

# Bartram Trail

The Bartram Trail runs from Oconee State Park in SC through GA and NC to the Great Smokies. Marked with yellow blazes.

*Scaly Mountain:* Take Hwy. 106, 5.7 miles to the Osaga Mtn. Vista, park at the overlook. The trail starts across the road, the length is 1.5 miles each way and the climb is over 1000 feet. After quiet a climb, the trail levels off and comes to an intersection. The Bartram with yellow blazes, continues up to Scaly summit. The spur trail on right with blue blazes leads to trailhead at Hickory Knut Gap.

Length: 1.5 miles • Difficulty: Moderate

*Hickory Knut Gap:* Take Hwy. 106, 4 miles to Turtle Pond Road and turn right. Take a left on Hickory Knut Gap Road. Drive 0.9 miles to trail, which is a Forest Service Road on the left. Park on the right, and walk road 0.28 miles then the trail leaves the road sharply to the right. Follow the blue blazes to the junction with Bartram and continue to Scaly summit or beyond.

*Jones Knob:* Take US 64 West, to Turtle Pond Rd. Go 1.1 miles to intersection and continue to the right on Dendy Orchard Rd. for 1.4 miles to top of hill. Turn left on Jones Gap Rd. and continue for 2 miles to parking area. An old roadbed leads right to a wildlife management field. At the far end of the field yellow blazes mark Bartram to the right and blue blazes mark the Jones Knob spur trail to left. Follow blue blazed trail for .03 miles to a delightful mountaintop view.

Length: 0.5 miles • Difficulty: Easy



# Take A Hike

*Padgett Poplar:* Follow Main Street East which turns into Horse Cove Road. Go 2.8 miles. Turn right on Rich Gap Road for 0.1 mile and park, stairway on right leads to the tree.

*Yellow Mountain:* To reach the trail head, take 64 East from Highlands three miles and turn left onto Buck Creek Road. Follow Buck Creek Road 2.3 miles. The trail will be on the right. Destination of this hike is a spectacular panoramic vista scene from the top of Yellow Mountain.

Length: 4.8 miles one way, allow for a full day  
Difficulty: Strenuous

*Highlands Botanical Gardens:* A lovely spot with several different gardens to explore .5 miles from downtown on Main Street Park on gravel area across from Highlands Nature Center. The garden paths start to the left of the Nature Center with maps posted along trails. The gardens are free and open to the public year-round from sunrise to sunset.



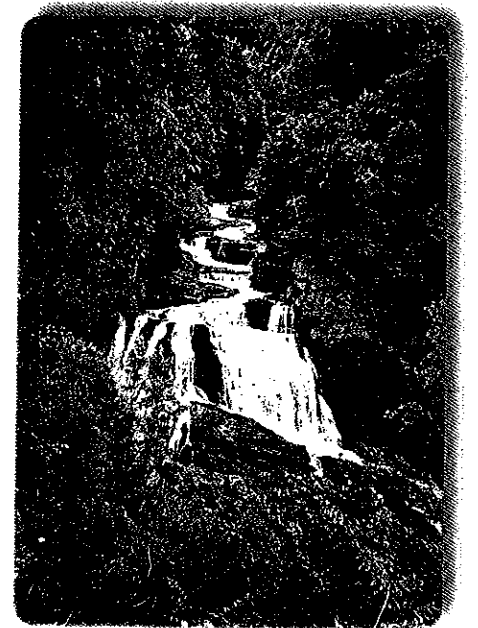
HIGHLANDS VISITOR CENTER

POST OFFICE BOX 404 HIGHLANDS, NC 28741

TEL (828) 526 2112 FAX (828) 526 5803

EMAIL VISITOR@HIGHLANDSCHAMBER.ORG

# Waterfalls & Hiking Highlands



*Cullasaja Falls*



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*above it all*

# Waterfalls

*Bridal Veil Falls:* This small, picturesque fall cascades over old 64 West 2.45 miles from town. At one time cars could drive under the falls. In the fall of 2003, a large boulder fell blocking it to thru traffic.  
Length & Difficulty: Easy



Length: 73 Stone Steps • Difficulty: Easy

*Dry Falls:* Drive 3.25 miles on US 64 West to the parking area on left. A pleasant walk down stone steps leads to a path that goes behind the waterfall. Here, the Cullasaja River projects over a cliff, allowing one to walk behind the falls without getting wet, hence the name.



*Bust Your Butt:* Drive 6 miles on US 64 West to pull over on right or left. This is a popular swimming hole. For the brave, one can jump off a boulder into the Cullasaja River.  
Length & Difficulty: Considered a popular swimming hole.

*Cullasaja Falls:* Drive 8.75 miles from town on US 64 West to a pull over on the left side of the road. It is strongly advised that you drive beyond the pull-off, turn around at a safe place, and retrace your route.

Length & Difficulty: Scenic view off 64 West.

*above it all*

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*Glen Falls:* Drive 1.7 miles on NC 106 to sign for the falls. Turn left, then immediately right onto a dirt road. Drive 1.1 miles to where the road dead-ends at a parking area. Glen Falls is composed of 3 falls dropping 640 feet. The foot trail descends some 700 feet in one mile. The walk down is easy, but the walk back up is fairly steep.

Length: 1 mile • Difficulty: Strenuous

## Hiking

*Whiteside Mountain:* This landmark along the eastern continental divide, is 6 miles from town on US 64 East. Turn right at sign onto Whiteside Mtn. Road. Go 1 mile to a well marked parking area on the left. This is a fee area, there is a restroom located in parking area. The 2 mile loop trail climbs above sheer cliffs and offers outstanding views.

Length: 2 mile loop • Difficulty: Moderate

*Sunset Rock:* Take Main Street .5 mile east to Nature Center on left and park on gravel on right. Sunset Rock is an ideal choice for a late afternoon stroll, it is a short 1/2 mile walk to the top. Beautiful sunsets can be seen over the town, while you sit on a natural amphitheatre on slabs of granite.

Length: 0.6 miles • Difficulty: Easy

*Chinquapin Mountain:* 3.2 miles (round trip) Trail Head: Glen Falls parking area, the trail begins to the right. A moderate walk, the trail crosses a stream many times. Then a mile long series of switch backs leads to the top.

Length: 1.5 miles • Difficulty: Moderate

## Cliffside Lake Recreational Area

Take US 64 West 4.5 miles, turn right at sign and drive 1.5 miles. There are several hiking trails and picnic tables with grills. Also a lake for swimming and fishing (NC Fishing w/trout stamp) Fee area, day use only.

*Loop Trail:* Easy 0.75 walk around the lake.

*Vista Trail:* The trailhead is located before the entrance to the lake on the left, watch for sign and park in this area. The first 1/2 mile climbs 480 ft. to a gazebo and trail junction. The right trail makes a quick descent to the road, the trail straight ahead continues across the mountain and returns to the road in 1 mile.

*Slick Rock Trail:* 0.2 miles (round trip) Trail Head: Bull Pen Rd. take Horse Cove Rd. to end of pavement. Take right fork (Bull Pen Rd.) and continue 1 mile. On a sharp left curve look for a pull-off and a steep unmarked path on the right. The hike is short, but the summit offers an impressive view of the mountains.

Length: 0.1 miles • Difficulty: Easy

*Little Sliding Rock:* Take Horse Cove Rd. to the end of pavement. Take the left (Whiteside Cove Rd.) for approx. 5 miles, then start looking for parking off the road. Stop along the way to see "World's Smallest Post Office".

Length: Short Walk • Difficulty: Easy

Warning!!! Wet rocks are very slippery and people fall to their deaths every year. When you visit them, please be very careful and use common sense. Do not climb rocks around the waterfalls and do not ever cross a stream or swim at the top of a waterfall. There are also species of rare plants near some of our waterfalls, living in and near the spray areas of the falls. Be very careful not to trample vegetation while exploring any falls!

