



# Adirondack Vacation Seasonal Attractions Guide *Summer 2026 Edition*



Lake Everest at Wilmington Town Beach

## Adirondack Vacation

This is your go-to resource for the latest news, exciting events, and must-know highlights in the beautiful Lake Placid, Wilmington, and Jay area of the High Peaks. Whether you're planning hikes, festivals, cozy getaways, or adventures, you'll find everything you need here to make the most of your time in this stunning region—and to plan the perfect stay at our home.



It's a perfect Summer in the Adirondacks, with so many incredible things to do and see! [Lake Everest](#) at Wilmington Town Beach, on Bowman Lane off Rte 86, is a beautiful, swimmable beach with a kayak launch, playground, BBQ grills, pavilion and short walking path. It's dog friendly at the grassy end and a fantastic place to take the whole family for an afternoon of fun!

For a nearby swimming hole, check out the historic [Jay Covered Bridge](#). [Taylor Pond](#) is a serene spot with a beach for fishing, paddling and swimming (no lifeguards).

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## ACTIVITIES IN WILMINGTON



Wilmington Beach



Hardy Bike Trails



Santa's Workshop

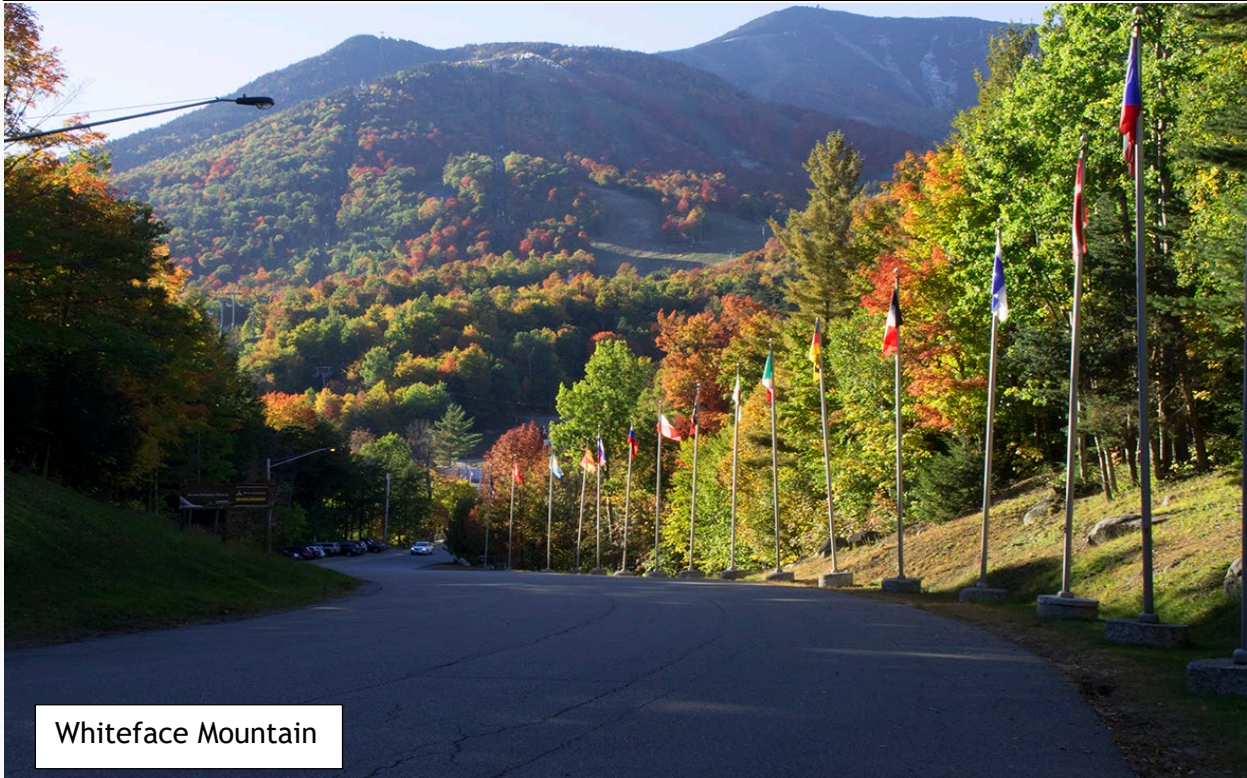
## Wilmington & Jay Activities

Hardy Bike Trails, are 11 miles in length with views of Whiteface Mountain. To get there from Route 86 heading towards Jay, Hardy Rd is on the right. Stay on Hardy for 2.2 miles to the Wilmington Wild Forest, access the Beaver Brook Tract Trail System (AKA Hardy Road Trails) on your left. These trails are also used for hiking.

If you enjoy fishing, fly fishing is available up and down the Ausable River (catch and release). You can book a guided trip at Wiley's Flies in Ray Brook. The Hungry Trout Fly Shop in Wilmington sells gear such as flies, tackle, rods, waders, and boots.

Near the Saranac Hospital, the Lake Colby fish population includes land-locked Salmon.

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## Wilmington & Jay Activities (cont.)

Take the gondola ride to the top of the mountain at [Whiteface Mountain Ski Resort](#) and enjoy breathtaking views. The adventurous can also enjoy the zip line! Play disc golf at the bottom of the mountain or hike on one of the many trails.

Drive up [Whiteface Memorial Highway](#) to Whiteface Mountain for spectacular 360 degree vistas and then hike up the remaining half mile to the observation deck or take the mountain elevator. There is a gift store and a food truck. Opens Mid-May and closes in Mid-October.

View the impressive waterfalls and rock formations at [High Falls Gorge](#) along a scenic walkway. Open May 02 to October 25.

[Santa's Workshop](#), on the way to the Whiteface Memorial Highway, is open Thursdays and Saturdays in July and August and select Saturdays in September and October. It has amusement rides, shows, reindeer, toys and food. And best of all, get photos with your kids and Santa!

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## Lake Placid Activities

Skate or take in exciting sporting events at the [Lake Placid Olympic Center](#). The Lake Placid Figure Skating Championships will be held June 25 to June 27 and the Lake Placid Ice Dance Championships will be held July 26 to July 30.

The [Olympic Ski Jumps](#) on Cascade Rd is also worth a visit. Take the gondola and/or elevator to the top and imagine yourself skiing from that vertical drop! And if that's not enough, try the [Skyflyer Zipline](#). The view of the surrounding Adirondack Mountains is incredible!

The [Lake Placid Horse Show](#) is June 23 to June 28 and the I Love New York Horse Show is June 30 to July 5. Bruce Springsteen's daughter used to compete in these competitions.

Area golf courses include Lake Placid Links, Whiteface Golf Course, [Craig Wood](#) (public). And for mini golfing fun, head to [Boots and Birdies!](#)

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## Lake Placid Activities (cont.)

Stroll Main Street in downtown Lake Placid for shopping and dining. There are many fantastic waterfront restaurants and unique specialty shops to enjoy. Is an afternoon of pampering more your style? Relax and rejuvenate at the [Mirror Lake Inn Spa](#).

Picturesque Mirror Lake at one end of Main Street is a perfect place to swim, kayak and stand-up paddle board. Rentals available at EMS. Mirror Lake is also dog friendly at one end.

And for that occasional rainy day?

No resort town would be complete without a classic movie theatre! Check out the Palace Theater on Main Street for the latest movies in this historic building.

With bowling and arcade games, [Big Z's Hangout](#) is fun for the whole family!

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## Lake Placid Activities (cont.)

Visit [Mount Van Hoevenberg](#) for its Cliffside Coaster, rock climbing wall, Bobsled Experience and Legacy Tour. Or go mountain biking (bikes available for rent) or hike the trails. Run/Bike competitions every Thursday beginning June 6 to August 6.

The [Adirondack Rail Trail](#) is a scenic 34-mile multi-use recreation path that winds through Lake Placid, Ray Brook, Saranac Lake, Lake Clear, and Tupper Lake. Walk or cycle on this dog friendly multi-use trail. The trail offers year-round outdoor adventure (including Nordic skiing and snowmobiling in Winter). Bike and Class 1 e-bike rentals are available from local businesses such as [Placid Planet](#), [High Peaks Cyclery](#), and Bike Lake Placid. Enjoy the adventure!

The [Lake Placid Marathon](#), half marathon, and 10K are scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Take a [hike on low-elevation trails](#) or go on [waterfall hikes](#) near Lake Placid.

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### Dining

There's plenty of great dining in Wilmington, Jay and Lake Placid!

In Wilmington, check out the [Hungry Trout](#), [Fratelli's](#), and the [Twisted Raven](#). And stop by the [Little Supermarket Deli](#) to pick up sandwiches for your day of adventure!

We recommend the [ADK Coffee Company](#) in Upper Jay for breakfast and lunch and the [Ice Jam Inn Restaurant](#) for dinner. Also great for lunch and dinner is the farm-to-table [Forty-Six](#) and the [AuSable Inn Restaurant](#), famous for their Hungarian Mushroom Soup.

In Lake Placid, [The Cottage at Mirror Lake](#) is a great spot for food and views and [Simply Gourmet](#) is fantastic for lunch, both on-premises or to-go!

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## More Ideas!

Not far is incredible [Ausable Chasm](#), open for rafting, rappelling, rock climbing, hiking and zip-lining. The chasm is vast and deep with a beautiful, well-maintained path surrounding it. Open all year - hours vary depending on the season.

The [Wild Center](#) in Tupper Lake is fun for all ages! It features a Wild Walk, a trail of bridges through the Adirondack forest tree tops. There is also a museum with loads of fascinating exhibits, lectures, and walking trails. Catch a glimpse of wildlife on a Raquette River canoe trip with a naturalist guide.

There are tons to do at [Paul Smith's Visitor Interpretive Center](#) ("the VIC")! Enjoy workshops, hiking trails and guided nature walks such as "Wild Edibles Walk," "Mushroom Foray," and "Intro to Bats." The Center also has a butterfly house, canoeing, music and yoga (check website for upcoming events).

Interested in horsemanship? Ride on over to the [Rookery Ranch](#) for:

- Private horsemanship lessons
- Semi-private horsemanship lessons
- Riding skills
- Hand-lead serenity rides
- Pony parties and special events

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## Luxurious Stay in the ADKs

We truly welcoming guests to our corner of the Adirondacks—and we're always especially happy to see familiar faces return!

If you'd like our other seasonal guides (full of events, activities, and tips for whatever time of year you're planning to visit), just let us know—we'd be happy to send them your way. We can also share more about our beautiful vacation rental homes if you or anyone you know is thinking about another getaway.

Wishing you the most wonderful, memorable visit filled with fresh air, mountain views, and all the special moments the High Peaks have to offer.

Warmest regards & see you soon!

Your friends at Adirondack Vacation

