**Mount Marcy**

Elevation: 5344’

Ascent of Climb: 3166’

Round Trip Length: 14.8 mi

Average Hike time: 10 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Driving Directions, Photo

Standing at 5344 feet above sea level, Mount Marcy is the highest peak in New York State. Although there are several ways to hike Marcy, the most popular route is the Van Hoevenberg Trail in Keene, NY. It is a 7.4 mile trail to the summit, making for a long day. Mount Marcy can be completed in a day, but many choose to hike a portion of the trail, camp overnight, and continue the next day. There are campgrounds available for use at mile 3 of the trail. At the summit, you can see 43 other high peaks along with Mount Royal in Montreal to the north, almost 65 miles away!

**Algonquin Peak**

Elevation: 5144’

Ascent of Climb: 2936’

Round Trip Length: 9.6 mi

Average Hike Time: 9 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Algonquin Peak, located in North Elba, NY, boasts an elevation of 5,114', and the 9.6 mile round-trip hike to and from its summit is steep and challenging. Aspiring 46ers should note that trails for Wright Peak and Iroquois Peak branch off the Algonquin trail, enabling more advanced hikers to summit all three in one day. The las mile of the ascent is the most challenging, but hikers are rewarded with brilliant views from the open-rock summit. Be prepared for exposure to the elements, as the summit provides no protection above the tree line.

**Mount Haystack**

Elevation: 4960

Ascent of Climb: 3570

Round Trip Length: 17.8

Average Hike Time: 12

Difficulty (1-7): 7

Mount Haystack is one of the more challenging peaks in the Adirondacks. Due to a 17.8 mile hike, this peak does not get very many hikers, besides for aspiring ADK 46er’s. To reach Mount Haystack, most hikers follow the Johns Brook Trail from the Garden Parking area in Keene to the Phelps trail and then use the Shorey’s Short Cut to get over the Range trail. Another option would be to come along the Great Range itself and hike Mount Haystack before Mount Marcy. Be careful though, there is a stretch of the hike with extremely steep terrain. The popular name for this stretch is “The Devils Half Mile”!

**Mount Skylight**

Elevation: 4926

Ascent of Climb: 4265

Round Trip Length: 17.9

Average Hike Time: 15

Difficulty (1-7): 7

This peak gets its name from the open, bare, and flat summit, perfect for gazing into the sky. Mount Skylight is a favorite among hikers and is known for the two large cairns. A cairns is a man-made pile of stones used to mark the summit. A single trail goes up to the mountains summit from the Four Corners Junction, between Mount Marcy and Mount Skylight. The most popular way for hikers to reach the summit takes you up Fledspar Brook Trail and climb the peak in conjunction with a visit to the Lake Tear of the Clouds. This lake is the highest source for the Hudson river. From there, many opt to hike there way over to Gray Peak. There are many other peaks that branch off these trails, which are all extensive hikes and usually done overnight.

**Whiteface Mountain**

Elevation: 4867

Ascent of Climb: 2535

Round Trip Length: 10.4

Average Hike Time: 8.5

Difficulty (1-7): 4

Whiteface Mountain is located in Wilmington, NY and also serves as a ski resort. The trail to the summit runs up the back side of the mountain, and is also accessible by motor vehicle. So, if you are not a great hiker, drive to the top of this beautiful mountain and check out the 360-degree view of the Adirondacks, Vermont, and Canada!

**Dix Mountain**

Elevation: 4857

Ascent of Climb: 2800

Round Trip Length: 13.2

Average Hike Time: 10

Difficulty (1-7): 5

A round trip trek up and down Dix Mountain is about 13.2 miles long, and on average takes about 10 hours to hike. Dix is widely regarded as one of the most challenging 46 and should not be attempted by children or beginners. Dix Mountain is a gateway to four other High Peaks; Hough, Macomb, South Dix, and Grace Peak. The best time to climb Dix is in the summer, as the trail is very wet during other seasons. Hikers most commonly use the Elk Lake Trailhead, which leads you past the Slide Brook and Lillian Brook lean-to’s.

**Gray Peak**

Elevation: 4840

Ascent of Climb: 4178

Round Trip Length: 16

Average Hike Time: 14

Difficulty (1-7): 7

One of the more challenging peaks, for many reasons, is Gray Peak. Besides for the 16 mile trip taking about 14 hours, Gray Peak is the highest peak without a maintained trail leading to the summit. Most hikers take a path leading from Lake Tear of the Clouds, but sometimes it can be difficult to find the trailhead. There is a small cairn marking the start of the path, so keep your eyes peeled! Gray Peak should not be attempted by inexperienced hikers, so if you are not into bushwhacking, you may want to rethink this journey.

**Iroquois Peak**

Elevation: 4840

Ascent of Climb: 3250

Round Trip Length: 11.6

Average Hike Time: 8.5

Difficulty (1-7): 6

Iroquois Peak is the 8th highest peak in New York State, with an elevation of 4,840 feet.  The hike is about 11.6 miles long and will take 8.5 hours to climb. Although the trail is a bit rocky, the summit offers a beautiful view of Indian Pass and Wallface Mountain. The easiest route for Iroquois Peak is from the Adirondack Loj and up to the Algonquin trail.  Then, venture up and over the Algonquin Peak to the unmarked trial.

**Basin Mountain**

Elevation: 4827

Ascent of Climb: 3650

Round Trip Length: 16.5

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 6

The round-trip hike is about 15 miles, and takes on average 11 hours to complete. The Basin Mountain climb is difficult, and can get dangerous in certain weather conditions. Basin's summit is above the tree line and has amazing views of Mount Marcy, Haystack, Gothics, Saddleback, Big Slide, and Dix.Basin is part of the Great Range, and can be reached via four different trailheads. Most hikers park at the Garden Parking Lot in Keene Valley and take the Phelps Trail to the Gothics/Saddleback trail junction. From there, hike west to Basin's summit.

**Gothics**

Elevation: 4736

Ascent of Climb: 4070

Round Trip Length: 10

Average Hike Time: 9

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Depending on the chosen route, the hike can be 15 miles round-trip, and can take up to 10 hours to complete. Gothics is not recommended for children or inexperienced hikers. The primary trailhead is located at the St. Hubert’s Parking Area on the Adirondack Mountain Reserve (AMR). Note that dogs are not allowed on this private property. The trail will lead you to Beaver Meadow Falls before it continues up a ladder to a steady incline with some steep spots. Several other ladders follow before the Range Trail junction where Gothics branches off to the left and Armstrong to the right. The secondary route begins at The Garden in Keene Valley. A unique aspect of this mountain is that there are large fixed cables and ladders at certain points throughout the mountain. Take advantage of these points to avoid sliding down the mountain. A little-known fact about Gothics Mountain is that at the top, there is a hidden cave.  Hike Gothics mountain and find it for yourself.

**Mount Colden**

Elevation: 4714

Ascent of Climb: 2850

Round Trip Length: 15.2

Average Hike Time: 10

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Mount Colden is centrally located between the **MacIntyre and Great Ranges.**  There are amazing views at the top of Mount Colden, even though the summit is not entirely bald.   Mount Colden has a well-known **Trap Dyke,** which is a large crevice running up the middle of the mountain.  There are two trails up to Mount Colden and both start at the **Adirondak Loj trailhead**.  If approaching from the north east, you pass by **Lake Arnold** before climbing the summit after crossing several false peaks.  The second trail is steeper and approaches from the southwest starting from **Lake Colden.**

**Giant Mountain**

Elevation: 4627

Ascent of Climb: 3050

Round Trip Length: 6

Average Hike Time: 7.5

Difficulty (1-7): 4

The trail is 6 miles long and depending on experience and fitness level will take anywhere between 4 and 10 hours to hike, round-trip. The primary trailhead is just past Chapel Pond on the opposite side of Route 73. The climb begins instantly from the trailhead, and doesn't stop for 3 miles until the summit. Interested hikers can continue over to Rocky Peak Ridge from a trail just below Giant's summit. Giant Mountain is also called **"Giant of the Valley"** because it beautifully looks over Keene Valley and St. Hubert's to the west. There are huge rock slideson the mountain's western side and it is located far away from any other peaks, giving the mountain a gigantic look.

**Nippletop**

Elevation: 4620

Ascent of Climb: 4050

Round Trip Length: 12.6

Average Hike Time: 10

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Nippletop Mountain is in the northeastern part of the Colvin Range and is known to be a little wet when hiking, so dress accordingly. When hiking this mountain use the St. Huberts Trailhead.  This trip will take you down a beautiful Lake Road towards lower Ausable Lake and then climb to the top of two 4,000 foot peaks.  At the top of Nippletop, you will have amazing views of the Great Range. Nippletop Mountain is a more difficult hike, so if you're an experienced hiker, this mountain will be a great experience for you.

**Santanoni Peak**

Elevation: 4607

Ascent of Climb: 2860

Round Trip Length: 11.4

Average Hike Time: 10

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Santanoni Peak is a 10 hour trek that is 11.4 miles long and is located in Essex County, New York. The word "Santanoni" is believed to be an Abenaki derivative of "Saint Anthony."  When the first French fur traders and missionaries inhabited the area, they named the land after Saint Anthony of Padua. Hiking Santanoni Peak can be a little tricky.  There are no bare summits or open ridges, which means there is a lot of thick forest and underbrush.  If you like to rough it, bring your [map and compass](http://www.adirondack.net/tour/hike/map.cfm) and hit the trail!

**Mount Redfield**

Elevation: 4606

Ascent of Climb: 3225

Round Trip Length: 17.5

Average Hike Time: 14

Difficulty (1-7): 7

The hike upMount Redfield is approximately 17.5 miles round-trip, and can take 14 hours to complete. It is not recommended for families with children or inexperienced hikers. Mount Redfield is part of the **Marcy Group of the Great Range**. The mountain is located northwest of Cliff Mountain, and the two are often climbed in combination. There are multiple routes up Mount Redfield, one of which begins at the Upper Works/Calamity Brook trailhead on Upper Works Road in Newcomb. Follow the Calamity Brook Trail for 4.5 miles before continuing around Flowed Lands and crossing the Lake Colden Bridge. Upon reaching the Uphill Lean-to, you'll see a small cairn that indicates the herd path to the summits of Cliff Mountain (to the right) and Mount Redfield (straight/to the left). The herd path splits a short distance past the first cairn, with one path going to Cliff and the other to Redfield. The split is indicated by a second cairn. Continue hiking along Uphill Brook until you reach the large boulder at Redfield's summit.

**Wright Peak**

Elevation: 4580

Ascent of Climb: 2400

Round Trip Length: 7

Average Hike Time: 7

Difficulty (1-7): 4

The length of the trip up Wright Peak is 7 miles long and will take about 7 hours to hike. Wright Peak is part of the MacIntyre Range and is located in North Hudson, New York. Wright Peak is known as the windiest peak in the whole park! This mountain can be hiked from the Adirondack Loj and then up the Van Hovenberg trail. Fun fact, at the summit of Wright Peak, remnants of a U.S. B-47 bomber are scattered from a crash in 1962.  A bronze plaque marks the area on a rock just north of the summit.

**Saddleback Mountain**

Elevation: 4515

Ascent of Climb: 2990

Round Trip Length: 13.4

Average Hike Time: 10

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Saddleback Mountain is the 17th highest peak in New York State with an elevation of 4,515 feet. The length of this hike roundtrip, is 13.4 miles and will take around 10 hours to hike. The mountain is part of the Great Range and is located in Essex, New York.  Saddleback Mountain is to the southwest of Basin Mountain and to the east of Gothics Mountain. Saddleback Mountain has a rare factor--two summits!  A dipping ridgeline connects the summits. The trail has many sections that are extremely steep and can be slippery when wet.  Hiker beware!  Be careful when hiking this and it's better to hike this mountain with a partner.

**Panther Peak**

Elevation: 4442

Ascent of Climb: 3762

Round Trip Length: 17.6

Average Hike Time: 13.5

Difficulty (1-7): 6

The hike is about 17.6 miles and will take on average, 13.5 hours to hike round trip. Panther Peak is located in the Town of Newcomb in Essex County, New York and is part of the Santanoni Mountains. The normal route starts about .3 miles south of the Santanoni lean-to at the beaver dam.  Once you cross the dam, you will find a heard path that points west. You will then reach a brook descending from the Panther-Santanoni ridge.  Walk up this brook for about .5 miles and then you will reach what is called "Time Square."  From here, you can reach all the peaks in the Santanoni Mountains.

**Tabletop Mountain**

Elevation: 4427

Ascent of Climb: 3660

Round Trip Length: 15.2

Average Hike Time: 13

Difficulty (1-7): 5

This hike is about 15.2 miles and will take 13 hours to hike on average. Table Top Mountain is located in Essex County, New York.  It is south of Phelps Mountain and north of Mount Marcy.  This mountain has three summits.  The southern most summit is highest followed by the middle peak and the north peak. The most popular route begins at the Adirondack Log and then at the Van Hovenberg trail about .75 miles from the Phelps Trail junction.

**Rocky Peak Ridge**

Elevation: 4420

Ascent of Climb: 4500

Round Trip Length: 13.4

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 6

While climbing this peak, there are a lot of spectacular views on the way to thet op.  The west side of Giant can be seen, the entire view of the Great Range, Whiteface, Ester, as well as the northeastern side of the Dix Range. Rocky Peak Ridge has a long, bare ridge, which is uncommon in the Adirondacks.  The ridge is the result of a forest fire in the region in 1913.  Evidence of the fire can still be seen!  If you are curious, dig down a few inches into the ground in some areas and you will find charred wood and ash. Start from the east, up and over Blueberry Cobbles and Bald Peak and then along the open ridge to the summit.  Another approach is to first, hike Giant from the west or north and then head over the ridgeline east to Rocky Peak.

**Macomb Mountain**

Elevation: 4405

Ascent of Climb: 2344

Round Trip Length: 8.4

Average Hike Time: 8

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Macomb Mountain is the 21st highest mountain in New York State, with an elevation of 4,405 ft. The hike is 8.4 miles long and will take on average 8 hours to [hike](http://www.adirondack.net/tour/hike/). Macomb Mountain is located in Essex County, New York.  The mountain is named after Alexander Macomb.  He was the Commanding General of the United States Army from 1828 to 1841.  Macomb was famous for the Battle of Plattsburgh.  Macomb defeated the 10,531 men of the British Army with only 1,500 men. The most popular route to the top of Macomb Mountain is from the Elk Lake Trail at the first lean-to [camping site](http://www.adirondack.net/adk/camping.cfm).  Follow Slide Brook to the base of either one of the two slides that leads to points just below the summit ridge. Rumor has it that there is a delicious blueberry crop on the trail of the Macomb Mountain. Yum!

**Armstrong Mountain**

Elevation: 4400

Ascent of Climb: 3734

Round Trip Length: 12.7

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Armstrong Mountain is the 22nd-highest of the Adirondack High Peaks, with an elevation of 4,400 ft. The round-trip hike is approximately 12 miles, and takes an average of 7 hours to complete. Because the trail is steep and challenging, it is not recommended for families or inexperienced hikers. To reach the Armstrong Mountain trailhead, follow Route 73 from Lake Placid to Saint Huberts. The trail is located on the Adirondack Mountain Reserve, so dogs are not allowed. Armstrong can be summitted on its own or in combination with Gothics and Upper and Lower Wolf Jaw Mountains. The trail has a steep grade, and hikers should be prepared for slippery conditions near Beaver Meadow Falls, which the trail passes. Also take note that ladders are involved in this hike.

**Hough Peak**

Elevation: 4400

Ascent of Climb: 3200

Round Trip Length: 13.7

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 6

Hough Peak is 13.7 miles long and will take 11 hours to hike. Hough Peak is pronounced "Huff."  It is named after Franklin B Hough.  He was the first chief of the United States Division of Forestry and was born and raised on the western edge of the Adirondacks.  Hough was the first to call attention to the depletion of forests in the United States. Going from South Dix to Hough Peak, skirt the blowdown just north of the South Dix summit on its west side and then climb the hogback between South Dix and Hough.  There is a bivouac site in the col (lowest point of a ridge connecting two mountain peaks) between the hogback and Hough.

**Seward Mountain**

Elevation: 4361

Ascent of Climb: 3490

Round Trip Length: 16

Average Hike Time: 17

Difficulty (1-7): 7

Seward Mountain was named after William Henry Sweard who was one of the founders of the Republican Party and secretary of state in Lincoln's cabinet. The route to the Seward Range begins at the bridge 0.2 miles southeast of the clearing where the red foot trail from Coreys joins the truck trail.  This is also the third bridge northwest of Ward Brook lean-to.  The route starts at the east side of the brook, but crosses after about 0.5 miles to follow traces of old tote roads on the west side to the end of the second growth, where blowdown and steep climbing begins.

**Mount Marshall**

Elevation: 4360

Ascent of Climb: 2575

Round Trip Length: 14

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 6

The hike up Mount Marshall is about 14 miles and will take 11 hours to hike. Verplanck Colvin first named this peak in honor of Governor DeeWitt Clinton, builder of the Erie Canal.  Now, the mountain is named after Robert Marshall.  He was an American Forester, writer, wilderness activist and one of the first Adirondack forty-sixers.  After Robert Marshall’s death in 1939, the Adirondack forty-sixers petitioned the New York State Board of Geographic Names to officially name this peak Mount Marshall. The most popular route for this [hike](http://www.adirondack.net/hiking/) leaves the Cold Brook Pass Trail at the west end of the flat area at the height of land between Mount Marshall and Iroquois Peak.  The junction is marked with a cairn.  Very rough for its entire length, the path climbs approximately 0.3 miles over one intermediate peak, drops down across the head of Herbert Brook and then goes on to the summit at 0.7 miles.

**Allen Mountain**

Elevation: 4340

Ascent of Climb: 2540

Round Trip Length: 16.2

Average Hike Time: 13

Difficulty (1-7): 7

The 17 mile round-trip hike takes an average of 9-11 hours to complete. The recommended parking area for this hike is at the Mount Adams Trailhead, just over a half mile south of Upper Works. Hikers should note that Allen Mountain requires several water crossings, so water shoes are recommended. Shortly past the trailhead, cross the Hudson River. Continue across Lake Jimmy, and stay to the right when the Mount Adams trail branches off to the left. From the junction at 5.2 miles on the trail to Flowed Lands, the herd path is at first marked with orange and green or black flagging as it heads generally southeast. Follow the herd path for about a mile and you will reach the High Peaks Wilderness. The trail then descends into the Skylight Brook basin, and shortly after the Skylight Brook crossing, the trail meets Allen Brook. The steep ascent at this point follows the brook bed, and hikers should be careful on wet, slippery areas. Although the summit of Allen Mountain is wooded, there are a pair of great viewpoints just below it.

**Big Slide Mountain**

Elevation: 4240

Ascent of Climb: 2800

Round Trip Length: 9.4

Average Hike Time: 8

Difficulty (1-7): 4

There are a few approaches to Big Slide, but the most popular is the trail via **The Brothers**. The Brothers are three mountains that are grouped together, and you can summit them all en route to Big Slide. To take this route, start at the Garden Parking Lot on Route 73 in Keene Valley and take the trail in the back of the parking area to the right. This trail offers amazing views from the summits of the first and second Brothers and, of course, from the summit of Big Slide. There are multiple routes down from the summit, including one that crosses Slide Mountain Brook and continues along the Johns Brook Trail. Depending on which one you choose, as much as 1.5 miles could be added onto your trip. Big Slide was named for the prominent steep cliff that rises to its summit.

**Esther Mountain**

Elevation: 4240

Ascent of Climb: 3020

Round Trip Length: 9.4

Average Hike Time: 7.5

Difficulty (1-7): 4

Esther Mountain is the 28th-highest of the 46 Adirondack High Peaks, with an elevation of 4,240 ft.The round-trip is 9.4 miles long and will take about 7.5 hours to complete. It can be climbed in combination with Whiteface Mountain, but note that this adds extra distance and time to the hike. Esther is not recommended for children. **S**tarting from the Atmospheric Sciences Research Center, locate the un-marked (but easily identified) trail, and after approximately 1 mile, you'll reach the summit of Marble Mountain. Stay right along the winding trail for another 1.25 miles and you'll come to the Esther Mountain herd path junction marked by a cairn. From here, you can decide to either go right to summit Esther (via Lookout Mountain), or continue straight to summit Whiteface. Whiteface's summit is approximately 1 mile from this junction. The Esther Mountain herd path is not marked, so be prepared with navigation tools. Esther has a false summit, but you'll know the true summit because it is marked with a plaque.

**Upper Wolfjaw**

Elevation: 4185

Ascent of Climb: 3619

Round Trip Length: 12.7

Average Hike Time: 11

Difficulty (1-7): 5

Upper Wolf Jaw Mountain is 12.7 miles and takes 11 hours to hike. From the DEC Interior Outpost, head east, through the open field to the suspension bridge across Johns Brook.  Cross upstream and at the far side of the bridge, turn left.  Follow the Southside Trail to a junction at 0.2 miles.  Southside Trail leads straight ahead 2.9 miles to the Garden.  Turning right, the Range Trail, marked with red DEC markers, comes out on the left bank of Wolf Jaws Brook at 0.4 miles. The trail swings back away from the brook, and then climbs steadily to a junction at 1.1 miles with the Woodsfall Trail.  The Wolf Jaws Lean-to is about 50 yards past this junction on the left. From the junction, the trail continues along the left bank of Wolf Jaws Brook.  After the second of the two small tributaries at 1.7 miles, the grade steepens until the junction at the top of the pass is reached at 2.0 miles.  Trail L, marked with yellow DEC trail markers leads to Lower Wolf Jaw.  Turning right, now marked with yellow DEC trail markers, begins a steep climb, switchbacking up through many ledges on the slope.  At 2.3 miles, there are nice views of Big Slide and Whiteface mountains, with the trail reaching the lesser summit of Upper Wolf Jaw at 2.5 miles.  From here, the trail descends easily to a col and then ascends to a junction at 2.9 miles with a spur trail leading 20 yards to the summit lookout.

**Lower Wolfjaw**

Elevation: 4175

Ascent of Climb: 2825

Round Trip Length: 8.7

Average Hike Time: 8

Difficulty (1-7): 4

This hike is 8.7 miles and will take around 8 hours to complete. Lower Wolf Jaw is usually hiked with Upper Wolf Jaw and can be hiked from the Ausable Club.  There is a parking area on Ausable Road and the trail begins at the gatehouse on the Ausable Club property.  You will have to walk past a tennis court to get to the trail head. There is a sign for the W.A. White Trail that leads up the Wolf Jaws.  Just before the summit the trail gets very steep, so be careful!  The summit is mostly tree covered, but there are a few lookouts where you can see views of other peaks. Even though the summit isn't the most gorgeous in the world, this is a fun trip because the hike up the mountain is very enjoyable. It's sort of like a road trip...getting there is the best part!

**Street Mountain**

Elevation: 4166

Ascent of Climb: 2155

Round Trip Length: 8.8

Average Hike Time: 9.5

Difficulty (1-7): 6

This hike is 8.8 miles and will take about 9.5 hours to complete. Street Mountain was named after Alfred Billings Street who was a New York State law librarian and author of "The Indian Pass." To get to Street Mountain, start at the west corner of Heart Lake and follow the old Nye Ski trail.  There are signs that will guide you to the trail.  Follow that trail till you end up at Indian Pass Brook.  Cross the brook and pick up the new trail on the other side.  Eventually you will come to an intersection on the plateau between Street and Nye and there will be signs clearly marked "S" for Street Mountain and "N" for Nye Mountain.  Head down "S" and about .6 miles you will have reached the top.

**Phelps Mountain**

Elevation: 4161

Ascent of Climb: 3394

Round Trip Length: 10

Average Hike Time: 9

Difficulty (1-7): 5

This hike is 10 miles long and will take approximately 9 hours to complete. Phelps Mountain is named after Orson Schofield Phelps, also known as "Old Mountain Phelps," who created the first trail over Mount Marcy.  Phelps is a great mountain for beginners or kids and is an extremely easy climb. Just before the summit is reached, the trail does get steep, but not in excess. At the Van Hoevenberg Trail, take Mount Marcy Route, which will take you to Marcy Dam.  Take a sharp left and you will see the sign marked Phelps Mountain. There are great views of the ridge formed by Tabletop, Yard, and Big Slide.  There is a partial view of the Great Range and Giant can be seen as well.

**Mount Donaldson**

Elevation: 4140

Ascent of Climb: 3490

Round Trip Length: 17 miles

Average Hike Time: 14 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 7

Be prepared for a long day if you choose to climb Donaldson Mountain. It takes experienced hikers approximately 5 hours to summit, and is not recommended for inexperienced hikers or children. When climbed in combination with Seward and Emmons, the total distance covered is almost 18 miles. The primary trailhead is located on Corey's Road in Tupper Lake. The route from this trailhead begins on a well-used trail, continues on an old woods road, and eventually concludes on the Calkins Brook herd path. Brilliant views are afforded from the large ledge on Donaldson's summit, and the herd path continues from there to Emmons' summit.

**Seymour Mountain**

Elevation: 4120

Ascent of Climb: 2370

Round Trip Length: 14 miles

Average Hike Time: 11 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

This Seward Range peak was named for Horatio Seymour who served as Governor of New York for multiple terms before running for President of the United States in 1868 against Ulysses S. Grant. The round trip hike is about 14 miles and typically takes about 11 hours. The trail is considered an “unmarked path”. Certain areas are very easy to hike, while others are more complicated because of blowdown, erosion etc. Packing a compass and a map. Seymour’s summit boasts breathtaking views! From the southern lookout point there is an amazing view of the Santanoni mountain range. Along with the stunning views can be very strong winds. Be prepared and pack the appropriate gear.

**Sawteeth**

Elevation: 4100

Ascent of Climb: 2975

Round Trip Length: 11.8

Average Hike Time: 9

Difficulty (1-7): 4

Sawteeth Mountain is the 35th-highest of New York's High Peaks, with an elevation of 4,100 ft. There are two trails to the summit from Lower Ausable Lake. The older trail is referred to as the Scenic trail and is a winding trail through the “teeth” of the mountain. The newer trail follows the Gothics Trail and ascends directly up the north side.  Popular opinion of many hikers is that this is is a good loop trip. They choose to take the newer trail for their ascent and the Scenic Trail for their decent as it is an easier direction. The first mile or so of the climb of the Gothics Trail is relatively easy going. As the trail goes right it proceeds up a gully with a ladder at the top. You are in for some steep climbing, but the views of the Lower Ausable Lake and the surrounding areas are well worth it! Overall, this is a relatively moderate hike. On a scale of 1 to 7 the Adirondack High Peaks Guide gives it a 4.

**Cascade Mountain**

Elevation: 4098

Ascent of Climb: 1940

Round Trip Length: 4.8

Average Hike Time: 5 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 2

Originally named Long Pond Mountain, Cascade Mountain was renamed for the falls between the two Cascade Lakes. The current trail was laid out to replace the old, steeper and eroded trail in 1974. The trailhead starts on Route 73 and is marked with red discs. The biggest challenge of this hike can be parking. Parking to the east or west of the trailhead will allow you to get your car off the road. On your way to the trailhead, grab a rock. Don’t be alarmed, it’s for a good cause. At the trailhead you will see a sign for “Carry-A-Rock To Cascade”. The Summit Stewards will use the rocks to build cairns and define trails. The distance to the summit of Cascade Mountain is 2.4 miles with an ascent of 1940’, which makes it a very enjoyable. While it is regarded by many as the easiest of the 46 High Peaks, it is not recommended for children or those with little hiking experience. Upon reaching the summit of this bald mountain you will be blown away by the views! Before you forget, look for the sign and deposit your rock. The Porter Mountain trail intersects with Cascade's trail just below Cascade's summit, so the two can be climbed in combination.

**South Dix**

Elevation: 4060

Ascent of Climb: 3050

Round Trip Length: 11.5

Average Hike Time: 12 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

Because South Dix is the peak that lays smack dab in the middle of the range there are many approaches to the summit. See the descriptions for East Dix, Macomb, or Hough. Herd paths lead along the ridges connecting these peaks to South Dix. The shortest approach is via Macomb. South Dix has a wooded summit with limited views, but excellent views can be had from the south shoulder, which is on the route from Macomb. Keep in mind that South Dix can only be climbed with other mountains in the Dix Range.

**Porter Mountain**

Elevation: 4059

Ascent of Climb: 2700

Round Trip Length: 7.6

Average Hike Time: 5.5

Difficulty (1-7): 3

Porter Mountain is a long ridge stretching from near [Keene Valley](http://www.adirondack.net/towns/lake-placid-region/keene-valley/) almost to Cascade Pass. The trail gets bumpy, so be careful and make sure you're wearing [appropriate footwear](http://www.adirondack.net/hiking/safety/). There are many amazing open areas and viewpoints along this ridge, and the summit itself has a nice open area.  Many great spots to just hang out for a little while and rest. One of the best ways to approach this mountain is to start in Keene Valley, at the southwest corner of Marcy and traverse over the entire ridge, and end at the Cascade Mountain trailhead near Cascade Pass on Route 73. And if you're up to it, hike [Cascade Mountain](http://www.adirondack.net/business/cascade-mountain-11114/) after Porter!  Are you up for the challenge?

**Mount Colvin**

Elevation: 4057

Ascent of Climb: 2130

Round Trip Length: 10.8 miles

Average Hike Time: 10 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 4

Mount Colvin is the 39th-highest of New York's High Peaks, with an elevation of 4,057 feet. Mount Colvin offers amazing views of other Adirondack High Peaks from the summit.  Most notably, Giant, Rocky Peak Ridge, upper Wolfjaw, Lower Wolfjaw, Armstrong, Sawteeth, Gothics, Saddleback, Basin, Tabletop, Marcy, Haystack, Redfield, Allen, Nippletop, Dial and Blake.

**Mount Emmons**

Elevation: 4040

Ascent of Climb: 3490

Round Trip Length: 18 miles

Average Hike Time: 18 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 7

The best way to hike Mount Emmons is to start from the summit of Donaldson, making this trek more isolated than the majority of other high peaks.  So, make sure you have a [map, compass](http://www.adirondack.net/tour/hike/map.cfm), food, water and proper gear.  It's nice to bring a friend as well! The normal route to Emmons follows the same approach to the other Seward Range Mountains.  This approach is from the west and there will be many lean-tos that are found along the Ward Brook Truck Trail. The unmarked trail to Seward Range begins about .2 miles south east of the spot where the trail for Coreys joins the fire truck trail.  Past the bridge, there should be a wall of Seward.  Follow it to the left until you climb up and over to the summit ridge.  It is then about a 15 minute walk up to the summit.  From the summit of Seward, there will be a well-defined heard-path descending to the south flanks of the western Seward Ridge and then follows a compass line from both peaks across the ridge until the summit of Donaldson is reached. After you reach Donaldson, another heard-path forms down to the west side of the ridge between the two mountains until you start to climb the ridge near the top of Emmons. The trail to Emmons is very enjoyable with open views of Emmons to the front and Donaldson to the rear. At the summit of Emmons there are great views of all the other High Peaks and a glimpse of the Santanoni Range.

**Dial Mountain**

Elevation: 4030

Ascent of Climb: 3450

Round Trip Length: 10 miles

Average Hike Time: 9 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 5

The round-trip hike is 10 miles long and will take approximately 9 hours to complete. It is not recommended for children or beginners. Dial is often climbed in combination with Nippletop Mountain, which adds an extra 3.7 miles. Colvin and Blake can also be hiked in the same trip as Dial and Nippletop. Most people approach Dial Mountain from the St. Huberts Trailhead.

**Grace Peak**

Elevation: 4012

Ascent of Climb: 3002

Round Trip Length: 12.5 miles

Average Hike Time: 12 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

In June 2014, East Dix was renamed "Grace Peak" in honor of Grace Hudowalski. Hudowalski was just the 9th person to successfully summit all 46 High Peaks (thereby joining the Adirondack 46ers Club), and was the first woman to complete the feat. The name change was the result of a 12-year effort by the 46ers and other groups who were adamant that Hudowalski, a lifelong activist in the Adirondack Park, deserved a namesake. The most popular route is from the Elk Lake Trailhead, following the trail to Slide Brook lean-to. From here, the heard path follows Slide Brook upstream to the slides of Macomb Mountain. Follow the slide to the summit of Macomb and then follow the ridge first to South Dix and then on to Grace Peak.

**Blake Peak**

Elevation: 3960

Ascent of Climb: 3270

Round Trip Length: 13.6 mi

Average Hike Time: 12 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 4

While there are multiple routes to the summit, the most popular starts at the Adirondack Mountain Reserve (AMR) trailhead. This trail requires hikers to summit Mount Colvin before continuing on to Blake Peak. Dogs are strictly prohibited from AMR land. This hike is 15.5 miles round-trip and will take approximately 10-12 hours to complete. It is not recommended for young children or inexperienced hikers. An alternate route begins at Elk Lake. This trail is 18 miles round-trip, and the ascent is moderate-to-steep.

**Cliff Mountain**

Elevation: 3960

Ascent of Climb: 2160

Round Trip Length: 17.2 mi

Average Hike Time: 12 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

This hike is about 17.2 miles long and will take on average 12 hours to complete. It is not recommended for children or inexperienced hikers. Cliff Mountain is part of the **Marcy Group of the Great Range**. It is flanked to the southeast by Mount Redfield, and the two can be scaled in combination. There are multiple routes up Cliff Mountain, one of which begins at the Upper Works/Calamity Brook trailhead on Upper Works Road in Newcomb. Follow the Calamity Brook Trail for 4.5 miles before continuing around Flowed Lands and crossing the Lake Colden Bridge. Upon reaching the Uphill Lean-to, you'll see a small cairn that indicates the herd path to the summits of Cliff Mountain (to the right) and Mount Redfield (straight/to the left). The herd path splits a short distance past the first cairn, with one path going to Cliff and the other to Redfield. A second cairn indicates the split. From the second cairn, the short but strenuous climb to Cliff's summit can be extremely muddy, and features difficult sections of rock and cliffs. It's generally thought that the views from Redfield are superior to those from Cliff.

**Nye Mountain**

Elevation: 3895

Ascent of Climb: 1844

Round Trip Length: 7.5 mi

Average Hike Time: 8.5 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

The route to Nye Mountain goes right from the Indian Pass trail about .1 miles beyond the register box. The junction is marked with a sign for Old Nye Ski Trail and Mt. Jo via Rock Garden Trail. Follow this for 250 yards and you will come to another junction.  Continue straight ahead and follow the remains of the Old Nye Ski Trail, due west and down to Indian Pass Brook. Cross the brook and pick up the new herd path on the other side.  From this point, you will shadow the small brook that comes down the plateau between Street and Nye Mountains. You will come to an intersection on the plateau between Street and Nye and there will be a tree marked S for Street and N for Nye.  Head to the right for Nye and after a few hundred yards, you will have reached the summit.

**Couchsachraga Peak**

Elevation: 3820

Ascent of Climb: 3140

Round Trip Length: 15 miles

Average Hike Time: 12 hours

Difficulty (1-7): 6

This hike is approximately 14 miles round-trip, and will take an average of 10 hours to complete. It can be hiked in combination with Santanoni and Panther, but note that this will add length and time to the trip. This mountain is pronounced "Kook-sa-KRA-ga," and is an ancient Algonquin name that means "Dismal Wilderness." The Algonquin used this name for the Adirondacks. Today, people refer to it as "Couch Mountain" for short. Couchsachraga Peak is an un-trailed peak and is fully lined with trees. The most popular route begins at the Upper Works trailhead. Follow the gravel road for 1.75 miles, then turn onto the blue trail. Continue following the blue trail until you reach the Santanoni Express herd path. When you reach Bradley Pond, begin climbing to Times Square. When you reach Times Square, head west along the ridge toward Couchsachraga. Hikers should note that this hike requires traversing several swampy and muddy areas. Dress accordingly and be sure you have proper gear for such conditions.