

Live, Learn & Loving History – Exploring NH’s Museums and Historic Spots

History buffs looking for a getaway don’t have to travel far distances to be culturally enriched. In the nearby state of New Hampshire (www.visitnh.gov), travelers can find rich offerings such as historic mansions, museums, forts and more. See below for a sample of ways travelers can experience “living history” in each region of the Granite State:

Dartmouth- Lake Sunapee Region

- **[Fells Historic Estate & Gardens](#)**: Situated on a 1,000-acre hillside in Newbury, the Fells Historic Estate & Gardens overlooks the scenic Lake Sunapee and served as a summer retreat for three generations of the Hay family. Come and discover 83+ conserved acres of beauty and tranquility while learning the legacy of its founder, diplomat and statesman John Milton Hay. Visitors can take advantage of historic guided tours of the 22-room Colonial Revival home while exploring forest succession and nature’s diversity while walking its woodland trails and enjoying the property’s renowned gardens.
- **[The Fort at No.4](#)**: The Fort at Number 4 was the northernmost British settlement along the Connecticut River in New Hampshire until after the French and Indian War. Open May – October, visitors can get a firsthand look at how settlers in the far north portion of the American colonies lived before the events that changed everything in the American Revolution.

Merrimack Valley

- **[Canterbury Shaker Village](#)**: Experience 25 restored original Shaker buildings, four reconstructed Shaker buildings, and 694 acres of forests, fields, gardens, nature trails and mill ponds under permanent conservation easement. The village offers guided and self-guided tours, accessible historic buildings, family activities, exhibits, educational programs, special events, unique shopping, exceptional dining and breathtaking grounds.
- **[Millyard Museum](#)** Travelers can discover the fascinating history of the experimental city built on the Merrimack at the dawn of America's Industrial Revolution at the Millyard Museum. The museum offers 11,000 years of local history in a dynamic series of exhibits that outline early colonial life in America up through the city of Manchester as a bustling mill town.

Seacoast

- **[Harbour Trail](#)**: Guests can walk the Harbor Trail in Portsmouth, which passes more than 70 points of scenic and historic significance, including Market Square and Prescott Park, 10 buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings, 10 National Historic Landmarks, and three homes maintained by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.
- **[Strawbery Banke Museum](#)**: The 10-acre outdoor history museum is dedicated to the histories of the families who lived and worked in the Puddle Dock neighborhood, brings 300+ years of American history to life.

White Mountains

- [New Hampshire Farm Museum](#): Guests can try an immersive farm experience at this museum in Milton. The farms date to the late 18th century and consist of 50 acres of field and forest, a working farm, historic houses and barns, a blacksmith shop, a shoe shop and exhibits on agriculture and rural life.
- [Extreme Mount Washington Museum](#): Extreme Mount Washington delivers the science and excitement of a Mount Washington winter to summer visitors of all ages through high-tech, hands on exhibits. Learn how rime ice forms, pilot a snowcat, see how Mount Washington Observatory scientists observe and record the infamous conditions and more.

Great North Woods

- [Poore Family Homestead Historic Farm Museum](#): The museum, located in Stewartstown, is a historic homestead and settlement portraying one family's life from the 1830's to the 1980s. The house, barns and out-buildings are all in authentic condition and reflect their original use and era. It has a large collection of historical clothing, artifacts, newspapers, magazines, diaries and letters from the civil war to present, hand tools, horse drawn wagons and farming implements, including a vast collection of ever day life items. Activities offered at the museum include picnics, tours, exhibits, live events, demonstrations, hiking and field trips.
- [Weeks State Park](#): This historic estate was built at the direction of John Wingate Weeks, leading conservationist, U.S. congressman, U.S. senator and Secretary of War under Presidents Harding and Coolidge. The 446-acre Mt. Prospect estate was given to the state of New Hampshire in 1941 by John Weeks' children. Set at the very top of Mt. Prospect in Lancaster, New Hampshire, the house and grounds provide a 360-degree panorama of mountain splendor, including the Presidential Range of the White Mountains, the Green Mountains of Vermont, the Kilkenny Range, the Percy Peaks, and the upper Connecticut River Valley. Visitors can climb the old stone fire tower for even better mountain views. The John Wingate Weeks House Museum is also open to the public and tours are offered during the operating season.

Lakes Region

- [Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm](#): Situated on the picturesque grounds of a 200+-year-old homestead and farm—still a working farm today, Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm is the only country doctor museum in New England and one of only three in the United States. Exhibits in the Museum Center, as well as the buildings and barns, provide glimpses into the contributions and way of life of Tamworth's country doctors, agricultural, domestic and foodways practices, rural pastimes and New Hampshire lore.
- [Wright Museum of World War II](#): Located in Wolfeboro, the Wright Museum is an educational institution dedicated to recognizing and honoring the contributions and enduring legacy of WWII-era Americans. The museum was opened by founder David Wright, the son of a World War II veteran who served as a U.S. Marine during the Korean War but was too young to serve in World War II. For over twenty years this educational institution has fulfilled David's dream of

creating a public understanding and appreciation of the exceptional contributions on the home front and the battle fields made by World War II-era Americans.

These historical offerings, plus many others, shaped not only the “Live Free” state but also America as a whole. We would love to further discuss historical story angles and a possible visit to learn this history first hand.