



Living History Event: “To Render This Place as Tenable as Possible”

December 7, 2024 | 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The victory over the British at Ticonderoga on October 28, 1776, gave hope to this new nation, but the Continental Army had to prepare for their long watch over the winter to come. In this one-day living history event, witness soldiers’ preparations to hold the line of liberty, maintaining their discipline through the hardships of winter. Discover the adversities they had to overcome each day as they continued to prepare Ticonderoga’s defenses.

****Appropriate winter footwear is highly recommended for undetermined walking conditions****

10:00 a.m. Fort Ticonderoga opens to visitors

10:15 a.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour (Begins at American Flag)

In this entertaining half-hour tour, discover the incredible story of Ticonderoga and all the great experiences Fort Ticonderoga offers today. Learn about the iconic battles of Carillon and Ticonderoga within the French & Indian War and the Revolutionary War. Explore groundbreaking preservation and reconstruction efforts that allow Fort Ticonderoga to bring to life its heroic tales today and for generations to come.

10:45 a.m. “Zeal for Publick Good” (Parade Ground)

Hear the Continental Congress’ Resolves for soldiers to reenlist in the Continental Army at the end of 1776. Explore the dilemma these veteran soldiers faced as they weighed their health and safety against the cause of liberty. See the inducements the army could provide to engage these experienced troops for three years, or the duration of the war.

11:00 a.m. Musket Demonstration (Recreated Redoubt)

Explore the many flintlock arms carried by American soldiers defending Ticonderoga in 1776. After a summer of training and digging in, see why soldiers here said “We have little to fear when once we get into the works.”

11:30 a.m. Hut Building (Soldiers’ Huts Adjacent to Recreated Redoubt)

Help us make history! Grab a mallet or saw and try out timber framing. Work along Continental Army Soldiers to build simple wooden soldiers’ huts as they hold the line for liberty in 1776.

12:30 p.m. Meanwhile...Simultaneous Events and Ticonderoga's Revolutionary War Story (Mars Education Center Great Room)

Join Fort Ticonderoga Vice President of Public History, Stuart Lillie, to examine the surprising coincidental events between Fort Ticonderoga and the broader Revolutionary War. Explore connections between these simultaneous historic moments and how they shape the context of Fort Ticonderoga's story.

1:15 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour *See 10:15 a.m. description.*

1:45 p.m. “All Should Partake of the Joy of This Happy Event” (Parade Ground)

Hear General Horatio Gates’ Orders to the Continental Army at Ticonderoga as unsubstantiated reports came into camp of the success of Washington’s Army in New York. Follow hopeful soldiers to their posts as they prepare to celebrate this joyous occasion.

2:00 p.m. *Feu de Joie* (Recreated Redoubt)

Celebrate with a bang! Hear the crack of musketry and the roar of cannon as soldiers fire a formal military victory salute, celebrating the news of General Washington’s victory over the British Army! Learn about the news the Northern Department of the Army celebrated and the reality of Washington’s continued retreat in December of 1776.

2:30 p.m. Hut Building *See 11:30 a.m. description.*

3:00 p.m. Key to the Continent Guided Tour *See 10:15 a.m. description.*

3:30 p.m. “The Crisis” (Parade Ground)

After encamping on Liberty Hill since July, watch Pennsylvania soldiers march into the warm barracks inside the “Old French Fort.” Discover the Crisis in the cause of American Independence that prompted Thomas Paine to publish *The American Crisis* in December 1776.

4:00 p.m. Fort Ticonderoga Closes to Visitors

Ongoing 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Liberty Hill Encampment (Soldiers’ Huts Adjacent to Recreated Redoubt)

Visit the encampment of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts soldiers on these historic heights, that American’s dubbed Liberty Hill. Step inside soldiers’ huts and imagine daily life for the defenders of Liberty Hill, as the seasons changed.

Artillery Laboratory (Powder Magazine)

Holding the line of liberty relied on stockpiles of ammunition from the artillery stores of Fort Ticonderoga. See artillerymen at work fashioning grape and case shot, essential supplies to keep Ticonderoga’s guns firing.

Hospital (Ground Floor of Officers’ Barracks)

See the Continental Army’s doctors and nurses in action as they care for the surprisingly large number of sick soldiers at Ticonderoga in 1776. Learn how Ticonderoga’s commander, Anthony Wayne, sought to get sick soldiers healthy again to rejoin their regiments.

Laundry (In Front of Fort)

Learn about the importance and dangers of this paid work that women provided for the Continental Army. Work alongside nurses to see how to clean shirts, mattresses, and other dirty linens for the hospital.

“Tailors belonging to each Regiment” (2nd Floor of Officers’ Barracks)

From stitching mattresses for the hospital to repairing soldiers’ clothing, learn how tailors worked within Fort Ticonderoga to keep the Continental Army at Ticonderoga clothed and healthy through winter.