White Mountains Trail
National Scenic Byway

Franconia Notch – Flume Visitor Center –
Crawford Notch – Kancamagus Highway

8:30 Meet your step-on-guide at the White Mountains Visitor Center on Route 112 in North Woodstock (I-93 Exit 32). At the center, new displays take the visitor from the wild logging days of the White Mountains National Forest through the gilded era of Grand Hotels to the multi-uses of the forest today.

8:45-9:45 Drive north on Interstate 93 to the Franconia Notch Parkway exit 34a. Arrive at the Flume Gorge/Franconia Notch Visitor Center. This is a wonderful place to start your tour of the White Mountains Trail. There are historical displays of the region, an original Concord Coach, a wonderful free, 20-minute interpretive DVD about the area, a coffee shop, gift shop and rest rooms. A partial tour of the Flume Gorge is also available for agile groups, which includes walking, stairs and additional 1 hour.

9:45-10:00 Travel north on NH Route 3 through Franconia Notch State Park, a gem of the White Mountains with towering cliffs and two mountain lakes. Profile Lake is the headwaters of the mighty Merrimack River which ends in the Atlantic Ocean in Newburyport, Massachusetts, while Echo Lake feeds into the Connecticut River which ends in Long Island Sound.

10:00-11:00 Ride the Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway to the top of Cannon Mountain. The Tramway is handicapped accessible. Spectacular rugged mountain scenery with a short loop trail around the summit showing off the towering peaks of the Franconia and Kinsman mountain ranges, with views of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Canada. Travel north on Route 3 to Twin Mountain, then east on Route 302.

11:15–12:30 Guided Tour through Crawford Notch with photo stops at the historic Mount Washington Hotel (site of the 1944 World Monetary Conference), the Elephant Head rock profile, and Flume Cascade. From there you can see the tracks of the Conway Scenic Railroad climbing up to The Cut in Crawford Notch.
12:30-2:30 Lunch and or shopping in the village of North Conway. There are many small restaurants, village shops and Schuyler Park in the center of this New England village. Also, visitors like to explore the Victorian Train Station of the Conway Scenic Railroad.

2:30-4:30 Follow Route 16 east and Route 112 west to return to North Woodstock by way of the Kancamagus National Scenic Byway with a stop at the historic Albany Covered Bridge to learn about covered bridge building and the efforts of the Russell brothers to build a bridge over the Swift River which would last out the spring storms. The Kancamagus Highway has scenic gorges, waterfalls, and several scenic overlooks which can be viewed as time and weather allow.

4:30 Travel through the former logging town of Lincoln with its Mill-turned-mall, and end your tour at the Visitor Center in North Woodstock.

For more information on this itinerary and the White Mountains area contact:
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