# 10. NY Route 211 to Shawangunk Ridge Trail

**Features:** Highland Lakes State Park, Town of Wallkill, Orange County, road walk with views of Shawangunk Ridge in the distance, and the gradual ascent of the Shawangunk Ridge.

Distance: 17.05 miles

USGSMap Quads: Goshen, Pine Bush, and Wurtsboro

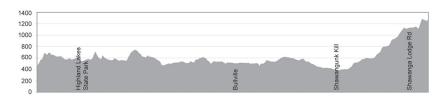
Trail Conference Maps: none

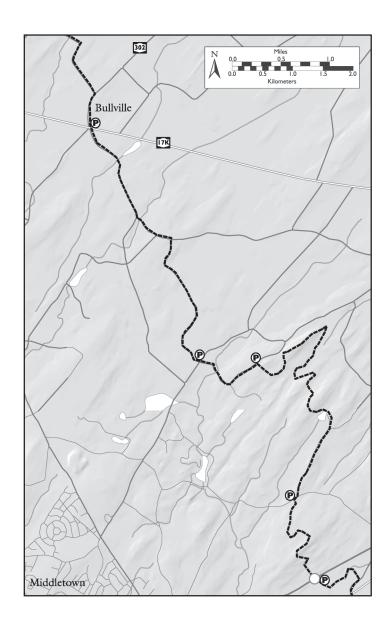
### General Description

The Long Path passes through Highland Lakes State Park, an undeveloped property acquired by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission in the 1960s. Geologically, the park consists of a series of low parallel ridges with lakes and wetlands in between. In the park, the Long Path follows old woods roads that are unpaved and frequently muddy because they are also used by horses and mountain bikes. A part of the park near the lakes was known as Camp Orange and was a summer recreation area with many homes. The ruins of the old dwellings have long ago been removed but the foundations are still visible. The Long Path follows several roads in western Orange County as it approaches the Shawangunks. This is still a fairly unpopulated area of the county and the trail passes many farms and fields with expansive views. The best views on the road-walking section are eastward across Orange County. Just before reaching the top of the ridge, the Long Path heads south and then enters the woods via an abandoned gravel road and ascends to the ridgetop. It intersects with the Shawangunk Ridge Trail at one of the most expansive, panoramic viewpoints on the Long Path.

#### Access

Take New York State Thruway to Exit 16, Harriman. Follow NY Route 17/future Interstate 86 north nineteen miles to NY Route 211 at Exit 120, Middletown. Head north on Route 211 for 3.5 miles to Hidden Drive on the right. Park on the side of the road.





## **Parking**

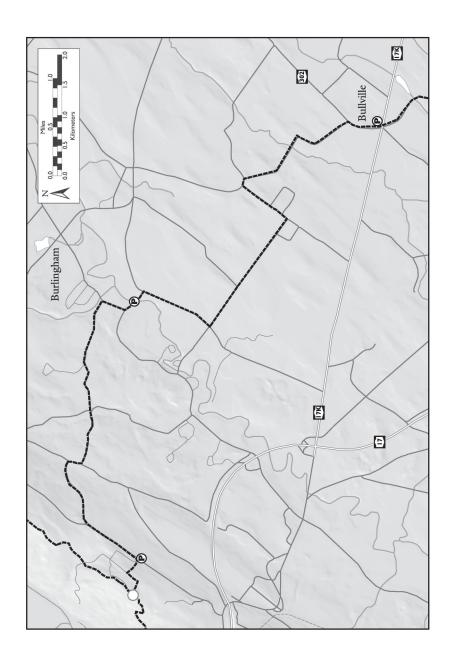
- **0.00** At Hidden Drive and NY Route 211. (18T 556904E 4591745N)
- **1.50**At Camp Orange Road. (18T 556586E 4592967N)
- **4.10** At Tamms Road. (18T 556006E 4595229N)
- 4.90 At Scotchtown Road and Tamms Road. (18T 555044E 4595276N)
- **8.10**NY Route 17K and NY Route 302 in Bullville. (18T 553248E 4599149N)
- $12.80\,\mathrm{Shawangunk}$  Kill along Stone School House Road. (18T 550350E 4603227N)
- **13.00** At Sullivan County Route 61. (18T 550198E 4603421N)
- **16.55** Along Shawanga Lodge Road. (18T 546074E 4603144N)

## Camping

Camping on DEC land.

## **Trail Description**

- **0.00** Cross NY Route 211 onto a driveway for a mobile home community. When the driveway turns right, the trail continues straight ahead, skirting the edge of a field.
- **0.20**Turn right just inside the woods at the end of the field and continue uphill near the edge of the woods.
- **0.30** Turn left onto a well-used woods road to enter Highland Lakes State Park.
- **0.50**Turn right onto one of the main north-south roads in the park. This road meanders up and down, sometimes steeply, as it traverses the first ridge, and reaches a stone wall.
- 1.20 The road cuts through a stone wall.
- 1.50 Turn right onto Camp Orange Road.
- 1.60 Turn left to head northward once again.
- **2.25** Arrive at an intersection with large a oak tree in the center and stone walls along each of the roads. Continue straight ahead.
- **2.40** Bear to the left as another road comes in from the right. (This road provides another access point to the park.)
- **2.55** Pass by one of the small lakes that give the park its name. There is a road that circles the lake. The Long Path continues on this road heading uphill to another ridgetop, and then drops down into a small wetland before heading uphill again.
- $3.10 \, \mathrm{Turn}$  right onto another road and begin heading down from this ridge.
- **3.30**Turn left at a road crossing. Going straight leads out of the park.
- **3.50**Bear to the right at an intersection in a particularly wet low-lying area.
- **3.70**Reach a clearing where there are many roads crisscrossing along the slopes of another ridge. This is a very popular site for mountain bikes. Continue straight ahead, following the blazes to avoid going in circles.
- **4.00** Arrive at the west end of the meadow, somewhat higher up. Look for a trail going off to the left through one of the stone walls.



- **4.10** Exit Highland Lakes State Park and turn left onto Tamms Road. It skirts the western border of the parkland. The Shawangunk Ridge becomes visible in the background and can be seen frequently during the next several miles.
- $\textbf{4.90} \ Reach \ Scotchtown \ Road. \ Cross \ Scotchtown \ Road \ and \ follow \ King \ Road.$
- 6.50 Turn left onto Gordon Road.
- **7.00** Bear right onto Lybolt Road toward the crossroads of Bullville. The Bull family was one of the most prominent landowners in the county and many historic locations, parks and schools carry the Bull name.
- **8.10** Cross NY Route 17K at the traffic light and continue north on NY Route 302. Just before this intersection there is a seasonal farm stand where fruits and vegetables and other goodies can be purchased.
- **8.40** Turn left onto Burlingham Road. Pass more farmland. There are views toward the Shawangunks.
- **9.80** Crans Mill Road bears to the right. Continue left on Burlingham Road. **9.90** Turn left onto Long Lane.
- 10.50 Turn right onto Petticoate Lane.
- **11.90** Turn right onto Stone School House Road. This is known as Miller's Crossing. Sha-Wan-Gun Airport, a small gliderport/airport, is located here.
- **12.70** Arrive at an intersection with Bible Camp Road. It goes off to the right. Turn left and continue on Stone School House Road.
- **12.80** Arrive at a bridge crossing the Shawangunk Kill. The Long Path crosses the Shawangunk Kill on Stone School House Road.
- **13.00** Turn right after crossing the Kill and reach North Street (Sullivan County Route 61). This short stretch of road changes its name from Stone School House Road to Larson Road and forks as Rouis Road; keep bearing to the right. Follow North Street to Roe Road just before a stream crossing.
- 13.20 Turn left onto Roe Road, which is a narrow, steep, one-lane road, and follow it uphill.
- 14.50 Cross Nashopa Road and continue steeply uphill, now following Pantelop Road.
- **15.10** Turn right at Roosa Gap Road. Berentsen's Campground, seasonal, is located 1.4 miles south from here on Roosa Gap Road (phone 845-733-4984).
- 15.20 Turn left onto Crane Road and continue to the top of the hill.
- 15.90 Turn left onto Shawanga Lodge Road, heading south.
- 16.55 Just past Flaherty Drive the trail turns right and goes uphill before entering the woods. The trail is marked with blue DEC disks. It follows old roads to the ridgetop via switchbacks. Layers of the light-colored rock characteristic of the Shawangunks can be seen in the cuts near the top.
- 16.75 Turn left onto another of the gravel roads, following it around a 90-degree curve to pass a road on the right and then on the left. As the road begins to make another 90-degree turn, the Long Path heads straight through some bushes and continues to join with the Shawangunk Ridge Trail.
- 17.05 The Long Path intersects the Shawangunk Ridge Trail<sup>9</sup> (SRT) at a mag-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Shawangunk Ridge Trail starts at the Appalachian Trail at High Point, NJ and heads north to Sam's Point Preserve, following the Shawangunk Ridge for 40 miles. The trail is also

nificent panoramic viewpoint. From this viewpoint you can look south to see the Basha Kill Wildlife Management Area. Basha Kill is an excellent area for watching migratory birds. To the west, the Village of Wurtsboro is visible below and, in the distance, Route 17 crossing the mountains to the west. Just to the north is Wurtsboro Airport. It is common to see planes from the airport towing gliders aloft to float above the updrafts created by the ridge. To the far north are the Catskill Mountains. Beyond this vantage point, the trail follows the western slopes of the ridge. Unlike the northern Shawangunks, where the most interesting topography is in the east, the southern Shawangunks are much more interesting on the western side. Development reaches high up on the ridge on its eastern side. The Long Path turns right and follows the Shawangunk Ridge Trail north.

blazed with blue disks on DEC land and Aqua rectangles on private land. Use sections G1-G4 in reverse to head south from here 28 miles to High Point where, at the intersection with the Appalachian Trail, you can then proceed to Harriman State Park to rejoin the main Long Path, or continue south along the Kittatinnies.