

Seaton Trail South & Urfé Creek Notes

There are several options on this route. Options 1 and 2 are at the start while options (a), (b) and (c) are of different lengths.

Leave the parking lot you have two options – an adventure with a river crossing, or a climb up a long staircase. The river crossing is waymarked in the gpx file.

(1) river crossing

Leave the parking lot and turn right. Follow the road through the bend and look for a faint trail off to the left. Take it.

The trail dips down through a stand of cedar trees and mixed bush to meet a stream.

Soon you reach a crossing consisting of large boulders where you cross the stream. Be careful as the rocks can be slippery and the water moves fast. Don't attempt to cross in high water – use the staircase instead.

After crossing the creek follow the trail as it goes slightly uphill through a Hydro corridor.

Ignore the trail that turns off behind you to the right but immediately afterwards you reach a fork where you turn right.

You enter a muddy stretch with a mish-mash of trails.

(2) staircase option

Leave the parking lot and turn left. Follow the road to the intersection and turn right. Cross the bridge and look for white blazes entering the forest on your right. Follow the trail, climb the staircase and keep following the white blazes as the trail winds through the forest.

You will come to a clearing at a Hydro corridor. It is muddy here.

This is where option (1) and (2) meet.

Follow the trail as it bears away uphill, still following the Hydro line. Take care as the mud is deep in places.

The trail climbs steeply uphill. Just below the top bear right following the Hydro line.

Look around you for some good views. Houses will appear ahead of you and just before you reach them the trail turns right leaving the Hydro corridor.

The trail you stay on joins a white-blazed trail coming in from the right. Follow the white blazes as you continue straight (south)

The trail follows the rim of the valley through bush. You will see houses on your left. Ignore the trails coming from the right out of the valley. Keep following the white blazes.

After reaching a wooden fence at a house the trail turns sharply right and starts to go downhill still following the white blazes through cedar bush.

Soon after the trail levels out, in a stand of cedars, a trail veers off to the right. Ignore it and instead follow the white blazes straight ahead.

After about 200 metres you will pass by some old concrete blocks presumably the footings of an old Hydro tower. Turn left, away from the river, to follow the horseshoe shaped trail crossing the culvert and curving back to the river.

Leave the river again and shortly after turn right crossing underneath the railway bridge.

After 100 metres the white blazed trail makes two right turns. Follow the first turn but immediately afterwards ignore the white blazes going off to your right. Instead walk on straight ahead.

After 500 metres the trail once again reaches the white-blazed trail.

You have three choice here to:

- a) retrace your steps and return to your car. This makes for a 7 kilometre walk.
- b) head left to make a 4.5 km there-and-back extension, making your hike about 11.5 kms
- c) turn left to do a long loop through suburban parks and forests using trails, paths and roads, making for an approximately 17 km hike.

Option (b) and (c) are described on the following pages

Option (b) and (c):

Turn left. After 350 metres you reach a fork where you turn right towards the river, ignoring the white blazes.

When you reach the river turn left. The bush opens up to another Hydro corridor.

Temporarily leaving the river the trail crosses under the Hydro line. The trail is easy to follow as it wends its way through bush and riverine meadows.

Shortly before reaching another Hydro line you come to a fork in the trail. The left hand trail runs between two guardrails to a road. This is where option (b) ends and you can turn around to retrace your steps back to your car. Option (c), through urban parks and forest using paths, trails and streets, continues below. This option involves 2.5 km of road walking and makes for a 17 km hike.

Option (c)

Ignore the left hand trail running between two guardrails to a road and instead bear right.

When you reach the Hydro line turn left at the fork. When you reach the road, cross it.

Follow the track along the Hydro line.

After a few hundred metres you reach an asphalt path. Follow it east following the Hydro line.

Staying on the asphalt path you wend your way past several sport fields until you reach Brock Rd just south of the mosque.

Cross Brock Rd and follow it south for about 150 metres. Immediately after crossing the creek take the track following a berm east along the creek.

The track joins a gravel path coming in from the right. Follow it going east.

At the junction turn left (north) and cross the bridge.

At the T-junction turn left (west). Ignore the trail turning right towards the houses; keep straight following the creek. As nice picnic spot.

Soon after the trail turns north and runs through riverine forest. At the next junction turn left and cross the bridge. This is your halfway mark.

After a while you reach a fence separating a housing estate from the forest. Duck through the opening in the fence and follow the road until you reach Riverside Drive.

Turn left (north) on Riverside Drive and walk 400 metres to the traffic lights.

Turn left onto Rossland Road West and walk 850 metres to the next set of lights at the junction with Brock Road.

Go straight over the junction and continue west onto Concession Road 3, a fairly quiet road. Walk facing the traffic. Follow the road for 1.3 kms to the Seaton Trail parking lot.

Find the trail entrance and walk down a gravel road to the trail. When you reach the trail, turn right and retrace your steps to get back to your car.