

Franconia Notch State Park

Hiking Information

A few of the more popular family hikes in Franconia Notch State Park are briefly described below. For more specific information, or for descriptions and maps of lengthier hikes into the White Mountain National Forest and on the Appalachian Trail, consult the Appalachian Mountain Club White Mountain Guide or stop at the Visitor Center cabin near the entrance to Lafayette Campground. It is important to wear sturdy walking shoes and to remember that in the mountains, weather changes suddenly and darkness falls quickly. Keep close tabs on children, as unforeseen hazards may exist or develop suddenly on mountain trails.

Bald Mountain and Artists Bluff, reached by a short hike, offer fine views of Cannon Mountain and Franconia Notch. The 1½-mile loop begins in the parking area across Route 18 from the Peabody Base Lodge. After ¼ mile, a short steep path diverges left for 1/10 mile to the open summit of Bald Mountain. The main trail continues on from the junction and bears right, up and across the low ridge. A short unmarked path diverges left to the open top of Artists Bluff. The main trail continues down to Route 18 near Echo Lake.

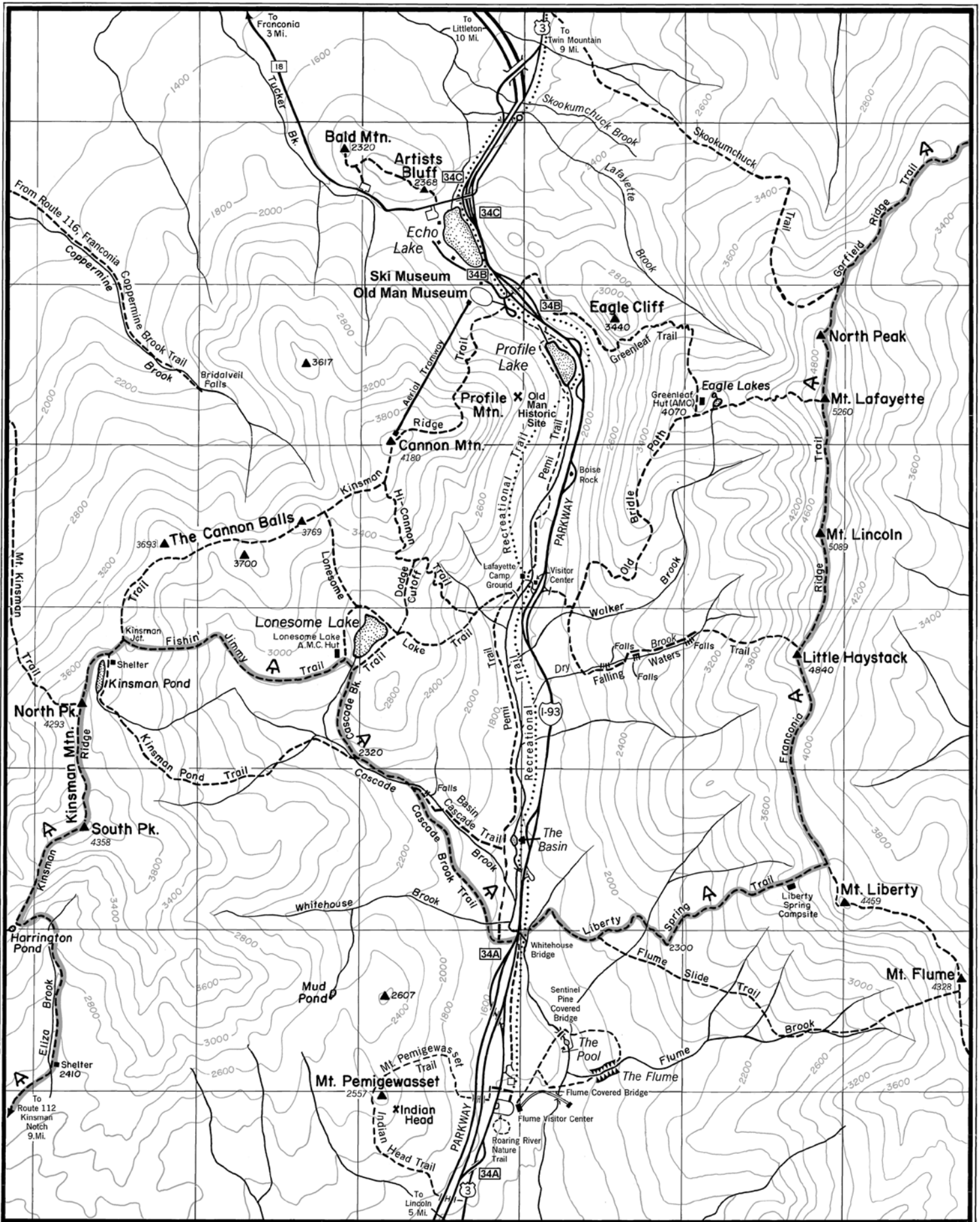
Lonesome Lake, nestled in the mountains 1,000 feet above the floor of the notch, is a popular hiking destination. It is reached by a 1½-mile (one way) trail that begins at Lafayette Place, just south of the cabin near the campground. A lakeside trail leads to the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) hut at the far end of the lake and passes by an inactive beaver lodge.

Kinsman Falls, a beautiful, secluded, and often overlooked spot on Cascade Brook, can be found by following the Basin-Cascades Trail for ½ mile from the Basin. Many potholes and ledges in the brook along the way make for an enjoyable twenty minute (one way) walk. A rough path diverges left off the trail to the cool base of the falls. Follow the main trail a short way to a brook crossing to the left that leads to Rocky Glenn Falls. No bridges cross the brook.

The open ledges at the 2,557-foot summit of **Mount Pemigewasset** (Indian Head) afford excellent views of Franconia Notch, the Franconia Range, and the valley to the south. The 1.4-mile (one way) trail, marked by blue blazer trail markers, climbs moderately to the summit from the Flume Visitor Center parking area. Return can be made by the same route or via the Indian Head Trail that diverges from the Mt. Pemigewasset Trail just below the summit. This trail is marked by yellow blazer trail markers and leads one mile to Route 3, one mile south of the Flume Visitor Center.

Franconia Notch State Park
Route 93
Franconia/Lincoln, NH 03580
Phone: 603.745.8391
www.nhstateparks.org





APPALACHIAN TRAIL
Maine to Georgia

0 1/4 1/2 1 Mile
SCALE

FRANCONIA NOTCH STATE PARK HIKING TRAILS

Franconia & Lincoln, New Hampshire

PARKWAY EXITS
 TRAIL - - - - - SUMMIT ▲
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 200 FEET
 GRID LINES = 1 MILE SQUARES