

**Burnt Mountain  
High Ponds Farm  
478 Rossier Road  
Montgomery Center, Vermont 05471**

Burnt Mountain is the highest point on a spur ridge that trends northwesterly from Haystack Mtn. about 2.0 mi. west of Hazen's Notch where Franklin County and Orleans meet. The route to the summit was established by Rolf Anderson in 1990. The trails which lead to the summit of Burnt Mountain are on privately owned property. The trails are maintained by the Hazen's Notch Association and are part of a network of many miles of trails maintained by the HNA. Winter trail users must obtain a trail pass in advance at the Welcome Center on Route 58. There is no charge in summer and fall. Donations are welcome. An area map is available from the association. [www.hazensnotch.org](http://www.hazensnotch.org).

**Directions to the Trail Head:**

From Vt. 118 in Montgomery Center, turn east on Vt. 58, the Hazen's Notch Road (0.0 mi.), turn right on Rossier Road, (Montgomery town highway #29), (2.0 mi.). This road is about 9.0 mi. west of Vt. 100 in Lowell. Continue uphill, staying right at a fork, until the road ends at the High Ponds Farm parking lot and trailhead (2.5 mi.). The parking area is across from a small white house. Do not block gates or other farm driveways. Since all trails maintained by the Hazen's Notch Association are on private property, care should be taken to observe the rules posted at the trailhead information board. None of the buildings are open to the public.

**BURNT MOUNTAIN**

Summit: 2,800 ft (elev)

Parking Area: 1,100 ft (elev)

From Parking Area  
to Summit View:

2.4 mi. (3.86 km)

Ascent: 2 hr  
Descent 1.25 hr

**TRAIL CLOSED**

April 1 to May 15

The trails on Burnt Mountain are closed during the spring mud season when soils can be easily damaged by hikers.

In mud season please only walk on lower elevation trails and roads.

Burnt Mountain  
opens to hiking  
May 15 of each year.

The High Ponds Farm is a private property.  
Observe all rules posted at the trail head and elsewhere on the property.  
Thank you for your cooperation.

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Description: The route to the summit leaves the High Ponds Farm trailhead parking lot on a gravel road (Beaver Ponds Trail) in a southerly direction, passing a beaver pond at 0.05 mi. south of the parking lot. At the junction with Window Rock Trail (0.1 mi.), the route to the summit follows the gravel road (Beaver Ponds Trail) to the right in a westerly direction. At the next junction (0.25 mi.) follow the gravel road (High Meadow Trail) to the left in a southwesterly direction, passing a complex of several beaver ponds. The road climbs moderately for a short distance and then becomes level as it enters the High Meadow (0.4 mi). The gravel road becomes a mowed path along the former pasture as it comes to an old house foundation. The route turns left and ascends gently along the back of the meadow. Hikers are welcome to use the picnic tables set among the apple trees, while enjoying an excellent view of the Jay Range (0.6 mi).

Leaving the High Meadow, the route follows a large stone wall and then turns left and continues on a grassy lane in a southerly direction to the next junction (0.8 mi). The route to the summit bears right, in a southerly direction, on the Sunset Ridge Trail. Following an old logging road, the trail climbs gradually until reaching the base of the mountain. Entering the forest, the trail begins a moderately steep ascent along an old skid trail to a wooden bench (1.20 mi.) The trail bears left and follows a shoulder of the mountain in an easterly direction up a steep and winding climb, eventually reaching a level area with numerous sign of moose. The trail continues on a moderate grade as it enters a stand of heart-leaved paper birch (*betula papifera v. cordara*) (1.80 mi.) The route now turns right and follows the main ridge in a southerly direction until reaching the wooded summit at 2.05 mi). Descending into a sag, the trail makes a final ascent through spruces to the top of a series of small ledges, which it follows to its terminus on the south summit (2.4 mi.).

From various points along the small, open summit ridge, there are impressive views north to the Jay Range and east to Hazen's Notch itself, including Sugarloaf and Haystack Mountains. To the south can be seen Laraway, and on good days, Mount Mansfield. To the west can be seen the south fork of the Trout River and the Cold Hollow Mountains. There is a good view of the northern Champlain Valley. The view northeast includes Buchanan Mountain, Domey's Dome and Gilpin Mountain. The 1910 map of the proposed Long Trail, Burnt Mountain is clearly indicated. It was called at that time "Montgomery Mountain."

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