HIKING TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

BURROWS TRAIL: 2.1 miles, Moderately Difficult. Start from Year-round parking lot at the end of Camel’s Hump Road in Huntington. This popular trail is used by thousands of hikers annually. One hundred feet from the parking area is a junction with the Connecticut Trail. Continue straight a short distance along the eastern flank of the mountain. Then bear left onto a normally staffed caretaker’s quarters and a cemetery adjacent to the upper lot. Winter trail access is provided 0.3 miles below the main lots. Will Monroe and his sister Catherine are interred in the cemetery. There is also a plaque commemorating the crew of a B-24 Liberator bomber that crashed on the mountain in 1944. This trail is one of the most popular on Camel’s Hump and, at 1.3 miles, joins the Alpine Trail at 2.5 miles. The Monk Trail ends at Hut Clearing where it joins the Long Trail. It is 0.3 miles right, to the summit, on the Long Trail.

MONROE TRAIL: 3.1 miles, Moderately Difficult. Start out from parking lots at the end of Camel’s Hump Road in North Duxbury on the eastern flank of the mountain. There is a small concrete clearing; turn left onto the Connector Trail. The trail follows Brush Brook; hiker traffic is light.

LONG TRAIL: 18.7 miles in Camel’s Hump State Park, Difficult. The 273-mile Long Trail (LT) passes over the summit of Camel’s Hump on its way from Massachusetts to Canada. From the north, use the parking lot on Duxbury Road near the Winooski River. It is a rugged but very scenic 6.2 miles to Camel’s Hump summit. Along the way you will pass over Gleason Brook at 0.6 mile, a spur trail to Bamforth Ridge Shelter at 2.7 miles and have several nice vistas along the trail. The trail joins with the Alpine, Burrows and Monroe Trails as well. From the south, it is a very rugged 12.5 miles to Camel’s Hump summit from the parking area on Route 17 at the top of Appalachian Gap. Along the way you will pass over five mountain peaks, Birch Glen Camp at 2.6 miles, Cowles Cove Shelter at 3.5 miles, Montclair Glen Lodge at 10.6 miles, and junctions with the Beane, Hedgehog Brook, Allis, Forest City, Dean and Alpine Trails.

DEAN TRAIL: 1.0 mile, Easy-Moderate. The Dean Trail climbs an easy grade from its junction with the Monroe Trail, passing by Humph Brook and a spur trail at 0.3 mile to the Humph Brook Tenting Area. Along the way there is a very nice view of Camel’s Hump summit across an old beaver pond. The southern end of the trail joins with the Allis Trail and the LT at Wind Gap. From this point it is about 1.7 rugged miles to the right, uphill, to Camel’s Hump summit.

ALPINE TRAIL: 1.7 miles, Difficult. The Alpine Trail may be used as an alternate route around the summit. It is quite exposed to the elements and includes challenging terrain. Several nice views can be found along the way, as well as remnants of the B-24 Liberator bomber. The Alpine Trail terminates at both ends on the LT; it also bisects the Monk Trail.

ALLIS TRAIL: 0.3 mile, Moderate. This trail has many nice views but it is lightly used. It can be used as part of a loop hike or alternate hikes from the LT around Montclair Glen Lodge. Access this trail from the end of the Forest City Trail, then a short distance either north or south on the LT.

BE PREPARED FOR WEATHER EXTREMES

Mountain weather changes suddenly. Temperature and wind can be very different at the summit than at trailheads. Listen to a forecast before hiking. Plan to hike during severe weather conditions; bring extra food, water and warm clothes. If the weather deteriorates, turn back.

Thunderstorms develop on warm afternoons on many summer days. Seek shelter long before a storm hits. Hike to a lower elevation before a storm; stay out of open areas and boulders. Crouch on loose rocks (don’t stand on your pack), avoid standing water and don’t touch the ground with your hands.

Mary Ellen Allen on your hike. Wear appropriate clothing and sturdy hiking boots. Hiking trails are narrow, rugged and rocky. Carry a cell phone with you in case of emergency, but realize it may not work in all locations. Turn the ringer to “vibrate” to respect others on the trail, and the event of an emergency. Pay attention to the route you hike; if you become lost, stop and look around for things you recognize like blazes or trail intersections.

WELCOME TO CAMEL’S HUMP STATE PARK


STATE OWNERSHIP OF THE MOUNTAIN began with a gift of 1,000 acres around the summit by Colonel Joseph Battell in 1911. Battell sought to preserve the site of the wooded peak from his property. The property was then turned over to the newly created Vermont Forest Service to manage the property, to preserve its primitive and undeveloped qualities. Throughout the 20th century, the State acquired more property and adopted management policies to preserve the aesthetic and recreational values of Camel’s Hump. Several controversial proposals to site communications towers and ski areas on the mountain were finally put to rest in 1969 with legislation that reiterated Colonel Battell’s wishes, and created the high elevation Camel’s Hump Natural Area. Today, Camel’s Hump State Park totals more than 21,000 acres in five towns.

The property is managed to preserve rare and threatened plants, provide wildlife habitat and provide for public recreation. Lower elevation portions are managed for multiple uses including timber production and farming.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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