White Mountains Hut to Hut

October 03-October 09, 2020

Have you ever been enjoying views of the changing aspens on a glorious Colorado Fall day only to have some arrogant New England native say something like, "Eh. No big deal."? You figure he's probably a Patriots fan and best ignored and shunned, but maybe somewhere - deep inside - you wonder why he's so cocky.

Here's your chance to find out! Come enjoy a week of hut to hut hiking in New Hampshire's White Mountains during peak Fall foliage season. This seven day, six night trip will consist of daytime hiking along the famed Appalachian Trail and evening lodging in the Appalachian Mountain Club's backcountry hut system.
Trip Overview

Day 1  Travel by bus from Boston to the AMC’s Pinkham Notch Basecamp at the foot of Mt. Washington.

Day 2  Take shuttle from Pinkham to the Old Bridle Path Trailhead. Hike 3 miles and 2500’ to Greenleaf hut, perched at treeline.

Day 3  Hike over Mt. Lafayette and the Franconia Ridge to Galehead hut, spending much of the morning above treeline. With 7 miles and 3,200’, this may be our most strenuous day.

Day 4  Begin the day with a strenuous climb up South Twin Mountain before descending back below treeline into the forests and waterfalls of Zealand hut. 6.3 miles and 2,000’

Day 5  Move through our lowest elevation terrain before climbing to an airy traverse along the Webster Cliffs before arriving at Mizpah Hut.

Day 6  Ascend from Mizpah to the summit of Mt. Washington, New Hampshire’s high point. Hope for a clear day, as 9 miles of this 12+ mile day will be above treeline.
Major Sites

AMC huts
The Appalachian Mountain Club’s hut system has been providing backcountry hospitality for over 100 years.

Appalachian Trail
Most of our hiking will be along the Appalachian Trail, a footpath that stretches over 2,000 miles from Georgia to Maine.

Franconia Ridge
One of the two great ridge traverses in the White Mountains, the Franconia Ridge takes us over Mt. Lafayette and Mt. Garfield.

Mt. Washington
New Hampshire’s state highpoint at 6,288’, Mt. Washington will be the highlight of our final day. Some of Colorado Springs’ earliest citizens were New England transplants, and Mt. Washington’s cog railway and auto road may have provided inspiration for those on Pikes Peak. The summit is home to a weather observatory that recorded a record high wind of 231 mph.
Detailed Itinerary

Day 1
October 3
Travel from Denver to Boston, Logan airport, then pick up the Concord Coach bus to Pinkham Notch.

Meals Included: None
Lodging: Bunkhouse at Pinkham Notch

Day 2
October 04
Take the AMC shuttle to the trailhead at The Old Bridle Path. Follow the Old Bridle Path for 3 miles and 2500’ to reach Greenleaf Hut. Hike through old growth forest to the hut at treeline.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner
Lodging: Greenleaf Hut
**Day 3**  
**October 05**

Begin the day with a climb up Mt. Lafayette (5,249) where we join the Appalachian Trail for our traverse of the Franconia Ridge. Continue over Mt. Garfield and surprisingly difficult terrain to the Galehead Hut, the system’s most remote.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Lodging: Galehead Hut

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**Day 4**  
**October 06**

After a strenuous morning climb of South Twin, we begin our descent towards Zealand Hut. We’ll transition and above treeline views to lakes, streams and waterfalls.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Lodging: Zealand Hut

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Travel with the Colorado Mountain Club  
www.cmc.org/adventuretravel
Day 5  
October 07
Depart Zealand, passing ponds and marshes before a brief return to civilization to cross NH Rt. 302. Once across the highway, we climb steadily towards and airy walk along the Webster Cliffs to reach Mizpah Hut, at the beginning of the Presidential Traverse, New Hampshire’s most famous ridge walk.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Lodging: Mizpah Hut

Day 6  
October 08
Eat a good breakfast before beginning our longest hiking day. We’ll cover 12 miles and 2,500 rugged feet of elevation gain, traversing over the summit of Mt. Washington and returning to Pinkham Notch via the Lion’s Head Trail. At least nine of our twelve miles will be above treeline, so we’ll look for a good weather day and only go over Washington if weather permits. Two lower elevation returns to Pinkham will be considered if the weather is bad.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner  
Lodging: Pinkham Notch

Mt. Washington summit with Cog railway
Day 7  
October 09

Depart Pinkham Notch after breakfast for a return bus trip to Logan airport and our flights home

Meals Included: Breakfast  
Lodging: N/A
What’s Included

- 6 nights coed bunkhouse style lodging
- Breakfasts and dinners during the trip
- Roundtrip transportation via bus from Logan airport to Pinkham Notch
- Shuttle from Pinkham Notch to Trailhead
- Lunches and snacks throughout the trip
- Transportation from Denver to and from Boston Logan Airport
- Meals on travel days
- Personal Items (souvenirs, etc.)
- Tips

What’s NOT Included

- Lunches and snacks throughout the trip
- Transportation from Denver to and from Boston Logan Airport
- Meals on travel days
- Personal Items (souvenirs, etc.)
- Tips

Trip Cost and Payment Information

CMC Members: $999.00
Non Member: $1,200.00

Minimum Deposit: $ 500 upon registration
Final Payment Due By: July 24, 2020

Maximum # Participants: 7
Minimum # Participants: 11

CMC Deposit and Cancellation Policy:

1. Non-refundable Deposit: A non-refundable deposit is required to register for all trips.
2. All requests for cancellation must be submitted in writing to the trip leader.
3. Cancellations 90 or more prior to departure: All money paid in will be refunded less the non-refundable deposit.
4. Cancellation on Day 30 or more prior to departure:
   a. If a qualified, wait-listed, person is available to take a vacated slot and pays all money due, all payments made by the canceling party will be refunded less the nonrefundable deposit.
   b. If no one is available to take a vacated slot, 50% of paid money will be refunded, less the nonrefundable deposit.
5. Cancellation on Day 29 or fewer days prior to departure: No refund will be made.

The Colorado Mountain Club will make every effort to carry out this trip. However, if the trip is canceled by the CMC, all money collected from participants, including any “non-refundable deposit” shall be returned. Participant will not be reimbursed for any other purchase made for the trip or other expenses that the participant may have paid in association with this trip, which includes equipment purchase, airline cancellation penalties or medical inoculations.

Travel Information

Participants need to arrive in Boston no later than 2:00 PM, Saturday October 03, 2020
Departures from Boston should be planned after 2:00 PM, Friday October 9, 2020

Trip Leader

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