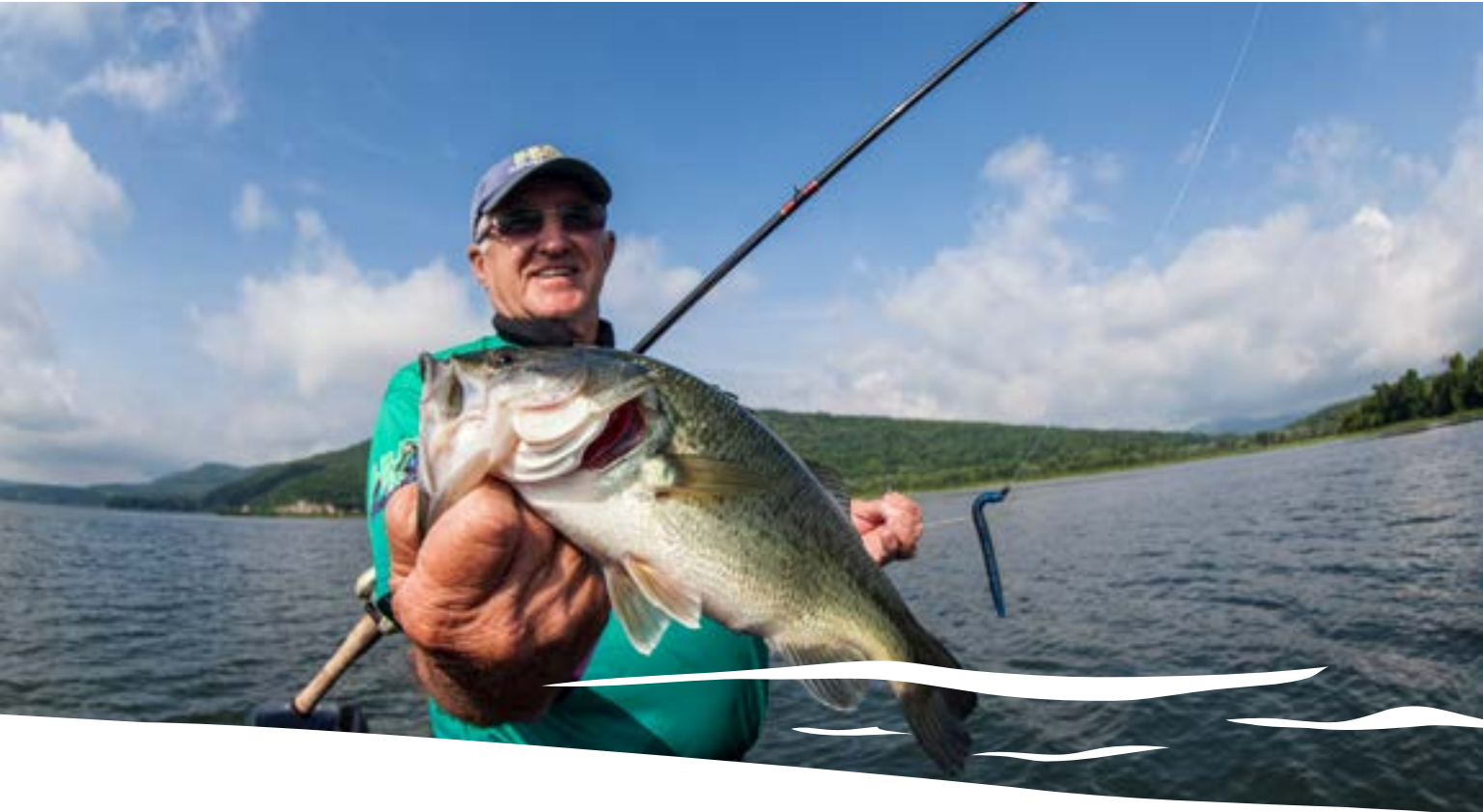


Champ's Tip!

Keep my lake clean! Make sure to wash your boat to avoid bringing in any harmful species.



Fun on the Water



Year-round fishing fun

Reel in your own fishing story and get hooked on some of the best fishing around!

Fishing from a motorboat or kayak can get you right into the heart of the best fishing!

It's all about the bass

And trout. And walleye. And salmon. And pike. You get the picture. There are a lot of fish here! In fact, there are over 90 species of fish identified in the Lake Champlain Basin.

Hit the water

When the weather is warmer, the fishing is superb on Lake Champlain and surrounding bodies of water. Whether you're on a boat or fishing from shore or a pier, there is plenty to catch and fishing holes to visit. Even though the perch and sunfish are fun, the big bass (large and smallmouth) fishing tournaments are exciting on a new level. Lake Champlain has been named one of the best bass fisheries in the nation! Rumor has it that bass between 15 and 20 pounds can be found south of the Champlain Bridge. If you feel like you're in uncharted waters, hire a local guide to help you find the deep holes where lake trout are known to hide. Fishing from a canoe or kayak is a popular pastime on quieter areas of Lake Champlain or any one of the smaller ponds in the area. Your next big catch is just a cast away!



Here's a tip

In winter the fishing doesn't stop! Ice fishing is a beloved tradition. Conditions are obviously a bit different than in summer, so be sure to carefully study ice thickness and be prepared for a winter

"Don't be a fish out of water! Learn tips and tricks from local guides."

day outdoors. Understanding the lake and its fish are important for ice fishing: knowing fish behavior in winter, understanding lures and bait, finding weed beds. Local guides and bait shop owners tend to have the most current knowledge right at

their fingertips, so speaking with them can help get you on the ice faster and safer, and maybe help you land a monster salmon. The smaller lakes and ponds in the area are also great for ice fishing.

Don't get snagged

Being prepared to go fishing may not seem like the most romantic topic, but it's vital to maintain the integrity of the fishery! Some things you can do are: know the rules & regulations of the area, pack out all unused bait, avoid using lead sinkers and jigs, discard fishing line in proper disposals, and clean all gear to be free and clear of any non-native aquatic invasive species. Did you know that fishing line can take 500 years to decompose? Be sure to do your part to keep Lake Champlain and the surrounding waterbodies clean and healthy!

Farm Fresh



The bounty of our farms offers a wide range of fresh flavors and culinary delights you won't be able to resist!

Farm to table

Time for lunch? There is so much fresh, local food in the Lake Champlain Region you definitely won't leave hungry!

Farms and flavors

The Lake Champlain Region is a blend of preserved wild lands, home to wild plants and animals, and lovingly tended farmlands. Here, a love for food and the natural world forms a unique environment for a lot to grow. The rich, fertile, productive soils of the Champlain Valley yield an abundance of crops for all to enjoy! Between farmers markets and seasonal festivals, there's a lot to see, do, and eat in the Lake Champlain Region. Many local restaurants use locally-sourced ingredients, which means you can dine out while supporting local farmers,

brewers, and restaurateurs. "Farm to table" isn't just a saying here - it's a way of life.

A good education

It probably goes without saying, but the farmers, growers, and makers in the region are proud of their products! Hundreds of types of fruit, produce, and meat, along with finished products like beer, wine, honey, and cheese all showcase the best (and tastiest) qualities of the Champlain Valley. Visitors can even visit farms to meet the cows, chat with farmers, and participate in workshops to learn how to use local ingredients to create delicious dishes.



Can you believe how many different tasty foods can be grown locally in the Lake Champlain Region?

Farms, foods, and brews

Discover fantastic farms and flavors in the breadbasket of the Adirondacks.

Oh hoppy day!

The fertile lands of the Lake Champlain Region are home to some of the tastiest local breweries and beers you can get your hands on. These gems are located along some of the most scenic roads in the Adirondacks. East of the High Peaks lays the most arable land in the mountains. Along with it, are the small-batch beers and ciders that it yields. Straight from the Adirondack soil, these local brews will surely keep you coming back for more.

Vineyards with a view

We can't let the great beer get all the credit! Looking

out over Lake Champlain and Adirondack peaks, the vineyards, farms, and wineries of the region are a perfect way to enjoy the agriculture of the Champlain Valley. See the grapes on the vine as you sip your wine. Smell the lavender in the air, and don't forget to take some with you when you go.

Farm to table

Come experience the connection between incredible restaurants, local foods, and the interesting communities that have created them! For anyone looking for healthy, sustainable, and high quality food experiences, the Lake Champlain Region is for you.

Mountain Biking



Spoke-tacular singletrack

Everything you need and more. From laid-back dirt to epic singletrack, climb, coast, and cruise your way through these open spaces and legendary places.

So many of the trails in the area provide stunning views, but this one is unbelievable!

Let's ride!

The Lake Champlain Region has opportunities for every skill level to ride! From the mellow wooded trails at Ausable Chasm, to legendary downhill at Barkeater Trails

Alliance's Otis Mountain, it's easy to see why this area's mountain bike scene is growing so fast. The landscape of the Lake Champlain Region is wide and varied which means there's always new terrain to shake things up. What are you waiting for? Let's ride!

Saddle up, get down!

Full of turns, berms, and good times, Otis Mountain offers some of the most difficult and engaging riding in the region. Once an old abandoned ski hill, this dirt merchant's paradise has quickly become a local favorite. These 600 acres are home to several summits, a waterfall, and the Otis Mountain Get Down music festival. Cruise along the lowlands, or take a trip to the top, tackling challenging climbs and a mix of natural and manmade features along the way.



Roll along

Flow along the rolling Blueberry Hill Trails in Elizabethtown. With views of the High Peaks all around and Lake Champlain on the horizon, this network of trails will fill your day. Blueberry Hill strikes the perfect balance

"Ride through legendary terrain with wide open views. You don't want to miss this."

between mellow double track and moderately challenging singletrack. With 12 miles of trails to choose from, we're sure you'll find what you're looking for. Come to a group ride hosted by the Barkeater

Trails Alliance for the local tour, or explore on your own.

Ride the pines

Take a ride through a conifer forest next to one of the country's oldest running attractions. The gentle trails at Ausable Chasm are great for the

beginner rider or anyone looking to get outside. Well-marked routes weave between the trees, and the pine lined forest floor makes for a smooth ride. While the soft trail surface isn't as technically demanding as other areas, tight turns through the trees help to create interesting trails. Ride the afternoon away. Then, spend the night at the Ausable Chasm campground right next door.



Champ's Tip!

Being a lake monster, I don't do much biking. But Barkeater Trails Alliance (BETA) has all the mountain biking trail info you could need!

Cycling



Legendary road cycling

Take a ride through wide open spaces. Smooth, winding roads, rolling hills, and legendary views make the Lake Champlain Region a cyclist's paradise.

These mountains and rolling fields offer the perfect backdrop for any ride!

Theme loops

Add some flair to your two-wheeled journey. Themed loops like "Mountain-Coast Connector," "Acres of Apples," or "Fort to Fort" will give your adventures some direction.

There are dozens of themes and even more ways to enjoy them. Enjoy the ride for what it is, or put on your best miner costume and hit the "Iron to Iron" loop. Whether you're wearing lycra or overalls, riding paved roads or gravel, these routes provide incredible views of this unique region. What are you waiting for? Get out and ride!

A full 360 of Lake Champlain

For those looking to expand their loop, why not bring it all the way around? Circumnavigate North America's 13th largest lake on this 360-mile scenic bike route. Coast along the edge of the water as you take in golden fields and distant mountains. Make your way by the Richelieu River of Québec, and look back at the Adirondacks as you pedal through Vermont.



Pedal the Empire State

From Battery Park in New York City, up to our neighbors to the north, the Empire State Cycling Trail runs its most scenic course through the heart of the Champlain Valley. This 750-mile bike

"Ride by legendary views, tasty brews, and along the best routes the Adirondacks have to offer."

path is a new and exciting challenge for cyclists looking to experience New York State. The Champlain Valley section of the trail runs near several historic forts, past some of the state's best craft breweries,

and right between the Adirondack High Peaks and Lake Champlain.

Pack your bags!

Want to extend your ride? Bikepack through the open spaces of the Lake Champlain Region. You'll want to ride for days through

long stretches of scenic roads, ever-changing views, and gorgeous camping areas. Load up that bike with everything you need, and spend some days exploring the Adirondacks under your own power. No need to hammer out the miles. The Lake

Champlain Region is all about active relaxation. So pick a route, and pedal at party pace for your next legendary bikepacking adventure.



Champ's Tip!

Need to refuel? Some of my favorite snacks come from the great farm stands around the region. Stop by one while you ride!

Winter Fun



Snow much to do! Snow little time!

A new season means new views to enjoy! When the leaves are gone and the snow falls, these open spaces get even bigger.

This iconic view of Ausable Chasm changes with every season, but no matter what the weather, it's breathtaking!

Slide through history

The cross-country skiing here is legendary — literally. Ski through historic battlegrounds at Crown Point along the shores of Lake Champlain. Looking for more? Choose

from one of over 100 miles of the Champlain Area Trail System, or ski the rolling foothills of the craggy peaks surrounding Cobble Hill Golf Course in Elizabethtown. No matter the distance or difficulty you choose, these skis will make your trip unforgettable.

Be prepared

No need to sink with every step this winter. Strap up those snowshoes and hit the trails. Take in all the best views of distant peaks, snowy vistas, and the legendary Lake Champlain on the Champlain Area Trail System. Beginner snowshoers and winter hikers will find solace on low-lying trails through glimmering fields. Those more experienced in snow flotation and accustomed to winter hiking will enjoy the more challenging offerings like the Broughton Ledges loop.

Kick, stride, and glide

For an easy way to enjoy the chilly temperatures this winter, bundle up and take a lap around one of the many public ice rinks in the area. Bring your skates, and enjoy incredible views of the Champlain Valley.



Skate on natural ice with Adirondack peaks towering in the distance. These charming local rinks are a great way to get some active relaxation or cap off a long day out.

All routes lead up

There are several ways to ascend the 2,170 foot Poke-O-Moonshine Mountain. Two hiking trails make for great snowshoe excursions: the "Observer's Trail" and its steeper counterpart the "Ranger Trail." Both lead to

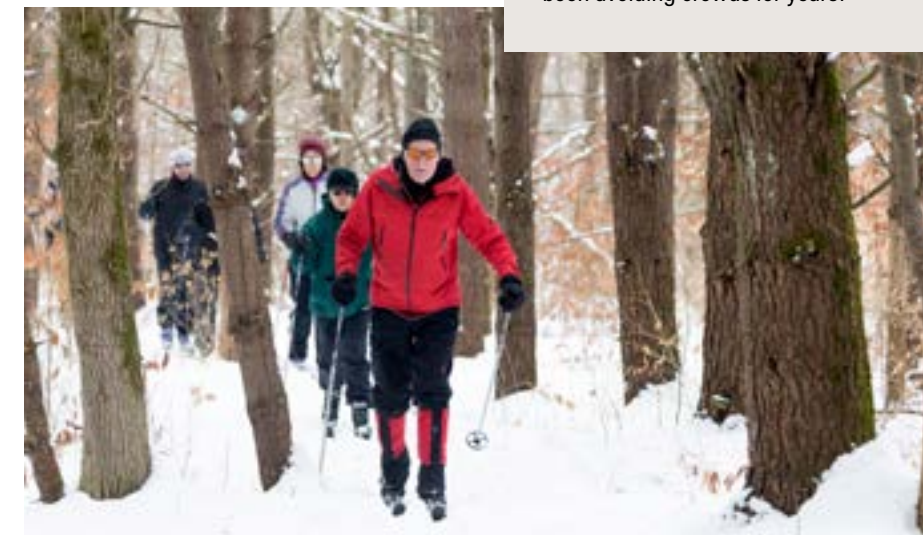
the summit and a spectacular 360-degree view from the firetower that sits atop of it.

Besides its place as a former forest fire observation point, Poke-O-Moonshine has a lesser known, and more extreme, history. That legacy lies in the world of ice climbing. From this, Poke-O-Moonshine has become internationally recognized as the site of some challenging and historic climbing routes. Take on this hike and you're bound to see climbers testing themselves on this mile-long vertical band of rock and ice.



Champ's Tip!

Want to get these wide open spaces all to yourself? Winter is the perfect time to avoid the crowds. Take my advice, I've been avoiding crowds for years!



Hiking



Boots on the ground

From casual strolls along scenic rivers to mountain summits, it's time to take a hike!

The journey itself may be the destination, but the views from the top are simply sublime! What a treat!

Picture this: mountains, lakes, rivers, valleys, meadows, ponds. This is the Lake Champlain Region, and there are so many hikes that traverse this diverse landscape and lead to the most incredible views.

Cool CATS

Champlain Area Trails (CATS) is a local land trust that protects land, creates trails, and connects people with nature in the Champlain Valley. With over 150-miles of trails, CATS has defined hiking in the area. From mellow, family-friendly walks in the woods to steeper mountains, there is a variety of terrain difficulty so that means there's a trail perfect for you! You don't have to hike far to get the big views: Coot Hill Trail/Big Hollow Trail offers a stunning vista with only a 0.5-mile hike. Belfry and Poke-O-Moonshine mountains are others with big views, but these two summits feature something unique - fire towers!

Split Rock Wild Forest

The largest undeveloped tract of land on the Lake Champlain shoreline, Split Rock Wild Forest has miles of moderately difficult trails and is home to a lot of wildlife!

Go with the flow

There is even hiking in town! The La Chute River Walk Trail is a local favorite for exploring



the natural and industrial milling history along the La Chute River in Ticonderoga.

Love Your ADK

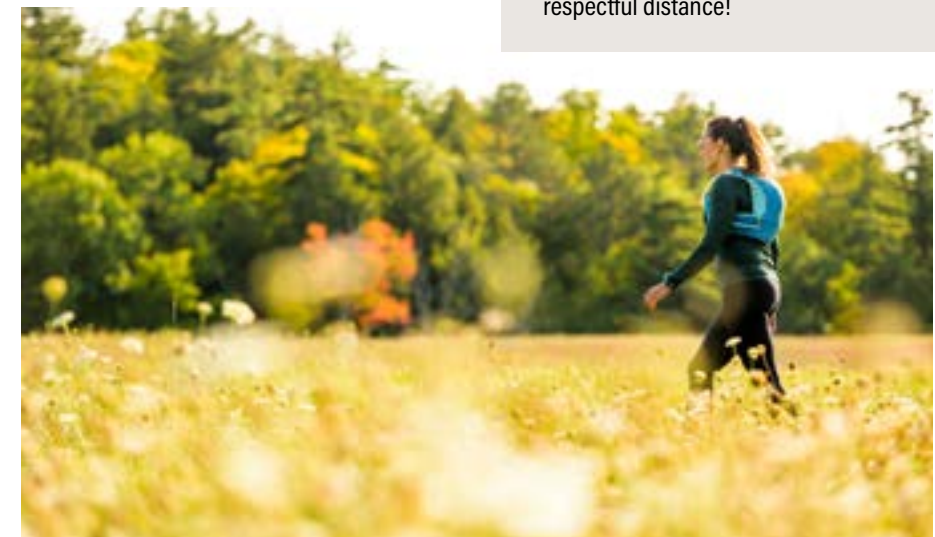
We get it, you love to hike. So do we! That's why we encourage everyone to practice responsible recreation and Love Your ADK. Love Your ADK is a pledge, a commitment to support the messages and values of Leave No Trace. Millions of people

visit the public lands inside the Adirondacks each year, many of them hikers. By pledging to Love Your ADK, you commit to protecting the lands, waters, and communities we all know and love. For hikers, that might mean staying on the trail to prevent further erosion to fragile landscapes, or watching wildlife from afar, or only spreading respectful, educating messages online. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. And if you take steps to be a good steward of the land today, it means that others will be able to enjoy Adirondack hiking trails for years to come.



Champ's Tip!

Animals like me like to stay hidden so when you're hiking make sure to keep a respectful distance!



Lake Champlain Region

adirondacks.usa



Map Legend

- Town in the Lake Champlain Region
- Attraction
- Ferry Crossing to Vermont

Map it out!

Stretching from Ausable Chasm to Fort Ticonderoga, the Lake Champlain Region is situated between one of North America's largest lakes and the stunning Adirondack High Peaks. Use this map to guide you through these interesting communities, open spaces, and legendary places.

Region Attractions



Attractions new and old

Discover the history of the Champlain Valley. From historic forts to geological phenomena, these places are legendary.

The historic sites of the Lake Champlain Region are wide, varied, and all come with their fair share of incredible views.

Cross the pond

Crown Point State Historic Site is full of things to see. Take a photo of the iconic Lake Champlain Bridge, the historic memorial lighthouse, and His Majesty's legendary fort.

This huge area of Champlain coastline gives you lots of space to explore every angle of the lake, its attractions, and the looming mountains in the distance. Get up close, and check out the original Rodin sculpture mounted on the lighthouse. Walk through a fort built centuries ago, or take a stroll across the bridge and into Vermont. End the day fishing in the lake, and spend the night at the Crown Point campground, located near two historic sites.

A storied fort

The long and storied past of Fort Ticonderoga replays every day. With living history demonstrations, live reenactments, and events throughout the year, there are endless things to learn and see. The team at Fort Ticonderoga work their way through each period of the fort's story. From dramatic sieges, sabotage, and changes of power, to the mundane elements of everyday life on the lake, live actors are consistently immersing themselves in the era. They're also teaching you along the way! You'll be amazed by the incredible handmade garments, preserved artifacts,



and engaging presentations. Fort Ticonderoga is a must-see in the Lake Champlain Region.

The Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks

A year-round destination, Ausable Chasm is the longest running natural attraction in the country. This spectacular gorge and its towering walls are often referred to as

the "Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks." In the summer, float down the river or climb high above it on the adventure course. Guided hikes, climbs, and rafts are available for everyone. Come winter, the dazzling waterfalls turn to impressive ice formations. Experience the quiet of the Adirondack wilderness as you snowshoe along the chasm walls. The campground and trails located just behind the chasm are the perfect place to cap off your adventure. Mountain bike or ski, depending on the season, and replay the whole adventure in your tent that night!



Champ's Tip!

Did you know Ausable Chasm offers four seasons of fun, and will supply you with the appropriate gear in winter?



Heritage / Museums



Explore our legendary heritage

In the Lake Champlain Region, history comes to life through museums, historic sites, and family-oriented heritage celebrations.

Our towns are rich in fascinating history, with historic homes and links to the nation's very beginnings. Are you ready to explore?

It's time to forget what you think history is all about. Textbooks? Not on this vacation! This is a place where museums tell a rich array of stories, of the people and places that made the area so unique. From suffragists to

iron miners, a famous pencil to the Underground Railroad, ours is an area with a complex, fascinating history all around.

Follow the north star

One of the brightest lights in the region's heritage is its role in the Underground Railroad. At the North Star Underground Railroad Museum near Keeseville and Ausable Chasm, this often sobering but beautiful and important story is told through innovative exhibits, tours, and special events. Learn how local residents helped fugitive slaves find freedom and new lives and the former slaves whose lives were transformed.

Finding home

If you've ever wondered how people lived in the past, the historic house museums in the region are brilliantly equipped to show you! Visit Ticonderoga's Hancock House, a stone replica of a Boston mansion, which features several floors of artifacts, exceptional 18th and 19th century American craftsmanship, and exhibits on local history including rural life, suffrage, and the Iroquois.

Just a few minutes away, the Penfield Homestead Museum is an expansive space with several 18th century buildings that tell the story of rural life. From the homestead itself to the carriage barn and church, you'll feel as though you've traveled back in time.

Mountains of iron

Today, the region is lush with forests, waterfalls, and scenic overlooks, but there was a time when the area resounded with the sound of mining. Land rich in iron and other minerals is all around us and the mining industry flourished for over 100 years, shaping and defining many towns. Dig into that history at Port Henry's Iron Center Museum, or visit the Ticonderoga

Heritage Museum, where graphite mining and the story of the famous Ticonderoga pencil is told!

For a museum that brings together many of the historic threads of the area, don't miss the wide-ranging exhibits at the Adirondack History Museum in Elizabethtown. It even has a fire tower from a mountain summit!

Make your vacation history with an engaging, enlightening, and fun visit to the Lake Champlain Region!



Champ's Tip!

Don't miss our historic walking tours; you'll learn more about how the region thrived through agriculture, industry, and more.





Grab your best golf pals and tell your family you'll be home in October! Our stunning links have a lot to love.

Play among the peaks

Hidden gems of emerald green offer outstanding experiences with big views and even bigger challenges.

It's tee time!

If your idea of a vacation involves putters, the sweet sound of irons striking golf balls, and an Arnold Palmer at the end of a rewarding day on the fairways, then do we have golf courses for you! In the Lake Champlain Region, verdant courses offer up close and personal views of Adirondack mountains and forest preserves close to sparkling Lake Champlain.

In historic Westport, home of the Depot Theatre, historic buildings, and excellent lakeside dining, Westport Golf is a historic course with challenges that can be suited to beginners or long-time golfers. Created by Scottish

course architect Tom Winton, the course is eye-catching and attention-grabbing, with just the right amount of intimidation to bring out the best in your game.

A short drive (in the car) down Route 9N/22 will bring you to the Ticonderoga Golf Course, where mountain views will leave you breathless. You'll need to pay attention, though, because this hilly course, designed by golf legend Seymour Dunn in 1926, offers an exhilarating challenge. Don't miss dining at Seymour's, the club restaurant.

Pack your clubs, it's time to golf the Lake Champlain Region!

Arts and Entertainment



Events here are family — and animal! — friendly, with classic activities and flavors sure to delight kids of all ages.

Inspiration abounds

The Lake Champlain Region is eventful year-round, bursting with creative art, family-friendly entertainment, and exciting events.

The natural world and outdoor activities shine in the Lake Champlain Region, but it isn't all big outdoors here. A variety of cultural events and lively entertainment adds a unique element to the region that helps create a distinctive

atmosphere that combines a little bit of everything. Throughout all four seasons, there is a wide array of artistic offerings, celebrations, and festivals on the Adirondack Coast of Lake Champlain. With so much to do, you better get your calendar out now and start planning for the year!

Legendary events

Enjoy a multitude of events in the Lake Champlain Region, where annual events are always memorable and unique! In summer, the Essex County Fair brings rides and games, as well as events and exhibits which honor the history of agriculture in the area. In fall, the Adirondack Harvest Festival showcases the many farms and flavors of the Champlain Valley. Of course, throughout the year, other events pop up, featuring holiday celebrations, outdoor sports, and creative endeavors. Don't miss the Whallonsburg Grange Hall, built in 1915, which has been restored and reclaimed as a vibrant year-round community center for music, movies, theater, lectures, classes and family events.



Art everywhere

With so much natural beauty, it's not hard to understand why so many artists chose to showcase their works in the Lake Champlain Region. In Port Henry, a walking tour leads visitors to 18 murals around the historic hamlet. From Crown Point to Keeseville, there are artists everywhere! One place where art really speaks is Ticonderoga Arts (or Ti Arts), which is a lovely establishment that ties art and community together.

Sing and dance

In Westport, the Depot Theatre transformed an old train station into a professional theatre, inviting visitors to "take a journey without leaving the station." In Lewis, Meadowmount School of Music has helped many students achieve their musical career goals for over 75 years. Artistic expression is not lost in the natural beauty of the region. Visitors and locals alike can catch a program at the Depot Theatre or Meadowmount in summer.



Champ's Tip!

The Essex County Fair has been held annually since 1865 - that's almost as old as me! Almost.



Birding



A bird a day...

Four seasons of birding means plenty of opportunity to find migrants and year-round resident birds.

From Caspian Terns (above) to Snow Buntings (right), the birds here are as legendary as the landscape!

Seasons of change

The Champlain Valley and Lake Champlain Region offer excellent year-round birding. Each season offers different bird species, creating an exciting environment for

expert birders and beginners alike. From the singing warblers of spring and summer to the hardy ducks that winter on open waters, the variety and diversity of species is nothing short of incredible. Lake Champlain is along the Atlantic Flyway, so it is a premier destination for birders spring, summer, fall, and winter!

Spring: A new beginning

Spring makes its way to the Champlain Valley a little sooner than most of the Adirondacks, welcoming back early migrants like Common Grackles, Song Sparrows, and Red-winged Blackbirds. Birds of all shapes and sizes move along the spine of the lake during their travels north. Crown Point State Historic Site is a great location to see the birds and hear the chorus. Warblers of all varieties also begin to arrive during this time. Their colorful plumage and songs add a lot of excitement to the forests.



Summer: A quiet place

Summer can mean a quiet time as birds settle into their nests and begin to raise young, but still, Ospreys and Caspian Terns can be seen gliding above the lake. Keep eyes and ears open

"Birding is a great way to experience nature in the Lake Champlain Region!"

for shorebirds and early warblers, who might start their southward migration in mid-to-late August, and for Bobolinks and Savannah Sparrows in open fields.

Fall: Migration is upon us!

When the winds cool a bit, many of the region's birds start to head south. Canada and Snow Geese gather in large groups, and even some rarities mix in. Songbirds will also be on the move in their non-breeding

plumage, but that just adds to the excitement. Raptors also migrate this time of year, and Coon Mountain is a great vantage point to see them soaring in the valley below.

Winter: Duck season

The woods quiet down and a lot of the birding action takes place along the lakeshore in winter. When there is open water, thousands of ducks form large mixed species rafts. Common Goldeneye and Greater & Lesser Scaup are frequently seen. Away from the lake, Snow Buntings and Horned Larks fill fields with playful chatter.



Don't forget the camera! Our fall color is vibrant, expansive, and delightful, with every bend in the road offering a new view.

Fall shines the brightest

Fall, with golden scenery and apple-icious festivals, is the sweetest season and you're invited to the show.

All about the views

It's impossible not to enjoy the magic of fall in the Lake Champlain Region. Wide fields give way to rolling mountains covered in bold hues of red, orange, and yellow. Farm stands dot the landscape, and family-friendly harvest festivals bring communities together.

Fall is the perfect time to take a relaxed road trip over winding country roads that show off the landscape. The blaze of color that surrounds our scenic towns is a delight for all ages. Yes, adults can jump in leaf piles here! Just don't forget to stop at a farm stand for apples and cider donuts!

Easily drivable scenic vistas abound: glide to the top of Mount Defiance, overlooking Fort Ticonderoga and the lake, and don't miss rising gently over the lake itself at the Lake Champlain Bridge. The return ride offers the best views of the fort ruins and the Champlain Memorial Lighthouse.

Each community offers unique events, from Fort Ticonderoga's corn maze and heritage festival to the deliciousness of the annual Adirondack Harvest Festival, celebrating agricultural history, heritage, and food. Penfield Applefolkfest and other events let you sample treats, take wagon rides, carve pumpkins, and enjoy the crisp fall air.

Lake Champlain Fun Facts



A deep dive on Lake Champlain

Dive into the incredible secrets and stories of the legendary Lake Champlain and its ancient inhabitants. Uncover the mystery yourself!

The fall colors always seem brighter when you're on the shores of this gorgeous lake.

From lake to sea

Recognized as the lowest point in the entire 6-million-acre Adirondack Park, Lake Champlain is home to 587 miles of shoreline, 70+ islands, and roughly 6.8 trillion gallons

of water. With access to the St. Lawrence and Hudson Rivers, every boat launch on Lake Champlain is interconnected with the rest of the world via the Atlantic Ocean. The lake's extremes measure 12 miles across, and 120 miles long! All together, this makes for 435 square miles of water on the surface of this fascinating lake.

Mysteries of the deep

Discover some of Lake Champlain's spookiest secrets! At its deepest, Lake Champlain reaches around 400 feet below the surface. The dark and murky bottom is home to as many as 300 shipwrecks, old and new. Dive down and discover them yourself, or take a shipwreck tour on the water with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Once there, a remote camera will dive down to the site of the wreck, giving you live images of what lies beneath.

Ancient history

Lake Champlain is home to the oldest known fossil reef in the world. Around 450 million years ago, these chunks of ancient sea bed were cemented in time.



Along with the seafloor, the remains of 400-million-year-old aquatic life are preserved in the freestanding pillars of limestone. However, not every species left their mark here. The fabled lake monster, Champ, still swims and plays in the depths of North America's 13th largest lake. Think you can find him?

A fishy situation

There are over 90 identifiable aquatic species in Lake

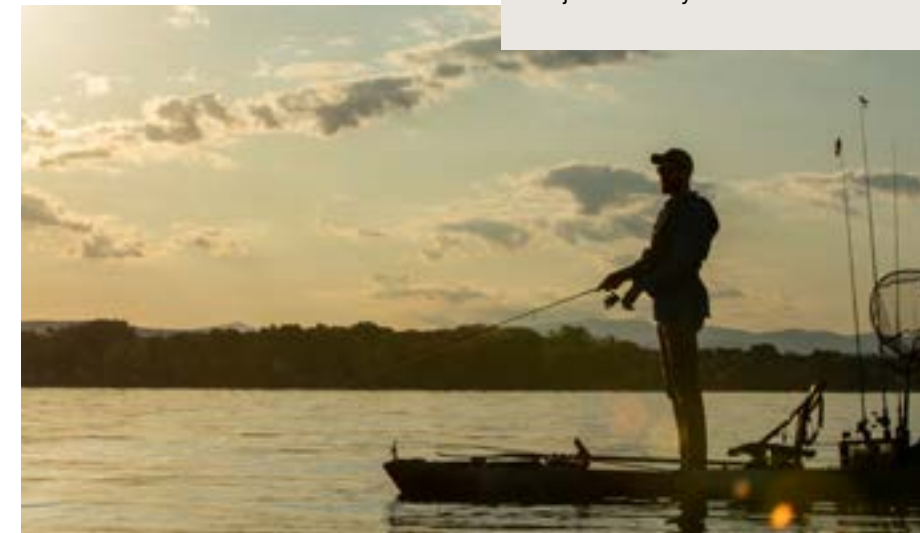
Champlain alone. That doesn't include the countless other bodies of water scattered across the region! On top of these swimming species, dozens of birds and land animals rely on the lake for shelter and survival.

Long praised as an angler's paradise, Lake Champlain has been listed as one of the best fishing locations in the country. Don't believe it? Take a trip to the legendary Lake Champlain Region, and find out for yourself!



Champ's Tip!

Wondering what's down here? Look at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. They've borrowed over 10,000 sunken objects from my collection!





Take in a breathtaking sunrise or sunset view from the Belfry Mountain fire tower!

360° history of the Adirondacks

From forest fire prevention to present-day exploration.

Fire on the mountain

In the early 1900s, huge forest fires swept through the Adirondacks. New York state began to implement a fire observation station program, with fire towers and observers, as an early fire detection effort. Two fire towers in the Lake Champlain Region played an enormous role in forest fire prevention: Poke-O-Moonshine Mountain and Belfry Mountain Fire Observation Stations. As active fire observation stations, Poke-O-Moonshine and Belfry worked with other fire towers and observers in the area to locate forest fires and send crews to extinguish the flames. Today, visitors can

hike either of these mountains to take in the incredible 360° from the fire towers and appreciate the land protected by fire tower observers.

Wondering where the name Poke-O-Moonshine comes from? Well, it's believed to be a deviation from the Algonquin words "pohqui" (meaning "broken") and "moosie" (meaning "smooth"). Distant views of the mountain will shed light on the broken and smooth characteristics, as the mountain rises up above Interstate-87 with jagged cliffs but somehow still appears smooth. The origin of the name "Belfry" is not as clear, but it's likely a warping of the last name of someone who lived in the area.

Business Directory

Eateries

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 Bakery | 4 Coffee | 7 Family Dining | 10 Pizza |
| 2 Brewery | 5 Deli | 8 Ice Cream | 11 Pub/Tavern |
| 3 Cafe | 6 Diner | 9 Nightclub/Bar | 12 Takeout |

Name	Town	Phone	Meals	Type
The Crab Shack at Maple Ridge Park	Crown Point	(518) 597-3455	L, D	7
Suzie's	Crown Point	(518) 597-4030	L, D	12
Arsenal Restaurant	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-6863	B, L	6
Bub's Pizza and Deli	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-9288	L, D	10
Shonie's Soft Serve	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-2233	0	8
The Deer's Head Inn Restaurant	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-6514	D	7,11
Chez Lin and Ray's LLC	Essex	(518) 963-4024	D	7
Essex Ice Cream Cafe	Essex	(917) 848-5000	B, L	8
Essex Inn Restaurant	Essex	(518) 963-4400	D	7,11
Old Dock House Restaurant	Essex	(518) 963-4232	L, D	7
Pink Pig Cafe	Essex	(518) 962-8833	B, L	1,3
The Barn Door	Essex	(802) 222-6110	0	11
The Hub on the Hill	Essex	(518) 241-9064	L, D	12
Ausable Brewing Company	Keeseville	(518) 900-2739	L, D	2
Gigi's On the River	Keeseville	(518) 834-0232	L, D	7
Giuseppe's Pizza Shop	Keeseville	(518) 834-5050	L, D	10
Sweet Little Things Bakery & Cafe	Keeseville	(518) 834-0400	B, L	1,3
Betty Beaver's Truck Stop	Lewis	(518) 873-2083	B, L, D	6
Grover Hills Deli	Mineville	(518) 942-7513	B, L, D	5
Boyea's Grocery and Deli	Moriah	(518) 546-3744	L, D	5
Dockside Cafe	Port Henry	(518) 546-7400	B, L	3
Foote's Port Henry Diner	Port Henry	(518) 546-7600	B, L	6
Frank's Knotty Pine	Port Henry	(518) 546-3650	0	9
Gene's Snack Bar	Port Henry	(518)-546-7292	L,D	12
Golden Palace Chinese Restaurant	Port Henry	(518) 546-7950	L,D	7
Moriah Country Club	Port Henry	(518) 546-9979	0	9
America's Fort Cafe	Ticonderoga	(518) 585- 2821	L, D	1,3
Bodette's Barbecue Smokehouse	Ticonderoga	(518) 558-1025	L, D	12
Burgoyne Grill	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2378	L, D	7,11
Burleigh's Luncheonette	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-6262	B, L, D	6
Dunkin Donuts	Ticonderoga	(518) 503-5063	B, L	4
Eddie's Restaurant	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7030	D	7

Name	Town	Phone	Meals	Type
Fort View Inn Restaurant	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7767	D	7
Happy Star Chinese Restaurant	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7488	L, D	7
Hot Biscuit Diner	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-3483	B, L, D	6
House of Pizza	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-3000	L, D	10
KC Corner Market Pizzeria & Deli	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2276	L, D	5
Madden's Pub	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7575	D	11
Seymour's Restaurant	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2801	L, D	7
Subway of Ticonderoga	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-6304	L, D	5
The Tap Room	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2801	L, D	11
Wind Chill Factory	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-3044	L, D	12
Dogwood Bread Company	Wadhams	(518) 962-2280	L, D	1,3
Dacy Meadow Farm	Westport	(518) 962-8339	L,D	12
Jams on Main	Westport	(518) 637-8921	B	4
Ledge Hill Brewing Co.	Westport	(518) 962-2803	D	2
The Galley Restaurant at Wesport Marina	Westport	(518) 962-4899	L,D	7
Westport Yacht Club	Westport	(518) 962-8777	D	7
Winton's 1898 Tavern	Westport	(518) 962-8283	D	7,11
Ethel's Dew Drop Inn	Willsboro		L,D	12
Indian Bay Marina Restaurant	Willsboro	(518) 963-7858	L,D	7
Nellie's Bakery	Willsboro	(518) 533-8293	B,L	1,3
Turtle Island Cafe	Willsboro	(518) 963-7417	L, D	7
Upper Deck Restaurant	Willsboro	(518) 290-1509	D	7
Willsboro Diner	Willsboro	(518) 963-8399	B, L	6
Willsborough Bowling Center & Toto's Sports Lounge	Willsboro	(518) 963-0506	0	11



Lodging

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------|
| 1 B&B | 3 Cottage | 5 Inn | 7 Motel |
| 2 Cabin | 4 Hotel | 6 Lodge | 8 Vacation Rental |

Name	Town	Phone	Type	Name	Town	Phone	Type
Dolly Family Lodge	Elizabethtown	(518) 796-8051	8	Stone House Motel & Motor Lodge	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7394	7
Halfway House Motel	Elizabethtown	(917) 741-9039	7	Super 8 Motel	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2617	7
Namaste Inn B&B	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-2332	1	DaCy Meadow Farm-Croft House	Westport	(518) 962-8339	3
Old Mill B&B	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-2294	1	Nelson's Cottages	Westport	(518) 546-7361	3
Park Motor Inn	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-2233	7	Westport Hotel	Westport	(518) 962-4001	4
The Deer's Head Inn	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-6514	5	Westport Lakeside Motel	Westport	(518) 242-6422	7
Cupola House	Essex	(518) 963-7494	8	Adirondack Cottage on Long Pond	Willsboro	(518) 963-7164	8
Essex Inn	Essex	(518) 963-4400	5	Cabin in the Woods	Willsboro	(518) 963-4522	8
The Brick House Farm	Essex	(518) 637-7640	1	Champlain Angler Lodge	Willsboro	(518) 963-8266	6
The Red House	Essex	(866) 523-9116	8	Champlain Vistas B&B	Willsboro	(518) 963-8029	1
Bud's Cottage	Lewis	(518) 586-1101	8	Long Pond Cabins	Willsboro	(518) 963-4126	2
Collins Motel & Cabins	Port Henry	(518) 546-4068	2,7	Long Pond Travel Trailer	Willsboro	(518) 963-4522	8
Edgemont Inn	Port Henry	(518) 546-4123	8	Long Pond Vacation Home	Willsboro	(518) 963-7164	8
Pearl of the Mountain on Edgemont	Port Henry	(518) 546-7484	8	Willsboro Inn	Willsboro	(518) 418-5116	7
Port Henry Vacation Apartment	Port Henry	(617) 504-2251	8				
The Village Inn	Port Henry	(518) 250-0993	5				
Best Western Ticonderoga Inn & Suites	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2378	4,5				
Brookwood RV Resort	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-4462	2				
Circle Court Motel	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7660	7				
Heart Bay Lodges	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7654	8				
Mom's Cabin	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2803	2				

Camping

1 Municipal 2 New York State 3 Private

Name	Town	Phone	Type	Pool	Wifi	Beach	Water Access
Ausable Chasm Campground	Ausable Chasm	(518) 834-9990	3	X			
Lake Champlain Camping	Ausable Chasm	(518) 637-5994	3				
Crown Point State Campground	Crown Point	(518) 597-3603	2				X
La-Ku Campsite	Crown Point	(518) 597-3495	3				
Maple Ridge Park Campground	Crown Point	(518) 597-3455	3				
Lincoln Pond Campground	Elizabethtown	(518) 942-5292	2			X	X
Ausable River Campground	Keeseville	(518) 834-9379	3				X
Magic Pines Campground	Lewis	(518) 873-2288	3	X	X		
The Dancing Bear Campground	New Russia	(518) 873-2327	3				
Bulwagga Bay RV Park & Campground	Port Henry	(518) 546-7500	1			X	X
Petro's Millbrook RV Park	Port Henry	(518) 546-1226	3				
Port Henry Champ Beach Park	Port Henry	(518) 546-7123	1			X	X
Brookwood RV Resort	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-4462	3				
Putnam Pond State Campground	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7280	2			X	X
Rogers Rock Campground	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-6746	2			X	X
Barber Homestead Park	Westport	(518) 962-8989	3		X		
Gusberti's Campground	Willsboro	(518) 963-4522	3				
Noblewood Park	Willsboro	(518) 963-8668	1			X	X

Attractions

Name	Town	Phone	Name	Town	Phone
Ausable Chasm	Ausable Chasm	(518) 834-7454	Fort Ticonderoga	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2821
North Star Underground Railroad Museum	Ausable Chasm	(518) 834-5180	Hancock House Museum and Walking Tour	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-7868
Champlain Memorial Lighthouse	Crown Point	(518) 597-3603	LaChute River Walk Trail	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-6619
Crown Point State Historic Site	Crown Point	(518) 597-4666	Star Trek Original Series Set Tours	Ticonderoga	(518) 503-5497
Essex County Fish Hatchery	Crown Point	(518) 597-3844	Ticonderoga Heritage Museum	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2696
Lake Champlain Bridge Heritage Area	Crown Point	(518) 597-4649	Ballard Park	Westport	
Penfield Homestead Museum	Crown Point	(518) 597-3804	Depot Theatre	Westport	(518) 962-4449
Adirondack History Museum	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-6466	Adsit Log Cabin	Willsboro	(518) 963-4598
Whallonsburg Grange	Essex	(518) 963-4170	The Crux Climbing Wall	Willsboro	(518) 963-4646
Adirondack Architectural Heritage Society	Keeseville	(518) 834-9328	Willsboro Heritage Museum	Willsboro	(518) 963-4879
Anderson Falls Heritage Society Museum	Keeseville	(518) 834-9219			
LightWorks Reiki	Moriah	(518) 572-6427			
The Iron Center Museum	Port Henry	(518) 546-3587			

Golf

Name	Town	Phone
Cobble Hill Golf Course	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-9974
Harmony Golf Club and Community	Keeseville	(518) 834-9785
Moriah Golf and Country Club	Port Henry	(518) 546-9979
Ticonderoga Golf Course	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-2801
Five Nations Miniature Golf Course	Ticonderoga	(518) 586-6838
Westport Golf	Westport	(518) 962-4470
Willsboro Golf Course	Willsboro	(518) 963-8989

Art

Name	Address	Town	Phone
The Rosenberg Gallery	7590 Court Street	Elizabethtown	(518) 873-6466
1719 Block Gallery	1719 Front Street	Keeseville	(518) 569-0001
The Clayton Family Gallery	1745 Main Street	Keeseville	(518) 834-9328
Ti Arts Downtown Gallery	119 Montcalm Street	Ticonderoga	

Amtrak

Name	Address	Website
Port Henry (POH)	20 Park Place	amtrak.com/stations/poh
Port Kent (PRK)	NY 373 & Lake Street	amtrak.com/stations/prk
Ticonderoga (FTC)	NYS Route 74 & Sandy Redoubt	amtrak.com/stations/ftc
Westport (WSP)	6705 Main Street	amtrak.com/stations/wsp

Ferries

Name	Website
Essex, NY to Charlotte, VT	ferries.com/vt-ny-ferry-routes/charlotte-vt-essex-ny/
Plattsburgh, NY to Grand Isle, VT	ferries.com/vt-ny-ferry-routes/grand-isle-vt-to-plattsburgh-ny/
Port Kent, NY to Burlington, VT	ferries.com/vt-ny-ferry-routes/burlington-vt-port-kent-ny/
Ticonderoga to Shoreham, VT	forttiferry.com/

Boat Launches

Name	Town	Town
Crown Point Boat Launch	Bridge Road	Crown Point
Lincoln Pond Boat Launch	County Route 7	Elizabethtown
Port Douglas Boat Launch	County Route 16	Keeseville/Port Douglas
Port Henry Boat Launch	Dock Lane	Port Henry
Eagle Lake Boat Launch	Route 74	Ticonderoga
LaChute River Boat Launch	Bicentennial Park	Ticonderoga
Mossy Point Boat Launch (Lake George)	Black Point Road	Ticonderoga
Putnam Pond Boat Launch	Putnam Pond Road	Ticonderoga
Ticonderoga Boat Launch	Route 74	Ticonderoga
Westport Boat Launch	Route 22	Westport
Willsboro Boat Launch	County Route 27	Willsboro

Marinas

Name	Address	Town	Phone
Essex Marina	2272 Main Street	Essex	(518) 963-7222
Essex Shipyard	2264 Lake Shore Road	Essex	(518) 963-4024
Bridge View Harbor Marina	54 Harbour Lane	Port Henry	(518) 546-7400
Port Henry Marina	40 Velez Road	Port Henry	(518) 546-4075
Westport Marina	20 Washington Street	Westport	(518) 962-4356
Inidan Bay Marina & Restaurant	237 Corlear Drive	Willsboro	(518) 963-7858
Safe Harbor Willsboro Bay	25 Klein Way	Willsboro	(518) 963-7276

Visitor Info

Name	Town	Phone
Lake Champlain Visitors Center	Crown Point	(518) 597-4649
Moriah Chamber of Commerce	Port Henry	(518) 250-1050
Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce	Ticonderoga	(518) 585-6619
Westport Heritage House Visitor & Community Center	Westport	(518) 524-7217
Willsboro Visitor Center	Willsboro	(518) 963-4710