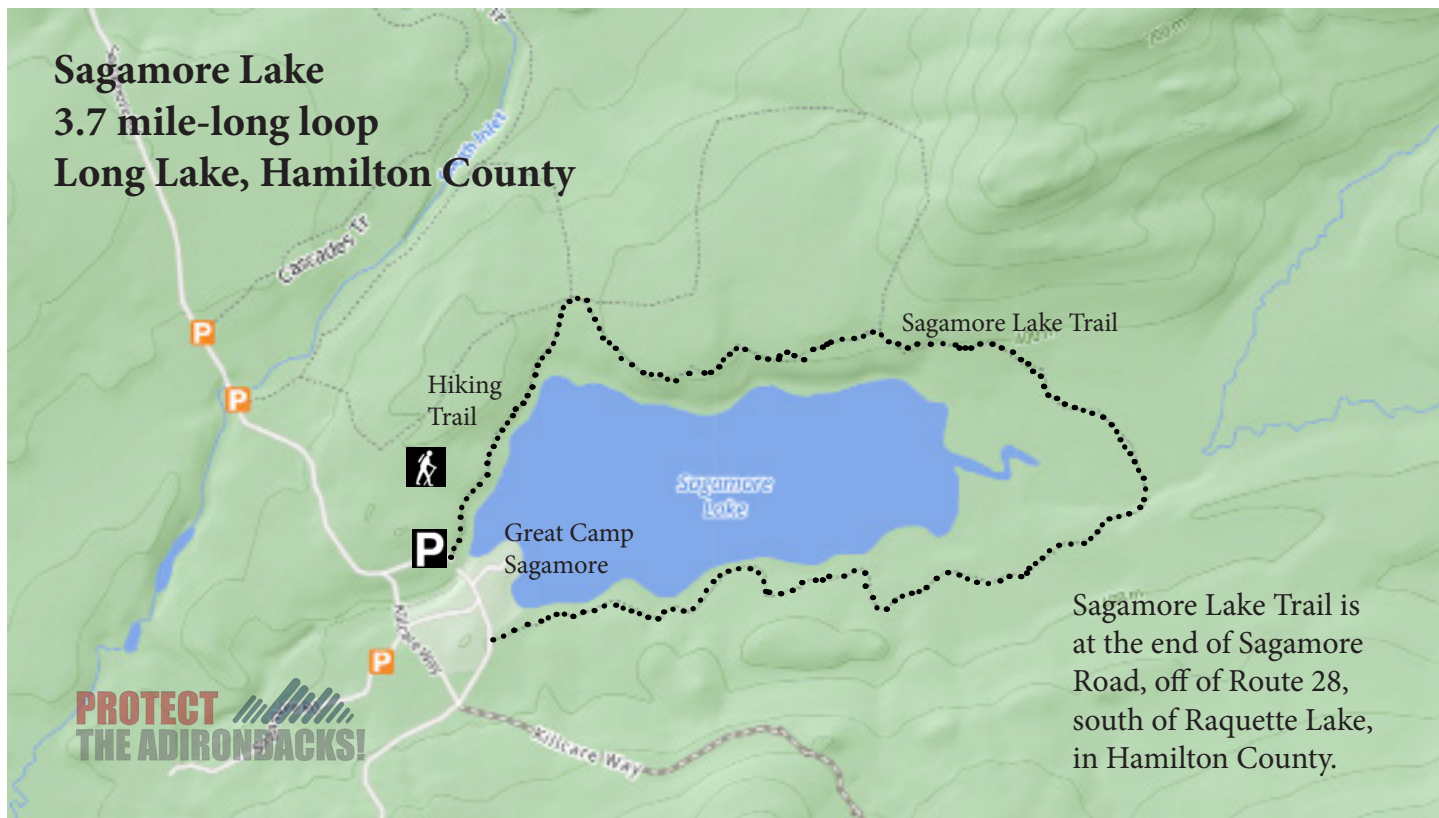


Sagamore Lake



The Sagamore Lake trail is a flat 3.7-mile loop through mature forests that wraps around Sagamore Lake and Great Camp Sagamore. The trail is well maintained and easy to follow. Sagamore Lake Trail is on public Forest Preserve in the Blue Ridge Wilderness area. The trailhead and parking area are near the end of the long gravel Sagamore Road, south of Route 28, in Raquette Lake. Sagamore Lake Trail is popular for hiking in the summer and Nordic skiing in the winter.

The Sagamore Lake Trail is a horseshoe around the lake, intersecting with dirt roads at each end. The trail is often hiked in a clockwise direction, with hikers parking at a small parking area on the southside of the lake. Signs are abundant that direct people to the trailhead. The trailhead is directly adjacent to the Sagamore Lake outlet that flows into South Inlet on Raquette Lake.

The trail starts in a northerly direction along the lake's western shore, across the lake from the Great Camp Sagamore. The initial stretch of the trail follows a grassy dirt road. The forest on lakeside of the trail is thick with tall cedars. Soon the trail narrows to a lovely foot path through tall grasses and ferns, but retains the open, flat character of an old dirt road. Hardwoods take over on the surrounding hillsides where mature white pine, hemlock, maple, ash, and beech surround the trail with cedars still heavy on the lakeside. The trail weaves in and out of

Protect the Adirondacks

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

www.protectadks.org info@protectadks.org

Follow us on Twitter @ProtectAdkPark Like Us on Facebook



two different forest types, both open deciduous northern hardwood forests and tight boreal conifers heavy with cedar, balsam, and spruce.

There are views through the trees to the Sagamore Lake for much, though not all, of the hike, and from the eastern bay of the lake there are excellent views of the Great Camp. About 0.5 miles in, the Sagamore Lake Trail intersects with the Sagamore's Powerhouse Trail. After about 1.8 miles, a large bridge over the Sagamore Lake inlet marks the halfway point. At this point, the trail has moved away from the lake and deep into the forest.

Soon the trail returns to the lakeside on the south shore and the lake's blue waters are visible in views filtered through the trees. The trail follows a single tread through sunny sections with lots of ferns and grass and other areas where the forest darkly closes. The forest on this side of the lake is mature and there are many large diameter trees.

The end of the trail intersects a dirt road that is part of the Great Camp complex. Take a right along this road, past the Great Camp's farm buildings, down a small hill and across the bridge to the parking area and original trailhead.

Great Camp Sagamore is a non-profit that maintains a network of trails that provide education and interpretation about the social and environmental history of the Great Camp and the surrounding Adirondack landscape. Great Camp Sagamore also provides guided tours for a fee through the Great Camp and its complex of more than two dozen buildings.

Help Protect the Forest Preserve and Be Prepared When You Hike: Please follow “**carry in, carry out**” rules for all trash and follow other **Leave No Trace** principles when hiking in the public Forest Preserve and other wild areas. The seven Leave No Trace principles are: 1) Plan ahead and prepare; 2) Stay on hiking trails and camp at designated areas; 3) Dispose of human waste and trash properly; 4) Leave what you find; 5) Minimize campfires; 6) Respect wildlife; 7) Respect other hikers. **Educated and prepared hikers do not damage the environment or need search and rescue unless injured.**