

Walk across Rainbow Bridge to visit Goat Island, NY

Date and time: Thursday, June 15 @10:15 am

Hike leaders: Rita Weerdenburg, Nancy Cassaday.

Goat Island is a part of Niagara Falls State Park, the oldest state park in the US and offers tremendous views of the American Falls and Horseshoe Falls from “the other side.” The walk is easy and relatively short but requires lots of extra time for viewing and picture taking.

Bring lunch and we’ll enjoy a picnic on the south end of the island. There are a limited number of picnic tables, so consider bringing a towel or similar in case we need to pull up a piece of ground.

Distance: Approximately 7 km. Easy, paved walkways and no hills. Wear good walking shoes, hiking boots are acceptable but not necessary.

We will meet near the front entranceway of the Duty-Free Shop (Niagara Falls, ON.). Please allow yourself adequate time to park and make your way to the meeting point. From the Duty Free Shop, it’s a short walk to the Rainbow Bridge and our walk to the US.

Things to know:

Parking: There are many nearby parking options, including at the Casino. For a less expensive option (\$20/day) there are a series of parking lots at the corner of Bender Street at Ontario Street. <https://goo.gl/maps/iBe8R16pfyZxXaxv5> From this parking area, it’s a short 10-minute walk to the Duty-Free Shop. NOTE: Parking at the Duty-Free shop is not permitted for longer-term parking. Please park only at a designated parking lot.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR PASSPORT, for entry to the US and re-entry to Canada, and a looney for the pedestrian bridge toll.

You can expect heavy mist at the lookout areas, so you may wish to bring a raincoat or plastic poncho. Wipes for your glasses are also a good idea!

It’s not likely you’ll be asked, but you should know that is not permitted to cross the border with citrus fruits and chicken. There are lots of amenities on Goat Island, including washrooms.