

SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER

GROUP TOUR INFORMATION - 2012



Loons are a common sight on Science Center Lake Cruises. Their haunting calls echo across Squam Lake and they exemplify the wild spirit of the North Country.



Our pontoon boats are safe and comfortable. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the beauty of the lake with our experienced guides.



Our exhibit trail allows up-close viewing of native wildlife, including this Mountain Lion — one of two at the Science Center.

At Squam Lakes Natural Science Center we are happy to create a group tour package tailored to your group's tastes and needs. Packages may include any combination of the activities listed below.

EXPLORE SQUAM CRUISE

Enjoy a Science Center Lake Cruise to experience the beauty of Big Squam Lake and learn about the natural forces that created this lake, the wildlife that makes it so special, and the people who have enjoyed it for over 5,000 years. Binoculars are available for wildlife viewing.

- Discover Squam Lake's natural and cultural history
- Loons and Bald Eagles — observe their beauty and see them in their natural habitat
- Explore Squam Lake's unique qualities and majestic features
- Experience the dazzling array of colors during autumn
- Four canopied pontoon boats with capacities ranging from 20 to 30 people depart from the dock on Route 3 at the bridge, next to Walter's Basin Restaurant in Holderness.

Available: Mid-May through Mid-October

Cost: \$18/person • Allow 2 hours • Driver and one tour operator complimentary

EXHIBIT TRAIL

Observe live, native New Hampshire wildlife — black bears, bobcats, mountain lions, river otters, red foxes, bald eagles, hawks, owls, and more — housed in woodland enclosures as you walk along our ¾-mile self-guided exhibit trail. The trail also winds through forest and field, past streams and ponds. Enjoy interactive and educational exhibits as well.

Available: May 1 through November 1

Cost: \$10/person • Allow 1.5 hours • Driver and one tour operator complimentary

HIKE TO THE SUMMIT OF MT. FAYAL

For the adventuresome group, a hike to the summit of Mt. Fayal (elevation 1,067 feet) provides an excellent opportunity to see magnificent views of Squam Lake. The hike takes a minimum of one hour. Hikers will also find signs of past human activity, such as stone walls and cellar holes, on this mountainside.

Admission fee is included in Exhibit Trail pass.

NATURAL ENCOUNTERS

These Live Animal Programs, presented by a Science Center Naturalist, showcase native New Hampshire animals up-close. Capacity 80 persons. Select from the following:

Marvelous Mammals - Learn about this diverse group of creatures called mammals. Learn the characteristics they have in common as well as what sets them apart from each other and other animals.

Animals with Bad Reputations - The public image of some wild animals is often inaccurate and responsible for negative attitudes. Consider with us the good side of these creatures.

Owls of New Hampshire - Who calls in the night? Who glides through the dark on silent wings? Meet some of New Hampshire's mysterious owls and learn what is myth and what is fact about these beautiful nocturnal birds.

New Hampshire Wildlife - Curious about the critters that inhabit the Granite State? Meet some of the wild animals you might see on a hike and learn what makes them suited for life in New England.

Available: Year Round

Cost: \$12/person • Allow 1.5 hours • Driver and one tour operator complimentary

STROLL THROUGH KIRKWOOD GARDENS

Take a relaxing stroll and view over 75 plant species that attract birds and butterflies. Visit the Squam Lakes Artisans shop featuring local handmade arts and crafts. The Kirkwood Café offers sandwiches and snacks in the historic Holderness Inn at Kirkwood Gardens (open seasonally).

No admission is charged to enjoy Kirkwood Gardens.



SQUAM LAKES
NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER

NEARER TO NATURE

PO Box 173,
Holderness, NH 03245
Phone: 603-968-7194
Fax: 603-968-2229
www.nhnature.org

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A pair of Bald Eagles nest on an island in Squam Lake; view the nest on a Science Center Lake Cruise.



Natural Encounters include up-close visits with a variety of native wildlife presented by our knowledgeable and talented staff.



Kirkwood Gardens includes beautifully landscaped flower gardens, lawns, and sculptures.



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COMBINATION TOURS

LAKE CRUISE and EXHIBIT TRAIL

Cost: \$23/person ♦ Driver and one tour operator complimentary ♦ Allow 4 hours

LAKE CRUISE and NATURAL ENCOUNTERS

Cost: \$25/person ♦ Driver and one tour operator complimentary ♦ Allow 3.5 hours

EXHIBIT TRAIL and NATURAL ENCOUNTERS

Cost: \$17/person ♦ Driver and one tour operator complimentary ♦ Allow 3.5 hours

LAKE CRUISE and EXHIBIT TRAIL and NATURAL ENCOUNTERS

Cost: \$35/person ♦ Driver and one tour operator complimentary ♦ Allow 5 hours

Visit beautiful **KIRKWOOD GARDENS** and hike **MT. FAYAL** for no additional charge. Open Daily, May 1 - November 1, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ♦The Science Center is 4 miles from exit 24 off Interstate 93 and 8 miles north of Meredith
- ♦Open daily, May 1 – November 1, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- ♦Northern New England's only Association of Zoos & Aquariums-accredited institution
- ♦Howling Coyote Gift Shop featuring a variety of carefully selected nature-themed gifts
- ♦On-site parking for motor coaches is available
- ♦Water, soda, and juices are available from vending machine
- ♦Covered picnic area
- ♦Area Restaurants:
 - ♦Walter's Basin Restaurant (within walking distance) (603-968-4412)
 - ♦Common Man Restaurant (located in Ashland) (603-968-7030)
 - ♦Mame's Restaurant (located in Meredith) (603-279-4631)
 - ♦Hart's Turkey Farm Restaurant (located in Meredith) (603-279-6212)
- ♦State of New Hampshire web site (www.visitnh.gov)
- ♦Squam Area Chamber of Commerce (www.squamlakeschamber.com)
- ♦Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce (www.laconia-weirs.org)

To Book Your Visit

Contact: Tom Klein, Operations Manager
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Fax: 603-968-2229
Email: info@nhnature.org
Web: www.nhnature.org