

Paradise Park Quest

Welcome to Paradise Park,
A park filled with trails and woods,
Meadows and water,
And a hidden quest box inside a tree.

Begin by going under (or around) the gate.
Walk up to the big divide – a fork in the path.
Take the carriage road to the right to
Head downhill towards the sound of water.

Cross the brook and continue on.
At the bench, pause...
Look down to the cascading falls.
How long do you think it took this ravine to form?

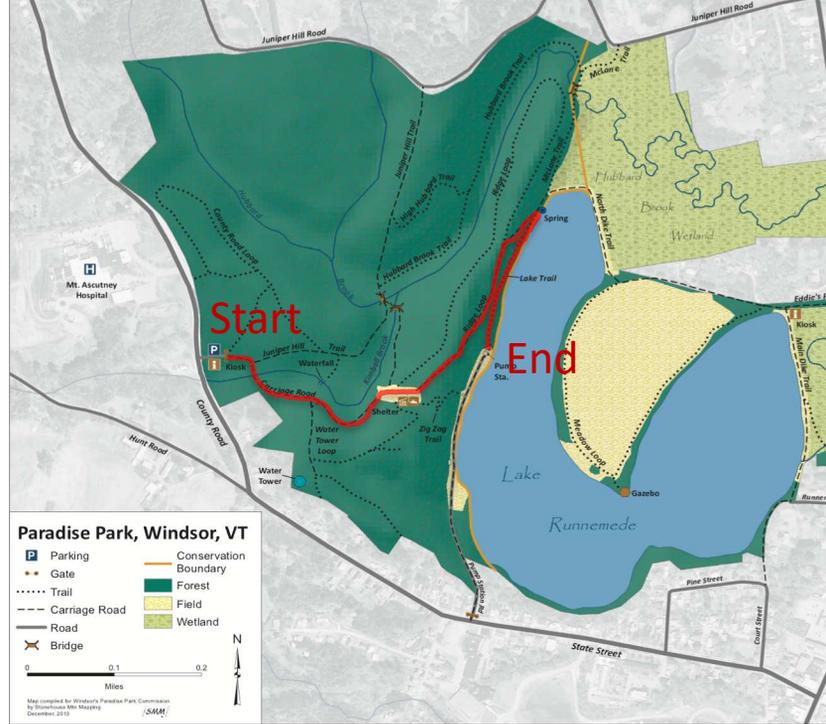
Continue on the carriage road to the edge of a clearing.
Find a granite bench to your left. Check out the view.
Explore the shelter in the clearing,
Or embrace the big white pines,
Or look for a quiet spot to sit and listen.

But now back to the quest!
Go to the end of the clearing and take the trail to the left.
As you walk, you'll see the ridge drop off to the side.
Look for openings in the trees for a peek of water far
below.

Keep walking on the long path through a mix of trees.
Look for white birch, beech, or hemlocks, above
Ferns and mushrooms down on the ground.
Listen for singing chickadees or laughing woodpeckers.

You'll come upon an intersection. Bear to the right,
Follow the trail steeply downhill...
Until you see a sign guiding you right and all the way
down to the wooded trail along the lake.

Walk along the lakes edge. Who lives here?
Look for old beaver lodges in the ice, or herons on
summer's green lily pads. Watch for ducks, geese,
ospreys or eagles at the water's edge.



Find a bench and take a rest.
But then continue on...
Suddenly, you'll leave the woods and be in the open.
But take a last look back into the trees.
The last tree of the woods holds your quest box,
Hidden in a secret hole right at its roots.

Leave your mark and hide the box well!
Back in the hole it goes, under the roots.
Use bark and leaves to keep the quest a secret.

You're at the end of the quest.
But how to get back to the beginning?

For a long way, turn around and retrace your steps
Along the lake, then left up the steep path
And through the woods and across the clearing,
Left on the carriage road and back to the gate.
And at the beginning you are.

Or... for the short way!
Turn your back to the quest box tree and leave the woods.
You'll pass a cement pump house.
Go to the next pump house, a small one made of brick.
Find the path just past it on the right, and follow it up
Through zigs and zags until you reach the clearing.

Do you recognize the shelter and tall white pines?
Cross the clearing and go left on the carriage road.
Follow it back to the gate.
And oh, so quickly, you are back at the beginning.