

# "Wow! I'll bet there's a terrific view from up there!"

Whether it's the view from the summit or the tower—or the experiences en route—"fire tower fever" grips you right away and there's no turning back. Sound familiar? Then you're a person for whom the Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) has created *The Fire Tower Challenge*.

Consider the spectacular views of the surrounding hills and valleys. Consider the wildlife you may see along the way and the botanically interesting vegetation on the summits. And consider that for some 50–70 years the cabs atop these towers were the outlooks of "fire spotters," observers whose lonesome vigil was broken only occasionally by visits from the public



[www.adk-gfs.org](http://www.adk-gfs.org)

The Fire Tower Challenge began with the publication of the guidebook, *Views from on High: Fire Tower Trails in the Adirondacks and Catskills*, by John P. (Jack) Freeman. The Challenge hikes are described in detail, along with a fascinating essay describing the history of Forest Preserve fire towers by noted historic preservationist Wesley H. Haynes. Published by ADK, the book is available from the Club (see below), bookstores, and outdoor retailers.

You don't need to be a member of ADK to take part in the Challenge. If you do join, ADK chapters plan a wide variety of activities to help you learn more about nature, the protection of our environment, and outdoor skills.

To join ADK or purchase *Views from on High*, call 1-800-395-8080 (8:30AM–5:00PM, Mon.–Sat.), visit on-line at [www.adk.org](http://www.adk.org), or visit our Lake George and Heart Lake facilities.

## Summits with Fire Towers

### Adirondack Park Fire Towers

Adams .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Arab .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Azure .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Bald (Rondaxe) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Belfry .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Black .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Blue .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Cathedral Rock .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Goodnow .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Gore .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Hadley .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Hurricane .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Kane .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Loon Lake Mtn .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Lyon .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Owls Head .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Pillsbury .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Poke-O-Moonshine ...	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Snowy .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Spruce *** .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
St Regis .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Stillwater *** .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Vanderwhacker .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Wakely .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Woodhull .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....

\*\*\* Closed during hunting season

### Catskill Park Fire Towers

Balsam Lake .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Hunter .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Overlook .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Red Hill .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....
Tremper .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date .....

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle your final challenge hike



# Rules of the *Fire Tower Challenge*

1. To complete the Challenge and receive the official full-color patch (pictured on the front), hikers must climb and document, by date, ascents of at least 23 fire tower summits: 18 of 23 Adirondack Park summits and all 5 Catskill Park summits. *Climbing each tower itself is not required, nor is it recommended, for those towers that have not been restored for safe public use.*
2. The mountain should have a standing fire tower on the date of your ascent. Two of the Adirondack towers described in *Views from on High* will eventually be removed.\* (See summit list, Adirondack Park Fire Towers.)
3. When registering the dates of your climbs on the reverse side of this brochure, be sure to use extra sheets of paper to describe details of interest: weather, wildlife sightings, your impressions, your companions and whatever else caught your attention. We really want you to share your experiences with us, so please be expressive.
4. Send the attached list and additional pages, -name and address on each, along with a check for \$3.00 per patch. (Kids 15 and under are free.) Make the check payable to “ADK Glens Falls Saratoga Chapter” and send to:

**Fire Tower Challenge  
Glens Falls Saratoga Chapter  
Adirondack Mountain Club  
P.O. Box 2314  
Glens Falls, NY 12801**

*It may take 4 to 6 weeks before  
check cashed and patch mailed.*

\* Required to be removed as nonconforming under the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.



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October 2015

Photos: Carl E Hellman II



The Fire Tower Challenge

*A hiking adventure  
From the Adirondack  
Mountain Club*



*Sponsored by the Glens Falls -  
Saratoga Chapter of the  
Adirondack Mountain Club*



Towers updated:: 12/22/2014 12/22/2014