From famous movie scene locations to hip independent theatres and lively local film festivals, discover cinematic New Hampshire.
New Hampshire’s Film Tour

Lights! Camera! Action!

Many filmmakers choose locations in New Hampshire as the backdrop for their films because of its unique scenery and characteristics. From mountains to lakes, historic mills to town squares and more, it’s no wonder that movies filmed here include Academy Award winners, critic favorites, box-office hits and cult classics. Follow along our Film Tour or make your own trip itinerary!

Movies
1. Jumanji
2. The Sensation of Sight
3. The Thomas Crown Affair
4. The Cider House Rules
5. In Dreams
6. The Good Son
7. The Good Son
8. The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters
9. On Golden Pond
10. Disappearances
11. Return of the Secaucus 7
12. Return of the Secaucus 7
13. The Skulls
14. Way Down East
15. Live Free or Die

Independent Movie Theatres
1. The Colonial Theatre, Keene
2. The Wilton Town Hall Theatre, Wilton
3. The Music Hall, Portsmouth
4. Red River Theatres, Concord
5. The Flying Monkey, Plymouth
6. The Majestic Theatre, North Conway
7. The Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem
8. Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover

Cover Photo: Telluride by the Sea, The Music Hall
New Hampshire’s Film Tour

Begin your tour in the southwestern part of the state in Keene. Jumanji, based on a popular children’s book, was mostly filmed in this area. Go to Central Square in downtown and visit the brick wall where West Street begins. Here you’ll see the sign for Parrish Shoes, the fictional company that is the namesake of Robin Williams’ character Alan Parrish. The wall had been painted for filming and was left up after production had wrapped. Drive to close by Peterborough, where the movie The Sensation of Sight, a drama about a teacher leaving his job and selling encyclopedias door-to-door, was filmed entirely. Continue east to Salem and you will find the famous glider scene from the original The Thomas Crown Affair.

Head toward the seacoast to Hampton Falls where scenes from The Cider House Rules, based on a John Irving novel, were filmed. Stop on Route 88 at Applecrest Farm Orchards to see the inspiration for the novel and where the Wagner family gave Irving his first job. As you head north to New Castle, visit the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel and Spa, the location of a key scene from In Dreams. In nearby Newington, see where parts from The Good Son were filmed at Pease Air Force Base, or, in Greenland, visit the bridge where the evil son tosses a mannequin off a bridge onto the highway.

Continue traveling to the Lakes Region and stop in at FunSpot Family Entertainment Center in Weirs Beach where many of the tense scenes from the documentary The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters came from. Close by, in Holderness and Squam Lake, visit where the Academy Award winning film On Golden Pond was filmed. Take a tour boat ride on Squam Lake and see the cottage from the movie. This is worth the trip for any movie lover.

Further north, in Lincoln, visit Clark’s Trading Post. Here you can take a picture with their steam locomotive and railroad, where scenes from Disappearances were shot. Drive through North Conway and Jackson where Return of the Secaucus 7 was filmed. Directed by John Sayles and starring David Strathairn, the movie is about seven friends who reunite in New Hampshire a decade after being arrested during a political protest.

As we wind down, drive southwest and stop at Dartmouth College in Hanover. Visit the campus and see where the opening shot at the boathouse was filmed for the thriller, The Skulls. Follow along the Connecticut River in Lebanon and see where the famous scene, from Way Down East, of Anna and David on the ice floes was shot. Continue down to end the tour in Claremont where the entire movie Live Free or Die, a comedy about a gang of foolish criminals, was filmed.

1891
Thomas Edison and assistant William Dickson invented the kinetoscope.

1895
The Lumiere Brothers invented the cinematographe.

1903
The Great Train Robbery was one of the earliest films to be shot out of chronological sequence.

1905
The first Nickelodeon was opened in Pittsburgh, PA showing The Great Train Robbery.
Movie Listings

1. **Jumanji (1995)**
   Based on a popular children’s book about a magic board game that has real-life consequences, Alan Parrish must finish the game he started as a little boy after being trapped for 26 years in the jungle. A worldwide box-office hit that grossed more than $250 million, Jumanji was partly filmed in Keene and Swanzey.

2. **The Sensation of Sight (2006)**
   This off-beat drama is about an English teacher that leaves his job and family after blaming himself for a tragedy involving one of his students. The movie follows him as he moves into a boarding house and begins selling encyclopedias door-to-door. Starring David Strathairn and Ian Somerhalder, this was filmed entirely in Peterborough.

   This film, about a bank executive who believes he just pulled off the perfect million-dollar heist only to match wits with a beautiful investigator, features a scene filmed in Salem. The winner of an Academy Award for Best Song, The Thomas Crown Affair was remade in 1999 by “Die Hard” director John McTiernan.

   This critically acclaimed film, based on the John Irving novel about a young man who is raised in an orphanage and leaves to see the world, was nominated for seven Academy Awards. The Cider House Rules was shot throughout New England, including the Northfield Drive-In in Hinsdale and Hampton Falls.

5. **In Dreams (1999)**
   This thriller, starring Robert Downey Jr., is about a mother whose mind appears to be connected to a serial killer that murders her daughter. She envisions the killer kidnapping another child and tries relentlessly to track him down to prevent another murder. Part of In Dreams was shot at the historic Wentworth by the Sea Hotel and Spa in New Castle.

   This drama, starring Elijah Wood and Macaulay Culkin, is about a boy who temporarily comes to live with his aunt, uncle and cousin Henry. Henry seems to be fun at first, but people aren’t always as they appear. Parts of the movie were filmed in North Conway, Greenland and at the Pease Air Force Base in Newington.

7. **The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters (2007)**
   This film documents Steve Weibe, a math teacher, and his quest to steal the title of world Donkey Kong champion from Billy Mitchell, who set the record in the early 1980s. Many of the documentary’s most tense scenes were filmed at the Funspot Family Entertainment Center in Weirs Beach, an arcade that attracts classic video-game enthusiasts from throughout the United States.

1914
*Charlie Chaplin debuted his trademark character “Tramp” in Kid Auto Races at Venice.*

1915
*D.W. Griffith’s *The Birth of a Nation* is the first American epic feature film.*

1924
*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (also known as MGM Studios) was formed.*

1927
*The Jazz Singer makes its debut as the first film where you can hear the actors talking—also known as a “talkie.”*
On Golden Pond (1981)
On Golden Pond, starring Katharine Hepburn, Henry Fonda and Jane Fonda, was a hit with critics and audiences alike and won three Oscars during the 1982 Academy Awards. This drama is possibly the most well-known movie filmed in New Hampshire. Shooting locations included Squam Lake, Concord, and Meredith.

Disappearances (2006)
Disappearances, starring Kris Kristofferson and Charlie McDermott, is about a man desperate to preserve his endangered herd. With winter approaching, he resorts to a traditional family occupation: whiskey smuggling. Based on Howard Frank Mosher’s award-winning novel, this is the final film in Jay Craven’s “Vermont Frontier” trilogy and has scenes that were filmed at Clark’s Trading Post and throughout Lincoln.

Return of the Secaucus 7 (1980)
This drama is about seven friends who reunite in New Hampshire a decade after they were arrested on their way to a protest in Washington during their college days. Inspired by “The Big Chill,” this film was directed by John Sayles, stars David Strathairn and was shot in Jackson and North Conway.

Way Down East (1920)
Anna, a poor country girl played by Lillian Gish, is duped into a sham marriage by Lennox, a callous rich man, who leaves her after he finds out she’s pregnant. When the infant dies, Anna leaves Boston and finds her way into a new job and a new life. Just as things are working out for Anna, her past comes back and haunts her. The famous scene of Anna and David on the ice floes was filmed on the Connecticut River in Lebanon.

Live Free or Die (2006)
This comedy, written by two of the writers of Seinfeld, is about a gang of foolish criminals who plan a get-rich-quick scheme in New Hampshire. This was filmed entirely in Claremont.

1928
Mickey Mouse made his debut in the first speaking cartoon, Steamboat Willie.

1929
The first Academy Awards were announced and distributed.

1933
The first drive-in theatre opened in Camden, NJ.

1937
The Disney-produced, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, was the first feature-length animated film.
New Hampshire Film Festivals

Nashua International Film Festival at Art Walk
Nashua T17films.com
As part of the Annual Art Walk, Nashua’s International Film Festival recognizes the best of emerging independent filmmakers. The event takes place in Nashua’s historic downtown and embraces the growing artist community—featuring an independent panel of judges and a variety of categories.

New Hampshire Film Festival
Portsmouth nhfilmfestival.com
Since it’s debut in 2001, NHFF has evolved into one of the preeminent independent film festivals in the Northeast. NHFF unites highly talented students, professional filmmakers and screenwriters with industry experts, educators, avid movie-goers and film connoisseurs from around the globe for an interactive weekend of nationally recognized and undiscovered gems, culminating in a gala award ceremony on the historic shores of Portsmouth.

New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival
Concord nhstudentfilm.com
The New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival, held in Concord, is a student initiative presented by the New Hampshire Film and Television Office. It was created to give high school filmmakers around the state the opportunity to create and showcase short films on the big screen in statewide competition, while fostering the educational benefits of cinematic storytelling.

New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival
Manchester & Concord jewishnh.org
Presented by The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, the festival’s mission is to engage a dedicated audience of film lovers and establish an annual New Hampshire tradition.

North Country Film Festival
Dixville Notch northcountryfilmfestival.org
As the result of a creative partnership between The BALSAMS, FLICKERS and the Rhode Island International Film Festival, the North Country Film Festival promises to become a highly anticipated annual affair, drawing together celebrities, audiences and independent filmmakers from around the world.

SNOB (Somewhat North Of Boston) Film Festival
Concord snob-filmfestival.com
The SNOB Film Festival is a grassroots effort to showcase and support independent filmmaking. It strives to bring films to the area that local audiences might not otherwise see. Proceeds from the SNOB Film Festival will be used to support the arts. The SNOB Film Festival began in 2002 and has taken place in Concord.

Telluride by the Sea
Portsmouth themusichall.org
Six films. Three days. One weekend festival of new cinema. The latest international cinema, fresh from Colorado, debuts at the Telluride Film Festival.

1939
The Wizard of Oz and Gone with the Wind are produced with Technicolor.

1941
Orson Welles makes his debut as director, star and producer for Citizen Kane.

1952
The first full-length 3-D feature sound film was a cheaply-made jungle adventure, Buana Devil.

1962
The first of the popular James Bond films, Dr. No, is debuted.