

Hikes, Strolls, and Scrambles along the White Pass Scenic Byway

From high mountain lakes to wilderness forest, there are hikes along the byway for every interest and ability. Casual day hikers, families, and seasoned backcountry enthusiasts will find hikes that feature the best of the Pacific Northwest's forests and high country.

The hikes shown on the map with the hiker symbol are a great introduction to the byway's backcountry. Check the back of the map for more information, then lace up your boots and get hiking!



BEFORE YOU GO: Get up-to-date route information for hikes near the byway at one of the information centers shown in red on the map:

-  Randle Ranger Station (U.S. Forest Service)
-  Destination Packwood Visitor Center
-  Ohanapecosh Ranger Station (Mt. Rainier NP)
-  Naches Ranger Station (U.S. Forest Service)

Hikes range from about one to six hours in length. Be prepared with good route information and knowledge of current conditions.

PERMITS AND FEES

Most hikes require either a permit or entry fee:

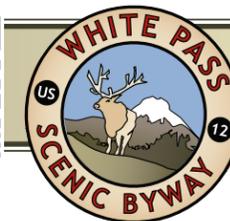
MOUNT RAINIER NAT'L PARK requires an entry fee. **NATIONAL FOREST SITES**, including Mount St. Helens, require a Northwest Forest Pass for parking at trailheads. Passes are available at US Forest Service Ranger Stations in Randle and Naches, and select businesses in Morton, Randle, and Packwood.

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE AREAS require a Discover Passes for parking at trailheads. These are available at many grocery, convenience, and outdoor stores in Mossyrock, Morton, Randle, Packwood, and Naches. *See back page for individual permit requirements.*

Curious about the latest happenings along the byway? Visit us on the web, and check out our Facebook and Twitter feeds:




HIKE! the White Pass Scenic Byway



Sand Lake

Follow the famed Pacific Crest Trail to serene Sand Lake, offering summer wildflowers, brilliant fall foliage, and winter snowshoeing. Find campsites at the lake and plan to take a dip during summer. With minimal elevation gain this is an ideal destination for families.

Difficulty: easy Distance (round trip): 7.2 mi. Elevation gain: 920 ft.
 Time to Allow: 4 hours Snow-free: July – November
 Pass required: none (park on side of highway) Open to: hikers, horse
 Driving Directions: From the east end of the parking strip on the north side of U.S. 12 at White Pass Ski Area, follow the unsigned dirt road leading north to White Pass Campground on the shores of Leech Lake. The Pacific Crest Trail-North trailhead is located just before the start of the campground loop.



Round Mountain

It's a steep climb, but cool forest surroundings and the good chance of spotting deer and elk help distract from the switchbacks. The outstanding views at the top of Round Mountain make the trip well worth it. Neighboring peaks, alpine lakes and rocky spires dominate the views.

Difficulty: moderate to strenuous Distance (round trip): 4.5 mi. Elevation gain: 1700 ft.
 Time to Allow: 3 hours Snow-free: July – September
 Pass required: Northwest Forest Pass Open to: hikers, horses
 Driving Directions: From Yakima, drive west on U.S. Highway 12 for about 40 miles and turn onto Upper Tieton Rd. Drive 2.8 miles and turn right onto Forest Road 830. Travel about 5 miles to the trailhead.



Packwood Lake

A pleasant, low-elevation walk through cool, dense forest leads to the shores of popular Packwood Lake. Hikers of all ages enjoy camping, fishing and swimming in this scenic, low elevation lake. To avoid the crowds, take this trail late spring and early autumn.

Difficulty: easy Distance (round trip): 9 mi. Elevation gain: 400 ft.
 Time to Allow: 4 hours Snow-free: late May – October
 Pass required: Northwest Forest Pass Open to: hikers, horses, bicycles
 Driving Directions: From Packwood, follow U.S. 12 and turn southeast onto Forest Road 1260. Continue 6 miles to the trailhead parking lot.



Tieton River Trail

Cross a swaying suspension bridge to join this trail following the swift and clear Tieton River. This scenic walk wanders through open conifer and oak forests, and offers views of dramatic columnar andesite cliffs bordering the river. Keep in mind this is elk country - watch for these area residents as you walk this relatively flat and easy trail.

Difficulty: easy Distance: 6.4 mi. Elevation gain: 0 ft.
 Time to Allow: 3.5 hours Snow-free: year-round
 Pass required: Discover Pass Open to: hikers
 Driving Directions: From Yakima, travel 17.6 miles on U.S. 12 to the junction with Highway 410. Turn left, staying on U.S. 12 for 3.3 miles to the trailhead located next to a Quonset hut on the left (south) side of U.S. 12.



Grove of the Patriarchs

Standing tall and ever-mighty, the trees along this beloved trail are some of the oldest and largest in Washington State. Quietly wander through these towering giants and cross a sturdy suspension bridge. This experience is one to impress people of all ages.

Difficulty: easy Distance (round trip): 1.5 mi. Elevation gain: 0 ft.
 Time to Allow: 1 hour Snow-free: June – October
 Pass required: National Park Entry Open to: hikers
 Driving Directions: From Highway 12, drive north 5.4 miles on SR 123 to the Stevens Canyon Road. Turn left (west) and pass through the Stevens Canyon Entrance to the park. About 0.25 mile from SR 123, park in the lot on the north side of the road.



Dry Creek Trail

The switchbacks are steep, but there are great views at the top to reward the effort. From the site of a former forest lookout tower enjoy panoramic vistas of the Cowlitz River Valley, high cliffs and forested foothills.

Difficulty: strenuous Distance (round trip): 7 mi. Elevation gain: 2715 ft.
 Time to Allow: 4 hours Snow-free: late June – early November
 Pass required: None Open to: hikers, horses, bicycles, motorcycles
 Driving Directions: From Packwood, drive 4 miles west on U.S. 12 to a junction with Forest Road 20. Turn left (south) onto this road and continue 0.5 mile to the trailhead on the right.



Glacier Lake

It's popular with families, and for good reason. Summer wildflower meadows are beautiful, autumn huckleberries are plentiful and pretty Glacier Lake greets hikers in just two easy miles. This is old-growth forest at its finest.

Difficulty: moderate Distance (round trip): 4 mi. Elevation gain: 800 ft.
 Time to Allow: 3 hours Snow-free: late June – October
 Pass required: Free Wilderness Permit at Trailhead Open to: hiker, horse
 Driving Directions: From Packwood, drive 2.1 miles west on U.S. 12 to a junction with Forest Road 21. Turn left (south) onto this road and continue 5 miles. Turn left onto FR 2110 and drive 0.5 mile to the trailhead on the right.



Woods Creek Watchable Wildlife Area

Experience five different habitats on this wide and flat loop trail. Interpretive signage follows the trail as it crosses through old-growth forest to open meadows and wetland. Count the birds and listen to their calls as you wander the trail.

Difficulty: easy Distance: 1.5 mi. Elevation gain: 0 ft.
 Time to Allow: 1 hour Snow-free: year-round
 Pass required: None Open to: hikers
 Driving Directions: From Randle, turn south onto SR 131. Drive 0.9 mile and bear right at the "Y" onto Forest Road 25. Drive 4.6 miles to the parking area.



Norway Pass

Trek through dramatic blown-down forests, view recovering Spirit Lake, and take in mind-blowing views of Mount St. Helens and its rehabilitating landscape. An early start is a good idea to avoid crowds as well as afternoon heat.

Difficulty: easy Distance (round trip): 5.2 mi. Elevation gain: 940 ft.
 Time to Allow: 3 hours Snow-free: late June – mid-October
 Pass required: Northwest Forest Pass Open to: hikers
 Driving Directions: From Randle, drive south on SR 131 (becoming Forest Road 25) to a junction with FR 99 (just past Iron Creek Falls). Turn right (west) onto FR 99 and drive 9.2 miles before turning right (north) onto FR 26. Continue about 1 mile to the Norway Pass trailhead.



Juniper Ridge Trail

Wide-open meadows of flowers reward hikers climbing the steep slopes to Juniper Ridge. Panoramic views are frequent along the trail. In addition to the surrounding foothills, enjoy views of Mount Rainier, the jagged Goat Rocks, Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams.

Difficulty: moderate to difficult Distance (round trip): 7 mi. Elevation gain: 1900 ft.
 Time to Allow: 5 hours Snow-free: July - October
 Pass required: None Open to: hikers, horses, bicycles, motorcycles
 Driving Directions: From Randle, drive 1 mile south on Forest Road 25 and then turn left (east) onto FR 23. Continue south 9 miles and turn right onto FR 28. Continue 1 mile and turn left onto FR 29. Travel 4 miles down FR 29 and turn left onto FR 2904. Travel 4 miles to the trailhead on the right (south) side of the road.



Nannie Ridge

In late summer snack on ripe huckleberries while you enjoy the spectacular views. For the best vistas, take a half-mile side trail at the 3 mile point to the summit of Nannie Peak, where you will find open views to Mount Rainier, Mount Adams, Mount St. Helens, and the Goat Rocks.

Difficulty: moderate to difficult Distance (round trip): 9 mi. Elevation gain: 2040 ft.
 Time to Allow: 4.5 hours Snow-free: early July – early October
 Pass required: Free Wilderness Permit at Trailhead Open to: hikers, horse
 Driving Directions: From Packwood, drive west on U.S. 12 for 2 miles and turn left (south) onto Forest Road 21 / Johnson Creek Road. Continue 19 miles on the sometimes-rough gravel road before turning left (east) onto FR 2160, signed Walupt Lake Campground. Travel 5 miles to the end of the road and the trailhead on the shores of Walupt Lake.



Takhlakh Lake Loop

A prime hike for kids, this 1.1 mile trail at the base of Mt. Adams climbs only 100 feet and offers a real-life example of volcanic geology. Beyond the forested lake shore, explore a lava flow from an eruption thousands of years ago. The trail is considered barrier-free although its dirt surface can present challenges.

Difficulty: easy Distance (round trip): 2.5 mi. Elevation gain: 100 ft.
 Time to Allow: 1.5 hours Snow-free: July – early October
 Pass required: Day Use Permit at Trailhead Open to: hikers
 Driving Directions: From Randle, drive 1 mile south on SR 131 and turn left (east) onto Forest Road 23. Continue 32 miles to a junction with FR 2329. Turn left and drive east about a mile to the Takhlakh Lake Campground.

