KV04: Baxter Mountain

General
This route visits Baxter Mountain which is a short hike that has some lovely views into Keene Valley, grand views toward Giant and an interesting view of the col between Hurricane and Green Mountains. The hike is relatively short although there is a good elevation change. There is a wonderful diversity of trees along this route, so a tree guide could be a fun thing to bring along.

Summary Statistics
Start coordinates: (44.2209, -73.7495).
Total distance: 2.7 miles.
Time par: 2.5 hours.
Cumulative ascent: 930 feet.

A fall view from Baxter toward Giant
Route Description
The trail begins on Rt9N directly across from Hurricane Mountain Road. From Keene Valley, go north on Rt73 until reaching Rt9N, turn east and park along the road across from Hurricane Mountain Road. The trailhead is marked with a sign and one soon passes under a power line. Around mile 0.7 there are some notable switch backs. Around mile 0.9 the trail levels and reaches a junction. The route to Baxter rises steeply for a bit, reaching state forest land and views back around mile 1.0. There are very nice views from time-to-time beginning at mile 1.1 until the main views at mile 1.3. Returning by retracing our steps, though sampling different viewpoints perhaps, returns to the road at mile 2.7.