

Backcountry Camping Trip Guide

One Night

National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Shenandoah National Park
Emergency: 1-800-732-0911



Robertson Mountain and Berry Hollow

Standard - Circuit

Level: Strenuous Beginner

Total Length: 9.3 miles

Trip Description: Excellent weekday beginner trip with views of Old Rag

Entry: Berry Hollow Boundary

Exit: Berry Hollow Boundary

Map(s): PATC #10 Central District

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Syria

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Syria

Day One

Campsite: Weakley Hollow Road - backcountry

6.3 miles.

Get an early start in order to give yourself plenty of time to find a place to camp.

Hike up Berry Hollow Road for 0.8 mile.

Turn left and hike up Old Rag Road for 2.6 miles.

Turn right onto Robertson Mountain Trail, hiking 2.4 miles.

(Be sure to enjoy the views of Old Rag from the summit of Robertson.)

Turn left onto Weakley Hollow Road and hike down the road 1 mile. In that mile you will cross the stream on a steel bridge, after which the road and stream will be near each other, then diverge, then run side-by-side again. Once the stream and the trail are close together again, look to your right for an easy place to cross the stream and hike off-trail. As you hike off-trail, keep in sight of the stream, hiking either direction in order to find places to camp. (If you get lost, following the stream downstream will bring you back to Weakley Hollow Road.) Be very cautious in picking your campsite to be sure it is at least 10 yards from the stream and that it is not under any dead trees.

Day Two

3.0 miles

Return to Weakley Hollow Road, 0.1 mile.

Hike up Weakley Hollow Road about 2.1 miles to return to Berry Hollow Road.

Turn left and hike down Berry Hollow Road 0.8 mile to return to your vehicle.

Notes

You will be camping in the Old Rag area, which receives extraordinarily high use on weekends. Not only does this make for unpleasantly crowded hiking and camping, it also damages the natural resource as increasingly large areas are impacted. Areas within 1/4 mile of the boundary parking; or near the trail, water, or other groups, are all closed to camping. While you'll find great views whatever day the weather is good, you are likely to have trouble finding a place to camp on weekends. Please plan your overnight stay on a Monday-Thursday night in order to take advantage of the relatively few safe, legal sites. For weekend trips, there are many other beautiful and less crowded options in Shenandoah National Park!