

NOLS Northeast

18-22 Only Expedition

Travel and Logistics

Course Start Location and Arrival/Departure Dates

Starting Location

NOLS Northeast
730 State Route 86
Gabriels, NY 12939

Drop Off Date and Time

Between 2:00 and 4:00 pm the afternoon **before** the course start date

Pick Up Date and Time

Between 2:00 and 3:00 pm **on** the course end date

Check your acceptance letter for your course start and end dates. There will be an orientation meeting at NOLS Northeast at approximately **4:00 pm the afternoon before your course start date**. This meeting gives you an opportunity to get acquainted with your instructors and fellow expedition members, as well as to review the course route and schedule.

All courses wrap up in the afternoon on the noted ending date. On the end date, students who are flying home can book flights from Saranac Lake Airport after 1:00 pm, and parents are welcome to pick up students between 2:00 and 3:00 pm at NOLS Northeast. **Please plan your travel within that window of time**, as we will be busy de-issuing gear right up until 2:00 pm. If at all possible, please avoid making travel plans that will require you to arrive "late" for your course or to leave "early" once your course is over. You may end up missing the start of your course or delaying your ride home.

Making Travel Arrangements

Please wait to make travel arrangements until NOLS Admissions clears your health form.

Minimizing risk of exposure to COVID-19 while traveling (follow CDC recommendations [here](#))

- Practice physical distancing (6 feet) when possible.
- Wear a mask when indoors or in close contact while out of doors
- Wipe down surfaces with disinfecting wipes before touching
- Practice meticulous hygiene with frequent handwashing and hand sanitizer use

Air Travel

Please wait to make travel arrangements until NOLS Admissions clears your health form. For students who are flying to the start of their course, please plan to fly into and out of Saranac Lake Airport, NY, which is 15 minutes from Gabriels, NY. It is serviced daily by Cape Air with flights from Boston, MA. Please book your air travel well in advance of your course start date, as Cape Air flights fill quickly with summer travelers.

You should take the following precautions with your luggage to ensure its timely arrival:

- Carry essential items onto the plane with you, including prescription medications.
- Check your luggage all the way through to your destination, especially if you are changing planes en route.
- Retain your baggage claim stubs. These are important tools for tracking any missing luggage. Upon your arrival in Saranac Lake, promptly inform the NOLS staff if you are missing luggage.

Flying to the Adirondacks:

1. Fly into Saranac Lake Airport between **1:00 pm and 4:00 pm** the afternoon **before your course start date**.
2. NOLS Northeast staff will meet you at the airport when your flight arrives and drive you to NOLS Northeast to meet your classmates.

Flying Home:

1. **On the course end date**, NOLS staff will drive students to the Saranac Lake airport. Schedule your return flight, to depart Saranac Lake, **no earlier than 1:00 pm on the course end date**.
2. NOLS staff will accompany the group and assist with pre-flight check-in.

Driving Directions

To NOLS Northeast, Gabriels, NY

730 State Route 86. This address is off by about 1 mile on Google Maps. Look for the NOLS Northeast sign in our driveway

From Albany: (~3 hours)

- Take I-87 North to exit 30 for US-9 for NY-73/Keene Valley/Keene
- Turn Left at US-9 N
- After ~2 mi, go slightly left at NY-73W/NY-73 Scenic W (Continue 27.5 mi)
- Turn left at Main St./Mirror Lake Drive (Continue ~1 mi)
- Slight left at NY-86 W/Saranac Ave/Sara-Placid Rd. (Continue 8.5 mi)
- Stay on NY-86W through Saranac Lake
- Continue 8.2 miles the NOLS Northeast sign will be on left
- Drive down the long driveway and you have arrived

Alternative Shuttle Options to NOLS Northeast:

Due to the pandemic, bus and train services may not be offered. You must call the service provider directly for details.

If you have flights into a different airport (Plattsburgh, Albany, Burlington, Montreal) there are **alternative shuttle options**. Please contact your Admissions Officer if you choose one of these options.

Amtrak: Currently closed to services north of Albany.

Polar Express Transportation Services: (518) 327-3331

- Runs shuttles for hire within New England and the Adirondack Region (cost dependent on travel distance, not number of passengers, a good shared ride option). You may also contact them at polar.express.1@hotmail.com

Notifying NOLS of Your Travel Plans

Please add your travel plans to the travel and logistics section of your student Dashboard at least two weeks before your course begins. NOLS Northeast will meet multiple students for each course; knowing our students' travel arrangements will help us track down anyone who doesn't arrive as scheduled. If you are driving please let us know that as well.

Please notify NOLS Northeast if you would like to ride from the Saranac Lake Airport or Lake Placid Amtrak stop, at northeast@nols.edu

If Delayed

If your arrival is delayed because of weather or other reasons and you are not going to make the orientation meeting, please:

1. Rebook for the next available flight as soon as you can.
2. Then contact call the NOLS Admission Office at (800) 710-6657 during office hours, or call NOLS Northeast at (518) 323-7800

Accommodations

We will be staging courses at NOLS Northeast in Gabriels, NY. Gabriels is located near Paul Smiths, NY, on the northwest side of the Adirondacks, and will provide us with quick access to our wilderness classrooms. All students will spend one night camping at NOLS Northeast before the course. We do not have the capacity to house students either early or late for their course, so please make other arrangements if you plan to extend your stay. There are hotels within 30 minutes of Gabriels in both Saranac Lake and Lake Placid, NY.

Vehicles and Valuables

Personal belongings and vehicles may be stored at the NOLS facility for the duration of your course. Due care will be taken to prevent theft or damage of your stored items.

NOLS does not assume any liability for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property while in our care. NOLS will not honor any personal claim for property loss while in our care. If you want insurance coverage for your personal belongings, you need to provide it yourself.

Student Mail

You will be able to receive mail before and after your course, but you might not receive or be able to send out mail while you are in the field. Inform your family and friends that letters and packages they send to you must include your course code, (e.g., ASV MM/DD/YYYY).

For packages shipped via UPS or FedEx, please use the following address:

Student Name
c/o NOLS (Course Code, ex. ASV MM/DD/YYYY)
730 State Route 86

Gabriels, NY 12939

For letter and/ or United States Postal Service mail, please use the following address:

Student Name

c/o NOLS Northeast (Course Code, ex. ASV MM/DD/YYYY)

P.O. Box 411

Gabriels, NY 12939

Telephone

You will be out of telephone contact for the duration of your field experience, and cell phones only occasionally work in Gabriels, NY. There will be limited opportunities to make phone calls the night before your course, and on the ending date.

Potential Expenses

Students should bring enough cash to cover personal expenses encountered traveling to and from NOLS Northeast (i.e., meals). All other meals (beginning with dinner the night before your start date) are included in the course price. Additional expenses may include baggage fees, shuttle fees, and any miscellaneous purchases while traveling. We suggest a minimum of \$100, or, if possible, access to a credit card.

First and Last Day

The first day is busy. All phone calls, letters, and personal matters must be attended to the evening before leaving for the field. After an early breakfast, instructors will check your equipment and issue any items you need for the course. You will prepare rations, then pack up to leave town. Once last minute details are completed (generally after lunch), you will be transported to the trailhead to spend your first night camping.

On the last day, you will be picked up early in the morning and transported via NOLS vehicles back to NOLS Northeast. Upon arrival, you will clean, repair, and return issued equipment, then take that long-awaited shower. During this time, you will have an opportunity to purchase equipment. The experience concludes with lunch and the awarding of diplomas. This marks the official end of the course.

NOLS Headquarters

All completed student forms, tuition payments, and other correspondence should be sent to NOLS Admissions, 284 Lincoln Street, Lander, WY 82520. Questions concerning course content, enrollment, college credit, etc., should be directed to the

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Admission Office at the same address, or call (800) 710-6657 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. MST, Monday through Friday.