

Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest

Westport & Essex, New York



Rallying together to preserve Lake Champlain's highest peak at the last hour, the Open Space Institute, Lake Champlain Land Trust, and other partners saved Split Rock Mountain just before the land auction was about to start back in 1993. At that time the Split Rock Mountain property was the largest remaining private tract of land on the lake.

Cherished for its wilderness, high mountain peak, endangered species, and historical significance in the French and Indian War, Split Rock Mountain is one of the single most important acquisitions the State of New York has made to protect and increase public lands in the Adirondack Park on Lake Champlain.

This 2,255 acre irreplaceable shoreline forest is now part of the larger, 3,700-acre Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest unit of the Adirondack Forest Preserve.



Split Rock Mountain's namesake rock formation seen from the Lake.



Directions and Visiting Information:

From Vermont: Take the Charlotte/Essex Ferry. Turn left off the ferry (south) onto Route 22 and immediately continue straight at the blinking red traffic light onto Lakeshore Road. Continue to follow Lakeshore Road for approximately six miles until you see the Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest trailhead sign and parking lot on your left.

From points south on the New York side: Take I-87 to Exit 31. Follow Route 9N south to Westport, NY and pick up Route 22 North, merging onto Lake Shore Drive just past the public boat launch. Travel north for approximately 6.5 miles and look for the parking lot on the right.

Split Rock Mountain is a great place for hiking, paddling, birding and snowshoeing. The area's trails range from easy to moderate with steep sections. As with any large recreational area, be sure to bring a printed map and plan your route based on your abilities. Note: There are no facilities.



Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest is one of dozens of properties saved by the Lake Champlain Land Trust. Since 1978, the Lake Champlain Land Trust has preserved thousands of acres and miles of shoreline on Lake Champlain. To help us save more irreplaceable natural areas, please donate through our website: www.LCLT.org!

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