

Regional Spotlight on New Hampshire's Merrimack Valley Region

On the map <u>New Hampshire</u> may seem like a small state, but in fact, it features seven distinct tourism regions. From historic river valleys to the soaring peaks of the highest mountains in the Northeast, each of the regions which offers a wide variety of things to enjoy throughout the year.

In this spotlight, we're featuring the Merrimack Valley Region, home of New Hampshire's biggest cities and home to a thriving economy for job-seekers. Located in the south-central part of the state and sharing a border with neighboring Massachusetts, the defining geographic feature of the region is the mighty Merrimack River, once one of the major centers of America's textile industry.

Today the Merrimack Valley is home to New Hampshire's capital <u>Concord</u> and the state's two largest cities, <u>Manchester</u> and <u>Nashua</u>. In all, the region makes up about one-third of the state's population. Although the textile industry is long gone, the region has attracted many of the state's largest employers and a burgeoning tech scene. Just a short drive from Boston, and also featuring the state's busiest airport (<u>Manchester-Boston Regional Airport</u>), this region is in the center of the action and serves as a popular locale for commuters looking to take advantage of New Hampshire's natural beauty while remaining one of the economic hubs of Northern New England.

For more information, visit www.visitnh.gov

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ABOUT THE DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, works with the state's seven travel regions to increase visitation, travel and visitor expenditures in order to expand business activity and employment throughout the state. The division is responsible for domestic and international advertising and public relations, literature publication and distribution, www.visitnh.gov administration, grant administration and research to monitor and measure the impact of travel and tourism to the state. For more information about New Hampshire tourism, call 603-271-2665 or visit www.visitnh.gov.