



ADVENTURES
in good company



SLACKPACKING CONNECTICUT

Trip Summary

HIGHLIGHTS

- Completing the entire Connecticut section of the Appalachian Trail
- Walking through beautiful and historic landscapes, and visiting quaint towns along the way
- Climbing Bear Mountain, the tallest peak in Connecticut
- Exploring Connecticut's historic villages, enjoying a relaxing afternoon at Clover Brooke Farm and experiencing Kent Falls State Park
- Returning to a comfortable bed and hot shower at the end of every day in our historic and elegant accommodations
- Carrying only what you need for the day on your back

877-439-4042 adventuresingoodcompany.com info@goodadventure.com
2601 S. Lemay Ave Ste 7, PMB 455 Fort Collins, CO 80525

TRIP AT A GLANCE

Location:	Hiking near Kent, Connecticut. Overnight accommodation in Pine Plains, NY.
Activities:	Hiking
Arrive:	Arrive at the Albany Airport in New York by 3PM on Day 1. If you are driving, plan to be at the house in Pine Plains, NY by 4:30PM.
Depart:	We will have you back to the Albany airport in time for flights out after 12PM on the last day.

Trip Overview

This section of the Appalachian Trail features a well-maintained trail that winds through hardwood forests, over babbling brooks, and past long-range views of scenic valleys and cascading waterfalls. While this is a level 4 trip, the AT through Connecticut has features more forgiving terrain than most other sections of the trail leaving you with more energy to enjoy the other wonderful things Connecticut has to offer. On this trip, we'll cover approximately 52 miles to complete the Connecticut section, returning at the end of the day to our elegant, historic lodging near Pine Plains, NY. While the terrain is less challenging than neighboring AT states, you'll still hike significant mileage on this trip -between 4.2 and 13.2 miles each day, which requires being in excellent physical condition.

Maximum group size: 10

Rating

This trip is rated a level 4 on our [fitness scale](#), as it involves hiking from **4 -13 miles a day on varied terrain** (see itinerary for daily specific mileage). The Appalachian Trail is full of ups and downs; our biggest ascent on this trip is 3,000 feet over 13 miles. The trail will undoubtedly have **rocks, exposed tree roots, and muddy sections**. Slackpacking requires being in excellent physical condition with prior hiking experience. While we are unable to offer longer and shorter alternatives for each day of hiking, **hikers are welcome to take a down day to stay behind and explore Pine Plains or relax in our lodging**. To prepare for this trip, adding some specific conditioning such as strength training, endurance training, and longer aerobic workouts is recommended. **Rating:** 1 2 3 **[4]** [5]

What's Included

- 2-3 experienced AGC guides based on group size
- Seven nights' lodging
- All meals from dinner on the first day through breakfast on the last day
- All transportation within Connecticut and New York including round-trip transport between the Albany International Airport and our lodging, and daily shuttles to and from trailheads
- Park entry fees

Not included: Transportation between your home and the Albany airport, alcoholic beverages, guide gratuities, 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

Welcome to Slackpacking Connecticut! On this travel day, plan to fly into the Albany Airport (ALB) before 3PM, at which time our guides will meet you at baggage claim and shuttle you to our lodging. If you are driving, you can meet us at the Pine Plains Mansion at 4:30PM. We cannot wait to hike through northwest Connecticut with you! (D)

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 2

Today is a warm-up day! We'll drive from Pine Plains to just south of Kent, Connecticut (~35 minutes) to our Appalachian Trail start. The short hiking day is intended to get those muscles ready for more movement throughout the week. Our 4.2 miles will lead us across the Housatonic River on the 19th century covered Bull Bridge and offer us many great views of the river, its dam, and a cascading waterfall. Today's short hike will end at Schaghticoke road. From there, we will take a quick jaunt to Kent Falls State Park for the first of many delicious picnic lunches. We will then drive back to the lodging to prepare for our bucolic afternoon at Clover Brooke Farm. At this pastoral family owned Llama and Alpaca farm, we'll have an opportunity to spend time with the adorable residents - cute goats and fluffy alpacas! Depending on availability, we may take part in goat yoga or try our hand in artisanal farm crafts; we will have to see what is in store for us all! (B, L, D)

Distance: 4.2 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 882 feet

Total Elevation Loss: 1,411 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 3

Rise and shine! Time for a hearty home cooked breakfast provided by our AGC guides in preparation for the day. As with all of our slackpacking trips, we will start where we left off yesterday, putting in at Schaghticoke Road and hiking north with continued views of the Housatonic River Valley. This area will take you back in time with its historical heritage and rural charm. The trail here meanders across rocky slabs and over babbling brooks with plenty of places to dip your toes in the water! The hiking today will be about 7.7 miles, and will take around 4.5 hours. Time allowing, we will be able to explore the quaint town of Kent this afternoon. Tomorrow, we will continue to increase our daily mileage in preparation for the trail ahead. (B, L, D)

Distance: 7.7 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 1,900 feet Total

Elevation Loss: 2,510 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 4

Did you know that it wasn't until 1929 that the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut was completed? Amazing to think that you are here now continuing to enjoy this epic adventure on the trail. After the first few days, you may now start to feel like you have your "trail legs" under you - and they should be well up to the challenge of today's hike! On today's hike we will cross Macedonia Brook on a log footbridge, and enjoy long-range views of the town of Kent as we cross the rocky summit of Caleb's Peak. Descending the St. John's Ledges towards the end of the day will be a challenge, but the rocky outcropping faces east and provides gorgeous views of the river valley and St. John's Peak. Today's hike will take around 6 hours to complete. Once the hiking has come to an end we will head back to our comfy and cozy lodging to wind down for dinner time. (B,L,D)

Distance: 9.1 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 1,570 feet

Total Elevation Loss: 2,228 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 5

After a healthy and delicious breakfast, we'll begin where we left off at Dawn Hill Road, and continue up to a series of ridges with fantastic views. Our first break spot will be a view at aptly named Pine Knob, a ledge with southward views to the village of Cornwall Bridge. The pine trees offer enough shade for a comfortable break. During the break, we can take a moment to appreciate the beauty of our natural world and mindfully bathe in the forest before continuing on. Keep an eye out - turkey vultures and chicken hawks often ride the thermals over this valley throughout the day, and swoop close to the overlook on occasion. We will hike past a series of streams and brooks before ending our day at West Cornwall Rd. At the end of the day we will enjoy a delicious meal seated next to your hiking comrades. (B, L, D)

Distance: 6.8 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 2,169.9 feet

Total Elevation Loss: 2,395 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 6

On this day, we will enjoy a mellow day of hiking along a ridgewalk with fantastic views of the surrounding countryside. During today's hike, we'll summit Mount Easter and enjoy long-range views of the Southern Taconic Range from Hang Glider view. This unique sub-range of the Appalachian Mountains runs along the New York and Massachusetts border, and dips south into Connecticut, and north into Vermont. The name Taconic comes from an Algonquian word, from the Lenni Lenape, "Taghkanic" or "Taughannock". Loosely translated, it means "place in the woods" or "waterfall in the woods." This is a very appropriate name for the place where we'll end today's hike, at the Warren Turnpike just outside Falls Village, CT: where you may hear a large waterfall rumbling in the distance. Don't worry - we'll walk through this quaint village tomorrow morning! Rest up, because tomorrow is our last, and longest day of hiking, where we'll complete the Connecticut section of trail. (Optional: If your body and soul is calling for a massage at the end of the day you could check out the local massage therapist in Pine Plains, [here](#).) (B, L, D)

Distance: 10 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 1,661.4 feet

Total Elevation Loss: 1,708 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 7

Our last day of hiking has arrived! As usual, we will wake up, enjoy a hearty breakfast, and begin hiking where we last left off. Today is a special day: we will cross the border into Massachusetts, and complete the entire Connecticut section of the Appalachian Trail, while enjoying more amazing viewpoints along the way. We'll begin in Falls Village, a quaint town with an iron bridge we will cross as we hike along the AT. Keep your eye out for Great Falls, a nearby dam with a large cascade at an old iron works site. This site was essential for early settlers, where the high water volume powered grist, bolting, fulling and paper mills, and the area's famous ironworks. As we walk along the AT today, we will climb Lion's Head for views, and summit Bear Mountain, which is the highest peak in Connecticut. We will then take a short spur trail to the just south of Paradise Lane Trail. We will walk along this spur trail .5 miles to Riga auto road for shuttle pickup. This evening we will celebrate all of our week's achievements with a dinner out on the town! (B, L, D)

Distance: 13.2 miles

Total Elevation Gain: 3,345 feet

Total Elevation Loss: 492 feet

Overnight: Pine Plains, NY

DAY 8

Congratulations, you have completed the Slackpacking Connecticut trip! After a week of exploration and hiking, the final day has arrived. Can you believe it? You have finished the Connecticut portion of the Appalachian Trail? Give yourself a pat on the back! On this final day, we will enjoy breakfast together and then a group shuttle with a guide will head to the airport around 9AM. (B)

ADDITIONAL TRIP INFORMATION

Getting There

If you are flying into the Albany International Airport (ALB) your guide and shuttle will meet you at the Albany International Airport Information Center, located on the terminal's first level between baggage claim and ticketing at **3 PM**.

If you are driving meet at our **vacation home in Pine Plains, 5 Maple Street, Pine Plain, NY 12567** is located a little over an hour southeast of Albany, NY.

If you would like assistance with airfare, we recommend contacting our AirDesk Partner, [Exitto Travel](#). Start by submitting this [form](#). 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: Exitto charges a one-time, non-refundable processing fees of \$50 per passenger.

Accommodations

Prepare yourself for one of the most beautiful stays on an AGC Slackpacking trip. About a half hour away from each day's hiking adventures is the regal lodging of The Pines Mansion. The Pines Mansion is elegant, historical, and you might even say magical. Each room is creatively decorated and takes you back into time. After hours of hiking you will find yourself ready to relax in your mansion with many, many amenities. The Pine Mansion includes a gourmet eat-in kitchen, butler's pantry, formal dining room, music room, library/game room, mud room, parlor, and 10 bedrooms. Check it out yourself, [here](#).

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.

[Click here for our Cancellation & Payment Policies and Booking Terms & Conditions.](#)