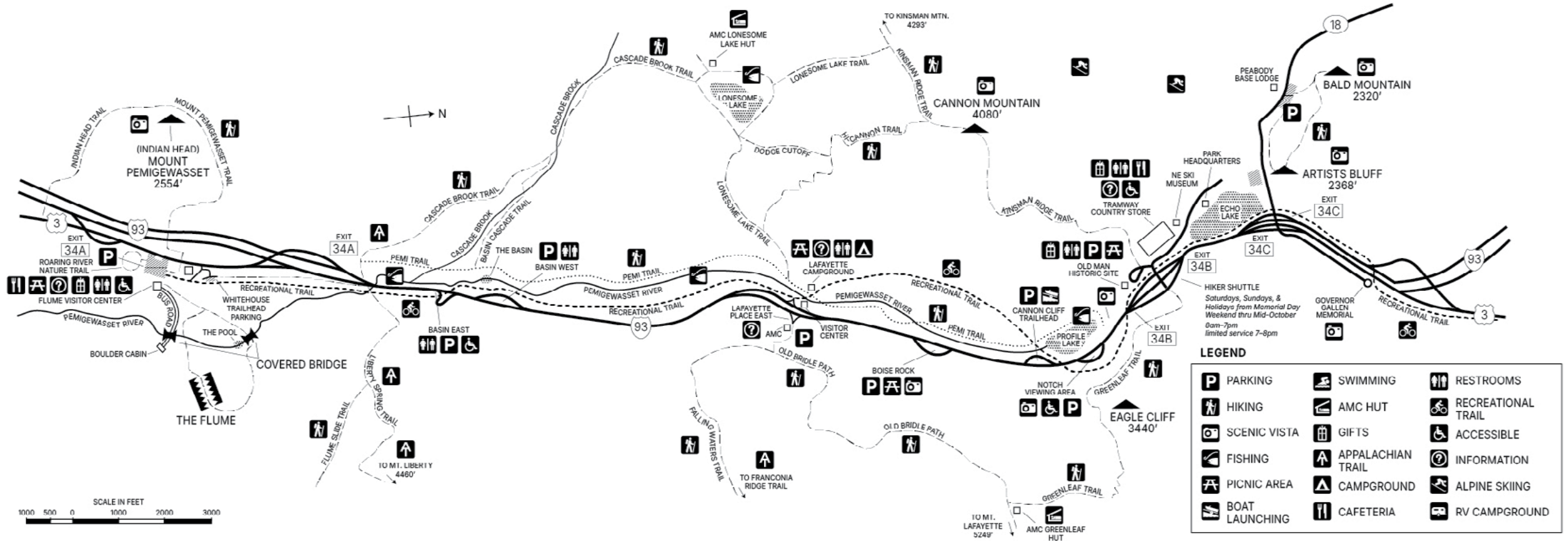


FRANCONIA NOTCH STATE PARK



Welcome to Franconia Notch State Park, located in the heart of the popular White Mountain National Forest. Franconia Notch is a spectacular mountain pass traversed by a unique interstate parkway which extends from the Flume Gorge at the south end to Echo Lake Beach to the north. For eight miles, Interstate 93 is located between the high peaks of the Kinsman and Franconia mountain ranges. Traveling through the Notch, use this handy map to find the many special

features found along one of America's truly outstanding parkways. Franconia Notch was the home of the famous Old Man of the Mountain, known as the "Great Stone Face" immortalized by Nathaniel Hawthorne and Daniel Webster. While you are here, stop at the Flume Visitor Center and gift shop, walk through the renowned Flume, visit the Old Man of the Mountain Memorial and Profiler Plaza and visit the New England Ski Museum.

Enjoy a swim at Echo Lake Beach or rent a kayak. Net a trout while fly-fishing at Profile Lake. Watch for rock climbers and peregrine falcons on Cannon Cliffs, or hike on the Appalachian Trail. Bring the family, stay awhile and enjoy Franconia Notch State Park.

Look on the back page for information about special points of interest in the park.

For further information, write or call:

Franconia Notch State Park
260 Tramway Drive
Franconia, NH 03850
(603) 823-8800



NHSTATEPARKS.ORG

The Flume

Discovered in 1808, the Flume is a natural gorge extending 800 feet at the base of Mt. Liberty. The walls of Conway granite rise perpendicularly to a height of 70 to 90 feet and are from 12 to 20 feet apart. Marked walking trails, with signs explaining natural features, lead to other points of interest, including the Pool and Sentinel Pine Bridge.



A trip into the Flume begins and ends at the Gilman Visitor Center. Framed by a spectacular vista of Mt. Liberty and Mt. Flume, the Visitor Center houses the Flume ticket office, information center, cafeteria, gift shop and a small auditorium where Notch interpretive programs are held on a regular basis.

The Basin

At the base of the beautiful waterfall at this site is a granite pothole 20 feet in diameter. It is believed to have been eroded 25,000 years ago while the North American ice sheet was melting.



The Basin has been smoothed by small stones and sand, whirled around by the Pemigewasset River. Below the Basin is a water-eroded rock formation called the Old Man's Foot.

Lafayette Place

The camping and hiking hub of the Notch is centrally located in the park at Lafayette Place. Lafayette Campground provides 97 wooded tent sites. A lodge houses a registration desk and showers, and offers a small selection of camping supplies. Those interested in the natural or cultural history of Franconia Notch and hiking



safety will want to stop at the Visitor Center at Lafayette Place. Regularly scheduled interpretive programs are held at the campground throughout the summer.

Boise Rock

Thomas Boise, a teamster from Woodstock, New Hampshire, sought shelter under this large boulder when a blizzard in the early 1800's blocked passage for him and his horse on the Notch road. Killing his horse, Boise skinned it and wrapped himself in its hide. Searchers found him under the rock the next day and had to cut away the frozen hide which had saved his life. Near the boulder is a cool spring, picnic tables, and an exceptional view of Cannon Cliffs.

Profile Lake

This small, clear body of water is the headwaters of the Pemigewasset River. Located directly below where the Old Man of the Mountain once sat, it is often called the "Old Man's Washbowl." The lake is well-known for its brook trout and is open to fly-fishing only.

Old Man of the Mountain Historic Site (1805 - 2003)

The Old Man of the Mountain, also known as the Great Stone Face, was comprised of five large blocks of granite on Cannon Mountain which formed the profile of a man's face when viewed from the north. The profile was forty feet high, twenty five feet wide and was suspended 1200 feet above Profile Lake on Cannon cliff.

Overnight between May 2 and the morning of May 3, 2003 the Old Man of the Mountain collapsed.

Following the collapse, the Old Man of the Mountain Legacy Fund was created and began raising funds to build the Old Man of the Mountain Memorial and Profiler Plaza.



The Old Man of the Mountain Profiler Plaza was dedicated in June 2011 on the shore of Profile Lake.

The Plaza includes 1,000 paver stones engraved with the names and memories of friends of the Old Man and Franconia Notch, along with seven "profilers," which allow visitors to again see the famous Profile on the mountain.

Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway & Ski Area

Please Note: Tramway is Not in Service

Cannon Mountain was the site of the first passenger aerial tramway in North America, which began operation in 1938. The tramway system was comprised of two, twenty-five passenger cable cars that carried over six

million people to the 4,100 foot summit of Cannon Mountain. The original tramway was replaced in 1980 with the second-generation system which had two larger, 80-passenger cars that would reach the summit in 8 minutes. On clear days, it is possible to see four states plus Canada by following a short walking path to the summit observation tower.

In the winter, Cannon Mountain is one of the largest ski areas in New Hampshire with nearly 100 trails between two mountains and has the highest ski area summit in the state at 4080 feet. The New England Ski Museum,



located at the base of the Tramway, offers free admission and is open Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays, 11am-4pm from Memorial Day through the first week of April. Hours are subject to change, be sure to check <https://skimuseum.org/franconia-branch/>.

Echo Lake

Beautiful Echo Lake, at an elevation of 1,931 feet, offers views of Mt. Lafayette and Cannon Mountain. Visitors can also enjoy swimming, fishing, and boating. The waters of Echo Lake flow westerly toward the Connecticut River.

Governor Gallen Memorial

This is an excellent location for scenic photo opportunities. Sunset Bridge is a short walk from the parking area. Visitors will be treated to spectacular views of Sugar Hill and Mt. Lafayette.