

Suggested MassParks Hikes!

Mt. Tom State Reservation

125 Reservation Rd, Holyoke, MA 01040, 413 534-1186

To help you plan your visit to Mt. Tom, we offer the following suggested hikes that we think visitors might enjoy.

Introductory hikes are relatively short and appropriate for most users, including families with children. **Signature hikes** are recommended trail experiences that may be longer or more difficult, but that highlight some of the best features of Mt. Tom.

Introductory Hike Universal Access Trail

Trailhead: Park at the Lake Bray parking area off Reservation Road.

Lat/Long: 42.268893, -72.616608

Distance: 0.8 miles

Intensity Level: Easy

Brief Description: Enter the Universal Access Trail located behind the kiosk. This trail will take you out to the Bray Bridge with wetland and lake views. There is an alternate accessible route so users can make a short loop trail on the return.

Introductory Hike Bray Loop Trail

Trailhead: Park at the Lake Bray parking area off of Reservation Road.

Lat/Long: 42.268893, -72.616608

Distance: 2.1 mile Loop Trail

Intensity Level: Easy/Moderate

Brief Description: Begin on the Universal Access Trail, go past the K.B. trail and take a right onto the Bray Loop Trail (yellow blazes). Continue following the Bray Loop Trail staying left at each intersection until you come back around to the Bray Bridge. Cross the bridge and take the Universal Access Trail back to the parking area.

Signature Hike Goat Peak Loop

Trailhead: The Mt. Tom Visitor Center (stone house) at the intersection of Reservation Road and Christopher Clark Road.

Lat/Long: 42.267455, -72.636411

Distance: 3.4 miles round trip

Intensity Level: Moderate

Brief Description: To the right of, and behind the Visitor Center, walk past the gate onto Old Reservation Road. A short distance on your right you will come to the Dynamite Trail (yellow blazes). Take the Dynamite Trail to the John McCool Trail (blue blazes) on your left. Continue on the McCool Trail until you come to an intersection where you will take a right and then a left onto a paved road. A short distance up the road and on your right will be the trailhead for the New England Trail (NET) (white blazes). Take the NET to Goat Peak where you can climb the Goat Peak Observation Tower, the best view on the Mt. Tom Range. Then continue along the NET to Reservation Road and then right for a short walk back to the Visitor Center.

Have a suggested hike or ride? Contact paul.jahnige@state.ma.us



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Last updated May 3, 2018

Signature Hike

NET-Beau Bridges Trail Loop

Trailhead: The Mt. Tom Visitor Center (stone house) at the intersection of Reservation Road and Christopher Clark Road.

Lat/Long: 42.267455, -72.636411

Distance: 1.8 miles round trip **Intensity Level:** Moderate

Brief Description: Walk easterly on Reservation Road to the trailhead of the NET (white blazes) on your left. Hike to the Easthampton overlook and turn right past the benches to the Goat Peak Observation Tower. Return to the NET and continue north to the intersection with the Beau Bridges Trail (blue blazes) on your right. At the end of the Beau Bridges Trail, take a left to the Hampden Field parking area. Walk to the right through the parking area and return to the Visitor Center along Reservation Road.

Signature Hike

NET to D.O'C. to Quarry Trail Loop

Trailhead: The Mt. Tom Visitor Center (stone house) at the intersection of Reservation Road and Christopher Clark Road.

Lat/Long: 42.267455, -72.636411

Distance: 2.0 miles round trip **Intensity Level:** Moderate

Brief Description: Walk easterly on Reservation Road to the NET (white blazes) trailhead on your right. Hike to the top of Whiting Peak and continue to the D.O'C. Trail (red blazes) on your left. Hike down the D.O'C. to the Quarry Trail (yellow blazes). Take a left onto the Quarry Trail and continue to the intersection with the NET where you will take a right and hike back to Reservation Road and the Visitor Center.

Things to Remember:

- **Time, distance, difficulty:** average hiker pace is estimated at 1.5 miles per hour. Most distances are round-trip. Plan conservatively, start early. Be aware of weather and sunset. Trail difficulty ratings based on ruggedness and gradient are **easy, moderate, or difficult**.
- **Wear weather appropriate clothing**, layer for temperature changes. Appropriate footwear is a must. Trails can be wet and slippery.
- **Parking at trailheads:** Parking fees may apply. Space may be limited. Be courteous to avoid blocking in others. Do not leave valuables in your car.
- **Bring a map, and share your plans with someone.**
- **Drinking water** is not always available. Bring plenty! Trailside sources should be treated.
- **Stay on designated trails:** Follow painted blazes and signs if available. Double blazes indicate a direction change.
- **Pace & group size:** keep your group together; hike only as fast as your group's slowest hiker.
- **Carry-in, carry-out all trash:** Leave No Trace outdoor ethics are strongly encouraged. For more information visit <http://www.Int.org/programs/principles.php>
- **Pets are generally permitted** on 10-foot maximum leash and under control at all times. Please clean up after your pet and dispose of all waste outside of park. Be aware of local park rules and that not all users appreciate encountering pets, even when friendly.
- **Be aware of hunting seasons** and wear blaze orange when appropriate. For season info, visit:
<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/wear-blaze-orange-during-hunting-season>

Have a suggested hike or ride? Contact paul.jahnige@state.ma.us