

The Best of the Mountains in One Place.

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park



See Chimney Rock Differently

Enjoy spectacular 75-mile views of Lake Lure, NC and the Carolina Blue Ridge Foothills from the top of “Rock.” Let your cares fade away in the cool mist of the 404-foot Hickory Nut Falls. Hike one or all of the Park’s six unique hiking trails. Learn to rock climb on our ancient cliffs.

Choose Your Path of Adventure

COMING SOON: Elevator Inside a Mountain

The “Rock” is accessible to folks of all ages and abilities with the help of the Park’s 26-story elevator. Where else can you ride an elevator inside a mountain? The Otis elevator, originally installed in 1948 and opened in 1949, has been completely replaced and is scheduled to reopen in early spring 2018.

NEW: The Ultimate Stairmaster

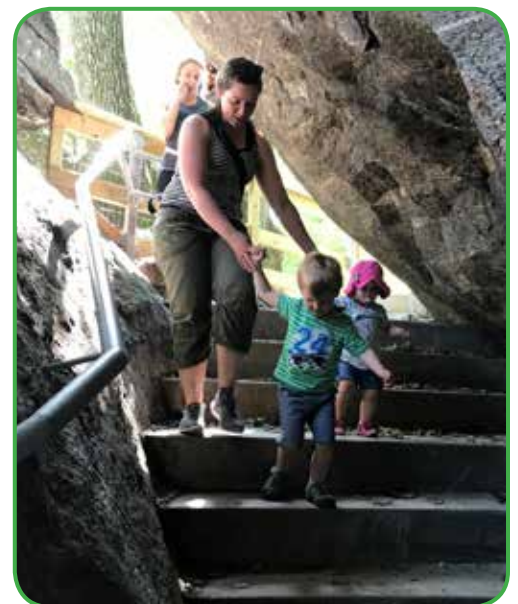
Squeeze through the boulders of Crevice Pass, one of the Park’s newest features, or check out Gneiss Cave before you start your hike up the Outcroppings trail to the Chimney – 499 steps with plenty of outrageous views along the way. Here guests will find themselves breathless in more ways than one! These wide stairs with numerous lookouts were put in with the help of a helicopter and are truly an engineering marvel.

NEW: Skyline Trail

Ready to get your steps in for the day? The **new Skyline trail** opened in the fall of 2017 and takes hikers from Exclamation Point where you get an expansive view of Hickory Nut Gorge, through ridgetop forests and on top of sheer cliffs, to an incredible view of Lake Lure from Peregrine’s Point, the highest point in the Park. As you continue further into the back country, you’ll cross Falls Creek, the headwaters of 404-foot Hickory Nut Falls, before you reach breathtaking views of its upper cascades. Looking for something shorter and more moderate? Take the Hickory Nut Falls trail to the base and see all 404-feet.

Rock Climbing

Novices and experienced climbers alike can see the Park from a whole new perspective with two-hour to all-day climbing lessons with Fox Mountain Guides, the Southeast’s leader in climber education.



Fun for the Whole Family

Naturalist Niche Series

Hit the trail with an expert naturalist to learn about plants, wildlife, birds, geology or other fascinating topics. These guided hikes are held March through December and take folks to parts of the Park seldom seen by Park guests. Advance reservations are required.

The Animal Discovery Den

Our non-releasable animal ambassadors, such as an opossum, albino chipmunk, groundhog, snakes, Great Horned Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, snakes and other critters, help Park naturalists tell their story during scheduled programs throughout the season. See which ones are on display in the Animal Discovery Den, and then take a walk on the **Great Woodland Adventure trail**, featuring 12 discovery stations with animal sculptures by local artisans.



10th Annual Flock to the Rock

Originally created to help folks understand why Hickory Nut Gorge is a premier birding location, this event has grown in size and popularity every year. Guided bird walks, raptor flight shows, live bird demos and workshops are a few of the ways you'll discover that Chimney Rock isn't just for the birds!

National Get Outdoors Day

Join our Park Naturalists, Fox Mountain Guides rock climbing instructors and other area partners on Saturday, June 9, to learn more about how to experience the great outdoors from different perspectives. Guided hikes, rock climbing opportunities and special activities will be held.



Rappelling Santa

Every December, Santa practices for his big night by rappelling down Chimney Rock. Families can enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and kids' crafts and visit with Santa in between his daring descents.

2018 Events

For a complete list of 2018 events, go to www.chimneyrockpark.com/events

Chimney Rock in the News

Wide Open Spaces: "Top 25 of the Absolute Best State Parks in the U.S." January 2017

Alamo Travel: featured as one of the "5 Family Getaway Destinations in the Southeast" April 2017

Huffington Post: "The Perfect Southern Summer Getaway" April 2017

The New York Times: "'Dirty Dancing': Where the Kellerman's Came to Life," May 2017

The Scottish Sun: "Time of My Life: Relive the iconic Dirty Dancing in North Carolina" June 2017

Lonely Planet: "Hickory Nut Gorge: An Easy Asheville Day Trip" September 2017

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Get more story ideas: chimneyrockpark.com/media-room

Chimney Rock has been recognized as one of the Southeast's most iconic and popular travel destinations for more than 100 years. Only 40 minutes from Asheville and less than 2 hours west of Charlotte, N.C.

