


Flintlock District Trip and Activity List

1. **Flintlock District Web Site and Facebook**
 - a. <http://www.scoutspirit.org/districts/flintlock/>
 - b. <https://www.facebook.com/FlintlockSOA/>
2. **Spirit of Adventure Council Web Site and Facebook**
 - a. <http://www.scoutspirit.org/districts/flintlock/>
 - b. <https://www.facebook.com/bsaboston/>
3. **Take the youth to the Mendel Observatory for FREE.**
 - a. Call and try to arrange for a private tour and they may even do part of the Astronomy MB with the scouts.
 - b. https://www.merrimack.edu/academics/science_engineering/physics/observatory/
4. **Take the youth, adults, and a good one for siblings to go - beginner's horseback riding.**
 - a. More expensive on weekends so try to go on a day the kids have off if possible during the week.
 - b. <http://www.bobbysranch.com/>
5. **Bike the Minuteman Bike path for FREE.**
 - a. Go eastward (more downhill) to Alewife Station.
 - b. Then, Option 1 take Red line into Boston (Park St.) and bike from there to Quincy Market for lunch (and then reverse trip).
 - c. Option 2: Bike from Alewife to Porter Square and hop on Commuter Train to West Concord. From there bike to Camp Acton and camp overnight: <http://www.acton-ma.gov/623/Camp-Acton>
 - d. For MBTA Group Sales: <https://mbta.com/pass-program/group>
6. **Do a FREE day trip on the Concord River (Rt 117 boat landing in Lincoln to Rt 225 boat landing in Bedford).**
 - a. If you need to rent canoes you can do so from Troop 194 in Bedford (see attached form).
 - b. Or spend a night or two on an island in the river at Fair Haven Bay (Concord):

*Nancy Cowan, Office Manager
Concord Land Conservation Trust
P.O. Box 141
Concord, MA 01742
978.369.6526*
 - c. info@concordland.org
 - d. 
T194 Canoe rental
rates.xlsx

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7. Camping on Martha's Vineyard

- a. Great opportunity for biking, fishing, swimming, and miniature golf
- b. Stay at the Troops camp site – Camp Duarte
- c. See attached forms



- d. MV Trip Files.7z

8. NYC Trip

- a. Overnight trip with stay at Youth Hostel
- b. Includes: Intrepid Aircraft Carrier, Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island, 911 Memorial
- c. <https://www.hiusa.org/hostels/new-york/new-york/new-york-city>
- d. <http://www.hostelworld.com/hostels/New-York>



- e. NY Trip.7z

9. The Boott Cotton Mill Museum

- a. The story of innovation in technology, engineering and people who came from faraway lands looking to make a better life.
- b. <https://www.nps.gov/lowe/planyourvisit/index.htm>
- c. 67 Kirk St, Lowell, MA 01852
- d. 978-970-5000

10. Judson B. Coit Observatory

- a. The Judson B. Coit Observatory is located on the roof of the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) building at 725 Commonwealth Avenue. It is used for both undergraduate and graduate level courses, public open nights, and observing projects of the Boston University Astronomical Society.
- b. <https://www.bu.edu/astronomy/undergraduate/astronomy-department-facilities/judson-b-coit-observatory/>

11. Boston Harbor Islands

- a. Made up of 34 islands and peninsulas, Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park is an urban oasis just minutes from Boston's city center. Hop aboard a park ferry and discover islands rich with opportunities for outdoor recreation, relaxation and learning. Check the park calendar for special events or create your own adventure with our trip planning tools below.
- b. <http://www.bostonharborislands.org/>
- c. <https://www.mass.gov/location-details/camping-at-boston-harbor-islands>
- d. <https://www.bostonharborislands.org/georges-island/>
- e. <https://www.boston-discovery-guide.com/castle-island.html>

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12. Connecticut River Canoeing and Camping

- a. With hundreds of access points and over 50 primitive campsites, the Connecticut River provides a unique experience to paddle through the heart of New England. The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail is a series of primitive campsites and river access points from its headwaters in New Hampshire's Great North Woods south to Long Island Sound. A variety of organizations assist with trail planning and development. With the support of the community, work continues to protect the river corridor, construct new campsites and portage trails, and expand the Paddlers' Trail from source to sea.
- b. <https://www.connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org/crpt7/>
- c. <https://www.connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org/crpt7/recommended-trips>
- d. <https://backroadramblers.com/paddling-connecticut-river/>

13. Discovery Museum – Acton

- a. Science, Nature, Play – The museum combines the best STEAM exhibits from the original two museums – for kids, big kids, and adults
- b. 77 Main Street (Route 27)
Acton, Massachusetts 01720
Phone: 978-264-4200
fun@discoveryacton.org
- c. <https://www.discoveryacton.org/>

14. EcoTarium

- a. Museum of science and nature
- b. The EcoTarium museum of science and nature in Worcester, Massachusetts offers an indoor-outdoor experience to visitors of all ages. Guests are encouraged to explore three floors of indoor interactive exhibits, live animal habitats, exciting shows in the digital planetarium, daily Science Discovery programs, hike through forest and meadow nature trails, outdoor imaginative play, and a train ride around the 45+ acre campus (seasonal).
- c. 222 Harrington Way
Worcester, MA 01604
508.929.2700
- d. <https://ecotarium.org/>

15. Old Sturbridge Village

- a. Old Sturbridge Village, the largest outdoor history museum in the Northeast, depicts a rural New England town of the 1830s. Step inside more than 40 original buildings, and explore homes, meetinghouses, a district school, country store, bank, working farm, three water-powered mills, and trade shops – all situated on more than 200 scenic acres. Talk with authentically costumed historians and see heritage breed farm animals. Discover the endless ways to immerse yourself in the Village.
- b. 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road
Sturbridge, MA 01566
(800) 733-1830
For GPS use: 29 Stallion Hill Road
- c. <https://www.osv.org/>

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16. Rock Climbing Overnights

- a. Boston Area's Best Indoor Rock Climbing
 - i. <https://boston.cbslocal.com/top-lists/boston-areas-best-indoor-rock-climbing/>
- b. Metro Rock
 - i. 69 Norman St, Everett, 617-387-7625
 - ii. 40 Parker St, Newburyport, 978-499-7625
 - iii. 1200 Constitution Ave, Littleton, 978-990-7625
 - iv. <https://www.metrorock.com/boston/programs/overnights>
- c. Rock Spot Climbing
 - i. 30 Old Colony Ave, South Boston 617-269-2084

17. Mystic Aquarium

- a. 55 Coogan Blvd, Mystic, CT, 860-572-5955
- b. <https://www.mysticaquarium.org/>

18. USS Constitution

- a. Set sail for adventure and discover the history of "Old Ironsides" – the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world – with interactive exhibits, hands-on programs, and a vast collection of artifacts that is fun for all ages.
- b. 1 Constitution Road, Charlestown
- c. <https://ussconstitutionmuseum.org/>

19. Witch Trail

- a. The WITCH TRAIL COMMITTEE is the sponsor of 9 Historic Hiking Trails around the Boston area. Each of these trails can be hiked by both young and old. There are 3 that were designed in mind for the younger scouts, as they are shorter in length. At the conclusion of each hike there are awards that can be purchased. Each hike has a fully multicolored embroidered patch along with a hand poured pewter medal.
- b. <http://www.witchtrail.com/>

20. Mt Willard Trail

- a. Mount Willard, elevation 2,865 feet, is a mountain located in Carroll County, New Hampshire, in the center of Crawford Notch. Its summit provides excellent views, and it is accessible by the Mount Willard Trail. The Mount Willard Trail is 3.1 miles long out and back with an elevation gain of 908 feet.
- b. <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/new-hampshire/mount-willard>

21. Bedford Flag Trail

- a. Hike from Bedford to Concord 5.5 miles with optional 3 mile direct route back through Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge.
- b. <https://troop194bedford.wordpress.com/bedford-flag-trail/>
- c. POC: allan_coady@raytheon.com

22. Minutemen's Pursuit Trail

- a. Hike from Concord to Boston 20 mile hike.
- b. www.concordscouthouse.org
- c. POC: david.owen@concordscouthouse.org – 781-879-4714

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23. Lowell Spinners Overnight

- a. Each year they hold a scout night sleep over
- b. 450 Aiken St, Lowell, 978-459-1702
- c. <https://www.milb.com/lowell>

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24. USS Salem

- a. Welcome to the United States Naval Shipbuilding Museum Online. Located in historic Quincy, Massachusetts. The USNSM is home to the USS Salem, the world's only preserved Heavy Cruiser. We are located in the former Quincy Fore River Shipyard, once one of the Nation's largest Shipbuilding Enterprises.
- a. 549 South Street, Pier 3, Quincy, MA, 617-479-7900
- b. <https://www.milb.com/lowell>
- c. <https://www.uss-salem.org/overnight-adventures/>

25. Battleship Cove

- a. The home to five National Historic Landmarks and Official Veteran Memorials on both state and national levels, Battleship Cove has been providing the preservation of both the military heritage of the New England region and that of the United States since 1965.
- b. 5 Water St, Fall River, MA, 508-678-1100
- c. Email: battleship@battleshipcove.org
- d. <https://www.battleshipcove.org/>

26. Walden Pond

- a. Walden Pond is the centerpiece of Thoreau's Walden Woods and is the focus of Thoreau's most famous piece: *Walden*. It is owned and managed by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, and sees nearly 600,000 visitors every year. An exceptionally deep and remarkably clear kettle lake, Walden still inspires the conservation ethic that Thoreau first articulated in his writings.
- b. <https://www.walden.org/property/walden-pond/>

27. Winter Island Park Camping

- a. Campers may check RV and tent camping availability, view our interactive campsite map, and book their camping reservation(s) online up to six (6) months in advance of their scheduled 'First Night' by going to reserveamerica.com.
- b. <https://www.salem.com/winter-island-park>

28. Peabody Essex Museum

- a. PEM is the place to come for enjoyment, enrichment, sharing with family and friends, and creative stimulation. We gain exciting insights about ourselves and other cultures through special exhibitions, weekend festivals and family art-making programs. You are vital to the equation. Your experiences shape the art you look at and the performances you watch, making them more meaningful and transformative. PEM continues to touch lives and to make a difference.
- b. <https://www.pem.org/>

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29. Christa McAuliffe Discovery Center

- a. The **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** is a science museum located in Concord, New Hampshire. The museum is dedicated to Christa McAuliffe, the Concord High School social studies teacher selected by NASA out of over 11,000 applicants to be the first Teacher in Space.
- b. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McAuliffe-Shepard_Discovery_Center

30. Geocaching Boston Area

- a. <https://www.geocaching.com/bookmarks/view.aspx?guid=3ff6feca-7e37-46f6-972d-2a9d0a4663f3>
- b. <https://www.geocaching.com/bookmarks/view.aspx?guid=14a7918b-d3c7-4d38-ba6b-505d6d5060dc>
- c. <http://www.geoboston.com/theoutsiderblog/5-amazing-geocaches-near-boston>
- d. <https://www.bostonmagazine.com/health/2015/09/29/hiking-geocaching/>

31. Concord Scout Canoes

- a. Concord Scout House, 69 Hunters Ridge Rd
- b. 978-369-0807
- c. \$10/Canoe donation

32. What3Words App

- a. Try it, have your scouts try it
- b. <https://map.what3words.com/>

33. Millstone Radar Tour

- a. 617-715.5400, info@haystack.mit.edu
- b. www.haystack.mit.edu/edu/poa/index.html

34. The Grainger Observatory

- a. <https://www.exeter.edu/campus-connections/granger-observatory>

35. Great Meadows

- a. https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_meadows/

36. Concord Trail Guide

- a. <https://www.concordma.gov/734/Trail-Maps-Guides>

37. Lincoln Trail Guide

- a. <https://lincolnconservation.org/explore-our-properties/trails/>
- b. https://lincolnconservation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/2013_TrailMap10-27.pdf

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Outdoor Activities for Kids

Website Links

<http://www.massvacation.com/explore/outdoors/>
<http://www.massvacation.com/explore/bring-the-kids/>
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/>
<http://www.trolley museum.org/education/scouts.php>
<http://www.bostoncentral.com/activities.php>
<http://www.boston-discovery-guide.com/boston-kids-activities.html>
<http://www.massa audubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries>
<http://www.massparks.org>
<http://www.classtrips.com/region-landing/2408/school-field-trips-in-massachusetts>

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50 Things To Do with Kids around Boston Before They Grow Up

Jun19

by Guest Contributor

By Christina of [Fairly Odd Mother](#)

What I love about raising my children around Boston is the variety. Want to take them to a museum? There are many. Feel like sitting by the ocean, a lake or a river? No problem. In the mood for sunny picnics or icy cold skating? Coming right up, give or take a few months. Boston can feel like a big city or a quaint neighborhood. Travel less than an hour and you are in New Hampshire, Rhode Island, or even on the ocean with no land in site. The trouble with compiling a list is narrowing down the options. I'll give it my best shot and share with you my favorite things to do with my kids while they are still young enough to want to be seen in public with me. Everything listed here should be within an hour's drive, but all bets are off if you get stuck in traffic on the Southeast Expressway. Please feel free to add to this list; I look forward to hearing your ideas.

Hope you enjoy this trip through Boston!

1. Splash in the outdoor fountain at [The Frog Pond](#) in Boston Common. Bring a picnic lunch and, when the kids tire of The Frog Pond, bring them to the adjacent playground to climb and slide. Oh, yeah, they can get wet there too.

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2. Grab a blanket and watch a movie under the stars at the [Hatch Shell's Free Friday Flicks](#), running from June through August.
3. Hit all the best ice cream hot spots around town: [Christina's](#), [J.P. Licks](#), [Emack & Bolio's](#), [Herrell's](#), [Toscanini's](#) (and don't forget the suburbs!).
4. One sweet word: [Scooperbowl](#).
5. Experience [Castle Island](#) in South Boston. Grab cheap eats at [Sully's](#), run around the playground and then search for cool rocks and shells on the beach. Every minute or so, pause to watch planes fly directly overhead.
6. Grab a ferry to the Boston Harbor Islands. [Go fly a kite](#) at Spectacle Island, see [Boston Children's Theatre](#) at Georges Island, or even [camp out overnight](#) on Grape, Bumpkin or Lovells Islands in a little patch of secluded heaven.
7. Visit the new and improved [Boston Children's Museum](#) (renovated in '07), and watch your kids climb three stories up a funky enclosed staircase. When hunger strikes, walk behind the Children's Museum and grab lunch at [Flour Bakery](#). Their peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are a (kid) connoisseur's dream.
8. Visit Canton's [Blue Hills Reservation](#) and hike to the [Observatory](#). You can also swim, ski, ice skate or hike, depending on the season.
9. Take a ride over the [Zakim bridge](#) at night and see the most visually stunning aspect of the massive Big Dig project. Tell the kids that they are riding on the widest cable-stayed bridge in the world.
10. Indulge your child's inner actor and bring the family to one of the [ImProv's Family Nights](#) held Saturdays at 6pm.
11. Take the elevator to the top of the [Prudential Tower](#) ("The Pru") and get a high-flying bird's eye view of the city.
12. Catch a ride on a [Duck Tour](#) and lose all dignity as you quack your way through the city.
13. Take them out to the ballpark with a [Fenway Park Tour](#).
14. Explore the [Museum of Fine Art](#), using their guides and activity sheets just for kids.
15. Stroll through the North End, stopping for a lobster tail or cannoli from both [Mike's Pastry](#) and [Modern Pastry](#). Debate the relative merits of each before succumbing to the sweetness of it all.
16. [Salem](#) for the month of Halloween. 'Nuff said.
17. Read *Make Way for Ducklings* and then go meet Mrs. Mallard and her 'acks in [Boston Public Garden](#). Especially cute is the Duckling Day Parade on Mother's Day.

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18. Watch your kids on stage at the Lyric Stage Company's Once Upon a Stage with [Kidstock](#).
19. Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy it among the animals at the [Franklin Park Zoo](#).
20. Attend the annual [Christmas Tree lighting](#) in the Boston Common with music, food and, of course, Santa Claus.
21. Listen to E.B. White read *The Trumpet of the Swan* on audio book and then head down to the Public Garden for a ride on the [Swan Boats](#). Do you hear Louie?
22. If Red Sox tickets are out of reach, take a drive to one of the family-friendly [Minor League](#) parks to see the Lowell Spinners or Pawtucket (RI) Red Sox.
23. [Baby Loves Disco!](#) A monthly kid party at Revolution Rock Bar.
24. History doesn't have to be boring: let the kids [reenact the Boston Tea Party](#) with the Freedom Trail Players on the Liberty Clipper tall ship.
25. Pick your own berries, apples or pumpkins at [Belkin Family Lookout Farm](#), just 30 minutes from Boston. Let the kids loose in their large play area featuring pony rides and a burlap maze.
26. Visit the [Museum of Science Boston](#) for hands-on exhibits, Butterfly Garden and the Planetarium. The [Discover Center](#) gives the littlest ones a space of their own.
27. Head up to Arlington for [Robbins Farm Playground](#) (aka Skyline Park) for not only the fun playground, but also the gorgeous view of Boston.
28. Attend First Night Boston and ring in the New Year with their [7pm Family Fireworks](#).
29. Check out a different kind of New Year's celebration: [Chinese New Year](#).
30. Bundle up and go Ice Skating at [The Frog Pond](#) in Boston Common.
31. When you absolutely must have some water fun, hit [CoCo Keys](#) in Danvers.
32. Find a spot and park yourself on the Esplanade for the [Head of the Charles](#) for a fun mix of families, college students and crew enthusiasts.
33. Catch a Boston Harbor Cruise shuttle from Long Wharf to Charlestown Navy Yard to see the famous [USS Constitution](#).
34. Animals, cotton candy and midway rides all at the [Topsfield Fair](#), less than an hour north of the city.
35. Grab a lobster roll at Jasper White's colorful [Summer Shack](#) and then knock down some pins downstairs at the uber-cool [Kings Bowling](#).

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36. Wild and fast: Snowtubing at nearby [Amesbury Snow Park](#), for kids over 4.
37. Immerse yourself in nature without leaving the city at the [Arnold Arboretum](#).
38. Plan a day at [Canobie Lake Park](#) in nearby Salem, New Hampshire, where there is a ride for everyone, a wet play area for hot days and even a serene boat ride around Canobie Lake.
39. The chowder really is tops at [Legal Sea Foods](#). Plus, the bustling Prudential location is perfect for chatty kids.
40. See the Boston Ballet's annual performance of [The Nutcracker](#).
41. Almost an hour south in Carver, the holiday lights and music will put you in the mood at [Edaville Railroad](#). Take a warm train ride after dark and then brave the (cold) amusement park rides if you dare.
42. Got Chocolate? Yeah, it's fancy and decadent at the [Langham Hotel's Chocolate Brunch](#), and your kids will think you are the best parent ever.
43. Go sledding at [Larz Anderson Park in Brookline](#).
44. The [Boston Sports Museum](#), for the next generation of Boston sports fanatics.
45. At least once, brave the crowds to see runners in the [Boston Marathon](#) whiz by. The Newton Hills provide loads of drama with a teeny bit more elbowroom.
46. Lie on the soft, white sands of [Wingaersheek Beach in Gloucester](#). Go at low tide so the kids can climb on the rocks and splash in the shallow water.
47. The [New England Aquarium](#)'s penguin exhibit enthralls and amuses all. Try to catch a [feeding](#).
48. Fly through the air with the greatest of ease: yes, you can ride a trapeze at [Jordan Furniture's Reading](#) location (it's pricey but also fun to just watch). There is also a jellybean town, food at FuddRuckers, an IMAX theater and random water fireworks (of course, they have furniture too).
49. The [DeCordova Sculpture Park](#) allows kids to experience art over acres and acres of green lawns and woods.
50. Spend a day on the high seas looking for whales with a [Boston Harbor Whale Watch](#).

**Flintlock District
Trip and Activity List**

10 outdoor activities to do with your kids

By Kim Foley MacKinnon, Globe Correspondent

Looking for new ways to enjoy the outdoors with your family? Here are some ideas that are just a short drive away. Pictured is Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Norfolk.

Boston Harbor Islands: Georges Island

Georges Island is a short ferry ride away and offers a fort to explore, complete with a drawbridge, dungeons, spooky tunnels, and plenty of space to run around.

Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary, Belmont

This property will enchant children and adults with its Turtle Pond, formal garden, and meadows and forests to explore.

Lynn Woods Reservation: Dungeon Rock

Pirates, buried treasure, spirits, and a long, dark tunnel make for a great story and an adventurous hike

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord

Opportunities abound for wildlife sightings at Great Meadows, which make this a wonderful place for kids

Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, Natick

Over the brook and through the woods, 9 miles of trails at Broadmoor will enchant kids with boardwalks, waterfalls, and wildlife.

Cedariver, Millis

A cart path trail at this former farm on the Charles River offers a lovely, scenic walk

King Philip's Rock and Cave, Sharon

Giant boulders, perfect for climbing, will entice kids on this short hike in the woods.

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

Scrambling over rocks and checking out the many tidal pools at Halibut Point is a thrill for sea-life-loving kids.

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Newburyport

This barrier island wildlife refuge is a haven for birds and people alike, with trails, beaches, and salt marshes.

Stony Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Norfolk

Walking along boardwalks that cross over marshland, you are likely to see lots of wildlife here, from swans to great blue herons to turtles to frogs.