

HIKES

in the Methow Valley

Winthrop
WASHINGTON

These popular hikes close to Winthrop also make great trail runs. Many of these hikes require a Discover Pass or Northwest Forest Pass recreational permit which can be purchased at some local businesses and the Forest Service Visitor Center; for more information and trail conditions, call 509-996-4000.

PATTERSON MOUNTAIN

This 4-mi roundtrip hike offers great views of the surrounding mountains and sparkling Patterson Lake below, with stunning wildflowers in spring and early summer. The trail begins across from the Patterson Lake boat launch, 7 mi outside of Winthrop towards Sun Mountain Lodge. Take Twin Lakes Road from Winthrop for 3 1/2 miles and turn right on Patterson Lake Road. Continue to the lake and park at the boat launch on the left.

SUN MOUNTAIN TRAILS

Access miles and miles of easy to moderate, scenic hiking trails at either the Chickadee Trailhead or up at Sun Mountain Lodge. Popular trails include the Beaver Pond trail for birds and wildlife, and the View Ridge trail for stunning views of the surrounding mountains and valley below. Take Twin Lakes Road from Winthrop for 3½ mi and turn right on Patterson Lake Road. Drive 4 mi to the Chickadee Trailhead or 5 ½ mi to Sun Mountain Lodge.

WEST FORK OF THE METHOW

This beautiful forested hike follows the Methow River 8 mi to where it joins with the Pacific Crest Trail. The first 4 mi make for a great mellow hike with scant elevation gain. A recent forest fire made this trail quite lush with re-growth, and potentially overgrown in places. From the Mazama Store go north along Lost River Road 9.5 mi. Stay left (do not go up Harts Pass Road) staying on Lost River Road to the Methow River trailhead at 9.8 mi.

PIPESTONE CANYON

5 mi roundtrip in a gorgeous sandstone, rock-wall canyon located 7 mi SE of Winthrop. A very popular birding area, this hike is best done in the spring and fall as rattlesnakes are common in the summer. From Winthrop, take East Side County Road 2 mi and turn left onto turn left onto Bear Creek Road. After 2.3 mi, turn right on Lester Road, staying right onto Campbell Lake Road, continue 1.3 mi to the Pipestone Gate. Discover Pass required.

take a break from the ordinary

BIG VALLEY

A beautiful, flat forested walk following the Methow River with options to access the river's rocky beaches in a number of locations. This is a 6 mi (or shorter) out and back hike with many opportunities for wildlife viewing. Turn left on Dripping Springs Road 6 mi west of Winthrop on Highway 20. Discover Pass required.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

This is a nice 3 mi round-trip hike to an abandoned fire lookout. The 360 degree views from the lookout are fantastic, and trailhead is located just outside of Twisp. Drive west ¼ mi on the Twisp River Road. Turn left on Alder Creek Road (FS 4345-200) and continue 8 mi to the road end and trailhead. Northwest Forest Pass Required

GOAT PEAK LOOKOUT

A Methow Valley classic! This is a 5-mi round trip hike to an active fire lookout on top of Goat Peak. The steep 2.5 miles to the lookout are not easy but the views at the stop make it well worth it. Bring the camera! From Winthrop, take Highway 20 west for 12 mi. Turn right on Goat Creek Road (1163) at the Methow River bridge. Travel 6.2 mi, turn right on FS Road 52. Continue 3.7 mi, turn left of FS Road 5225. Drive 4.6 mi to FS Road 200. Proceed 3 mi to the trailhead parking lot.

TAWLKS-FOSTER SUSPENSION BRIDGE AND METHOW COMMUNITY TRAIL

This 2 mi out and back hike is located in Mazama and highlights the impressive Tawlks-Foster Suspension Bridge spanning the Methow River. The trail is flat and forested, and follows the river downstream one mile to the bridge. Reward yourself with guilt-free lounging by the river, or continue further north and south along the trail for many more miles of hiking. From Winthrop drive west on Highway 20 for 8 mi. Turn right on Goat Creek Road (1163) at the Methow River Bridge. Travel 6.4 mi and turn left into the signed MVSTA trailhead parking area.

SLATE PEAK

This is one of those hikes where getting there is half of the adventure. But the views, ahhh the views! Slate Peak is an decommissioned lookout located above Harts Pass. Harts Pass Road is the highest road in WA and is not for the faint of heart; it is unpaved, rough and steep. From Mazama, drive 19 mi towards Harts Pass. At the Harts Pass Guard station turn right and continue 3 mi up Slate Peak Road. Park at the end of the road and climb the short ½ mile hike up to the lookout. For those wanting more, there are a number of other trails venturing out from Harts Pass including the Pacific Crest Trail.



get maps and more information at

WINTHROPWASHINGTON.COM