

Bald Butte Hike Prospectus

Hike	Bald Butte via Oak Ridge & Surveyors Ridge Trails	Route	Out and Back
Length / elevation	8.2 miles / 2465' total	Grade	B
Date	5/3/2025	Meet Time	7:45 AM Oak Ridge Trailhead
Hike Leader	Alicia Antoinette	Contact info	Cell: 541-350-4005 Email: antoinette@aliciamarieantoinette.com
Climb Leaders	Christine Troy Toby Contreras	Contact info	Cell: 503-318-3553 Email: csamtroy@gmail.com Cell: 503-341-6757 Email: tobcon@msn.com

Start Time:

Location: We will meet at the trailhead at 7:45 AM. The plan is to start the hike at 8:00, so please get your packs and gear ready ahead of time. ***Please call or text Alicia if you are running late***

Leaving Time:
8:00 AM

Return time:
Estimate: 4:00 PM

General Information:

Bald Butte occupies land formerly inhabited by the [Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde](#), [Wasco and Wishram](#), [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians](#), [Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs](#), and the [Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla](#) peoples. Bald Butte is a former lookout site at the north end of Surveyors Ridge. On a clear day, Mount Hood and Mt. St. Helens are fully visible, and Mt. Adams is behind the butte.

Directions to Trail Head from Portland:

[Directions from MMC to Oak Ridge Trailhead](#)

Take I-84 East to Hood River. Take Exit 64 and follow the signs to OR-SR35 S. Continue approximately 14 miles on Oregon Hwy 35 to Smullin Drive (0.3 miles after Milepost 84). There is a sign for the Oak Ridge Trailhead just after you pass the Hood River Ranger Station. Turn left and follow Smullin Drive for 0.3 miles. Turn left on the first dirt road (just before a bend in the road). The parking area is on the right after about a quarter mile.

The parking area at the trailhead is quite small so an early start will be essential!

Drive time is approximately 1.5 hours from the MMC.

Permits and/or Restrictions:

No parking permits are required.

Coordinates (WGS 84)

Trailhead	10T 0612463E 5041825N, Elev. 1752'	Summit	10T 0614594E 5043553N, Elev. 3764'
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Hike Description:

This is a quiet all-season trail that offers a variety of terrain. Large open meadows, heavily wooded mixed forest, and a ridge top ramble take you to a former lookout site with spectacular views of the Hood River Valley. This hike uses two different trails; it's a 2.3 mile climb up the Oak Ridge Trail, then 1.8 miles on the Surveyors Ridge Trail to [Bald Butte](#). There is a possibility of snow up high. This area does have rattlesnakes and ticks.

Maps:

[Bald Butte Map](#)
[Bald Butte GPX](#)

Weather:

[NOAA](#) for Parkdale
[MeteoBlue](#)
[Windy](#)

Gear Checklist: (x - mandatory, o – optional)Clothes:

- ☒ Hiking boots with good ankle support
- ☐ Liner socks
- ☒ Wool or poly blend socks
- ☒ Fleece jacket, vest or wool sweater (middle layer)
- ☐ Fleece or wool pants (optional middle layer)
- ☒ Waterproof/breathable jacket or shell
- ☒ Waterproof/breathable pants/bibs
- ☒ Fleece balaclava or warm hat
- ☒ Synthetic underwear/base layer
- ☒ Thermal/polypro underwear top
- ☒ Thermal/polypro underwear bottom
- ☒ Mittens or gloves (several pairs)
- ☒ Puffy jacket
- ☒ Hat with visor, for sun or rain
- ☐ Clean clothes (for drive after hike)
- ☐ Change of shoes (for drive to/from trail)
- ☐ Thin liner gloves
- ☐ Handkerchief/bandanna (drippy noses are a drag)

****NO COTTON** on your body or in your pack

Food/Drink:

- ☒ Water (2 liters minimum)
- ☒ Snacks
- ☒ Lunch
- ☐ Carbo or Gatorade-type mix for water
- ☐ Summit treats to share

Gear:

- ☒ Backpack
- ☒ Climbing harness and all BCEP rock gear
- ☒ Helmet
- ☒ Water bottles or hydration bladder
- ☒ Headlamp (with extra batteries)
- ☒ Sunscreen & Lip protection
- ☒ Sunglasses
- ☐ Ski or trekking poles (recommended)
- ☐ Gaiters
- ☐ Sit pad

Additional Personal Gear:

- ☒ Whistle
- ☒ Compass
- ☒ Map in waterproof bag
- ☒ Pocket knife
- ☒ Waterproof matches/lighter
- ☒ First aid kit
- ☒ Extra clothing (socks, gloves, hat)
- ☒ Emergency shelter/Bivy sack
- ☒ Blue bags/Toilet Paper
- ☐ Tick/Insect Repellent (recommended)
- ☐ Garbage bags (for muddy boots in the car!)
- ☐ Watch/Altimeter
- ☐ Electronics (cell phone/GPS)
- ☐ Post-climb snacks

Group Gear:

- 3 Ropes (leaders to bring)

This hike is a conditioning hike, your pack should be 15-20lbs. Bring extra water as training weight & then you can dump the water at the top to save your knees on the way down. Make sure to bring enough water & food to keep hydrated & your energy level up.