General Hiking Information

Smugglers’ Notch Resort Environmental Policy
Smugglers’ Notch policy of environmental stewardship pervades all of our activities. We seek to raise the environmental awareness of guests and employees and to broaden their knowledge and appreciation through educational programs along with our active and passive use of the land for year-round recreation. Smugglers’ Notch Resort Management and Employees are committed to being responsible stewards of Vermont’s natural resources. Vermont’s intrinsic beauty and healthfulness are integral to our business. We live here, and working to maintain it comes naturally.

Hiking Safety
• Never hike alone. Leave your hiking plans with a friend.
• Familiarize yourself with the route. Stay on the designated trails.
• Always check a local weather forecast before departing.
• Stretch before and after you hike to prevent injury.
• Zigzag the trail when ascending and descending steep terrain to avoid excessive muscle strain.
• Only drink water which you have brought with you.
• Please keep off the cliffs.

Gear List
• Hiking Boots • Back Pack • Water (1-2 qts.) • Food
• Bug Repellent • Sunscreen
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Wildlife Viewing
• Wildlife is most active in the early morning or early evening.
• Wildlife scans their environment for signs of danger.
• Stand behind the trees to observe.
• Shop, look and listen often. Be patient while animals enter and leave an area.
• Keep your distance. Feeding or chasing wildlife is unsafe.
• Leave your pets at home. They may startle, chase or even kill wildlife.

Trail Key
Hiking distances and times are round trip. Hiking times are estimates and may vary with personal fitness. Elevation and vertical rise are given in feet to help determine the difficulty of the hike.

Walk: A 1-2 hour walk involving mild to moderate exercise.

“Wike”: A little longer in duration, up to 3 hours, and moderate to demanding exercise.

Hike: The most physically demanding and time consuming. 4-6 hours is the typical hike duration. Caution and evaluation of personal fitness is urged.

Vertical Rise is the difference between the highest and lowest points of land. Hiking a vertical rise of 1000’ is equivalent to walking up one flight of stairs. Therefore, a vertical rise of 650’ is equivalent to walking up 65 flights of stairs.

SUGGESTED NATURE TRAIL LOOPS

Follow The Bear “Wike” ◆
Elevation: 1,530’ • Vertical Rise: 445’
2 miles • 1 hour
Travel up through this hardwood forest and look for signs of wildlife. The upper loop is a little more remote, but really just a short distance from The Village. There are information posts about the Vermont Black Bear, their habitat, and our surroundings.

Wire Road Watson’s Wanderer “Wike” ◆
Elevation: 1,775’ • Vertical Rise: 675’
3.5 miles • 1.5 hours
Wander your way up to the highest point of the cross-country nature area on this scenic old logging road by traversing part of Morse Mountain. Lush foliage outlines the road as you walk through the forest. A little more isolated, this is surely one to check out as wildlife abounds. Note the elevation, vertical rise, and length of time.

Download the Smuggs app for hiking, biking and walking maps accessible right at your fingertips on your iPhone or Android with GPS functionality.

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