

Free and Inexpensive Trips

When planning a trip, please remember to:

- Review and comply with the Safety Activity Checkpoints.
- Make trips Girl-Led. Help girls develop their trip planning skills. Refer to your Volunteer Essentials manual for more information.
- Know your girls! Find out if family members have an affiliation with area businesses that could be used for trip ideas.

Town/Community Trips

There are plenty of places within your community that will provide girls with valuable and fun experiences. Whether it's state or town service organizations, local businesses and restaurants, or museums and cultural sites, there are lots of places to explore! Below is a list of ideas to help you get started.

State/town Service Organizations

- **Fire Department**
- **Police Department**
- **Hospitals or local doctor's office**
- **State House** – Call your town's representative to learn if you can schedule a tour.
- **National and State parks** – <http://www.discovertheforest.org>
 - Girls can participate in the Junior Ranger program. To learn more, visit: <http://www.nps.gov/learn/juniorranger.cfm>
- **Fish Hatcheries** Located throughout New Hampshire and Vermont. To learn more, visit:
 - VT – [Vermont Fish and Wildlife](#)
 - NH – [New Hampshire Fish and Game](#)

Local Resources

Visit local businesses to discover more about what they do. Girls can learn about flower arrangements at the florist, cake decorating at the bakery, and money investing for planning an extended trip to the bank – there are lots of opportunities! Other places to check out include:

- **Home DIY store** - Take advantage of any children's workshops so girls can make a hands-on project.
- **Craft store** – Often offer children's crafts classes for free or for a nominal fee.
- **Supermarket** – Ask about a tour which focuses on healthy eating.
- **Restaurant** – Many will offer a behind the scenes tour.

Have a great idea for a free or inexpensive trip not listed here? Contact us at customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org or 888-474-9686 and we'll add it to this list!

- **Business or factory** – Inquire about a behind the scenes tour or meeting to learn about their products.
- **Bank** – Many offer financial literacy classes for different ages.
- **Humane society, shelter, or other nonprofit** – These are great places to learn about potential Take Action Projects.
- **Town historical societies and museums** – Learn about local history.
- **Your local VFW** – Some offer talks on flag etiquette.
- **College or university** – Often they have free general tours or specialized facilities like a planetarium or greenhouse. They also may have clinics with student athletes.
- **Sports facilities** – Get active and go roller skating, bowling, indoor rock climbing, or play a game at an indoor sports field.
- **Trade school** – Visit and learn more about beauty care, welding, car mechanics, carpentry, and more. Consider regional tech high schools as well.
- **TV, cable access, or radio station** – Girls can learn about media and may also be able to do a Girl Scout PSA.
- **Local newspaper** – Girls can explore the newsroom, learn what it takes to meet deadlines from reporters, and speak with the editor about covering important events.
- **Local airport** – Many offer an introduction to aviation program or behind the scenes tour.

GSGWM Resources

- **Council patch programs** offer great ideas for local field trips, including:
 - **Maple sugaring** – GSGWM Maple Sugaring Patch
 - In NH - <http://www.nhmapleproducers.com/>
 - In VT- <http://www.vermontmaple.org/>
 - **Apple picking** – [GSGWM Apple Quest](#)
 - Check out all that GSGWM has to offer at girlscoutsgwm.org on our [badges and patches page](#).
- **GSGWM properties** are available for rent for day visits or overnights. Learn more at on our [property rental page](#) on our website
- **Council programs** are scheduled with a variety of program vendors throughout NH and VT. Details can be found in our annual Program Guide and on our website under [Activities](#).
- **Programs on Demand** are [listed on our website](#) and feature businesses and organizations that we have partnered with that offer special programming to Girl Scouts. Each listing includes the details you need to contact them to directly to set up a field trip or program at a time that best suits your troop.
- **Our Council offices and stores** in Bedford, NH, and Williston, VT, are great free field trip locations. Tour our offices and learn more about how Girl Scouts works. Meet staff and ask questions. Call 888-474-9686 to reserve a time.

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