

## **TRAILS OF RAMAPO MOUNTAIN STATE FOREST**

Ramapo Mountain State Forest includes 14 official trails, totaling more than 28 miles. Trails vary in length from less than 1 mile to 10 miles and many trails continue beyond Ramapo Mountain State Forest into adjacent County and State lands. Many multi-use trails are suitable for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing. Please obey all designated uses of the trails posted at trailheads and trail crossings.

### **Cannonball Trail**

*Red • 6 miles (in Ramapo) • Multi-use  
Moderate • Primary trail through center of forest*

**Trailhead** Numerous points of entry throughout park. **Cannonball Trail** runs through the forest from south to north. From the southern boundary of the forest, the trail crosses I-287 and continues north along the western shoreline of Ramapo Lake. Towards the middle of the forest, the trail crosses Skyline Drive and joins with Hoeflerin Memorial Trail. At the northern end, the trail passes to the west of Cannonball Lake and through an old camp with cabins and lodges. Cannonball Trail ends as it joins with Shore Trail in Ringwood State Park.

### **Castle Point Trail**

*White • 1 mile • Hiking  
Moderate • Trail to Van Slyke Castle ruins*

**Trailhead** Deer Ledge Road or north end of Ramapo Lake. **Castle Point Trail** travels along a short ridgeline with ruins of a stone mansion overlooking Ramapo Lake. The castle, known as Foxcroft or the Van Slyke Castle, was the family home of William Porter. It was built in 1910 and occupied until 1940, when it fell into ruin.

### **Erskine Connector Trail**

*Blue • 0.5 miles (in Ramapo) • Multi-use  
Easy to moderate • Connects major forest trails*

**Trailhead** Ringwood-Ramapo or Cannonball Trail. **Erskine Connector Trail** connects the Ringwood-Ramapo Trail with the Cannonball Trail, crossing ridgelines, then running south alongside a small lake.

### **Hoeflerin Memorial Trail**

*Yellow • 6.5 miles (in Ramapo) • Multi-use  
Moderate • Longest trail through forest*

**Trailhead** Numerous entry points throughout forest. **Hoeflerin Memorial Trail** is the longest trail through Ramapo Mountain State Forest. It runs along a major ridge line between the Wanaque Reservoir (to the west) and the Ramapo River (to the east). Hoeflerin Memorial Trail also serves as a primary travel corridor with connections to many other trails in the forest and in Ringwood State Park.

### **Indian Rock Trail**

*Red & white • 0.3 miles (in Ramapo) • Hiking  
Moderate • Short connector trail from the west*

**Trailhead** Parking area at Back Beach Park. **Indian Rock Trail** leaves Back Beach Park, a Wanaque Borough park, and heads southwest, crossing to the east side of the Wanaque River and joining with Cannonball Trail south of Ramapo Lake.

### **Lookout Trail**

*Red • 1.8 miles • Hiking*

*Easy to moderate • Short loop around LeGrande Hill*

**Trailhead** Hoeflerlin Memorial Trail south of the spillway of Ramapo Lake. **Lookout Trail** is a short loop trail southeast of Ramapo Lake. The trail follows a creek then winds through hillsides above the Ramapo River.

### **MacEvoy Trail**

*Blue • 2.5 miles • Hiking*

*Moderate • Trail to Ramapo Lake and west side of forest*

**Trailhead** Lower parking area on Skyline Drive. **MacEvoy Trail** heads west, climbing a steep and rocky creek that comes from Ramapo Lake. The trail is two- to four-feet wide with many stepped rocks. The trail levels out after 0.25 miles and winds through forested ridges. As the trail reaches the lake, it becomes a gravel road along the lakeshore and continues north-east to Wolfe Drive on the west side of forest.

### **Matapan Rock Trail**

*Red • 0.3 miles (in Ramapo) • Hiking*

*Easy • Short trail leading to overlook*

**Trailhead** Hoeflerlin Memorial and Cannonball Trail. In Ramapo, **Matapan Rock Trail** begins from the shared section of Hoeflerlin and Cannonball Trails approximately one mile north of the upper Ramapo parking area on Skyline Drive. The trail to the west travels a short distance to large rock slabs overlooking Skyline Drive.

### **Ringwood-Ramapo Trail**

*Red • 3.2 miles (in Ramapo) • Multi-use*

*Moderate • Long connector trail to Ringwood State Park*

**Trailhead** Hoeflerlin Memorial Trail. **Ringwood-Ramapo Trail** leads from the northern portion of Ramapo Mountain to Ringwood Manor. The section of trail within Ramapo Mountain State Forest is approximately 3.2 miles and follows a mix of single-track and forest roads.

### **Schuber Trail**

*Orange • 0.4 miles • Hiking*

*Easy • Trail leads to Lake Tamarack*

**Trailhead** East side of upper parking area on Skyline Drive. **Schuber Trail** heads northeast and downhill through forested hillsides into the drainage area of Lake Tamarack. Schuber Trail continues into Ramapo Valley County Reservation.

### **Skyline Connector Trail**

*Red & white • 0.25 miles • Multi-use*

*Easy • Short and rocky single-track*

**Trailhead** Upper parking area on Skyline Drive. **Skyline Connector Trail** serves as a short connector trail joining the upper Ramapo parking lot on Skyline Drive with Cannonball Trail on the east side of Deer Ledge Road.

### **South Ridge Trail**

*White • 0.7 miles • Multi-use*

*Moderate • Short trail above Ramapo River*

**Trailhead** A quarter mile from start of Hoeflerlin Memorial Trail at Pool Hollow Road. **South Ridge Trail** climbs a rocky hill through hardwood forest to a high point and ridgeline. There are open views to the south

over the Ramapo River valley. The trail continues along a ridge and begins to descend to join with the Cannonball Trail at the forest boundary.

### **Todd Trail**

*White • 2 miles • Hiking*

*Easy to moderate • Forested road and trail*

**Trailhead** MacEvoy Trail uphill from parking area on Skyline Drive. **Todd Trail** begins heading northeast through open hardwood forest, crosses Skyline Drive, and re-enters the forest. Todd Trail turns to the west and joins Skyline Drive across from the upper parking lot.

### **Wanaque Ridge Trail**

*Orange • 2.7 miles • Hiking*

*Moderate • Follows ridgeline above reservoir*

**Trailhead** Indian Rock or MacEvoy Trail. **Wanaque Ridge Trail** crosses small hills and drainages as it heads north to reach a higher ridgeline between Ramapo Lake and Wanaque Reservoir. Wanaque Ridge Trail continues along the ridgeline for 0.75 miles until turning sharply to the east then descending among smaller boulder ridges and drainages. The trail turns east and ends when it joins MacEvoy Trail near the gas pipeline corridor.

## **TRAIL SENSE AND SAFETY**

**Trail Markings** Official trails are marked by colored blazes on posts and trees. For your safety and habitat protection, please stay on the trails and don't alter trail markings or create new trails.

**Preparations** Consider bringing water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a hat. Dress for the weather. Tell someone where you plan to go and when you expect to return.

**Hunting** Sections are open to hunting. Bright orange clothing is recommended during hunting season.

**Pets** All pets must be on a leash (maximum 6 feet) and under the physical control of the owner. Please clean up after your pets. Carry-in/Carry-out Help keep the forest clean and beautiful by carrying out your trash.

**Bear Aware** Bears are active in this area. Don't approach them. Bear sightings should be reported to State Park Police (1-877-927-6337) or to the forest office.

**Bikers** Follow the IMBA "Rules of the Trail" guidelines for trail etiquette and yield appropriately. Helmets are required by law for children under 17 and recommended for all riders.

**Forest Office Phone** (973) 962-2240

**Emergency Numbers** 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911

## **Ramapo Mountain State Forest**

Skyline Drive  
Oakland, NJ 07436

Administered by **Ringwood State Park**  
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