

Topic Page: [Appalachian Trail](#)

Definition: **Appalachian National Scenic Trail** from *Merriam-Webster's Geographical Dictionary*

Footpath extending from Mt. Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mt. in N Georgia; over 2000 mi. (3218 km.) long; traverses mountains of the Appalachian Range; highest point on the trail Clingmans Dome (6643 ft. or 2025 m.) in Great Smoky Mts.; completed 1937.

Summary Article: **Appalachian Trail**

From *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*

Long-distance footpath in the eastern USA, running for a distance of 3,300 km/2,050 mi along the Appalachian Mountains between Georgia and Maine. It was established 1925–37, and in 1968 was designated as the country's first National Scenic Trail.

The Appalachian Trail was the brainchild of the Massachusetts writer and outdoorsman Benton MacKaye (1877–1976). He wanted it to take in the best vistas, and so avoided traditional Indian trails (which tended to lie in the valleys), preferring instead to site his path along the ridges. As well as running through areas of deep forest, it also uses existing roadways and passes through farmland and residential areas. At regular intervals along its course, wayside shelters have been built for rambles, most of whom walk the trail from south to north. The Trail starts at Springer Mountain in Georgia, and ends at the summit of Mount Katahdin in Maine. Other notable sites on or near its route include: Mount Oglethorpe, Georgia (its original southern terminus); the North Carolina–Tennessee border; the cities of Damascus and Roanoke, Virginia; Harpers Ferry, West Virginia (headquarters of the trail administration); Frederick, Maryland; Carlisle and the Delaware Water Gap, Pennsylvania; High Point, New Jersey; Bear Mount, New York; Kent, Connecticut, and the Taconics; Great Barrington, the Berkshires, and Williamstown, Massachusetts; Bennington and Pico Peak, Vermont; Hanover and Mount Washington, New Hampshire; and the Mahoosuc Range and Baxter State Park, Maine. In southern Vermont, the Long Trail runs alongside the Appalachian Trail for a while before diverging at Pico Peak.

APA

Chicago

Harvard

MLA

Appalachian trail. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. Abington, UK: Helicon. Retrieved from https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/appalachian_trail



© RM, 2018. All rights reserved.



© RM, 2018. All rights reserved.

APA

Appalachian trail. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. Abington, UK: Helicon. Retrieved from https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/appalachian_trail

Chicago

"Appalachian Trail." In *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon. Helicon, 2018. https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/appalachian_trail

Harvard

Appalachian trail. (2018). In Helicon (Ed.), *The Hutchinson unabridged encyclopedia with atlas and weather guide*. [Online]. Abington: Helicon. Available from: https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/appalachian_trail [Accessed 23 October 2019].

MLA

"Appalachian Trail." *The Hutchinson Unabridged Encyclopedia with Atlas and Weather Guide*, edited by Helicon, 2018. *Credo Reference*, https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/appalachian_trail. Accessed 23 Oct. 2019.