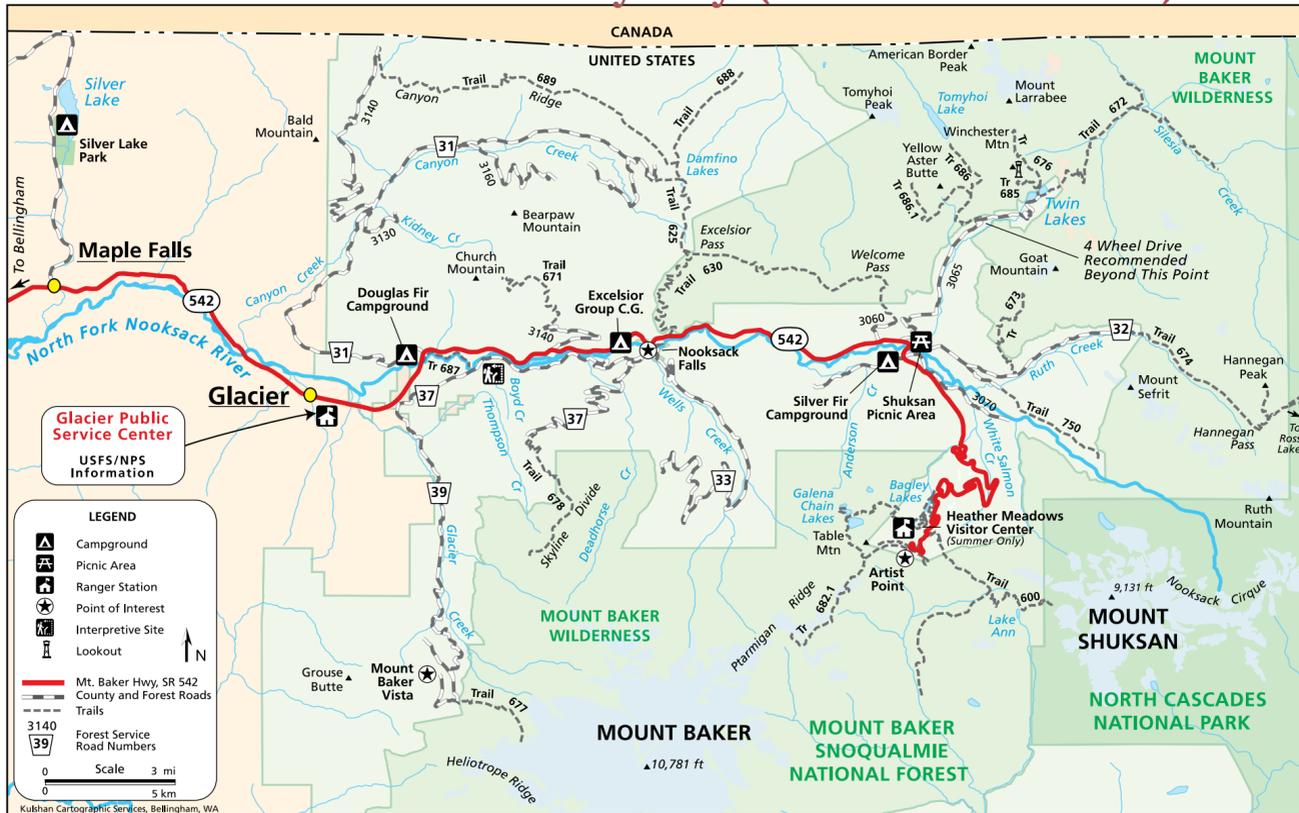


# Mt. Baker Scenic Byway (State Route 542)



## Popular Trails along the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway

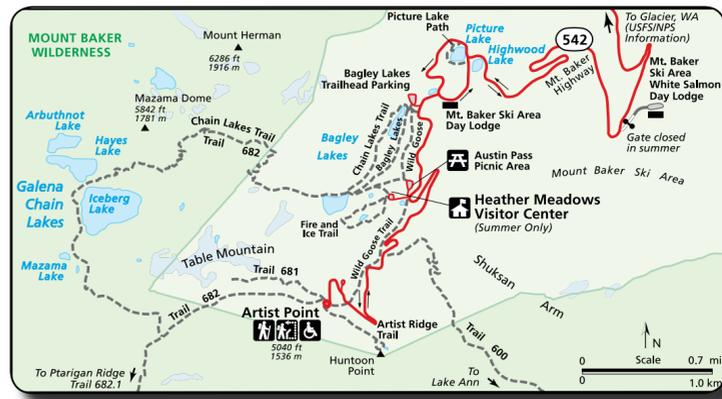
Glacier Area Trails				
Trail #	Name	Access	Distance one-way miles	Remarks
625	Damfino Lakes	Road 31	3.0 (4.8 km)	No fires, connects with High Divide
630	High Divide	Hwy 542	13.0 (20.9 km)	Wilderness, no fires, stock 8/1 to 11/1
671	Church Mountain	Road 3040	4.2 (6.8 km)	Steep hike up forested slopes
677	Heliotrope Ridge	Road 39	3.7 (6.0 km)	Wilderness, no fires
678	Skyline Divide	Road 37	5.5 (8.9 km)	Wilderness, no fires, stock 8/1 to 11/1
687	Horseshoe Bend	Hwy 542	1.5 (2.4 km)	Follows Nooksack River
673	Goat Mountain	Road 32	4.0 (6.4 km)	Wilderness, stock allowed 8/1 to 11/1
674	Hannegan Pass	Road 32	5.0 (8.0 km)	Wilderness, no fires, enters National Park, stock allowed 7/1 to 11/1
685	Winchester Mtn.	Road 3065	2.0 (3.2 km)	High clearance vehicle needed on road, Wilderness, no fires
686	Tomyhoi Lake	Road 3065	4.0 (6.4 km)	Wilderness
686.1	Yellow Aster Butte	Road 3065	2.0 (3.2 km)	Wilderness, no fires
626	Boyd Creek	Road 37	0.25 (0.4 km)	Accessible, Interpretive
Heather Meadows Area Trails				
600	Lake Ann	Hwy 542	4.8 (7.7 km)	Wilderness, no fires
682.1	Ptarmigan Ridge	Trail 682	5.0 (8.0 km)	Wilderness, no fires
681	Table Mountain	Hwy 542	0.7 (1.1 km)	Wilderness, no fires, no dogs
682	Chain Lakes	Hwy 542	6.5 loop	Wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites only
735	Picture Lake	Hwy 542	0.5 loop	Accessible, Interpretive
684.2	Fire and Ice	Hwy 542	0.5 loop	Accessible, Interpretive
684.3	Wild Goose	Hwy 542	2.5 (4.0 km)	No camping one mile from trail
669	Artist Ridge	Hwy 542	1.0 loop	Accessible viewpoint

A Northwest Forest Pass is required at posted recreation sites and trailheads. Always check trail and road conditions at the Forest Service Web site or by calling a ranger station.

### Heather Meadows Area

Located along the upper reaches of the byway, this spectacular sub-alpine setting offers summer day-use recreation along a network of scenic trails. Visitors can spread out a picnic lunch at Austin Pass Picnic Area and enjoy several self-guided interpretive trails. Several longer hikes lead into the surrounding Mt. Baker Wilderness, where Wilderness regulations apply. When entering such areas, be prepared for risk and challenge. The terrain can be rugged and the weather unpredictable.

Check in with staff at the Heather Meadows Visitor Center for current conditions and area histories. Open daily in the summer from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A Northwest Forest Pass is required for visiting this area. During winter months, check avalanche forecasts (206) 526-6677 or at: [www.nwac.us](http://www.nwac.us).



The scenic Mt. Baker Highway winds along the North Fork of the Nooksack River, ending at Artist Point at 5,100 feet (1536m), above Heather Meadows. The last 24 miles (39 km) is designated as a National Forest Scenic Byway. At the road's end, trail systems lead into the Mt. Baker Wilderness. During winter months motor traffic ends at the Mt. Baker Ski Area 2.5 miles (4 km) below Artist Point.

### Points of Interest

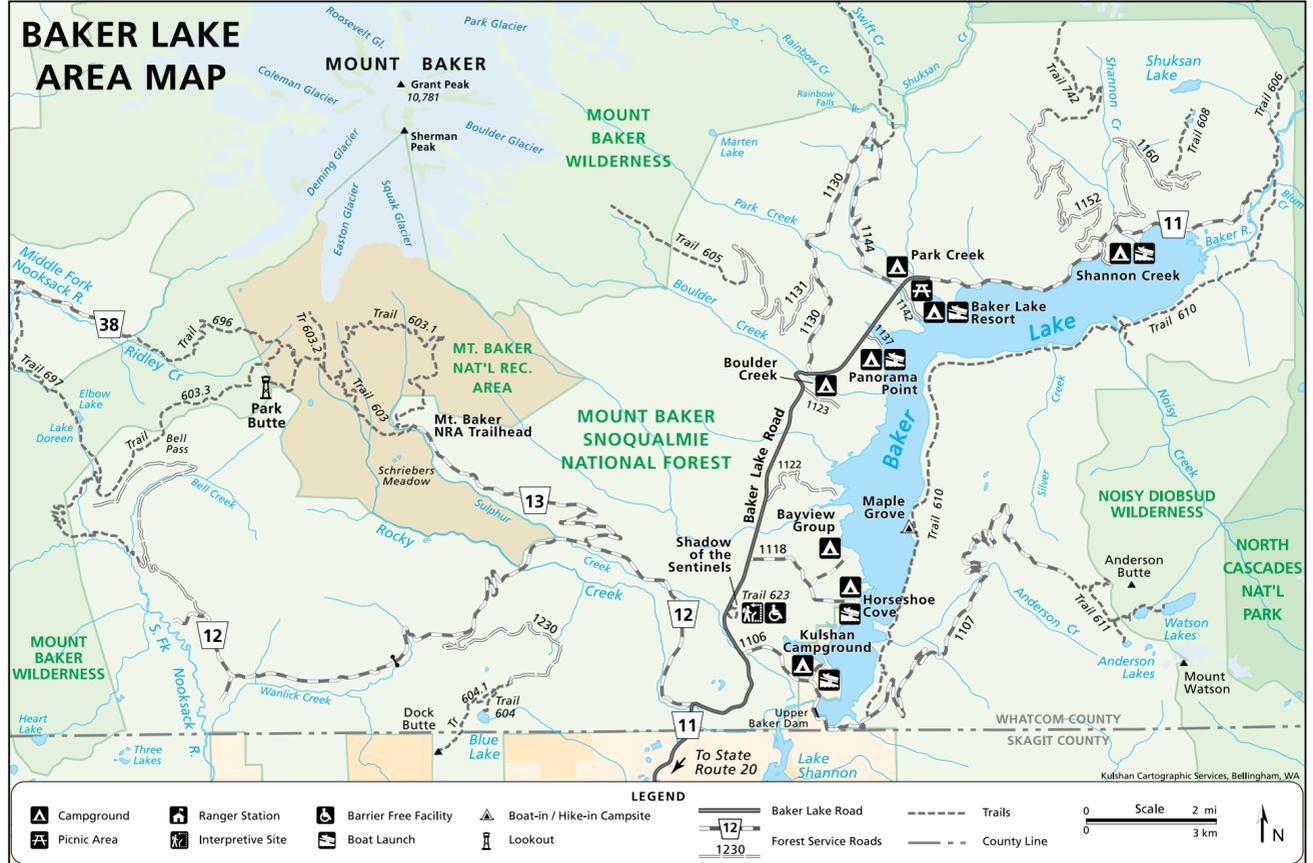
**Glacier Public Service Center**, located at milepost 34, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The service center is jointly operated by the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service during the summer season.

**Forest Service Campgrounds:** Douglas Fir, Silver Fir and Excelsior Group Camp offer rustic camping in forested settings.

**Boyd Creek Interpretive Trail**, Forest Road 37: This short, self-guided nature trail focuses on components of a healthy fish habitat.

**Nooksack Falls**, milepost 40: A dramatic waterfall plummets more than 100 feet over rocky outcrops. A fence-lined pathway leads to a viewpoint.

**Shuksan Picnic Area:** Day use area along the North Fork Nooksack River at the base of Forest Road 32 (Hannegan Road).



## Baker Lake

9-mile (14 km) long Baker Lake is located on the Baker River about 8 miles north of the North Cascades Highway (State Route 20). The lake basin offers opportunities for camping, boating, fishing, picnicking, hiking and pack & saddle trips. Washington State regulations govern boating and fishing activities on the lake.

National Forest developed campgrounds and a privately operated summer resort are located along the western side of the lake. The Baker Lake Trail extends along the eastern shoreline, crossing the Baker River at the north end. The Upper Baker Dam, operated by Puget Sound Energy, is located at the south end of the lake along with Kulshan Campground and Baker Lake Lodge.

For camping information see page 9. For Baker Lake Lodge & Resort information call (888) 711-3033 or visit: [www.bakerlakelodge.com](http://www.bakerlakelodge.com)

## Popular Trails in Baker Lake Area

Mt. Baker National Recreation Area Trails				
Trail #	Name	Access	Distance one-way miles	Remarks
603	Park Butte	Road 13	3.5 (5.6 km)	Enters wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites, stock 8/1 to 11/1
603.1	Scott Paul	Road 13	6.5 (10.5 km)	No camping, hikers only
603.2	Railroad Grade	Trail 603	1.0 (1.6 km)	Camp at designated sites, no fires, hikers only
603.3	Bell Pass	Road 12	5.0 (8.0 km)	Wilderness, stock allowed 8/1 to 11/1
696	Ridley Creek	Road 38	5.5 (8.9 km)	Not maintained, connects to trail 603.3
697	Elbow Lake	Road 12 Road 38	3.0 (4.8 km) 3.5 (5.6 km)	Wilderness, stock allowed 8/1 to 11/1
Baker Lake Area Trails				
604.1	Dock Butte	Road 1230	1.5 (2.4 km)	Leads to a scenic vista
604	Blue Lake	Road 1230	0.7 (1.1 km)	Short forest hike to lake
606	Baker River	Road 11	2.6 (4.2 km)	Enters National Park
610	Baker Lake	Road 1107	14.0 (22.5 km)	Stock allowed year-round
611	Watson Lakes	Rd. 1107-022	2.3 (3.7 km)	Wilderness, no fires, camp at designated sites
611.2	Anderson Lakes	Rd. 1107-022	2.4 (3.8 km)	Non-wilderness
623	Shadow of the Sentinels	Baker Lk. Road	0.5 (0.8 km)	Accessible, Interpretive

A Northwest Forest Pass is required at posted recreation sites and trailheads. Always check trail and road conditions at the Forest Service Web site or by calling a ranger station.

## Mt. Baker National Recreation Area

The Mt. Baker National Recreation Area was established in 1984 to allow for snowmobile use when snow levels are sufficient. This impressive landscape is accessible by trails leading from the end of Forest Road 13 or through the surrounding Mt. Baker Wilderness from the South Fork Nooksack river drainage.

Hikers can explore the trails and stock animals are welcome Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. Visitors should prepare for challenging creek crossings in this area due to swift water flow. To help prevent resource damage and protect sub-alpine vegetation, campers in the NRA must stay at designated sites and no campfires are allowed. One-night-only campsites are established for hikers and stock parties at the trailhead at the end of Forest Road 13.

Winter recreation includes skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling and snowshoeing when snow levels are sufficient. Please ask for a detailed handout on campsites and area regulations at a ranger station.



Baker Lake photo by Wade B. Clark Jr.