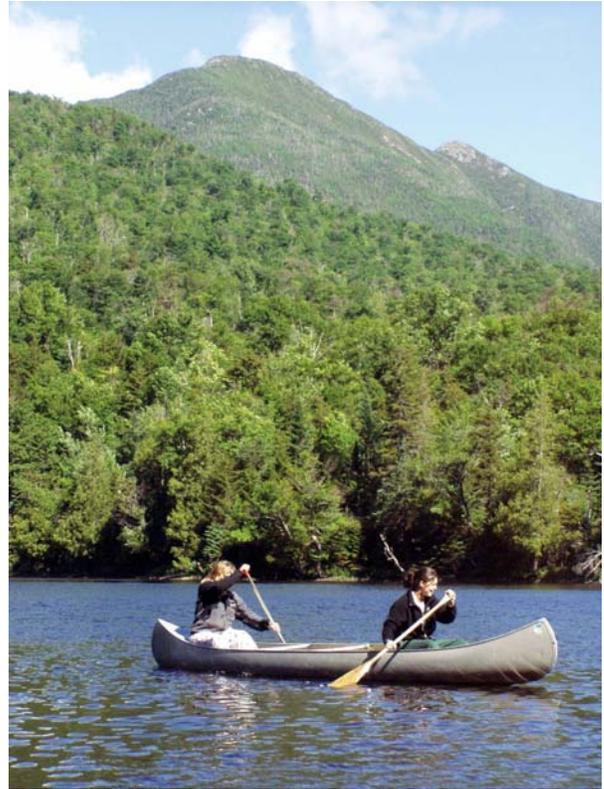


HIGH PEAKS CAMP

High Peaks Camp is a two week wilderness experience for boys and girls aged 12 to 15. The base for High Peaks Camp is located on the Upper Ausable Lake in the heart of the High Peaks of New York's Adirondack Mountains. The camp is operated by the Adirondack Trail Improvement Society, a non-profit organization founded in 1897 whose purposes are to maintain over 100 miles of hiking trails and to conduct a summer recreational and educational program for area youth. High Peaks Camp was a natural outgrowth of the organization's mission. It was started as a boy's camp in 1965 and expanded to include girls in 1972.

CAMP PROGRAM: Campers begin their High Peaks experience with a four mile trek by canoe and foot from St. Huberts to the base camp on the Upper Ausable Lake. Approximately half of the two weeks is spent at this base, which affords bunks for sleeping, a recreation room, flush toilets, hot showers, and kitchen and dining facilities for the entire camp. Time at base camp is spent learning or reviewing the fundamentals of canoeing, backpacking, orienteering, and first aid.

Campers share importantly in the chores of the camp – both at the base and on trips. Evenings are occupied by campfires with song fests and impromptu skits thus continuing a more than century-long tradition of camping at the Upper Lake.



After the first two days, the campers leave the base for a four day canoe trip over three different 20 to 30 mile routes so as to make smaller groups for camping. Routes traveled have included the Long Lake to the Saranac Lakes via the Raquette River, Bog River/Oswegatchie River traverse, Blue Mountain Lake to the Raquette River, Lake Kushuqua to Lake Clear, and Upper Saranac Lake to Saranac Lake Village. Reunited after the canoe trip, the campers return to base camp for three nights with two days of hiking in preparation for the four day mountain trip.

For the mountain trip, the camp is split into three or four groups to comply with wilderness regulations regarding group size. Distances covered on these four trips range from 15 to 25 miles. Destinations for the trips include the Dix Range, Johns Brook Valley, Lake Colden, and Panther Gorge. Peaks ascended can include all five Dixes, Marcy, parts of the Great Range, Big Slide, Mt. Colden, Cliff, Redfield, or Algonquin. The mountain trip is followed by an informal field day before departure the final day.

OBJECTIVES AND QUALIFICATIONS: The ultimate objective of High Peaks Camp is to develop in campers the knowledge and skills needed to enjoy wild country and to use it safely and responsibly. The emphasis is not so much “conquering” the mountains but on enjoying the simplicity and beauty of wild places while learning to stay comfortable under whatever condition nature happens to dish out.

No previous climbing or canoeing experience is required for High Peaks Camp. Campers should, however, be in generally good physical condition and possess a positive attitude about meeting challenges. Given the terrain in which the camp operates, campers can expect some rigorous climbing, backpacking, canoeing, and portaging – sometimes in stormy weather.

STAFF: High Peaks Camp is staffed by the same men and women who lead the ATIS summer program during July and August. The staff consists of a director with extensive experience in the outdoors plus four senior counselors and a like number of junior counselors plus a camp cook and assistant.

LOCATION: High Peaks Camp is located near the Ausable Club in St. Huberts. It is reached by car from Albany via the Northway (Interstate 87) to Exit 30 and thence by routes 9 and 73. There is daily bus service provided by Adirondack Trailways from New York and Albany. The camp will meet the bus if requested at both the beginning and conclusion of camp.

Health service, if needed, is available through the Mountain Health Center in Keene and Adirondack Medical Center in Lake Placid and Saranac Lake. The base camp has a radio available in the event of an emergency.

CAMP SEASON AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE: The camp runs for the two weeks leading up to the 4th of July weekend, and thus starts between the 16th and 19th of June. Arrival the first day is late afternoon while return on the final day is mid-morning. The exact dates are on the current application form. Enrollment is limited to 18 campers.

Applications received by November 1 will be considered in the initial selection process as outlined on the application form. If the camp is full as of November 1, later applications will be placed on a waiting list. Those accepted will receive an equipment list during the winter with tuition (current tuition is on the application form) due by April 1.

For applications and additional information contact:

**High Peaks Camp
P.O. Box 565
Keene Valley, NY 12943-0565
(518) 576-9157 (summer)
(518) 576-9949 (year-round)
tgoodwin@kvvi.net**



Applications are also available at the ATIS web site: atis-web.com