



The Appalachian Mountain Club presents The International Dinner & Adventure Series at Pinkham Notch Visitor Center

From January through March join us on Wednesday evenings to celebrate a different country with a four-course meal and a trip presentation by fellow explorers and adventurers. Travel the world without leaving New Hampshire's North Country!

• **January 7, 2026**

• **Albania**

• **Speaker: Keith Watling**

Why hike in a place called the Accursed Mountains—jagged, remote, impenetrable, and mysteriously beautiful? Join hiking leader and educator Keith Watling on an adventure to the peaks of the Balkans in Albania and Montenegro and step back in time to explore one of the most spectacular and relatively undisturbed mountain ranges in Europe.



Reservations are recommended.
Call **(603) 466-2727** to book.

\$34 AMC Members **\$38** for Non-Members
Payment is required upon reservation

Spend the night at Joe Dodge Lodge and receive a **20% discount** on lodging and a voucher for Great Glen Trails!

Dinner Menu

Bread: Kulac Me Kos (Yogurt Bread)

Starter: Albanian Qofte (Mint Meatballs)

Entrée: Tave Kosi (Baked Lamb)

Starch: Potato Moussaka

Veggie: Cucumber Salad

Vegetarian: Moussaka

Dessert: Shendetli (Honey & Walnut Cake)

Menu subject to change based on local ingredients and the chef's discretion.



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• January 14, 2026
• Brazil
• Speaker: Nicole Zussman

Join AMC CEO Nicole Zussman to hear about her epic trip to Brazil, from the Amazon jungle to a Lady Gaga concert in Rio de Janeiro to Paraty, a UNESCO world heritage town surrounded by the Atlantic Forest. You'll hear about her experience at the "AMC of the Amazon" lodge, which included time trekking through the jungle, birding on the Cristalino River, and observing South American mammals, as well as her time enjoying the culture of Rio de Janeiro and the beauty of an off-the-beaten path coastal town.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Pao Queijo (Cheese Bread)

Starter: Empada (Savory Hand Pie)

Entrée: Moqueca (Brazilian Fish Stew)

Starch: Coconut Rice

Veggie: Feijoada Vegetable Medley

Vegetarian: Brazilian Tofu Stew

Dessert: Baked Pineapple

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- **January 21, 2026**
- **Mongolia**
- **Speaker: Elaine Howley**

Join marathon and ice swimmer Elaine K. Howley for an exhilarating journey through the vast Mongolian countryside and a chilly 1-mile swim in Lake Khövsgöl, a stone's throw from the Russian border. Trekking well off the beaten path from Ulaanbaatar and deep into a mystical wilderness, Elaine shares her experiences traveling in the north-central region of Mongolia, including sleeping in a traditional, wood-stove-warmed ger, riding horses in Gorkhi Terelj National Park, and climbing to a monastery on the world's roof.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Kulac Me Kos (Yogurt Bread)

Starter: Asian Potato Croquettes

Entrée: Mongolian Beef Stir Fry

Starch: Tsuivan Noodles

Veggie: Mongolian Carrot and Vinegar Salad

Vegetarian: Mongolian Tofu Stir Fry

Dessert: Mongolian Rice Pudding

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- **January 28, 2026**
- **Switzerland**
- **Speaker: Adriane Musgrave**

Cycle the Swiss Alps...in Birkenstocks, if you so choose! Hear from Adriane Musgrave about her e-bike trip with her husband via Switzerland's "Heart Route," a 435-mile course of exquisite beauty that spans the country from Geneva to just past Zurich. Adriane's presentation will feature historic mountain towns, local wine culture, and — of course — Switzerland's great outdoors.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Zopf (Traditional Swiss Braided Bread)

Starter: Pickle Bites

Entrée: Zurich Veal and Mushrooms

Starch: Zurich Smashed Potatoes

Veggie: Swiss Medley

Vegetarian: Zurich Veggie Beef and Mushrooms

Dessert: Swiss Pears and Chocolate

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• **February 4, 2026**
• **South Africa**
• **Speaker: Joseph DiNardo**

Join AMC climbing instructor Joe DiNardo as he shares the story of his solo mountaineering trip across the Twelve Apostles range in South Africa, dodging scorpions and heat stroke to gain exquisite vistas of the Cape Peninsula. Joe's trip included camping in the veld of the Groot Winterhoek Nature Reserves, riding the wine train through the beautiful Franschhoek region, and a New Year's Eve celebration with locals in the heart of Cape Town.

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Dinner Menu

Bread: Ujeqe (South African Steamed Bread)

Starter: Avocat au Crevettes (Shrimp)

Entrée: Sweet Marinade Rump Steak

Starch: Potato and Mushroom Bake

Veggie: Balsamic Roasted Brussels Sprouts

Vegetarian: Sweet Marinade Seitan

Dessert: African Milk Tarts

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- **February 11, 2026**
- **Taiwan**
- **Speaker: Peg Barratt**

Peg Barratt, Chair of the AMC Potomac Chapter, will bring you along on two recent hiking trips in Taiwan. Every day along the Taipei Grand Trail; in the Taroko, Yangminshan, and Hehuanshan National Parks; and in the Alishan area was spent with a day hike and making new hiking friends. Come to hear more about this life-affirming trip to an incredible island.

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Dinner Menu

Bread: Taiwan Scallion Bread

Starter: Sweet and Sour Asian pickles

Entrée: Taiwan Sticky Pork Belly

Starch: Taiwan Sticky Rice and Water Chestnuts

Veggie: Taiwan Cabbage Stew

Vegetarian: Sticky Seitan

Dessert: Pineapple Cake

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- **February 18, 2026**
- **India**
- **Speaker: Tanya Maggi**

From wildlife spotting in the tiger reserves of Tamil Nadu to trekking in the Northern Himalayas, explore the rich culture and varied landscapes of India with Tanya Maggi, an arts educator who traveled the length of the country with her family.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Mangalore Buns

Starter: Indian Corn Kebabs

Entrée: Tomato Yogurt Chicken Curry

Starch: Indian Balsamic Rice

Veggie: Indian Eggplant Curry

Vegetarian: Tomato Yogurt Seitan Curry

Dessert: Mango Kheer

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- **February 25, 2026**
- **Scotland**
- **Speaker: Gale Carey**

Walk the John Muir Way across central Scotland with Gale Carey, as she journeys from Helensburgh on the west coast to Dunbar—Muir's birthplace—on the North Sea. This 134-mile trek not only traverses volcanic fields, windswept beaches, and foxglove-laden forests, it beckons curious hikers to explore the Antonine Wall (built by the Romans in 142 CE), the Falkirk Wheel (the world's only rotating boat lift), and The Kelpies (a pair of giant steel horseheads representing the mythical shape-shifting water-horse spirits).

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Dinner Menu

Bread: Scottish Bannocks

Starter: Scotch Egg

Entrée: Scottish Duck in Cherry Sauce

Starch: Crispy Roasted Potatoes

Veggie: Roasted Brussels Sprouts

Vegetarian: Seitan in Cherry Sauce

Dessert: Dundee Cake

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- **March 4, 2026**
- **Panama**
- **Speaker: John English**

AMC Adventure Travel leader John English presents a summary of his group's trip to Panama. Panama encompasses an extraordinary amount of diversity from Panama City and the Panama Canal area to the coastal waters on both oceans and its stunning cloud forests.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Pan Micha (Panamanian Sweet Bread)

Starter: Mediterranean Stuffed Tomatoes

Entrée: Swordfish and Pineapple

Starch: Rice and Pigeon Peas

Veggie: Brown Sugar Glazed Carrots

Vegetarian: Tofu and Mushroom

Dessert: Fried Banana Delight

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• **March 11, 2026**
• **Kenya**
• **Speaker: Kate Galligan**

Kate Galligan travelled to Kenya to visit her brother, a researcher in sustainable fisheries. Together they journeyed across the country, spotting lions and baby rhinos in Nairobi National Park before heading up the coast to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Lamu Town, where they sailed among small islands and immersed themselves in the region's distinct cultures.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Chapati

Starter: Saffron Deviled Eggs

Entrée: Sweet and Sour Rabbit

Starch: Mashed Sweet Potatoes

Veggie: Sukuma Wiki (Kale)

Vegetarian: Yassa Tofu and Caramelized Onions

Dessert: Black Forest Cake

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: **March 18, 2026**
 : **Slovenia and Germany**
 : **Speaker: Alison Mendonca**

Think the tallest peaks are only for elite climbers? Discover the iron way of via ferrata to Germany's and Slovenia's highest summits. AMC's Alison Mendonca tells her story of traveling to these Alpine countries and the exhilarating method of traversing their peaks using steel cables, rungs, and ladders that are affixed to the mountainside, making for the sort of hike that you'll remember forever.

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Dinner Menu

Bread: Belokranjska pogača (Slovenian flatbread)

Starter: Slovenia Stuffed Sausage

Entrée: Slovenian Goulash

Starch: Nokedli (Noodles)

Veggie: Roasted Turnips and Mushrooms

Vegetarian: Tofu Goulash

Dessert: Crème Cake

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• **March 25, 2026**
• **Indonesia**
• **Speaker: Carly Hodes**

Join nature photographer Carly Hodes to learn about her adventures hiking lush volcanic trails, climbing dramatic cliffs, and diving among vibrant reefs. From breathtaking summit views, unusual burial sites, and intricate temples to encounters with manta rays, monkeys, and the legendary Komodo dragons, Carly will share stories, photos, and tips for exploring one of the world's most spectacular destinations to experience a mix of culture and adventure unlike anywhere else in the world.



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Dinner Menu

Bread: Roti Gambang Indonesian Sweet Bread

Starter: Prawn Satay (Shrimp)

Entrée: Indonesian Rack of Lamb

Starch: Indonesian Potatoes

Veggie: Water Chestnut Stir-Fry

Vegetarian: Roasted Tofu Medley

Dessert: Kapon (Coconut Filled Dough)

Menu subject to change based on local ingredients and the chef's discretion.