

If you are waffling back and forth trying to decide whether to come to Nashua, NH, for the NAME National Convention, let me tell you FEW places to visit while you are in and around New Hampshire;

Please come to the Nashua Convention, then explore all that New England has to offer.

REMEMBER – The Raddison Hotel does NOT have parking fees and New Hampshire does NOT HAVE A SALES TAX. There are a lot of shopping malls in New Hampshire; the mall closest to the Raddison Nashua is the Pheasant Lane Mall.

NEW HAMPSHIRE's White Mountains & Mt. Washington Valley.

Mount Washington - Bitter cold, dense fog, heavy snow, incredible wind... Mount Washington is the home of the world's worst weather. Since 1932, the non-profit Mount Washington Observatory has been keeping watch on one of the planet's most extreme places, the 6,288 foot summit of Mount Washington.

Cog Railway - In 1869, the Cog Railway was an engineering marvel, a new technology of toothed cog gears, rack rails and tilted boilers. Today, when you ride the train you get a rare look at this world gone by, where coal fired dreams and steel rails mapped the course of civilization. On the summit, you can visit New Hampshire's unique mile-high state park, including the Sherman Adams Observation Center

Old Man of the Mountain - Geologists speculate that the Old Man of the Mountain, formed by a retreating glacier during the last ice age, looked out over Profile Lake for more than 12,000 years. On May 3, 2003, the delicate balance that had held the "Great Stone Face" in position through the ages came to an abrupt end.

Trek to Glen Ellis Falls - Glen Ellis Falls is located in Pinkham Notch, deep in the heart of the White Mountain Rregion. The falls drop 64 feet from a rocky cliffside into a pool of turquoise water. The best part about this waterfall is that it is located a mere .2 miles from a parking area off Route 16. You'll want to sit and enjoy the sound of the falls splashing in the pool below. But for a little more drama, check out the 200-foot Arethusa Falls, the highest waterfall in the state. You can find Arethusa in Crawford Notch but you'll have to hike in about 5 miles to catch the beauty of this natural New Hampshire wonder.

The Flume - New Hampshire residents appreciate The Flume Gorge any time of the year. We say head for the Flume. With its hiking trails, waterfalls, granite walls, and 800' natural gorge, the Flume sits at the base of Mount Liberty in Franconia Notch State Park. The park is designed for everyone. You don't have to be an

experienced hiker to manage the stairs and bridges that carry you over treacherous terrain and flowing water. It's a beautiful place at any time of year, but early fall, when color contrasts with the green and granite, is spectacularly special.

Old Covered Bridges - Take a detour to the Bath-Haverhill Covered Bridge on Route 135 in Woodsville Village. This 256-foot long bridge is the oldest covered bridge in the nation. It was built in 1829. The Bath-Haverhill Bridge, which spans the Ammonoosuc River, features two spans and a pedestrian sidewalk, but the bridge is only open to foot-traffic today. Two other covered bridges are located in the town of Bath. The Bath Bridge is the longest covered bridge totally within New Hampshire. It spans the Ammonoosuc River too, and can be found west of Route 302. The Swiftwater Bridge can be found north of Route 112 in Bath. There is a popular swimming hole below the bridge in the brisk waters of the Wild Ammonoosuc River. If you are heading to or through Bath, you might as well take in all three bridges while you are there.

NASHUA

Nashua - The Nashua area was part of a 200-square-mile tract of land in Massachusetts called Dunstable, which had been awarded to Edward Tyng of Dunstable, England. Nashua lies approximately in the center of the original 1673 grant. When New Hampshire separated from Massachusetts in 1741, the state line between them was redrawn.

The Nashua River was named by the Nashuway Indians, and in the Penacook language it means "beautiful stream with a pebbly bottom."

History is alive in Nashua with an active historical society and several buildings which have been named to the National Register of Historic Places. The Hunt Memorial Building, once the city library is a brick Gothic structure and the only New Hampshire example of the work of architect Ralph Adams Cram.

Since its origin in the late 1700s, the North End has been home to privilege: the families of captains of local commerce and industry, of bankers, lawyers and doctors who built the stately mansions that grace Concord Street and the surrounding streets, many named for prominent early residents. The elegant North End has been Nashua's most affluent area for more than a century. Well-kept Victorian homes built around the turn of the century line the edge of Concord Street near Greeley Park.

East Dunstable Rd. cir.- 1700 - This is the oldest existing house in Nashua, built in 1700.

One Abbot Square - cir. 1802 * 22 Concord Street – cir 1853 * Concord Street – cir. 1873

80 Concord Street – cir. 1873 * Orange Street – cir. 1833 * 37 Orange Street –
cir. 1840

Since a commercial development boom in the 1980's, the city has served as a shopping mecca with several malls and plazas for those fleeing Massachusetts sales taxes. Because New Hampshire is SALES TAX free.

Not to be outdone, downtown Nashua hosts several seasonal festivals and parties, a myriad of activities from evening concerts at Greeley Park to parades and shows all over the city. Ethnic restaurants and posh specialty gift shops have made the downtown area a popular destination year-round, in addition to an extensive retail industry; the city also hosts several major high-tech companies such as Compaq Computer Corporation, Oracle, and Sanders, a Lockheed-Martin Company.

Recreation is not overlooked in this small city, and there are ample outlets for many different activities. Mine Falls Park, a 300-acre area in the geographic center of the city, offers trails for hiking, running, biking, and cross-country skiing. Athletic fields are also available for soccer and baseball. Greeley Park, a 126-acre tract between Concord and Manchester Streets, offers a playground, tennis courts, an outdoor band shell for summer concerts, and picnic facilities.

Downtown **NASHUA Historic Walking Tours:** Main Street, Railroad Square, Nashua Riverfront District, French Hill Neighborhood, The Tree Streets Neighborhood, The Nashua Manufacturing Co. Millyard, Main Street South Neighborhood, The Woodlawn Cemetery, The Nashua Cemetery, & Concord Street Mansion House Row

While the mills and an assortment of retail shops kept the northern end of Main Street bustling in the 19th century, the city's more affluent residents began looking at dozens of properties along the thoroughfare as ideal places to live. Grand mansions began to spring up as mid-century approached. The goal appeared to be to create a mirror image of those along Concord Street

To visit Nashua's Abbot-Spalding House is to be transported into another era, gently carried away to a way of life not seen in the Gate City for generations. Although this home is not the largest or most imposing residence in a city known for its fine vintage mansions, many of which may be seen heading north along Concord Street toward Greeley Park, it just may be the most historic. And its classic Federal Revival style, with its understated elegance and sleek lines, speaks quietly of the very best of New England Colonial architecture..

In the first half of the 20th century, dozens of these mansions fell victim to the wrecking ball in favor of commerce and industry, and some were lost to urban renewal.

The seemingly polarized residential enclaves sprang from two autonomous cells of early settlers. Each grew at its own pace until, later in the 19th century, they overlapped and then blended, giving birth to a downtown that has alternately flourished and struggled, and is presently riding a sizeable wave of resurgence.

BRIEF HISTORY: Crown Hill is believed to be named for its geographic location, a long, gently sloping hill that grows southward from Crown Street, a roller-coaster of a road that crests on one side of the Holy Infant Jesus compound.

UNIQUE FACTS: Allds Street was first known as Acre Street, in the mid-1800s, and later Aلد's Road, before the apostrophe was dropped and "street" added. As if a huge fire, a devastating flood, and a category 3 hurricane within one decade weren't enough, Crown Hill also survived a chilling cockroach invasion, when the critters multiplied in an old dump off Haines Street in the mid-1930s and threatened the neighborhood. Dousing the dump in kerosene and lighting it up ended the threat.

The Nashua Heritage Rail Trail is a paved, multi-use, separated path running parallel to West Hollis Street in downtown Nashua, connecting City Hall and the rest of Main Street to the neighborhoods around Hollis, Kinsley and Ledge Streets. The total length is a little over 1 mile one way. Metered parking is available at City Hall. Many people believe that the Nashua Heritage Rail Trail is has been a large contribution in cleaning up the Tree and Ledge street districts. The Heritage Rail Trail was an unused railroad track. Today it's become a major pedestrian walkway; joggers, dog walkers, and cyclists use the trail every day to get around the city. You can walk to churches, **Mine Falls Park**, Ledge Street School, Nashua West Fields, the baseball fields, Memorial Park, Main Street.

Today, a bustling business district, city offices and scores of multiple-family homes offer nary a hint that Nashua's Main Street, from the Nashua River to near Rivier College, was once the unpopulated wasteland that separated Hunt's and Abbot's neighborhoods.

Nashua was built around the now-departed textile industry, in recent decades it has been swept up in southern New Hampshire's economic expansion as part of the Boston region.

Nashua was twice named **"Best Place to Live in America"** in annual surveys by *Money* magazine. It is the **only city** to get the **No. 1 ranking two times**—in 1987 and 1997. Nashua is currently ranked #87, as of summer 2006. In 2007, the Morgan Quitno Press ranked Nashua as the 27th safest city in the country.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CASTLES

CASTLE IN THE CLOUDS - Moultonborough

SEARLES CASTLE - Windham

KIMBALL CASTLE ?? - Gilford

WENTWORTH CASTLE - Jackson

ANAM CARA CASTLE - Barrington

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Greenville

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Lake Winnepesaukee

UNKNOWN CASTLE – Rindge

CONNECTICUT CASTLES

GILLETTE CASTLE - East Haddam

CASTLE CRAIG - Meriden

SLEEPING GIANT CASTLE - Hamden

HIDDEN VALLEY CASTLE - Cornwall

SAINT CLEMENTS CASTLE - Portland

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Rocky Hill

CROWLEY CASTLE - Greenwich

HEARTHSTONE CASTLE - Danbury

ABORN CASTLE - Ellington

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Newtown

BLACKROCK CASTLE - Black Rock

UNKNOWN CASTLE – Stamford

MAINE CASTLES

NORUMBEGA INN CASTLE - Camden

NORWOOD CASTLE - Sebec Lake

CASCO CASTLE - Freeport

MANN CASTLE - West Paris

BECKETT'S CASTLE - Cape Elizabeth

OAKLANDS CASTLE - South Gardiner

MUSHROOM CASTLE - East Boothbay

DRAGONWOOD CASTLE - Prospect Harbor

CASTLE PROPER -

BATTIE TOWER - Camden

MASSACHUSETTS CASTLES

HAMMOND CASTLE - Gloucester

SEARLES CASTLE - Great Barrington

USEN CASTLE - Waltham

SEARLES CASTLE - Methuen

STATE ARMORY CASTLE - Fall River

KENILWORTH CASTLE - Holyoke

WINNEKENNI CASTLE - Haverhill

SHADOW BROOK CASTLE - Stockbridge

HERRESHOFF CASTLE - Marblehead

BANCROFT TOWER CASTLE - Worcester

TENNEY CASTLE - GREY COURT CASTLE - Methuen

NICKERSON CASTLE - Dedham

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Rehoboth

PARK PLAZA CASTLE - Boston

BANCROFT CASTLE - Groton

BLANTYRE CASTLE - Lenox

AMES CASTLE - North Easton

BOSTON UNIVERSITY CASTLE - Boston University

UNKNOWN CASTLE - West Roxbury

PROSPECT HILL CASTLE - Somerville

CASTLE CLAIRE - Greenwood

EUSTIS CASTLE - Milton

BATTLE'S HOME CASTLE - Lowell

LORD'S CASTLE - Waltham

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Quincy

FREDERICK FAULKNER CASTLE - Lowell

CAN CASTLE – Middlefield

If you wander into Massachusetts you may tour; Salem, Essex, Gloucester, Cape Cod, Concord/Lexington, Boston, etc.

RHODE ISLAND CASTLES

Rhode Island

BELCOURT CASTLE - Newport

TOWERS CASTLE - Narragansett

OCEAN CLIFF CASTLE - Newport

BEACHBOUND CASTLE - Newport

CRANSTON ARMORY CASTLE - Providence

MALBONE HALL CASTLE - Newport

SEAVIEW TERRACE CASTLE - Newport

An interesting side note: Seaview Terrace Castle was featured as the exterior of Collinwood mansion on the soap, Dark Shadows.

CLIFFWALK CASTLE - Newport

HAZARDS CASTLE - Narragansett

GRAY CRAG CASTLE - Newport

VERMONT CASTLES

WILSON CASTLE - Proctor

THE GREGORIE CASTLE - Irasburg

UNKNOWN CASTLE - Charleston

ETHAN ALLEN TOWER - Burlington