

CHICKAHOMINY MOUNTAIN (St. Andrews area)

Distance: 4.5 km/2.5 hrs return

Difficulty: Moderate due to the scramble to the top

The high points of this hike are the walk along the old wagon road, the rock quarry, the view of Passamaquoddy Bay from the mountain, and the cairn of stones at the secluded summit.

CAUTION:

Once you pass the rock quarry, the trail gets much rougher and steeper.

GETTING THERE:

From the Saint Andrews Tim Hortons, drive towards Chamcook 10.1 km on route 127.

The trailhead is on the north side of Route 127, between civic addresses 5185 and 5149, directly across from the trailhead for Sam Orr's Pond Nature Trail and Taggart's Brook Trail. The sign for this trail does not mention Chickahominy Mountain but indicates the "Caughey-Taylor Nature Preserve"

THE TRAIL:

Parking is either on the wide shoulder of the road, or in the small grassy area at the top of the short inclined gravel driveway. There is room for at least a dozen vehicles along the road and plenty of space to pull off the pavement.

Follow the trail until you reach a pond, overhead power lines and a Hiking sign.

Turn RIGHT and follow the trail along the power lines for about 5 minutes until it meets a cart track.

Turn LEFT and walk by a Hiking sign and follow the cart track into the woods. The cart track is an old road going up to a quarry at the face of the mountain. It passes through hardwoods and makes a nice walk.

The cart track ends at a huge stone block and the face of a cliff used by rock climbers.

To the left is a slope of waste rock from the quarry, and the rusted wheels of an old ore car.

The flagged trail passes to the RIGHT of the climbing wall and then ascends steeply across a slope of broken rock and then up towards the summit.



Near the summit, you'll encounter an area of large broken rocks and a nice view south of Sam Orr's Pond, Birch Cove and beyond, the islands of the Bay of Fundy. The larger treed island is Hardwood island, and the smaller one to the right is Hospital island.

From the rocky look off, the trail continues on for about 5 minutes to bare spot with a stone cairn constructed of rocks placed there by hikers in years gone by.

Dave Suttie, Nov 2017

