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WHERE VACATION WAS BORN

egendary for its wilderness, the Whiteface Region supports some of the best skiing, hiking, fishing, and biking in the Northeast. Our “forever wild” lands are enjoyed today because of landmark protections established in 1892, which set international standards for conserving open spaces. **Whiteface Mountain** in Wilmington, its name arguably originating from Iroquoian- and Algonquian-speaking peoples, reminds us of the Adirondacks’ Indigenous inhabitants. It is also the site of the 1980 Winter Olympics, and in 1935 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open **Whiteface Veteran’s Memorial Highway**. Did you know that Wilmington is also home to the forerunner of present-day theme parks in the United States? Designed by artist and toy maker **Arto Monaco** of Upper Jay, **Santa’s Workshop** transports you to the North Pole and all things Christmas. In Au Sable Forks, step into a landscape painting at the former estate of artist, writer, adventurer, and political activist **Rockwell Kent**, now Asgaard Farm & Dairy. One of many historic landmarks throughout our region, it entered the State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2020. While in the area, be sure to stop by the Town of Jay Historical Society Museum in downtown Au Sable Forks. Perched across the powerful East Branch of the Ausable River, the **Jay Covered Bridge** is the last covered bridge standing in northern New York. Built in 1857, it was completely restored and opened to pedestrian and bicycle traffic in 2007. Come discover our region’s local histories — as rooted and riveting as our mountains, forests, lakes, and streams.

GET CLOSE

THE Whiteface Region is made up of several small towns, each unique in their own way while still being part of the larger community. The towns of Au Sable Forks, Jay, Upper Jay, and Wilmington may be small, but each has lots to offer — art galleries and artisanal cheese makers, historical societies and homestyle restaurants.

Au Sable Forks

Au Sable Forks, named for its location at the meeting of the East and West branches of the Ausable River, is full of idyllic farms, locally owned shopping, and live music and theater performances. When you need to relax after fishing, hiking, or biking, a stop into 20 Main for a cold drink is just what the doctor ordered.

goods like flowers, cheese, baked goods, and meat, or simply enjoy a great meal cooked by someone else.



Jay

For its pastoral beauty, Jay is also home to a thriving arts and music scene. There are art galleries and public concerts, hiking, biking, and fishing, and plenty of fresh air to help calm

your mind and body. Jay is also home to the Jay Covered Bridge, one of the most photogenic locations in the Adirondacks (which is really saying a lot).

Upper Jay

Nestled in the Ausable River Valley, visitors and residents of Upper Jay can go from fly fishing to cycling simply by crossing the road. A road which, by the way, cyclists love for its stellar views and wide shoulders. Stop by one of Upper Jay’s farms to get fresh

Wilmington

Wilmington is home to the iconic Whiteface Mountain, but also so much more. Great food, from sandwiches to multi-course dinners, are always close by. There’s a family-friendly town beach and one of the Adirondacks’ original theme parks, Santa’s Workshop. Wilmington also played a prominent bootlegging role during Prohibition, a fascinating history that the town library and historical society brings to life.



Whiteface Mountain



ADVENTURE PERSONALLY PACED

Whiteface Mountain gained global recognition as the home of the 1980 Winter Olympics. Ask locals about their home mountain, though, and they'll say Whiteface is the anchor for outdoor adventure in every season.

Three separate glaciers shaped Whiteface, carving cirques on the mountain's north, east, and west flanks. Each is topped with narrow ridges that climb to the top. These natural forces left the 4,867-foot peak, New York's fifth highest, the Adirondack High Peaks' northernmost sentinel. And while the western side of the mountain is protected from development by the boundaries of the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness, the Wilmington side saw many changes in the 20th century. First came the Whiteface Memorial Highway in 1935. The first ski trails followed in the 1940s and Whiteface itself opened in 1958. "We can do a variety of activities on Whiteface that are not available in wilderness of the High Peaks," says

Tyler Eaton, a Whiteface season pass holder who's skied from Thanksgiving to Easter for fifteen years. Here's a sampling of the year-round fun:

Spring

When the snow melts, head for the river. Brown trout are stocked in the Ausable River's West Branch in April, and fishing season runs through October. May and June are prime months for fly fishing enthusiasts, who study insect hatches to find the right fly to hook peckish trout in catch-and-release zones. The ski area's Cloudsplitter Gondola and the Whiteface Memorial Highway open in late May to welcome visitors on foot and in vehicles, respectively.

Summer

Whiteface's alpine summit promises panoramic views and cool mountain breezes for summer visitors. When the slopes are completely green, the eight-passenger gondola runs slower so riders can savor views that stretch to Lake Champlain. Unload and stroll to the observation deck to gaze up at Whiteface's summit-top castle and Lake Placid below. Plenty of family-friendly hikes and a world-class disc golf course are also accessible from the base area. Around the corner, the Veterans' Memorial Highway runs 2,300 feet up the mountain's north side, with pull-offs that look north to Canada and south to the Great Range. From the parking area just below the summit, visitors with sturdy footwear can climb a mix of stairs and bare rock to Whiteface's apex or ride the newly rebuilt elevator located a few steps away from the parking lot. Look for people with heavy packs and muddy shins, signs of hikers who left the highway to climb 5.2 miles and 3,620 vertical feet.

Fall

The region's temperate deciduous forest turns into a kaleidoscope of red, gold, and orange each autumn. From the Flume trailhead on Route 86, meander through forest and stroll riverside to peep the leaves up close. Don't miss Oktoberfest, where you can polka at Whiteface's base lodge and recover with German beers, pretzels, and brats.

Winter

"I've always appreciated Whiteface for top-down skiing," says Eaton. He means that when skiers and snowboards unload at the summit chairlift, they can drop 3,430 feet straight to the base lodge. It's the biggest vertical in the East, but locals know you start small. "Be patient, get the basic skills down, and take a lesson to get your confidence up," says Rachel Finn, a former ski school administrator. A good place to start is the Cub Carpet, a surface lift on Bear Den's beginner slope, and laps on the Face Lift, where your family will find mellow groomers with access to glades and terrain parks to keep the kids smiling. As Whiteface's annual snowfall of nearly two hundred inches piles up, Eaton waits for the rope drop on Upper Empire, a steep, protected trail on Little Whiteface where deep stashes pile up.





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Hiking

LITERALLY STEPS AWAY

THE Whiteface Region is home to some of the best hiking in the Adirondacks, which means it's home to some of the best hiking anywhere. Whether you're just lacing up your first pair of hiking boots or looking to tackle some of the highest mountains in New York state, the Whiteface Region has something for hikers of all levels.

You can take an easier hike on the **Flume trails** and **Cobble Lookout**, set out on a moderate climb like Jay and Marble mountains, or challenge yourself by going up the fifth-highest peak in New York, **Whiteface Mountain**.

They're all here and they're all just steps away.

If you're having a hard time deciding from all the great hiking options, check out the **Wonders of Wilmington** hiking challenge — a half-dozen hikes in the area that offer great views and a nice mix of terrain. Waterfalls, wilderness ponds, and scenic vistas await those who complete all six hikes, and for those looking for an even bigger challenge, you can add Whiteface Mountain to

the mix. And don't forget to register as a finisher and get your well-deserved WOW patch!

Hiking in spring in the Adirondacks can create a unique set of challenges, so it's important to follow Leave No Trace principles, or better yet, go to www.LoveYourADK.org and take the pledge. But regardless of the time of year you plan on hiking in the Whiteface Region, be sure to pack your camera because you will want to relive your adventures over and over.



Family

THAT HAPPY KID FEELING

From easy hikes to delicious food to incredible waterfalls, the Whiteface region has tons of fun for families of all ages.

Regardless of the time of year, there is something for all members of the family. In spring, nature puts on a special show with raging waterfalls that are easily accessible. Summer brings outdoor adventures for all ages, abilities, and experience levels. In fall, the Adirondacks present the best natural color show on Earth, and in winter the sliding activities will bring a smile to everyone's face.

But if you're not sure where to start



when planning a vacation to the Wilmington region, check out WOW — the **Wonders of Wilmington!** These three separate challenges include hiking, biking, and family activities. So pick an activity (or three) and hit the trail.

Whether WOWing or exploring on your own, the area features several easy-to-moderate hiking options. If you're feeling especially adventurous, you can add in a hike to the summit of Whiteface Mountain — the fifth highest mountain in New York state and one of the famed 46 High Peaks.

If mountain biking is more your style, the area's best and most exciting trails are close at hand. Start at the Wilmington Bike Park, which includes a pump track, skills features and a playground for those who need a break from pedaling. The park also provides quick access to more advanced trails nearby, so parents can tag-team and trade off kid duties.

After a day on the trail, the Wilmington Town Beach offers shady picnic areas, restrooms, a sandy beach, playground, and swimming in the refreshingly cool water of the Ausable River.

In addition to the above, there's great camping options, hikes for all abilities, and food and drink that will leave bellies full and mouths happy.



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Mountain Biking

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IN 2021, Drake Bottcher lined up for his first mountain bike race days before he started kindergarten. Fourteen other children between ages five and seven joined him to cruise over pine needles and tree roots at the annual **Wilmington MTB Festival**.

They're part of Wilmington's first generation of kids to start mountain biking as they learn their ABCs. The trail Drake raced was one of the first projects from the **Barkeater Trails Alliance** (BETA), a nonprofit established in 2010 that builds and maintains mountain bike and ski trails in the High Peaks of the Adirondack Mountains. BETA's professional trail crew has led volunteers in creating and maintaining trails throughout the region, including more than 25 miles of singletrack in Wilmington alone, many of which are featured in the **Wonders of Wilmington Challenge**.

In addition to building miles of singletrack, community members play key roles in shaping mountain biking's future in Wilmington. In 2017, Charlie Wilson and Henry Loher, two nine-year-old residents, came to BETA and their town board with the idea of a bike park for kids. The town said yes. BETA added the Hardy Kids MTB Race to the annual festival, with entry fees funding bike park expenses. Today, the **Wilmington Bike Park** is home to a skills park where riders can practice

pedaling over rocks and narrow bridges. The pump track propels riders through rollers and banked turns.

The bike park also acts as community hub. In warmer months, Drake visits the bike park with his parents, Caitlin and Evan, and his younger sister Fiona for regular evening sessions and potluck dinners. "It's so fun and so rewarding to get over an obstacle or hit a jump that scared you," says Caitlin. "It's where Drake wants to be, it's where we want to be, and it's right in our backyard." Evan also works with BETA to organize the Wilmington MTB Festival, an annual event established in 2017.

Beyond the bike park, Caitlin meets friends for a weekly ride at the Hardy Road trail network, and frequents BETA's other projects at the Flume and Quaker Mountain trailheads. Local test pieces cut through nearby forests: Poorman's Downhill drops 1,213 feet over 3 miles on Marble Mountain and Cooper Kill traverses hike-a-bike terrain northwest of town. In mud season, mountain bikers can build stamina on Jay's dirt road networks.

Those are all future possibilities for Drake and four-year-old Fiona, who loves to push and glide through the pump track on her pedal-less balance bike. And while Drake finished third in his first race, the real prize is growing up in mountain bike town.

Road Cycling



TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE



Riding a bike is fun. Riding a bike in the Whiteface Region is something entirely different. And way more fun. This isn't an exaggeration (ask any local), but the road cycling in Wilmington, Jay, Upper Jay and Au Sable Forks is some of the best in the Adirondacks, if not, New York. Need proof? There's a reason why thousands flock here every summer to ride the famed **Ironman Loop**. There's also a reason why once they're here, they discover so many other routes and instantly make them recreational favorites. Take, for example, the 30 and 45-mile routes used by the Annual **Ride for the River**, a mid-July charity event supporting **Ausable River Association**. If smooth, low traffic pavement along a stunning river valley is your thing, then clip in and enjoy the relaxed rolling terrain that links all four of these communities. Looking to test yourself? The **Veterans' Memorial Highway** is open to riders looking to climb, and descend, the 3,500+ feet leading to the summit of Whiteface. Another favorite is the 60-mile loop around that same mountain which connects Franklin Falls, Bloomingdale, Ray Brook, Saranac Lake, and Lake Placid to Wilmington. Or go shorter with a quick loop around Wilmington on Springfield and Fox Farm roads, both of which feature a large bike lane. And whether you start your ride at **Lake Everest Beach** in Wilmington or the **Jay Covered Bridge**, the crystal water of the Ausable is waiting for you to hop in and cool off after your ride. For more local road cycling info, check out **bikeadironacks.com**, where you can find a searchable library of routes and an up-to-date calendar of events.



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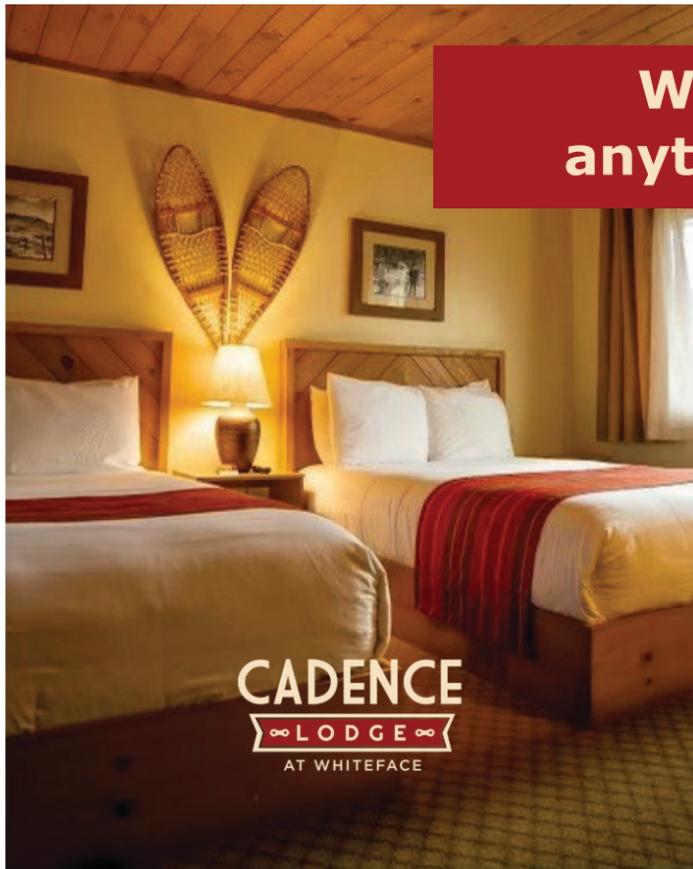



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Fly Fishing



FLY fishing is a time-honored tradition in the Adirondacks, where native brook trout have been sought by anglers for centuries. And the tradition continues today in the Whiteface Region, which holds generations worth of fly fishing knowledge.

The Ausable River is one of several major river systems that drain out of the Adirondack Park. But unlike many of the other

ivers, the Ausable is rugged, rough, and rocky, which makes it a perfect environment packed with plenty of hiding places for wild brookies.

In addition to amazing scenery and unparalleled trout, the Ausable River offers proximity to local communities, and the professional guides who live in them. Anglers who have experience with the river can take a nice drive on a quiet road to their favorite fishing holes, while beginners can get everything they need at places like **The Hungry Trout**.

Even if fly fishing isn't your thing, there's something serene about a mountain river cascading over and around huge boulders while anglers get into the rhythmic motion of casting their flies over the water. If you're lucky, you might just catch a pro in action during the Two Fly Challenge, an annual tournament. Family members can enjoy watching or take off and explore other opportunities, just steps away.

So whether you're in the market for a guided trip, a new rod, or just wondering what the fish are biting on, the locals are always happy to help in the Whiteface Region.

MAKE REAL FISH STORIES



Lodging



REST EASY

Visiting the Whiteface Region for a day is a great idea. But with so much to do, see, and experience, you'll want more time. Luckily, the area is also home to a wide range of lodging options, so whether you're planning a weekend getaway or a week-long excursion, you'll be able to rest easy.

Whether you're looking for back-country camping, glamping, quaint bed-and-breakfasts, or classic motels, the Whiteface Region has a place for you to get away from it all — while you're still just steps away from all the action.

The most adventurous can shoulder a backpack and tramp into the woods to sleep under the stars or in a pond-side lean-to. But you can also sleep under the stars in one of the area's campgrounds, which offer comforts such as drive-in sites, fire pits, hot showers, and flush toilets.

But if that still sounds just a bit too rough, there's also a **KOA campground** that lets you breathe the fresh air all day and night but also have access to the Internet, a pool to swim in, and electricity hookups.

If you'd rather have a roof over your head, the Whiteface Region offers plenty of options. Some accommodations were built around the 1980 Winter Olympics, and while they've certainly been upgraded since then, the rustic charm of traveling "in the good old days" is still alive and well.

And you can find a more personalized experience at one of the area's bed and breakfasts. Talk with the proprietors to find out locals' favorite places to hike or fill up on a hearty breakfast before hitting the slopes. However you want to stay, the Whiteface Region has the right place for you.



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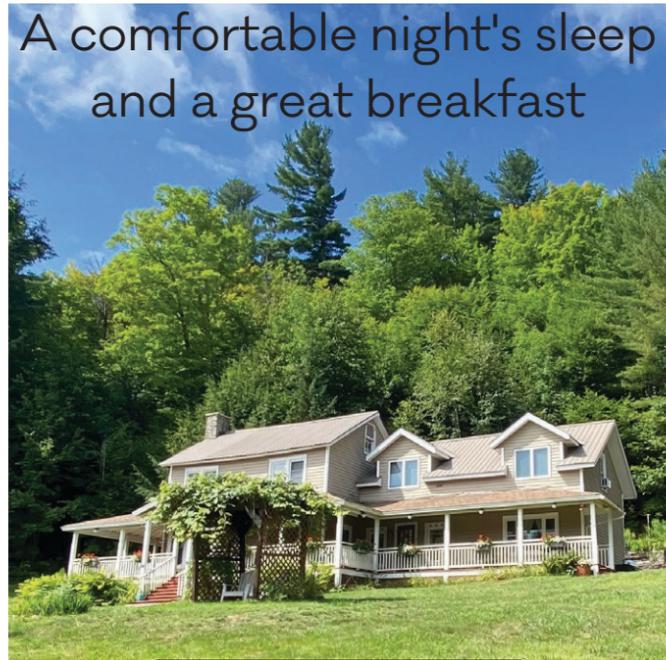
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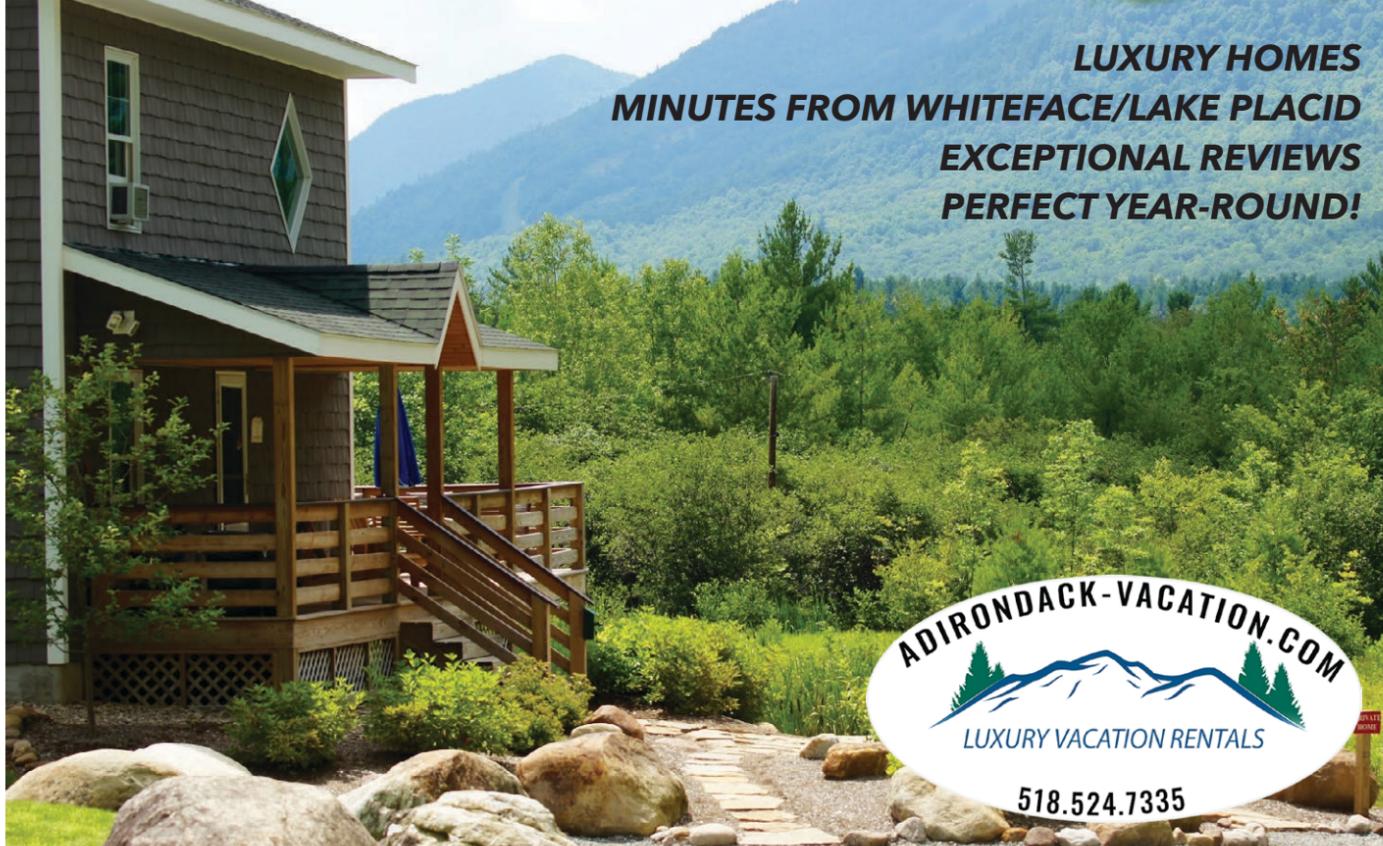


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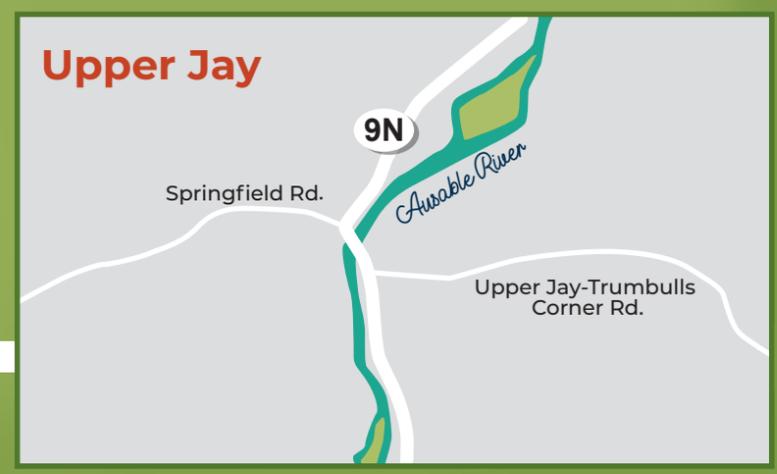
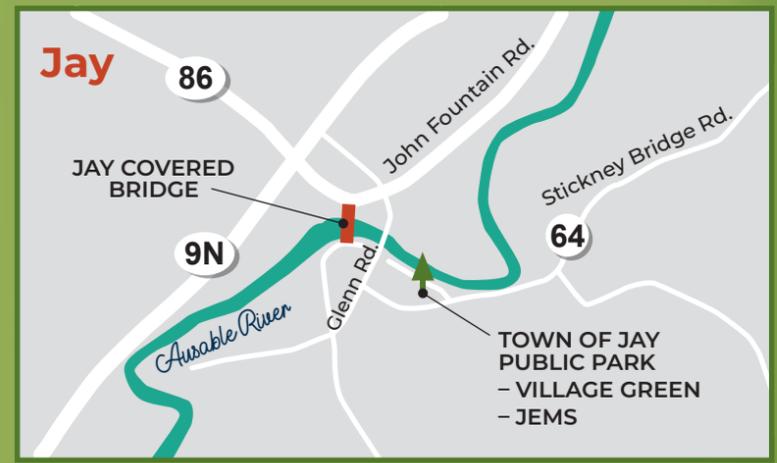
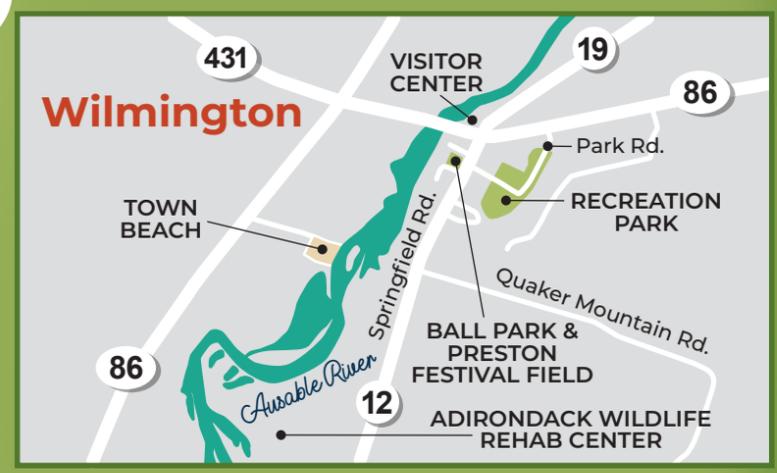
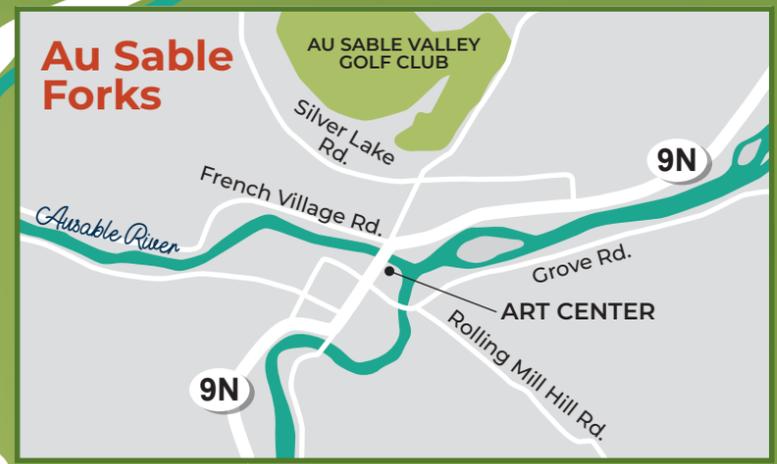
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WHITEFACE REGION

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MAP



LEGEND

- Hiking Trail
- Bike Trail



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adirondacks, usa

REGIONAL MAP

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HOW NEW YORK DOES WINTER.™





Dining

YOUR TABLE IS READY

From comfortable fine dining to community pubs and quick-bite delis, cafes, pizza joints, and the nostalgic fast food of an **A&W Restaurant**, the "Whiteface Region has everything you need to fuel your adventures. For stunning riverfront views, find your seat at **The**

Hungry Trout and enjoy fresh seafood and meats paired with the perfect wines. Or cheer on your favorite team on a big screen while eating burgers and a basket of fries downstairs at **R. F. McDougall's Pub**. Check out **Rudy's Scar Bar + Grille** and **Pourman's Taphouse** for wide menus and live music every Saturday, or grab pizza, pasta, and more from **Fratelli Pizza Restaurant & Bar II** or **Lance's Place Pizza & Wings**. Get going in the morning with diner fare from **The Country Bear Bakery and Diner** or **Up a Creek**. For

house-roasted coffee, baked goods, and breakfast and lunch offerings, stop in at **The Adirondack Mountain Coffee Cafe**. Then plan dinner at the nearby **Ice Jam Inn & Restaurant**, serving made-from-scratch goodness from starters to desserts. And for your on-the-go deli desires, head to **Little Super Market**. You can sate your sweet tooth with **Adirondack Chocolates** year-round or with ice cream from **Whitebrook Dairy Bar**, open seasonally. Wherever your taste buds roam, don't forget that all our eateries also offer take-out options. We invite you to eat in your own style at your own comfort, and keep the adventure going!



Arts

FRONT ROW SEATS

OUR forests and waterways are equally inspiring arts-and-culture events and activities happening year-round in our communities. The Whiteface Region is home to professional artists and performers (and their studios) across multiple disciplines, from dancers, musicians, actors, and aerial acrobats, to writers, photographers, painters, potters, fiber artists, and more. We are also a destination for artists- and makers-in-residence from around the world. Check out the **Tahawus Cultural Center**, in Au Sable Forks, where you'll find a former Masonic lodge transformed into a community space for the visual, performing, and musical arts. If it's movies you're into, the **Ausable Theater** in Au Sable Forks is one of a few historic cinema houses located in the Adirondacks. Attend a summer concert at **Whiteface Mountain** during one of its many events and festivals. Unwind and recharge at the **Upper Jay Art Center (UJAC)**. Known as the Recovery Lounge due to its pun-worthy location in an actual upholstery shop, UJAC presents live music, plays, and cool art throughout the year. And its January Jams is a favorite winter hang-out. **The Jay Entertainment & Music Society (JEMS)** organizes seasonal concert series and workshops on the **Jay Village Green**, with its community bandstand and picnic area, or inside at **The Amos & Julia Ward Theatre**. Walk across the street to the **Jay Craft Center**, where you'll find handcrafted Adirondack pottery, wood crafts, jewelry, paintings, greeting cards, and toys. Or visit the many unique studios and galleries throughout our region to find that special keepsake, home decor, or perfect gift.



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WWW.AUSABLETHEATER.COM

Riverside Thrift Shop
 1169 Hazelton Rd. Wilmington, NY 12997

Hours: 9:00 – 2:00 Wed & Sat
Donations Accepted 10:00 – 1 PM

Info: jaynews.org
 FB: Riverside Thrift Shop
 Wilmington NY

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Jay Craft Center
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 www.JayCraftCenter.com
 jaycraftcenter@gmail.com

Since 1980 we've been creating pottery in a former grange hall in Jay, New York. In addition to selling our own pottery, we also carry a wide selection of handmade goods from fellow Adirondack artists, as well other American makers. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for hours and updates.



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Meg Parker
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WHITEFACE

Whiteface.com

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- Guided Hikes
- Guided Birding

*Tours can be customized for handicapped accessibility

To schedule a tour or find out more information visit www.wnnc.net or contact Nature Guide Rich Hanlon at RichHanlon7@gmail.com or 412-992-6648.

Hidden Gems



FIND YOUR DIAMOND

Ready to unwind? Get closer, and you'll find the community's creativity on display in unique eateries and eclectic entertainment centers throughout the wonderful Whiteface Region.

Wilmington's **Riverside Thrift Shop** is the place to find everything you never knew you needed. A few doors south on Route 86, the **North Pole Campground** features a throwback mini-golf course with 18 classic holes of fun. The ultimate indulgence? Try a deep tissue massage at **River Stone Wellness**, a spa with a menu of wellness services to rival any major metro area.

Head to Upper Jay to explore more local gems. The **Ice Jam Inn** serves elevated comfort food, including the popular Belgian mussels with Prince Edward Island mussels. "We see familiar faces every week, whether they're from our close-knit community or people who have made our inn their home here," says chef and owner Zack Scott. After dinner, catch a blues, rock, or jazz show at the **Upper Jay Art Center (UJAC)**, known locally as The Recovery Lounge, where the audience lounges on vintage furniture.

In summer, the **Jay Entertainment & Music Society** brings more musicians to the Jay Town Green for Saturday evening concerts from June through August. The grassy lawn is a few hundred yards from the Jay Covered Bridge. Built in 1857, it spans dramatic waterfalls that stun in every season. And just up the road is



Scenic Drives



Young's Studio & Gallery, a beautiful pottery studio where you'll find practical eating- and drinkware inspired by the Adirondacks.

Visit Au Sable Forks to see a former timber and iron town undergoing a 21st-century evolution. "It's an authentic downtown that hasn't had its head turned by tourism," says Rebecca Kelly, who founded the **Tahawus Cultural Center** in 2009. There, she offers ballet and contemporary dance classes, plus gallery shows for local sculptors, potters, and painters. Currently under renovation next door, the **Ausable Theater** is transforming from a 1930s vaudeville theater into a modern performing arts venue. Across the street sits **20 Main**, a storied watering hole where locals gather for pints, pool, and tunes from the jukebox or weekend acts. "I like to go and sit in the garden to have a glass of pinot grigio with friends," says Kelley. Cheers to finding your own hidden gem.



JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Whether you're traveling on two wheels or four, powered by pedals, electricity, or gas, visit the Whiteface Region for a restorative afternoon jaunt, captivating day trip, or exhilarating multiday journey. As the only Adirondack summit accessible by motorized vehicle, Whiteface Mountain offers a unique experience for road trippers with its **Veterans' Memorial Highway**. Drive, ride, or pedal to the top of the Adirondacks' fifth-highest mountain and soak in panoramic wildland views that reach into Vermont and Canada. Then explore the two-story granite castle perched at the top, with its restaurant, gift shop, summit tunnel, and mountain elevator. Off the mountain, our country roads follow the meditative bends of the Ausable River framed by stunning mountain views with convenient pull-offs for picnics, pictures, and play. Check out the **Wilmington Whiteface Road Race Course** starting from the Wilmington Town Park; traverse Route 86 on the **Rapid Descent Trail** and **Black Brook Scenic Trail**; or discover where the East and West branches of the Ausable River merge on the **Ausable River Loop**. Spectacular rock bluffs provide views into forest-lined rapids, which will inspire and surprise. Travel down Route 9N **Between the Jays** and relish the rolling hills sandwiched between expansive meadows, glistening waterways, and precipitous mountains. Picnic at the historic Jay Covered Bridge and roam the roads that merge farm and forest, such as the **River Forks Trail, Stickney Bridge, and Water's Edge Trail**. No matter the season, our scenic roadways indulge the senses and satisfy any wanderlust.



Winter

GOOD TWISTS & TURNS

While Whiteface dominates the local skyline, you'll find winter activities of every stripe in the region that shares the mountain's name.

Lace up your skates at the Wilmington public skating rink, where access to the ice and dozens of pairs of donated skates are free to all. Admire the twinkling lights, hung by volunteer firefighters, adorning streetlights and bridges in each hamlet. Then find lively scenes in local gathering spots, whether you're listening (or participating in) the January Jams open mic at the **Upper Jay Art Center** or sampling a flight of microbrews by the fire at the **Pourman's Taphouse** in Wilmington.

And when temperatures plummet, familiar sights transform into dramatic landscapes. Along the West Branch of the Ausable River, icicles drape steep walls and tumbling waterfalls spill through frozen boulders. The East Branch's meandering flow becomes a snowy ribbon dotted with fox tracks and overlooked by porcupines munching tree bark in the winter sun. These moments of stillness and wonder balance the effervescent thrills of downhill skiing or a visit to the **North Pole**. In the Whiteface Region, you can get closer to all that winter has to offer.



8 Whiteface Memorial Highway, (518) 946-6160

With 12 beers on tap and more in the fridge, Pourman's Tap House is a beer lover's dream destination in Wilmington.

Relaxed atmosphere for those just coming in off the trails or out for a date night.

Only 3 miles from Whiteface and within walking distance from the motels in town.

Reservations accepted for up to 20 people.

SHARE THE ROAD

CYCLISTS:

- Obey all traffic rules.
- Ride single file.
- Pay attention.
- Wear bright clothing.
- Use a bike light.

DRIVERS:

- Only pass when safe.
- Slow down.
- Give at least three feet of room when passing.
- Don't drive distracted.

Learn more at AdirondacksUSA.com/Share-The-Road

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WHITEFACE

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REASONS TO COME BACK

Santa's Workshop is one of the original theme parks that used to be roadside attractions in the 1950s and '60s. While many have gone away, Santa's Workshop continues to inspire the holiday spirit year-round. With live reindeer, rides and games, Yuletide Family Weekends, and, of course, the Big Guy himself, Santa's Workshop is fun for all ages. Parents and grandparents can relive the sparkle of their youth while passing along that same magic glow to the next generation.

During summer months, a do-not-miss swim spot is the Wilmington Town Beach, which includes public restrooms, a shaded picnic pavilion and sandy beach. Kayaks and stand up paddleboards are also available for rent. If you're up for a more adventurous dip, try the natural waterslides on the rapids above the Jay Covered Bridge, which also features a covered picnic space.



AS if the natural beauty of the Adirondack Mountains, the Ausable River, and the quaint towns of the Whiteface Region weren't enough to keep one happy, there are also many other attractions in the area that can keep people of all ages busy.

High Falls Gorge is one of the most amazing natural wonders of the northern Adirondacks. With safe walking paths, bridges, lookouts, and on-site snacks and food, High Falls Gorge offers a truly unique experience. In winter you can let the sound of the Ausable River wash over you while you sip hot chocolate and roast s'mores over a campfire, while in summer you can let the cool mist from the impressive waterfalls cool you down.

The **Adirondack Wildlife Refuge** allows the curious to (almost) come face to face with animals you might not see every day. The Refuge also offers some glamping options and guided nature walks that will help instill a sense of reverence for the wildlife of the Adirondack Park and beyond.



WHITEFACE CORNERS

SUITES

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Whiteface Corners

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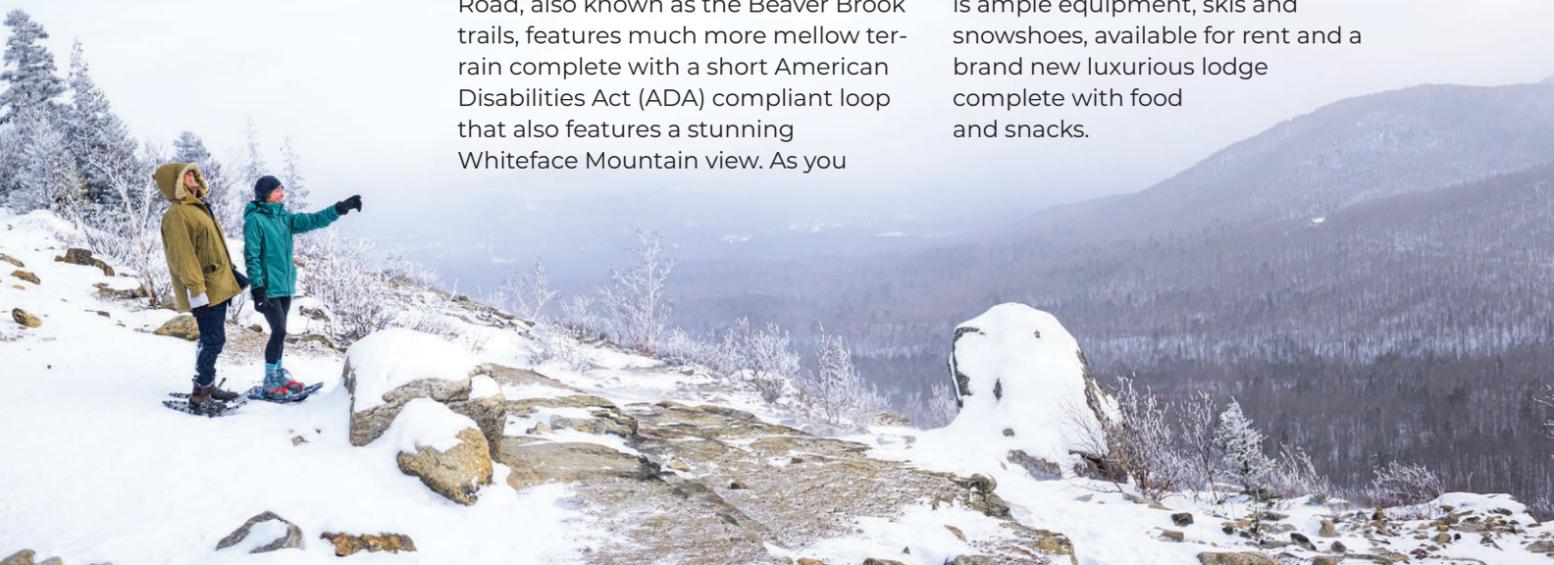
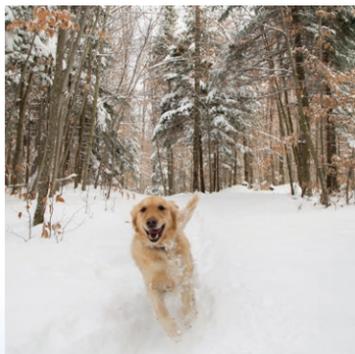
Cross-Country Skiing & Snowshoeing



THE best mountain biking trails often make the best cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails too. For the Whiteface Region, that is certainly the case with fabulous skiing and snowshoeing at both the **Flume Trails** and those located on **Hardy Road**. For the most variety of terrain, the Flume is where it's at. You can climb from the trailhead above the waterfalls all the way to the base of Whiteface Ski Center and then noodle your way back down along any number of trails and boardwalks. For a more mellow experience, head to Hardy Road. The parking lot side of the road features two short easy loops, Coniferous & Lost Farm, or you can climb Ante Up to the top for a nice view of **Whiteface Mountain**. While the climb is moderate, most choose snowshoes. The opposite side of Hardy Road, also known as the Beaver Brook trails, features much more mellow terrain complete with a short American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant loop that also features a stunning Whiteface Mountain view. As you

stride (or ski) a little further, you'll experience trails like the Land of Make Believe and Twisted Pine close to the parking lot. Keep moving a bit deeper into the network and Good Luck will bring you to a series of viewsheds toward Whiteface. If a short, family walk, is more your speed, then Henry's Trail on Grove Road in **Au Sable Forks** is the place. This half mile accessible walking trail features fun areas themed after Adirondack animals; Bald Eagle and Redtailed Hawk, Honeybee, Snowshoe Hare and Cottontail Rabbit, Fisher, Deer Mouse, and Bullfrog pods. Each area features musical instruments and benches. Of course, if a groomed and professionally maintained network is what you're looking for, then head to nearby Mt. VanHoevenberg, home of the 2023 World University Games nordic and biathlon events. A bonus is ample equipment, skis and snowshoes, available for rent and a brand new luxurious lodge complete with food and snacks.

KICK & GLIDE



Major Events



Two Fly Challenge

Spend a May weekend casting flies on the Ausable River by day and gathering for food, live music, and fly tying at night. The rules for the catch-and-release tournament: Anglers fish in pairs, each limited to two flies per day, and the overall winner is decided by total inches of fish caught. "It's not about competition," says fly fishing guide Rachel Finn. "It's all about the hang, just people enjoying the river and the camaraderie."

Whiteface Mountain Uphill Bike Race (June)

Pedal from Wilmington's village center to the highest point in the Adirondack Mountains accessible on two wheels. Each June, more than three hundred cyclists climb 8 miles and 3,800 vertical feet to the end of the paved Whiteface Memorial Highway. The course peaks at an eight percent grade and riders can descend by bike or car.

Wilmington Whiteface Whiskey Run

Take a lap and raise a glass to Wilmington's whiskey history, which dates to local whiskey stills in the 1800s to bootlegger hideouts during Prohibition and modern-day whiskey barrel cooperage. Runners of all ages, speeds, and abilities choose from a 5K or 10K course, circling back to Wilmington's Festival Field for whiskey tastings and food trucks. adkwhiskeyrun.com

Ride for the River

Explore the Ausable River watershed by bicycle in July while supporting the Ausable River Association, a nonprofit dedicated to clean water and vibrant habitats. Admire river, forest, and farm views along 30- and 45-mile routes, then rendezvous at Wilmington's Everest Beach for BBQ and live music — and perhaps a river dip to cool down. bikeadirondacks.com

Wilmington MTB Fest

Mountain bikers flow into the Adirondacks' premier fat tire destination for a three-day celebration each September. With on-site camping, skills clinics, group rides, and shuttles available, riders of all abilities can explore more than 25 miles of singletack. Don't miss the kids race and the Saturday night bonfire. wilmingtonmtbfestival.com

Festival of Colors

When maples turn scarlet and aspens go gold, get ready for September's Festival of Colors. More than fifty vendors gather on Festival Field to sell artisanal wares, serve food (think BBQ, Jamaican, and even deep fried Oreos), and showcase local organizations. Planned with families in mind, free kids' activities include a comedy show, bouncy house, and face painting.

Oktoberfest

Polka, pretzels, and bier. Find traditional German fun at this October weekend at Whiteface Mountain. Balloon animals and face painting entertain children while adults sample hefeweizens and pilsners—and live music keeps everyone dancing. whiteface.com

Christmas in the Forks | December

The first weekend in December, locals converge on downtown Au Sable Forks for a celebration nearly twenty years strong. Saturday night brings a holiday parade down Main Street, followed by a show-stopping fireworks display over the Ausable River and an ugly sweater contest at 20 Main. Visit the event's Facebook page for details.



We create, execute, promote & support charity driven events, curate a library of routes & trail networks, build custom tours, & sell cool t-shirts.



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LOVE YOUR ADK



THE Adirondack Park was created in the late 1800s as people with an eye for the future worked to protect one of New York's most unique landscapes. The tradition continues today as people who live, work, and adventure inside the Adirondacks follow Leave No Trace principles.

By leaving the Adirondacks better than you found it, you're helping protect the woods, waters, and wildlife that make this region so special — and you're also helping current and future generations benefit from those resources. Following these Leave No Trace principles will make you a steward of the land, and provide a better experience for those that come after.

1. Know before you go — Be prepared! Remember food, water, maps, and clothes to protect you from cold, heat, and rain.

2. Stick to trails and camp overnight right — Walk and ride on designated trails to protect trailside plants. Camp only on existing or designated campsites to avoid damaging vegetation.

3. Pack it in, pack it out — Put litter in garbage bags and carry it home. Use bathrooms or outhouses when available. If they're not available, bury human waste in a small hole 6-8 inches deep and 200 feet (70 big steps) from water and trails.

4. Leave it as you find it — Leave

plants, rocks, and historical items as you find them so others can enjoy them.

5. Be careful with fire — Use a camp stove for cooking. Stoves are easier to cook on and create less impact than a fire.

6. Keep wildlife wild — Observe wildlife from a distance and never approach, feed, or follow animals. Protect wildlife and your food by securely storing your meals and trash.

7. Share our trails and manage your pet — Be considerate when passing others on the trail. Keep your pet under control to protect it, other visitors, and wildlife.

You can show your respect for the Adirondacks by taking the Love Your ADK pledge and following the guidance to plan ahead and prepare, camp and hike on durable surfaces, pick up trash, leave nature as you find it, be careful with fire, leave wildlife alone, and share trails with other users. Join thousands of others and take the Love Your ADK pledge at www.LoveYourADK.org.



“ We love the wild beauty of flower farming in the Adirondacks. We're committed to working with the elements and seek to cultivate varieties that are welcomed by our climate and valued by our customers. There are so many unique possibilities when you bring inspiration from nature into your farming operation.”

LINDA D'ARCO
Owner,
Little Farmhouse Flowers
Jay, New York

DELICIOUS STARTS HERE

Discover for yourself why our food tastes so good and life smells so sweet here in the Whiteface Region. Get close to two artisanal creameries, a flower farm and design studio, rejuvenating farm-stays, and year-round farm stores stocked with products from local growers and makers.

Sugar House Creamery, in Upper Jay, milks brown Swiss cows on 23 acres of hillside pasture to create three signature cheeses. In addition to delicious cheeses, the farm stand is stocked with raw milk, veal and beef alongside other products from local farms and makers including meats, eggs, vegetables, and bread.

Down the road is **Blue Pepper Farm**, a small, human-scale sheep dairy that produces wool products and lamb skins along with excellent lamb, sheep's milk yogurt, pork, and eggs. And while you're in the area, be sure to stop by Moon Valley Farm. Their Highland cattle are fun to view while on a bike ride or scenic drive.

In Au Sable Forks, on the former estate of artist Rockwell Kent, **Asgard Farm & Dairy** produces award-winning goat cheeses, mouth-watering caramels, pastured meats and eggs, and homemade soaps.

Little Farmhouse Flowers in Jay boasts a public display garden and seasonal weekend flower stand offering fresh flowers and floral goods. A stop here allows you to explore what happens when you sow innovation into the soil and cultivate community through regenerative farming practices.





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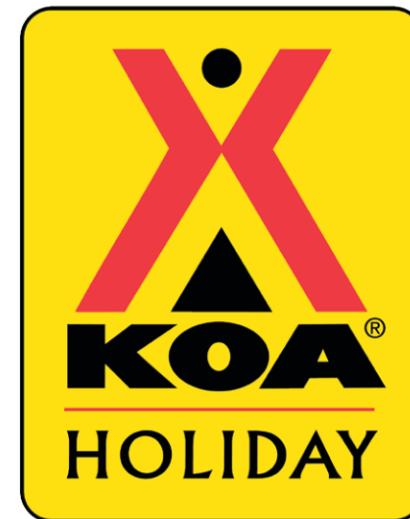
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LOVE YOUR ADIRONDACKS

What is Love Your ADK?

There is something special about the Adirondacks. Here, we live, visit, work, and play in a place where millions of acres of public and private land offer us a chance to coexist with nature. To Love Your Adirondacks is to protect the lands, waters, and communities we all know and love.

Take the Pledge!

Visit LoveYourADK.org/pledge.



By taking the Love Your Adirondacks Pledge and practicing Leave No Trace ethics you can help ensure that the forests, waterways, and communities of the Adirondacks remain beautiful and unique for generations to come.

Hiking Checklist

To Wear

- Hiking backpack
- Weather-appropriate clothing (think layers)
- Hiking boots or sneakers

To Pack

- Food and water
- Map and compass
- First-aid kit
- Knife or multi-tool
- Headlamp or flashlight

To Do

- Review the 7 Principles
- Take the Pledge
- Use the restroom
- Check the weather

*For a comprehensive list, visit LoveYourADK.org/hiking-101

Visit LoveYourADK.org

Learn more about Leave No Trace ethics and preparedness tips.

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