

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS  
**SCHROON LAKE**  
*Region*



---

**HIKING GUIDE**

---

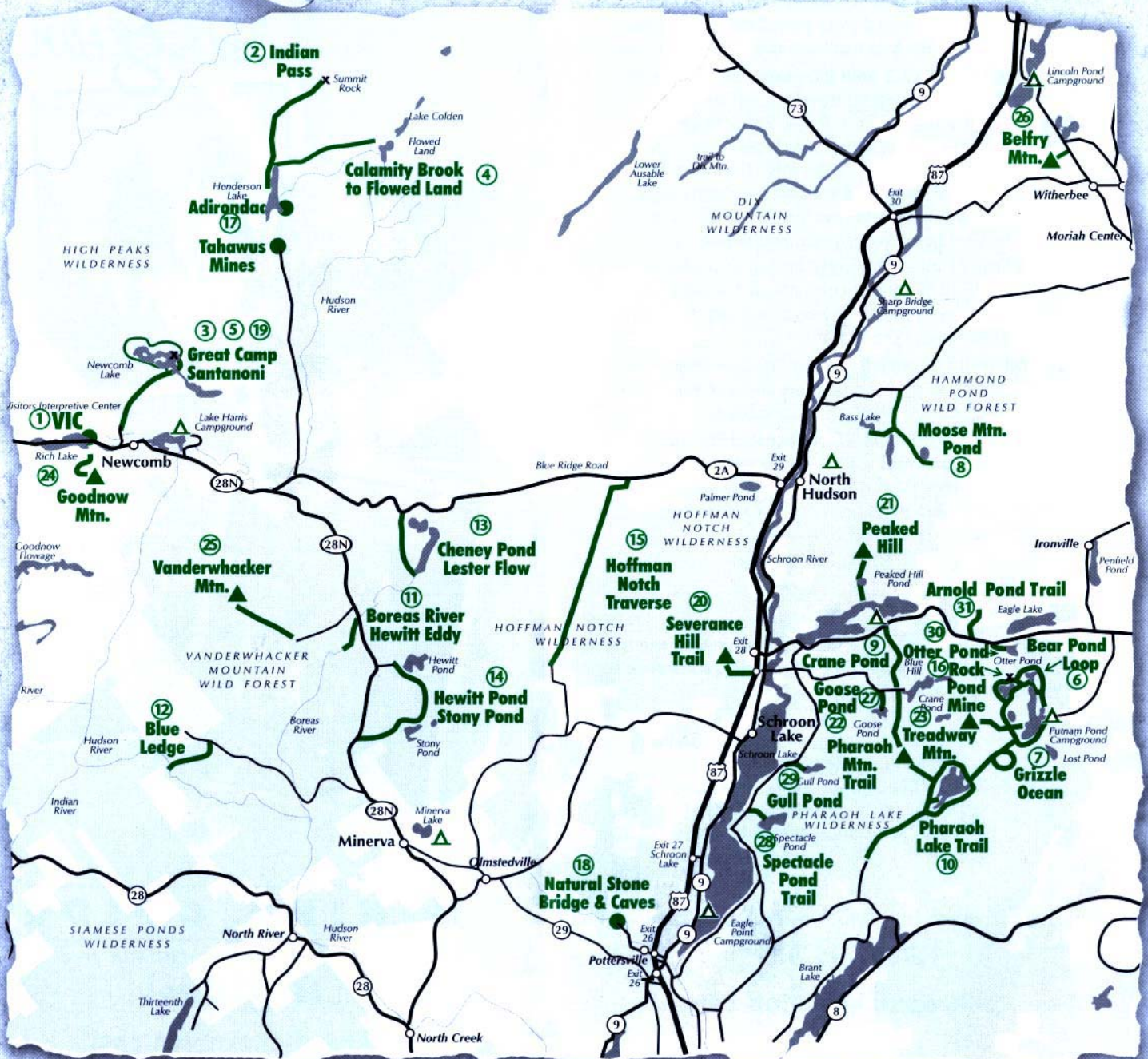
*For more information, call toll free*

**1.866.235.0895**

**[schroonlakeregion.com](http://schroonlakeregion.com)**

# Schroon Lake Region

Schroon Lake • Minerva • Newcomb • North Hudson



## High Peaks

Many options are available for the serious hiker or mountain climber on these mountains. Follow posted rules regarding proper dress and equipment. Don't forget to sign in. Some of the more famous hikes are to Santanoni Mountain, Duck Hole, Indian Pass and Lake Colden. Other High Peaks trails are Flowed Lands via Opalescent River, Flowed Lands/Lake Colden via Calamity Brook and Duck Hole via Bradley Pond. Descriptions of these trails are in various Adirondack hiking guides. Direction: The southern entrance to the High Peaks is near Tahawus at the Upper Works. Direction: Off Route 28 N east of Newcomb. Take road marked North Hudson. Cross RR tracks and bear left. Turn left before crossing second bridge. Continue on for about seven miles to town of Tahawus. Guide books available at local stores.

## Nature Trails

- 1 (VIC) Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Center at Newcomb** (3 miles of marked nature trails) There are three trails that traverse a variety of environments. A boardwalk crosses a marsh area and you'll see old growth hemlocks, glacial erratics, a large beaver dam, a log dam and lake views. One of the trails is designed especially for people with disabilities; it includes a bridge and access to several very nice lake views. Interpretive exhibits, slide presentations, visitor information, restrooms, special events and workshops are found in the main building. 518-582-2000.

## Mountain Passes

- 2 Indian Pass** (8.8 miles RT, moderate) You'll hike over mostly level terrain through a woodland valley to a steep final climb that winds among boulders and up ladders to Summit Rock. Take in the spectacular view of the 1000-foot cliff of Wallface Mtn. directly opposite you – it is one of the highest cliffs in the Northeast.



## Waterfalls/Rivers/Lakes

- 3 Santanoni Preserve Trail to the Old Farm Walk** (2 miles RT, easy) Take the first mile of the old Santanoni Road from the Gatehouse to the farm and you will see the old cow barn, creamery and spring house.
- 4 Calamity Brook to Flowed Land** (9.4 miles RT, moderate) This is an interesting route with ponds, brooks and a monument. Extend your outing by exploring the area around Flowed Land.
- 5 Santanoni Preserve Trail to Newcomb Lakes** (10 miles RT, easy) Follow the gravel road from the gate house to the "Great Camp Santanoni."
- 6 Bear Pond Loop** (moderate) This blue-marked trail makes a loop with the Rock Pond - Clear Pond Trail from Heart Pond to Bear Pond and back to Rock Pond. It is 1.0 mile from Heart Pond to Bear Pond and 1.5 miles from Rock Pond to Bear Pond.
- 7 Grizzle Ocean** (5 miles RT, easy, entrance fee to state campground) Walk to the lean-to on this picturesque pond and explore its shores on the trail that circles the pond.
- 8 Moose Mtn. Pond** (6 miles RT, easy) The trail to this remote pond parallels a stream and marsh, and passes through a grove of large hemlocks and pines. There are great views of the pond and surrounding mountains from a ledge at the pond's edge. A side trail leads to Bass Lake (1.4 miles RT) which has rock ledges, cliffs and great fishing in its deep, cold water.
- 9 Crane Pond via Blue Hill** (6.2 miles RT, moderate) This is an interesting walk through an old growth forest to a nice picnic spot and pond.
- 10 Pharaoh Lake Trail** The new trail head on Pharaoh Road, which heads northward from Beaver Pond Road, is 1.0 mile south of the old trail head at Mill Brook. The Pharaoh Lake outlet is 3.4 miles from the new trail head. The trail to the lake, which is an old road, is marked and maintained as a horse trail. Another horse trail begins near the village of Adirondack and leads north, then east for 7.4 miles before intersecting the Pharaoh Lake Trail just south of the Pharaoh Lake outlet. The trail along the east shore of Pharaoh Lake begins at the outlet and is marked with yellow trail markers. The trail offers many fine views of the lake and Pharaoh Mountain. It intersects the Long Swing Trail at the north end of the lake, 2.3 miles from the outlet dam. The west shore trail, marked in yellow and red, passes three lean-tos within the first mile. The summit of Pharaoh Mountain is reached 3.2 miles from the outlet dam.
- 11 Boreas River-Hewitt Eddy** (2.4 miles RT, easy) This is a level walk along the turbulent Boreas River to a wide, quiet eddy and picnic spot.

- 12 Blue Ledge** (5 miles RT, easy) Enjoy a rare riverside view of the turbulent Hudson River Gorge near a horseshoe bend where, on the opposite shore, an impressive 300-foot cliff drops precipitously to an unusually calm section of the river. The trail into the river is delightful and lined with wildflowers in the spring.
- 13 Cheney Pond-Lester Flow** (5.2 miles RT, easy) The grassy lane of an old road leads to panoramic views in almost every direction at Lester Flow which is also a good water-fowl viewing area.
- 14 Hewitt Pond-Stony Pond** (6 miles, moderate, two cars needed) This trail traverses rough and interesting terrain as it winds through a deep col and beside several lakes.
- 15 Hoffman Notch Traverse** (7.6 miles, moderate, 2 cars needed) An old wagon route leads through this remote and little-traveled mountain pass and dense forest. You'll pass huge trees, glacial erratics, 200 foot cliffs, fern meadows, cascading streams, several marshes and excellent views across the waters of Big Marsh.

### Geologic Formations/Historic Sites

- 16 Rock Pond Mine** (5.4 miles RT, easy, entrance fee to state campground) The remains of the mine site include a huge metal steam boiler, a drainage tunnel, tailings, an open pit mine and stone foundations. If you choose to walk around Rock Pond, use caution on the section of trail along the north shore which is narrow, rocky and difficult to negotiate.
- 17 Adirondac/Tahavus Mines** The extensive remains of an iron ore and, later, titanium mine can be seen along the road leading to Henderson Lake. After passing the piles of mine tailings, mine pits and a 48-foot blast furnace, you'll arrive at the deserted village of Adirondac. The mine area itself is not accessible to the public.
- 18 Natural Stone Bridge and Caves** (admission fee) Marked paths and trail signs guide you through a secluded glen beside the cascades of Trout Brook as you explore caves, grottos, waterfalls and glacial potholes.
- 19 Great Camp Santanoni** (9 miles RT, easy) You can walk, bike or pay a small fee to ride on a horse-drawn wagon (reservations required) into the partially restored Great Camp Santanoni. The dirt road starts near an old gatehouse and passes an old farmsite on the way. On the shore of Newcomb Lake is a boathouse and several buildings in addition to the main building with its extensive porches.

### Views

- 20 Severance Hill Trail** (2 miles RT, moderate) This is a yellow-marked trail that leaves Route 9 at a point 1.5 miles north of Schroon Lake Village. The summit of Severance Hill is 1,693 feet above sea level, and a short exploration of the summit will reveal many fine views.
- 21 Peaked Hill** (1.2 miles RT canoe and 4.4 miles RT hike, moderate) Start with a short paddle on Paradox Lake to a marked trail that leads first to a remote pond and then up a steep ascent to a rocky outcrop with views in all directions.
- 22 Pharaoh Mountain Trail** This trail (marked with red markers) is approximately 4.7 miles long, with an ascent of 1,550 feet. The summit of the mountain is 2,557 feet above sea level. Access is gained by turning east from Route 9 onto Alder Meadow Road, about 1.5 miles north of Schroon Lake Village. Proceed eastward for a little more than 2.9 miles, where Crane Pond Road continues eastward from the intersection of Adirondack Drive. The new trail head and parking area is located at the end of Crane Pond Road, just within the wilderness boundary. Crane Pond is 1.9 miles from the new trail head. At 0.8 miles, the trail to Goose Pond departs southward. Continuing beyond this intersection, the trail forks at 2.6 miles, with the blue trail leading to Glidden Marsh, Oxshoe Pond and a lean-to; the red trail continues to Pharaoh Mountain. Hikers using this trail are rewarded with an extensive panorama of the lake-dotted countryside surrounding Pharaoh and the High Peaks to the north. From the summit, the red trail continues south and east approximately 1.5 miles to Pharaoh Lake.
- 23 Treadway Mtn.** (7.8 miles RT, moderate, entrance fee to state campground) This is a rewarding hike with outstanding views along the way and from the three knobs that form the open rocky summit. *Options for either a longer or shorter hike include:* A return via Clear, Rock, North and Heart ponds which adds only 1.5 miles to the RT distance; or shorten your hike to 5 miles RT by paddling across Putnam Pond to a trail head on the opposite shore. The canoe option makes for an interesting trip and requires less effort and time – this is perhaps the best choice for young hikers.
- 24 Goodnow Mtn.** (3 miles RT, moderate) This marvelous short mountain climb (3 miles round trip or 2 hours and 15 minutes) is a good family climb. At the summit you will find a gorgeous view and an old fire tower. The mountain is part of the Huntington Forest Preserve managed by SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. The trail head, trail and fire tower have been renovated. Trail guide for summer and winter are available at the sign-in kiosk. Directions: 1 mile west of the Visitor Interpretive Center, it is marked by a large sign on the left side of the road.

- 25 Vanderwhacker Mtn.** (5.8 miles RT, difficult) The steep climb to the summit is rewarded with great views of the High Peaks to the north.
- 26 Belfry Mtn.** (.6 miles RT, easy) An old truck road leads to the summit where there are views of Lake Champlain, abandoned iron mines and distant mountains.
- 27 Goose Pond Trail (1.2 mile RT, easy)** This trail departs from Crane Pond trail at a point 0.8 miles from Crane Pond Road trail head. The yellow-marked trail leads 0.6 miles to the pond.
- 28 Spectacle Pond Trail (3.2 mile RT, easy)** This trail is yellow marked and access is gained by traveling east on Alder Meadow Road for 2.0 miles from Route 9 to a road on the right leading along the east shore of Schroon Lake. Follow this road 2.7 miles to the start of the trail. The trail follows Spectacle Brook for a short distance and then turns south to the pond. There are no lean-tos on this pond, but fishing is reported to be very good in the pond and brook.
- 29 Gull Pond Trail (1 mile RT, easy)** This trail is yellow marked and it starts on the Adirondack Drive about 1.6 miles south of the intersection with the Alder Meadow Road. Gull Pond offers good brook trout fishing.
- 30 Otter Pond Trail (1.2 mile RT, easy)** This blue-marked trail starts in the small bay on the east shore of Eagle Lake. Otter Pond is reported to have excellent trout fishing.
- 31 Arnold Pond Trail (0.5 mile RT, moderate)** This trail is a short blue-marked trail with a steep climb which is hardly noticeable over such a short distance. The trail leaves NY Route 74 at a point 1.5 miles west of the Eagle Lake Causeway. The pond is stocked with trout.

The maps and trail descriptions in this guide are only a STARTING POINT for further research. Once you have settled on the trail or trails in which you are interested, purchase the appropriate topographic map and guide book.

Schroon Lake Regional Office  
P.O. Box 726, Schroon Lake, NY 12870  
518-532-0627 or 866.235.0895  
website: [SchroonLakeRegion.com](http://SchroonLakeRegion.com)

*For more information, call toll free*

**1.866.235.0895**

**[schroonlakeregion.com](http://schroonlakeregion.com)**