

Shenandoah Trail Rides Guide

Horse Trip: 15-20 Mile Circuit

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



Fork Mountain and Rapidan River

Map: PATC #10 (Central District)

Not a suitable route for wet/winter conditions.

Trip Description: These excellent circuits include historic Rapidan Camp, mountain climbs, and river fords.

Skyline Drive Parking

Parking: Rapidan Road/Big Meadows Parking

Trailer: Goose-neck trailer

Availability: Parking is generally available.

Boundary Parking

Parking: Graves Mill Boundary Parking

Trailer: Stock trailer

Availability: Trailer parking may be limited.

Encounters: Route travels through areas where hunting is allowed. Wear blaze orange during hunting season. Route uses county roads outside of the park. (No busy highways are included.)

Footings: Long stretches are rough, rocky, narrow, and/or in wilderness. Potential for troublesome stream crossings.

Option 1 - 16.2 Miles

From Rapidan Parking, mile 51.3, ride down Rapidan Fire Road 7.5 miles.

Turn right onto Fork Mountain Road, riding 3.7 miles.

At the Sag junction, continue on the yellow-blazed Fork Mountain Trail for 1.4 miles.

Turn right onto Laurel Prong Trail and ride 0.6 mile to Rapidan Camp.

Across from Creel Cabin, turn left onto Mill Prong Horse Trail, riding 1.8 miles.

Turn left onto Rapidan Fire Road and ride 1.2 miles to return to your vehicle.

Option 2 - 15.6 Miles

From Graves Mill Parking on the boundary, ride Graves Mill Trail 2.2 miles.

Turn left onto Rapidan Fire Road and ride 3.4 miles.

Turn left onto Rapidan Camp Road, riding 0.8 mile.

Once in Rapidan Camp, continue riding to Laurel Prong Trail.

Ride Laurel Prong Trail 0.6 mile.

Turn left onto Fork Mountain Trail and ride 1.4 miles.

Bear right onto Fork Mountain Road (gravel), riding 3.7 miles.

Turn right onto Rapidan Road and ride 1.3 miles.

Turn right onto Graves Mill Trail to return to your vehicle, 2.2 miles.

Option 3 - 20.8 Miles

From Graves Mill Parking on the boundary, ride Graves Mill Trail 2.2 miles.

Turn left onto Rapidan Fire Road and ride 7.6 miles.

Turn left onto Mill Prong Horse Trail, riding 1.8 miles.

Turn right into Rapidan Camp and continue riding to Laurel Prong Trail.

Ride Laurel Prong Trail 0.6 mile.

Turn left onto Fork Mountain Trail and ride 1.4 miles.

Bear right onto Fork Mountain Road (gravel), riding 3.7 miles.

Turn right onto Rapidan Road and ride 1.3 miles.

Turn right onto Graves Mill Trail to return to your vehicle, 2.2 miles.

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Notes

While horses are only allowed on the yellow-blazed road, feel free to tie your horse and explore Rapidan Camp on foot. At times some of the restored buildings are open so that you may enjoy the exhibits inside. Please check the condition of the hitching rail before you use it, as it is due to be replaced.