Hiking options in Washington



Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge is located 2.3 miles EAST of Washougal on WA 14 or 46.7 miles WEST on WA 14 from the Hood River Bridge. Start point: Steigerwald Lake Trailhead / Hike Type: Loop / Distance: 2.8 miles / Elevation gain: 0 feet / Difficulty: Easy



Cape Horn Trail is located 10.1 miles EAST of Washougal on WA 14 or 38.9 miles WEST on WA 14 from the Hood River Bridge. Start point: Cape Horn Trailhead / Hike Type: Loop / Distance: 7.1 miles / Elevation gain: 1350 feet / Difficulty: Moderate / Seasons: Year-round, but lower part of the loop is closed Feb. 1 through July 15 / Family Friendly: No



Beacon Rock is located 19.3 miles EAST of Washougal on WA 14 or 30.4 miles WEST on WA 14 from the Hood River Bridge. Start point: Beacon Rock Trailhead / Hike Type: Out and Back / Distance: 1.8 miles round trip / Elevation gain: 680 feet / Difficulty: Moderate



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Hamilton Mountain is located 20.3 miles EAST of Washougal on WA 14 or 29.4 miles WEST on WA 14 from the Hood River Bridge. Start point: Hamilton Mountain / Hike Type: Out and Back / Distance: 7.5 miles / High point: 2,438 feet / Elevation gain: 2100 feet / Difficulty: Moderate / Seasons: March to November / Family Friendly: No

Dog Mountain is located 37.6 miles EAST of Washougal on WA 14 or 11.3 miles WEST on WA 14 from the Hood River Bridge. Start point: Dog Mountain Trailhead / Hike type: Modified Loop / Distance: 6.9 miles / Elevation gain: 2800 feet

Difficulty: Difficult / Family Friendly: No

Dog Mountain restrictions: Permits are required on Saturdays & Sundays March 31 - July 1. Fees: \$5/vehicle/day at Dog Mountain Trailhead Permits are required Saturdays & Sundays from March 31 to July 1 for each individual using the Dog Mountain Trail System. Hikers on the system will be required to carry a hard copy permit or electronic proof of purchase. Permits: Permits will be available without reservation for all visitors who use the Dog Mountain shuttle service operated by Skamania County. In addition to the shuttle option, there will be 165 permits available per day through the national online reservation system.



Have Fun & Be Safe!

Over two million hikers hike trails in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area annually.

Each year several individuals or parties get lost or hurt in the woods. Most commonly, hikers get lost going off-trail and then lose the trail or fall from steep edges or cliffs that are all over the area.

The USDA Forest Service, Cascade Locks Fire Department & Crag Rats Search and Rescue team encourage hikers to be prepared before departing. Search and rescue efforts can be expensive, are often risky to the searchers and create worry for family and friends.

Before venturing into the Gorge the above organizations recommend the follow safety precautions:

Leave a trip itinerary with someone who will check in with you regarding your return time.

Carry the 10 Essential Systems which include map and compass, extra food, extra water, whistle, poncho, extra clothing, waterproof matches and fire starter, flashlight, first aid kit.

Be prepared for extreme temperatures, heat, snow and/or rain. Hypothermia is the #1 killer of outdoor enthusiasts.

Do not rely on your mobile device. Although GPS devices and cell phones are helpful, do not rely on them, especially in the deep canyons of the Gorge. Even a few hundred yards up some trails there is no cell phone reception and batteries wear out at the most inconvenient times.

Know your limitations & experience level. Make sure you are fit for the type of outing you are planning.

If hiking with others, stay together; it is highly recommended that you hike with at least one other person.

If you think you are lost, do not panic. Stop and plan your next action, which often is to stay in one place, especially if darkness is near. Leave plenty of daylight for travel. Set up an emergency camp while there is still daylight if needed.

Always #RecreatewithRespect.

Trail Alerts

Most trails between Wyeth and Troutdale in Oregon are closed because of the Eagle Creek fire.

Dog Mountain Loop: Weekend hikers will need to obtain a new permit to hike Dog Mountain trail March 31-July 1.

Cape Horn Loop: The 1.5-mile road section of this loop hike is on a county road.

Please walk single-file and be aware of vehicle as there are blind corners. Walk on the side of the road as you normally would; remember this section is not a trail even though it's part of the hike. Also, please be mindful of local residents and park in designated

parking areas. If you park along Cape Horn Road, make sure not to do it in front of a gate, driveway, or private entrance.

From Feb. 1-July 15, the lower section of the Cape Horn trail has a seasonal closure for nesting peregrine falcons. The closed section is located between a point about a half-mile southwest of the west pedestrian underpass/tunnel at SR-14 and the bottom of Cape Horn Rd. Failure to respect the closure can result in as much as a \$5,000 fine, and future use of the trail is dependent on hikers respecting this closure.

This is not a dog-friendly trail because of steep cliffs. Two dogs have died here recently so please keep your dog at home.