

# TRAIL MAP OF AUSABLE CHASM

## 2 MILES LONG

**MAP KEY**

- Yellow line: Inner Sanctum
- Green line: Rim Walk
- Orange line: Dry Chasm
- Red dashed line with diamonds: Cave & Falls Guided Hike (reservations required)
- Yellow square: Rain Shelter
- Blue square: Stairs
- Green circle: Bridge
- Red diamond: Restrooms
- Blue square: Turnstile



### INNER SANCTUM

*(Intermediate)*

The Yellow Trail is the first leg of our "Classic Tour" that takes guests through the famous Inner Sanctum of the chasm. It is a "must see" for everyone who does not have trouble climbing a few flights of stairs. The Inner Sanctum features natural stone walkways and a network of man-made bridges, staircases and vistas. Riverside views of unique rock formations and geological oddities underneath towering sandstone cliffs are highlighted along the way.

### RIM WALK

*(Easiest)*

The Rim Walk is the easiest of the Ausable Chasm trails and is recommended for those who would like a more casual walk or as a return trail to the Welcome Center (instead of riding the shuttle bus). This gentle woodchip path has several picnic areas and rain shelters along the way. Many stunning cliff-side vistas and bridges allow for a true "bird's eye view" and interpretive signs along the way explain some of the area's natural history.

### DRY CHASM TRAIL

*(More difficult)*

New for 2011, the Dry Chasm Trail is a more difficult trail recommended for those who have already hiked the Inner Sanctum. This trail features steep, natural terrain and is a great introduction to Adirondack wilderness style hiking. Running parallel to Ausable Chasm, the Little and Big Dry Chasms are ancient riverbeds that dried up thousands of years ago. While trekking along the bottom of these old branches of the Ausable, many curious rock formations give evidence to the fact that they were once raging waterways.

### CAVE AND FALLS HIKE

*(Most challenging)*

Ausable Chasm's most challenging trail is accessed only on a guided "Cave and Falls Hike". This section of trail was maintained from 1870 until the devastating floods of 1996 wiped out the railings and bridges in this dramatic section of the Chasm. Tours today explore the ruins of the original trail and guides will lead guests into the Devils Oven Cave and into the mist of Rainbow Falls. Participants must be at least 10 years old and possess a good level of physical fitness as this tour includes scrambling over boulders, navigating uneven rock ledges and a steep climb up a 150 foot staircase.