

Hiking Suggestions

Hiking Suggestions

Here are a few hikes around the island that you could try. For others, ask the Front Desk staff for a hiking guide to use during your stay. Please check hiking guide for specific directions and parking information.

Easy Hikes

Bar Harbor Shore Path – This is an easy hike along the ocean front, passing by the town beach and the Bar Harbor Inn.

Bar Island – This is a walk you can take only at low tide. You can walk across the ocean bottom to Bar Island, a nice half-mile walk, but watch for the changing tide!

Great Head – The best place to start this 2-mile loop is at the paved parking area on the dead-end park road that heads south from the Schooner Head overlook intersection. When you get to the high point of Great Head, you will see the rubble of a stone tower, once used as a tea house.

Hunter's Beach – This is a great hike through the woods along a brook leading to a cobble beach. To reach this hike, head west on Route 3 and take the first left about 0.8 miles past the entrance to the Blackwoods Campground. The trailhead is about 0.2 miles farther on the left. There is only enough room for five or six cars in the parking area.

Around Jordan Pond – This is a 3-mile walk around Jordan Pond. There are packed trails and some boardwalks. There is no swimming or wading allowed in this pond because it is a reservoir.

Ship Harbor Nature Trail – This is a 1.5 mile walk. A great easy walk down to the ocean.

Wonderland Trail – This is a 1-mile walk round trip. This hike starts in a wooded area and leads to a spruce grove along the shore overlooking a peninsula.

Moderate Hikes

Huguenot Head – This trail is one of the most handsome on the island. The trail starts at the wooden marker and stone steps directly across the road from the parking lot just south of the park's Sieur de Monts entrance.

Gorham Mountain – This hike is about 2.5 miles long. There are many different sights on this trail depending on which way you decide to go. You can walk along the shore, which parallels Ocean Drive for a great view of the ocean.

North and South Bubbles – South Bubble is one of the most popular climbs in the park. Part way up the trail there is a major intersection--a right turn here will take you up a very steep and rugged path to the top of North Bubble. Continue straight, however, to go to South Bubble. Along the way take one of the easy-to-follow, yet unmarked side trails to visit Bubble Rock.

Acadia Mountain – This hike overlooks the west shore of Somes Sound. The total trip is just less than 2 miles. You may want to bring your swimsuit. A trail leads downhill from the parking area to a popular swimming ledge on Echo Lake. There are no lifeguards on duty.

Flying Mountain – This hike has a great view of Somes Sound. You can retrace your steps back down the mountain or take a trail to the north, which leads down to the shore of Valley Cove. The complete loop using the northern trail is 1 mile long.

Strenuous Hikes

North Ridge Trail – This is about a 2-mile long trip up Cadillac beginning on the Park Loop Road.

West Face Trail – This hike is one of the fastest ways to get up Cadillac, the trail is very steep and makes for a very hard way to descend.

South Ridge Trail – This is one of the most popular trails up Cadillac.

Pemetic Mountain Loop – This hike is just less than 4.5 miles.

Penobscot Mountain – This is the 5th highest mountain on the island. There is also a pond that you may swim in. It is also a great place to stop for a picnic lunch.