Cat and Thomas Trails

To Thomas Mountain Summit (1.4 miles*)
Park at the Valley Woods Rd. parking lot and follow the blue trail, which is a dirt road, for 0.7 miles until you reach the intersection with the yellow trail. Turn right on the yellow trail (also a dirt road), for another 0.7 miles to end at an overlook with 180-degree views of Lake George.

To Cat Mt from Thomas Mt (2 miles*)
Continue on the yellow trail for 2.0 miles to the Cat Mt. summit. Footing is more difficult than the other trails and hikers should be prepared for the longer, more challenging trek.

Or, for an easier route to Cat Mt. from the Valley Woods Rd. parking area, follow the blue trail all the way. About two-thirds of the trail follows a logging road, with the last third on a more rugged and rocky woods trail.

To Cat Mt. from Edgecomb Pond (1.9 miles*)
The summit of Cat Mt. offers a stunning 270° view of Lake George and the Adirondacks.

For a more direct hike to Cat Mt., park at the Edgecomb Pond Rd. parking lot and follow the red trail on a dirt road past the pond for 0.7 miles (making a sharp right just past a gate) to the intersection with the blue trail. Turn left (south) and follow the blue trail to climb 0.8 miles until you reach a T intersection. Turn left (south) and follow the blue trail for 0.4 miles to Cat Mt.

(*mileage is one-way)

Preserve Map Key

| Blue Trail | 3.4 miles |
| Yellow Trail | 2.7 miles |
| Red Trail | 0.7 miles |

Scenic Lookout

Parking Lot/Kiosk

Dept. of Environmental Conservation Use Guidelines

• Camping is permitted up to three nights, but you must be at least 150 feet from a road, trail, spring, stream or pond. Larger groups or more nights requires a permit.
• Do not pick the wildflowers, cut or mark the trees, remove any rocks, fossils or artifacts or disturb the animals. (Hunting is permitted - see "Overview" for details.)
• No motorized vehicles of any kind allowed.
• Fires are permitted, but must be attended to at all times.
• Please do not litter. Carry out what you carry in.
This 1,909-acre parcel was acquired by the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) in 2003 and sold to the State in 2013 to be added to the Adirondack Forest Preserve. Its preservation is a major accomplishment in protecting the Lake George watershed, as one of the lake’s larger tributaries, Finkle Brook, flows through the preserve and forms Edgecomb Pond, the drinking water source for Bolton Landing.

Just a five-minute drive from quaint Bolton Landing, the trails to the summits of Cat and Thomas provide a rewarding introduction to hiking the Adirondack trails. All of the preserve’s trails have worthwhile views of Lake George’s south and central basins and the southwestern Adirondacks.

Hunting and trapping is allowed at the preserve; appropriate state licenses are required. Hikers should be aware of hunting seasons and wear bright colors and hike in groups to minimize risk.

Mountain biking is allowed on the blue and red trails where they follow the road. Do NOT use your bike on the foot trails.

The Lake George Land Conservancy maintains the trails of the Cat and Thomas Mts Preserve through DEC’s volunteer stewardship agreement.

Cat and Thomas is owned by New York State.

To report any problems or acquire any permits, please contact DEC Forest Ranger Rick Schroeder at 518-335-3888 or the DEC Regional Office at 518-897-1300.

For emergencies, call 518-891-0235.