

HISTORICAL HIKES AT BEAR MOUNTAIN

Celebrate Great Outdoors Month by taking advantage of these awesome hikes available throughout June. Guided by a NYS licensed hiking guide, learn about the trails and spot some wildlife on a hike from the historic Bear Mountain Inn. Afterward, you can cool off with an ice cream from the Hiker's Café or grab a drink at Restaurant 1915! If any of these hikes interest you, please contact our NYS licensed guide at bearmountainhikes@gmail.com to learn more information about the tours and availability and to book a tour.

DUNDERBERG MOUNTAIN HIKE

Learn a little history of what was once a village in the shadow of Dunderberg Mountain. We will also find an old mine while hiking the bridle trail. This is a moderate hike, there are some hills and the terrain is uneven and can be rocky in places. The hike is approximately 5 to 6 miles and will take about 4 hours to complete. If you are an inexperienced hiker or have never hiked before, this is the perfect hike for you. You will need at least 1 liter of water and we will stop for a break at the Doodletown Reservoir so bring a snack. The hike will return to the Inn.

FAQ

Will I have to pay for parking?

Yes, the state park collects a 10\$ parking fee when you park. But please keep in mind this fee goes directly to the state park for maintenance of the park (garbage pickup, bathrooms, etc.) And it allows you use of the park all day. So, after our hike you can enjoy the picnic area, the beautiful Hessian Lake or even the zoo! And I really recommend the Trailside Zoo.

Are dogs allowed on this hike?

Dogs aren't allowed on this hike, but we will be scheduling a pup friendly hike in the future.

Is the hike suitable for children?

Yes! It is suitable for children age 10 and up and if their parents think they can complete the hike. A parent or guardian will have to be present on the hike with the child. This hike is awesome for introducing our future hikers to trails and the great outdoors!

What type of shoes should I wear?

You can wear comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots. Open shoes or dress shoes are not appropriate. Just keep in mind the trails are uneven and may be muddy in spots, so your shoes may get dirty.

Do I need insect repellent?

It is a good idea to bring some along. We do have ticks and various other annoying insects in the forest.

Should I bring a trekking pole?

That is up to you. They can be very helpful on our rocky terrain on the trails.

Will I need a backpack?

It is not required but is great for carrying your water and snacks.

If the weather is bad will the hike be cancelled?

Yes, if it is raining or there is a threat of a thunderstorm the hike will be cancelled and rescheduled for another day.

Who do I contact for questions about the hike?

You can contact your guide at bearmountainhikes@gmail.com.

POPOLOPEN GORGE HIKE

Are you interested in learning a little more about how to read a trail map? Or just want to learn how to follow the trail markers on a hike? The Popolopen Gorge hike is perfect for that. This hike is about 6 miles and there are some hills and uneven terrain, so it will take about 4 hours to complete. This hike is perfect for the inexperienced hiker or if you are new to hiking. We will be following a few trails along an old aqueduct. Don't forget to pack at least 1 liter of water and a snack, we will stop for a break at Queensborough Lake. The hike will return to the Inn.

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WEST MOUNTAIN HIKE

How about a hike with a view? This hike will take us to the top of West Mountain where we will hike along the ridge with views for miles and miles! This hike is very strenuous and does include 2 rock scrambles. The hike is about 5 to 6 miles and will take about 6 hours. If you have hiked before but would like to find some views this is the perfect hike for you. Pack at least 1 liter of water and snacks. We will break on the ridge and have lunch with a view. This hike is limited to 6 people.

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Are dogs allowed on this hike?

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Is the hike suitable for children?

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BALD MOUNTAIN HIKE

The Bald Mountain hikes is another hike with awesome views! This hike is strenuous and not recommended for first time hikers. From the Inn the hike is approximately 5 miles and will take 4 to 4 ½ hours to complete. The terrain is rocky and uneven, so hiking boots are recommended. Don't forget at least 1 liter of water and pack a snack for a break on top of the mountain.

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ABOUT PATTYE

Patty is a NYS DEC licensed hiking guide trained in CPR and Wilderness First Aid. She has 3 years of experience in guiding hikes in Bear Mountain and Harriman State Parks. Patty's hikes are more about the journey than the destination with stories of our local history along the way. August 2017 Patty was a guide for The Youth Development Agency for the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Adventurous Journey, spending 10 days backpacking and teaching on the trails in Harriman State Park.