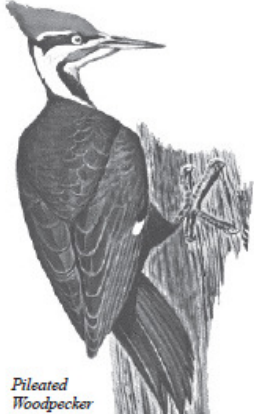


## Loop Hikes on Mt. Tamalpais From Pantoll



Pileated  
Woodpecker

The following directions are minimal and should not be attempted without a map unless you are familiar with the trails. The time given for each hike is average. Strong hikers will complete the route in less time. Over-the-ankle hiking boots are advised. When on fire roads, walk on the right side going uphill and the left side going downhill.

Distance: 2.0 miles  
Time: 1 hour and 30 minutes  
Elevation Change: 500'  
Route: Old Stage Road, Easy Grade, Old Mine

Go east on Panoramic Highway at the Pantoll parking lot entrance and turn right on Old Stage Road. Watch for the Easy Grade Trail sign on a small rise on your left in about 1/4 of a mile. Several open spaces on this trail afford excellent views to the east and south as you ascend. You will arrive at the 4,000 person capacity Mountain Theater built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the mid 1930's. Continue past the restrooms up the paved road to Mtn Theater Trail and turn left through the Madrone Grove. Old Mine Trail proceeds south in an open area. Here views in all directions are magnificent. Follow Old Mine Trail through a forest of Bay, Oak and Douglas fir back to Old Stage Road. Cross Panoramic Highway to return to Pantoll.

Distance: 2.5 miles  
Time: 1 hour and 30 minutes  
Elevation Change: 500'  
Route: Stapleveldt, TCC, Bootjack, Alpine

Join Stapleveldt at the bus stop near the entrance to the parking lot. Follow the trail bearing right through the camping area. Look for the trail sign to the right of campsite #15 to continue on Stapleveldt. Be careful on the bridges which are slippery when wet. At the railed bridge turn left at the signed TCC and continue on this lovely trail with its alternating stands of Douglas fir and Redwood. Turn left at Van Wyck Meadow (look for the population sign) and join Bootjack which climbs steeply. At approximately .3 of a mile (10+ minutes), turn left on the signed Alpine Trail which continues to ascend and proceed to Pantoll at the bus stop where you began this hike.

Distance: 3.8 miles  
Time: 2 hours and 30 minutes  
Elevation Change: 1,000'  
Route: Steep Ravine, Dipsea, Coastal Fire Road, Old Mine

Enter Steep Ravine to the left of the upper or lower parking lots. The descent is steep and you will pass through alternating stands of Douglas fir and Redwood. You are on one of the most beautiful trails on the Mountain. Webb Creek which you cross several times runs fast and heavy during the rainy season. When you arrive at the wide ladder, descend backward and grasp the railing. Turn left on the marked Dipsea Trail at a bridge. The climb is very steep at the outset. When you leave the forest, you will be treated to spectacular ocean views. Continue on the Dipsea Trail until it intersects with the Coastal Fire Road. Turn left on this road and in about 25 yards turn right at the signed Old Mine Trail. This trail ends at a paved road where you turn right to return to Pantoll from where you started.



Prepared by Friends of Mt Tam,  
supporting Mt. Tamalpais State Park.  
Visit [friendsofmonttam.org](http://friendsofmonttam.org) for more hike info



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Distance: 4.7 miles  
Time: 2 hours and 45 minutes  
Elevation Change: 500'  
Route: Old Stage Road, Easy Grade, Rock Spring, Nora, Matt Davis

Cross the Panoramic Highway and follow the paved Old Stage Road. Watch for the signed Easy Grade Trail on a small rise on your left in approximately 1/4 of a mile. The trail ascends through forest with two excellent viewing areas primarily to the East and South. Enter the Mountain Theater on the lower left (looking from the stage). You will depart on the Rock Spring Trail from the upper far right. While you are climbing up the theater pause a moment and consider the massive effort that went into its construction by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the early 1930's. The Rock Spring Trail alternates through forest and chaparral with several serpentine outcroppings. At West Point Inn: water, restrooms and limited refreshments are available. Take the signed Nora Trail which departs from the lower picnic area. You will descend rather steeply, joining Matt Davis Trail at the Laguna Creek Bridge. Turn right and continue on this slightly rising trail through alternating open and wooded areas. At Bootjack go past the old restrooms and continue the gradually ascending trail to Old Stage Road. Pantoll lies a few yards down the road and across Panoramic Highway.

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Distance: 6.0 miles  
Time: 3 hours and 30 minutes  
Elevation Change: 1,300'  
Route: Stapleveldt, Ben Johnson, Camp Alice Eastwood Fire Road, Sierra, Troop 80, Bootjack, Alpine

Join Stapleveldt at the bus stop sign near the entrance to the parking lot. Follow the trail bearing right through the camping area. Look for the trail sign to the right of campsite #15 to continue on Stapleveldt. Be careful on the bridges which are slippery when wet. At the railed bridge the trail joins the TCC briefly. Go right a short distance and then proceed to your left steeply downward. After many switchbacks, it will join the signed Ben Johnson. Go straight and continue on this forested trail until you reach Muir Woods. Cross Bridge No. 4, turn right, and look for the signed Camp Alice Eastwood Trail on your left. Continue on the fire road to Alice Eastwood Camp grounds. Just past the restrooms, you will see the signed Sierra trail. It begins as a fire road, but quickly changes to a regular hiking trail alternating in Redwood forest and chaparral. The trail is moderately steep at times. Turn left on the Troop 80 Trail which proceeds westerly through Redwood and Douglas fir forests. At Van Wyck Meadow cross the open area and turn right to pick up Bootjack. After climbing steeply for .3 of a mile (10+ minutes), the signed Alpine Trail veers left and continues climbing moderately. You will be hiking close to Panoramic Highway and arrive at Pantoll where you began your hike.

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Distance: 7.0 miles  
Time: 4 to 5 hours  
Elevation Change: 1,500'  
Route: Matt Davis, Dipsea, Steep Ravine

Cross Panoramic Hwy via the wooden staircase across the parking lot from the restrooms and continue up the steps to the signed Matt Davis Trail. After leaving the woods, you will be in an open area for about 1/4 mile and come to a junction with the Coastal Trail. Continue downhill to your left on the Matt Davis and be treated to spectacular ocean views. Stop at Table Rock to view Stinson Beach and on a clear day the Farallon Islands 30 miles away. Continue downhill ignoring trails to your left finally coming out on a paved street. Go past the Community Center and at the junction of Shoreline Hwy turn left a short distance to the start of the signed Dipsea Trail. Cross Panoramic Hwy and continue on the Dipsea until you reach Steep Ravine Trail and turn left. The Dipsea will leave you at a bridge where you will continue straight on Steep Ravine. You will enjoy magnificent stands of Redwood and Douglas fir as you proceed upward. You will cross Webb Creek a number of times and witness numerous waterfalls and cascades especially in the winter months. The trail ends at Pantoll where you started this marvelous hike.

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