U.S. Forest Service
Chattahoochee National Forest

OUTDOOR FUN IN THE NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS

1 Beasley Knob OHV Trails

Four wheel fun! Discover 10.5 miles of challenging trails for serious off-highway enthusiasts.
Restroom, fee; no water.
(706) 745-6928 ★

2 Track Rock Petroglyphs

View ancient Native American rock carvings and see how the area's history is written in stone.
No restroom or water.
(706) 745-6928 ★

3 Vogel State Park

One of Georgia's oldest and most beloved state parks, Vogel is an ideal spot for family fun.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 745-2628 ★

4 Lake Winfield Scott

Walk back in history at this scenic mountain lake with views and access to the Appalachian Trail.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 745-6928 ★

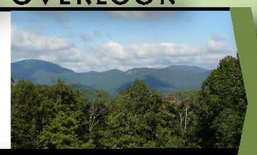
5 Helton Creek Falls

Hike a quick and easy trail to this beautiful cascade of water spilling 80 feet to a pool below.
No restroom or water.
(706) 745-6928 ★

6 Woody Gap

Leave your footprints on the Appalachian Trail at this iconic and scenic roadside trailhead.
Restroom; no water.
(706) 745-6928 ★

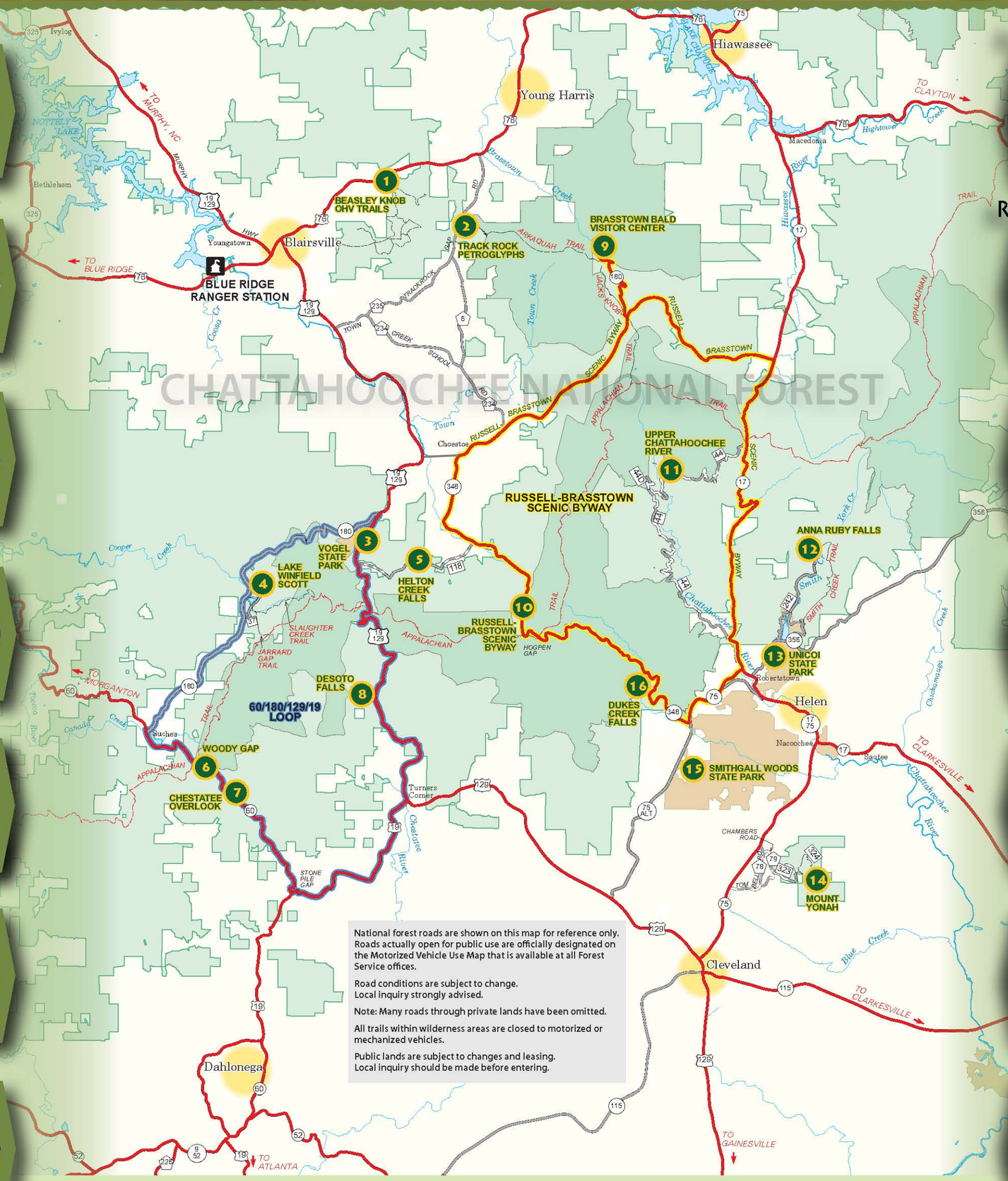
7 Chestatee Overlook



Get your camera ready for a breathtaking wide-angle view of the Blood Mountain Wilderness.
No restroom or water.
(706) 745-6928 ★

8 Desoto Falls

Experience lush streamside camping, a peaceful picnic or hike up to view the waterfalls.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 745-6928 ★



National forest roads are shown on this map for reference only. Roads actually open for public use are officially designated on the Motorized Vehicle Use Map that is available at all Forest Service offices.

Road conditions are subject to change. Local inquiry strongly advised.

Note: Many roads through private lands have been omitted.

All trails within wilderness areas are closed to motorized or mechanized vehicles.

Public lands are subject to changes and leasing. Local inquiry should be made before entering.

★ U.S. Forest Service Blue Ridge District
★ U.S. Forest Service Chattooga River District
★ Georgia Department of Natural Resources

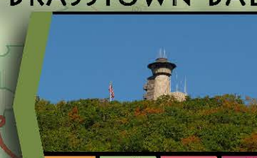
Scenic Byway
Scenic Loop
Primary Highway
Paved Road
Light Duty Road
Trail
Appalachian Trail
Blue Ridge Ranger District Office
U.S. Highway
State Highway
County Road
Forest Service Road
Chattahoochee National Forest
Wilderness
Ga State Park/Conservation Area
Forest Gateway Community

camp · picnic · playground · fish · swim · boat · waterfall · hiking trails · mountain bike trails · motorbike trails · ATV trails · full-size 4WD trails · horse trails · interpretive trails · scenic byway · sightseeing

N

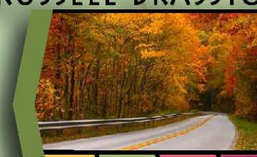
0 1 2 Miles

9 Brasstown Bald Visitor Center



Stand at the summit of Georgia's highest mountain with views of 4 states at the observation deck.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 896-2556 ★

10 Russell-Brasstown Scenic Byway



Nature at its best seen from your car window. Amazing views, waterfalls, trails and adventures await!
No restrooms or water.
Length: 40.6 miles

11 Upper Chattahoochee River

Looking for solace from the city? Find it in this remote setting with fishing, hiking and peaceful camping.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 754-6221 ★

12 Anna Ruby Falls

Bring the entire family to one of Georgia's best known twin waterfalls attractions.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 878-1448 ★

13 Unicoi State Park

Find something for everyone, including a lodge, restaurant, campground, trails and swim beach.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 878-2201 ★

14 Mount Yonah

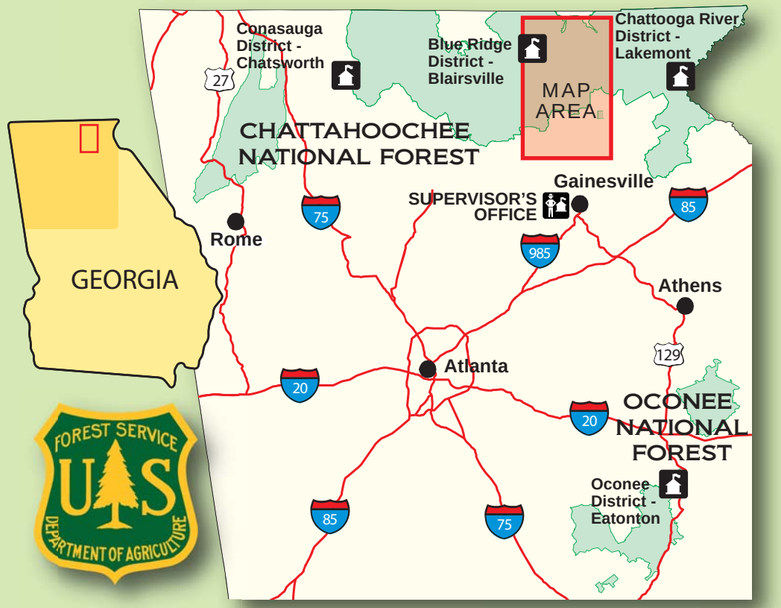
Climb a famous mountain! This challenging 2.1-mile trail takes hikers 1,400 feet up for spectacular views.
Restroom; no water.
(706) 754-6221 ★

15 Smithgall Woods

This State Park has a premier trout stream and miles of nature trails to explore.
Restrooms, drinking water, fee.
(706) 878-3087 ★

16 Dukes Creek Falls

A 2-mile roundtrip hike rewards visitors with a view from the base of this 150 foot cascading waterfall.
Restroom, fee; no water.
(706) 754-6221 ★



Welcome to the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests in Georgia! Featuring nearly 118,000 acres of designated wilderness, hundreds of miles of clear-running streams and rivers, 850 miles of recreation trails, and dozens of campgrounds, picnic areas, and other recreation opportunities, these lands are rich in natural scenery, history and culture. We hope this guide helps you to see and explore this beautiful area. Sixteen recreation opportunities in north Georgia are highlighted that are all easily accessible by car and within leisurely driving distance of the featured communities. If you decide to come back, there's more to explore. With 867,000 acres of the finest outdoor recreation opportunities and natural resources in Georgia, there is always a new adventure awaiting so *come find yourself in the woods!*

There's so much to see and do!

We're so glad you're here! If you're new to this part of Georgia, you're going to find this area has something for everyone. From the visitor center on the summit of Brasstown Bald, Georgia's highest mountain, to Woody Gap, a popular trailhead on the world famous Appalachian Trail, there's an abundance of unique destinations that offer beautiful scenery, interesting history and exciting activities.

The **16 locations** featured on the map will give you a good sense of the natural and cultural resources in the north-central area of Georgia. Thirteen locations are managed by the U.S. Forest Service as national forest recreation sites and three locations are managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources as state parks. Camping, hiking, biking, fishing, swimming, and sight-seeing are just a few of the opportunities waiting for you.

Depending on how much time you have, you can choose to visit one or many of the locations which are shown on the map. It is important to be prepared, so if you have any questions about a location or activity, please contact the appropriate local office.

Chattahoochee N.F.

Visit the Chattahoochee National Forest website!

www.fs.usda.gov/conf

We hope that you and your family create lasting memories while visiting the Chattahoochee National Forest and all of north Georgia. We know the more time you spend here the more you will want to come back. And please remember, always be safe!

The View from Brasstown Bald, Georgia's Highest Point

Plan your trip and play it safe!

We want you to stay safe! The most effective way to prevent mishaps is to adequately prepare for your travel. Here are a few tips to help you ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

Let someone know - Always tell someone your plans for travel. Tell them where you are going and when you expect to return.

Don't rely on your cell phone - Cell phone coverage may be limited. Be prepared that your cell phone may not work while traveling through the mountains.

Protect your valuables - When leaving your vehicle unattended, hide all valuables from view. Secure your vehicle.

Know that GPS routes are not always best - GPS navigation systems may suggest taking routes not identified on this map. In some cases, these routes may be impassible or unsafe.

Drive with care - Many of the featured roads on this map are favorite routes for motorcyclists and bicyclists, too. Drive cautiously and don't forget to fill up with gas before you leave!

Be prepared for all weather - In the mountains, weather can change very quickly. Visit **www.weather.gov** for weather updates.

National Weather Service

Check the weather before you leave!

Take a scenic drive!

Russell-Brasstown National Scenic Byway

Cool in the summer, mild in the winter, the Russell-Brasstown Scenic Byway encircles the headwaters of the Chattahoochee River and is surrounded by the Chattahoochee National Forest. The drive is ideal for viewing colorful wildflowers or dazzling fall color. Secluded valley views of Wilderness Areas abound along the way. Stretch your legs at **Dukes Creek Falls** 16, where a mile-long hiking path delivers you to a misty poolside below a cascading waterfall. Keep an eye out your window for views of **Mount Yonah's** 14 prominent cliff face in the distance. Cross the famed Appalachian Trail at Hogpen Gap. Linger atop **Brasstown Bald** 9, Georgia's tallest mountain, to absorb all 360-degrees of rolling highlands and learn more about the area at the visitor center there. Hike or bike at **Smithgall Woods State Park** 15 to explore hardwoods, trout streams and watch for wildlife. A rustic haven of cottages, campsites, lodge rooms and trails, is easily accessible from the byway at **Unicoi State Park** 13. Stroll up the 0.4-mile paved path to **Anna Ruby Falls** 12, and see where two creeks converge in the rare, 150-foot twin falls. Share a meal at a cozy picnic site along the way, or break bread in Helen, a Bavarian-themed hamlet located near the byway. The 40-mile loop follows State Highways 348, 180, and 17/75. Allow at least three hours driving time.

The 60/180/129/19 Scenic Loop

Winding mountain highways surrounding the Blood Mountain Wilderness Area offer travelers amazing views and many opportunities for outdoor adventures. Traveling along U.S. Highways 129 and 19, and State Highways 180 and 60, this 40-mile loop offers much to see and do. On Hwy. 129, visit **DeSoto Falls Recreation Area** 8 for peaceful, streamside camping under large hemlock trees, and trail access to beautiful waterfall views. Travel off the beaten path a short distance to reach a quick and easy trail to **Helton Creek Falls** 5. Nearby **Vogel State Park** 3, a 233-acre historic park located at the base of Blood Mountain, offers camping, hiking, backpacking, boating, fishing and swimming. Just past Vogel, journey onto Hwy. 180 to be completely immersed in the Blood Mountain Wilderness. Along the way, Wolf Pen Gap and Sosebee Cove are renowned for wildflowers and wildlife. **Lake Winfield Scott Recreation Area** 4 is a perfect picnic spot, with historic pavilions, hiking trails, and a scenic mountain lake. It is also an ideal spot to view spectacular autumn colors. Continue the loop on Hwy 60, where a stop at **Woody Gap** 6 allows a hike on the famed Appalachian Trail. Just down the road, **Chestatee Overlook** 7 gives another grand view of the Wilderness. Plan at least three hours driving time for this winding route.

Anna Ruby Falls

View of Mt. Yonah from the Dukes Creek Falls Trailhead

Russell-Brasstown Scenic Byway

DeSoto Falls

Lake Winfield Scott in October

Helton Creek Falls

Find out more!

Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests

Blue Ridge Ranger District Office
2042 Highway 515 West
Blairsville, GA 30512
(706) 745-6928

Chattooga River Ranger District Office
9975 Highway 441S
Lakemont, GA 30552
(706) 754-6221

Forest Supervisor's Office
1755 Cleveland Highway
Gainesville, GA 30501
(770) 297-3000

Brasstown Bald Visitor Center
(706) 896-2556

Anna Ruby Falls Visitor Center
(706) 878-1448

Georgia State Parks

Vogel State Park
(706) 745-2628

Unicoi State Park
(706) 878-2201

Smithgall Woods State Park
(706) 878-3087

Local Visitor Centers

Blairsville - Union County
(877) 745-5789

Cleveland - White County
(706) 865-5356

Dahlonega - Lumpkin County
(706) 864-3513

Helen - White County
(800) 858-8027

Hiawassee - Towns County
(800) 984-1543

Tell Us What You Think!

We would appreciate your thoughts on how we can improve this product. Contact us at ChattOconeePublicAffairs@fs.fed.us

Comment on this Guide

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