



# Green Mountain *National Forest*

Caring for the Land and Serving People

# Auto Foliage Tour

## General Forest Information:

The Green Mountain National Forest, which hugs the ridge tops from the Massachusetts border to Bristol, Vermont, has several drives well suited for exploration. Many of these auto tours are off the beaten path and offer visitors wonderful vistas of the Green, Taconic, and Adirondack Mountain ranges.

**Here is a listing of some suggested auto tours:**

## North Half of the Green Mountain National Forest:

### Bingo Road:

Unpaved Forest Service Road 42 is located 4.5 miles west of Rochester, off State Route 73. This country road meanders along a stream and offers the visitor a variety of opportunities to stop and enjoy nature.

### Brandon Gap:

East to west excursions along State Route 73 tantalize the visitor to stop for a picnic lunch or go for a walk along a cold mountain stream as the road winds in and around the rural Vermont countryside. Located just east of Brandon Gap, situated at the base of the 800-foot Great Cliff of Mt. Horrid, is the Mt. Horrid observation site. This spot provides views of the Great Cliff and a vantage point overlooking a large working beaver pond.

### Lincoln Gap Road:

This scenic drive, west of Warren, shows the traveler scenes of rural Vermont as it takes you up and over the Green Mountain range. Extending from Warren to Lincoln, this road is not recommended for trailers as it is a steep and winding road. (Closed in winter)

### Robert Frost Memorial Drive:

This Scenic Highway, Vermont State Route 125, extends from Hancock to East Middlebury, over Middlebury Gap. This route allows the motorist to savor the natural beauty that was the inspiration for some of Robert Frost's poetry. Along the way, you may wish to stop at the Robert Frost Wayside picnic area and Interpretive Nature Trail on the west side of Middlebury Gap. On the east end of Middlebury Gap, you will find the Texas Falls observation site and picnic area. This site contains a scenic waterfall, a nature trail, and a picnic area.



U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests

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**White River Road:**

Forest Road 55 in Granville is off of Vermont State Route 100. This road wanders along the White River, taking you back several miles into the surrounding hills. Many streams and fields offer scenic views.

**South Half of the Green Mountain National Forest:****Danby-Mount Tabor Road:**

This road is also known as Forest Road 10 and it travels east from Danby / Mt. Tabor over the Green Mountains to the Peru / Londonderry area. Along this road, built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's, there are several vistas and a picnic area, the Big Branch Day Use Area. Plenty of wildlife viewing opportunities can be found traveling along this forested road. (Closed in winter)

**Forest Road 58:**

Follow Mad Tom Notch Road, Forest Road 21, up into the Green Mountain National Forest from the town of Peru. Turning right onto Forest Road 58 takes the traveler higher into the mountains, affording a fine view of the Manchester Valley.

**Kelley Stand Road:**

This gravel road runs east and west from West Wardsboro to Arlington, Vermont through the Green Mountain range. Near the Arlington side it follows and crosses over the Roaring Branch River numerous times. Watch for signs for several other attractions along this road. (Closed in winter)

**Molly Stark Trail:**

This Scenic Highway, Vermont State Route 9, between Bennington and Wilmington, Vermont, is bordered on both sides by National Forest. Enjoyable views of the area can be seen in numerous spots along the way. Watch for signs for Woodford State Park and Somerset Reservoir.

**Somerset Road:**

This road is also known as Forest Road 71 and it provides access to Somerset Reservoir from State Route 9. It meanders along the Deerfield River. Turning left, staying on FR 71, leads north to the Kelley Stand Road (see above). This forest road travels through the woods and offers plenty of wildlife viewing opportunities, such as Shep Meadows, an old beaver pond where moose can sometimes be observed.

**For More Information:**

**Manchester Ranger District:** 2538 Depot St., Manchester Center, VT 05255, (802) 362-2307

**Middlebury Ranger District:** 1007 Route 7 South, Middlebury, VT 05753, (802) 388-4362

**Rochester Ranger District:** 99 Ranger Rd., Rochester, VT 05767, (802) 767-4261

**Rutland Supervisor Office:** 231 North Main St., Rutland, VT 05701, (802) 747-6700

**Website:** [www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl)