

**THE COLONIAL HOUSE INN
WESTON, VT
JAN 27-29, 2012
Fri to Sun**

LEADER: Eileen Greve, 35 N. Hill Dr, Westampton, NJ 08060 cell: 609 204-6451,
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TRANSPORTATION: to VT is the responsibility of the participant. Directions are below.

ACCOMODATIONS: The Colonial House Inn, 287 Route 100, Weston, VT, 05161. phone: 802 824-6286. This facility is a charming and cozy inn with private rooms and shared baths, and attached are several modern motel style rooms with private bath. See more at www.cohoinn.com

CHECK IN: is 2pm on Friday and checkout is 11am Sunday.

MEALS: Dinner on Fri and Sat, & breakfast and lunch on Sat and Sun are included. The hearty breakfasts and scrumptious dinners are served in the Inn's lovely dining room, and packed trail lunches are provided for Sat and Sun.

You may bring beer or wine to the dining room. Set ups are provided.

SKIING: This trip is appropriate for all skill levels. Both Viking and Wild Wings X/C centers are nearby. Other centers include Grafton Pond, Mountain Top and Mountain Meadows (one hour drive).

Off track/backcountry in nearby Green Mountain National Forest on woods roads and trails including the Catamount. Backcountry (off track) skiing requires at least advanced beginner to intermediate skill level.

SNOWSHOEING: Wide variety in national forest including Appalachian Trail, Long Trail, Catamount Trail. Spruce, Styles, Stratton, and Bromley mountains for peak bagging. Bring own snowshoes or rent at EMS in Manchester.

RENTALS: Skis at X/C centers, but can only be used there. Snowshoes available from EMS in Manchester, VT.

EQUIPMENT: Daypack, at least two 1 liter water bottles, thermos (optional), adequate layers for cold weather (polypro, wool, fleece, NO cotton!). skis, snowshoes, ice skates, waterproof, warm boots or snowpack boots for use with snowshoes.

ICE SKATING: Nearby lake on Little Pond Rd, past Viking X/C ctr. Also the Riley Rink (indoors) in Manchester.

COST: Cost is per person, dbl occupancy and includes 2 nights, 2 hearty breakfasts, 2 packed trail lunches, and 2 dinners, plus all taxes and gratuities. \$186 pp for rooms in the Inn with shared bath. The cost of motel rooms is \$197 pp for a small room and \$208 pp for a large room.

TO SIGN UP: Contact leader, see contact info above. A deposit of \$80 **by check made out to leader** holds your place. **Full payment by Dec 15.** If it is necessary to cancel, a full refund will be made with at least 30 days notice. If less than 30 days, a portion of the deposit may be forfeited.

ABOUT YOUR CAR: please be sure your car is prepared for cold weather – a good

battery, windshield wipers, tires. Bring jumper cables, a shovel, kitty litter for traction, and use “dry gas” when you fill up – prevents gas line freezing.

DIRECTIONS: As of 2011, this is changed (in red) from previous years. From NJ: I take the NJ Turnpike to Garden State Parkway, to end, merge with 287 N, soon flows into 87 N (New York Thruway) North toward Albany. From there:

- Take **exit 23** off I-87 NY Thruway toward downtown Albany. You will be on **Rt 787**. Go approx 8.5 miles
- From Rt 787 take **exit 8**, follow signs to **Rt 2 East**. This will skirt the south edge of the city of Troy and avoid most of the heavy traffic one finds going on Rt 7 thru the city. Anyway, stay on Rt 2 and soon you will leave the city and be on a pleasant country road. Total distance to travel on Rt 2 approx 7.5 miles.
- From Rt 2 turn left onto **Rt 278 North**. Go 1.4 miles to a traffic light.
- Turn **right** onto NY **Rt 7 east**. From here go 20 miles on Rt 7. to a blinking light.
- About here you cross the NY / VT border. **Stay straight** and Rt 7 becomes **Rt 279**. This is a by-pass around Bennington . If you need gas or want to go into Bennington you'll need to turn right onto Rt 9 and proceed several miles to the town.
- *If you enter Bennington, you turn left, then right passing some large homes (estates?), then go downhill into the town. Turn left at the second light, go several blocks to end and turn left. You'll still be following NY7. If you want to eat in Bennington, try Jensen's located on your left after this last turn, or Blue Benn (take a right instead of a left, and its on your right.)*
- If you have taken the bypass (Rt 279) follow it for 5 miles and it ends and merges into **Rt 7 north**.
- Continue on VT 7 north (it becomes a major highway) for 22 miles to **exit 4** for Manchester. Turn **right onto Rtes 30/11**, and stay straight on this road to follow Rte 11 for 14 miles to Londonderry. Go through the town , at the blinking yellow light turn left following VT 100 N. Go approx 3 ½ miles. The Colonial House Inn is on your right.

Driving distance from Mt Holly, NJ is 295 miles. Driving time is 5 and a half hours.

- **ON THE RETURN** - From Londonderry go back Rte 11 toward Manchester.
- Before you get to the town you will see signs for Rt 7 south. Turn is on your right just after the overpass.
- Go 22 miles to exit 1, a right turn for Rt 279.
- Go 5 miles to blinking light.
- Stay straight to continue on Rt 7, then another 20 miles from the blinking light to a traffic light (look for a yard with some new, bright orange heavy machinery and bulldozers on your right at this light)
- Turn left onto Rt 278 South. Go 1.4 miles
- Turn right at traffic light onto Rt 2 and follow into Troy, approx 7.5 miles.
- Stay on Rt 2. You will go over a large bridge (the Hudson River) and then turn right following signs for Rt 787. At the next traffic light, 23rd St, turn right again. I almost missed this turn, you don't see the sign until after you've turned, but just after this you come onto Rt 787 South.
- Rt 787 South is a major highway and takes you out to the New York Thruway/Rt 87 South.