



Living History Event: 1776 Winter at Ticonderoga

February 17, 2024 | 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Soldiers at Ticonderoga in February 1776 struggled to maintain their vital link in the supply chain that kept an American Army alive at the gates of Quebec City. In this exciting one-day living history event, see how soldiers and teamsters kept sleds running over the ice of Lake Champlain to feed and clothe the Continental Army in Canada. Explore how the small garrison of New York troops survived the depths of winter. ****Appropriate footwear is highly recommended for undetermined walking conditions****

10:00 a.m. Fort Ticonderoga Opens to Visitors

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

In this entertaining half-hour tour, discover the incredible story of Ticonderoga and all the great experiences Fort Ticonderoga offers today. Learn about the iconic battles of Carillon and Ticonderoga within the French & Indian War and the Revolutionary War. Explore groundbreaking preservation and reconstruction efforts that allow Fort Ticonderoga to bring to life its heroic tales today and for generations to come.

11:00 a.m. “Gun’s Drawn out of the Store for Troops Going into Canada” (Begins on Parade Ground)

Witness the first reinforcements for the Continental Army in Canada draw firelocks from Ticonderoga’s stores in 1776. Discover the story of these New Englanders, requested by the Continental Congress to stabilize the eroding military situation in the north.

11:30 a.m. Guided Tour of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum (Begins in Mars Education Center Atrium)

More than a century of collecting has allowed Fort Ticonderoga to acquire North America’s largest and most important collection of 18th-century military material culture. This guided tour will give you the scoop on the most significant, rare, and interesting pieces in the collection.

12:30 p.m. “Send Immediately What is at Tyconderoga” (Parade Ground)

Meet the teams of draft animals and teamsters that connected posts, like Ticonderoga, on the Continental Army’s supply chain. Learn of the challenges they faced feeding the northern army in the dead of winter. Help load a sled destined for Montreal with barrels of pork and flour to feed the famished army in Canada.

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. Cannons for Canada (Demonstration Area)

How do you know a gun barrel will not blow up? Learn about the process of proofing, using two-to-three times a cannon or mortar’s normal charge to test its strength. Discover how Conductor of Artillery, Hubbard Brown, tested artillery and loaded sleds destined for Quebec with the firepower to drive the British from the city.

2:30 p.m. Guided Tour of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum (Begins in Mars Education Center Atrium)

See 11:30 a.m. description.

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

See 10:15 a.m. description.

3:30 p.m. “Proceed to Canada With All Possible Expedition” (Parade Ground)

With supplies loaded, watch as soldiers resume their march to Canada. Follow soldiers as they begin their long journey to bolster the siege lines around Quebec.

4:00 p.m. Fort Ticonderoga Closes to Visitors

Ongoing 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Conductor’s Quarters (Second Floor of the Officers’ Barracks)

Explore the role of Hubbard Brown, the Conductor of Artillery and Barracks Master at Ticonderoga in early 1776. From moving cannon to supplying the garrison with firewood, Brown’s job was never done. Discover the challenges he faced as he attempted to hold Ticonderoga’s garrison together until Ticonderoga’s new commander arrived.

The Power of Oxen (Around Fort Ticonderoga)

Watch as oxen deliver supplies from the south into stores at Fort Ticonderoga. Discover the trek along frozen lakes and portage roads that brought each barrel of food northward.

Woodcutters (Fort Entrance)

Whether stoves, hearths, or clay fireplaces, soldiers needed firewood to keep warm in the winter. Watch soldiers section, split, and stack wood to stockpile enough fuel to keep the garrison warm. In this fun hands-on soldiers’ life program, try your hand at cutting logs or splitting wood!

The Laboratory & Public Store (Ground Floor of Officers’ Barracks)

A successful siege of Quebec relied on receiving ammunition and supplies from stores at Fort Ticonderoga. See soldiers at work fashioning grape and canister shot, essential ammunition to keep the Northern Continental Army’s guns firing.

Beds, Bolsters, and Beyond! (Soldiers’ Barracks)

From making new mattresses to laundering old ones, see the work it took to outfit the barracks with proper bedding. Learn how women of the army provided this vital service to keep the Continental garrison at Ticonderoga in good health.

“The Sutler to the Garrison” (Ground Floor of Officers’ Barracks)

Meet the one merchant allowed to sell to the soldiers at Fort Ticonderoga during the winter of 1776. Discover how General Philip Schuyler curtailed a bustling market of locals, authorizing a *sutler* with selling foods and comforts to soldiers at regulated prices.

Carpentry (Soldiers’ Barracks)

How do you move supplies when the lakes are frozen and the ground laden with snow? See woodchips fly as carpenters build sleds for the Continental Army to transport cannon and casks to Canada.