

# Tallulah Gorge State Park Trail Map

P. O. Box 248 • Tallulah Falls, GA 30573 • 706-754-7981 • Camping Reservations: 706-754-7979 • GeorgiasStateParks.org

a partnership of

## Tallulah Gorge State Park

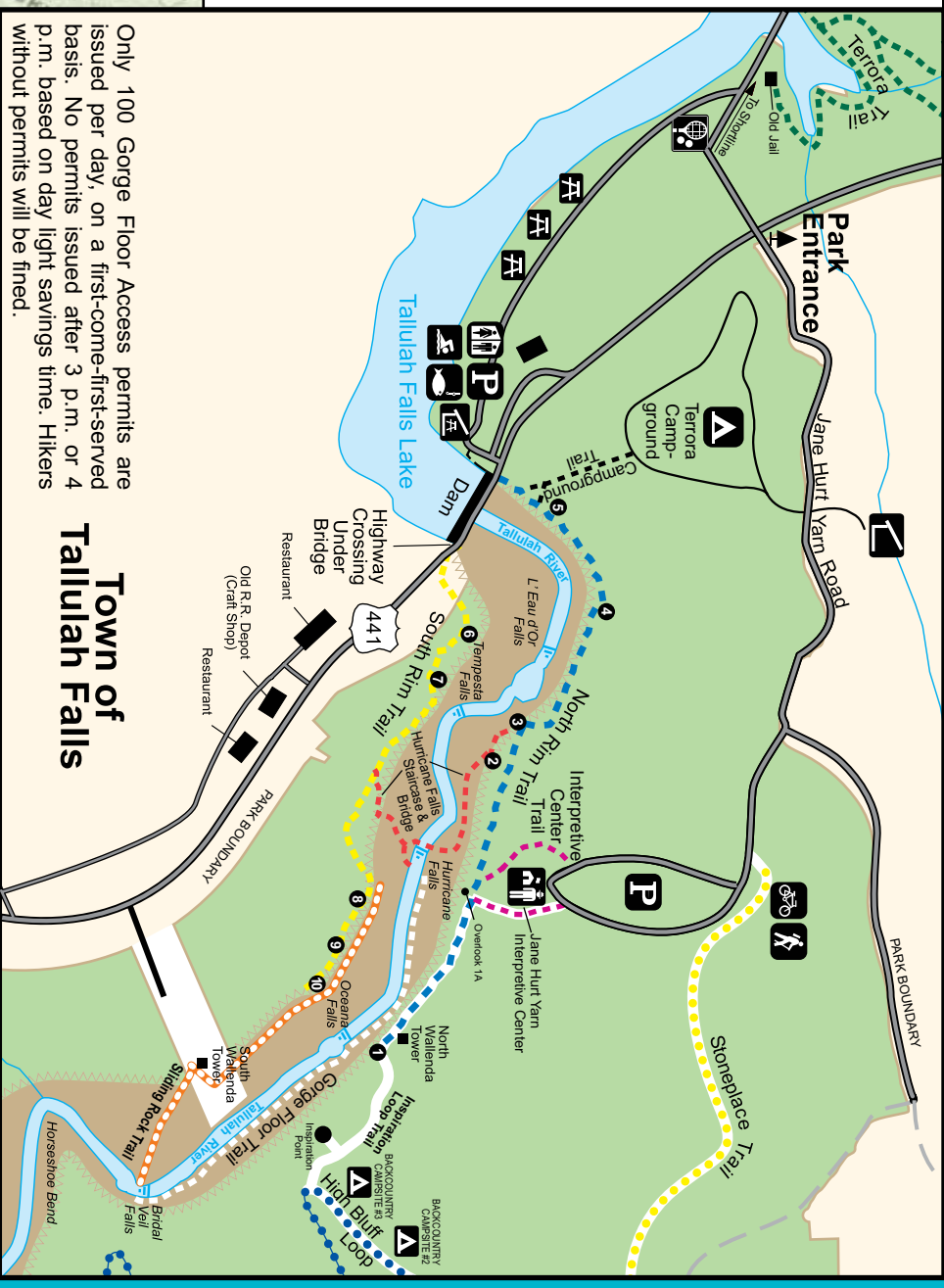


and

## GEORGIA POWER

A SOUTHERN COMPANY

Nature's Energy For Work and Play



Only 100 Gorge Floor Access permits are issued per day, on a first-come-first-served basis. No permits issued after 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. based on day light savings time. Hikers without permits will be fined.



**Georgia**  
State Parks  
& Historic Sites



LEGEND	
	Paved Roads
	Forest Management Roads
	Streams
	Park Visitor Center
	Parking
	Restrooms
	Hiking Trail
	Bike Trail
	Picnic Area
	Picnic Shelter
	Playground
	Swimming
	Tennis Courts
	Archery Range
	WMA Sign In
	Fishing
	Boat Ramp
	Backcountry Campsite
	RV and Tent Camping
	Pioneer Camping Area
	Overlook
	Waterfall
	North Rim Trail
	Hurricane Falls Trail
	South Rim Trail
	Gorge Floor Trail (P)
	Sliding Rock Trail (P)
	Interpretive Center Trail
	Campground Trail
	Shortline Trail
	Terrorra Trail
	Upper Terrorra Nature Trail
	Stone Place Trail (P)
	High Bluff Trail (P)
	Inspiration Loop Trail

(P) – Permit Required  
Register at Park Visitor Center.

### Safety Tips & Etiquette

- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.
- Take a map, water, snacks, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.
- Do not stray from trails. If you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Don't count on cell phones to work in the wilderness. If they do, be able to give details about your location.
- Invest in good hiking socks, found at sporting goods stores. Avoid blisters by carrying "moleskin" and applying it as soon as you feel a hot spot on your feet. Available in the foot care section of drug stores, moleskin is like felt that sticks to your skin.
- Pack out all trash.
- Be prepared for unexpected rain and wind which can lead to hypothermia. Always carry quality rain gear and turn back in bad weather. If you become wet or cold, it is important to get dry and warm as quickly as possible.
- Dress in layers and avoid cotton. Today's hikers can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly or conserve heat. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.
- Keep pets on a leash.
- Do not pick flowers or disturb wildlife.
- Protect the landscape and help prevent erosion by staying on marked trails.

### Climate Data for Tallulah Falls, Georgia

Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low	Mean	Avg. Precip.	Record High	Record Low
Jan	50°F	27°F	38°F	6.11 in	77°F (2002)	-8°F (1985)
Feb	53°F	29°F	41°F	5.26 in	78°F (1981)	-5°F (1958)
Mar	61°F	35°F	48°F	6.68 in	85°F (1974)	6°F (1993)
Apr	69°F	43°F	56°F	4.62 in	90°F (1960)	21°F (1987)
May	76°F	52°F	64°F	5.46 in	95°F (1953)	29°F (1989)
Jun	83°F	59°F	71°F	5.28 in	100°F (1964)	39°F (1972)
Jul	86°F	63°F	75°F	5.61 in	102°F (1952)	38°F (1957)
Aug	84°F	62°F	73°F	4.81 in	101°F (1983)	49°F (2004)
Sep	79°F	57°F	68°F	4.91 in	98°F (1954)	30°F (1974)
Oct	70°F	44°F	57°F	4.08 in	92°F (1954)	22°F (1987)
Nov	61°F	36°F	48°F	4.84 in	86°F (1961)	11°F (1970)
Dec	52°F	29°F	41°F	5.29 in	75°F (1971)	-2°F (1962)

# Tallulah Gorge State Park

Tallulah Gorge is one of the oldest geological features in North America. Being one of the most spectacular canyons in the eastern U.S., it is two miles long and nearly 1,000 feet deep. Visitors can hike rim trails to several overlooks, or they can obtain a free permit to hike down to the gorge floor (limit 100 per day, not available during scheduled water releases). A suspension bridge sways 80 feet above the rocky bottom, providing spectacular views of the river and the top of Hurricane Falls.

Designated a State Park in 1992, Tallulah Gorge is jointly operated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Power Company through a unique public-private partnership. Located in the historic town of Tallulah Falls, the 2739-acre state park features hiking, biking, camping, picnicking, swimming and opportunities for learning.

**Jane Hurt Yarn Interpretive Center**  
16,000-square-foot educational facility with rich cultural, historical and natural exhibits, offering an award-winning film, classroom space, gift shop, restrooms, and staff offices. The center is named for a Georgia conservationist, counselor, and educator who devoted 30 years of her life to the preservation and wise use of natural resources.

**Terrora Campground**  
50 RV/tent sites may be reserved or are otherwise available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 706-754-7979 for reservations.

**Day-Use Area**  
Picnic tables, 63-acre lake with beach (swim at your own risk; open Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend), 20 miles of hiking and biking trails, and two tennis courts. Free permit required for gorge floor hiking and rock climbing/rappelling.

**Water Releases**  
Whitewater boating releases are scheduled for the first two weekends in April and the first three weekends in November, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Water volumes are 500 cfs (cubic feet per second) on Saturday and 700 cfs on Sunday. Kayakers access the river below Hurricane Falls and can be best viewed from North Rim Trail Overlooks 1 and Inspiration Point. South Rim Trail overlooks 8, 9 and 10.

**Gorge Floor Access**  
Sliding Rock Trail is approximately one quarter mile at a 45-degree angle, over boulders and very strenuous. Access is at South Walenda Tower or steps off the North or South Rim Trails. You can access the gorge via Hurricane Falls Staircase (approximately 550 metal steps).

- A free permit is required. Every person going into the gorge must come to the Interpretive Center first, read the safety/rule pamphlet and fill out the gorge permit. For visitors younger than 18, an adult must also sign the permit and accompany them into gorge. Permits must be carried with hikers because rangers are in the gorge checking permits. Hikers without permits will be fined.
- Only 100 permits are issued per day, on a first-come-first-served basis. No permits issued after 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. based on day light savings time. Permits help ensure hikers' safety and protection of natural resources.

• If it is raining, or has rained and trail is still wet, no permits will be issued. This is for hikers' safety and protection of natural resources. In general, if the road and sidewalks are completely dry, most of the trail should be dry as well.

• Hikers must wear hiking boots, athletic shoes with good tread, or hiking sandals with ankle strap. Carrying bottled water is recommend.

• Do not leave trash in gorge. Pack it in; pack it out.

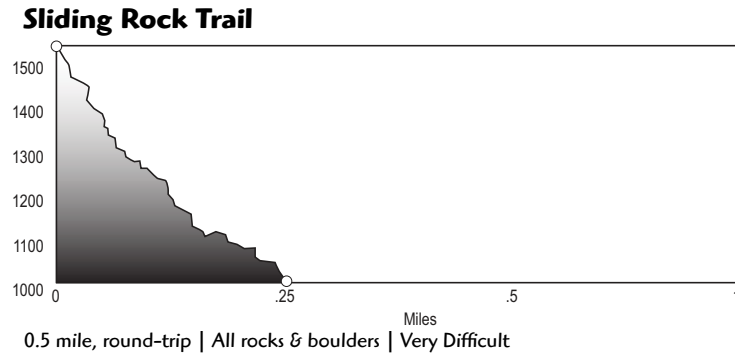
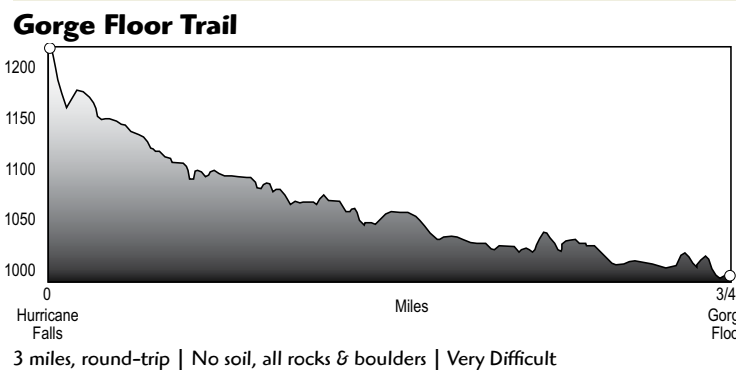
• No alcoholic beverages allowed. No glass bottles in gorge.

• Not recommended for children younger than 8 or people with heart, back or knee problems.

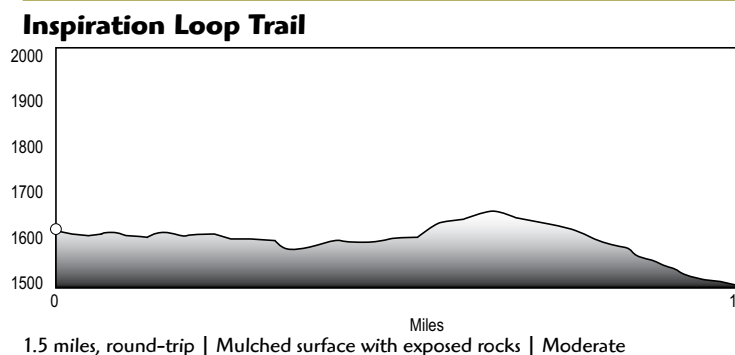
• It is not recommended that babies be carried in a baby backpack.

• Pets are not allowed on any gorge floor access trail.

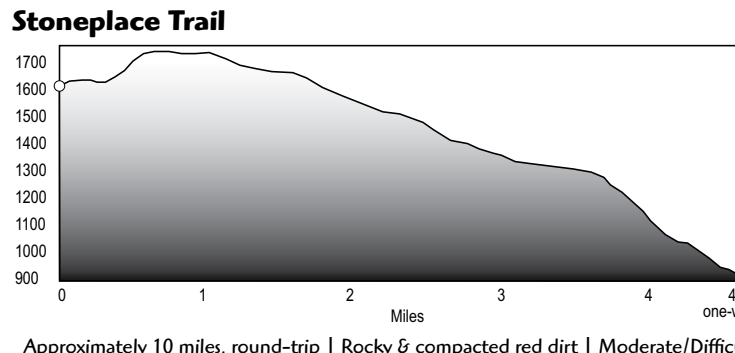
• Several summer camps have a blanket permit for their groups. Camp management has attended training sessions on what is expected of youth going into the gorge. Camps are required to bring a list of hikers' names to the Interpretive Center. Weekend visits must be approved by park management in advance.



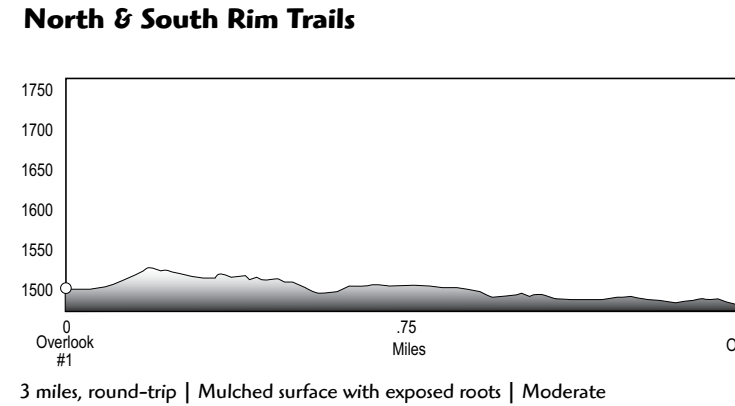
- Approximately one quarter mile at a 45-degree angle.
- An access trail to the Gorge Floor and Bridal Veil Falls.
- Bridal Veil Falls is the only place to swim in the gorge.
- The trail is made up of rocks and boulders.
- You must obtain a permit prior to hiking this trail.
- You cannot go past the Bridal Veil/Sliding Rock pool area.



- Accessed on Interpretive Center Road.
- Part of the trail is used for mountain biking.
- Must obtain permit at the Interpretive Center.
- Consists of an old road bed with large ruts in several areas.
- During hunting season, it is recommended hikers and bikers wear brightly colored clothing.



- Accessed on Interpretive Center Road.
- Trail is approximately 10 miles round-trip or 12 miles if you include the High Bluff Loop.
- Must obtain permit at the Interpretive Center.
- This trail is also used for mountain biking.
- Consists of an old road bed with large ruts in several areas.
- During hunting season, it is recommended hikers and bikers wear brightly colored clothing.



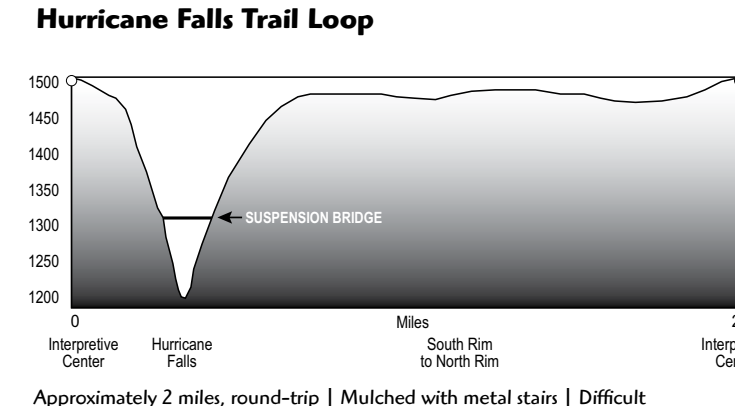
The North and South Rim Trails consist of 3 miles round-trip which will take approximately 2 hours to hike. It is a mulched trail with exposed roots that is a leisurely walk. From the Interpretive Center there is a recycled rubber tire trail that accesses Overlooks 2 and 3.

**North Rim Trail**  
Access this trail behind Interpretive Center. It is approximately 3/4-mile one-way, moderate with some inclines and stairs. This trail has six Scenic Overlooks described below:

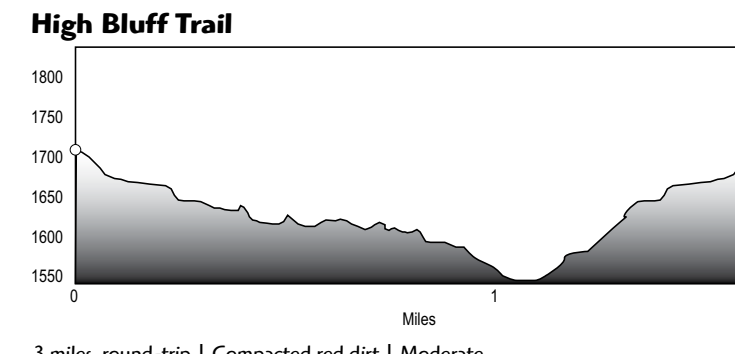
1. Inspiration Point is the best southern view into the gorge. Oceana Falls is below with a view of the amphitheatre/horseshoe bend rock formation. Gorge depth is 900 plus feet. Aerialist, Professor Leon made a walk from this point to the south rim in 1886.
2. View of Oceana Falls, with Bridal Veil Falls at the far end of the gorge. Tightrope walker Karl Wallenda walked from this overlook to his tower on the south rim in 1970.
3. View of L'Eau d'Or (pronounced Ladore) Falls, top of Tempesta Falls, and Hawthorne Cascade and Pool. Gorge depth is 350 feet.
4. View of L'Eau d'Or Falls, Hawthorne Pool, and remains of a water compressor plant used in building Tallulah Falls Dam.
5. Good view of Tallulah Falls Dam (completed in 1913) and upper portions of the gorge.
6. View of upper gorge and southern view to Hawthorne Pool and Overlooks 2 and 3. Gorge depth is 250 feet.

**South Rim Trail**  
Located on the opposite side of the gorge from the Interpretive Center and is approximately 3/4-mile one-way, moderate with inclines. This trail has five Scenic Overlooks described below:

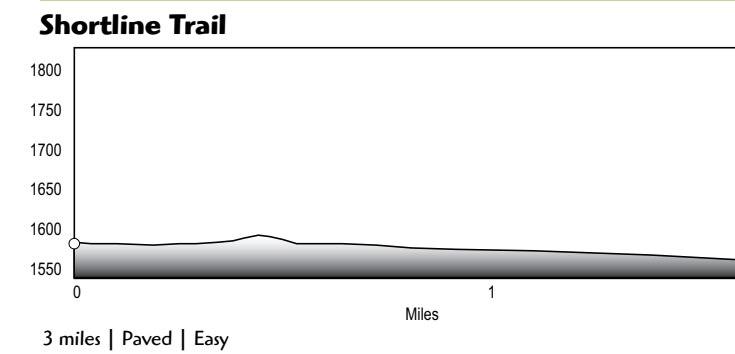
1. View of Hawthorne Pool, North Rim Trail Overlooks 2 and 3, top of Tempesta Falls and down gorge towards Hurricane Falls. Gorge depth is 350 feet.
2. View of Hawthorne Pool, Tempesta Falls and Pool. Gorge depth is 400 feet.
3. View of Hurricane Falls and Pool, "Devil's Pulpit" outcrop below, and the Interpretive Center is across the gorge. Gorge depth is 500 feet.
4. View of Hurricane Falls, Oceana Falls, Caledonia Cascade (600 feet), and North Rim Overlook 1. Gorge depth is 650 feet.
5. View of Caledonia Cascade and the Wallenda north tower area. Bluff to far right is approximately 1,000 feet high.



- This trail has a total of 1,099 stairs (including staircase to gorge floor).
- Please do not attempt this trail if you have any known health condition.
- Please do not leave children unattended.
- No dogs allowed on this trail.



- Must obtain permit at the Interpretive Center.
- This trail is also used for mountain biking.
- During hunting season, it is recommended hikers and bikers wear brightly colored clothing.



This trail can be accessed from Terrora Circle Road, is paved and can be used for hiking and biking. It follows part of an old railroad bed.