MOU

To access the Mount Washington Observatory's higher summits forecast, text "weather forecast" to 603-356-2137.

HIKING IN THE WHITE MOUNTAINS

Winter in the White Mountains is beautiful. Fewer crowds and snow-covered trails can make for an enjoyable traverse on bluebird days. Tempting as it sounds though, remember: winter can be deadly for casual and regular hikers alike.

Unless you have significant experience in the outdoors in the wintertime or have booked with a professional guide service, DO NOT ATTEMPT to hike our higher peaks during this season. Every year, visitors have died or faced serious, life-altering injury due to the complex nature of hiking in the winter, a lack of expertise and planning, and the harrowing, deadly weather regularly found above and below tree line.

DON'T SLIP! STAY EQUIPPED

No matter the terrain, traction is a must during wintry weather! Wear microspikes for your lower elevation excursions (including walking around town).

Snowshoes are a minimum for hiking in the mountains, and crampons and an ice ax are nonnegotiable above



BEST HIKING PRACTICES

- Always file your hiking plan with a friend or family member.
- Study your route ahead of time.
- DO NOT rely on your cell phone for communication, navigation, illumination, or rescue. Service can be limited or nonexistent.
- Check the forecast OFTEN.
- Always pack the 10 Essentials.
- To-die-for photos are not worth dying over. Avoid precarious spots.
- Remember: sometimes, rescue isn't an option. Hike sensibly, always.

10 ESSENTIALS

HIKING GEAR CHECKLIST

Fire **Navigation** Starter

Headlamp Shelter

Protection

Food

First Aid Kit

Water

Knife/ **Multi Tool**

PLUS....

Rain Gear/ Warm Layers



Pack Like a Pro

a few miles (or a

few hours!), these

outdoor excursion.

10 Hiking Essentials are a MUST for any

Even if you're only hitting the trail for

ADD FOR WINTER...

Extra warm clothing (insulated parka, extra mittens)

Balaclava/Facemask

Overmitts

Snowshoes

Traction devices for boots (microspikes, crampons)

Scan the QR Code for additional winter essentials (including gear for above treeline & for avalanche terrain), and outdoor outfitters in the White Mountains.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this flyer serves as general recommendations for visitors to the White Mountains region. The White Mountains Attractions Association and its employees are not experts or professionals in the outdoor recreation field, and are not liable for any accident, injury, or fatality resulting from outdoor recreation.





VISITWHITEMOUNTAINS.COM



