

Directions from the intersection of US 340 and US 55:

Turn right onto VA 55 (West).

Turn left onto Rt. 678.

Pass Fisheries road on left.

Turn right into Signal Knob Parking lot at sign for same.

Trail Notes: The Hike starts in the north-west corner of the parking lot. Pick up the orange-blazed Massanutten Trail (formerly Signal Knob Trail) and follow it up a stream.

About 20 yards before a spring house (concrete slab with white PVC pipe) cross the stream and begin a series of long switchbacks past Buzzard Rocks Overlook (1.2 miles from the start), Fort Valley Overlook (0.8 miles from the previous overlook) and finally to a large campsite about 0.7 miles from the Fort Valley Overlook. There is supposed to be another overlook here on a side trail heading north-east but the trail, as well as the overlook, appears to be overgrown. The footing can be tricky along this stretch because of the loose rock. Be Careful!

Continue to climb but less steeply. Pass white-blazed Meneka Peak Trail on the left at about 0.6 miles from the campsite. Continue approximately 1 mile, passing the TV tower. Follow the sign to a panoramic view of the Shenandoah Valley, Strasburg, the Great North Mountain and Allegheny mountains.

After relaxing an ample amount of time retrace your steps to the Meneka Peak Trail. Turn right and climb slightly to the highest point on the west ridge and more views of Fort Valley.

At 1.21 miles from the turn-off come to the intersection of the blue-blazed Bear Wall-Tuscarora Trail. Turn left and follow it through a series of switchbacks to the valley floor.

At about 1.7 miles from the last turn-off pass pink-blazed Rattle Snake Trail on your right and in 0.9 more miles the white-blazed turn-off for Elizabeth Furnace Campground on your right.

In about 0.8 miles the blue and now orange-blazed Tuscarora/Massanutten Trail will turn right at a stream crossing. Stay straight on the orange-blazed Massanutten trail and arrive back at the cars in about 0.5 mile.