

# **Lakes & Mountains Nearer to Nature Tour**

#### GROUP ITINERARY

#### **Two Day Tour**

### <u>Day One</u>

#### 9:00 am





**The Loon Center**, located on the north shore of Lake Winnipesaukee on the **Markus Wildlife Sanctuary in Moultonborough**, was built as the new headquarters of the **Loon Preservation Committee** in 1993. In addition to staff offices, public meeting rooms and a research laboratory, the Loon Center houses exhibits, displays and the Loon's Feather Gift Shop, with all proceeds from the store benefitting LPC's Loon Recovery Program.

#### 11:00 am

## Enjoy shopping & lunch in the lakeside town of Meredith



The resort town of **Meredith** is well known for its proximity to Lake Winnipesaukee, where boaters can enjoy dockside restaurants and shoppers will love to explore **Mills Falls Marketplace**, a complex of shops and eateries in a converted 1800's cotton mill. Bring home some homemade candy, NH made products, and unique clothing and jewelry. The **Meredith Sculpture Walk** is a self-guided outdoor art exhibit featuring more that 30 sculptures placed throughout downtown Meredith.

## 1:00 pm

# **Discover Squam Lake's Natural History**



Enjoy a **Squam Lakes Natural Science Center** Lake Cruise and experience the beauty of Big Squam Lake. Learn about the natural forces that created this lake, the wildlife that makes it so special, and the people who have enjoyed it for over 5,000 years. Observe the beauty of loons and bald eagles from a canopied pontoon boat.

## 7:00 pm

## View NH's gentle giant on an evening Moose Safari



Take a 3-to-3.5-hour journey through the majestic White Mountains in a comfortable bus in search of the gentle giant of the North Country with **Pemi Valley Moose Tours.** Nightly excursions feature a guided tour of the local area, a video about Moose, and interesting historical sites along the way. Sit back and let experienced guides do the driving and searching (95% sighting success rate).

## **Other Options**



- **Castle in the Clouds** offers a 135-acre estate that provides one of the most stunning views of New Hampshire's largest lake, surrounding mountains, and over 5,500 acres of conserved land. Enjoy self-guided tours of the mansion.
- Perhaps the oldest in the United States, the Old Country Store and Museum in Moultonborough has been in operation since 1781. Peruse local goods, vintage items, and a small museum full of history, antique goods, and local treasures.
- Actively farmed since the 1890's, Moulton Farm is well known for the delicious food and baked goods prepared in its farm kitchen & bakery as well as for high-quality selection of cheeses, meats, seafood, and other items.



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#### Moose and Bear, Oh My! at The Rocks

No matter what the season, Senior Outreach Manager at **The Rocks** Nigel Manley (an uber outdoor enthusiast) can always be counted on to share stories from his many hours observing moose and bear in the wild. This **natural-history program** offers valuable insights about New Hampshire's most iconic animals and their habitat. Don't forget to ask Nigel about the wild turkeys that roam the estate. After the program, enjoy a **horse drawn wagon ride** through the Christmas tree fields.

### 12:00 pm





Enjoy a scenic ride on the **Bretton Woods Skyway Gondola** for panoramic views of Mt. Washington and the Presidential Range. The 5-minute ride up takes visitors to the new **Rosebrook Lodge**, located at the summit of Mt. Rosebrook, where visitors will enjoy an **elegant buffet lunch** while taking in the breathtaking scenery.

#### 3:00 pm

# **Drive the Kancamagus Highway**



**The "Kanc"** stretches 34.5 miles across the White Mountains from Lincoln to Conway. This scenic road was dedicated as the first of the National Scenic Byways in the Northeastern United States in 1996– for its recreational opportunities and aesthetic, cultural and historic values.

Motor coach friendly suggested stops include **Pemigewasset Overlook**, **CL Graham Wangan Overlook**, **Rocky Gorge Scenic Area**, and/or Albany Covered **Bridge**.

## Other Options



- Ride the Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway in Franconia Notch State Park.
  Enjoy beautiful walking trails and amazing views of four states and Canada.
- Journey to the summit of the Northeast's highest peak on the 8-mile
  Mt. Washington Auto Road. Guided group tours offer a comfortable and informative way to learn about the weather, geology, and the unique flora and fauna on and around the mountain.
- Living Shores Aquarium includes over 32,000 sq. ft. of interactive tide pools, exhibits, and immersive activities. See otters, touch sting rays, interact with tropical birds and so much more. Guests can learn about the widespread oceans and native New England Lakes in a fun, interactive environment. Optional educational programming available.