

The White Birch Inn

Staff Picks' Hiking Guide

****all trails can be found using your GPS****

*please feel free to take this copy or stop by the front desk and we'd be happy to provide you with one

Rabun Bald

Allow 45 minutes for travel time

Outstanding views surround the Rabun Bald summit, offering hikers a 360-degree panorama anywhere they turn. Rabun Bald's lofty peak sits on the Eastern Continental Divide, offering sweeping, long-range views of the surrounding North Carolina and Georgia wilderness. Georgia's Black Rock Mountain is visible to the southwest. To the northwest, the North Carolina summits of Standing Indian Mountain, Pickens Nose, and the firetower-capped Albert Mountain rise from the horizon. And the enormous, sheer-sided slopes of Whiteside Mountain are visible to the northeast.

Departing the breezy, sun-drenched Rabun Bald summit, this out-and-back hike doubles back on its outbound route, retracing the Bartram Trail northbound. The route turns left off the yellow-blazed Bartram Trail at 2.75 miles, following the green-blazed access trail to the Beegum Gap trailhead. The access trail reaches Beegum Gap at 3 miles, completing the hike.

Directions:

Turn left onto Hwy 441 North. Travel 7.6 miles.

Turn Right onto Hwy 246

Continue onto Dillard Road

Turn Right onto Old Mud Creek Road

Turn Right onto Kelsey Mountain Road

Turn Left onto Bald Mountain Road

Take a sharp Right turn onto Kelsey Mountain Road

Falls in Warwoman Dell: Becky Branch & Martin Creek Falls

Warwoman Dell is a beautiful pocket of wilderness just east of Clayton, Georgia, with tall trees shading a rolling forest floor carpeted in lush, green vegetation. Mosses and enormous wildflowers blanket the stream-filled valley, and beautiful waterfalls, including the cascades of Becky Branch Falls, tumble through the forest.

This hike follows the Warwoman Dell Trail and Bartram Trail to three waterfalls on a moderately easy, adventure. The hike visits the popular Becky Branch Falls waterfall, historic areas of Warwoman Dell, and several smaller waterfalls on a 1.4-mile loop.

Directions:

At the red light on Savannah Street (Dairy Queen on your left), continue straight onto Rickman Street

Turn Left onto Polly Gap Road

Turn Right onto Warwoman Road. Turn Right onto Bartram Trail

Tallulah Gorge State Park—Sliding Rock Trail

Two miles long. 1000 feet deep. Stunningly beautiful, rugged terrain, sheer walls and tumbling waterfalls: Tallulah Gorge is one of North Georgia's can't-miss hiking destinations. But while most hikers trek this park's open-access trails to waterfalls and whitewater-filled views from dizzying heights, only a lucky few get to hike deep into Tallulah's depths to remote sections of the gorge floor. The Sliding Rock Trail visits deep, remote sections of the gorge floor that few get to see. It's a strenuous hike that requires a permit, but it's worth the workout

Directions:

Tallulah Gorge State Park can be found by entering the destination in your GPS*

Minnehaha Falls Trail

At .4 miles, this trail is easily the easiest hiking trail. The Minnehaha Falls trail treks to one of Georgia's most beautiful waterfalls. Minnehaha Falls cascades from a towering, stair-stepped bluff near the shore of Lake Rabun.

Directions:

At the light on Savannah Street, turn Left onto Main Street

Main Street then becomes into Old Hwy 441

At the 4 way stop in Tiger, continue straight

Take a slight right turn onto Lake Rabun Road

Turn Left on Low Gap Road

Continue straight on Bear Gap

Follow the road 1.5 miles to a small parking area on your left. Look for set of steps leading up to your right. There is a barely visible sign and these steps are hard to see.

Angel Falls Trail

Near the historic lakeside town of Lakemont, the Angel Falls Trail explores two tumbling waterfalls, Panther Falls and Angel Falls, in a beautiful creek valley. Hiking less than two miles, round trip, the trail is a fantastic hike, and worthy of a visit for anyone exploring the namesake lake of Rabun County

Directions:

At the light on Savannah Street, Turn Left onto Main Street

Main Street then becomes Old Hwy 441

At the 4 way stop in Tiger, continue straight

Take a slight right turn onto Lake Rabun Road

Follow this road for 4.6 miles and turn right into the Rabun Beach Rec area.

Bear Right and follow the main road through the campground for ¼ mile to the info board and parking area on your right

Black Rock Mountain

The highest state park in Georgia, Black Rock encompasses some of the finest scenery in Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

Directions:

**** Black Rock Mountain can be found by entering it into your GPS. It's approximately 11 miles away from the inn***

Hemlock Falls Trail—Moccasin Creek State Park

This Lake Burton hike trails through a beautiful, stream-filled valley to the tumbling cascades of the Hemlock Falls waterfall. This family-friendly hike follows Moccasin Creek upstream from Lake Burton's shore, visiting the tumbling waterfall as it pours over a sheer cliff in a shady forest.

Approximately 2 miles

Directions:

From Clayton take Hwy 76 West for 11 miles

Turn Left on GA 197 and go 3.7 miles to the turnoff for Hemlock Falls Trailhead

Take this dirt road .6 miles to the parking area. You will pass a forest road on your left and a camp entrance on your right

White Side Mountain – Cashiers, NC

Allow 50 minutes for travel time

This excellent loop, designated a National Recreation Trail, climbs to the top of Whiteside Mountain, with its spectacular 700 ft high cliff walls lofting the hiker for amazing views. Take a camera, as the cliff-top views are lined with beautiful mountain laurel, which blooms in mid-June. See relics from the past, when Whiteside Mountain was a tourist attraction. You'll pass through some pleasant woods along the way.

2.5 miles roundtrip

Directions:

From the red light on Savannah Street (Dairy Queen on your left), turn left onto Hwy 441 North

Travel 7.6 miles and turn right onto Hwy 246

Travel approximately 14 miles and turn left onto Franklin Road

Turn right onto Mirror Lake Road

Turn right onto Hicks Road

Turn right on Flat Mountain Road

Turn left on Cashiers Rd

Turn right onto Whiteside Mountain Road

Keep Left onto Deville Drive. Park.