

Hamilton Mountain loop

8 miles total, 2,100' gained

Park in the day use area located in Beacon Rock State Park (north side of Hwy. 14). This lot is often full on summer weekends; arrive early or seek parking in an overflow area. A parking fee or pass is required.

From your car, find the well-signed trailhead near the restrooms and play area.

Proceed a little over a mile to the two falls, Rodney and Hardy. The very short side trails to each of the falls are worth taking.

After these side trails, cross over the bridge and begin the uphill climb. A short distance from the bridge is a trail to the left; continue straight. (This trail to the left is the return route).

After many switchbacks and about two miles from the falls, reach the summit, just to the right at the T intersection.

For the return, continue straight north (ignoring the trail you just came up). After about a mile veer left (sign says campground and picnic trailhead) just past a nice saddle and viewpoint.

From just past this point, you can either a) continue on the road, or b) take the signed 'Don's cutoff' trail to the right. Both routes rejoin after a little more than a mile.

Reach a bridge crossing the creek; cross the footbridge to the left instead, which is now a trail (Hardy Creek trail).

Proceed for a little over a mile, intersecting the trail you ascended earlier; turn right. Continue on past the falls and back to the parking area.

