



Northern Forest Canoe Trail Androscoggin River Adventure *Three-Day Itinerary*



Trip Summary

Maps and Guidebooks

- [NFCT Map 7: Great North Woods](#)
- [NFCT Guidebook](#)
- [AMC River Guide: New Hampshire/Vermont](#)
- [Google Maps directions](#)

Activities

- Hike to [Table Rock](#) and local [waterfalls](#)
- Paddle the Androscoggin River's Class I, II and III rapids
- Visit [shops and heritage sites](#)

Places to Stay

- [150 MAIN STREET LODGING ON THE ANDROSCOGGIN](#)
- [Errol Motel](#)
- [Dubee Our Guest B&B](#)
- [Great Northern Moose Lodge](#)
- [Log Haven Campground](#)
- [Mollidgewock State Park](#)

Where to Eat

- [Log Haven Restaurant](#)
- [Balsams Grand Resort Hotel](#)
- [Northland Dairy Bar](#)
- [Bull Moose Restaurant and Lounge](#)
- [Ursula's Snack Shack](#)

Outfitters and Guides

- [L.L. Cote](#)
- [Northern Waters Outfitters](#)
- [North Woods Rafting](#)
- [Outdoor ESCAPES New Hampshire](#)

Local Events

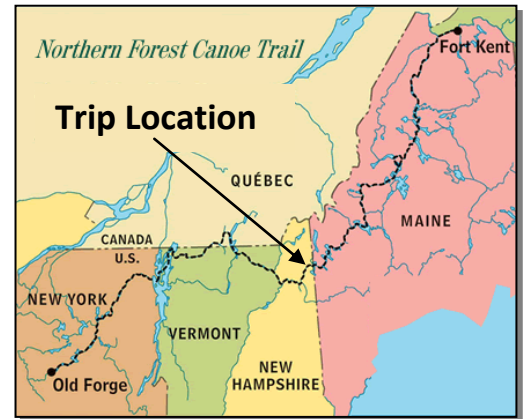
- [NFCT Events Calendar](#)

NFCT Package Specials

- [Androscoggin River Rafting Package](#)
- [Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge Package](#)

A *Grand Adventure* awaits you on the Northern Forest Canoe Trail in **Errol, New Hampshire**.

Come romp in some of the region's finest whitewater, hike to spectacular vistas and observe moose and bald eagles in their natural habitat. This 3-day itinerary highlights some of the best lodging, dining and recreating in the area.



Day 1: Dixville Notch Hike

Begin your adventure with a hike to [Table Rock](#) in Dixville Notch and enjoy views of the surrounding cliffs and the historic Balsam's Grand Resort Hotel. Table Rock is a narrow granite fin measuring 10 feet across in places and dropping 700 feet to either side. Peregrine Falcons make their nests in these cliffs and are capable of diving into the canyon at over 200 miles per hour while hunting for prey. The trail to Table Rock crosses the 160-mile [Cohos Trail](#) which travels from the Presidential Range of the White Mountains to Canada.

While you are in Dixville Notch, be sure to visit the local [waterfalls](#) and the [Balsams Grand Resort Hotel](#). The hotel was built in 1866 in an era when visitors traveled to the region by train and horseback to enjoy its natural splendor in luxury. Residents of Dixville Notch still vote in the Balsams' Ballot Room; the first site in the nation to report primary voting results in Presidential Elections. You can learn more about the region's natural and cultural history in the [NFCT Guidebook](#).



The Balsams offers a buffet luncheon in their award-winning dining room or thick burgers and fresh salads at their Tavern. You can also stop on your way back to Errol, and enjoy a homemade sandwich or seafood special at the [Log Haven Restaurant](#). The town of Colebrook is west of Dixville Notch along Rte. 26, a prime moose sighting stretch, and has several great [shops and restaurants](#).



There is a great range of lodging in the area from the luxury accommodations at the Balsams to campgrounds. For those looking for a comfortable, well-kept room consider [150 MAIN STREET LODGING ON THE ANDROSCOGGIN](#). This lovely guesthouse offers newly renovated and according to a past guest, “perfectly appointed” rooms, common areas and a fully equipped kitchen.

For dinner, drive past the broad waters of Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge for a prime rib steak at the [Bull Moose Restaurant and Lounge](#).

Day 2: Whitewater on the Androscoggin

There are several ways to access the area’s Class I-III whitewater. If you are inexperienced with whitewater paddling, consider hiring a local guide. Whitewater rafting is a popular activity among visitors to the area and no guide company is better equipped to take you on a journey down the Androscoggin than [North Woods Rafting](#), the longest operating rafting company in New Hampshire. Their guides will arrange shuttles, teach you basic paddling technique and oversee your safety on your trip. You will even be treated to a light picnic lunch on the riverside topped off by their famous “Wicked Good Cookies.”

If you’d prefer whitewater kayaking or canoeing, you can sign up for a clinic with the seasoned guides at [Northern Waters Outfitters](#). After an on-land introduction to paddling techniques, safety guidelines and your gear, you will be able to test your skills on the moving currents. The big water at the dam in Errol is a favorite location for expert paddlers practicing their whitewater acrobatics.



If you have experience paddling Class I and II rapids (the Class III rapids just below the dam in Errol can be easily avoided by putting in downstream) and want to rent a boat and paddle the Androscoggin on your own, head to [L.L. Cote](#). This well-known outfitter is an excellent source for outdoor recreation supplies, picnic items and gifts. They also carry the [NFCT Map 7: Great North Woods](#). Looking for souvenirs? Stop by [Knot Just Logs](#), which sells gifts and local products.

In Errol, you can access the Androscoggin at the Northern Forest Canoe Trail Kiosk on Bragg’s Bay and enjoy a beautiful 8.5-mile stretch of quick water and Class I rapids to the Seven Islands Bridge. This section of the River passes through the 13 Mile Wilderness area which is protected through a Forest Legacy conservation easement. If there are anglers in your group, bring along a rod or two and take advantage of the Androscoggin’s prime Rainbow and Brown Trout fishing. The frothing currents oxygenate the water creating ideal feeding grounds for fish.

Return to Errol for dinner and lodging or stay at a riverside campsite at the [Mollidgewock State Park](#) campground (reservations required).



Day 3: Pontook Reservoir

If you are comfortable navigating Class II rapids return to the river the next morning and paddle 8.6 miles downstream to the Pontook Dam. Otherwise, drive your boat to the Pontook Reservoir to look for moose, Osprey and bald eagles.

Within a 30 minute drive of Pontook, you can view the 170-foot steel [Nansen Ski Jump](#) where ski jumpers once qualified for Olympic Trials. You can also visit Berlin’s [Northern Forest Heritage Park](#), a rebuilt circa-1900 logging camp.

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