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Enjoy Me. In the Park: The Great State of Maine
Baxter State Park

Maine Department of Economic Development

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PART OF ME. IS SORT OF NATURALLY WILD ...

Baxter State Park is a wilderness preserve of more than 200,000 acres—mountainous woodland, ponds and streams. During a period of more than 30 years the former Governor, Percival Baxter, bought parcels of this land and deeded it to be held in trust by the State of Maine, for the benefit of the people "as a state forest, public park and for public recreational purposes...to be kept in its natural wild state and as a sanctuary for wild beasts and birds".

This magnificent gift to the people of Maine includes 46 mountain peaks and ridges, dominated by the imposing Mt. Katahdin with Maine's highest point (4,207 feet), Baxter Peak, named in honor of him whose foresight and generosity preserved for man, as well as animal, this sanctuary from the encroachments of what is called 'civilization'.

Baxter Peak is also the northern terminus of the famed Appalachian Trail, by act of congress, (now known as the Appalachian National Scenic Trail), a 2,000 mile foot trail from Maine to Georgia. 30 miles of this trail are in Baxter Park.

If you love the things of nature, a camping vacation in Baxter Park will be a rewarding, memorable experience.

Austin H. Wilkins, Chairman
Baxter State Park Authority

PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION SOURCES

Trail Information Books:
- A.M.C. Maine Mountain Guide (covers entire state); Appalachian Mountain Club, 5 Joy Street, Boston, Massachusetts cost: $3.50
- Guide to the Appalachian Trail in Maine, Katahdin Section; Appalachian Trail Conference, Inc., 1718 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 - $3.75

Other Information about Maine:
- Maine Department of Economic Development
  State Office Building, Augusta, Maine 04330
- Maine Publicity Bureau
  78 Gateway Circle, Portland, Maine 04102
- State of Maine Information Center
  2000 3rd Street, New York City, N.Y. 10020
- State of Maine Information Center
  Laurentien Hotel, Dominon, Montreal, Canada

Other Information Centers:
- Jct. of U. S. Rt. 1 & Me. Turnpike, Kittery, Maine
- Bass Park, Bangor, Maine
- U. S. Rt. 302, Fryeburg, Maine (summer only)
- Maine Turnpike, North
- Cumberland, Maine (summer only)
- Interwnt Bridge, Calais, Maine (summer only)
- All Local Chamber of Commerce Offices

THIS VACATION PLANNER provides brief information for those interested in a trip to Baxter State Park, and directs you to additional sources of help in planning such a vacation.

One in a series of Vacation Planners programmed by the Maine Department of Economic Development, available from 78 Gateway Circle, Portland, Maine 04102. Prospective visitors to Maine are interested in the "facts", and these brochures are designed with this in mind. We would appreciate receiving your comments.

Please write:
Maine Department of Economic Development
State Office Building, Augusta, Maine 04330
CAMPING IN BAXTER STATE PARK

GENERAL INFORMATION: Season: May 15 to Oct. 15. CAMPING restricted to designated campsites or campgrounds. A ranger in charge assigns space to campers. No pets allowed in park. Reservations recommended (not accepted by telephone); must be paid in advance and confirmed. Write: Reservations Clerk, Baxter State Park, Millinocket, Me.

ROADS recommended for large house trailers. Continue south and southeast toward Millinocket. Branch to (cl Brook. Beyond gatehouse, fork left to Abol, Katahdin northeast.

For information: Telephone Millinocket 723-5201

Wood (when available) .50 per bundle

Shelters restricted to designated campsites or campgrounds.

Write: Reservations Clerk, Baxter Northern fork, shortest route to western and northern areas.

CAMPGROUNDS ACCESSIBLE by AUTOMOBILE

1. Roaring Brook Campground: on the south bank of Roaring Brook, southeast from Roaring Brook Campground or 9 mi. south from South Branch Pond Campground; isolated; ideal place to see game and birds. Moose feed in adjacent woods. Boats and canoes required. Beaver have a lodge at the foot of the pond; many varieties of birds and small game are seen.

2. Katahdin Stream Campground: on the northwest side of the Park; in a walled area, at the base of Katahdin Falls; many outstanding views of the lakes and streams. The Appalachian Trail leads south along Katahdin Stream their time on the Tableland or slopes of the mountain; a secluded woodland camping area; a quiet base from which to explore the many trails to Katahdin Falls. Fishing, birdwatching, flowers.

3. Katahdin Stream Campground: on the west side of the Park; 26 mi. from Millinocket; oldest and probably best known campground in the Park; on Katahdin Stream; washing and bathing allowed; excellent view of the mountain.

Appalachian Trail goes through to the Tableland (30 mi.) and to Baxter Peak. Ao mi. past this trail are Katahdin Falls; many outstanding views of the lakes and streams. The Appalachian Trail leads south along Katahdin Stream (numerous waterfalls and rapids) to the Penobscot West Branch. 5 mi. continues to Katahdin Stream; trails to Grassy and other ponds. O-J, Doubletop, Sentinel Mountains may be reached by trails from the approach road. One of the largest in the Park; suitable for groups of campers or family parties; a good base for a hiker with a car who wishes to explore the numerous trails to summits and ponds on the south and west side of the mountain.

Fishing: many ponds, Soundzahank and Katahdin Streams. Facilities: 16 lean-tos; 14 tent sites; 2 person bunkhouse; 3 sheltered picnic tables; piped-in drinking water.

4. Nesowadnehunk Campground: on the west side of the Park; 36 mi. from Millinocket (90 mi. beyond Katahdin Stream Campground); 58 mi. from Greenville. Great views of the outlying mountains, a good place for exploring the western peaks and ridges, and the valley of Nesowadnehunk Stream. Popular with family parties, and those who wish to explore the lesserknown western ranges. Trail to Russell Pond via Watasquatook; trail to Doubletop. Canoeing; good fishing.

5. South Branch Pond Campground: on the northern portion of the Park, on Lower South Branch Pond, 35 mi. from Greenville. Great views of the outlying mountains, a good place for exploring the southern ranges, and the valley of Nesowadnehunk Stream. Popular with family parties, and those who wish to explore the lesser-known southern ranges. Trail to Russell Pond via Watasquatook; trail to Doubletop. Canoeing; good fishing.

CAMPGROUNDS ACCESSIBLE by TRAIL ONLY

6. Russell Pond Campground: in the center of Park; reached only by foot trails, 3 mi. from Roaring Brook Campground or 9 mi. south from South Branch Pond Campground; small, isolated; ideal place to see game and birds. Moose feed in adjacent woodlands. Boats and canoes have a lodge at the foot of the pond; many varieties of birds and small game are seen. Russell Pond Campground. For information: Telephone Millinocket 723-5201

Wood (when available) .50 per bundle

Wood (when available) .50 per bundle

Within season rate $15.00 per party per day plus above fees. No charge for children under 16 years of age.

For information: Telephone Millinocket 723-5201

ROAD APPROACHES to BAXTER STATE PARK

Three major approaches: (a) west, (b) south, and (c) northeast.

(a) west: from Greenville; road forks at Ripogenus Dam.

(b) south: from Millinocket, 16.2 miles, dirt road branches right to Togue Pond and gatehouse, continuing to Roaring Brook. By gatehouse, fork left to Abol, Katahdin Stream and Nesowadnehunk.

(c) northeast: from Patten, approximately 30 miles, road branches to South Branch Pond, or continues southwest and southeast toward Greenville Millinocket road, or continue south and southeast toward Millinocket.

ROADS IN THE PARK are narrow, winding dirt roads. Not recommended for large house trailers.

TRAILS on KATAHDIN

There are 46 mountain peaks and ridges, 18 of which exceed an elevation of 3,500 feet, the highest being Baxter Peak, 5,257 feet. The Park is intersected by about 83 miles of trails, as follows:

MILES

The Hool Trail Katahdin Stream to Baxter Peak 5.25

Abol Trail Nesowadnehunk Road to Thoreau Sprain 3.75

Marston Trail Nesowadnehunk Road to North Brother 3.74

Chimney Pond Trail Roaring Brook to Chimney Pond 3.20

South Turner Trail Roaring Brook to South Turner Pond 2.90

Russo Pond Trail Roaring Brook to Russo Pond 7.90

Saddle Trail Chimney Pond to Baxter Peak 1.25

Cathedral Trail Chimney Pond to Baxter Peak 1.79

The Knife-Edge Trail Pond to Baxter Peak 1.05

Dudley Trail Chimney Pond to Pumalo 1.25

Hamlin Ridge Trail Chimney Pond to Hamlin Pond 1.96

Northwest Basin Trail The Saddle to Russell Pond 7.85

North Peaks Trail Hamlin Peak to Russell Pond 6.85

Old Pond Trail Russell Pond to McCarty Field 10.65

Pogy Notch Trail Russell Pond to Baxter Peak 9.05

North Traveler Trail South Branch Pond to North Traveler 2.55

Helen Taylor Trail Roaring Brook to Pamela Peak 3.17

The Owl Trail Katahdin Stream to the Owl 2.00

Rum Mountain Trail Abol to South Peak 4.50

South Branch Mtn. Trail South Branch Pond to South Mountain 4.40

GUIDE BOOKS: For accurate trail information for Mt. Katahdin and surrounding peaks, see PUBLICATIONS and INFORMATION SOURCES panel.

COMFORT AND SAFETY SUGGESTIONS:

1. High top hiking shoes or boots.

2. Ample supply of insect repellent.

3. Warm sleeping gear. Summit can be chilly, a sweater is worth the trouble to carry it.

4. Some supplies for sale at ranger stations, but it is best to come fully equipped with food, fuel, sleeping equipment and cooking utensils.

5. Save time and effort by bringing your own wood if possible.

6. To hike marked trails, be a compass and know how to use it. Topographic maps usually at ranger stations and sporting goods stores.

7. For hiking the summit trails, a canteen of water.

8. Do not undertake trips beyond your capacity. Rugged mountain terrain makes night-time travel without a light extremely hazardous.

9. Please stay on the trail at all times.