



## White Mountain National Forest Hikes on the Kancamagus



The Kancamagus Scenic Byway stretches 34 miles from Conway to Lincoln, NH. Visitors enjoy scenic vistas and rushing waters of the Swift and Pemigewasset Rivers along the route. The scenic byway climbs to nearly 3000 feet at Kancamagus Pass near Lincoln and is open year-round.

There are numerous hiking opportunities for all experience levels along the highway.

All trailheads on the Kancamagus Scenic Byway require a recreation pass. Annual and weekly passes may be obtained at our offices or a local vendor. Daily passes are available at most trailheads.

### **Boulder Loop Trail**

2.8 miles (Round trip)

Easy/moderate.

Average Time: 2-4 hours

**Location:** 6 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station. Turn right off the Kancamagus Scenic Byway through the Covered Bridge. The parking lot is on the right and the trailhead is opposite the parking lot. Gradual climb with some steep pitches. Excellent views! A trail guide is available at District offices. Views of Mt. Chocorua and Swift River Valley can be enjoyed from the ledges.

### **The Lovequist Loop Trail**

0.7 miles (Round trip)

Easy

Average Time: 1 hour

**Location:** 9 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station at Rocky Gorge. A short walk around Falls Pond offers a sample of the internal beauty of the Forest. Bring along your fishing rod and camera. Tread softly and be careful of plants and vegetation.

### **Rail N' River Trail**

0.5 miles (Round trip)

Easy

Average time: 10 minutes to 1 hour

**Location:** 12.3 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station on the Kancamagus Scenic Byway. Follow the trail from the parking lot at the Russell Colbath Historic House. This is a fairly flat, fully accessible trail.

### **Mt. Hedgehog via The UNH Trail**

5 miles (Round trip)

Moderately difficult.

Average Time: 4-5 hours

**Location:** 13.5 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station. Start at the UNH Downes Brook Trailhead across from Passaconaway Campground. This is a loop hike via the UNH Trail to Mt. Hedgehog. This trail offers a moderate hike to the summit of a 2500' mountain with spectacular views of the Swift River Valley in many directions. Use extreme caution on open ledges.

**Mt. Potash Hike**

4 miles (Round trip)

Moderately difficult.

Average Time: 4 hours

**Location:** 13.5 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station. (Not a loop trail). Start on the Downes Brook Trail across from the Passaconaway Campground. The Mt. Potash Trail then leaves at a (sharp right) and soon crosses Downes Brook. The route over ledges is marked with yellow paint.

The trail to the summit of Mt. Potash (2660') is open and ledgy and affords excellent views of the Swift River Valley and surrounding mountains in all directions. Use extreme caution on ledge areas.

**Sabbaday Falls Hike**

0.4 miles (Round trip)

Easy walk

Average Time: 20 minutes to 1 hour

**Location:** 15 miles west of the Saco Ranger Station. A picturesque series of cascades in a narrow flume. Interpretive signs point out rock formations. There is a picnic area at the trailhead.

**Note:** Swimming is not allowed at this location.

**Greeley Ponds Trail**

Approximately 5 miles (Round trip)

Moderately Easy

Average Time: 2.5- 3 hours

**Location:** The trailhead is 9 miles east of Exit 32, I-93 on the Kancamagus Scenic Byway. Greeley Ponds Scenic Area is about 1 mile from the highway, featuring two ponds. Upper Greeley Pond, with its dark aqua-green color, is a beautiful spot surrounded by old growth timber and towering cliffs. By contrast, Lower Greeley Pond is shallow and more typical of a beaver pond. Both ponds offer trout fishing and an enjoyable place to have a picnic lunch.

**Forest Discovery Trail**

1.4 mile accessible loop trail

Easy

Average Time: 1 hour

**Location:** An easy hike, the Discovery Trail offers a living classroom in forest ecology. The parking area and trailhead are located on the Kancamagus Scenic Byway, 6.2 miles from Exit 32, off I-93 in Lincoln, NH. The trail includes interpretive panels featuring both natural and managed forest ecology.

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