

Walking in Massachusetts



Swift River Reservation Nichewaug Tract Petersham, MA

Special tips for this location: Park at the 8-car lot on Nichewaug Road in Petersham marked by a Trustees sign. Parking is free, and the lot is open from dawn to dusk. Hunting is permitted on this property; therefore, during hunting season, wearing bright colors such as an orange vest or hat is recommended. Hunting is not allowed on Sundays. Learn more about [safety tips for walkers](#).

Highlights: This walk has a little of everything: grassy paths, wooded trails, rocky ledges, a beaver-dammed swamp, a roaring river, and scenic views. The well-marked loop is about 3 miles, with options to add more mileage if desired. There are also two additional parking areas with access to other trails within Swift River Reservation - East Branch, offering a total of 9 miles of trails.

Hike idea: Start at the Trustees kiosk and follow the yellow loop trail the entire way. This hike includes some hills, so wear appropriate footwear and consider bringing hiking poles, especially if leaves are covering the trail.

Leash up your dog.

“A rose does not answer its enemies with words, but with beauty.”

— Matshona Dhliwayo

See [Swift River Reservation](#) for more detailed information and to view a [map](#).

For other walk suggestions, check out the [Walking in Massachusetts site!](#)