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RIDIN' SOLO: HERE ARE 16 SOLO DAY TRIP IDEAS IN

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So, this writer recently found herself in a predicament.

Flashback to this past Saturday. The sun was shining, the birds were singing, and we finally had a day that was comfortably warm compared to the heat wave we'd been previously dealing with.

So, it's understandable that on a day like that, you're gonna want to put your shoes on and get out of the house to do something. Anything.

CALLING ALL BEER LI TICKETS TO PORTLA Ridin' Solo: Here Are 16 Solo Day Trip Ideas in New England



But, yours truly had a slight problem. When friends aren't free or live far away, you have no partner, and there's minimal family around, it can sometimes be hard to make last-minute plans with folks. So, sometimes you just gotta ride solo and take a day for yourself.

This writer's go-to place to hang out on such days is downtown Portsmouth, New Hampshire. It's always fun to visit all the cute shops (personal favorites are **Sheafe Street Books, Pickwick's, Deadwick's**, and **Book and Bar**), grab coffee, and sit on a bench by the water at Prescott Park.

ADVERTISEMENT

But still, all this talk of solo adventures got us thinking. What are some optimal New England day trip options that you can enjoy all by yourself? We took to Facebook to ask you, and got all kinds of great suggestions. So, let's take a look at some of them.

16 SOLO DAY TRIP IDEAS IN NEW ENGLAND

Gallery Credit: Megan Murphy



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Hammond Castle Museum via Facebook

Hammond Castle- Gloucester, MA

Hammond Castle was constructed by inventor John Hays Hammond, Jr. to house his collection of artifacts from Europe, including ones "from ancient Rome through the Renaissance." You can also get married here as well.

Isles of Shoals Steamship Company via Facebook

Chad Elberson

Star Island Cruise- Portsmouth, NH

The Isles of Shoals Steamship Company offers many different types of cruises out to Star Island.

Kancamangus Highway- NH

This highway is a scenic route like no other, especially during the fall months.

Castle in the Clouds via Facebook

Castle in the Clouds- Moultonborough, NH

Castle in the Clouds truly has it all. You can tour the historic mountaintop Lucknow Mansion and enjoy gorgeous views as well as great hiking, dining, and other event opportunities.

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill via Facebook

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill- Boylston, MA

You can never go wrong with a stroll through some gardens, and the Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is a popular spot.

Getty Images

Covered Bridge Hunt

There are covered bridges all throughout New England, and perhaps this is your sign to go on a road trip and visit some of them.

AppalachianViews

Clarks Trading Post via Facebook

Train to Old Orchard Beach or Freeport, ME

Take the train up to Maine and pay a visit to Old Orchard Beach or Freeport.

Clarks Trading Post- Lincoln, NH

As the **Clarks** website says, "Where else can you watch a famous Black Bear Show, be chased by the Infamous Wolfman while on a train, plus enjoy great rides and museums?"

Getty Images

York Beach- York, ME

The Short and Long Sands beaches in York, Maine, are favorites of this writer.

Alexander_Koenig

Strawbery Banke- Portsmouth, NH

Those who visit **this living history museum** can tour homes dating back to the 1600s, interact with tour guides and costumed roleplayers, and more.

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Flume Gorge- Lincoln, NH

Journey up to Franconia Notch to hike the Flume Gorge and explore all that the White Mountains has to offer.

Minute Man National Historical Park via Facebook

Minute Man National Historical Park- Concord, MA

Those who appreciate history will enjoy visiting **Minute Man National Historical Park**, and learning more about the **Revolutionary War Battles of Lexington and Concord**.

Salem Witch Museum via Facebook

Salem Witch Museum- Salem, MA

Salem, Massachusetts, aka "Witch City", is an absolute hub of fun, history, and tourism. You can pay a visit to the **Witch Museum** to learn more about the history behind the infamous Salem Witch Trials.

Bars

Getty Images/iStockphoto

Nothing wrong with stopping to enjoy a drink at the bar and socialize with those around you. Who knows? Maybe you'll meet someone.

Google Street View

Old Sturbridge Village- Sturbridge, MA

This living history museum is the largest of its kind in New England, at over 200 acres.

Douglas Rissing

Diana's Bath- Bartlett, NH

Diana's Bath is a beautiful and extremely popular destination spot during the warmer months. It's on this writer's bucket list, for sure.

So, next time you find yourself with a free day off, now you've got some fun ideas for places to explore on your own. We hope you have a blast.

THESE ARE 16 OF THE BEST DONUT PLACES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Gallery Credit: Megan Murphy

Tori's Homestead Doughnuts via Facebook

Tori's Homestead Doughnuts- Colebrook

There's nothing better than a batch of fresh donuts, and just look at these gorgeous beauties from Tori's.

Harvey's Bakery and Coffee Shop via Facebook

Harvey's- Dover

Anyone who grew up in or near Dover has heard of how splendid **Harvey's** is, and their bakery has been serving customers for over 80 years.

Leavitt's Country Bakery via Facebook

Leavitt's Country Bakery- Conway

Located on White Mountain Highway, this bakery has been a community staple for over 40 years.

The Everyday Cafe NH via Facebook

The Everyday Cafe- Contoocook

You can pay a visit to **The Everyday Cafe** to enjoy not just donuts, but great food, "premium local craft beers, funky cocktails, and a fun atmosphere."

Potter's House Bakery & Cafe via Facebook

Potter's House- Rochester

What makes **Potter's House** particularly special is that they provide job opportunities to those with special needs, and partner with Camp CARD NE (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities New England).

Klemm's Bakery via Facebook

Klemm's Bakery- Windham

This **local**, **family-owned business** makes both creative and traditional baked goods for both New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

The Copper Lantern via Facebook

The Copper Lantern- North Hampton

The Copper Lantern has been in operation since 1979, and offers both delicious home cooking and fresh pastries.

Crosby Bakery via Facebook

Crosby Bakery- Nashua

Crosby Bakery prides themselves on their made-from-scratch baked goods, and also have breakfast and lunch specials.

Donut Love via Facebook

Donut Love- North Hampton

Home of New Hampshire's original potato donut, **Donut Love** was founded by couple Mike and Steph to honor the legacy of Mike's mother, Kathy, who longed to open a family bakery.

Dunkin' via Facebook

Dunkin'

Yes, it's not a New Hampshire-specific place, but their donuts rock, so **Dunkin'** deserves a place at the table as far as we're concerned.

Duston's Bakery & Deli via Facebook

Duston's Bakery & Deli- Dover

We love to see all these local family businesses succeeding at what they do. Dustin's Bakery & Deli is a familyowned market, bakery, and deli serving fresh goods daily.

Brothers Donuts via Facebook

Brothers Donuts- Franklin

So many of you guys recommended **Brothers Donuts** up in Franklin, New Hampshire, and we can see why. Just look at all these gorgeous baked creations.

Comfort Baking Company via Facebook

Comfort Baking Company- Exeter

Comfort Baking Company offers everything from cinnamon rolls to "donuts, bagels, baked goods, acai bowls,

smoothies, gluten free bread, and lunch items like soup and sandwiches and other specials!" Talk about our favorite things.

Goody Good Donuts via Facebook

Goody Good Donuts- Laconia

Goody Good Donuts is open six days a week (except Monday). Be sure to get there on the earlier side, cause these

donuts sell out.

Stonehouse Bakery & Café via Facebook

Stonehouse Bakery & Café- Barrington

This Barrington bakery offers both curbside delivery and takeout, so you can easily bring home a delicious box of

donuts to enjoy from the comfort of your couch.

Heav'nly Donuts- Windham

And of course, we can't forget the crème de la crème, Heav'nly Donuts. So many people are absolutely in love with

this place, and with good reason.

THE SEVEN MODERN WONDERS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Gallery Credit: Megan Murphy

The Isles of Shoals

Google Street View

According to **NewEngland.com**, the Isles of Shoals is about seven miles out to sea on the border of New Hampshire and Maine. It has a fascinating history dating back to the 1600's, and ties to historic figures like John Smith the infamous pirate Blackbeard. Guests can access Star Island aboard the **Thomas Leighton**, spend the day exploring, or even stay overnight at the **Oceanic Hotel**.

Getty Images/iStockphoto

Franconia Notch State Park

'Hey Alexa, play Paradise by Coldplay.'

Seriously, though. Just look at this place. Franconia Notch State Park is right in the White Mountains National Forest according to **nhstateparks.org**. In addition to gorgeous hiking views, visitors can also explore the lakes and Flume Gorge, ride Cannon Mountain's aerial tramway, and more.

Megan Murphy, Townsquare Media

The Beaches

Ok yes, this one should probably be a tad less generic. But the key players that make up New Hampshire's beaches all have different appeals.

Want to enjoy a nice beach walk with your family? Wallis Sands is where it's at. Thinking about catching some waves on a surfboard? You're going to want to hit up Jenness. As for Hampton? Well, if arcades, bars, and live entertainment are your thing, that's where you'll want to go.

Getty Images/iStockphoto

Kancamagus Scenic Byway

Always a popular spot during the fall months especially, the **Kancamagus Scenic Byway** goes for 34.5 miles along Route 112. The aesthetic beauty you'll see while driving this highway is nothing short of majestic, and it's the perfect place to appreciate New Hampshire's fall foliage.

Getty Images/iStockphoto

Omni Mount Washington Hotel and Resort

Many would agree that you should spend some time at this exquisite resort at least once in your life. Not only is this historic **hotel and resort** beautiful, but guests can enjoy skiing, golfing, a spa, numerous restaurants and places to shop, a canopy tour, and so much more.

Strawbery Banke

Getty Images/iStockphoto

History lovers will really appreciate this place. **Strawbery Banke Museum** describes itself on its website as "a 10acre campus dedicated to bringing 300+ years of history to life." Those who visit the living history museum can tour homes dating back to the 1600s, interact with tour guides and costumed roleplayers, and more.

Diana's Baths

Getty Images/iStockphoto

New Hampshire is home to lots of watering holes, but one of the most popular is **Diana's Baths**. Not only is this a fun place to explore, but people of all ages can enjoy spending time in the many pools and waterfalls during the warmer months. It's definitely a bucket list destination, for sure.

White Mountains TV via YouTube

Honorable Mention: The Old Man of the Mountain

Unfortunately, since the famed **Old Man of the Mountain** is no longer standing, it tragically didn't make the official 'Modern Wonders' list. But, we couldn't forget to mention the iconic landmark, which was over 12,000 years old when it fell in May of 2003 according to **Mental Floss**.



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