

Hiking in Central Montana

Ptarmigan Tunnel/Elizabeth Lake 10 miles or 19.7 miles Mod. Difficult

Overview:

A real oddity of the hiking world, Ptarmigan tunnel was dug to allow hikers to avoid climbing over the steep peak above. The tunnel remains open today and this trail offers great views of the surrounding peaks.

Directions:

From the Many Glacier Entrance to Glacier, ([hyperlink to directions part on Glacier page](#)) drive into the park and pass the Many Glacier Lodge to the roads end at the Swiftcurrent Motor Inn. Hikers can drive past the restaurant and look for a dirt road to a small trailhead lot on the right. Hike a short distance from the trailhead to the junction with Iceberg Lake Trail, stay left on the Ptarmigan Tunnel Trail. After passing Ptarmigan Falls at the 2.5 mile mark, remain right on the Ptarmigan Tunnel Trail. Hikers will reach the tunnel at the 5 mile mark but hiking a half mile beyond the tunnel affords some of the best views of this areas hike peaks and mountain lakes.