



Signal Knob - Front Royal, Virginia

Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
10.5 mls	★4	★2	★5	★3	★4
Hiking Time: Elev. Gain:	5.5 hours with a half hour for lunch 2,680 ft with two different ascents				

The Signal Knob hike, in the George Washington National Forest, boasts some of the best vistas we have seen in Northern Virginia. Situated 8 miles west of Front Royal, it takes approximately 1.5 hrs to get there from the metro Washington area.

The hike starts from the right hand side of the Signal Knob parking area and is marked by both yellow (Signal Knob Trail) and Orange (Massanutten Trail) blazes.

Start uphill on the yellow/orange blazed trail as it shortly passes a old stone house on your left and curves to the right around the mountain for 1.5 miles until arriving at Buzzard Rock Overlook.

The trail will take a hairpin turn back to the south then in 0.7 miles turns back to the north again following a ridge and passing a couple of great camp sites before meeting the intersection of the white blazed Meneka Peak trail that enters from the left 1.1 miles further.

Continue straight as the trail winds around the ridge to your right and passes the transmission tower in 0.7 miles before arriving at the Signal Knob lookout area. Continuing take the orange blazed service road down the mountain for 1.2 miles where the blue blazed Tuscarora trail crosses the road.

Turn left on the blue blazed trail crossing Little Passage Creek as it ascends Green Mountain/Meneka Peak until reaching the ridge line and white blazed Meneka Peak Trail in 0.7 miles.

Continue straight now downhill on the blue blazed trail as it winds back and forth through the Bear Wallow area and passing the pink blazed Sidewinder Trail on your right in 1.7 miles.

Continue straight on the blue blazed trail as it winds downhill passing a white blazed connector trail for Elizabeth Furnace just before you cross a creek 1.0 miles from the pink blazed trail.

Continue straight on the blue blazed trail as it winds around the mountain before reaching a flatter area close to the valley and an intersection in 0.9 miles where the blue blazed trail now turns right downhill.

Again continue straight on the now orange blazed Massanutten Trail (this section was formerly the the Tuscarora Spur Trail and was reblazed in 2002) for only another 0.5 miles as it descends slightly then parallels VA678 before arriving back on the right side of the Signal Knob parking area.