

# Stairway to Heaven: Pochuck Valley to Pinwheel Vista

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Hike boardwalks, a suspension bridge, hardwood forest, fields of wildflowers, train tracks, a cow pasture, a boulder field... before steeply climbing the “Stairway to Heaven” to one of the best viewpoints in NJ: Pinwheel Vista.

The Kittatinny Mountains are visible in the distance, farms in the valley below, and on a clear day, High Point Monument.

**7.3 miles – Moderate.** Trail surface ranges from super-duper-easy-peasy boardwalks to flat, hardpacked to dirt to serious rocky sections. The “Stairway to Heaven” is a series of rock slab steps steeply switch-backing up Wawayanda Mountain.

- **Super Short: 2.0 miles** – Super-duper easy – only walking the boardwalk section and back.
- **Short-n-steep: 2.5 miles** – Stairway to Heaven only. Start at the lot on Rt 94 instead.
- **Longer** – The Appalachian trail continues in both directions for hundred of miles....

**Our two cents:** This is a popular area – everything from people taking a casual stroll to AT thru-hikers – so don’t expect solitude. Most people were on the boardwalk section in the beginning, or on the section from the lot on 94 to Pinwheel Vista.

<http://www.njhiking.com/best-hikes-in-nj-stairway-to-heaven-appalachian-trail/>