Sigma Chi Northeast Expedition
May 22-31, 2018

Includes eight days of breakfasts, lunches and dinners in the Adirondacks and White Mountains; final night in Portsmouth, NH; all trail meals, group equipment, and permits. $550.00

Trip Overview

The Northeastern region of the United States is home to some of the most unique and breathtaking views found within North America. The mountain ranges which dot this region are among the most-visited sites by backpackers and tourists every year, regardless of season. The Adirondacks in northern New York and the White Mountains of New Hampshire are two of the region’s most spectacular sites, and offer countless opportunities for mountaineering excursions.

With this in mind, the Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi will be hosting a trip open to alumni and active brothers at Gettysburg College interested in a retreat focused on brotherhood and the common bonds of Sigma Chi. This trip will give participants the opportunity to deepen connections made as an undergraduate, and foster new relationships while traversing these beautiful Northeastern peaks.

General Schedule of Trip

**Tuesday, May 22nd:** Leave campus and drive to the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York.

**May 23-25th:** Three full days of hiking and mountaineering in the Adirondacks from a basecamp.

**May 26th:** Leave the Adirondacks and drive to the White Mountains of New Hampshire; embark on a small day hike.

**May 27-30th:** Three full days of hiking and mountaineering in the White Mountains from a cabin.

**May 30th:** Drive to Portsmouth, NH for a night in the city. Hotel and dinner included in the cost of trip.

**Thursday May 31:** Return to campus in the morning.

Facilitators

Cole Garr ‘18 and Michael Boncardo ‘18 were both hired as GRAB staff student facilitators in the fall of 2014, and joined Sigma Chi in the fall of 2015. Cole is an Economics and International Affairs major and studied abroad in Seville, Spain during his junior year. Michael will graduate with a degree in History, and both he and Cole held Sigma Chi leadership positions in 2017: Cole as treasurer and Michael as chapter president.

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Registration and Payment: Registration is at www.gettysburg.edu/grab. A $150 non-refundable deposit is due at time of registration to secure a place on the trip of your choice. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover, e-checks or cash. The final payment will be required at least 60 days prior the trip departure date. To register, please fill out the online form or call the Office of Experiential Education at 717.337.6319.

Not Included in the Price: Hospitalization, individual evacuation costs, insurance, meals in destination cities prior to and at the conclusion of the trip, souvenirs, alcohol, excess baggage charges, or other personal expenses incurred outside the scope of the trip. We DO NOT include airfare in the pricing of our trips. We want to give participants the opportunity to have flexibility in their travel arrangements. Some people will have frequent flyer miles, many people will be traveling from various destinations, while others may already be at the site location or decide to extend their trip once our expedition has concluded.

The Trek: Trekking distances range from 7-12 miles a day. Average trekking time ranges from 3-6 hours per day, which includes stops for lunch & breaks, appreciating the sites, general conversation, and sometimes just figuring out the route. The trekking series expeditions are designed to accommodate those who enjoy trekking at a moderate pace but also enjoy taking numerous stops to enjoy the location.

Group Size: The trip consists of two GRAB staff members from the Office of Experiential Education and up to eight participants who are current or past members of the Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi at Gettysburg College.

Transportation: The group will be leaving from Gettysburg College on Tuesday, May 22nd two days after the Class of 2018’s graduation. We will be traveling by van for the duration of the trip.

Accommodations: The program’s accommodations will include a stay at a campsite in the Adirondacks and a cabin in the White Mountains. The last night will be at a hotel in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Meals: The price of the program covers all breakfasts, lunches and dinners, excluding alcohol. On the trail, breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided each day. Meals for the last night in Portsmouth, NH will be covered in the expenses. Participants are responsible for any additional snacks or meals off the trail while traveling to and from the mountains and the college.

Weather: Be prepared for cooler days on the mountains. Though high temperatures in the Adirondacks can be in the mid-60s at this time of the year, temperatures at night can drop into the low-40s. Annual average temperatures in the White Mountains are even colder than that with highs in the mid-40s and lows down around 30 degrees Fahrenheit. More information regarding proper attire will be sent out closer to the trip.

Physical Preparation: You do not need to be a top notch athlete to participate on this program, but proper preparation will make the trip much more enjoyable. Exercising 3-5 days a week and walking with a 30 pound pack to get used to the weight are great ways to prepare. No prior experience hiking is required, and all backcountry skills and expectations will be covered during the trip.

Health and Medical & Release of Liability: We require each participant to fill out medical/liability forms for Gettysburg College and for any contracted services who request similar documentation. We can provide information on short term insurance that covers baggage, accident/life, and trip cancellation which is required for our international programs. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Cancellation of Trips: We reserve the right to cancel trips due to lack of participants, State Department warnings, or natural occurrences that may be potentially hazardous. If you cancel the trip more than 60 days before the departure date, you will receive a full refund minus the $150 deposit. If cancellation occurs 45-60 days prior to the departure date a 50% refund is available. If cancellation occurs 21-44 days prior to the trip a 25% refund will be available. There will be no refunds for cancellations made within 21 days of the expedition.