

# Hiking

1. Where can I find information about trails and conditions for hiking?
  - To begin, visit the Park City Mountain Trails conditions report at <https://mountaintrails.org/trail-report/>.
  - You can also check specific trail conditions on All Trails or your preferred trails app.
2. Where can I discover great trails to explore?
  - In addition to All Trails, consider these resources:
    - Winter trails and conditions report: <https://mountaintrails.org/winter-trails-overview/>
    - Summer trails and conditions report: <https://mountaintrails.org/summer-trails-overview/>
    - Top six day hikes in Park City: <https://www.visitparkcity.com/blog/post/the-top-6-day-hikes-in-park-city/>
3. Can I access trails without a car?
  - Absolutely! Many trails can be accessed from trailheads in downtown Park City, Canyons, Deer Valley, and other areas. Additionally, a free transit to trails program operates from late spring to mid-fall. For more details, visit <https://www.protransparkcity.com/trails>.
  - Note: Details for Transit to Trails in 2024 are forthcoming.
4. Is there parking available at the trailheads?
  - Yes, many trailheads offer parking, but it can fill up quickly on weekends and holidays. Several popular trailhead parking areas (such as Bloods Lake, Bonanza Flat, Mid-Mountain, North Round Valley, and Sunny Slopes) have webcams that allow you to check how busy they are in advance.
  - View the webcams here: <https://mountaintrails.org/parking-cams/>
5. Trails close to Westgate
  - **Easy Trails Open During Shoulder Season:**
    - **Rail Trail**
      - Distance from Westgate: 4.5 miles (10-15 minutes drive)
      - Elevation Gain: Minimal
      - Description: The Rail Trail is a flat, easy route that follows an old railroad track. It's great for walking, biking, or running. From the trail, enjoy views of the Wasatch Mountains, the Snyderville Basin, and distant peaks. The lower elevation means it remains accessible during the shoulder season.
    - **McPolin Farm Trail**
      - Distance from Westgate: 3.5 miles (10 minutes drive)
      - Elevation Gain: 200 feet
      - Description: A short, easy loop trail with scenic views of the McPolin Barn and the surrounding meadows. It offers great views of the Wasatch Mountains and is a peaceful option with beautiful fall foliage or open meadows during early spring.
    - **Swaner Preserve Trail**
      - Distance from Westgate: 4.5 miles (10 minutes drive)
      - Elevation Gain: Minimal
      - Description: The Swaner Preserve is a peaceful nature walk through wetlands with views of the Wasatch Mountains. The trail is flat and accessible, offering a great opportunity for wildlife viewing. Perfect for a relaxing hike during the shoulder season, when temperatures are cooler.
    - **Glenwild Trail (Lower Section)**

- Distance from Westgate: 6 miles (15 minutes drive)
- Elevation Gain: 500 feet
- Description: The lower section of the Glenwild Trail provides open meadow views, stretching across the Snyderville Basin with some views of the Wasatch Mountains. It's a manageable trail during the shoulder season, staying snow-free and giving you a great taste of Park City's countryside.
- **Moderate Trails Open During Shoulder Season:**
  - **Town Lift to City Park Loop**
    - Distance from Westgate: 1.5 miles (5 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 200 feet
    - Description: A short, moderate hike from Town Lift up to City Park, with views of Park City and the surrounding Wasatch Mountains. The lower elevation ensures it's generally snow-free during the shoulder season.
  - **Bonanza Flat Trail**
    - Distance from Westgate: 8 miles (20 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 1,000 feet
    - Description: This trail takes you to Bonanza Flat, offering gorgeous views of wildflower meadows and vistas of the Park City Mountain Resort and Wasatch Mountains. The lower sections of the trail remain accessible during the shoulder season.
  - **Armstrong Trail (Lower Section)**
    - Distance from Westgate: 5 miles (10-15 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 500 feet
    - Description: The lower section of Armstrong Trail is a great option for a moderate hike. You'll pass through forests and enjoy views of Park City as well as the Wasatch Mountains. It's typically accessible during the shoulder season due to its lower elevation.
  - **Spiral Stairs Trail**
    - Distance from Westgate: 5 miles (10-15 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 1,100 feet
    - Description: This moderately challenging trail takes you up to Deer Valley Resort. You'll be rewarded with views of the resort and the surrounding mountains. It's typically snow-free during the shoulder season, making it a perfect choice for moderate hiking.
  - **Jordanelle Reservoir Trail**
    - Distance from Westgate: 10 miles (20 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 200 feet
    - Description: The Jordanelle Reservoir Trail offers views of the reservoir and surrounding mountains. This easy trail is perfect for a relaxing walk and is accessible during the shoulder season due to its lower elevation.
- **Challenging Trails Open During Shoulder Season:**
  - **Iron Mountain Trail**
    - Distance from Westgate: 10 miles (25 minutes drive)
    - Elevation Gain: 2,800 feet
    - Description: This challenging trail provides stunning views of Deer Valley and Park City. The lower portions of the trail are often snow-free early in the season, allowing for a strenuous hike with expansive Wasatch Mountain views.
  - **Empire Pass to Silver Lake Trail**

- Distance from Westgate: 7 miles (15-20 minutes drive)
- Elevation Gain: 2,000 feet
- Description: Starting at Empire Pass, this trail takes you to Silver Lake. Along the way, you'll enjoy views of Deer Valley and the surrounding alpine scenery. The shoulder season is a great time to hike this trail, as lower elevations typically remain snow-free.

■ **Wasatch Crest Trail (Lower Section)**

- Distance from Westgate: 10 miles (25 minutes drive)
- Elevation Gain: 3,000-4,000 feet
- Description: The lower section of the Wasatch Crest Trail offers panoramic views of both Park City and the Salt Lake Valley. Early in the season, this section of the trail remains accessible, providing views of alpine meadows and rugged ridgelines.

○ **Bonus Options:**

1. **Deer Valley to Silver Lake Loop**

- Distance from Westgate: 6 miles (15-20 minutes drive)
- Elevation Gain: 1,000 feet
- Description: This moderate loop provides scenic views of Deer Valley Resort and Silver Lake. The trail is beautiful during the shoulder season, as you can enjoy views of the surrounding forest and mountain peaks, with fall foliage or snow-dusted peaks.

2. **Stein Eriksen Loop**

- Distance from Westgate: 3.5 miles (10 minutes drive)
- Elevation Gain: Moderate
- Description: Located near the Stein Eriksen Lodge, this loop trail offers views of Deer Valley Resort and the Wasatch Mountains. It's a great option for a scenic, moderate hike during the shoulder season, and the views of the valley are exceptional.