



WELCOME TO DESOTO STATE PARK

WALK/HIKE SUGGESTIONS

Be sure to grab a green trail map and the yellow see & do brochure as a companion to these suggestions

- Waterfalls to drive to: DeSoto Falls (picnic area, 7 miles from main park area)
- Waterfalls to walk to (easy): Indian Falls, & Azalea Cascade
- Waterfalls to hike to: Lost Falls, Laurel Falls, & Lodge Falls
- Quick access to West Fork of Little River (moderate) From Indian Falls, take yellow trail to the right as it goes down a few turns and you are there at river. If you wish to take a loop trail along the river, follow the yellow trail until the next junction (after approx. .26 miles) and take the trail that loops back on your right. This will bring you back to Indian Falls. 1-mile total
- Best places to bike with kids: Cabin road past the Lodge, Improved campground (watch for vehicles)
- Best places to mountain bike with kids: Chalet Trail, Unfinished Bridge Road, Family Bike Loop
- Civilian Conservation Corps features to check out: Unfinished Bridge, CCC Quarry, Contact Station



Loop Hike to Laurel & Lost Falls-Approx. 2.78 miles, moderate. Look for orange blazes -

From the deck of the Country Store, walk towards the small 3-car trailhead behind the store and take the orange trail. Follow the orange trail .57 miles until Laurel Falls (will be a side trail on your left) and then hike .67 miles until you reach Lost Falls. Follow orange trail past Lost falls until you come to the junction and turn left on the blue trail. After 1.22 miles you will come to the end of the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trail, you can take this back to the store or follow the blue trail until it comes out on County Road 89. Then turn left to head back towards the store.



Loop Hike on Never-Never Land Trail-Approx. 3.8 miles, moderate. Stay on main trail (also a mountain biking trail)

From Lost Falls Trailhead parking, walk across the road and take the trail to your right. After a few yards you come to a trail junction; turn left. Follow this trail for approx. .53 miles until you come to another junction with a sign saying Neverland Bypass. If you go straight, it is the Never-Neverland trail loop, if you turn left this takes you to one of our backpacking campsites via Neverland Bypass. If you go straight, the neverland trail weaves along thru several turns for a further 2.55 miles. You will come out from neverland trail on to the orange trail-to your left and just ahead is the Lost Falls Trailhead.



Loop Hike on Family Bike Trail-Approx. 2.5 miles, moderate. Start at Lost Falls Trailhead (also a mountain biking trail)

From Lost Falls Trailhead parking, enter the Family Bike loop to the right of the kiosk. You can take the trail to the left or the right. If you turn to the right, follow the trail as it loops thru mixed pines/hardwoods, grassy meadows, and sandstone glade areas. After 2.5 miles, you will come to a junction with the white trail, turn to the left and immediately left again to hike .31 miles back to Lost Falls Trailhead.



Loop Hike on Gilliam Loop Trail-Approx. 3.4 miles, moderate. Start at Gilliam Loop Trailhead. (also a mountain biking trail)

From Gilliam Loop Trailhead, start the trail to the left of the kiosk & closed gate. Hike 1.81 miles to reach the CCC road (on the way, you will pass by junctions at DST Exits, 1, 2, & 3; keeping going straight each time) Cross over the CCC road and continue on trail 1.50 miles until you come back to the Gilliam Loop Trailhead.



Hike to CCC 'Unfinished Bridge-Approx. 3.5 miles total, there & back. Start at Gilliam Loop Trailhead. (also mountain biking trail)

From Gilliam Loop Trailhead, take the CCC roadbed all the way to the bridge, located on Straight Creek. The road does have slight elevation. Along this whole route the Civilian Conservation Corps men were building a main highway to connect with May's Gulf (Little River Canyon) After CCC Company 2436 left, before another company could be sent to finish the work the CCC organization was disbanded in June 1942. CCC Rock work can be seen along the road as well.

*please note: waterfalls are seasonal and rainfall dependent
*all trail distances are approximate. See hiking trips on green trail map