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**Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park**

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**For Immediate Release:**

Adventure awaits at Chimney Rock

Park events will keep visitor’s hearts pumping

Escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and take part in an action-packed outdoor adventure at Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park.

Guests visiting in June can enjoy getting up close and personal with some of the Park’s animals, hike Chimney Rock’s many trails and have their breath taken away by gorgeous views of Lake Lure and the Hickory Nut Gorge.

At 2 p.m. daily, Animal Educators will present a special program featuring animals from Grady’s Animal Discovery Den. This half-hour presentation in the Park’s outdoor classroom will give visitors the chance to learn about and interact with Chimney Rock’s amazing animals.

Guests can also challenge themselves to reach the highest point in the Park—Exclamation Point—or visit one of the Park’s most popular attractions besides the Chimney—Hickory Nut Falls, a natural 404-foot waterfall.

Outside of the Park’s regular trails and programs, there are two special days planned at the Park to raise awareness about the joys of being out and about in nature.

On Saturday, June 3, the Park will celebrate National Trails Day with a series of guided hikes. A guided hike to Hickory Nut Falls will be offered at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. as well as an additional hike to the Chimney at 1 p.m.  No registration is needed for these hikes. All individuals interested in joining a guided hike should meet in front of Cliff Dwellers Gifts before the start of the hike they want to attend.

National Trails Day is the only nationally coordinated event designed to connect more people to trails. Every trail leads people on a different adventure and everyone’s experience on a trail is different.

The Saturday following National Trails Day, the Park will celebrate the 10th Annual National Get Outdoors Day on Saturday, June 10. National Get Outdoors Day is designed to encourage healthy, active outdoors recreation at sites across the Nation.

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park will offer guided hikes at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to Hickory Nut Falls. At 1 p.m. a special family guided hike will take place on the Great Woodland Adventure trail. Guests can also enjoy the Park’s climbing tower from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on this day.

Park Naturalist and other area partners will share a plethora of information about the diverse ways people can get out and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Guests can plan their Chimney Rock adventure by visiting chimneyrockpark.com or facebook.com/chimneyrockparknc.

**About Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park**

[Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park](http://chimneyrockpark.com/index.php) is a still-developing international outdoor destination located 25 miles southeast of Asheville on Highway 64/74A in Chimney Rock, N.C. It is recognized as one of the Southeast’s most iconic sites and popular travel destinations. The Park’s 535-million-year-old monolith called Chimney Rock can be accessed via the 500-step Outcroppings Trail and offers guests 75-mile panoramic views of Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure. The Park features one of the highest waterfalls of its kind east of the Mississippi River, Hickory Nut Falls, at 404 feet. Hickory Nut Gorge, one of the state’s most significant centers of biodiversity, is home to 36 rare plant species and 14 rare animal species. The Rumbling Bald section of the greater State Park off of Boys Camp Road in Chimney Rock is the only other area of the Park that is currently open to the public. A destination for travel groups, weddings and special events, the Chimney Rock section of the Park also hosts innovative [educational programs](http://chimneyrockpark.com/education/) for schools, homeschoolers, scouts and summer camps. Visit Chimney Rock’s website at [chimneyrockpark.com](http://www.chimneyrockpark.com).

Cutlines:

#1

Families are encouraged to get out and get active during National Trails Day and National Get Outdoors day, which will both be celebrated at Chimney Rock Park. Pictured is the Dager family, who recently visited the Park.

#2

Animal Programs will be offered every day in June and July at Chimney Rock State Park.