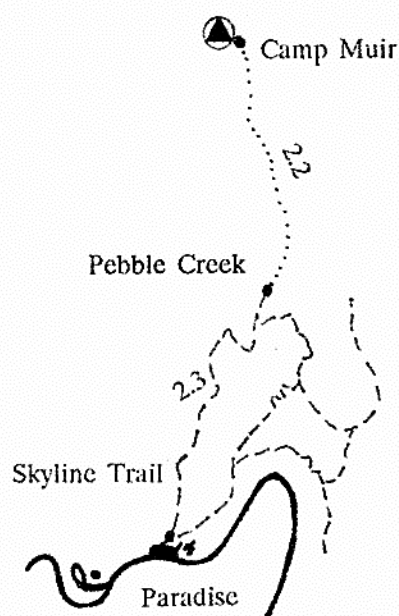


Camp Muir



Writer/naturalist John Muir was among a climbing party who made the sixth recorded ascent of Mount Rainier in 1888. Their campsite is a favorite with climbers and is now known as Camp Muir.

Trail Description	Distance, round-trip	9 miles
	Elevation gain	4600 feet
	Hiking time, round-trip	6-8 hours
	Backcountry camp	yes

Although thousands of people hike to Camp Muir each year, it is not for the inexperienced or novice hiker. This hike is long, arduous and potentially hazardous if the weather turns nasty.

Follow the Skyline Trail 2.3 miles upward to Pebble Creek. Be sure to treat water before drinking from the creek! Here the Muir Snowfield begins. The next 2.2 miles involve an ascent of 2800' up the snowfield.

Along the Trail	The hike to Camp Muir begins in the subalpine meadows of Paradise. By the time the trail ends near Pebble Creek, treeline is left behind and the world of snow and ice has begun. Beyond the Tatoosh Range, peaks as far south as Mt. Jefferson are visible on a clear day.
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Trailhead Location	The trailhead is located to the left of the ranger station in the large parking lot at Paradise.
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Backpacking	Camp Muir may be used by backpackers who consider Muir their destination and by climbers who will travel beyond the high camp. Climbers must have a partner and the technical equipment and expertise necessary for a safe climb. Permits are required for all backpackers and climbers. They are available at the Paradise Ranger Station. The public shelter at Camp Muir can accommodate only 25% of the people who may be staying at Muir each night. It fills on a first-come, first-served basis. Do <u>not</u> depend on space being available. Treat drinking water. No pets.
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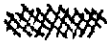
Get Your Bearings....

Mistakes in navigation while traveling to or from Camp Muir during storms and "white-outs" have resulted in lost climbers and hikers and occasional fatalities. To decrease the possibility of this happening to your party, this map lists compass bearings to and from Camp Muir (True and Magnetic) as well as prominent landmarks. This informal map will not substitute for a USGS topographic map.

Proper bearings alone will not ensure a safe trip. Camp Muir and the Muir Snowfield are nearly surrounded by glaciers: the Nisqually to the west and the Cowlitz to the north and east and the Paradise to the south and east. A minor error in navigation may lead you onto these glaciers with their hidden crevasses and other hazards. TO STAY ON COURSE YOU MAY HAVE TO CORRECT YOUR DIRECTION OF TRAVEL TO THE WINDWARD OF PREVAILING WINDS.

Always beware of steep cliffs to the east from Camp Muir to Anvil Rock and to the east of McClure Rock. These cliffs, obscured by snow and cornices in the winter, have been the sites of mountaineering tragedies. Panorama Point is a dangerous avalanche area.

While traversing the Muir Snowfield approach rock islands with care because of holes which form around them as snow melts. Crevasses occasionally open up on the Snowfield in the vicinity of Anvil Rock in late summer and may be hidden by new snow.

Rock Islands 

Trail 

Snowline 

Declination - 20°E

Contour Interval - 250'

