

Mt. Philo State Park

Welcome to Mt. Philo State Park. Sitting atop 968' Mt. Philo, the 237-acre park became the first Vermont State Park in 1924. With breathtaking views of the Lake Champlain Valley and New York's Adirondack Mountains, the park is a favorite of hikers and picnickers, and includes a small campground.

G. Lewis and Associates, proprietors of the Mt. Philo Inn, built the original carriage road to the top of Mt. Philo in 1903. Inn guests were able to ride to the top of the mountain in horse-drawn surreys. Traces of the original road are still visible in sections along the current park road, and the inn still stands outside the park's southwest boundary. Toward the end of the first decade of the 20th Century, Mrs. Frances Humphreys acquired the mountain property. In 1924 Mrs. Humphreys deeded the 150 acres to the State for use as a recreational area. In the early 1930's a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) unit was assigned to the mountain. This crew built the current access road, campground, ranger's quarters, picnic area and summit lodge. Subsequent donations have been added: John and Hobart Wells deeded 13.45 acres in 1969 and Charles and Gwen Allmon deeded 69 acres in 2009.

Today the park attracts hundreds of visitors each day year round. The summit access road allows visitors to drive to the top, or a ¾-mile hiking trail leads to the mountain's summit for more ambitious visitors. Hikers are likely to see a variety of wildlife including white-tailed deer or moose. The park is an excellent spot to watch autumn bird migrations, and is noted for raptor watching. A small campground is located on the north side of the park. Due to the steep grade and narrow width of the roadway, recreational vehicles are not suited to this park. Dogs must be leashed in all areas at all times.

Mt. Philo State Park amenities:

- 7 tent sites, 3 lean-to shelters
- Picnicking and group events
- Hiking
- Firewood for sale

Recreating and sightseeing in the area: Charlotte

- Rokeby Museum
- Ferry to Essex, NY

Shelburne

- Shelburne Museum
- Shelburne Farms

Burlington

- ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain
- Ethan Allen Homestead
- University of Vermont

Vergennes

- Button Bay State Park
- Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Addison

- D.A.R. State Park
- John Strong Mansion Museum
- Chimney Point Historic Site
- Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area
- Snake Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Middlebury

- Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History
- Downtown Marble Works District
- Middlebury College
- University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm

Ferrisburgh

Kingsland Bay State Park

New York State

- Fort Ticonderoga National Historic Landmark
- Crown Point State Historic Site

For more information, contact:

Mt. Philo State Park 5425 Mt. Philo Road Charlotte, Vermont 05445 (802) 425-2390 (during operating season) OR

VT State Parks Reservation Center (888) 409-7579

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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Mt Philo State Park Map & Guide



Memorial Day Weekend-Late October

Hiking Picnicking & Group Events Camping

