



# Mount Major Reservation

200 ACRES, ALTON, NH

## Reservation Details

The 200 acre Mount Major Forest was protected beginning in 2015 to secure key parcels and safeguard public access to popular hiking trails. The stunning summit views at elevation of 1786' include adjacent Quarry Mountain and peaks in the Belknap Range and the Ossipee Range across Lake Winnepesaukee.

**Did you know?** Mt Major appears on one of the earliest survey maps and is named for its prominence as seen from the lake.

The Belknap Range contains 12 peaks, unique geology, rare plant communities and wildlife habitats across 31,000 acres or 48.5 square miles with more than 70 miles of recreational trails. Prominent peaks include Gunstock and Belknap Mountain. A conservative estimate is that Mt Major receives 80,000 annual hikers.

“Leave No Trace” guidelines are critical to protect the hiking experience for all.

## Trail Information

The blue-blazed “Main Trail” ascends from the right rear of the trailhead parking area and climbs to a flat section of the Ames Farm Road and bears left uphill gradually and then steeply over open ledges for 1.5 miles to the stone ruins at the summit. The yellow-blazed “Brook Trail” offers a less steep descent alternative to avoid the ledges.

- 🔗 **DIFFICULTY:** Strenuous hike.
- 🔗 **ROUND TRIP DISTANCE:** Approximately 3.0 miles round trip (out & back)
- 🔗 **TRAIL MARKINGS:** Blue rectangles Main Trail; yellow rectangles Brook Trail

## Getting There/Directions

The often-busy parking lot for Mount Major is located on the west side of Rt. 11 in Alton, about 4 miles north of the southern end of Alton Bay. Additional one-side only parking along the highway is allowed. Plan your visit to arrive early or avoid peak weekend crowds in summer and fall foliage seasons.

- 🔗 Google Maps: Entering “Mount Major Trail, Alton NH” will get you directions from your location to the parking lot for this hike.

## Recreational Opportunities

- 🔗 Hiking
- 🔗 Nature Observation
- 🔗 Snowshoeing
- 🔗 Dog walking
- 🔗 Hunting

## Available Amenities

- 🔗 Parking area often fills on busy weekends. Please Respect on-street parking regulations.
- 🔗 Portable toilets are available in parking lot
- 🔗 Maps and information at kiosk near Main (blue) Trail trailhead

## Recreational Use Guidelines

- 🔗 No wheeled vehicles permitted (including bikes)
- 🔗 Carry In, Carry Out all Trash (no trash facilities provided)
- 🔗 No camping or campfires
- 🔗 Dogs are permitted, but should be leashed at all times at Mt. Major. Pack out dog waste!
- 🔗 Do not disturb plants, animals or cultural features

### COVID-19

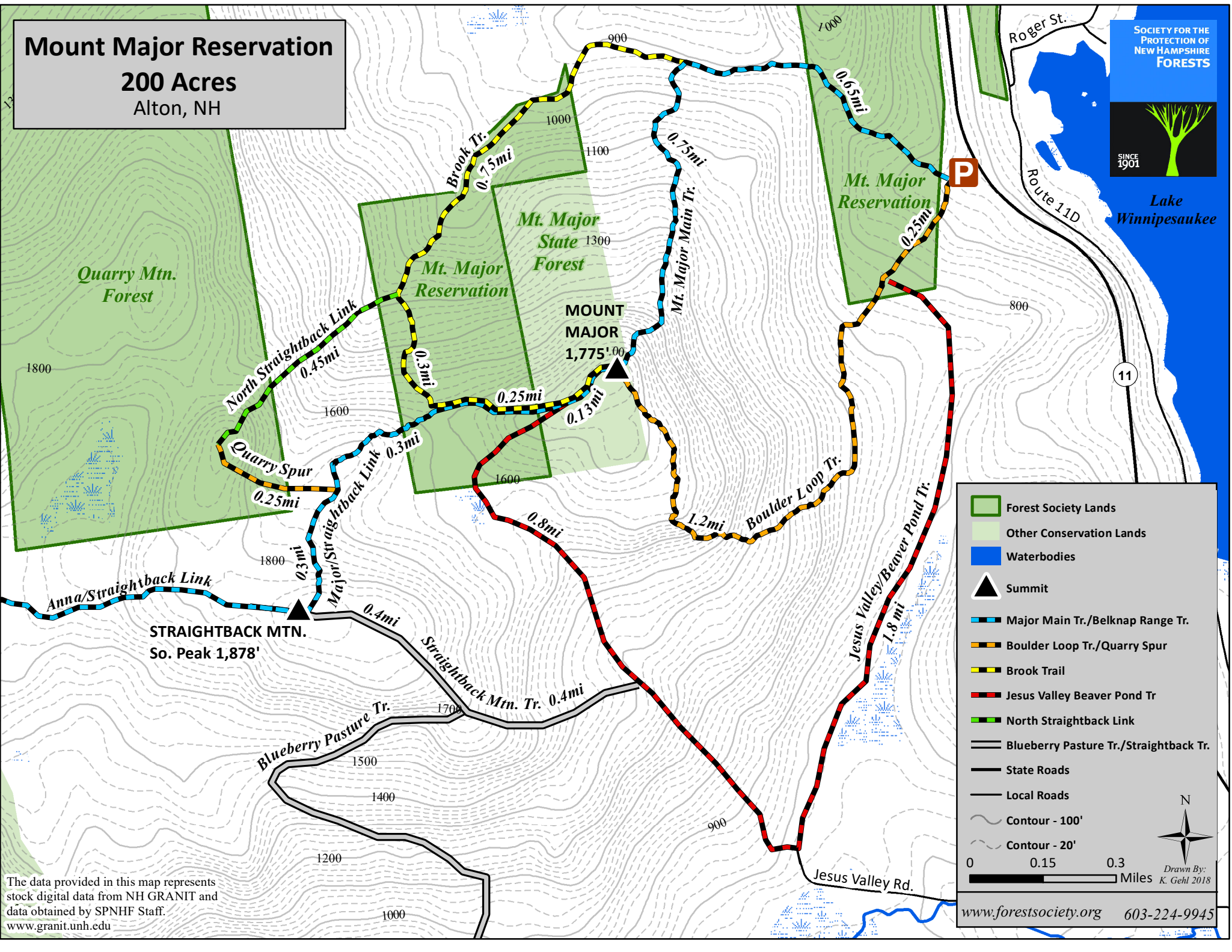
#### HIKE SAFE TIPS

- Allow 6+ feet of distance between unrelated groups. Step off the trail to allow others to pass.
- Bring a mask or face covering and hand sanitizer in case you need it
- Don't attempt anything risky or outside your comfort zone.
- BYO lunch and plenty of water!

**Mount Major Reservation**  
**200 Acres**  
 Alton, NH



Lake  
 Winnepesaukee



**Legend**

- Forest Society Lands
- Other Conservation Lands
- Waterbodies
- Summit
- Major Main Tr./Belnap Range Tr.
- Boulder Loop Tr./Quarry Spur
- Brook Trail
- Jesus Valley Beaver Pond Tr.
- North Straightback Link
- Blueberry Pasture Tr./Straightback Tr.
- State Roads
- Local Roads
- Contour - 100'
- Contour - 20'

0      0.15      0.3  
 Miles

Drawn By:  
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The data provided in this map represents stock digital data from NH GRANIT and data obtained by SPNH Staff.  
[www.granit.unh.edu](http://www.granit.unh.edu)