

Biking

Bikes are restricted to the authorized trails shown on this trail map and park roads. Cross-country use through fields and wooded areas is prohibited as such unrestricted riding can damage protected park resources. Bicyclists should dismount and walk their bikes while in the vicinity of historic buildings and tour stops (historic zones). All violations are subject to citation and fine.

Bicycle riders must comply with all applicable traffic regulations. Riding on Routes 23, 252, and Gulph Road is not recommended, as these roads have very narrow shoulders. Riders should be aware that the park contains several busy roads; proceed with caution when approaching intersections. When using any of the approved bicycle trails, bicyclists should yield to pedestrians and horses, and pass on the left after giving a verbal warning.

Valley Forge National Historical Park

Trail Map



While scenic beauty and open space draw many to Valley Forge National Historical Park in search of rest and recreation, the park's central mission is to ensure that the fragile historic and natural resources of Valley Forge are passed on to the next generation unimpaired. The park was established to commemorate the determination, sacrifice, and achievements of General Washington's Continental Army. We ask our visitors to help preserve the park's natural and cultural resources which include those associated with the encampment of Washington's army.

Hiking

Valley Forge's designated and marked hiking trails include such footpaths as the relatively flat River and Valley Creek trails, and the hilly, wooded trails on Mount Joy and Mount Misery. In addition, hiking is permitted in most open areas of the park. The **multi-use trail** takes you past significant historical points of interest and offers many open views of the park. The **Horse-Shoe Trail** begins in the park near the intersection of Routes 23 and 252. For best access to this trail, park in the Washington's Headquarters parking lot. The trail is marked in yellow blazes and, in the park, traverses Mount Misery.

While hiking in the park, we recommend that you:

DO

Go with someone.

Wear comfortable, sturdy shoes and clothing.

Tell family/friends where you are going, and how long you will be gone.

Be aware of the weather.

Check for ticks.

DO NOT

Eat anything wild unless positive identification can be made.

Touch anything with leaves in threes, as it could be poisonous.

Drink stream water.

Disturb wildlife.

Cross railroad tracks.

Take shortcuts off designated trails.

Horseback Riding

Seventeen miles of officially designated horse trails are available to riders. In addition, horseback riders may also cross most open fields to link up with other horse trail sections to complete circuit rides. Caution should be used when crossing open areas because of holes and other hazards. To prevent damage to fragile historic resources and unsafe encounters in busy visitor areas, horses are prohibited in picnic areas, the vicinity of historic buildings, and tour stops (historic zones). Horse trailers should be parked in one of the following areas: the upper Washington's Headquarters parking lot, the horse trailer area of the main Visitor Center parking lot, the Pawling Road parking lot, or along the south side of the Walnut Hill access road. When riding on the trail that leads out of the lower Visitor Center lot, riders should stay out of the area marked as contaminated with asbestos.

Remember, many park visitors, especially children, are unfamiliar with horses. They do not realize how easily horses can be startled and become dangerous. Politely warn visitors not to come too close and not to try to feed or pet your horse. Let them know that loud noises and sudden movements can frighten your horse. Always pass hikers and bikers at a walk. Cross roads at a walk. If an accident occurs, do not chase a riderless horse. If you stop, the horse may stop or return to the group. If necessary, have one person quietly attempt to catch the horse. Notify a ranger as soon as possible.



For more information, please call (610) 783-1077, TDD (610) 783-1099, or visit the Park's web site at www.nps.gov/vafo.

Valley Forge

National Historical Park
Pennsylvania

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Key to Features

- Paved Multiuse Trail - 5 mile loop, 6.7 miles total
- Biking, Hiking and Horses - 10 miles
- Hiking and Horses Only - 8.6 miles
- Hiking Only - 1 mile
- Parking Areas
- Roads
- Railroad
- Park Boundary
- Horse Trailer Parking
- Tour Stop
- Picnic Area

To provide for everyone's enjoyment and safety, visitors must follow trail regulations and stay off of earthworks, ruins, and monuments.

The use of skates, skateboards, roller skis, in-line skates, and similar devices is prohibited throughout the park.

Emergency Telephone: 610-783-1011

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