

Guided Hikes, Trips & Tours

Times given are planned departure from the parking lot.

THURSDAY

- A 12:00 Hills & Hedgerows Hike: 6 miles.** Through forests, easy stream crossings, short climbs, views, on CNY Chapter Link Trail southward.
- B 12:00 Pond Hopper Hike: 4.5 miles.** Mostly downhill through State Forest, past pond and many streams, old cemetery and foundations, with views, on Map O-1, NCT/FLT Onondaga Trail.
- C 1:00 Erie Canal Odyssey Driving Tour:** Along remnants of old Erie Canal, with brief walks at wayside parks to see aqueducts, bridges, a canal town, and a working lock, with history nut as your guide.
- D 12:30 You & UTM/GPS Hike: 4 miles.** Easy walk, slowly through Tioughnioga Wildlife Management Area (spelling test follows) on flagged NCT/FLT route to demonstrate use of UTM with GPS or compass. Bring your GPS or especially a compass.
- E 1:00 Swamp Tromp Hike: 2 miles.** Easy walk on DRY path through swamp flora, guided on loop off NCT railbed walk by loop's designer, a state forester. Discussion of trail design for users with disabilities.

FRIDAY

- F 8:30 Gateway to the Adirondacks Sampler Hike: 4+ miles.** 3 hour round trip drive to Black River Canal Trail. Walk past historic lock, museum with replica canal boat, sometimes through State Park gorge. Easy, level. This is NCT approach to the Adirondacks.
- G 9:00 Paddle, Pack, and Ponds Canoe Trip & Hike:** Easy AM paddle in glacial kettle hole pond between two steep ridges, followed after lunch by hike **2.4 miles** Up 650 ft. past waterfalls on Onondaga Trail to spectacular overlook of pond below. May opt to canoe only, with your own car. Bring your canoe, or if unavailable, we can borrow a few with advance notice.
- H 9:00 Finger Lakes Waterfalls Driving Tour:** All day. In college van to several famous waterfalls near Ithaca, with short walks to each, some level, some climbing. Each is a photographer's mecca, and one, Lick Brook, is on the trail. Additional fee.
- I 9:30 Over the Hill Hike: 7+ miles.** Moderate to strenuous, with climbs to wonderful overlook on Onondaga Trail that takes the NCT from the main FLT toward the CNY Chapter.
- J 9:30 Hillside Railroad & Waterfall Hike: 7 miles.** Walk on NCT directly from Cazenovia along forested abandoned Lehigh Valley RR bed, along scenic Chittenango Creek, passing several amazing CNY Chapter construction projects. Mostly level, ends at breathtaking Chittenango Falls State Park.
- K 9:30 Wiltsey Glen Hike: 7 miles.** On the main FLT/NCT, only moderately hilly for this area. All forested, long descent through Wiltsey Glen's dark gully, plus several handsome hemlock-shrouded streams with hopping rocks. Ends at junction with the Onondaga Trail.
- L 9:45 Central NY History Driving Tour:** All day. Visits to the Chittenango Canal Boat Museum on the Old Erie Canal (small fee), the Salt Museum in Syracuse, a tram ride around Onondaga Lake, and a visit to Middle Ages Brewery for tasting.

SATURDAY

- M 9:00 Highland Hill and Dale Hike: 8 miles.** Steady graded climb through new part of Onondaga Trail, new Map O-2. Crosses two glacial ridges with views then descends to DeRuyter Lake.
 - N 9:00 Erie Canal Bike Tour: 25 miles.** Drive yourself and your bike, or carpool to the Chittenango Canal Boat Museum. Then ride the level towpath eastward past historic artifacts and across one working lock gate on the modern Canal, to Rome's Erie Canal Village, most of it an NCT Connector Route. We'll bring you and your bike back from Rome. Bike can be borrowed with advance notice. Additional Museum Fee.
 - O 9:15 Ravines & Summits Hike: 6 miles.** South end of Onondaga Trail, strenuous hills, climb from old cemetery and remnants of Lehigh Valley Railroad (yes, the same one to Cazenovia) up, up, up to junction with main NCT/FLT. Great overlook at top.
 - P 9:15 Trail in the Making Hike: 8 miles.** Strenuous Skyline Trail, considerable elevation changes and some bushwhacking on this incomplete trail. Includes a nature trail, old foundations, waterfalls, and a stunning view. Round trip walk.
 - Q 9:15 The Every Which Way RR Route Hike: 6+ miles.** One of the newer sections of the CNY Chapter's NCT route on abandoned railbed with views, creek and wetlands on either side of dry-footed route, and a scenic ravine along Canastota Creek. Mostly level except short steep downhill and climb up 72 step stairway built by Al Larmann's Retiree Brigade.
 - R 9:30 Twin Hike A: 5 to 8 miles.** (For an 8 mile hike, take the optional roadwalk.) New Map O-2 between two ridges, including one mile bushwhack between certified segments. Some climb. Onondaga Trail.
 - S 9:30 Twin Hike B: 2 miles.** Shorter option, modest climb, same nice views as above, but break out sooner.
 - T 9:30 Cedar Swamp and Savannah Hike: 7 miles.** NCT here is dry railbed through Nelson Swamp, across Chittenango Creek bridge to include segment led by wildflower expert, then 1.4 country roadwalk to Stone Quarry Hill Art Park. Long views from Art Park, then trail wanders through forest full of whimsical sculptures. Bring camera! Finally descend to Cazenovia on NCT.
 - U 9:45 Cazenovia Area Wonders Tour:** Mansion and gardens of Lorenzo State Historic Site, Chittenango Falls State Park with its 167-foot waterfall, and Stone Quarry Hill Art Park. Modest walking. Additional small entrance fees.
- ### SUNDAY
- V 9:45 Pond Hopper Two Hike: 6 miles.** Moderate full day hike, northern Map O-1, mixed forests and rolling hills. Mostly downhill; Onondaga Trail.
 - W 10:00 Streams & Ravines Hike: 4 miles.** With moderate climb, Map O-1, includes Hemlock Glen Lean-to, Enchanted Hollow, Mossy Falls, and old fire tower site at 2000 ft elevation.
 - X 10:00 Highland Forest History Hike: 3 miles.** Map O-2, easy with vistas, then down to DeRuyter Lake, past park visitor's center and farm museum.
 - Y 9:45 Trenton Falls Hike: 2 miles.** A unique opportunity to view a series of four waterfalls from a mile-long path with kiosks relating the history of the Barneveld in its heyday. Trail is on private land open to the public only four times a year, when the power company opens the dam to enhance the waterfalls. Round trip.