



# Planning Your Visit

FORT TICONDEROGA  
AMERICA'S FORT™

Thank you for making arrangements to visit Fort Ticonderoga with your students. As one of the country's oldest and most significant historic sites, Fort Ticonderoga has lots to offer you and your students. Each year we add new experiences and new exhibits, so your visit in 2016 will offer new opportunities for you and your students.

We hope your students will capture the excitement of touring the museum campus where so many important events happened in both the Seven Years' War (French & Indian War) and the American Revolution!

## Arrival

Fort Ticonderoga collects entrance fees at an Admissions booth as you enter the site; however, all group arrivals will be processed at the Log House Welcome Center. School groups can pull up to the booth and check-in with the attendant. All groups with advance reservations will then be allowed to proceed to Fort Ticonderoga's main parking lot next to the Log House. For groups arriving by car, be sure every driver knows to check in at the booth, stating the school group they are with.

When you arrive at the parking lot please keep your students on board the bus until the person in charge of the group completes the check-in process at Guest Services. For groups arriving by car or van, we ask that the students gather in a group on the "glacis" (the grassy slope between the parking lot and the Fort).

The person in charge of the group needs to enter the Log House and go to the Guest Services desk. It speeds the arrival procedure if you have an exact count of students, teachers, and chaperones. We appreciate payment by credit card, check, or large bills whenever possible. *Payment with change and one-dollar bills slows down entry for you and those behind you.* Checks should be made out to "Fort Ticonderoga."

Student groups receive a discount on admission to Fort Ticonderoga when making reservations in advance. The admission rate for students is \$6. Each school group is entitled to one chaperone or teacher for every five students at no charge. Additional chaperones are charged the adult group rate of \$13 per chaperone. For groups participating in a special on-site program, admission is \$10 per student (one free teacher or chaperone for every five students; additional chaperones are charged the adult group rate of \$13 per chaperone).

### ***Backpacks are not permitted beyond the Log House.***

Please have students leave them on the bus or in the car. In addition, there is no smoking, eating, or drinking beyond the Log House. Your assistance in protecting the museum collection is appreciated.

## Exploring Fort Ticonderoga

Students are free to explore the site with their chaperones. Nametags for everyone in your group help Fort Ticonderoga museum staff, but also help chaperones and students as they get to know each other during their visit. Weather permitting, there are daily musket loading and firing demonstrations. The times of these demonstrations are posted on the digital screens in the Log House and the Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center.



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## Museum Exhibitions

The **Soldiers' Barracks** (South Barracks) contains museum exhibits of the museum campus' renowned collection of artifacts and paintings. Fully restored in 1931, the Soldier's Barracks has been the museum's primary exhibition space. The building encompasses three stories and nearly 10,000 square feet of gallery space covering topics from prehistory to the 20th century.

Museum staff are stationed throughout the museum exhibits and can answer questions for your students.

## New and Special Exhibition in 2016

Fort Ticonderoga's newest exhibition (located in the Mars Education Center) "*The Last Argument of Kings: The Art and Science of 18th-Century Artillery*," tells the story of the weapons that dominated 18th-century battlefields. The exhibit includes the re-installation of elements of the permanent artillery collection along the fort's wall, conservation work on several key artillery pieces, an interactive activity space, a new mobile application, a symposium featuring world-renowned scholars, and the publication of an exhibition catalogue.

## This Year it's 1777 at Fort Ticonderoga

Experience Fort Ticonderoga on land and water during the 2016 season! Every day is an event at Fort Ticonderoga and every year is a new experience. It is the only site in the world that tells a new story each year through dynamic historical interpretation. This year is 1777 at Fort Ticonderoga; a fundamental year in the American Revolution. Discover 1777 as German, Canadian, British, and American soldiers, as well as their native allies, fought to control the vital Lake Champlain corridor.

## Historic Trade Shops

Don't miss Fort Ticonderoga's Historic Trades Shops, which opened during the 2012 season, located in the Officers' Barracks, King's Garden, Soldier's Kitchen, and Carpentry Yard. Our tailors and shoemakers make clothing and shoes on a daily basis and are happy to talk with students about their craft, the production process, and the historical background behind producing materials required for an army on the North American frontier. From tree to timber and beam to building, students can watch carpentry in action as carpenters reveal new insights into soldier's construction through research and experimentation. Don't forget to stop by the King's Garden to sow and hoe with 18th- and 20th-century gardeners, Back at the garrison camp kitchen, students can witness the conversion from soil to plate, as an earthen stove cooks up hot kettles of food for hungry soldiers.



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## Protecting Fort Ticonderoga and its Artifacts

Please take a moment to discuss the importance of preserving Fort Ticonderoga and its artifacts with your students. All visitors must stay behind barriers and walls. Please stress that students (and chaperones) should not touch artifacts on display in the Museum. The oils on human skin can cause artifacts to deteriorate—even items made of wood and metal. Paintings are especially fragile—please look but don't touch. Use the "18-inch" rule. Encourage students to imagine there is a glass barrier 18 inches in front of the painting and not to get any closer than that.

## Safety

For their own safety, please keep students (and adults) off the walls of the Fort, as well as off the cannon and their carriages. In addition, black powder (an explosive) is in use during musket demonstrations. It is important that all our visitors follow the announced safety rules during the demonstrations.

## Food

Our *America's Fort Café* is very busy during much of the year. With limited seating capacity, we must reserve seating in the Café for those groups and other customers purchasing lunch at the Café. Groups planning to purchase lunch at the Café should make arrangements in advance so that the Café staff can be ready for them. All food is cooked to order. Box lunches to be enjoyed in our picnic area can be ordered in advance for faster service. A picnic area is provided to the west of the parking lot. In the event of inclement weather, bag lunches will need to be eaten on the bus or in cars. Fort Ticonderoga is a "carry in, carry out" facility. No food or beverages are permitted in the Fort area (beyond the Log House). We appreciate your help in preserving the Museum's collections.

## Museum Store

The Fort Ticonderoga Museum Store features souvenirs and books of interest to students and teachers alike. We ask that chaperones accompany students in the store. Fort Ticonderoga offers exclusive souvenir packages for school. You can learn more on our website at: <http://www.fortticonderoga.org/userfiles/kcfinder/files/2015%20Discovery%20Bags.pdf>. Teachers who are Members of Fort Ticonderoga receive a 10% discount in the Museum Store. For more information about memberships, email Martha Strum at [MStrum@fort-ticonderoga.org](mailto:MStrum@fort-ticonderoga.org)

## Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the lower level of the Log House. Accessible restrooms are available on the west end of the Log House and are entered from the outside. Additional accessible restrooms are available in the Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center in the Fort.



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## Teacher Resources

Teachers can find additional resources for planning their visit, and for use in their classrooms at: <http://www.fortticonderoga.org/education/educators/resources-by-subject>. If you would like help in customizing your visit to meet your curricular needs, please feel free to call Rich Strum, Director of Education, at 518-585-6370, or email at [rstrum@fortticonderoga.org](mailto:rstrum@fortticonderoga.org). Email is best from mid April until late October.

## School Programs

Fort Ticonderoga offers a wide variety of special programs for students and educators alike. More information can be found here: <http://www.fortticonderoga.org/userfiles/kcfinder/files/August%20Teacher%20Mailing%20for%20GF%20Printing%2008-12-15.pdf>.

