



# COMPENDIUM



## DIRECTIONS TO PROPERTY



We are located on Flat Mountain Road, the mailbox showcases the number 1735.

We have a driveway that forks, stay to the right.

### OWNER / OPERATOR

Marc Halcrow

Cell/Text: 828.482.6563

*Please reach-out with any questions*

## ADDRESS

1735 Flat Mountain Road

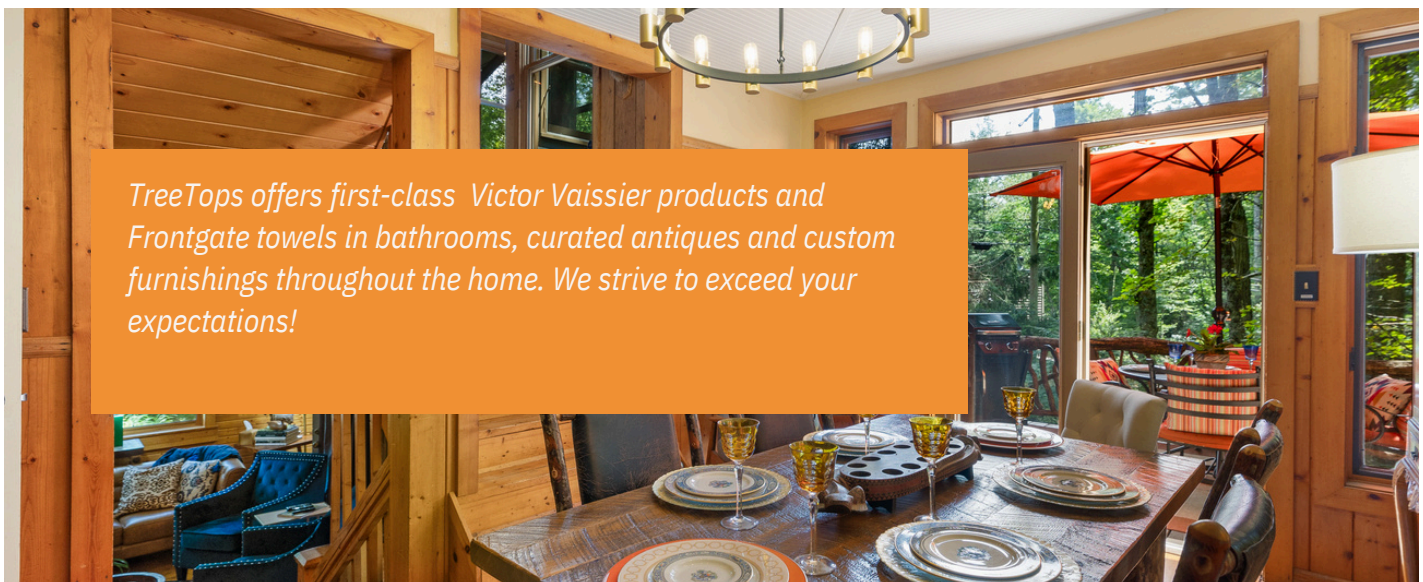
Highlands, North Carolina 28741

(Sometimes GPS recommends taking Billy Cabin Rd just before the house, recommend to avoid as it is a dirt road)

## W I F I

Network Name: TreeTops

Password: cottagel735 (all lowercase)

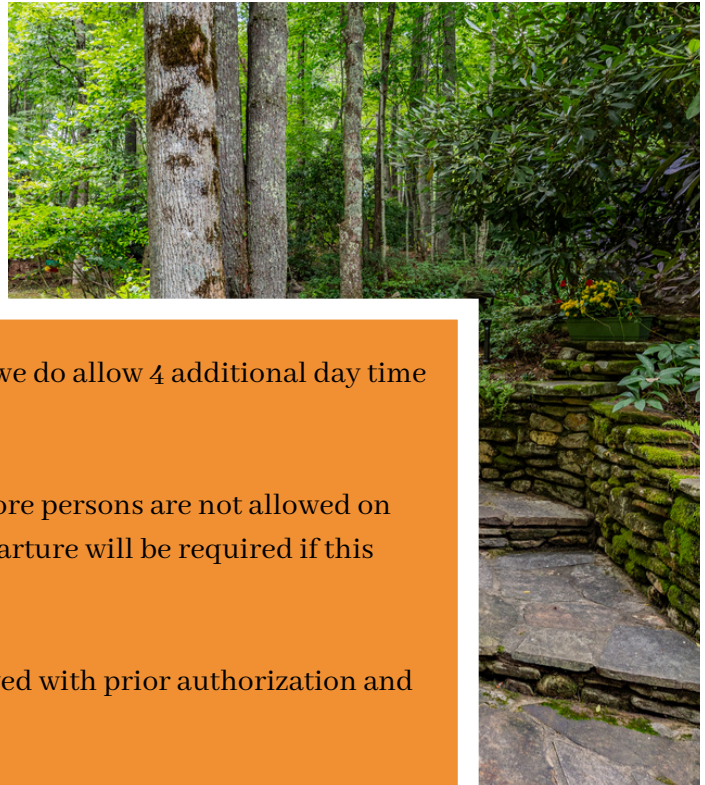


*TreeTops offers first-class Victor Vaissier products and Frontgate towels in bathrooms, curated antiques and custom furnishings throughout the home. We strive to exceed your expectations!*

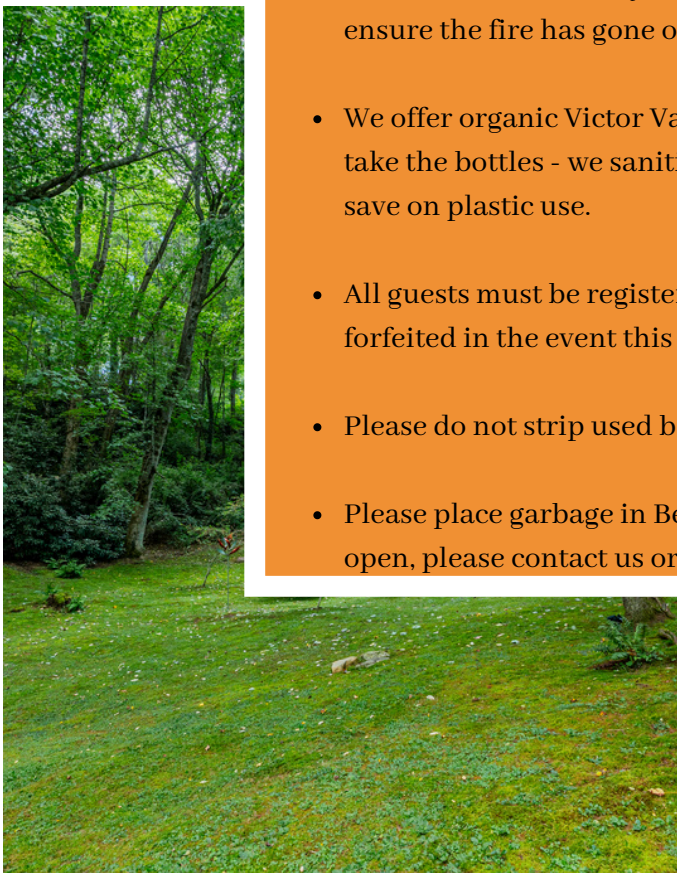


- **Air/Heat:** 4 mini split units throughout the house - Remotes located on the wall
- **Gas Fireplace:** Downstairs living space. A remote is located between the two royal blue velvet chairs
  - Please press the Up Arrow and the Red Circle at the same time and hold for three seconds till you hear the clicking noise. Let go of the buttons and within a couple seconds the fireplace shall ignite
- **Outdoor fire pit:** Firewood is located by the shed in the parking area
- **Oven:** To turn on, place at the desired temperature and place on 'Radiant Bake'
- **BBQ Gas** - In the event the BBQ runs out of gas, additional tanks are located in the shed (key on the wall near front door)
- **Leaf Blower** - Leafs are blown before your arrival however if you would like to blow the leaves, the blower is located in the shed
- **Outdoor Cushions** - Recommend bringing inside in the evening due to the uncertain weather in the area
- **Trash Service:** Pick-up day is Thursday. Please ensure all trash is placed in the Bear can
  - To open: Latch is on the top of the can. place finger into the hole where latch is and pull the lever to release
  - If you are unable to open the bin, please contact us or place inside the house
  - **Additional trash** - in the event you have additional trash, this can be brought to the recycling center at 10333 Buck Creek Road, Highlands, 28741, the center is located within 2 miles

## PROPERTY RULES



- Max occupancy is 7 persons, we do allow 4 additional day time visitors to visit home.
- Parties or events with 8 or more persons are not allowed on the premises, immediate departure will be required if this rule is broken.
- Up to two dogs are only allowed with prior authorization and a minimum \$100 per stay.
- Please do not leave any fireplace with fire unattended- please ensure the fire has gone out before leaving fireplace area.
- We offer organic Victor Vaissier in bathrooms, please do not take the bottles - we sanitize after each stay and refill to help save on plastic use.
- All guests must be registered prior to arrival, stay will be forfeited in the event this rule is disregarded. No refunds.
- Please do not strip used bed linens & towels, do not wash.
- Please place garbage in Bear can in parking area. If you cannot open, please contact us or leave in the house.



# Dining

## **BREAKFAST RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **BLUE BIKE CAFÉ**

BREAKFAST ALL DAY  
7am - 3pm

CLOSED SUNDAY  
First come, first serve  
Online Ordering

423 N 4<sup>th</sup> St  
828.526.9922

*Large meal with local charm*

### **CALDERS COFFEE CAFE**

COFFEE SHOP  
7am - 5pm

EVERYDAY  
Online Ordering

384 Main Street  
828-200-9308

*Regular coffee shop*

### **MOUNTAIN FRESH**

CASUAL ORDER AT COUNTER  
7am - 8pm

EVERYDAY

521 E. Main Street  
828-526-2400

*In between the two on the left*

## **BRUNCH RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **OAK STEAKHOUSE**

At Skyline Lodge  
9am - 2pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
Via. Open Table

470 Skyline Lodge RD  
828.482.4720

*Large meal close to the house*

### **RUFFED GROUSE**

At Highlander Mountain House  
10am - 3pm

SUNDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via. Resy

270 Main Street  
828-526.2590

*Blue Grass Music*

### **PRIMARY**

CASUAL ORDER AT COUNTER  
7am - 8pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via. Open Table

310 Main Street  
828-526-3555

*Regular Brunch*

*Hours may Vary, please check beforehand*

# Dining

## LUNCH (More Dressy) RECOMMENDATIONS

### Madisons

At Old Edwards Inn  
11:30am-2pm

EVERYDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via. Open Table

445 Main St  
828-787-2525

*Just about impossible to get a dinner  
reservation, lunch is the best option*

### WILD THYME

11am - 3pm

EVERYDAY  
Reservations not required

343 Main Street  
828-526-4035

*Not fancy inside, but a  
great menu*

### Ruffed Grouse

At Highlander Mountain House  
11:30-3pm

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via. Resy

270 Main Street  
828-526.2590

*Neat local atmosphere*

## LUNCH (Casual) RECOMMENDATIONS

### THE UGLY DOG

Burgers  
11:30am - Midnight

CLOSED MONDAY  
No Reservations

294 S 4th St  
828.526-8364

*best burger in town*

### THE SECRET GARDEN

Sandwiches  
11:30-4pm

CLOSED SUNDAY  
No Reservations

208 N 5th St  
828-305-7509

*Good food*

### DON LEONS

Best Gyro in town  
11am - 3pm

CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY  
No Reservations

462 Dillard RD  
828-482-1513

*Good diner food*

# Dining

## **DINNER** **(More Dressy)** **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### Paolettis

Italian  
5pm - 9:30pm

CLOSED TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
**Reservations Required**  
30 days in advance - via. Resy

440 Main St  
828-526-4906

*Top ranked US restaurant on  
Tripadvisor*

### OAK STEAKHOUSE

At Skyline Lodge  
11am - 3pm

CLOSED TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via Open Table

470 Skyline Lodge RD  
828-48204720

*Best Steakhouse in town  
and close to home!*

### On the Verandah

International & Seafood  
5:30pm-9pm

EVERYDAY  
Reservations Recommended  
via. Resy

1536 Franklin RD  
828-526.2338

*Good view of the lake*

## **DINNER** **(Casual)** **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### HIGHLANDS SMOKEHOUSE

Lunch as well  
11:am - 7pm

CLOSED TUESDAY  
No Reservations

595 Franklin RD  
828.526.3554

*Fantastic BBQ*

### Four65

Pizzas/Salads  
11:00-9pm

EVERYDAY  
No Reservations

465 Main St  
828-787-2990

*Great WoodFire Pizza*

### HIGHLANDS TAVERN

Tavern Fare  
5pm-11pm

CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
No Reservations

205 S 4th Street  
No phone

*Small Pub with Great food*

# Dining

## TAKE OUT/GROCERY

### BRYSONS

Supermarket  
7:30am - 6:30pm

EVERYDAY

103 Highlands Plaza  
828.526.3775

*A bit more expensive than going to an  
Ingles down mountain.  
They have good breakfast/lunch meals  
& wine.*

### DUSTYS

Market  
9:30am-5:30pm

Closed SUNDAY & MONDAY

493 Dillard Rd  
828-526-2762

*Unique market with best meats  
in town, wonderful bakery, &  
fantastic prepared frozen  
appetizers. Don't be intimidated  
by the outside*

### ROSEWOOD MARKET

Takeout prepared food  
7am - 8pm

Closed SUN, MON, TUES

117 Franklin Rd  
828-526-0383

*Located next to the gas station  
Best fried chicken in town (when available)*

### HIGHLANDS GOOD FOOD

Farm Stand  
9am - 2pm

EVERYDAY in Season

636 Franklin Rd  
828.482.2035

*Local fresh produce*

### EDELWEISS

Pastry Show  
10am - 4pm

CLOSED MONDAY & TUESDAY

892 N 4th Street  
828-200-2700

*Became very popular after owner  
was featured on food network*

### WHOLE LIFE MARKET

Organic Market & Juice Bar  
10am - 5pm

CLOSED SUNDAY

680 N 4th St  
828-526-5999

*Tasty juice menu*

## Wine/Liquor Stores

### HIGHLANDS ABC

Liquor Store  
9am - 7pm

CLOSED SUNDAY

322 Oak St  
828.526.5470

### HIGHLANDS WINE SHOPPE

Wine  
11am - 6pm

CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

269 Oak St  
828-526-4080

### HIGH COUNTRY WINE

Wine  
12 - 7pm

CLOSED MON, TUES, WED

621 Franklin Rd  
828-482-4502

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PERSONAL LOCAL  
RECOMMENDATIONS

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WATERFALLS

PINKY FALLS

Located down the street best to visit when returning to the house. After going over the bridge, slow down, and immediately begin to look for a gravel area on the right side of the road. You can park here and walk down to the falls.

PICKLEBALL

REC CENTER

600 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Very active and welcoming group of people, if you don't have equipment, you can rent it.

WINERY

Vineyard at High Holly

37 Scaly Mountain RD, Scaly Mountain

Live music on weekends

Fun if going ziplining beforehand or if you have a group that ziplines and some people don't want to they can go across the street to the vineyard

THE BASCOM

Visual Arts Center

323 Franklin RD

Hold exhibitions and offer classes, you can also schedule a private pottery class (great fun!)

828-526-4949

HIKE

RANGER FALLS

Located just down the street further up the road. You can walk or take car to the start of the hike, they have parking and you will see a sign on the left for Ranger Falls.

SWIMMING

REC CENTER

600 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Fantastic heated covered pool

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PAC

507 Chestnut

Concerts, Theater, Plays, Opera, Etc.

LOCAL RESOURCES

Calendar of Events

The Laurel Magazine

2026 Experience Guide

### HIGHLANDS OUTPOST

828-526-3737

Between Sky Valley, GA and Highlands, NC, Highlands Outpost is the place to enjoy both summer and winter fun. Visit and experience - or rediscover the fun of trout fishing, panning for gems, riding a mountain roller coaster, ice skating, snow tubing and summer tubing. When it's time to feed the gang, blue hound barbecue is sure to satisfy all tastes.

### BLUE STAR RANCH

CASHIERS, NC

828-743-3768

Experimental learning at its most powerful, our group equine experience helps you and your team discover what horses can teach you about yourselves while you learn skills, connect with horses and practice fun exercises in a lighthearted but meaningful way.

### BROOKINGS ANGLERS

HIGHLANDS, NC

828-482-9444

A destination for anglers to experience what WNC fly fishing is all about. Their fly shops are in a perfect location to fish many different watersheds and offer a variety of trout fishing as well as small-mouth bass fishing. Staffed by some of the most experienced (and friendliest) guides in the area, you will always leave with more knowledge than you came with.



### CURTIS WRIGHT FALCONRY

SKY VALLEY, GA

828-553-5063

Learn the ancient art of falconry with Master Falconer, Peter Kipp! With up-close-and-personal "hands on" instruction, guests will learn about the history, equipment and the training of the Bird of Prey. Guests will have the opportunity to handle and fly the raptors making for a truly unforgettable experience.



Equestrian offers a treat for you. Imagine becoming one with nature as you leisurely make your way through a variety of trails nearby. They also feature gem mining and Gift and snack shack and seating area for those shy about horseback riding.

### WHITewater EQUESTRIAN

SAPPHIRE, NC

828-966-9646

If you're looking for an exciting adventure on horseback, Whitewater

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

### ARROWMONT STABLES

828-743-2762  
CULLOWHEE, NC  
ARROWMONT.COM

Experience nature firsthand on this 200-acre retreat, a great place to spend time with your family. Enjoy horseback riding, trout fishing, hiking, swimming, hunting for arrowheads and gems and camping.

### CHATTOOGA WHITEWATER OUTFITTERS

864-647-9083  
LONG CREEK, SC  
CHATTOOGAADVENTURES.COM

Experience the most beautiful and exciting river in the Southeast. Enjoy whitewater paddling including rafting, canoeing, kayaking and sit-on-tops; flatwater paddling; fishing guides and equipment; inner tubing; hiking, camping and bird watching; as well as instruction for paddling and fishing.

### HIGHLANDS AERIAL PARK

828-526-8773  
HIGHLANDS, NC  
HIGHLANDSCANOPYTOUR.COM

Highlands Aerial Park offers zip lining for the whole family. From the family adventure on the Brave Indian aerial course to the Thrills of the World Class Canopy tour. New as of last year is a Giant Swing that will soar 60' through the forest and a mule wagon ride to view a waterfall area. Highlands Aerial Park also offers nature trails, fire pit deck, refreshments



and a souvenir shop. Located at an elevation 3,400' atop High Holly Mountain, the lush, virgin, old-growth forest creates a wondrous natural terrain ideal for this ecologically inspired family adventure park. Adventure for ages 8 and up is just nine miles from downtown Highlands. See you in the trees!

### HIGHLANDS CANOE RENTALS

828-526-3126  
HIGHLANDS, NC

A retail gift shop with canoe rentals located on Lake Sequoyah.

### HIGHLANDS NATURE CENTER

828-526-2623  
HIGHLANDS, NC  
HIGHLANDSBIOLOGICAL.ORG

Since 1927, the mission of the Highlands Biological Station has been to foster research and education focused on the rich

natural heritage of the Highlands Plateau, while preserving and celebrating the integrity of the "biological crown" of the southern Appalachian Mountains. Highlands Nature Center offers special events throughout the summer to join families together in an informative way such as the Salamander Meander, Owl Prowl, Nature by Night and more. Family activities include guided walks along the garden trails, nature lessons, workshops, observing each of the Nature Center's animals, critter searches and much more. Weekly family programs are held May through August.

### SCALY MOUNTAIN OUTDOOR CENTER

828-526-3737  
SCALY MOUNTAIN, NC  
SCALYMOUNTAIN.COM

Located between Sky Valley, Georgia and Highlands, North Carolina, The Scaly Mountain Outdoor Center is the place to

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURES | SCENIC DRIVES

enjoy both summer and winter fun. Come visit and experience, or rediscover, the fun of trout fishing, ice skating, summer and snow tubing, and try out bungee trampoline. When it's time to feed the gang, Downhill Grill is sure to satisfy all tastes.

### SOUTHEASTERN EXPEDITIONS

800-868-7238  
CLAYTON, GA  
SOUTHEASTERNEXPEDITIONS.COM

Go on a grand adventure of the Chattooga River, one of the southeast's premier rivers for whitewater rafting. The oldest rafting company in the southeast, Southeastern Expeditions opened its doors in 1972 with equipment purchased from Warner Brothers following the filming of the movie Deliverance. Two years later in 1974, the Chattooga River was designated by Congress as one of America's "Wild and Scenic" rivers.

### WHITEWATER EQUESTRIAN CENTER

828-966-9646  
SAPPHIRE, NC  
FUNHORSEBACKRIDING.COM

If you're looking for an exciting adventure on horseback, the Whitewater Equestrian Center offers a treat for you. Imagine becoming one with nature as you and your horse leisurely make your way through a variety of trails nearby. They also feature gem mining.

### SCENIC DRIVES



### BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

- America's favorite and most visited parkway
- Legendary views from elevations above sea level of 5,000 and even 6,000 feet
- Many points of interest along the parkway for the entire family to enjoy
- Runs for just over 469 miles, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia to Cherokee, NC
- 26 tunnels to navigate through, causing this byway to be closed in the winter months due to ice

### BULL PEN ROAD

- Scenic drive of 8.3 miles gravel/paved road connecting Horsecove Road in Highlands, NC and Hwy 107 in Cashiers, NC
- Multiple activities along this scenic and secluded road include Hiking, Camping, Fishing and Swimming
- Access to the wild and scenic Chattooga River
- Gateway to "Ellicott Rock Wilderness" where 'Commissioners Rock' and 'Ellicott Rock' can be found marking where the borders of North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina all meet in the same location

From downtown Highlands drive HWY 64 west to downtown, take Main Street east out of town (past Mountain Fresh Grocery on the right) to Horse Cove Road (Main Street turns into Horse Cove Road). Travel 4.5 miles to a fork in the road. To the left will be Whiteside Cove Road and to the right will be Bull Pen Road. Take the right onto the gravel Bull Pen Road.

## SCENIC DRIVES

### SCENIC DRIVES

#### FOREST ROAD 67-STANDING INDIAN BASIN

APPROXIMATELY 35 MI/1 HR FROM HIGHLANDS, NC

- Numerous points of interest for the entire family located just off of FR 67
- Campgrounds, hiking trails, waterfalls, fishing, swimming holes, horseback riding and more
- Three separate campgrounds within the area: Standing Indian Campground, Kimsey Creek Group Camp and Hurricane Creek
- Primitive Campground and Horse Camp (outdoor stables)
- Historic Sites: Wasilik Poplar, White Oak Bottoms & Albert Mountain Tower
- Begins as a paved two-lane road and turns into single-lane gravel past Standing Indian Campground access

From intersection of Hwy 64 and Hwy 23/441 North in Franklin, NC take Hwy 64 W towards Murphy, NC for 12 miles. Just before the 12th mile you should see a brown sign for Wallace Gap, Appalachian Trail & Standing Indian Campground with arrows pointing you towards West Old Murphy Road (SR 1448) on your left, take this left. Stay on W. Old Murphy Road for two miles. You'll pass a Nantahala National Forest Sign for the campground saying, "500 Ft Ahead," and at two miles you'll be at FR (Forest Road) #67 to your right (indicated by a small, skinny brown sign at the beginning of the road).



### SCENIC DRIVES

#### US HWY 64: FRANKLIN, NC TO WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN

- 22 miles of gorgeous roadside scenery on this section of the "Mountain Waters Scenic Byway"
- Multiple waterfalls (Cullasaja Falls, Bust Your Butt Falls, Dry Falls, Bridal Veil Falls & Lake Sequoyah or "Kala Kaleskies Falls")
- Fishing in the hatchery supported waters of the Cullasaja River
- Cliffside Lake Recreation Area with fishing, hiking, picnic area, swimming, bath house (showers, restrooms) , kid friendly
- Vanhook Glade Campground with Cliffside Lake access via Vanhook Trail
- Two roadside picnic areas with multiple tables, charcoal grills and easy access to the Cullasaja River
- Toilets located at the Dry Falls parking area
- Downtown Highlands shopping, restaurants and lodging
- Whiteside Mountain with excellent hiking opportunity
- Views from "Big View", roadside of Highway 64 (Whiteside Mountain, Devil's Courthouse, Chattooga River Valley and into South Carolina)

#### WHITESIDE COVE ROAD

- Peaceful drive connecting Horse Cove (just South of Highlands) and Hwy 107 (just South of Cashiers)
- Multiple activities from this road including scenic views, photography, fishing, swimming and hiking
- Points of interest: Granite City, Grimshaws Historic Post Office, Cashiers Sliding Rock, Chattooga River Cliffs Trail (Upper)
- This road is part pavement, part gravel in places; not recommended for motorcycles

LEFT:

US HWY 64: FRANKLIN, NC TO WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN

## LOCAL PICNIC AREAS

### PICNIC AREAS

#### CHATTOOGA RIVER LOOP TRAIL

##### BULL PEN ROAD TRAIL HEAD

Park and start at what locals call the “Iron Bridge.” The trail head for the “Loop” starts on the left side of the bridge and runs along the river for just under one mile. You can break up this two-mile loop by stopping along the shores of the river for a picnic, swimming or trying your luck at fishing. A picnic table can be found midway through the hike if you would rather wait to have lunch there. See Chattooga River Trail for directions.

#### CLIFFSIDE LAKE

This is a great place to take your family. Kids can run around and play in the water or the woods. The area is great for kids learning how to fish due to the ample room around Cliffside Lake for you to spread out. Take along your fishing pole and swimsuit. This is four miles west of Highlands on Hwy 64. Between Cashiers & Highlands.

#### CULLASAJA GORGE

This is a very convenient picnic area if traveling along this section of the “Mountain Waters Scenic Byway.” Plan on stopping here for a quick picnic with the family before heading up to Highlands from Franklin or vice versa. This is four and a half miles west of Highlands on Hwy 64. Between Cashiers & Highlands.

#### HIGHLANDS BOTANICAL GARDEN

828-526-0188 | HIGHLANDS, NC

Learn about the flora of the region while having your picnic lunch among the gardens or by the lake. Nearly 500 species of mosses, ferns, wildflowers, shrubs and trees flourish in natural forest, wetlands and old-growth plant communities connected by trails and boardwalks.

### PICNIC AREAS

#### HIGHLANDS RECREATION PARK

828-526-3556 | HIGHLANDS, NC

This is a local favorite for picnicking. Allow some time to enjoy the playground equipment and take a dip in the pool.

#### SUNSET ROCK

Grab a bottle of wine, bread and some cheese and head along Main Street walking or driving East out of Highlands. Across from the Highlands Nature Center, this is a great place to hike 0.6 mile up, kick off your shoes and enjoy a beautiful view of Highlands at sunset. A local favorite!



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## WATERFALL RECOMMENDATIONS

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### CASHIERS

#### CASHIERS SLIDING ROCK

A natural water slide, created by the Chattooga River gliding over a 10-foot high rock face with a few large potholes. It's a popular local spot during the summer because the water is quite cool. You can slide down the rock, cannonball into one of the potholes or just wade in the pool below the rock.

##### DIRECTIONS

Make a left out of driveway of Big Billy onto Flat Mt. Rd. Turn left on Hwy 64 towards Cashiers, NC. The first light in Cashiers make a left onto NC 107 South for 1.9 miles to Whiteside Cove Road. Turn right and follow it 2.8 miles to bridge over the Chattooga. Park and follow short trail to the river.

#### SILVER RUN FALLS

A 30-foot waterfall spills into a pool of water, making for a nice swimming hole at the base. Heads up, the area can be crowded on a warm day.

##### DIRECTIONS

Head east on US 64 to Cashiers, turn left on HWY 107 South. The falls are 4.1 miles down on the left. Park in the pull-off on the left and take the short, easy trail to the base.

#### WHITEWATER FALLS

This is North Carolina's highest waterfall and the highest waterfall east of the Rockies, with the upper portion falling 411 feet!

##### DIRECTIONS

Head west on US 64 to Cashiers, turn left on HWY 107 South for 9 miles. Turn left onto SC 413 for 2.2 miles. Turn left on SC HWY 130 South for 2 miles to the Whitewater Falls entrance. \$3.00 fee to park.

### HIGHLANDS

#### BRIDAL VEIL FALLS

This fall is one of the most unusual and most popular falls in the South by virtue of its location along scenic mountain US 64 West, 2.45 miles from town of Highlands. The falls drop for 120 feet and cars can drive under the veil of water on the old road. This is the only waterfall in North Carolina that you can drive under. During cold spells, the falls create a large mound of ice at its base. If it stays cold long enough, the falls will form one giant column of ice.

#### BUST YOUR BUTT FALLS

This popular swimming hole is for the brave, one can jump off a boulder into the Cullasaja River. Bust Your Butt Falls is a little over a mile beyond Dry Falls on US 64 West, and on the right is a large unpaved parking area flanked by sheer granite cliffs. Park here and cross the road to find Bust Your Butt Falls.

#### CULLASAJA FALLS

The last major waterfall on the Cullasaja River, these 250 feet falls are a long cascade over the course of 0.2 miles. Drive 8.75 miles from town on US 64 West to a pull over on the left side of the road. To return, it is strongly advised that you drive beyond the pull-off, turn around at a safe place, and retrace your route.

#### DRY FALLS

This fall flows on the Cullasaja River through the Nantahala National Forest. It is part of a series of waterfalls on an 8.7 mile stretch of the river that eventually ends with Cullasaja Falls. Dry Falls flows over an overhanging bluff that allows visitors to walk under the falls and remain relatively dry when the waterflow is low, hence its name. Visitors will get wet if the waterflow is high. Drive 3.5 miles on US 64 West to the parking area on the left.

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## WATERFALL RECOMMENDATIONS

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### HIGHLANDS

#### GLEN FALLS

Glen Falls is located 2.6 miles south of Highlands. To reach Glen Falls, take Hwy 28 South from Highlands and travel 1.6 miles where you will see a sign directing you to turn left. Immediately after, turn right and head down the gravel road for one mile. The road will dead end into the Glen Falls parking area. From here, you can either take the Glen Falls Trail or the Chinguapin Mountain Trail. Glen Falls features a series of beautiful cascades. There are three major cascades and several smaller cascades, all of which you can access from the zig-zagging trail. Pay attention to which turn on the trail you make as there are several shoot offs from the main trail. From top to bottom, the trail is one mile long and descends 700 ft. The hike in is fairly easy since you are dropping down, but coming out will be a lot more strenuous. Glen Falls is located in a forest of hardwoods and pines which help keep the trails nicely shaded from the hot summer sun. From most points on the trail, you can hear the falls which makes for a wonderful hike in and out.

#### SECRET FALLS

One of the finest waterfalls in the area, a relatively large creek pours over a nearly vertical bluff into a big, deep, beautiful pool, complete with a sandy beach, before spilling over some smaller cascades and into a dark, rocky cove. Take Main Street to Horse Cove Road. Continue this curvy road downhill for 3.7 miles and turn right on Walking Stick Road (SR1608). Drive down this gravel road for a total of 2.5 miles to a fork. Turn right and drive 1/4 mile to FR4567. Drive another 1/4 mile and pull into the small, grassy parking area on the left. The trail is marked as Big Shoals Trail. It starts out level as it passes through an area of new growth. It then turns to older growth as the trail descends and eventually comes to an easy creek crossing. A few minutes later, the trail crosses another small creek, then heads up hill. Then the trail turns to the left and down towards the top of the falls.

### CASHIERS AND SAPPHIRE

#### CASHIERS SLIDING ROCK

A natural waterslide, created by the Chattooga River gliding over a 10-foot-high face with a few large potholes, Cashiers Sliding Rock is a popular local spot during the summer because the water is quite cool. You can slide down the rock, cannonball into one of the potholes or just wade in the pool below the rock. From the intersection of NC 107 and US 64 in Cashiers, follow NC 107 south for 1.9 miles to Whiteside Cove Road. Turn right onto Whiteside Cove Road and follow it 2.8 miles to the bridge over the Chattooga. Park and follow a short trail to the river.

#### RAINBOW/TURTLEBACK/DRIFT FALLS

Rainbow Falls is one of the most spectacular waterfall settings in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. This 150-foot-tall waterfall is impressive, and its best feature is the ability to experience the falls from the front, bottom, side and top! Located in the Nantahala National Forest, adjacent to Gorges State Park, Rainbow Falls is just one of four waterfalls on a two-mile stretch of the river.

To reach Rainbow Falls, it is a 1.5 mile hike from Gorges State Park at the Grassy Ridge Parking area, about 2 miles after entering the park. The trail to Rainbow Falls begins at the cluster of information boards at the end of the parking lot and is blazed with orange circles until you reach the National Forest. Then the trail is blazed with orange ribbons. When you near the river (about 1/2 mile), you will intersect with the main trail. Fork to the right to continue upriver to Rainbow Falls. Continue upriver about 1/3 mile to Turtleback Falls, a 20 foot drop over a curved rockface into a pool that can have strong currents. At lower water levels, it's a popular spot to go sliding and swimming. Walk another 1/2 mile (keep left at the trail fork - the right fork will take you to the NC Highway 281 entrance) to Drift Falls, a beautiful 80-foot rockslide. However, the Falls are just past the

## WATERFALL RECOMMENDATIONS



LEFT TO RIGHT:  
SECRET FALLS, GLEN FALLS



National Forest boundary and on private property. At the end of the trail, you can enjoy a great view of the Falls from a distance. But don't go past the "do not enter" signs. There is a hefty fine if you are caught trespassing. Return and walk back the same trail to reach your car at Gorges.

### SILVER RUN FALLS

A 30-foot Falls spills into a pool of water, making for a nice swimming hole at the base of the Falls. The area can be crowded on a warm day. To get to these Falls, head east on HWY 64 to Cashiers. Turn right on Hwy 107 South. Silver Run Falls is 4.1 miles down on the left. Park in the pull-off on the left and take the short, easy trail to the base.

### WHITEWATER FALLS

This is North Carolina's highest waterfall and the highest waterfall east of the Rockies, with the upper portion falling 411 feet! It's part of the Whitewater River in the Jocassee Gorge area of North Carolina just before you reach South Carolina. For an excellent view of Whitewater Falls, follow the paved 1/4-mile walkway to the upper overlook. The walkway begins at the end of the parking lot and is accessible to wheelchairs. A lower overlook with an even better view is located at the bottom of 154 wooden steps. The only full views of the falls are from these two-overlook s. From Highlands, take HWY 64 East to Cashiers, and take left on NC Highway 107 South for nine miles. Turn left onto SC Highway 130 South for 3.3 miles to the Whitewater Falls entrance.



DRY FALLS

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## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

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### HIKES

#### YELLOW MOUNTAIN

4.8 MILES ONE WAY

This is a long hike with a fair amount of climbing and features a historic fire tower at elevation of 5,127 feet. Allow a full day to complete this trail. The destination of this hike is spectacular panoramic views seen from the top.

#### DIRECTIONS

Take US 64 East, turn right onto Buck Creek Road for 2.3 miles. The trail will be on the right. Look for the steps at the trail head.

#### WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN

HIKE 2 MILE LOOP

Great for all ages, this hike is located midway between Cashiers and Highlands, NC on US 64. It features panoramic views and one of America's landmarks along the Eastern Continental Divide.

#### DIRECTIONS

Just west of the Jackson/Macon County Line, turn on right to Whiteside Mountain Road (SR 1690). Go one mile to the well-marked trail head and parking area on left.

#### RAINBOW FALLS/HIKE

1.5 MILE HIKE

This 150-foot waterfall is impressive! Viewers have the ability to experience the falls from the front, bottom, side and top! Rainbow Falls is just one of four waterfalls on a two-mile stretch of the river.

#### DIRECTIONS

Make a left out from Flat Mnt Road onto HWY US 64 East, drive 11.3 miles then take a right onto NC-281/ Lower Whitewater Road. Turn left onto Gorges Maintenance Road. Follow NC 281 South for 1 mile to the Grassy Ridge access entrance to Gorges State Park. Enter the park and drive 1.6 miles to the parking area at the bottom of the Loop Road.

### HIKES

#### BARTRAM TRAIL OSAGE OVERLOOK

2 MILES ONE WAY | DIFFICULT

This segment of the Bartram Trail is strenuous due to an elevation gain of 1100 ft. in just 2 miles. The views of Blue Valley to the South and of Tessentee Valley to the North make this trek well worth it. You'll also pass a small waterfall at 0.8 miles into the hike on your way to an old logging road. Turn right and follow this rocky road for approx. 0.6 miles to the short spur trail on the left which goes to the top of Scaly Mountain (4804 ft). On top of Scaly there are three separate overlooks with views of Tessentee Valley, Blue Valley and surrounding mountains. The trail ends at the third overlook. This short but strenuous hike is for experienced hikers due to the elevation change. If children are in good physical shape, it would be a great workout and reward for them. Appropriate shoes and clothing for this climb are recommended.

From the intersection of US 64 and Hwy 106 in Highlands, take Hwy 106 Southwest toward Dillard, GA for 5.5 miles to a paved overlook area and trail head to your left. Signage for "Hikers" just before you reach the trail head and sign reading "Nantahala National Forest Vista, Osage Mountain" at the trail head. You'll park on the same side as the overlook, but access the northbound Bartram Trail to Scaly Mountain on the right side of Hwy 106, via a set of stairs and a small brown sign with yellow lettering reading, "Bartram Trail" and an even smaller U.S. Forest Service sign reading, "Bartram Trail to Hickory."

#### CHATTOOGA RIVER TRAIL TO WHITESIDE COVE

6.25 MILES ONE WAY | MODERATE TO DIFFICULT

This is a beautiful, scenic trail following the Chattooga River upstream from the Iron Bridge at Bullpen Road to Whiteside Church on Whiteside Cove Road. (This hike, as stated, is a one-way hike that starts and ends at different locations, so transportation arrangements must be made unless

## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

### HIKES

a round-trip hike is done.) The trail can be steep at points but is not particularly difficult.

Turn right towards Highlands on HWY 64 west proceed east (left) on Main Street, which becomes Horse Cove Road, for 4.5 miles to intersection with Bull Pen and Whiteside Cove Roads. Turn right on Bull Pen Road and proceed 3.1 miles to the Iron Bridge. Trail head is on the left just before the bridge.



#### CHATTOOGA LOOP TRAIL

2 MILE LOOP | MODERATE

The Chattooga River Loop Trail is a great hike for the entire family. It is moderate in difficulty with a few inclines and obstacles to deal with (fallen trees over trail, wet spots, rocky/root exposure). You'll start at what locals call the "Iron Bridge," where you'll park. The trail head for the "Loop" starts on the left side of the bridge and runs along the river for just under one mile. You can stop along the shores of the river for a picnic, swim, or to try your luck at fishing.

Head to Highlands on HWY 64 west, proceed east on Main Street, which becomes Horse Cove Road, for 4.5 miles to the intersection with Bull Pen and Whiteside Cove Roads. Turn right

### HIKES

onto Bull Pen Road (#1178) and proceed for 3.1 miles to the Iron Bridge. The trail head is on the left just before the bridge.

#### CLIFFSIDE LAKE RECREATIONAL AREA

Eight hiking trails, a six-acre lake, and two spectacular waterfalls make Cliffside Lake Recreation Area and Van Hook Campground a mecca for those who enjoy the outdoors. Approximately 4 miles from the heart of Highlands in Nantahala National Forest, directly across the street from the beautiful Cullasaja River. Up the hill from the campground is Cliffside Lake Recreation Area, a tucked-away haven of tranquility, where you can swim, fish, hike, and picnic. There is a \$4 per day parking fee per vehicle.

**CLIFFSIDE LOOP:** This 0.75 mile trail encircles the lake, passes through the camp ground, and crosses over the dam and beach area.

**CLIFFSIDE VISTA NATURE TRAIL:** This trail travels one mile through a hardwood forest and climbs to a ridge top with a gazebo. Signs give trail descriptions along the way. The trail becomes more difficult as it continues along the ridge.

**CLIFFTOP VISTA TRAIL:** This 1.5 mile trail follows the same path as the Homesite Road Trail: This easy 1.5 mile trail starts near Cliffside Lake Dam, follows Skitty Creek, and connects with a road that meets US 64 halfway between Dry and Bridal Veil Falls.

**POTT'S MEMORIAL TRAIL:** This easy 0.5 mile trail travels to a white pine plantation.

## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

### HIKES

**RANGER FALLS TRAIL:** This moderately difficult 1.3 mile trail up the ridge leads to Ranger Falls, a 25-30 ft set of falls on Skitty Creek. Access the trail from the right of the Clifftop Vista trail head. After 0.3 mile, at a fork in the trail, take the left fork (downhill) to the falls. In approx. 0.6 mile the trail splits again. Stay to the right and do not cross the creek via the left trail. In approx. 0.2 mile you will arrive at Ranger Falls. Continue up past the Falls to a four-way intersection. Turn right and continue for 0.1 mile to a road. Turn right onto the road for approx. 0.25 mile into a clearing where the trail departs the road to the left; take this trail through the clearing. Continue past the first fork in the trail that led to the Falls Head back downhill to the parking area at Cliffside Lake.

**SKITTY CREEK TRAIL:** This 0.5 mile trail runs between Cliffside Lake Road and US 64. The trail leads to Dry Falls. To get to the falls from the trail's end, take a short walk along US 64. Watch out for cars along this easy trail.

**VAN HOOK TRAIL:** This 0.5 mile trail is located between Van Hook Glade and Cliffside Lake. An additional 0.5 mile walk is next to a road that leads to Cliffside Lake.

### ELLICOTT'S ROCK WILDERNESS AREA

Encompassing 9,012 acres, the steep terrain of the Ellicott Rock Wilderness Area offers numerous mountains and waterfalls to explore. Two trails to Ellicott's Rock are described below.

#### BAD CREEK TRAIL TO ELLICOTT'S ROCK 3 MILES ONE WAY | MODERATE

This is a well-laid and marked 3-mile trail connecting the Chattooga River Trail to Bull Pen Road. The trail starts on an old logging road. It then descends through a series of switchbacks to the river. Once at the river, take the Chattooga River Trail left for a short distance to Ellicott's Rock.

### HIKES

#### ELLICOTT'S ROCK TRAIL 3.5 MILES ONE WAY | DIFFICULT

This trail follows an old roadbed through a rich pine forest. At 2.0 miles there is an intersection of two trails; continue straight. At 2.7 miles there is another junction; bear left and descend to the river. To reach Ellicott's Rock you must ford the river. Water depth will vary. During the summer wading should not be difficult. After fording, take the Chattooga River Trail to the right for a short distance to Ellicott's Rock.

Turn right from Flat Mnt. Rd towards Highlands, left on Main Street until the road becomes Horse Cove Road, for 4.5 miles to intersection of Bull Pen Road. Turn right on Bull Pen Road. Bad Creek trail begins on right, 3 miles east of bridge. Ellicott's Rock Trail trail head is 1.8 miles down Bull Pen Road. Both drop steeply down from opposite sides of the river near Ellicott's Rock.

#### GLADES ROAD CAVES 3.5 MILE LOOP | MODERATE

This is a nice 3.5 mile, moderate loop hike through the forest that follows an old roadbed that was used for boot-legging long ago with multiple cavernous exploration opportunities. The Cherokee Indians used these caves.

As you're hiking along you will notice side trails/old roadbeds. Stay to your right and on the obvious trail. A mixed terrain can be expected. A small spring flows through portions of the trail once you get closer to the caves, but again, nothing too serious to navigate. Approximately 17-20 minutes into your hike you will come upon another small brown trail sign that says "loop" on it. Keep to your right here, you are approx. Eight minutes from the caves on your left and uphill. The first "cave" you come to is small but very interesting to explore. Scoot underneath the overhang to get some pretty cool views of how the rocks have slid into place over the years.

## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

### HIKES

Take Horse Cove Road for 4.5 curvy miles down into the cove until you come to a fork in the road. Turn right at fork on Bull Pen Road. Go 1 mile and take Glades Road on the right. In 0.3 miles look for large, grassy parking area on the left. Trail head is approximately 50 ft. to the right of the parking area.

#### GLEN FALLS AND TRAIL

1.4 MILES ONE WAY

EASY DOWN | DIFFICULT UP

Glen Falls is a series of three beautiful cascades. The trail descends some 700 feet and starts at the top of the falls. You can return after seeing the first or second waterfall and still have an enjoyable walk. Or go all the way to the third waterfall!

From the intersection of US 64 and Hwy 106 in Highlands, NC take Hwy 106 South for 2 miles. Turn left at sign for Glen Falls, then immediately right onto gravel road. Take the road one mile to the parking area. The Glen Falls trail continues in the same direction of the road. (The trail to the right goes to Chinquapin Mountain, a 3.2 mile (round trip) moderate hike).

#### HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL CENTER

0.1 TO 0.2 MILES EACH TRAIL

MULTIPLE TRAILS | EASY

The Highlands Botanical Gardens and Nature Center at the Biological Station serves as a living museum of labeled native plant series. Take the Lower Lake and Upper Lake Trails around Lindenwood Lake to connect with Rhododendron Trail or explore the gardens and loop trails throughout the Garden. All trails range from 0.1 to 0.2 miles.

### HIKES

#### HIGHLANDS PLATEAU GREENWAY

MULTIPLE TRAILS | EASY

The Greenway contains over five miles of sidewalks and natural trails that are open and free to the public daily from sunrise to sunset. The trails connect natural areas and historic sites in the town and provide alternate walking and jogging routes to shopping, educational offerings, and civic destinations. Existing and proposed trails incorporate botanical points of interest, historic sites, important birding areas, art, scenic overlooks, and other areas of natural beauty. The Greenway is intended for foot traffic only and its trails are rated as easy, moderate or difficult to indicate health and fitness opportunities for all user levels.

#### SATULAH MOUNTAIN

1.6 MILES ONE WAY | MODERATE

The Satulah Mountain Trail is a short hike along an old roadbed to a peak of 4543 ft. just south of Highlands. There is a 270° view to the south, east and west. Views of the Piedmont, the Blue Valley and Rabun Bald are excellent. The trail is a steady climb of about 400 ft. over a distance of about half a mile one way.

Park your vehicle in downtown Highlands. Then walk along Hwy 28 South toward Walhalla for 0.2 miles until the road makes a sharp curve to the right. Go straight ahead at the curve onto Satulah Road. Half a mile up the road the road forks. Continue straight ahead on the left fork to the end of the road, a distance of about 0.4 miles. The trail to Satulah Mountain is the rocky old roadbed to the right. Follow this roadbed an additional half a mile to the clearing at the top of the mountain.

*To ensure an enjoyable hike, we strongly recommend you contact the US Forest Service at 828-526-3765. They have additional information, maps, and brochures. Please use caution, although these trails, waterfalls, and scenic areas are beautiful to see, they can be very dangerous.*

## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

### HIKES

#### SCALY MOUNTAIN

2 MILES ONE WAY | DIFFICULT

Take this moderate to difficult hike along the Bartram Trail to the top of Scaly mountain, marked by yellow blazes. The summit offers a beautiful view of the Appalachians and Piedmont. From Highlands drive south on NC 106 for 5.7 miles to the Osage Mountain Vista parking area. The trail starts across the road from the overlook.

(This trail is not suitable for small children.)

#### SUNSET ROCK

0.6 MILES ONE WAY | EASY

Enjoy a bird's eye view of the town from the top of Sunset Rock! A short 1/2-hour walk leads to a natural cliff side amphitheater where slabs of granite provide front row seats. Beautiful sunsets can be seen over Highlands and Brushy Face Mountain to the west and the vista of Horse Cove to the east (Sunrise Rock). To locate the trail, go east for 0.5 miles to the Highlands Nature Center on the left. Park here and follow the sign indicating a gravel road to Sunset Rock and Ravenel Park. Although the trail is marked "Hiking Trail Only" it is a private drive so do not park as to block it. The road ends with Sunset Rock to the right. **\*DO NOT DRIVE\***



### HIKES

#### WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN HIKE

2 MILE LOOP | MODERATE

Enjoy the amazing experience of one of America's landmarks along the Eastern Continental Divide. Whiteside Mountain rises to an elevation of 4,930 feet and is the jewel of the Appalachians. Learn the history and nature of this million-year-old rock as you hike the "moderate" two-mile round-trip trail to the summit. Whiteside Mountain is located midway between Cashiers and Highlands on US 64, on the Jackson/Macon County line known as the "Big View" overlook. Just west of the Jackson/Macon County line, turn onto Whiteside Mountain Road (SR #1690) at the entrance to Wildcat Cliffs Country Club (right turn coming from Highlands). Go one mile to the well-marked parking area on the left. This is a fee area with the National Forest Service. The charge is \$2.00 per car. There is a limited restroom facility located in the parking area.

#### YELLOW MOUNTAIN/ SHORTOFF MOUNTAIN

4.8 DIFFICULT MILES ONE WAY (YELLOW MTN) 1.5 EASY MILES (SHORTOFF)

A short, easy hike to a view of the Buck Creek area; Shortoff Mountain has views to the south. Yellow Mountain is a long hike with a fair amount of climbing and views in all directions. Allow a full day to complete this trail. The trail traverses three very beautiful mountains: Cole, Shortoff and Yellow. The destination of this hike is the spectacular panoramic vista seen from the top of Yellow Mountain.

## HIKE RECOMMENDATIONS

### HIKES

2.3 miles. The trail will be on the right, look for the steps at the trail head, no cell service.

*We greatly appreciate the efforts of the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust in preserving our most treasures places. For membership or sponsorship information, please visit their website at [www.hicashlt.org](http://www.hicashlt.org).*

### HIGHLANDS BOTANICAL GARDEN TRAILS

0.1 TO 0.2 MILES EACH TRAIL

MULTIPLE TRAILS | EASY

828-526-0188

930 HORSE COVE ROAD, HIGHLANDS, NC

Nearly 500 species of mosses, ferns, wildflowers, shrubs and trees flourish in natural forest, wetlands and old-growth plant communities connected by trails and board walks. Several unique demonstration gardens display collections of Native Azaleas, Plants of the Cherokee, Mosses and Liverworts, Wildflowers, Butterfly-pollinated and Rock Outcrop species. Horticulturists offer free, guided tours every Monday from May 23 to September 5 at 10:30 am. Several workshops on gardening are also offered. The Botanical Garden, part of the Highlands Biological Station, is free and open to the public year-round from sunrise to sunset.

### HIKES

### HIGHLANDS PLATEAU GREENWAY

MULTIPLE TRAILS | EASY

The Highlands Plateau Greenway is a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop a system of walking and hiking trails that protect and connect the natural settings and historic sites of the Highlands, NC area. It is intended to be a locally owned and managed trail system for walkers and hikers of existing and planned paths along a continuous, safe, green route, easily identified through signage, maps, and user guides designed to promote the public's enjoyment and appreciation of the natural and historical environment as well as quality of life on the Highlands plateau.

During the first half of 2015, volunteers contributed 234 hours of their time and effort, turning the Sled Run from Oak Street to Mill Creek into a beautiful and well-constructed entrance to the Greenway trail. They filled the water-laden marshes of the old Sled Run with surge stone and gravel for essential support and transplanted native shrubs, ferns, and mosses to adorn the rock lined edges of the new trail. A pavilion was moved from Kelsey Hutchinson Founders Park to mark the gateway to the trail system on Oak Street, 2nd Street and North 1st Street.



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## FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

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### FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

#### ANDY'S TROUT FARM

Located near Dillard, GA on 325 acres of mountain land that backs up to the Nantahala National Forest, there are plenty of outdoor activities at Andy's. Hike to waterfalls, gem mine or catch some trout for supper from the stocked ponds. For details, call 706-746-2550 or see [andystroutfarm.com](http://andystroutfarm.com).

#### GEOCACHING

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The basic idea is to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, outdoors and then share your experiences online. Geocaching is enjoyed by people from all age groups, with a strong sense of community and support for the environment. There are over 400 geocaches in the Highlands area. Visit [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) for a complete list and start your family fun.

#### HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL STATION, NATURE CENTER AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

Tour the Highlands Botanical Garden to study the unique southern Appalachian natural environment. The Botanical Garden is a must see for the nature lover and serves as a living museum of labeled native plant species. A guide will take you along the eight garden trails and show you the various flowers blooming throughout, each month there is a new flower blooming. Contact 828-526-2623 or [highlandsbiological.org](http://highlandsbiological.org) for more information.

#### SUNSET ROCK HIKES

Take a bird's eye view of the town from Sunset Rock - an ideal choice for a morning or an afternoon hike. A short hike leads you to a natural cliff side amphitheater where slabs of granite provide front row seats to view Highlands, Brushy Face Mountain and the vista of Horse Cove. Old

### FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

#### WHITESIDE MOUNTAIN HIKES

At an elevation of 4,930 ft, this landmark along the Eastern Continental Divide is famous for its postcard view of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Whiteside Mountain is about 390 to 460 million years old, and legend says it is the oldest rock in the world. A two-mile loop around the back or north side of the mountain and gives visitors a chance to view a variety of wildflowers. The trail climbs approximately 500 ft. and can be walked in an hour but allow plenty of time to take in the vistas.

#### THE VILLAGE GREEN

Playground called village play was designed by the children of cashiers in 2002. The entire park is 12.5 acres and is open year round for public use and enjoyment for the entire community. It is located in the heart of cashiers, at the crossroads of HWY 64 and HWY 107 features a giant wood children's playground called village play!

#### SIGNAL RIDGE MARINA

Only available full service marina on the highest lake east of the Mississippi called lake Glenville! Whether you're interested to view one of three natural waterfalls by boat or wanting to have family outing on the water, signal ridge marina has you covered with rental pontoon boats and all of the possible water sport accessories you could want! Hourly & daily rates available: 828.743.2143 and reservations highly recommended.

#### HIGHLANDS AERIAL PARK

ZipLining

#### HIGHLANDS OUTPOST

Scaly Mountain Screamer - Mountain Coaster

## GEM MINING

*An important and fascinating part of North Carolina history is its gem mining. The Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina are the oldest in the world and have provided the area with more types of gemstones than are found anywhere else in the United States.*

*More than fifty pounds of sapphires were mined from the area in the 1800s, and that is how the town of Sapphire got its name. In fact, North Carolina is the only state where all four of the hardest stones in the United States are found: diamond, emerald, ruby, and sapphire. Gold from North Carolina was used to mint the first gold coins, and the largest emerald, weighing over 1,600 carats, was found here as well.*



### GEM MINES

#### CHEROKEE RUBY & SAPPHIRE MINE

828-349-2941  
41 CHEROKEE MINE ROAD, FRANKLIN, NC  
CHEROKEERUBYMINE.COM

The mine is not “salted” or “enriched” and contains only native North Carolina gemstones, including rubies, sapphires, garnets, moonstones, rhodolite, rutile and sillimanite. These gems occur naturally in the Cowee Valley and are not as plentiful as in “salted” mines but are much more valuable and many are “facet quality.”



#### COWEE MOUNTAIN RUBY MINE

828-369-5271  
6771 SYLVA ROAD, FRANKLIN, NC  
COWEEMTNRUBYMINE.COM

Located four miles north of Franklin at the foot of Cowee Mountain just off Highway 441, Cowee Mountain Ruby Mine is open daily from 9 am until 6 pm, March - November. Two covered flumes allow you to mine rain or shine.

## GEM MINING

### GEM MINES

#### GOLD CITY GEM MINE

828-369-3905  
9410 SYLVA ROAD, FRANKLIN, NC  
GOLDCITYAMUSEMENT.COM

Home of the 1061-carat sapphire found at Gold City, featured in People Weekly, Disney Adventures and Rock & Gem Magazines. Native and enriched gemstones buckets. Gold panning also available. New and improved large, covered flume for gem mining rain or shine. New inside heated flume for cold days.

#### JACKSON HOLE

828-524-5850  
US 64 WEST, HIGHLANDS, NC  
JACKSONHOLEGEMMINE.COM

Featuring native and enriched stones. Located in waterfall country above the breathtaking Cullasaja Falls on Hwy. 28 & US 64 halfway between Franklin and Highlands. Gem cutting available, snack bar and gem shop on site. Covered gem mine makes it the perfect rainy-day activity.

#### MASON'S RUBY AND SAPPHIRE MINE

828-369-9742  
ROUTE 28 NORTH, FRANKLIN, NC  
MASONSMINE.COM

Offering native only gem mining, this mine has an abundance of beautiful sapphires and occasional rubies. It's one of Macon County's oldest and most productive mines. Most will have success their first time. Dig your own dirt. Located in the Burningtown Community off Route 28 North. Follow signs.

### GEM MINES

#### ROSE CREEK MINE

828-349-3774  
115 TERRACE RIDGE DRIVE, FRANKLIN, NC  
ROSECREEKMINE.COM

Mine for rubies, sapphires, garnets, emeralds and so much more. Rose Creek has special buckets, gem kits, lapidary supplies, jewelry, opals and a world class collection of minerals. Dig your own dirt, first bucket free with admission. Help for beginners, equipment supplied, covered flume line, clean rest rooms, covered picnic tables and snacks. Group rates available, as is "gem dirt to go." Five miles north of Franklin on Hwy 28, left on Bennett Road before river.

#### SHEFFIELD MINE

828-369-8383  
385 SHEFFIELD FARMS ROAD, FRANKLIN, NC  
SHEFFIELDMINE.COM

As featured on the Travel Channel, Sheffield Mine features native rubies and sapphires (some will "STAR") or enriched rainbow buckets with semi-precious gems from around the world. Mine rain or shine at covered flumes. Also offers picnic tables, snacks and beverages, gem identification, stone cutting and setting and gift shop.

