## LIFE ON THE LAKE – YESTERDAY AND TODAY

## Offered by Notch Above Tours

This trip is all about Lake Champlain and the amazing history that comes with it! Scan the water for Champ while you learn about the boats that weaved through the waterways. Visit a Fort that was a major player in our country's history. Lake Champlain is more than meets the eye and will give you the knowledge of what goes on below the surface.



Your first stop is at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Its mission is to preserve and share the history and archaeology of Lake Champlain. LCMM studies the hundreds of shipwrecks discovered in Lake Champlain and plays a major role in the management of those cultural resources. Lake Champlain has been a water highway for hundreds of years, with thousands of vessels plying her waters.

Upon arrival you will be greeted by a Museum Docent and directed to the Hazelett Watercraft Center where you will be entertained with a 20-minute introduction to this amazing exhibit. The centerpiece of this exhibit is the 35-foot long, 1902 ice yacht *Storm King*, given to the museum by William (Bill) and Dawn Hazelett. *Storm King* towers above a two-story array of dugout and bark canoes, kayaks, rowing skiffs, and sailboats from the collection, and digital displays of vintage postcards and film footage of iceboats in action. The exhibit celebrates the unique style and craftsmanship of Lake Champlain's watercraft and honors the boat builders who created them. Over the centuries, thousands of **handcrafted wooden boats** on the lake served a myriad of purposes: hunting, fishing, transportation of goods and people, as well as recreation and leisure. While at the exhibit, learn of Game Warden Charlie Blow and his dugout canoe! Depart the Museum after the cruise and continue traveling south on Lake Champlain.



Photo Credit: John Stanton

Arrive at the **Fort Ticonderoga Cable Ferry** in Shoreham. Established in 1759, the Fort Ti cable ferry crosses Lake Champlain between Shoreham and Fort Ticonderoga, New York, at one of the oldest ferry crossings in North America and on one of the last remaining cable ferries in North America. Set your watch. Seven and a half minutes across, seven and a half minutes back. As the ferry is not large enough to accommodate a motor coach, you will cross the lake as "foot passengers" which gives you optimum views of the lake.

Your next stop is **Fort Ticonderoga**, where America made history. For a generation, this remote post on Lake Champlain guarded the narrow water highway connecting New France with Britain's American colonies. Whichever nation controlled Ticonderoga controlled a continent. During the American Revolution, Fort Ticonderoga was the scene of America's first major victory in its struggle for independence and the United States' northern stronghold protecting New York and New England from British invasion from Canada. A popular destination for history lovers since the early 19th century, Fort Ticonderoga is one of America's earliest historic preservation projects with efforts to preserve the site dating back to 1820.

Upon arrival you will be greeted by a costumed interpreter and given a historical introduction to the site. Then, venture out to explore the museum and grounds and witness the activities of the day such as the **musket demo** and **fife** and **drum corps**. Board the coach and depart the fort.



## TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

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