



*Quartz Lake overview looking down cliffs into sea-green deep water with the Rocky Mountains in the background.*

of the cliffs high above Quartz Lake. The Rocky Mountains rise just east of this deep lake. The colours of the water and the views all combine to make this a worthwhile excursion.

To continue the hike up to Premier Ridge, retrace your walk back uphill to the cattleguard. From the cattleguard the summit is a 1 km steep bushwhacking route, which gains another 270 m (900 ft.). Hike west straight up the steep hill to the top (when hiking from Premier Lake, west is a right turn from the cattleguard). You may find fragments of old trails in the forest to walk on. When climbing up the slopes through tall grass and loose rocks, take care as the slopes are very slippery when wet.

The view from the top of Premier Ridge is a low elevation panorama. Prominent snowcapped mountain ranges shimmer in the distance and wildflowers, trees and the view of tiny lakes creates exciting scenery.

The entire hike to Premier Ridge and back to Premier Lake is 11.3 km, which includes a side trip to the Quartz Lake overview and another side trip to the shores of Quartz Lake.

See also Premier Ridge from Wasa page 55 for a less steep but a much longer hiking route. For a full day mountain bike ride in the Premier Ridge area ride the circuit trip from Wasa Lake to Premier Lake on page 60.