

Portneuf Traverse



Portneuf Traverse: Inman Pass to Harkness Canyon

Here's a fine way to spend a long day in the mountains: take the 13.5 mile ramble off-trail along the entire main Portneuf Range, from Inman Pass to Harkness Canyon. You're likely to be utterly alone up there, except for the birds and the breeze.

The entire walk is a prolonged day of stunning views; there's no place to get away from them. The only trees you'll walk through will be on the shoulder south of Inkom Pass, the approach to Bonneville Peak, and the steep slope up to Haystack Mountain from Robber's Roost. Otherwise, the remaining 13 miles will be wonderfully open ridge line.

Bring all the water you'll require as there are no natural sources along the way. You'll find a smattering of foot paths here and there, particularly from Inkom Pass to Bonneville Peak, and from Snow Peak to Robber's Roost. The rest of the hike is up to you; just stick to the ridge top, hopping among ledges, boulders, and bushes when you're not just cruising along grassy slopes with sagebrush. End at the Boundary Trail above Harkness Trailhead.