

Some notes on hiking Katahdin

Snow stays late and arrives early on Katahdin, so it's safer to hike from June – September.

Just after Labour Day is a great time to hike Katahdin (less crowds + cooler temps)

Purchase extra medical insurance!

Stop at the Visitor Center (just before the gate) and buy a good map of the park.

Begin hiking early (6.30 am) and head back down sometime over noon hour. (It's a BIG mountain)

Plan on 10 hours for your hike, just in case.

When you start your hike, check the weather posted at the trailhead signs, or ask a ranger.

The weather is usually better earlier in the day, which is another reason to start your hike at first light.

Pack Light: 2 liters of water, snacks, down jacket, toque, rain jacket, first aid kit, map, compass, flashlight

Knee Braces can really help on the way back down.

Walking poles are more of a hindrance than a help on the mountain.

Shorts give your legs more freedom of movement, which makes a difference over 9 or 10 hours.

Wear good socks and sturdy Hiking Boots or at least Trail Runners.

Bring a light hat, sunglasses, lip balm and sunscreen.

Sign In + don't forget to Sign Out at the trailhead...or someone will come looking for you.

Follow the rules, or you could get a hefty fine or even be charged for the cost of your rescue.

Speed Limit: **20 mph** (50 minutes to drive from Katahdin Stream Campground to Roaring Brook)

No potable water: Bring water, or be prepared to filter + treat water from streams and lakes.

No trash disposal. (carry in – carry out)

Hang your food/toiletries on the provided Bear-Lines, or store in your vehicle if it's nearby.

Togque Pond Gate: Open 6.30am – 8.30pm daily.

Day Use Hikers often park in line and sleep in their cars to get an early start.

Gate entrance fee: \$15 US. If you don't exit the park, you only need to pay once.

US cash only. (no Interact in the park)

Buying Food: There is a large Hannafords grocery store in Millinocket....across from McDonalds.

CAMPING + DAY USE PARKING RESERVATIONS: [BSP RESERVATIONS](#)

Day Use Parking Reservations:

Not needed if you are staying in the campground at your trailhead, but if you are staying at another campground and have to drive to the trailhead, you will need one. The day-use parking spots are separate from camper parking spots.

Day Use Reservations can be made online, from 1 - 14 days before your hike. Cost: \$5 US....max 3 per month. This is how the park controls the number of hikers on the trails, so once the parking lot is full you are out of luck.

You must either be in your parking spot or have checked in at the main gate by 7.05 am or you will lose your place. The park entrance gate opens at 6.30 am.

Roaring Brook trailhead: (37 spaces)

Abol trailhead: (16 spaces)

Katahdin Stream trailhead: (27 spaces)

Camping Reservations: (no refunds within 14 days of stay)

4 month rolling reservation system...so you can reserve up to 4 months ahead of time.

Camping Fees 2018: BHs (\$12/person) LT/Ts (\$32 per site)

*max # of persons per site is strictly enforced.

BHs: Bunk House space

LT: Lean-to

Ts: Tent site

Gs : Group site

*The drive-in lean-tos are very convenient, but bring 2 good sized tarps (about 10 x 12) and some twine...one tarp for the floor and one for a 4th wall.

*Fire wood is available at the campground Ranger Stations: \$3.00 per bundle.

(TRAIL HEAD CAMPGROUNDS)

Roaring Brook campground: 9 Lean-to, 9 Tent sites, 10 Bunkhouse spaces.

*Helon Taylor Trail + Chimney Pond Trail

Abol campground: 12 Lean-to, 8 Tent sites.

*Abol Trail

Katahdin Stream campground: 12 Lean-to, 9 Tent sites, 3 Group Tent sites.

*Hunt Trail

Chimney Pond campground: (a rough 2 hour walk) 9 Lean-to, 10 Bunkhouse spaces.

*Saddle Trail + Cathedral Trail.

(SOME EASTERN TRAILS)

Chimney Pond Trail: 2 hours of rough rocky walking....mostly uphill to the Chimney Pond campground.

Saddle Trail: A rough 2 hour hike up Saddle Ridge, and across the Tableland and up to Baxter Peak.

Cathedral Trail: A steeper 2 hour hike that ends nearer Baxter Peak. (not for descending)

Helon-Taylor Trail: A 3.5 hour hike, but the easiest way to get to the Knife Edge.

Knife Edge Trail: 2 hours, but you need to arrive with enough energy to tackle it, so go up the Helon-Taylor trail. Don't hike this trail in fog, rain or windy weather.

***only 1 day in 3 is said to be good for hiking the Knife Edge, so check the weather.**

Class 1 + 2 weather is ok for the Knife Edge, but avoid it on class 3 days.

(SOME WESTERN TRAILS)

***Longer, more gradual trails with bouldering towards the top.**

Abol Trail: 7 hours return to Baxter Peak.

Hunt Trail: 9 hours return to Baxter Peak. This was the original way up Katahdin.

*you can hike both trails as a loop, if you include a 2.5 mile road walk.

Katahdin Stream Falls: A 2 hour return moderate walk up the Hunt Trail to this very nice waterfall.

The Owl: Take the left fork before Katahdin Stream Falls. This is a very steep 6 hour hike.

**BAXTER STATE PARK
ROAD MAP**
REFERENCE MAP ONLY
NOT SUITABLE FOR FIELD NAVIGATION



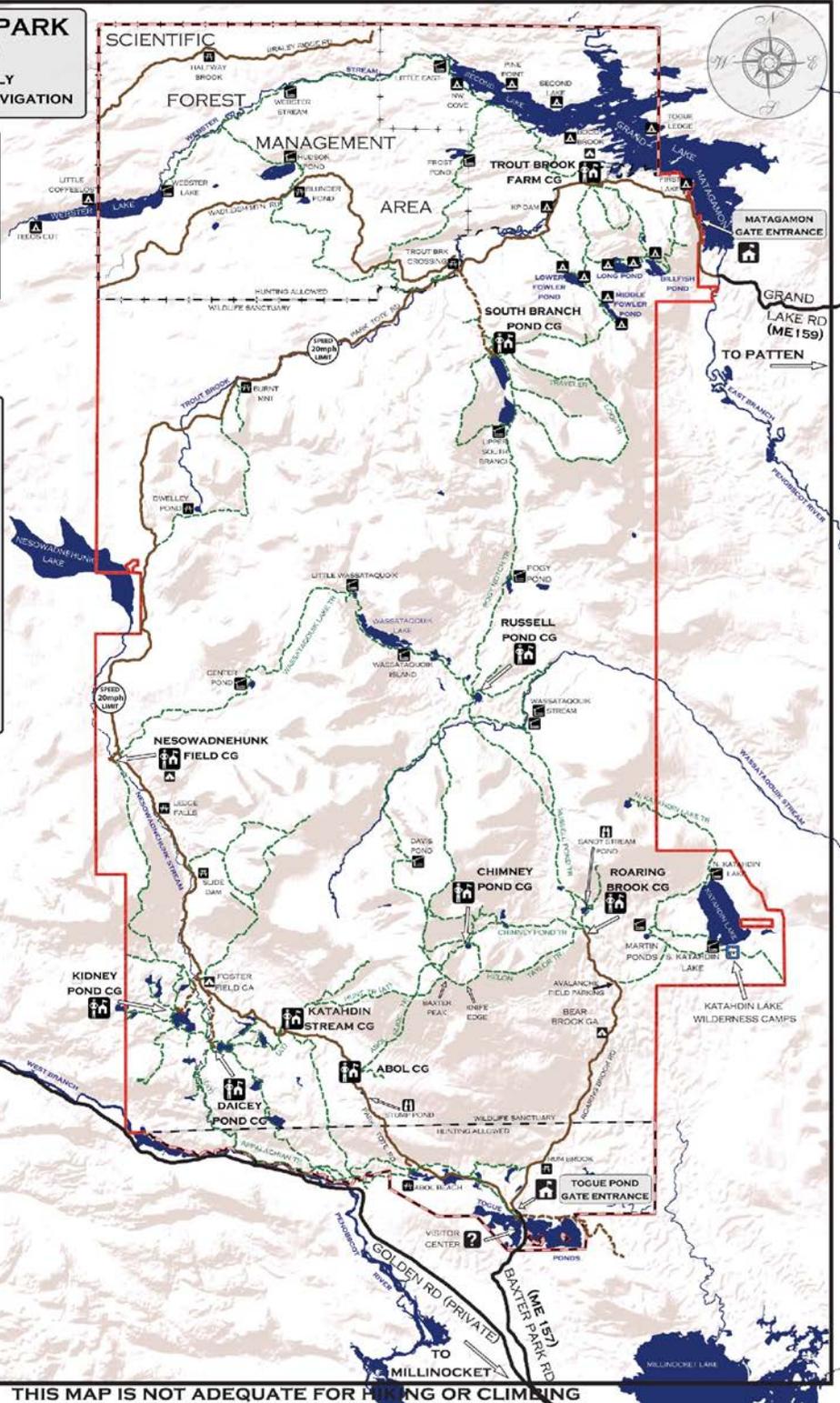
MAP KEY

	Paved Road
	Gravel Road
	Foot Trail
	Streams & Rivers
	Park Boundary
	Hunting Area
	Scientific Forest Mgt. Area
	Campground
	Lean-to
	Tent Site
	Group Area
	Day-use Area
	Entrance Gate

MAXIMUM
SPEED LIMIT ON
ALL PARK ROADS

**SPEED
20mph
LIMIT**

UNLESS
OTHERWISE
POSTED



THIS MAP IS NOT ADEQUATE FOR HIKING OR CLIMBING

