

Kancamagus Waterfall Tour

There are **many** waterfalls in the lovely State of New Hampshire. For this tour I have picked four of them. If we spend on average about ½ hour per waterfall, that will be two hours at the falls and – if you start at Historic Motor Sports (HMS) - about four hours of driving.

That's not quite right because I will suggest that you might want to have a **Picnic Lunch** at the 2nd of the Falls, so we may spend 45 Minutes there.

Those that live north of Manchester and don't want to drive south to HMS might want to pick up this Tour at the Tanger Outlets in Tilton or in the parking lot behind the Truant's Tavern that is right at the Junction of Route 3 and Route 112 – 96 Main Street, North Woodstock.

Those that live in the Eastern part of the State might want to go directly to the Sabbaday Falls on the Kancamagus Highway if they wish.

Read on down to find appropriate meeting times.

The Falls on this Tour are:

The Sabbaday Falls on the Kancamagus Highway

The Lower Falls on the Kancamagus Highway

The Jackson Falls just off Route 16 in Jackson

The Glen Ellis Falls just off Route 16 North of Jackson

There will be some "hiking" to get to the sites of the actual falls. Those with walking issues may want to skip this one.

A broad brush outline of the trip is:

Gather at Historic Motor Sports (HMS) in Candia (The BCNH Clubhouse) between 8:30 and 9:00

Leave HMS at 9:00

We will wend our way up to the Western Terminus of the **Kancamagus Highway** in North Woodstock using back roads to **stay off** the Interstate and Route 3

From HMS

We should be at The Tanger Outlets in Tilton at about 10:00 and then to the Parking Lot behind Truant's Tavern at about 11:45 and will stop there for about 20 minutes.

We will leave Truant's at about 12:05 and take "**The Kanc**" for just short of 20 miles to **The Sabbaday Falls – Arriving there at about 12:40**

There are no gas stations on the Kanc. If you need to, plan to fuel up before we leave Truant's.

Members that live north and east may want to meet us at the Sabbaday Falls. There is a "Jug Handle" Parking Area at the Trail Head. We will meet you there at about 12:40

It is about 1/2 of a mile (15 minute walk) from the Parking Area up to the Falls with a "Rise" of just about 100 feet. But the trail is right alongside of the Sabbaday Brook (which is a pretty good sight itself at this time of year) and there are several benches along the way for those that decide they don't want to go all the way to the Falls.

Those that do take the Trail to the Falls will be rewarded. At this time of year this is a pretty impressive falls.

We will **leave Sabbaday at about 1:15** and drive just short of 8 more miles going East on the Kanc to get to **The Lower Falls at about 1:25. Again, Members from the East are welcome to meet us here if they wish.**

The **Lower Falls** are right alongside of the road – and the large parking area – and there are "facilities" - and multiple **Picnic Areas** between the parking area and the Falls.

I suggest that we all pack a Picnic Lunch and eat it here. I also suggest that you pack bug repellent in with the lunch.

There is not a great deal of "drop" at the Lower Falls – just 2 or 3 "steps" of about 3 or 4 feet – but at this time of year there is **a lot of water** passing by and it's worth watching for a few minutes.

Leaving the Lower Falls at about 2:10/2:15 we will go back west on the Kanc for about 5 miles to Bear Notch Road which has some beautiful views of its own – and will allow us **to avoid** most, if not all, of the congestion (and traffic lights) of **North Conway.**

Bear Notch Road will take us to Route 302 north of Conway – and then connect with Route 16.

We will take Route 16 north for about 2 miles and then turn right onto Route 16A. **Note that Route 16A is a "loop" road. We will pass over a Covered Bridge and continue a short way to the Wentworth Inn at the foot of the Jackson Falls**

Turn right on **Carter Notch Road** and then immediately pull off the road into the gravel parking area for **Jackson Falls. This should be at about 3:15**

The Jackson Falls are just a hundred yards from the Parking Area. We will stay here for 15 or 20 minutes.

For the final leg of this tour we will go back out to Route 16 again and head north once more. In just about 8.9 miles you should see a sign for the **Glen Ellis Falls Parking Area**. Note that the sign was not up yet when I went up there after the Blessing of the Fleet on May 7 – but the Park Warden tells me that it should be up by the time we get there on the 21st. If the sign is not there, you should at least see the two posts that hold the sign.

If you get to the Pinkham Notch Visitors Center you have gone about a ½ mile too far.

The **Gen Ellis Falls Parking Area** is on the left (West) side of the road, but the falls are on the East side. After parking, the Trail goes through a “tunnel” under Route 16 and then for about ½ mile alongside the road as it goes down 85 feet using a considerable number of irregular stone steps to the actual Falls.

People with walking issues may not want to go very far on this trail, but there are a couple of stops early on that will give you some sense of the Falls.

The Glen Ellis Falls drop for 64 feet and is considered to be one of the most impressive falls in the State. This is our last stop – and is the Icing-on-the-Cake.

The Drive ends here. Members are welcome to stay as long as they like, and to drive home separately or in groups as you chose.

If the weather cooperates – it should be a glorious day.