

ADIRONDACK GREAT WALKS & DAY HIKES



2015

ADIRONDACK REGIONAL TOURISM COUNCIL

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Views

Belfry Mtn. (.6 miles RT, easy) An old road leads to the summit where you'll find views of Lake Champlain, abandoned iron mines and distant mountains.

Coon Mtn. (2 miles RT, easy, Adirondack Nature Conservancy) Coon Mountain is known for its rocky outcrops and hemlock forests. A nature trail guide, available at the trailhead, tells the story of this unique area as you climb to the rocky summit for great views of the Lake Champlain Valley.

Baxter Mtn. (2.2 miles RT, moderate) A popular hike with several short steep pitches alternating with flat areas. Short side trails lead to views from open ledges and lots of blueberry bushes as you proceed up to the final summit. The extensive views include the Keene Valley and the High Peaks to the south.

Blueberry Cobbles & Bald Peak (3.8 miles RT to Blueberry Cobbles, moderate) (7.8 miles RT to Bald Peak, difficult) The open ledges of Blueberry Cobbles are easy to reach and have great views of the Boquet Valley and the Dix Range. The trail becomes more difficult as you climb through two small notches to reach the base of Bald Peak. A steep climb over bare rock is rewarded with exceptional views in all directions from the open summit.

Blueberry Mtn. (4.8 miles RT, difficult) Views of the Keene Valley are possible from several open ledges along the trail which is steep for approximately half its distance and has some interesting rocky sections. The summit is open and provides good views of the surrounding mountains.

Round Mtn. Loop (5 miles, moderate) Eclipsed by popular Noonmark, this mountain sees very little use but offers similar views. Enjoy your views in virtual solitude from overlooks along the way and from the large open summit.

Owl Head Lookout (5.2 miles RT, moderate) The rocky ledges provide great views of Giant Mountain, Rocky Peak Ridge and the Champlain valley.

Hurricane Mtn. (5.2 miles RT, difficult) A steep hike to a large open summit with an abandoned fire tower is rewarded with exceptional views in all directions which include the Lake Champlain valley and the High Peaks.

Split Rock Mtn. (9 mile trail system, moderate) The trail system, used by hikers and mountain bikers (on designated trails only), provides access to several difftop views of Lake Champlain and bays along the shoreline of Lake Champlain.

Waterfalls/Lakes

Snow Mtn. (3.4 miles RT, moderate) The unique trail up follows a stream and passes through a beautiful narrow flume and by a waterfall. The summit has some interesting views including a unique vantage point looking back through the narrow mountain pass between Giant and Noonmark mountains where Route 73 passes Chapel Pond.

Cathedral Rocks/Bear Run Loop (4 miles RT, moderate) The rugged and sometimes steep loop trail passes Pyramid Falls, pools at the base of a high cliff, views from ledges and a scramble through a narrow slot to a "don't miss" view.

Moose Mtn. Pond (6 miles RT, easy) The trail to this remote pond parallels a stream and marsh, and passes through a grove of large hemlocks and pines. View the pond and surrounding mountains from a ledge at the pond's edge. A side trail leads to Bass Lake (1.4 miles RT) which has rock ledges, cliffs and great fishing in its deep, cold water.

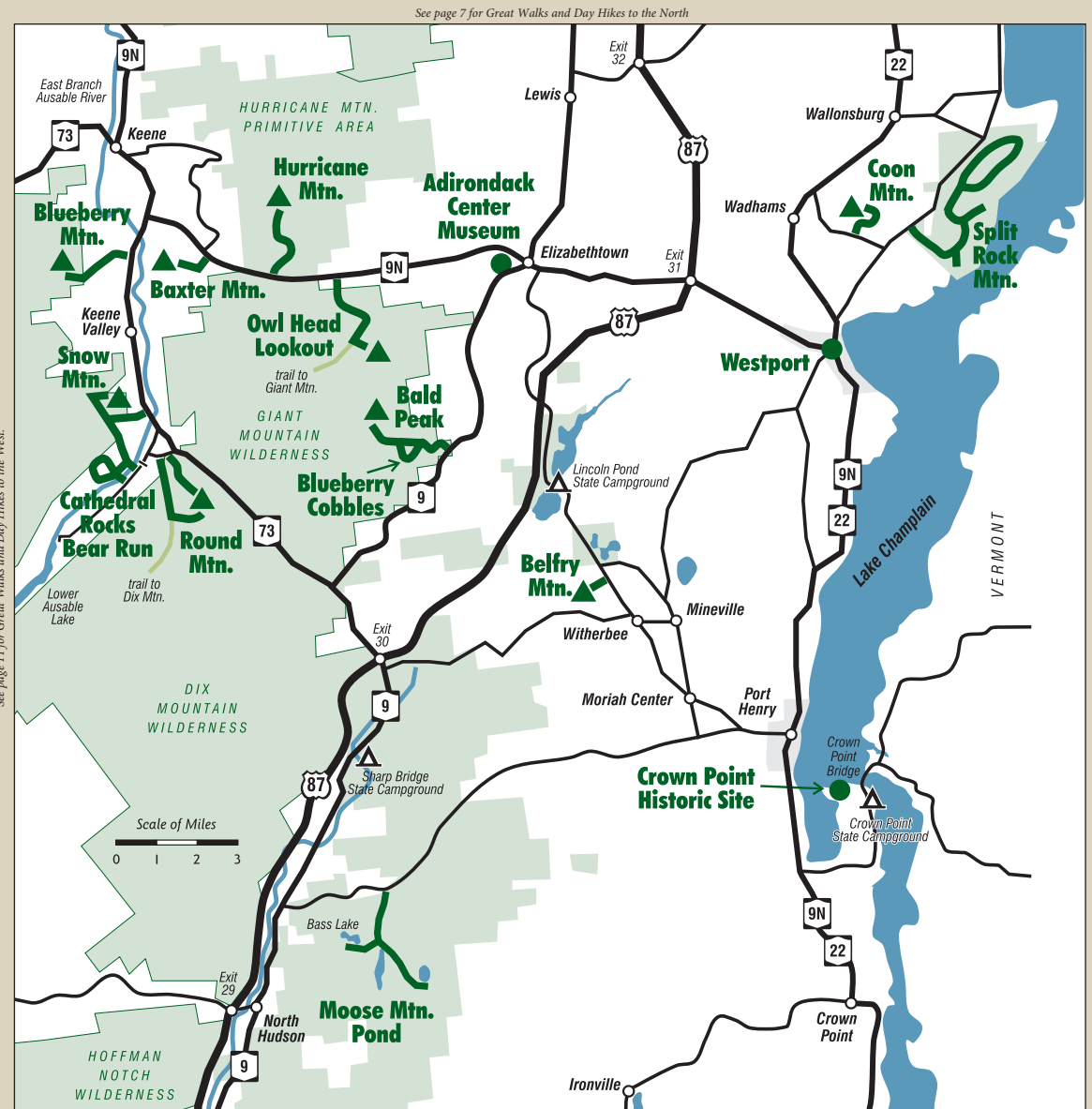
Historic Sites

Adirondack Center Museum (admission fee) This small museum in Elizabethtown has ten exhibit areas, a sound and light show, a stagecoach, an Adirondack lean-to, an iron bobsled used in the 1930s, a restored fire tower and a half-mile nature trail. The Colonial Garden features modern varieties of old-fashioned perennials and herbs. 518-873-6466.

Crown Point State Historic Site (2.8 miles, easy, fee at museum) Walk among the ruins of two revolutionary war era forts and enjoy great views of Lake Champlain and mountains. A trail map and guide is available from the museum. 518-597-3666.

Essex The whole village of Essex is on the National Register of Historic Places. Founded in 1765, it is one of the area's earliest European settlements and it contains one of the most intact collections of pre-Civil War village architecture in America. The walking tour guide includes a history of the area and brief details on 28 structures in the village and 24 outside the village. 518-963-7088.

Westport Located on one of Lake Champlain's largest bays, Westport was shaped by transportation, tourism and commerce. Its growth as a summer resort began in the 1880s with the arrival of the D&H railroad. The walking guide includes a history of the area and details about 41 structures. 518-962-8383.



RESOURCE GUIDE Trail Guides: ADK Guide to Adirondack Trails-High Peaks Region; ADK Guide to Adirondack Trails-Eastern Region; Discover the Northeastern Adirondacks, McMartin; Discover the Adirondack High Peaks, McMartin. Maps: National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map #742-Adirondack Park Lake Placid/High Peaks; High Peaks Region Map. See page 5 for more maps. See page 4 for Adirondack Region Information Centers and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation information.

Chestertown-Indian Lake-Minerva-Newcomb-North Creek-North River-Pottersville

Views

- Goodnow Mtn.** (3.8 miles RT, moderate) Enjoy excellent views of the High Peaks from the restored fire tower and partially open summit—over 20 major peaks are visible. A nature trail brochure, available at the trailhead, provides information at numbered stops along the trail and benches provide a comfortable place to rest.
- Vanderwhacker Mtn.** (5.8 miles RT, difficult) The steep climb to the summit is rewarded with great views of the High Peaks to the north. The fire tower is open to the public.
- Moxham Mtn.** (5 miles RT, moderate) The trail ascends 900 feet to the 2,361 foot summit. The summit provides scenic views to the south including Gore Mountain, Crane Mountain, the mountains of the northern Siamese Ponds Wilderness and the Hudson River.

Rivers/Lakes

- Palmer Pond** (2 miles RT, easy) The stream running beside the relatively level trail makes this an interesting walk into a beautiful pond.
- Boreas River-Hewitt Eddy** (2.4 miles RT, easy) This is a level walk along the turbulent Boreas River to a wide, quiet eddy and picnic spot.
- Puffer Pond** (3.8 mile RT, moderate, \$2 parking fee) The trail to beautiful Puffer Pond skirts a chain of beaver dams, marshes, and open flows along Carroll Brook. Trails lead in both directions on the pond's northern shore where there are two lean-tos.
- Blue Ledge** (5 miles RT, easy) Enjoy a rare riverside view of the turbulent Hudson River Gorge near a horseshoe bend where, on the opposite shore, an impressive 300-foot cliff drops precipitously to an unusually calm section of the river. The trail into the river is lined with wildflowers in the spring.
- Hewitt Pond-Stony Pond** (6 mile traverse, moderate) This trail traverses rough and interesting terrain as it winds through a deep col and beside several ponds.
- Hoffman Notch Traverse** (7.6 miles, difficult, 2 cars needed) An old wagon route leads through this remote and little-traveled mountain pass and dense forest. You'll pass huge trees, glacial erratics, 200 foot cliffs, fern meadows, cascading streams, several marshes and excellent views across the waters of Big Marsh.

Waterfalls

- Ok Slip Falls** (6 miles RT, easy) This trail gently drops and rises across most of its route. The trail drops just a little more steeply as it approaches the overlook which provides a scenic view of OK Slip Falls. The falls is considered one of the highest in the Adirondacks and its waters flow into the Hudson River near the center of the Hudson Gorge. The parking area for the trailhead is located on the south side of Route 28, 0.2 miles east of the trailhead on the northside of the road.

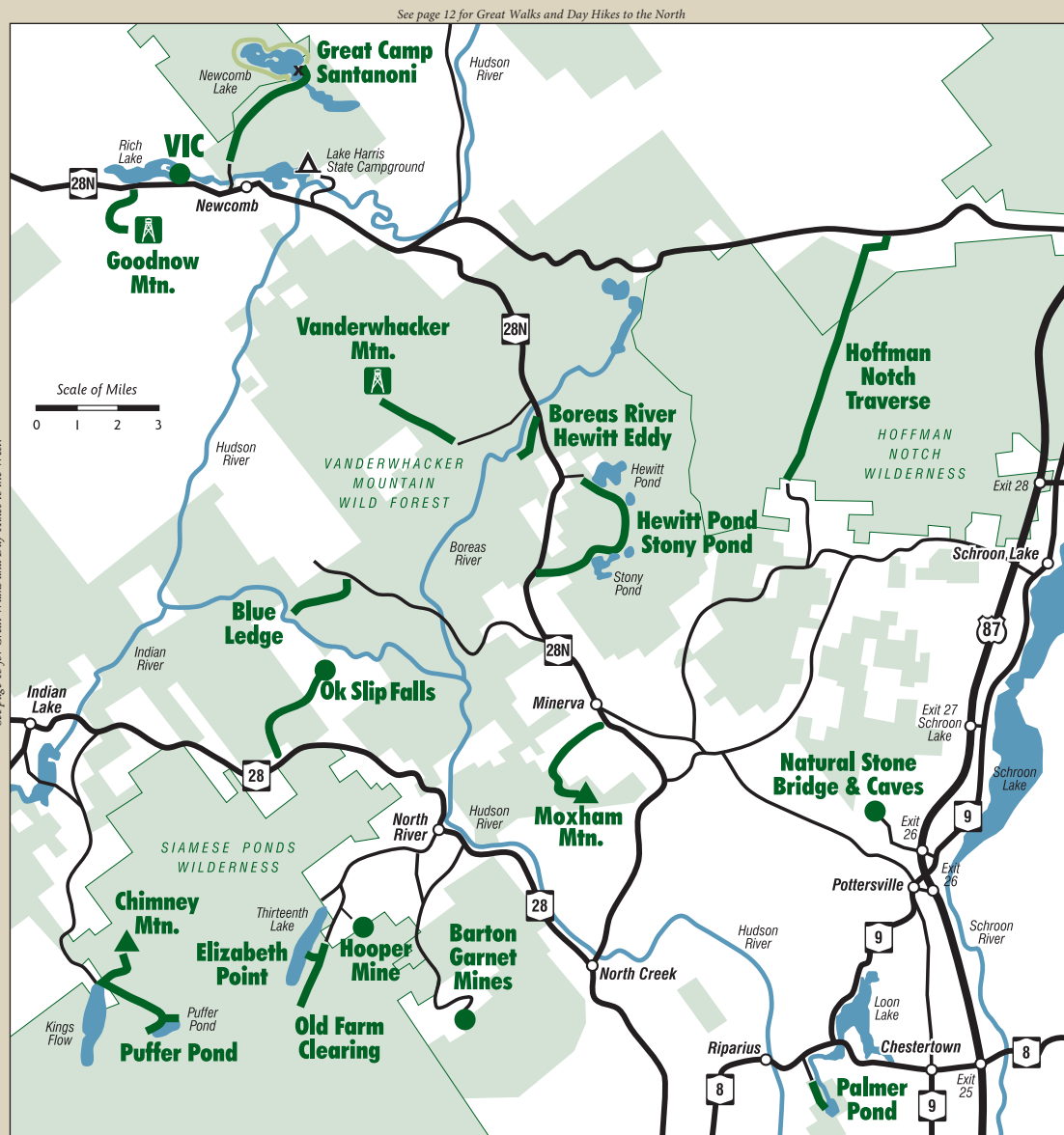
Nature Trails

- VIC - Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Center at Newcomb** (3 miles of marked nature trails) Three trails traverse a variety of environments. A boardwalk crosses a marsh area and you'll see old growth hemlocks, glacial erratics, a large beaver dam, a log dam and lake views. One of the trails is designed especially for people with disabilities; it includes a bridge and access to several lake views. Interpretive exhibits, slide presentations, visitor information, restrooms, special events and workshops are found in the main building. 518-582-2000. ♿

Geologic Formations/Historic Sites

- Barton Garnet Mines** (admission fee) Barton Garnet Mines is a major world supplier of garnets for technical industrial abrasives; garnets are renowned for their hardness and a sharp cutting edge. Guided mine tours in the summer. 518-251-2296.
- Hooper Mine** (1 mile RT, easy) Explore an abandoned open pit garnet mine and buildings. From the rim of the pit there are views of Thirteenth Lake and a distant active mine site. Check in Garnet Hill Lodge first and let them know you wish to walk across their property to the mine site. 518-251-2444.
- Natural Stone Bridge and Caves** (admission fee) Marked paths and trail signs guide you through a secluded glen beside the cascades of Trout Brook as you explore caves, grottos, waterfalls and glacial potholes. 518-494-2283.
- Old Farm Clearing-Elizabeth Point** (2.4 miles RT, easy) Follow a distinct old road to the site of an 1877 farmstead which is now a tree plantation of Norway Spruce. Foundations are still visible amidst the trees. A short side trail leads to Elizabeth Point on Thirteenth Lake where there is a nice picnic spot and beach.

- Chimney Mtn.** (2.8 miles RT, easy, \$2 parking fee) This is a very interesting hike to an unusual geological chimney formation and views over the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.
- Great Camp Santanoni** (9 miles RT, moderate) You can walk, bike or pay a small fee to ride on a horse-drawn wagon into the partially restored Great Camp Santanoni. The dirt road starts near the stone gatehouse and passes a restored farm site on the way. On the shore of Newcomb Lake are several buildings in addition to the main building with its extensive porches.



RESOURCE GUIDE Trail Guides: ADK Guide to Adirondack Trails—High Peaks Region; ADK Guide to Adirondack Trails—Central Region; Discover the Adirondack High Peaks, McMartin; Discover the Central Adirondacks, McMartin; Discover the South Central Adirondacks, McMartin. Maps: National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map #742—Adirondack Park Lake Placid/High Peaks; National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map #744—Adirondack Park Northville/Raquette Lake; Central Mountains Map; West-Central Wilderness Area Map. See page 5 for more maps. See page 4 for Adirondack Region Information Centers and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation information.

Bolton-Bolton Landing-Glens Falls-Hudson Falls-Lake George-Pilot Knob-Warrensburg-Whitehall

See page 18 for Great Walks and Day Hikes to the North

Views

Prospect Mtn. (3 miles RT, difficult) The steep trail is near the route of an old funicular railway—once the world's longest cable railway—which served the former summit hotel. A scenic toll highway also provides access to the extensive summit views, Memorial Day to Columbus Day. ♿

Lakeshore Trail (3.5 miles, easy) Old carriage trails—starting from points along Shelving Rock Road—lead to Shelving Rock Falls and the lakeshore. Use caution near the slippery waterfall area.

Hadley Mtn. (3.6 miles RT, moderate) An open summit and restored fire tower with one of the finest panoramas in the southern Adirondacks.

Crane Mtn. (3.8 miles RT, moderately difficult) Choose from several different trails to reach the summit and its spectacular views. The most adventurous route is via the shortest trail which uses ladders to ascend several cliff faces. Explore the long rocky summit ridge and the scenic pond near the summit.

Buck Mtn. (4.6 miles RT from north and 6.6 miles RT from south, difficult) Both trails to the top involve a steady climb to the top; however the southern approach offers more overlooks along the way. From the top you'll enjoy panoramic views of the southern Lake George basin.

Black Mtn. (5.6 mile loop, difficult) The loop trip includes a visit to Round and Lapland ponds and uncrowded views from the summit's south side. The summit has outstanding views in all directions as well as a ranger's cabin and several towers.

Sleeping Beauty Mtn. Loop (7.8 miles, moderate) Switchbacks ease the ascent up to the summit where you'll enjoy views from the open ledges. Swing by small Bumps Pond on the return and possibly take a detour to explore Fishbrook Pond.

Nature Trails

Charles Lathrop Pack Forest (1 mile, easy) The hard-surfaced trail and boardwalk—constructed to be accessible to people with disabilities—parallels a stream and wetland, and passes through a grove of old-growth hemlock trees. A trail guide is available at the trailhead. ♿

Hudson River Corridor Nature Trail (1.4 miles, easy) The marked nature trail parallels the Hudson River and features a canoe access point.

Trails on the eastern shore of Lake George

Over 60 miles of trails provide for walks of various durations and levels of difficulty. Many routes, such as the trail to Sleeping Beauty Mountain and the Lakeshore Trail described above, are part of an old carriage road network which was once part of the Knapp Estate. Today these well-graded trails serve as hiking, mountain biking, winter recreation and horse trails. A good map is essential for finding your way through the complex trail system.

Hudson River Recreation Area (easy to moderate) Short nature trails lead to scenic waterfalls and streams, and through peaceful woodland forests. A longer walk follows the shore of the Hudson River. The area also has several canoe access sites.

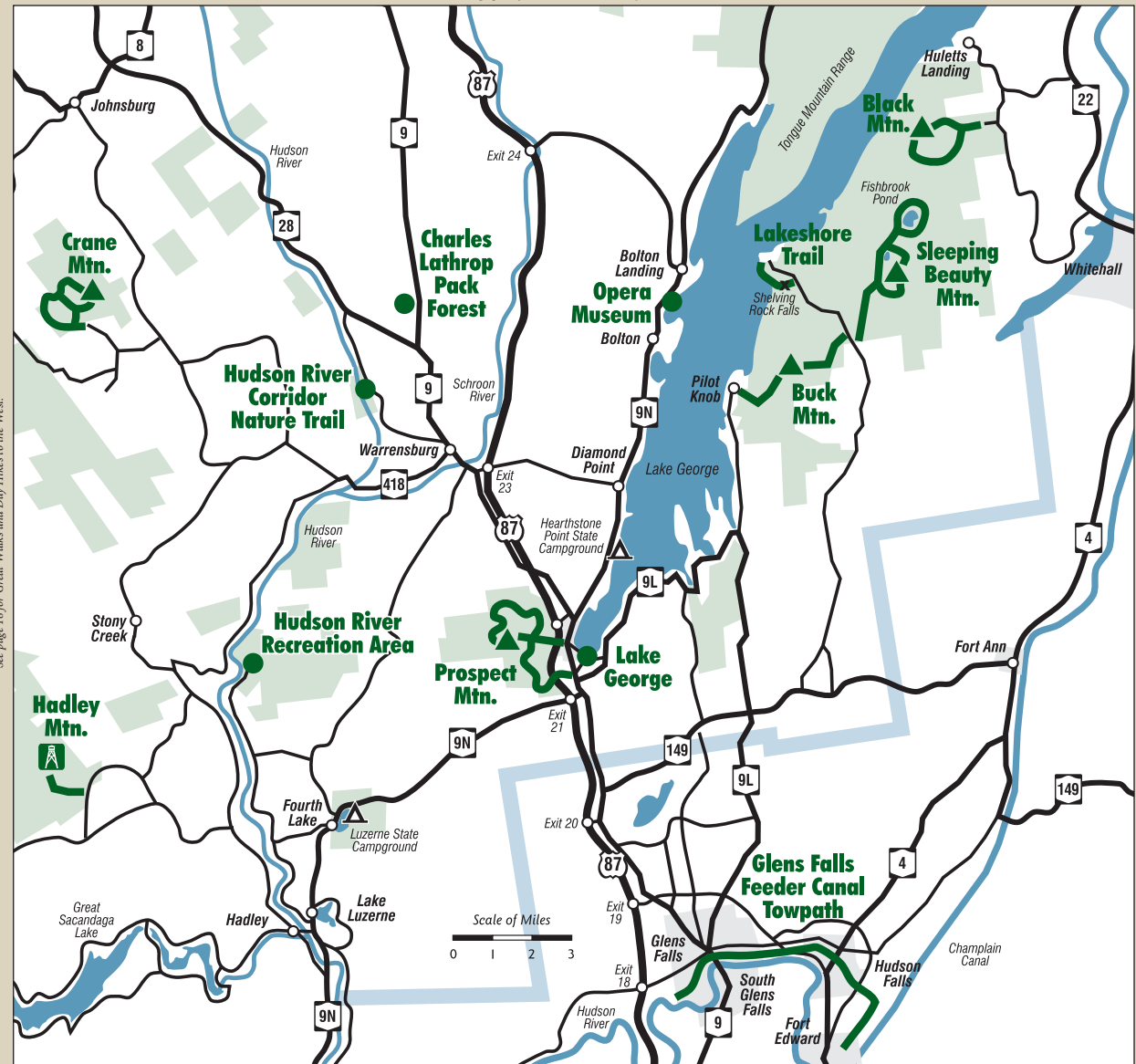
Historic Sites

Opera Museum (admission fee to museum) Stroll around the well-maintained grounds of the Marcella Sembrich opera studio-museum. Enjoy spectacular views of the lake from its wooded promontory on Lake George. 518-644-9839. ♿

Colonial Wars of Lake George (3.3 miles RT, easy) This self-guided walking tour takes approximately two hours to complete and includes 20 points of interest and monuments in the Village of Lake George. A trail guide is available from the Lake George Chamber of Commerce, 518-668-5755.

Glens Falls Feeder Canal Towpath (7 miles, easy) Walk or bike on the towpath of a historic canal. Parts of the route are accessible to people with disabilities. A map and guide is available from the Glens Falls Feeder Canal Alliance, 518-792-5363. ♿

Lake George Area Historical Sites and Markers Visit over 30 French and Indian War-era sites and historical markers in the immediate village area including Fort William Henry (518-668-5471). Free maps are available from the Lake George Chamber of Commerce, 518-668-5755.



See page 18 for Great Walks and Day Hikes to the West.

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