



Three Top Mountain - Front Royal, Virginia

Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
7.6 mls	2	1	2	3	2
Hiking Time:	4 hours with a half hour for lunch				
Elev. Gain:	780 ft				
Directions:	From VA678/Fort Valley Rd, Turn right on VA771/Boyer Rd. and in 1.0 miles 771 veers left, Stay right towards Powell Fort, In 0.6 miles the road splits stay right, In another 1.8 miles the parking area will be on the right just before a gate closes the FS road.				

Part of the Signal Knob area in the George Washington National Forest, Three Top Mountain with it's 3.5 mile stretch along the ridge line is one of the least traveled trails in the area.

The blue blazed Tuscarora Trail has been cleared and re-blazed by a PATC volunteer group, and is in much better shape than pictured here. On the return down the orange blazed FS road, which is part of the Massanutten Trail, the hiking is almost a gentle walk.

To begin backtrack down the orange blazed FS road you just drove up passing the purple blazed Mudhole Gap Trail in 100 yards where it enters from the left, then in 0.4 miles the orange blazed Massanutten Trail will turn right off the FS road and begin its ascent up Three Top Mountain.

Follow the orange blazed trail as it ascends the mountain and in 0.5 miles reach the intersection of the blue blazed Tuscarora Trail that enters from the right. The orange blazed Massanutten Trail and blue blazed Tuscarora Trail will join and continue straight.

Turn right on the blue blazed trail as it ascends slightly to reach the ridge. For the next 3.5 miles follow the blue blazed trail and ridge line before it begins to descend the mountain to the east/right side.

The blue blazed trail will reach the valley floor and intersection of the orange blazed Massanutten Trail (FS road). Here the blue blazed trail you have been following crosses Little Passage Creek and begins to ascend Green Mountain.

At this intersection turn right to follow the orange blazed FS road (you follow it the entire way back to the parking are) . In 0.5 miles the orange blazed trail will veer off the road to the right.

You can either follow the trail and pass the reservoir on its right or continue on the FS road and pass the reservoir to the left. Either way the FS road and orange blazed Massanutten Trail will rejoin on the other side of the reservoir in 0.3 miles.

Continue on the orange blazed FS road as it follows the valley before crossing Little Passage Creek in 0.2 miles and in another 1.2 miles arrives at a closed gate. 50 yards further the parking lot is on your left.