

Valley View Loop

Overview

Within easy walking distance from the Sun Valley Lodge, Valley View Loop is perfect for hotel guests looking to skip the gym and instead get their cardio workout in Idaho's fresh, clean air. At just 1.5 miles, it can be squeezed into a busy day, but can also be easily combined with the [White Clouds Trail](#) for a longer hike.

The Numbers

1.5-mile loop

220 total elevation gain

Ascent Grade: 3.9% (Easy)

Water

There is no water on this route. Though the climb is moderate, much of the hike is in the sun, so keep some water handy.

Drive

For those not staying at the Sun Valley Lodge, it is a 1.5-mile drive from downtown Ketchum to the Village parking lot. To reach the trailhead, cross Trail Creek Road at the main driveway entrance into the Sun Valley Lodge.



Trailhead

Season

May through October

Route

From the Sun Valley Lodge, follow the main driveway that leads to the Trail Creek Road and use the crosswalk that leads to the large trailhead sign. Keep that sign to your left and

come to two intersections within the first 65 feet. The second junction is signed. Stay right at both. The second intersection is where you will eventually reconnect to complete the loop.



Two junctions (Stay right at both)

The trail rises gently as it parallels Trail Creek Road, with Sun Valley's lodge and village to your right. At .22 miles, come to a junction and veer left to take the high road.



Unsigned junction at .22 miles (Veer Left)

As you continue to climb, the distinctive ridge of [Ruud Mountain](#) is to your right and the difficult third hole of the White Clouds golf course is on the hill directly in front of you. The trail continues to wind along the open hillside, climbing as it goes. There are solid views of Bald Mountain and Dollar Mountain as you pass the half-mile mark. The trail levels as you

pass a lone bench at .7 miles and shortly afterwards begins to descend. The Sun Valley Lodge now sits below and to your left.

At 1.1 miles, come to a signed junction with the [White Clouds Trail](#), which is an excellent option for those looking to add a few more miles. To stay on the Valley View Loop, stay left.



Junction with White Clouds Trail (Stay Left)

At 1.25 miles, come to another bench and a jumble of intersections. Stay left at each to continue the descent.



Jumble of intersections (Stay left at each and descend)

Each step brings you closer to Trail Creek Road and you will complete the loop by reconnecting with the beginning of the trail close to the trailhead sign.