

Overlook Trail

1 Mile Roundtrip | Easy

Offering impressive views of the state park's rugged canyons and dense woodland, the easy Overlook Trail meanders along the rim of Cloudland Canyon for approximately ½ mile. Be sure and hike down to the Main Overlook, arguably the best viewpoint in the park. At Overlook #2, turn around and retrace your steps for a one-mile roundtrip walk.

West Rim Loop Trail

5 Miles Roundtrip | Moderately Strenuous

This popular trail was formerly rated by Backpacker Magazine as one of the top 10 hikes in the United States. It offers several scenic viewpoints of Cloudland Canyon as well as more distant terrain. The rocky, rooty trail is most easily accessed from the Main Trailhead. The West Rim Loop Trail is a lollipop-style hike; the first and last mile cover the same section of trail, and there is a three-mile loop in the middle of the hike.

Waterfalls Trail

2 Miles Roundtrip | Strenuous

The strenuous Waterfalls Trail begins at the Main Trailhead and drops quickly down into the canyon depths to two sizable waterfalls, Cherokee and Hemlock Falls. It is approximately ½ mile to Cherokee Falls, and a much steeper ½ mile further down to Hemlock Falls including 600 stairsteps. The flow of water over the falls varies significantly from week to week and from month to month, but in general, winter and early spring offer the strongest and most constant flow.

Sitton's Gulch Trail

6 miles Roundtrip | Strenuous

Beginning at the Main Trailhead, Sitton's Gulch Trail follows the Waterfalls Trail down deep into the canyon, then continues all the way down to the canyon mouth in Trenton. The trail follows Daniel Creek through open, green hemlock groves and overlooks numerous small waterfalls cascading through limestone crevices. Retrace your steps back up for a strenuous climb. Wildflowers abound in March and early April.

Two Mile Backcountry Loop

2 Miles Roundtrip | Moderate

The Backcountry Loop features secluded camping sites situated within pristine hemlock and oak groves. The trail passes through open woods, progressing down a moderate grade into a hollow. On the far end of the loop, a moderate climb brings hikers out of the hemlocks, back to level trail among oaks and hickories, and eventually back to the parking area.

Meadowlands Trail

1 Mile Roundtrip | Moderate

Beginning up by the disc golf course, the short Meadowlands Trail meanders down to the meadow and fishing pond area of the park, a former homestead and farm site. Guests are encouraged to stroll around the perimeter of the meadow, enjoying the uniqueness of this environment.

Bear Creek Trail

7 Mile Roundtrip | Moderate

The Bear Creek Backcountry Trail drops down from the Backcountry Trail on the East Rim to ford Bear Creek. The creek can be ankle- to waist-deep depending on rainfall and can be difficult as there is no bridge or dry crossing available. After crossing the creek, the trail continues up until it becomes a loop around the northeast portion of the park. This then gives you access to more than 7 miles of trails, 2 primitive campsites, and some 500 acres of forested walk that takes you into seldom-seen vistas of the East and West Rims.

Canyon Climbers Club

Ask about the Canyon Climbers Club that challenges you to scale to the top of Amicalola Falls, explore the depths of Providence Canyon, brave the swinging bridge in Tallulah Gorge, and complete the staircase in Cloudland Canyon. You'll get a members-only t-shirt to wear during your quest, plus a certificate upon completion. No time limit applies, so hikers can take as long as they wish to visit all four parks.

Located on the western edge of Lookout Mountain, this is one of the most scenic parks in the state, offering rugged geology and beautiful vistas. The park straddles a deep gorge cut into the mountain by Daniel Creek, and elevation varies from 800 to 1,980 feet. The most spectacular view into the canyon is found near the picnic area parking lot; however, additional views can be found along the rim trail. Hardy visitors who hike to the bottom of the gorge find two waterfalls cascading over layers of sandstone and shale into pools below. During drought, these falls can shrink significantly. Outdoor lovers should not miss this park's spectacular scenery.

Campground Rules

Campers must register prior to occupying any site unless instructed otherwise by staff. Registration is required by 10:00 a.m. following late arrival. **Check-out time is 12:00 p.m.**

Campers must display registration card on post at campsite. Campsites cannot be held for any reason. Campsites must be occupied by an adult overnight. **Unattended equipment is subject to removal, and fees will be forfeited.**

Tents may not be set up behind or between campsites. All equipment must be set up on the gravel or tent pads.

Site occupancy limits are **strictly enforced**. If a campsite is over-occupied, you will be asked to remove vehicles, equipment and/or people. Campsite occupancy is limited to one immediate family or six persons per campsite. When the campground is full, no additional units are permitted.

Campfires may be built only in established fire pits and must be completely extinguished prior to retiring for the evening. Campfires should never be unattended.

Do not drive nails, screws, pins, etc., into trees. Do not hang lights or lanterns in trees.

Pets are allowed on a leash no longer than six feet and must be attended by their owners at all times. Dogs are allowed only in select cottages with advanced reservations.

Gray water must be dumped either in the RV dump station or at the dishwasher pits. **No gray water may be dumped in the campsite or immediate area.**

All noise-making devices (TVs, radios, etc.) should be kept at very low levels so as not to disturb others. **Quiet hours begin at 10:00 p.m. Gates automatically close and lock at 10:00 p.m.** Park guests should leave prior to then and all group gatherings must terminate prior to 10:00 p.m. Reservations taken up to 13 months in advance with a two-night minimum.

Shower passes for pioneer and backcountry campers are available for purchase at the park office.

Park Information

Park Hours 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Gates Lock At 10:00 p.m.
Office Hours 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Address 122 Cloudland Canyon Park Road
Rising Fawn, GA 30738
Location 8 miles east of Trenton on Hwy. 136
County Dade County
Park Telephone (706) 657-4050
Reservations GaStateParks.org or 1-800-864-7275
Website GaStateParks.org/cloudlandcanyon

Nearby Attractions

- Chief Vann House State Historic Site (Cherokee Estate)
- James H. "Sloppy" Floyd State Park

ParkPass - A parking fee is required and is valid for all parks visited that day. Proceeds go toward park maintenance. Frequent visitors can save money by purchasing an Annual ParkPass or membership in Friends of Georgia State Parks.

Activities and Facilities

Camping — The park offers 75 tent and trailer sites, each with water and electrical hook-ups, table and grill. Each camping area has a comfort station with hot showers, and a sanitary disposal station is on the way out of the park. Additionally, there are 30 walk-in tent sites without water and electricity; however, they do have tables. A comfort station with hot showers is available. There are 13 backcountry tent sites without water and electricity; however, they do have pit privies and tables.

Yurts — There are 10 yurts available for rent. Sleeping capacity is 6 people per yurt. Occupants bring their own bath and bed linens and pillows. Yurts have heat and AC. Pets are not allowed in yurts.

Walk-In Camping — 30 wooded tent sites on a 1-mile hiking loop. Water is available at the comfort station. Sites include fire ring and picnic tables.

Backcountry Camping — 13 secluded tent sites on a 2-mile hiking loop. Amenities include pit privies, fire rings, and picnic tables.

Group Lodge — A large building with four bedrooms and bunk beds, two restrooms, fully equipped kitchen and dining/meeting hall is available to organized groups. Sleeping capacity is 40.

Pioneer Camping — Four pioneer camping areas are available to organized groups only. Pit privies and central water available; no shower access.

Cottages — There are 14 two-bedroom cottages and 2 three-bedroom cottages for rent. Sleeping capacity is 6 - 8. All are equipped with linens, cooking utensils, heat and air conditioning, fireplaces and screened porches. Reservations are taken up to 13 months in advance with a two-night minimum most months. Cottages 3, 6, & 7 are dog-friendly with advance reservations; fees apply.

Picnicking — There are 50 picnic sites and 6 shelters. Visitors are asked to use designated picnic areas only. Shelters are reservable and are available on a first-come, first-served basis at other times.

Group Shelter — One large day-use shelter is available for groups. Facilities include a kitchen, restrooms, BBQ, and dining hall that will seat 175. Group shelter has heat/AC and Internet.

Hiking, Biking & Horseback Riding — Use caution when exploring this beautiful yet rugged canyon. For your own safety and to prevent erosion, stay on trails and in fenced areas. Maps are at the office.

Caving — Please contact Visitor Center for caving details.

Mountain Bike Rentals — Available at Visitor Center.

Disc Golf Course — An 18-hole course is played with Frisbee-style discs. Pay at office before you play.

Fishing — Stocked pond open year-round. Catch and release December 1 - Labor Day. Catch and keep Labor Day - November 30.

In Case of Emergency

Park staff residences are indicated on the park map.
Park Emergency Phone after 5:00 p.m. only (706) 657-6442
Medical Emergencies 911
For After Hours Issues, Ranger on Call (706) 657-6442

To get to the nearest hospital, turn left at the park entrance on to Hwy. 136. Go 7.5 miles to stop sign, turn left on Hwy. 193. Go 10.7 miles to traffic light, turn right on Hwy. 2A. Go through four (4) traffic lights (approx. 6.5 miles) turn right on Park City Road. Follow signs to Hutcheson Hospital. Map available at the park office.

Cloudland Canyon State Park



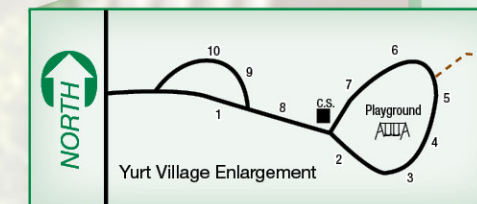
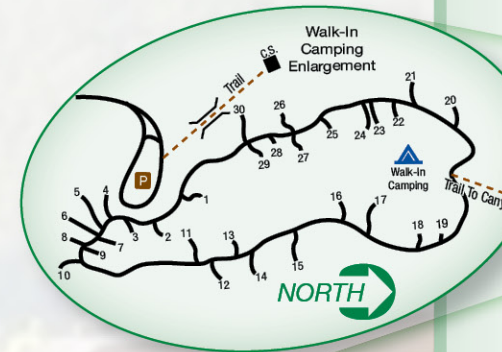
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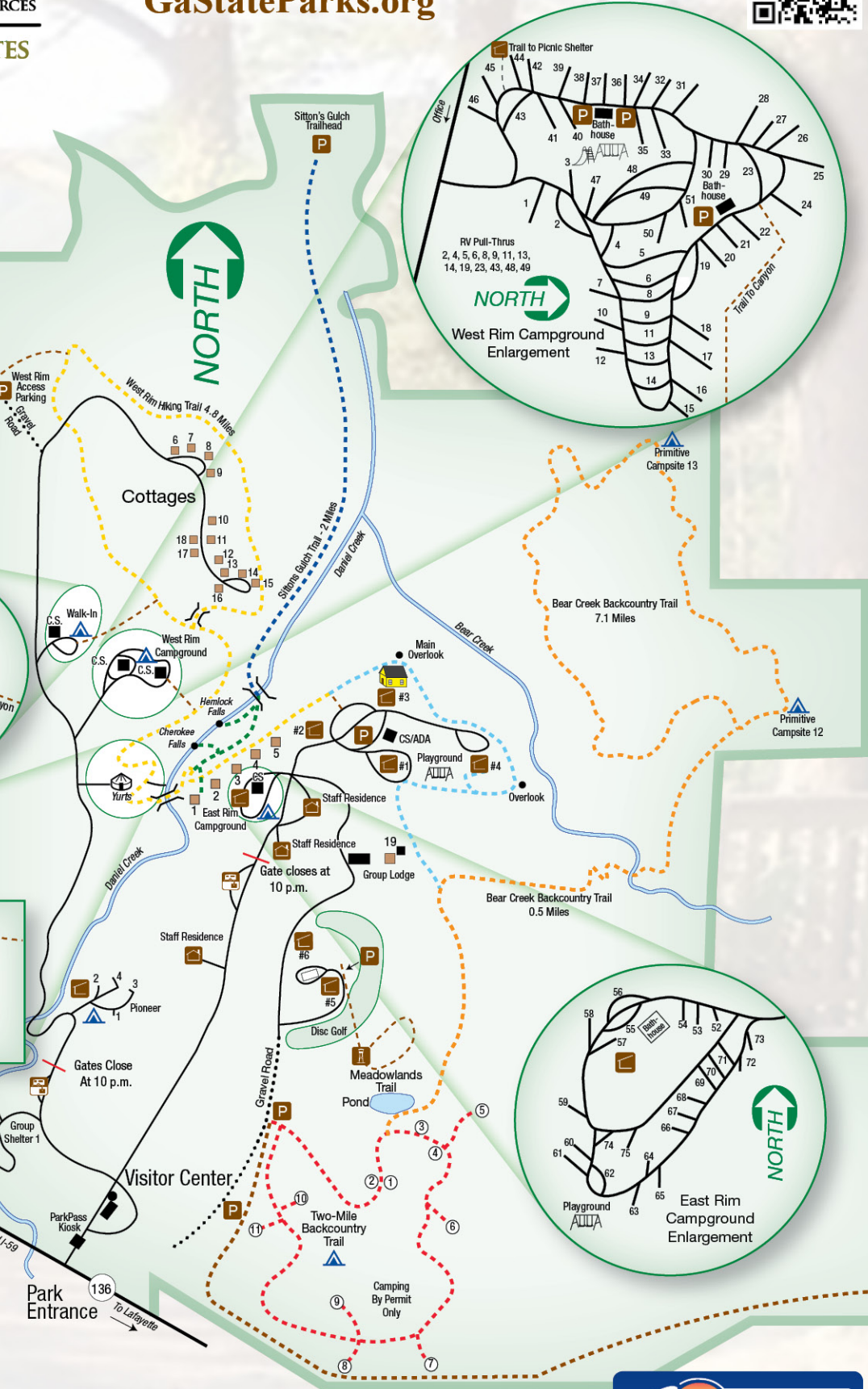
Legend

- ▲ Camping
- Cottage
- ⛑ Yurt Village
- Comfort/Rest Station
- 🏠 Interpretive Center
- 🏠 Staff Residence
- 🏠 Picnic Shelter
- P Parking
- 🗑️ Dump Station
- ⌒ Bridge
- Gate



Trail Legend

- Sitton's Gulch Trail
- Overlook Trail
- West Rim Loop Trail
- Bear Creek Backcountry Trail
- Two-Mile Backcountry Trail
- Waterfalls Trail
- Cloudland Connector Trail



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Cloudland Canyon State Park

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