

Bluenose Hike Description

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Statistics

Hike distance	6.4 km round trip	Altitude gain	475 m
Hiking time	2.5-3.0 hrs round trip	Max altitude	1275m
Govt of Canada topo map Oyama 82 L/3		Difficulty	Moderate

Bluenose is a landmark in the Lavington Valley and is visible from many parts of Vernon as well. The first and third summit of the hill are accessible using the trail by permission of the landowner. The second summit is currently “off limits” and should not be hiked. Close to Vernon this hike offers a steep initial ascent for a good workout and super views of the Monashees from the third summit but can be completed in three hours or under. A great destination for a shorter hike within close reach of Vernon.

The trail ascends steeply from the rear of the parking area. Please use all the switch backs and do not “short cut” the trail. Steep short cuts around the switch backs causes erosion by water run off and is damaging the trail for all users.

The trail ascends up the hill above the parking area and then flattens out as it makes a gentle turn to the north. At this point you can take a path to the left to reach the first summit. Hike to the first summit and enjoy views of Vernon, the Aberdeen Plateau across the Lavington Valley and also of Silver Star ski resort. Return by the same path to where you left the main trail and continue to reach the third summit. From the third summit you will see Camel’s Hump and Lumby close up and, if conditions are clear, the Monashee peaks further east. The return trail leaves the southern end of the summit area and descends once more into forest. As you get lower down the trail crosses an area of cedar and a side trail is signed to an old old-growth larch, which is well worth a visit. The trail continues to descend and loops back to the parking area.