

Randolph Ave (Rt. 28) Hemlock Bound Trail to Hemlock Bound

By Jay Theriault

Hike # and title - #1 Randolph Ave (Rt. 28) Hemlock Bound Trail and Hemlock Bound

Type and difficulty of trail - moderate difficulty

Distance – 2.7 miles (one-way)

Elevation – 363 ft

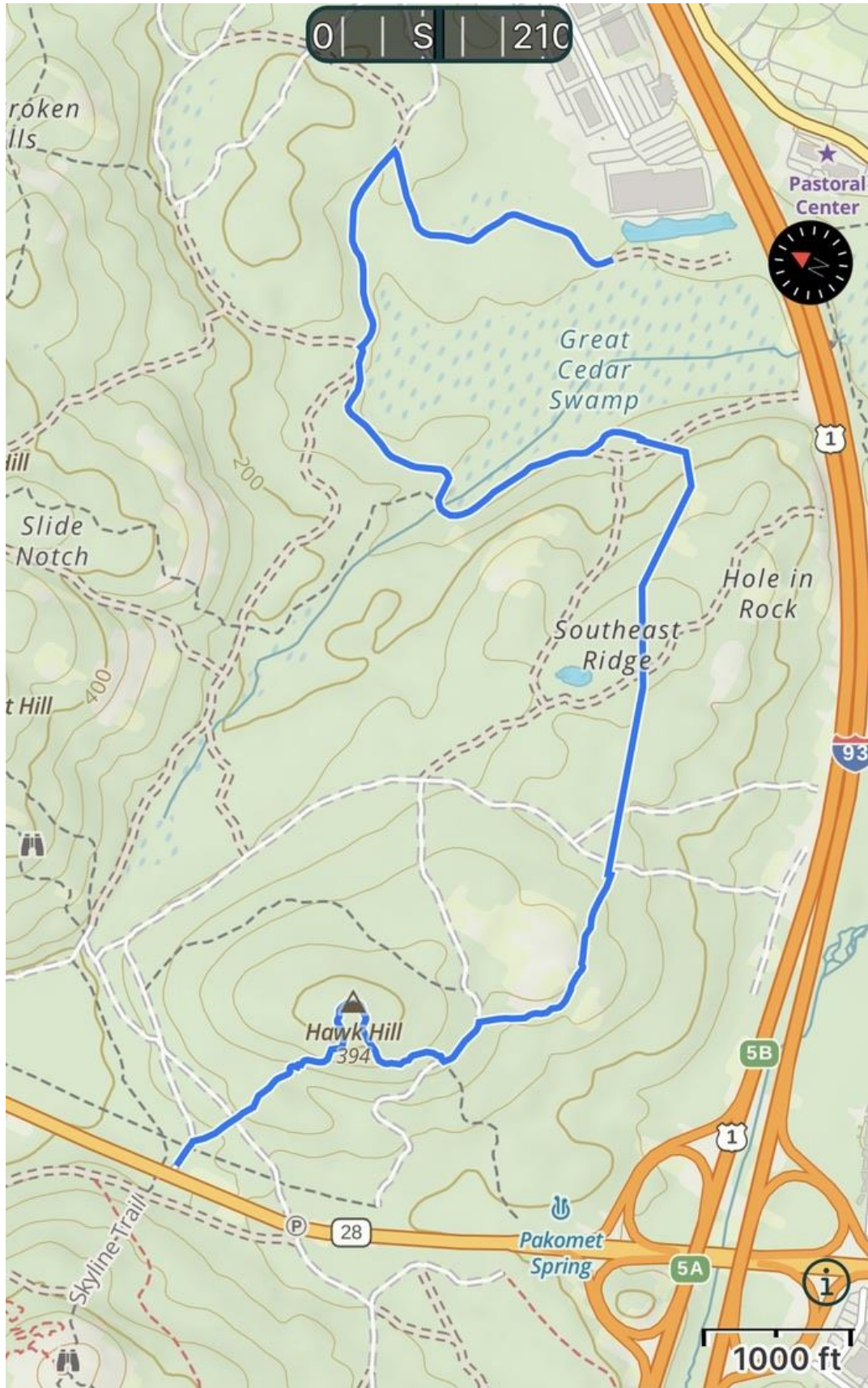
Parking and starting point - Park on Randolph Ave at the Hemlock Bound Trail Marker.

Description - This trail is no longer mapped but does still exist. It begins at the granite marker on Randolph Ave (Rt. 28) that reads ‘Hemlock Bound Trail” marker 3013. The Hemlock Bound should be a granite marker that marks the boundary between Braintree and Quincy. The trail is hidden in places but if you stop and look around you can easily follow where to go. A GPS is helpful to maintain your bearings.

Head up toward Hawk Hill. Enjoy this quiet less visited hill off the beaten path from the heavily traveled Skyline Trail. Head down to marker 3030. If you turn right at marker 3030 there is a nice observation point to your left a few steps from the marker. After enjoying the view go back to marker 3030 and continue on Hawk Hill Path toward marker 3044. Just before marker 3044, instead of branching and continuing to Hawk Hill Path or Glover Path you need to turn right off the trail onto the start of the unmarked portion of the Hemlock Bound Trail. It may take a little looking around to find the start of the old Hemlock Bound Trail, but it is there.

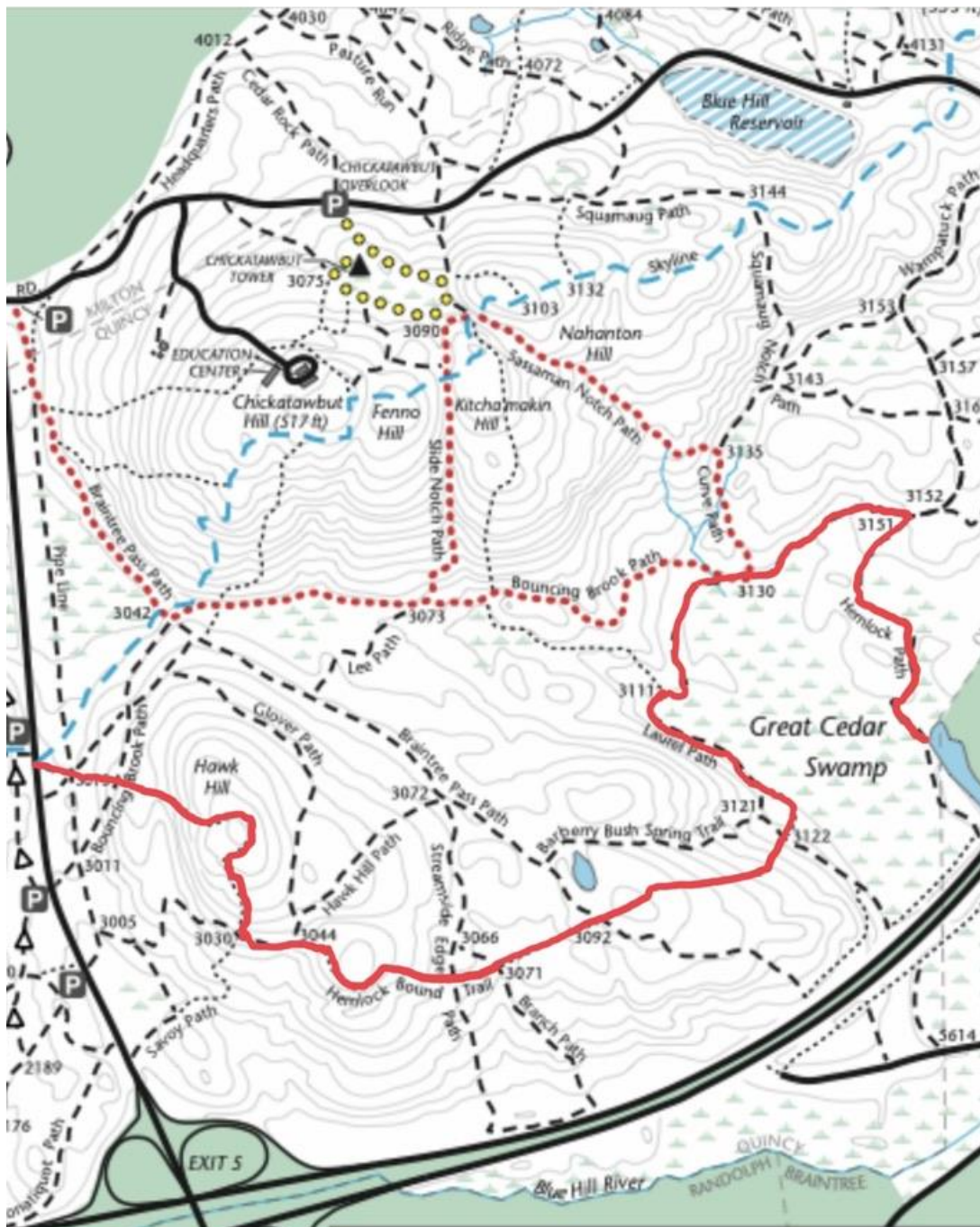
You continue onto this unmarked trail which will cross Streamside Edge Path and Branch Path just below marker 3066. It will continue straight, and you will cross over Braintree Pass Path below marker 3090. The Hemlock Bound Trail will continue below the Barberry Bush Spring Trail. You will come out at Great Cedar Swamp below marker 3121. The Hemlock Bound Trail will continue straight and loop around marker 3121 on an old section of Laurel Path. Continue up Laurel Path and around Great Cedar Swamp to markers 3111 and 3130 along Bouncing Brook Path. At marker 3151, take a right down the Hemlock Path and find the Hemlock Bound near the northern edge of the small pond and Great Cedar Swamp.

Map





USGS Map showing the Hemlock Bound location.



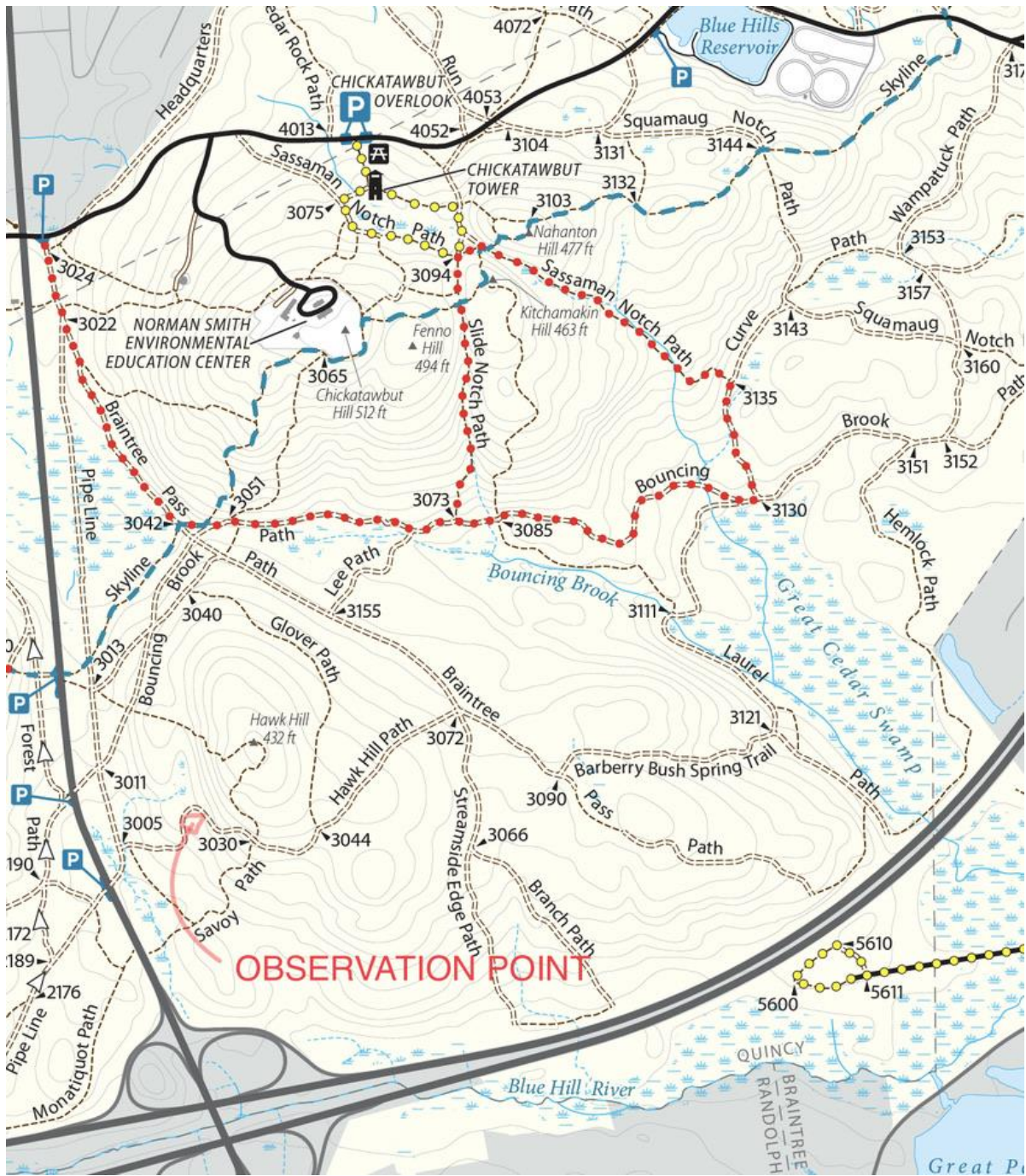
LEGEND

DESTINATION TRAILS are marked with rectangles and are designed for much longer and more strenuous day hikes. These are not loops, so plan transportation back to your starting point.

Blue rectangles mark the popular Skyline which traverses the entire Blue Hills Range with many fantastic views. Note the north and south branches in the western part of the reservation.

Length: 9 miles **Hiking Time:** 4 to 7 hours





2020 Blue Hills Trail Map

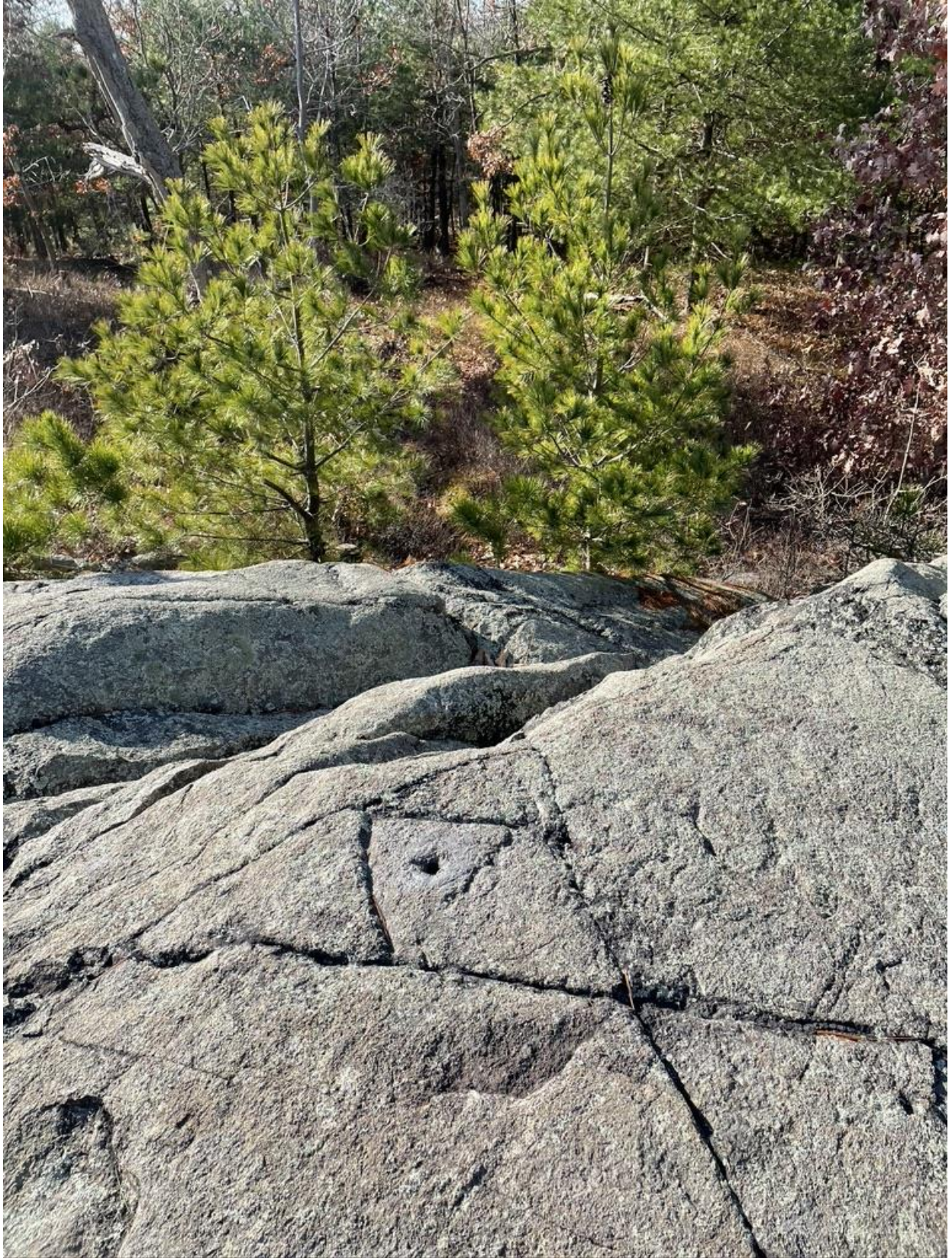


Start of Hemlock Bound Trail Granite Marker on Randolph Ave. (Rt. 28) parking area.



Survey Point found along the way of the Hemlock Bound Trail





Survey Point found along the way of the Hemlock Bound Trail



Great scenery on this hidden gem all to yourself.



More great views.