



Image Courtesy: Squam Lakes Natural Science Center



# NEW HAMPSHIRE'S BIRD-SPOTTING & WILDLIFE TOUR

## Suggested Group Itinerary

Best Time to Visit: Year-round!

### Day 1

- Start in the Lakes Region with a cruise with the *Squam Lakes Science Center (1)*.
- Continue north to *Franconia Notch State Park (2)* to ride the Cannon Aerial Tramway where if you're lucky you'll spot a black bear or hawks beginning their migration.
- There are many excellent, group-friendly properties in Lincoln and nearby towns.

### Day 2

- Start the day at the *The Rocks Estate (3)* for a bear and moose presentation at this 1,400 acre conservation and education center owned by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forest with wildlife expert Nigel Manley.
- Hop over to Jefferson for a sled dog adventure (any time of the year!) with *Muddy Paw Sled Dog (4)*. They welcome full motor coaches!

### Day 3

- Spend a half day or full day on a guided custom adventure with the *Appalachian Mountain Club* from Crawford Notch State Park's Highland Center.
- Stay overnight in North Conway.

### Day 4

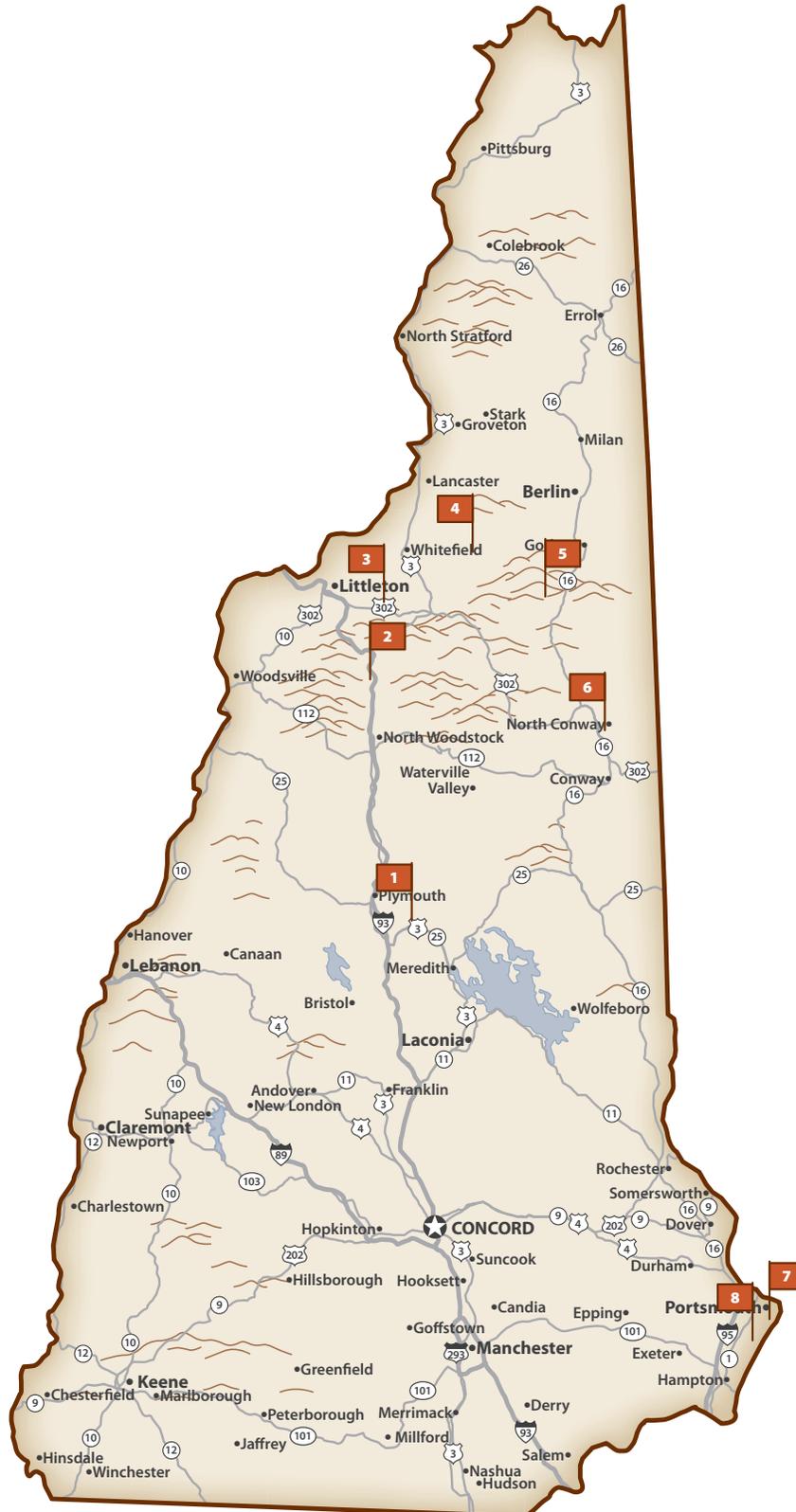
- Wake up with a bird-spotting and wildlife tour on the *Mount Washington Auto Road (Great Glen Trails) (5)* to the summit of the highest peak in the northeast and one of the most fascinating mountains in the world in regards to recreational adventure, accessibility, ecology, and weather. (The *Mount Washington Weather Discovery Center (6)* in North Conway's village makes for a great backup to this activity).
- Continue south the *Seacoast Science Center (7)* and Odiorne State Park.
- End the tour with a private lobster bake from Rye's *Petey's Summertime Seafood (8)*.

Please contact the New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development for assistance finding group-friendly overnight and meal options.

LIVE FREE and  
*explore*

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Itinerary Map



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## Additional Information

### **Squam Lakes Science Center, Holderness**

Contact: Amanda Gillen, [amanda.gillen@nhnature.org](mailto:amanda.gillen@nhnature.org)  
603-968-7194 • [nhnature.org/nature\\_lakes.html](http://nhnature.org/nature_lakes.html)

Squam Lakes Cruise: The focus of this 90-minute guided tour is the natural history and ecology of Squam Lake. An experienced naturalist/educator guides the group in search for wildlife, including the Common Loon and Bald Eagle and help groups observe Loon and Eagle nesting behavior firsthand.

### **Franconia Notch State Park, Franconia**

Contact: Julianne Ireland, [julianne.ireland@dred.state.nh.us](mailto:julianne.ireland@dred.state.nh.us)  
603-823-7722 ext. 776 • [cannonmt.com](http://cannonmt.com)

An 80 passenger cable car gracefully rides to the 4,080' summit of Cannon Ski Mountain in 10 minutes where guests are greeted by 360 degree views. The Appalachian Trail crosses over this summit. If the group wants to get out and moving, they can work with the interpreter to customize the experience through the Power of Parks Program.

### **The Rocks Estate, Bethlehem**

Contact: Nigel Manley, [info@therocks.com](mailto:info@therocks.com)  
603-444-6228 • [therocks.org](http://therocks.org)

Offers several programs including moose and bear history programs and a maple sugar experience. All groups that come to The Rocks have the option of a guided horse drawn ride. Groups are welcome to visit their enhanced gift shop open throughout the year or to simply enjoy their trail system and spectacular views of the Presidential mountain range.

### **Muddy Paw Sled Dog, Jefferson**

Contact: Karen Tolin, [info@dogslednh.com](mailto:info@dogslednh.com)  
603-545-4533 • [dogslednh.com](http://dogslednh.com)

Dogsled tours in the winter and summer! Dogsled kennel has been renovated to accommodate large groups for demos and lectures with our rescue and second chance sled dogs. Increased the size of the summer and winter fleet of traditional and rolling dogsleds. Offering the "longest dogsled ride in New England" as well as inn-supported overnight adventures. Try the "Paws -n- Paddles" Combo with a full day of whitewater rafting and an evening of rolling dogsledding... the only place in the country you can dogsled and whitewater raft in the same day!

### **Appalachian Mountain Club**

Contact: Brant McAleer, [bmcaleer@outdoors.org](mailto:bmcaleer@outdoors.org)  
603-466-8137 • [outdoors.org](http://outdoors.org)

AMC – custom group tour of natural history (ie flora and fauna). They have versions of these programs for larger groups, specifically. They can customize the experience, so if your group doesn't have a lot of time or if the group only wants to take advantage of the fun family style dinner that they offer at the Highland Center or Joe Dodge Lodges , they can do that too. AMC owns and operates several eco-lodges and eight high huts throughout the White Mountains and encourages groups to take advantage of their guided adventures for all abilities, rentals, educational programs, lodging, and dining offerings. Offered in 2012, guests staying at the Joe Dodge Lodge in Pinkham Notch can snowshoe, x-country ski, and tube for free with Great Glen Trails. Adventure groups- ask about hut-to-hut hiking!

### **Mount Washington Auto Road (operated by Great Glen Trails), Jackson**

Contact: Howie, [howie@mt-washington.com](mailto:howie@mt-washington.com)  
603-466-3988 • [mtwashingtonautoroad.com/guided-tours/group-tours/](http://mtwashingtonautoroad.com/guided-tours/group-tours/)

The Mount Washington Auto Road guided bird-spotting or ecology drives. They can split a motorcoach group up and take them to the summit to talk about the Bicknell's Thrush– an extremely rare bird that breeds on Mount Washington (best time for this is in June). There is also the Alpine Garden on the Auto Road side of the Presidentials. Here are a few lines from U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: "The Presidential Range of the White Mountains in New Hampshire has the largest total area of alpine tundra environment in the eastern United States. The RNA supports the richest assemblage of arctic-alpine plants in the region, most of which are rare in the coterminous United States." [nrs.fs.fed.us/rna/nh/white-mountain/alpine-gardens/](http://nrs.fs.fed.us/rna/nh/white-mountain/alpine-gardens/)

### **Mount Washington Observatory Discovery Center, North Conway**

Contact: Michelle Cruz, [mcruz@mountwashington.org](mailto:mcruz@mountwashington.org)  
603-356-2137 ext. 212 • [mountwashington.org](http://mountwashington.org)

Learn what meteorologists watch for, how climate works, what makes the Alpine Zone special, and what it is like to live and work on the summit of Mount Washington without leaving North Conway's village. The Discovery Center offers interactive, live video conferencing with the summit and can customize the program for your group.

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## Additional Information

### *Seacoast Science Center, Rye*

Contact: Karen Provazza, [k.provazza@seacentr.org](mailto:k.provazza@seacentr.org)  
603-436-8043 • [seacoastsciencecenter.org](http://seacoastsciencecenter.org)

Odiorne State Park Seacoast Science Center, a 135 acre seaside park with a learning center and miles of handicap accessible trails taking visitors through seven distinct natural habitats: rocky shore, woodlands, uplands, salt marsh, fresh water & salt ponds, and sandy beach (no swimming – protected). Groups can explore on their own or take advantage of their tour/educational programs that they offer to groups.

### *Other Ideas:*

M/S Mount Washington Cruise, Laconia

Loon Sanctuary, Moultonborough

Great Bay Discover Center, Greenland

Northern Forest Heritage Park, Berlin

Pack Monadnock, Peterborough

Pemi Valley Moose Tours, Lincoln

Custom Outdoor Escapes Guide for the Lakes and Mountains

New Hampshire Audubon McLane Center, Concord