

Skyline Trail

About the Trail

The new Skyline trail is a 1.1-mile trek that starts at Exclamation Point and meanders through the woods, where hikers will encounter ridgetop forests, sheer cliffs and incredible views.

Halfway through the trail is Peregrine's Point, a lookout which offers picnic tables and panoramic views of Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure.

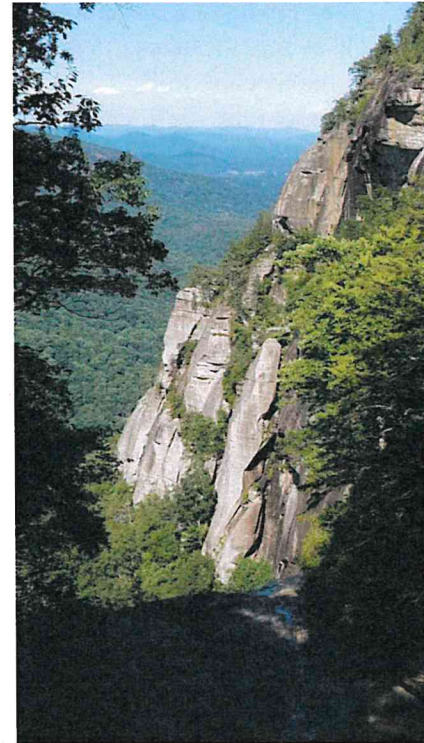
From there, hikers can continue through the forest and across Falls Creek to the end of the trail. There they'll be treated to breathtaking views of the Hickory Nut Gorge and the upper cascades of Hickory Nut Falls.

Trail History

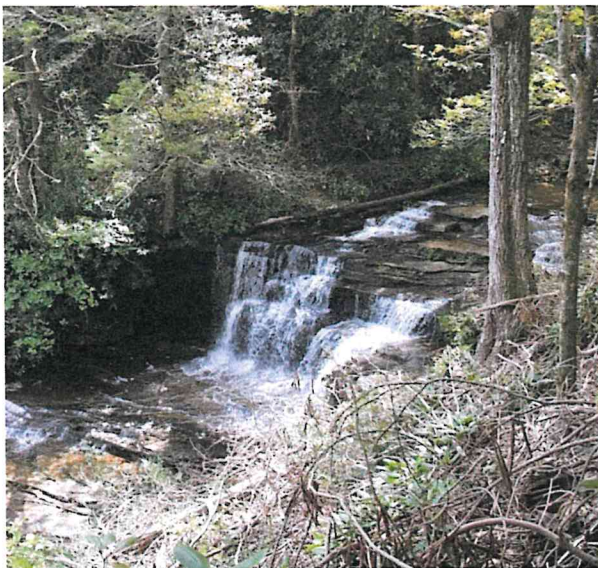
The trail is named after the Park's old Skyline trail, which led guests across the upper cliff face to the top of the Park's waterfall. The concern of upgrading and maintaining the numerous railings and bridges along the path led to its closure in 2008.

The state determined that a new trail would be created that would use the natural surface as much as possible. Since then, NC State Parks, Chimney Rock Management, LLC and the Friends of Chimney Rock State Park have worked together to bring back the upper trail in a more sustainable way.

The new Skyline trail travels along a higher route on the mountain, deeper into the woods, that provides for sustainable natural resource protection.



Trail Facts



- The project to date has a cost of approximately \$39500 which does not include all gravel and labor expense.
- YRU Contracting INC., out of Idaho, cut out the new trail.
- Demolition debris hauled from the new trail- 14.87 tons
- Tons of gravel hauled for the new trail- 158.41
- Since the Park's elevator is out of commission, hikers must climb 838 steps on the Outcroppings and Exclamation Point trails to access the Skyline trailhead.
- Peregrine's Point—located halfway along the trail—is the highest accessible point in the Park at 2640'.

See reverse side for additional facts and information.

- Hikers cross Falls Creek on their way to the end of the trail.
- At the end of the trail, hikers will see the upper cascades of Hickory Nut Falls.
- The viewing area at the top of the Falls is 2590'.
- On average it takes 2.5 hours roundtrip to hike from the Park's upper parking lot to the end of the Skyline trail.
- Visitors must start hiking the trail by 5 p.m. DST or 4 p.m. EST, so that they have enough time to hike the trail and get back to their cars before the Park closes.

Upcoming trail excursion:

Naturalist Niche: Skyline Trail Trek

Saturday, Oct. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon

The new Skyline trail takes guests through beautiful woodland landscapes with surprising occasions for jaw-dropping views. Don't miss this guided hike by a local naturalist who began his career documenting the species on the original trail and is now exploring the new. Preregistration is required for this hike. To register, call 828-625-9611 or visit chimneyrockpark.com.

About Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park

[Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park](http://chimneyrockpark.com) 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 for schools, homeschoolers, scouts and summer camps. Visit Chimney Rock's website at chimneyrockpark.com.

Have additional questions? Contact Landdis Hollifield, PR & Promotions Manager, at 828-625-9611

**814 or prandevents@chimneyrockpark.com.*