



The Schoodic Peninsula

The Schoodic Peninsula, containing the only portion of Acadia National Park on the mainland, boasts granite headlands, rocky beaches, and spruce-fir forests. Although similar in scenery to Mount Desert Island, the coast of the Schoodic Peninsula is more intimate and secluded.

History

Much of the Schoodic Peninsula was once owned by John G. Moore, a Maine native and Wall Street financier. In the 1920s, Moore's heirs donated the land to the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations with the stipulation that the land be used as a public park and for other uses, including the "promotion of biological and other scientific research."

In 1929 legislation authorized the National Park Service to accept land on the Schoodic Peninsula as



an addition to the park and changed the name of the park from Lafayette to Acadia. Soon after the law's enactment, the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations donated the former Moore property (2,050 acres) to the National Park Service "for the public good and for the extension or improvement of said park, forever."

In the 1930s and 1940s some of this land was transferred to the U.S. Navy for use as a radio communication station. The U.S.

Navy operated the base until the land was transferred back to the National Park Service in 2002.

The former base has become the Schoodic Education and Research Center, one of 20 National Park Service research learning centers across the country. The center facilitates research projects throughout Acadia National Park and provides opportunities for learners of all ages to discover the park's natural and cultural resources. For details visit www.nps.gov/acad/serc.htm

Enjoy the Scenery

A six-mile, one-way loop road offers views of lighthouses, sea birds, and forest-draped islands. Automobile turnouts provide the opportunity to pull over and enjoy the views. An unpaved road leads to the top of Schoodic Head (440 feet). Please be careful when meeting traffic on this narrow gravel road.

At the southern end of the peninsula, the two-way road to Schoodic Point leads to a windswept coast with dark diabase dikes that intrude between pink granite ledges. Please use caution exploring the rocky shore.



The ocean views are spectacular, but the footing is dangerous—people have died here! Wet rocks are slippery and waves can sweep you into the sea.

Bicycling—Bicycling is popular along the loop road. Bicyclists must obey the one-way traffic flow. The Schoodic portion of the park loop road is 6 miles in length, but due to one-way traffic flow, it is an 11.5-mile ride on park, town, and state roads to make a full loop back to your starting point. Combine your ride with Island Explorer buses for an easier trip.

Hiking—Four hiking trails traverse the area. The Schoodic Head Trail, Anvil Trail, and East Trail travel through spruce-fir forests to pine woodlands at the top of Schoodic Head. The Alder Trail leads you through a shrubland. The Alder and Anvil trails begin near the Blueberry Hill Parking area.

Picnicking—Frazer Point picnic area has tables, fire rings, restrooms, drinking water, and a dock. Please do not feed animals (including gulls) anywhere in the park.

Plan Your Visit

The drive from Bar Harbor to the Schoodic Peninsula takes about one hour. In the summer, a ferry travels between Bar Harbor and Winter Harbor, and the Island Explorer bus provides transportation from the ferry terminal to the Schoodic section of the park, Prospect Harbor, and Winter Harbor.

Overnight Accommodations

Overnight camping or parking is not permitted in the Schoodic section of the park, but private campgrounds and other lodging options are located nearby. For current lodging information visit the Schoodic Peninsula Chamber of Commerce at: www.acadia-schoodic.org

For more Information:

Acadia National Park
P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Information: (207) 288-3338
TTY: (207) 288-8800
Lost & Found: (207) 288-8791
Email: acadia_information@nps.gov
Website: www.nps.gov/acad

Emergency—Call 911

Schoodic Peninsula Map

Leave Schoodic for all to enjoy. Park regulations prohibit collection of rocks and plants. When in Acadia, all pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet for the protection of your pet, people, and wildlife.

Hiking Trail Descriptions & Length (one way)

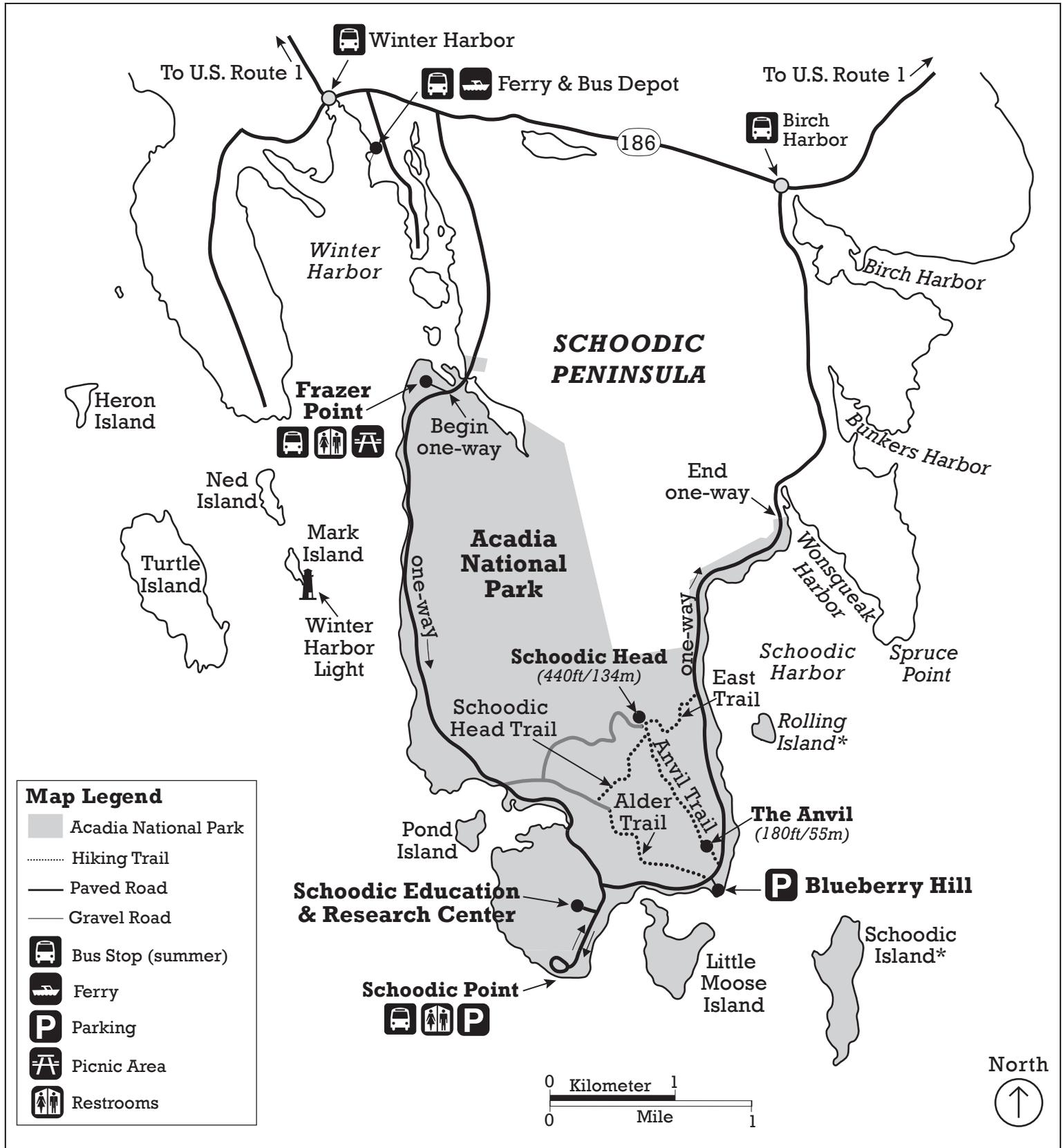
Alder Trail – Easy, 0.6 miles.

Anvil Trail – Moderate with steep sections, 1.1 miles.

East Trail – Moderate with steep sections, 0.5 miles.

Schoodic Head Trail – Moderate, 0.6 miles.

***Note:** Schoodic and Rolling Islands are closed from February 15th through August 31st to protect nesting birds.



Explore Schoodic Safely

Be careful out there—protect yourself and the park! Most accidents at Acadia occur while visitors are biking, hiking, exploring the shoreline, and driving. Keep these tips in mind to help ensure a safe visit to the park.

Watch your step and wear sturdy shoes. Carry a map, first aid kit, flashlight, water, and appropriate weather gear on all trips, long or short. Tell someone where you're going and when you'll return.

Yield to pedestrians and horses. Watch for loose gravel on road curves and hills.

Stay away from cliff edges. Watch for wet rocks and loose gravel near cliff edges and shorelines.

Drive safely, wear seat belts, and don't drink and drive. The speed limit is 35 mph in Acadia, unless otherwise posted.

When in Acadia, all pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet for the protection of your pet, people, and wildlife.

When tidepooling, remember to keep three points of contact with the ground, watch for waves and where you walk—it's slippery by the sea!