

Elk Cove Trail #631



Recreation Opportunity Guide

Distance..... 4.6 miles (one way)
Elevation..... 3250-5450 feet
Snow Free July to October



Trail Highlights: This trail enters the Mount Hood Wilderness Area on the north side of Mount Hood. Hikers are rewarded with close, open views of the north side of Mt. Hood. There are beautiful displays of wildflowers from mid July to August.

Trail Description: This trail begins at Laurance Lake Road (Forest Road 2480) (3,250') and ends at its junction with Timberline Trail #600 (5,450'). From Laurance Lake Road, immediately cross Pinnacle Creek and head east up an old road 1 mile to the first switchback. Continue along the old road 0.2 mile to where the trail leaves the road (look for a rock cairn). Follow the trail uphill approximately 1.5 miles east to gain Inspiration Ridge. The trail is easy to follow as it generally stays on the ridge for the next 1.9 miles to the junction with Timberline Trail #600. There are some areas of switchbacks in the steeper sections. The upper section of the trail meanders more gently along the broadening ridge. The upper section crosses a shallow stream and gently switchbacks up a ravine to the junction with Timberline Trail #600. To visit Dollar Lake from the south end of this trail (#630), turn right (west) on #600 and travel 0.7 mile to the junction with Dollar Lake Trail #600C. Turn left (south) and travel 0.2 mile to Dollar Lake. To make an 8.7 mile loop, continue on Timberline Trail #600 0.3 mile to Pinnacle Ridge Trail #630. Turn left (north) on #630 and travel 3.1 miles to Laurance Lake Road (Forest Road 2840). Leave a car here or follow Forest Road 2840 approximately 2.5 miles (making the loop total 11.2 miles) back to the trailhead for this trail at Forest Road 2840.

Regulations & Leave No Trace Information:

- Wilderness Permits are required between May 15 and Oct 15.
- Group size is limited to 12. Stock are counted in the group size. For example, 3 people riding their own horse plus a spare horse in the group for packing would make a group of 7.

Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare: Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: Use established trails and campsites.
- Dispose of Waste Properly: Pack out all trash, leftover food and litter.
- Leave What You Find: Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species.
- Minimize Campfire Impacts: Use established fire rings & keep fires small.
- Respect Wildlife: Control pets at all times.
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors: Avoid loud voices and noises.

For information on **Leave No Trace**, go to www.LNT.org or call 1-800-332-4100

For current trail conditions and more recreation information go to:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/mthood>

Map and driving directions on next page

Mt. Hood National Forest
16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055
503-668-1700

Hood River Ranger District
6780 Hwy 35
Parkdale, Oregon 97041
541-352-6002

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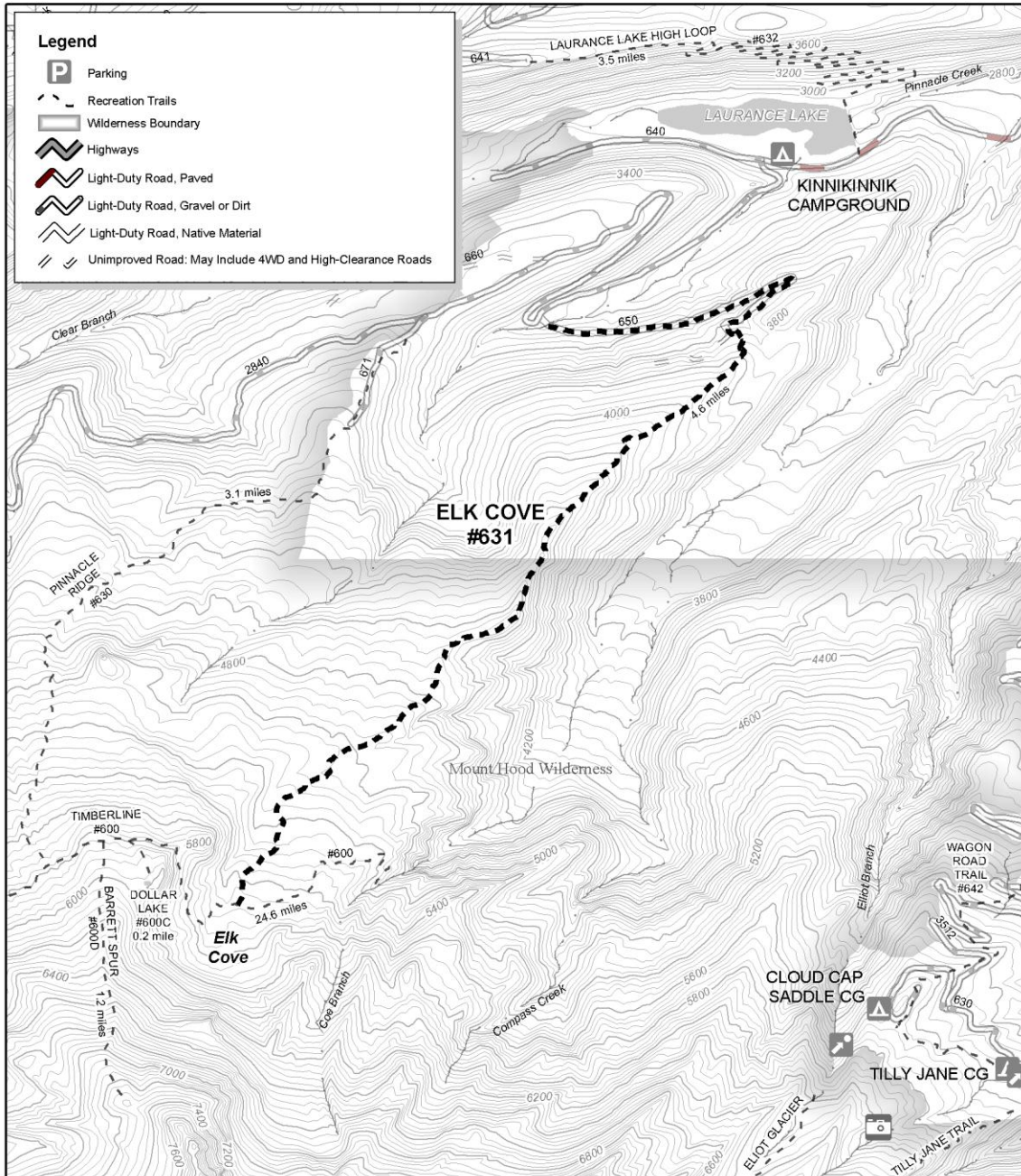
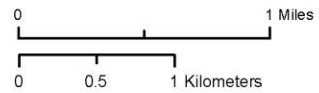


Directions to Trailhead: From Hood River, take Oregon Hwy 35 south 15 miles to the town of Mount Hood. Turn right at Oregon Hwy 281 (Cooper Spur Rd), near milepost 85, and travel 2 miles to the town of Parkdale. From the center of Parkdale, go south on Clear Creek Road (across from Mclsaacs Store) and travel approximately 2.7 mi to Laurance Lake Road (Forest Road 2840). Go right (west) on Laurence Lake Road approx 4.2 miles to Kinnickinick Campground at Laurance Lake. Just west of Kinnickinick Campground, leave the pavement, turn left and head south onto Forest Road 2840 for approximately 1.1 miles to the trailhead starting at Forest Road 2840-650.

631 Elk Cove

4.6 miles

7.4 km



Recommended maps: Hood River Ranger District

