

New Skete Dog Training Workshop Visitor Guide

Planning your visit and sample workshop itinerary

This guide brings together the practical information you will need to plan your visit to New Skete, along with a sample schedule for the five-day workshop. Because the workshop is responsive to the participating dogs and their people, the order or timing of individual sessions may change based on weather, class progress, or other circumstances.

Before You Arrive

What to Wear

New Skete is located on a mountain, and portions of the workshop may take place outdoors. Please dress casually and comfortably for active work with dogs. Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes and bring layers, including a light jacket. Rain gear is also helpful when wet weather is possible.

Bringing Your Dog

If you are attending with a dog, vaccination records and a recent negative fecal report must be received before the workshop. Please follow any additional instructions sent by the Training Program regarding equipment or supplies for your dog.

Forms and Releases

All attendees must sign a liability waiver and photo release. Any required forms will be provided before or at the beginning of the workshop.

Meals During the Workshop

The workshop includes a light continental breakfast each morning, lunch each day, and dinner with the monks on Friday evening. Dinner on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday is on your own. Restaurants are available in Bennington and Saratoga Springs.

Please let us know about dietary restrictions or food allergies in advance. While we will make reasonable efforts to accommodate dietary needs, New Skete is not a restaurant or allergen-free facility.

Church Services and Monastery Life

Workshop participants are welcome to attend church services during their visit. Vespers is included on the sample schedule as an optional part of each day. The workshop also includes opportunities to share meals with the monks and learn more about the history and life of New Skete.

Getting to New Skete

- Flying: Albany International Airport (ALB) - www.albanyairport.com
- Train: Amtrak service to Albany-Rensselaer (ALB) or Saratoga Springs (SAR) - www.amtrak.com
- Car rental: Enterprise is available at the airport and train station - www.enterprise.com
- Driving: Google Maps generally provides the most accurate directions to New Skete.

Area Accommodations

Lodging is not included with workshop registration. The following accommodations have been recommended by New Skete or used by past workshop participants. Please contact each property directly for current rates, availability, and pet policies.

Accommodation	Approximate Distance	Pets	Contact
Hampton Inn Bennington	13 miles	Yes	802-440-9862
Kimpton Taconic Hotel	25 miles	Yes	802-362-0147
Governor's Rock Motel	11 miles	Yes	802-442-4734
Serenity Motel and Cottages	11 miles	Yes	802-442-6490
Where The Wild Things Are	12.9 miles	Yes	Airbnb listing
Guest Cottage Battenkill	7.8 miles	Check listing	Airbnb listing
The Long Lodge	10 miles	Yes	Airbnb listing
Camden Creek Farm	12 miles	Check listing	Airbnb listing
Rustic Cabin Eagle Bridge	See listing	Check listing	Airbnb listing
Lake Lauderdale Campground	10 miles	Yes	518-677-8855

Accommodation Websites and Notes

Hampton Inn Bennington: www.hilton.com/en/hotels/benvthx-hampton-bennington

Kimpton Taconic Hotel: www.kimptonhotels.com/stay/taconic-hotel-manchester-vt

Governor's Rock Motel: www.governorsrockmotel.com

Serenity Motel and Cottages: www.serenitymotel.com

Where The Wild Things Are: airbnb.com/h/luxury-farmhouse-where-the-wild-things-are

The former home of Maurice Sendak. The owner is a New Skete training client and may offer a workshop discount. Contact: delianeese@hotmail.com.

Guest Cottage Battenkill: airbnb.com/rooms/837034688115034268

The Long Lodge: airbnb.com/rooms/53048983

Camden Creek Farm: airbnb.com/rooms/26395181

Rustic Cabin Eagle Bridge: airbnb.com/rooms/934654671785862670

Lake Lauderdale Campground: www.lakelauderdaletcampground.com

Sample Workshop Itinerary

The following itinerary is provided as a sample. Final times and activities may be adjusted based on weather, class progress, the needs of the participating dogs, or other circumstances.

Tuesday

Time	Activity
8:00-9:30 am	Arrival and registration; continental breakfast
9:45 am	Introduction to The Art of Training Your Dog, Lessons 1-6
12:30 pm	Lunch with the monks
1:30-2:30 pm	Church tour and New Skete history with Brother Gregory
2:45 pm	Purposeful Walk demonstration and workshop
5:00 pm	Vespers, optional
Evening	Dinner on your own

Wednesday

Time	Activity
8:30-9:30 am	Continental breakfast
9:45 am-12:15 pm	Purposeful Walk, off-leash work, and problem solving
12:30 pm	Lunch with the monks
1:30-2:00 pm	Free time
2:00 pm	Workshop session
5:00 pm	Vespers, optional
Evening	Dinner on your own

Thursday

Time	Activity
8:30-9:30 am	Continental breakfast
9:45 am-12:15 pm	Review and application of the training method
12:30 pm	Lunch with the monks
2:00 pm	Leashes, training tools, and exercises
5:00 pm	Vespers, optional
Evening	Dinner on your own

Friday

Time	Activity
8:30-9:30 am	Continental breakfast
9:45 am-12:15 pm	Purposeful Walk session
12:30 pm	Lunch with the monks
2:00 pm	Place, Down, problem solving, and greetings
5:00 pm	Vespers, optional
6:00 pm	Dinner with the monks

Saturday

Time	Activity
8:30-9:30 am	Continental breakfast
9:45 am-12:15 pm	Go Home Lesson and final classroom session
12:30 pm	Lunch with the monks
2:00-3:30 pm	Final workshop review
3:30 pm	Questions and answers, certificates, and photos
5:00 pm	Vespers, optional

Questions Before Your Visit

If questions arise as you prepare for the workshop, please contact nscom@newskete.org before your arrival. We look forward to welcoming you to New Skete.