



HUT TO HUT ON THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

TRIP SUMMARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- Traversing the windswept ridges & craggy peaks of the White Mountains
- Hiking Mt. Washington, the highest peak in the Whites
- Experiencing "hut culture" and meeting "the croo"
- Relaxing with hot meals and soft beds in the high mountains

TRIP AT A GLANCE

- Location:** White Mountains National Forest, New Hampshire
- Activities:** Hiking
- Arrive:** If you're flying, plan to be at the Manchester airport (MHT) by 2 p.m. on Day 1. If you are driving plan to be at the AMC Highland Center at Crawford Notch by 4 p.m.
- Depart:** If you're driving, you can plan to leave any time after breakfast on the last day. If you're flying, you can plan to fly out any time after 1 p.m.

TRIP OVERVIEW

Traversing some of the tallest peaks in the region, this section of the Appalachian Trail is widely regarded as one of its most magnificent and challenging sections. But it's not only the beauty that makes it unique. Spaced a day apart are a series of huts that offer hot and hearty meals and a warm bed at the end of the day. If you want to spend time hiking the AT, without having to carry a full backpack, come join us as we hike hut to hut! If you are looking to hike one of the most challenging sections of the AT with the camaraderie of a group this is the trip for you!

Maximum group size: 10

RATING

This trip is designed for women in excellent physical condition who have previous hiking experience. You should be prepared to hike uphill for a few hours at a time, on a trail that is very rocky and uneven and has few if any switchbacks. Your pack will contain your clothing and lunches for the days you are at the huts and water for a day. Some of the path is rocky and exposed at times and women with a significant fear of heights, balance or knee issues will find it difficult. This trip is rated 5 and requires a high degree of fitness. Adding some specific conditioning such as strength training, endurance training, and longer aerobic workouts is suggested. **Note:** This section of the AT has been rated one of the six most difficult due to the terrain and the elevation gain. The need for physical readiness cannot be overemphasized.

Rating: 1 2 3 4 [\[5\]](#).

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 1 local guide and 1 AGC guide based if group size is greater than 8
- Six nights lodging, including two nights at the Highland Center and four in huts
- Meals from dinner first night through breakfast on the last day, except for all lunches
- Permits
- Transportation from and to the Manchester, NH airport

What's not included: Travel to and from Manchester NH, alcoholic beverages, guide gratuities, lunches, and travel insurance.

OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1

The trip begins at 4 pm at the AMC Highland Center at Crawford Notch. If you're flying, we'll meet you at the Manchester, NH airport at 2 pm. This center, the newest one built and run by the Appalachian Mountain Club, is a great place to start the trip with its showcasing of green construction techniques and energy efficiency. We will start getting to know each other that night at the four-course dinner they serve and review safety considerations before going to bed early. Overnight Highland Center. (D)

DAY 2

We will shuttle from the Highland Center to the Webster Cliffs trail head. A short 15-minute shuttle. Where we will join the AT as it ascends to Mount Webster and Mount Jackson. We will quickly get introduced to the terrain and elevation of the AT in New Hampshire. We will learn why Mt Webster is on the '52 with a View' list and knock off our first 4,000 ft peak in New Hampshire. Our destination tonight is Mizpah Springs Hut. Our hike will be rewarded with great views, not to mention a hot and hearty meal, from the hut. Our mileage is approximately 6 miles and we will gain over 3,000 ft of elevation. Overnight Mizpah Springs Hut (B, D)

DAY 3

We continue north on the AT via the Crawford Path today, which takes us up and over Mt. Pierce, with the option to include Mt. Eisenhower, before reaching Lake of the Clouds Hut. Mt Monroe is next to the hut and once we settle in and re-energize, we head out to hike its loop trail. Although our net elevation gain is only 1,200 feet, our actual elevation gain is considerably more and will take us between 3 and 5 hours. There are two small lakes at the hut and after our hike we'll want to cool at least our feet, and perhaps all of us! The Lake in the Clouds Hut is the first, largest, and most popular of all the huts in the system and undoubtedly has some of the most spectacular views. Overnight Lake in the Clouds Hut (B, D)

DAY 4

Today is a layover day, meaning we don't have to pack up. We will continue on the AT via the Crawford Path to the top of Mt. Washington, the highest peak in the northeastern United States at 6,288 feet. It is always a bit unsettling to get to the top of Mt. Washington and see people in heels that have driven up or taken the cog railway. Mt Washington is famous (or infamous) for its highly erratic weather, especially its fierce winds. There is a museum on top that is worth seeing and, on our way, back we will take the Alpine Garden Trail, which is one of the most picturesque ridge hikes in the White Mountains. Overnight Lake in the Clouds Hut (B, D)

DAY 5

This is the hike that makes this trip rated a 5. Although not a long hike, about 7.5 miles, the trail requires constant attention because of its' rockiness and that combined with the elevation gain/loss makes this our longest and most demanding day. We will continue on the AT as we traverse around Mt. Washington and pick up the extremely rocky Gulfside Trail to Madison Hut. One fun aspect of this trail is the option of taking loop trails over the summits of Mt. Clay, Mt. Jefferson, and Mt. Adams. If we do all the peaks (which will depend on both the weather and how fast, we are going) our total elevation gain is over 4,000 feet and will take all day. **Note:** Due to the difficulty of the day, if your guide is concerned for your safety on the trail, she will discuss with you the option of returning to the Highland Lodge via the Mt Washington shuttle and meeting the group on Day 6. Overnight Madison Spring Hut (B, D)

DAY 6

On our final hiking day, we bid goodbye to the ridges and the AT as we descend 3,500 feet on our hike down off the mountains. There we'll reclaim the van and then head back to the Highland Center for hot showers and a delicious meal. We'll share a final farewell dinner that night, celebrating our achievements, and bidding goodbye to the mountains and each other. Overnight Highland Center (B, D)

DAY 7

If you're driving, you can plan to leave any time after breakfast. If you're flying, you can plan to fly out any time after 1 p.m. (B)

ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

GETTING THERE

Plan to meet at the Manchester NH airport (MHT) at 2:00 p.m. or the AMC Highland Center in Crawford Notch at 4:00 p.m. on Day 1.

GETTING BACK

If you're driving, you can plan to leave any time after breakfast on Day 7. If you're flying, you can plan to fly out any time after 1 p.m.

AIRFARE

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, [Exito Travel](#). Start by submitting this form: https://pay2.exitotravel.com/referral_form?affiliate_id=1090&client=1. Just fill in your dates and destinations, including any additional notes about preferred carriers, class of service, possible stopovers, etc., and an agent will typically respond via email within a few hours. If you prefer to call, the number is 800-655-4053; be sure to tell them you are traveling with Adventures in Good Company.

Please note: Most of the international airlines are in-network for Exito, so they do not charge extra for their services (and often have access to discounted rates). When necessary, processing fees out-of-network carriers are minimal at around \$35-\$50 per ticket.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Two nights at the Highland Center Lodge and four nights in rustic mountain huts. In the huts and lodge, we'll be staying in bunkbeds in dorm-style rooms with shared bathrooms down the hall. The huts will provide wool blankets and a pillow. People have found a sleep sack, sleeping bag liner or camping sheet has added to their comfort. We will try to have rooms within the hut for our group when possible but there may be times we need to share our room with others not in our group

Day 1 - [Highland Center Lodge](#)

Day 2 - [Mizpah Spring Hut](#)

Day 3, 4 - [Lake of the Clouds Hut](#)

Day 5 - [Madison Spring Hut](#)

Day 6 - [Highland Center Lodge](#)

Breakfast and dinners are prepared by the 'croc' at the huts. They can accommodate most dietary preferences and restrictions but, depending on your specific circumstances, we may ask you to bring supplemental food. Please call the office if you have any questions whether your specific dietary/allergy needs can be accommodated and to help with your planning.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection through Travelex Insurance Services. For more information on the available plans or to enroll, visit www.travelexinsurance.com or call 1-800-228-9792 and reference location number 06-0331.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. All products listed are underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges reflect the many expenses Adventures in Good Company cannot recover if you cancel, even if you must do so due to illness, injury, or personal emergencies. These fees are not meant to be punitive. The charges made reflect the expenses Adventures in Good Company has incurred in administering your reservation and planning for your participation. We recognize that the majority of those who cancel their reservations do so out of necessity. Please note that we do not make any refunds for any unused portion of your trip, not arriving, arriving late, or leaving the trip early.

To qualify for any refunds, we must receive notification in writing, by email to info@goodadventure.com or mail to: Adventures in Good Company, PO Box 455, 2601 S. Lemay Ave, Ste 7, Ft Collins, CO 80525. Cancellation date is the date the notice is received by Adventures in Good Company in writing.

In the unfortunate event that you must cancel your trip, the following fees apply and are due to AGC at the time (prior to departure) that we receive written notice of your cancellation.

Days Prior to Departure		
International	Domestic	Cancellation Fee
120+ days	90+ days	\$50 fee
120 - 60 days	90 - 45 days	50% of trip cost
59 days or less	44 days or less	100% of trip cost

If you have paid in full, we have a waiting list, and we can fill your spot from that list, everything but your deposit will be transferred to another trip of your choosing for which you register in the next 365 days. AGC will allow you to transfer trip fees to another person, if in AGC's discretion, the other person is in the appropriate physical condition to participate in the trip.

Adventures in Good Company reserves the right to cancel or alter a trip due to unforeseen weather, unsafe conditions, low registrations or other circumstances. On the rare occasion when Adventures in Good Company must cancel a trip, all payments received to date will be refunded, including the non-refundable portion of your deposit.

Adventures in Good Company is not responsible for expenses incurred in preparation for any canceled trips, including airplane tickets.