

The "out & back" hike to Pine Mountain, at 1,391 feet, is very hiker friendly and you stand on top of the highest point in Barkhamsted. Your reward is the best natural view east in Connecticut (no tower is provided). From the highest ledge you can see east of the Connecticut River. From a lower ledge you can see north to Mt Tom in Massachusetts and to the south you can see Hueblein Tower. 75% of this hike is on the wide Pine Mountain Road (also called the Schwaller Trail), which makes for easier and faster hiking. The other 25% is on the blue blazed Tunxis Trail (B), providing an excellent gradual climb up and down.

Park your car before the gate to Pine Mt Road (41°57'52.78"N 72°55' 0.95"W), located in the Tunxis State Forest (Look for the wooden sign on the left side of rt. 179, just north of the junction with Deer Run Road). Follow Pine Mountain Road, a wide dirt road, northwest for over 1.0 mile, making no turns to the right. At 1.1 bear left at a "Y" junction, staying on Pine Mt Road. At 1.2 make a 90° left turn onto the blue blazed Tunxis Trail, just before a gravel parking area for 2 cars on the left. This junction can be missed. Pine Mt Road is straight until it passes the Tunxis Trail junction, then it starts to bend to the left (southwest). Ascend the blue blazed trail (B) to 1.6 to reach the top of Pine Mt. & a photo op. 50 feet east is a second ledge, slightly lower, but with a view to Hueblein Tower & Mt Tom, a 2nd photo op. Reverse directions reaching Pine Mt Road at 2.0 m and your car at 3.3 miles.