

Shenandoah National Park

Trail Ride Guide



Trip Name: Rapidan Roundtrip (1-20 Mile Roundtrip)

Trip Description: This 10-mile (one-way) gravel road wends its way in and out of the Park on public lands.

Trail Stability: Suitable route for wet/winter conditions.

PATC Map: PATC #10 (Central District)

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).
Weekends bring heavy hiking and/or backpacking along this route.

Footing: Wide trails that aren't very rocky (typically gravel or dirt road).

Skyline Drive Parking: Rapidan Road/Big Meadows Parking. Goose-neck trailer OK. Parking is generally available.

Boundary Parking: N/A

Option 1 - Total Distance 19.6 Miles Roundtrip

From Rapidan Parking, mile 51.3, -ride down Rapidan Fire Road up to 9.8 miles.
Whenever you would like, turn around and ride back up the same route.

Option 2 - 12.4 Miles Roundtrip

From Rapidan Parking, ride down Rapidan Fire Road 5.4 miles.
Turn right onto Rapidan Camp Road, riding 0.8 mile.
Tie your horse to look around Rapidan Camp, then return the way you came

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.

Emergency Phone: 1-800-732-0911

Trail Ride #: 13 - Last Update: 17-Apr-2008