

AFAR

# Retreat Like a Rockefeller at These Spectacular Adirondack Lodges

By Suzanne Rowan Kelleher and Rosalie Tinelli Oct 6, 2020



Courtesy of The Point

The Point stretches over 75 acres of Saranac Lake shorefront.

Former vacation homes of the Vanderbilts and Rockefellers are among the beautiful, remote lodgings now open to the public.

When 20th-century titans of industry wanted to get away from it all, they retreated to their [Adirondack Great Camps](#) in the boondocks of Upstate New York. Roughly a century later, the Adirondacks remain breathtakingly wild—a [six-million-acre state park](#) larger than Yellowstone, Everglades, Glacier, and Grand Canyon national parks combined. They contain a mix of state-protected preserve, teeny hamlets, privately owned land, and a loose web of ribbon-like roads that weave up and over mountain passes, through old forests, alongside streams, and around a seemingly endless number of sparkling lakes.



A century ago, the Adirondacks were difficult to get to, which was very much the point—the perfect place to seek refuge from the city. Families would make the trek in early summer along with entourages that included butlers, laundresses, nannies, and maids, often arriving at their camps weeks later. They stayed the entire season, enjoying respite from the urban jungle with a raft load of lake and leisure activities, from fishing to swimming and canoeing.

Many of the original three dozen Great Camps aren't open to the public, but you can stay at these six historic Adirondack lodges.



Courtesy of The Point

Open year round, The Point offers amenities from boating to snowshoeing.

## The Point

**Book Now:** [thepointresort.com](http://thepointresort.com)

It doesn't get any more exclusive than **The Point**, a great camp built by William Avery Rockefeller on 75 acres of Saranac Lake shorefront nearly a century ago. It's not exactly the kind of place that invites you to pop in for a drink and a look around. There's no signage off Route 30 for this plush Relais & Châteaux resort, and upon reaching the end of the five-mile, single-lane entry road through the woods, you arrive at a closed gate and a no-nonsense sign in all caps: "THE POINT IS RESERVED FOR GUESTS ONLY . . . NO VISITORS."

Yet beyond that gate is a luxurious all-inclusive retreat that's chock full of antique furnishings, fine art, and a staff ready to attend to your every whim. (They'll even fetch you from the airport if you arrive by private plane, as many guests do.) It's also a surprisingly intimate haven, with just 11 rooms, each with a lake view and a fireplace. The property re-opened in 2018 after a multi-million dollar renovation.

*Open May-March, only on weekends January and February. All-inclusive rates for two from \$1,750 per night, with carte blanche use of sports equipment and facilities, all meals, afternoon tea, wines, and spirits.*

