



Day Hiking

# Finger Lakes National Forest



# Horseback Riding

Caring for the Land and Serving People

## Trail Facts:

<b>Length:</b> 9 miles one way	<b>Feature:</b> Ponds, Variety of Forest Types, Views
<b>Max. Elevation Change:</b> 560 feet	<b>USGS maps:</b> Finger Lakes National Forest Quad
<b>Amount of use:</b> Moderate	<b>Riding level:</b> Easy/Moderate <b>Blaze:</b> Orange/Blue/Yellow
<b>Average ride time:</b> 12 - 14 hours round trip	<b>Use restrictions:</b> No motorized vehicles. Horses are restricted to certain sections.
<b>Camping:</b> Backbone Horse Camp, Blueberry Patch Campground (fee area) or Dispersed Camping,	

## Trail Description:

The trails to the north to south of the forest travel through various terrain and vegetation. Southern portions are somewhat steeper and more forested; northern portions are flatter, more open, and travel through pasture lands. **Please close gates behind you.** These trails can be wet in the spring and fall. Plan a stop at the Foster Pond and Teeter Pond areas for possible wildlife viewing. There are outstanding vistas to the west, including views of Seneca Lake. Please practice Leave No Trace ethics, such as carry out what you carry in.

**Horses** are allowed on the trail from the southern end of the trail to the Burnt Hill Trail and only on sections of the Gorge and Interloken Trails.


**Parking** site for unloading/loading horse trailers are available throughout the forest at convenient access points on the designated trail routes. The Backbone Horse Camp is available along with dispersed camping on the forest.

**Note:** Trails are closed to horse users from March 15<sup>th</sup> thru May 1<sup>st</sup> due to muddy conditions.

## Directions:

**From the South,** take State Route 14 North (Exit 52 off State Route 17) to Watkins Glen, NY. In Watkins Glen, turn right at the Fourth St intersection onto State Route 414 North. Go approximately 9 miles north, past the Hector Ranger Station of the Finger Lakes National Forest. 0.5 miles past the Ranger Station, turn right on Schuyler County Route 2. Follow CR 2 for 4.0 miles until you reach the Backbone Horse Camp and parking area.

**From the North,** take State Route 414 South to Hector, NY (Exit 41 off I-90). In Hector, 0.5 miles past Dandy Mini Mart, turn left onto Schuyler County Route 2. Follow CR 2 for 4.0 miles until you reach the Backbone Horse Camp area.

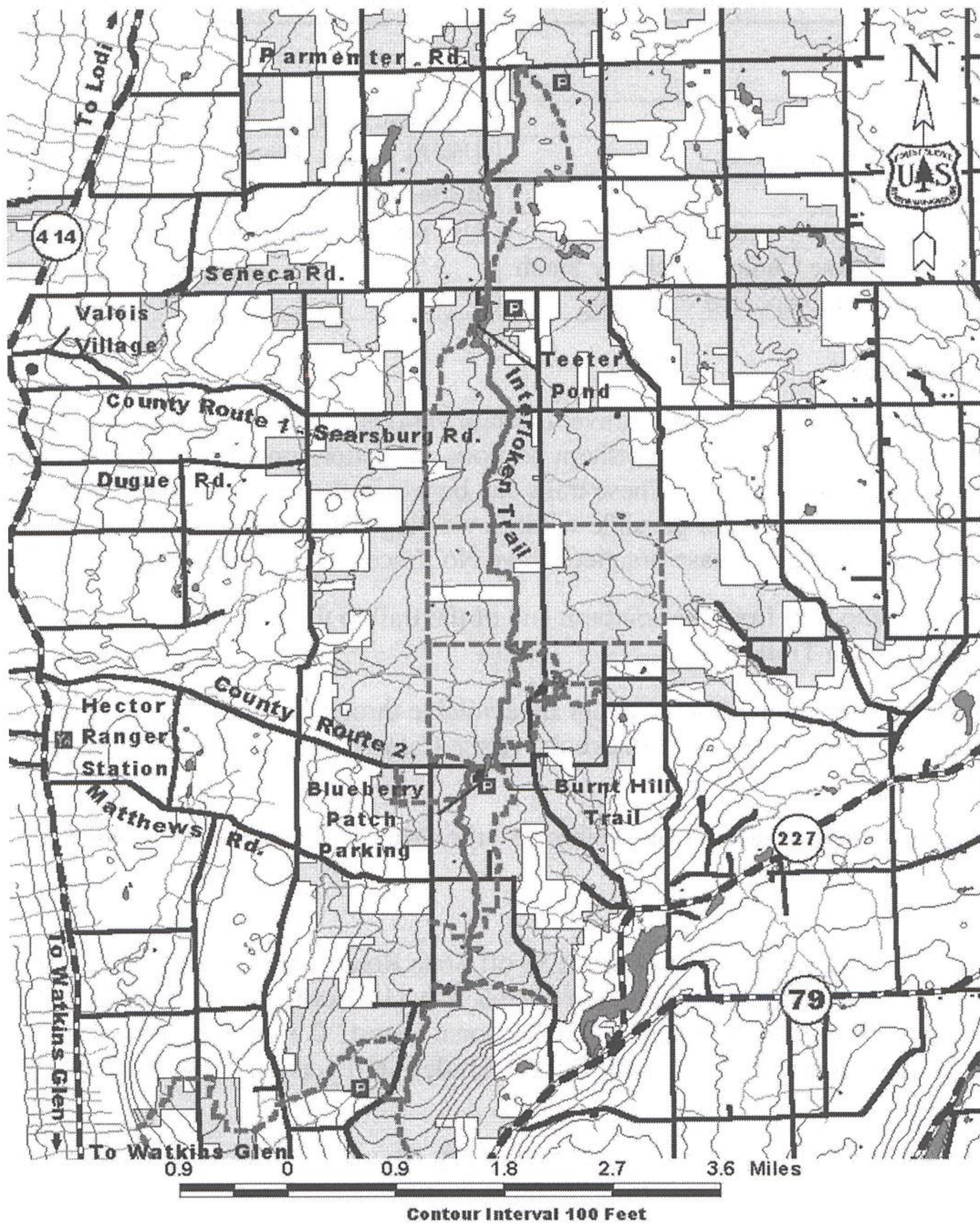
 <b>U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>Finger Lakes National Forest</b>	
	5218 State Route 414, Hector, NY 14841	
 <b>Forest Service</b>	Phone:(607)546-4470	FAX:(607)546-4474
Website: <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/greenmountain">www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/greenmountain</a>		

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Area Services:**

Food and Services: Hector shops and fuel stations		
For all Emergencies: <b>911</b>		
Police: (607) 535-6642 or 911	Fire: (607) 535-6642 or 911	Rescue: (607) 535-6642 or 911

**Map:**



**For More Information:**

Hector Ranger Station, 5218 State Route 414, Hector, NY 14841, (607) 546-4470

This Recreation Guide is Available in Large Print at Forest Service Information Centers