

Directions to Umbrella Rocks Geologic Formation – State Game Lands 44

Take Route 219 South from downtown Ridgway for 4.5 miles to Snowdrift Road

Reference Points

Summit Hotel will be on your right

Junction with Route 948 will on your left

WDDH “The Hound” Radio Station will be on you left

Snowdrift Road is 1/2 mile after “The Hound” on the right

Turn right on Snowdrift Road and park in the lot just off the road on your right.

There is a gated road (gate may be open) next to the parking area you will start your hike here. Go through the gate and bear left on the road. This is the railroad bed of the Ridgway & Shawmut Railroad surveyed and built beginning in 1861; completed to the junction with the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad) in 1864.

Continue on the road for .70 mile until it bears to the right; railroad grade is blocked but continues straight ahead.

Follow the road for another mile until you see a small rock formation on your right

After this formation there is a small downhill and on your left will be a trail with a painted blaze mark on a tree next to the road. Take this trail 350 yards to the face rock of the Umbrella Rocks formation. In order to get to the top of the Umbrella there is a trail that bears around to the left and then climbs to the top. The formation has various types of rock formations and is narrow but 1/3 mile in length. Enjoy the view.

If you want to continue your hike to the Devils Den Formation here are the directions from Umbrella Rocks. Go back out the path you hiked to Umbrella Rocks, turn left on the road you hiked in on and follow it until you reach the big natural gas line, turn left on the gas line and follow it slightly more than ½ mile (2,855.5 feet to be exact) to gas well 5075 that sits a few feet of the pipeline on the right. Go to the well and directly behind it is the trail that takes you to the Devils Den formation. Historically I am working on finding narrative that describes the naming of this formation; my belief is it was named by the men that served in the Bucktail Regiments during the Civil War in memory of the Devils Den formation at the Gettysburg National Battlefield that sits at the base of Little Round Top.