



**Independence Day Weekend at Fort Ticonderoga
Saturday July 4 & Sunday July 5, 2020**

10:15 a.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour (Begins at large American Flag)

Could Ticonderoga have been held by the Continental Army in 1777? Was its loss a disaster or a prudent retreat? Create your own answers to questions that have enthralled officers and armchair generals alike for 243 years. During this 30-minute guided tour, explore how two decades of military occupation culminated with rich cultures and characters at Ticonderoga in 1777.

11:00 a.m. Musket Demonstration (Demonstration Area)

American soldiers, behind a wall of earth, steadied their nerves to hold their ground as the British Army landed to attack in 1777. See how an army of farmers and tradesmen used their muskets & bayonets to hold back British and German regular soldiers.

11:45 a.m. Breaking Ground: A Tour of the Historic Gardens (Begins in the King's Garden)

From military garrison gardens to a secluded colonial revival commemorative spectacle of color and light, explore one of the oldest cultivated landscapes in America. Discover the layers of horticultural history of the Ticonderoga peninsula.

1:15 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour (Begins at large American Flag)

See 10:15 a.m. description

2:00 p.m. Cannon Demonstration (Recreated Redoubt)

Watch a cannon and its crew in their element, holding the British Army back with shots fired from the earthen walls of a redoubt. Explore how the science of gunnery and field fortification were applied in the defense of Ticonderoga in July 1777.

3:00 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tours (Begins at large American Flag)

See 10:15 a.m. description.

4:00 p.m. Mount Defiance: Witness to History Tour (72 Defiance Street)

Oh, the stories this graceful hill overlooking Fort Ticonderoga could tell! As Fort Ticonderoga relives 1777, discover Mount Defiance's unique tactical role in the story of this decisive campaign.

**The gold coin that you received upon entry to Fort Ticonderoga allows you free driving access.*

5:00 p.m. Fort Ticonderoga Closes to Visitors

Ongoing Historic Trades and Soldiers' Life Programming

Bateau Maintenance

See how wooden boats were sealed each campaign season and discover how bateaux carried the Continental and British Army on Lake Champlain. Hear the harrowing story of the Continental Army's wounded soldiers, women, and children, who fled Ticonderoga by bateau, chased by British gun boats.

Musket Maintenance

Whether cobbled together fowlers or brand new imported muskets, these weapons depended on the soldiers' time and attention to keep them in working order. Watch as hot water, grease, and a little brick dust keep these weapons working; lock, stock and barrel.

Tailoring

Needle and thread weren't just for clothes. From tents to knapsacks and tarps to bales examine the world of, "Campaign Necessaries," that made skilled soldier-tailors necessary for far more than just clothing.

Shoemaking

Explore the variety of shoes worn by Continental Army soldiers and militia drafts at Ticonderoga in 1777. See shoemakers among the ranks repair their comrades' shoes in a campaign that tried men's souls.

Soldiers' Gardening

Even as the British Army tightened the noose around American held Ticonderoga, soldiers were pulled from the lines to tend the garden. Discover how the King's Garden still bore vital vegetables as it and Ticonderoga itself changed hands between armies in 1777.

Carillon Battlefield Hiking Trail

Take a leisurely battlefield hike (1.7-mile loop) to gain an up-close and personal understanding of Ticonderoga's history. Considered the bloodiest day in North American history until the American Civil War, the Battle of Carillon on July 8, 1758, seared Ticonderoga's reputation in the minds of all in the Atlantic world. During the Revolutionary War, the Carillon Battlefield was renamed Liberty Hill by the Americans who refortified it. Today, the battlefield is part of the most intact Revolutionary earthworks that exist in America and is part of the site's designation and protection under the National Historic Landmark designation.