Blue Ledges

This hike takes you to the shore of the Hudson River at a scenic section of the river under massive granite cliffs known as the Blue Ledges. The river makes a right angle bend at this location and is filled with big boulders which, depending on the water level, may be well above the flow or part of a huge whitewater show. There is a small sandy bank shore for those who like to wade but be very careful-the current is swift.

The trailhead is along the North Woods Club Road (west off of NY 28N about 1.7 miles north of the Minerva Post Office) just before you reach Huntley Pond. The road is paved part way then becomes a well-maintained gravel road for the most part. It dips down to cross the Boreas River which is an interesting place to stop and explore along the way.

The start of the trail passes around the east end of Huntley Pond on a well-used trail marked with blue DEC markers. It is a 2.5 mile one way hike to the Hudson River.

Directions: From North Creek, take NY 28N north for 9.4 miles, then left on the North Woods Club Road for just under 7 miles.

Afterwards, stop at Minerva Beach to swim and have a snack at The Stand (summer), a beer and snack at Sporty's Iron Duke Saloon or an ice cream, snack and coffee at Sullivan's Store in Olmstedville.

Note: The Blue Ledges area is a mid-day stop for a large number of whitewater rafting companies that operate on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. If you want a more tranquil hike, avoid Blue Ledges on those days or avoid a mid-day arrival to the Hudson River.