



Horizons Hospitality



LOOKING FOR A HIKE? THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE A LIST OF JUST A FEW LOCAL HIKES THAT WE KNOW ABOUT. PLEASE USE THESE SUGGESTIONS IN CORRELATION WITH [HIKINGUPWARDS.COM](https://www.hikingupwards.com), THE ALLTRAILS APP ON YOUR PHONE, AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WEBSITE . MAKE SURE TO DOWNLOAD MAPS BEFORE HEADING INTO THE BACK COUNTRY, TAKE A LOOK AT THE PACKING LIST BELOW, AND ALWAYS PACK OUT WHATEVER YOU PACK IN. LEAVE NO TRACE.

NOT SURE WHAT TO PACK? HERE
ARE SOME QUICK IDEAS:

- MAP
- WATER BOTTLE
- SNACK/ LUNCH
- RAIN JACKET
- CLOSED TOED SHOES
- BACK PACK
- FIRST AID KIT
- HAT/ SUNSCREEN
- BATHING SUIT/ TOWEL
- FLASHLIGHT



SAFETY NOTE: ALWAYS LET SOMEONE KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING AND WHEN THEY SHOULD HEAR FROM YOU AGAIN.



Community Parks



Hillandale Park

Open dawn to dusk

74 acres of natural surface trails for biking and walking, playground equipment, picnic shelters, picnic sites, volleyball court, basketball courts and restrooms. Rocktown Trails- trail system offers three different levels of difficulty to appeal to a complete spectrum of runners, walkers and cyclists from novice to expert.

16 miles from Horizons (25 minute drive)

A Dream Come True Playground

Completely Accessible and Inclusive

The playground has separate equipment for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds plus more fun and exciting equipment. Features include a rock, rainbow arches, shade structures, roadway, hammock swing, draw wall, pavilion, and family comfort stations.

15 miles from Horizons (22 minute drive)

Purcell Park

Completely Accessible and Inclusive

Purcell Park is a 67 acre park with three softball/baseball fields, four tennis courts, a playground, three picnic shelters, several restrooms, and a 1.5 mile walking trail.

14 miles from Horizons (20 minute drive)

Westover Park

Community Center Location

This 48 acre park is home to the Westover Swimming Pool Complex, the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center, the Westover Skate Park, and a 21-hole Disc Golf Course. The park also has four picnic shelters, a playground area, and the Price Rotary Senior Center. 13 miles from Horizons (20 minute drive)

Riven Rock Park

Closes 9pm daily

27 acres of natural surface trails, access to dry river, picnic shelters, picnic sites and restrooms.

25 miles from Horizons to Hinton, VA
(40 minute drive)

Open seasonally for business

Hawksbill Greenway

Open dawn to dusk

A two mile, 10-foot-wide, paved walking and biking trail that is handicapped accessible, 6 convenient parking areas, 2 modern restrooms, drinking fountains, more than 24 trail-side benches, and 8 picnic tables. 27 miles from Horizons to Luray, VA
(37 minute drive)

Shenandoah River State Park

Visitors Center- Open 8am-Dusk

Over 25 miles of hiking in the park , Visitors center with rangers, environmental information and gift shop, 42 miles from Horizons to Bentonville, VA
(55 minute drive)

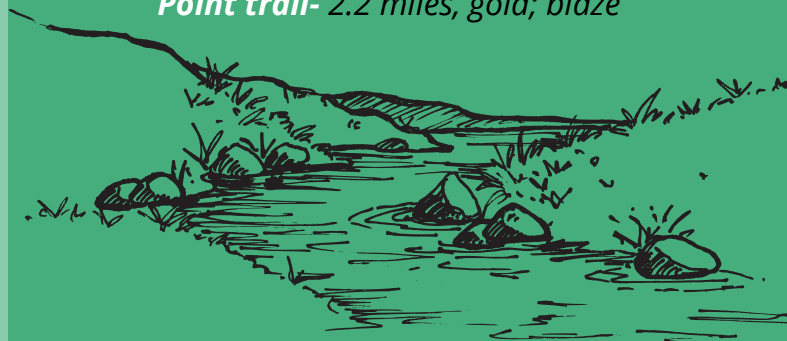
Trails Include but not limited to:

Blue Bell Trail- 1 mile with light blue blazes

River Trail- 2.1 miles with dark green blazes

Bear Bottom Loop Trail- 5.4 miles teal blaze

Point trail- 2.2 miles, gold; blaze





George Washington National Forest

Fridley Gap Hike

6.2 miles total, Google Maps: Mountain Run Swimming Hole, 2.4 miles from Horizons (7minute drive)

In and Out with Swimming Hole:

Mile 0.0 - From the parking area on Airey Road walk up to the trailhead. The trail will climb through the gap and pass a side trail on the left. Continue upstream on the Fridley Gap trail crossing through Mountain Run twice.

Mile 0.46 - Arrive at the swimming hole. From the swimming hole there is a campsite directly upstream, and the intersection with the Massanutten South Trail is in another 100 yards.

To continue with and In and Out with Overlook Views:

Mile 0.5 - Arrive at the intersection with the orange blazed Massanutten South Trail. Turn right crossing the run. Continue on the orange trail south as it begins to climb on the eastern side of Fourth Mountain. In 1.4 miles from the run the trail will arrive at the ridge, with an unmarked side trail to a rock outcropping and view westward towards the Harrisonburg valley. There is also a campsite at the saddle here.

To continue hiking as a loop:

Mile 3.9 - At the 4-way intersection turn left at this intersection onto the purple blazed Fridley Gap Trail. The Fridley Gap Trail follows a gravel forestry road at this point.

Mile 4.6 - Turn left off the gravel forestry road as the purple blazed Fridley Gap Trail .

Mile 5.6 - Turn left on the orange blazed Massanutten Trail for 0.1 miles back to Mountain Run and the intersection with Fridley Gap Trail you hiked up earlier.

Mile 5.7 - Turn right downstream on the Fridley Gap Trail passing the swimming hole on the left. Retrace your route back to Airey Rd. and the parking area.

Mile 6.2 - Arrive back at the parking area on Airey Rd.

High Knob Tower

2.9 miles total, Google Maps: High Knob Trail Head, 43 miles from Horizons (1 hour drive)

In and Out with tower access:

Mile 0.0 - The route starts on the Shenandoah Mountain Trail, a yellow blazed trail that starts behind a hiker sign furthest away from the lot entrance. The trail drops steeply from the parking area on large rocks, before leveling out on a dirt path.

Mile 0.5 - A small, dry campsite with fire ring is on the left side of the trail. An unmarked trail also descends on the right, but it peters out after about 15 feet. Continue generally south along the side of the slope of Shenandoah Mountain.

Mile 0.8 - The trail intersects with the High Knob Trail, which drops steeply over 3 miles to the forest service's Brandywine Campground. The trail to the fire tower takes a sharp left and climbs quickly. Take the steep uphill option on the left.

Mile 0.9 - Trail meets a woods road and turns right on the road. Taking a left on this road enters private property. Turn right. Please respect private property.

Mile 1.0 - Shortly before the road leaves the woods for an open area the trail cuts left, leaving the road.

Mile 1.1 - The trail merges onto another woods road, which it follows to the summit and the fire tower. Make sure to take the trail you just hiked on the way back to your car, to avoid entering private property.

Mile 1.4 - Arrive at the tower. Hikers can ascend the stairs on the fire tower to a viewing platform for a spectacular view into two states, extending west as far as Spruce Knob, the highest point in West Virginia, and east to the Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah National Park. Return by retracing your route back to the hiker parking lot.



Birds Knob and Emerald Pond

8 miles total, Google Maps: Massanutten Visitors Center, 14.9 miles from Horizons (25 minute drive)

In and Out with Overlook:

Mile 0.0 - Start the hike near the front of the parking area on the white blazed Wildflower Trail. Follow the white blazed Wildflower Trail downhill for 0.3 miles to the intersection of the orange blazed Massanutten South Trail.

Mile 0.3 - Turn right uphill on the orange blazed trail for the steepest section of the hike, arriving at the lower ridgeline in 1.0 miles. Continue uphill for 0.4 miles to the first of two great vistas/ overlook points.

To continue hiking to swimming hole:

Mile 1.7 - Continue on the Massanutten South Trail for 0.8 miles to the intersection of the white blazed Bird Knob Trail.

Mile 1.5 - Stay on the white blazed Bird Knob Trail, passing a few unmaintained and unblazed trails. From this point it is 0.8 miles to a large clearing near Bird Knob. Stay left downhill on the Bird Knob Trail as it descends through the hollow to the intersection of an old logging road.

Mile 3.3 - Turn left on the old logging road for 0.1 miles and arrive at Emerald Pond. Pass along the left side of the pond following a small trail to a campsite on the opposite bank.

To continue hiking to create a loop:

Mile 3.5 - Return to the white blazed Bird Knob Trail, turn left, then in 0.5 miles pass a closed gate.

Mile 4.0 - Turn left onto a Forestry Service road that is also the orange blazed Massanutten south Trail for 0.4 miles to the point where the road makes a hairpin turn to the right.

Mile 4.4 - Stay straight passing a closed gate and continuing on the orange blazed Massanutten South Trail. In 0.6 miles from the Forestry Service road arrive at an unmarked intersection, stay right remaining on the orange blazed trail, then in 0.8 miles pass through a small clearing and arrive back at the Bird Knob Trail intersection.

Mile 5.8 - Turn right orange blazed Massanutten South Trail retracing your route back past the two vistas, then descending to the white blazed Wildflower Trail.

Mile 8.0 - Turn left on the white blazed Wildflower Trail for the remaining 0.3 miles back to the parking area and now closed Visitor Center.



Duncan Knob-

3.6 miles total, Google Maps: Gap Creek Trail Head, 22 miles from Horizons (40minute drive)

In and Out:

Mile 0.0 - From the parking area along Crisman Hollow Rd follow the side track and blue blazed Gap Creek Trail for 100 yards to the first campsite on the left. At this point the

Gap Creek Trail turns left and crosses a wooden footbridge over Gap Creek. Make six switchbacks in the first 1.2 miles then arrive at the intersection of the yellow blazed Scothorn Gap Trail that comes in from the right.

Mile 1.2 - Continue climbing on the blue blazed Gap Creek trail for another 0.3 miles to Peach Orchard Gap where there is a large campsite. The white blazed Duncan Knob Overlook Trail is on the left in the saddle.

Mile 1.5 - Turn left onto the white blazed trail then in 0.1 miles pass a campsite on the right. As the trail enters the rock slide below Duncan Knob stay to the left and around the largest bolder in the field before heading uphill to the ridge. Follow the trail right to the overlook.

Mile 1.8 - From the overlook there are expansive views to the south of the Shenandoah Valley and west towards New Market Gap. Return back to the intersection with the Gap Creek Trail at Peach Orchard Gap.

Mile 2.1 - Turn right downhill on the blue blazed Gap Creek Trail retracing your route back to the parking area on Crisman Hollow Rd.

Mile 3.6 - Arrive back at the parking are on Crisman Hollow Rd.



Shenandoah National Park

Thornton Gap Entrance

East of Luray



Jeremy's Run Mountain

Elkwallow Wayside Picnic Area 14.7 miles , 43 miles from Horizons (1 hour drive)

Loop:

Mile 0.0 - From the parking area start down the connector trail where it shortly joins the white blazed Appalachian Trail (AT). Continue downward on the white blazed AT and in 0.3 miles arrive at the intersection of the blue blazed Jeremy's Run Trail that continues downward.

Mile 0.3 - Turn left remaining on the white blazed AT as it it climbs Blue Ridge. Remain south/straight on the white blazed AT following the ridgeline for another 3.6 miles to the next intersection that leads to a Skyline Drive parking area. Again stay on the AT, and in 0.2 miles reach the four way intersection with the Neighbor Mountain Trail.

Mile 4.1- Turn right on the yellow blazed Neighbor Mountain Trail as it begins to gradually descend the Neighbor Mountain ridgeline. In 2.0 miles there are views of Three Sisters Ridge just to the south, then in another 0.9 miles views of Kennedy Peak and Duncan Knob across the valley to the west on the Massanutten Range.

Mile 8.1- Turn right upstream on the blue blazed Jeremy's Run Trail, and in 0.2 miles make the first of 14 stream crossings. After passing the falls, the Jeremy's Run Trail will continue for 4.3 miles crossing the stream 13 more times before arriving at the intersection of the Knob Mountain Cutoff Trail. Continue straight on the Jeremy's Run Trail as it now becomes steeper for the 0.8 miles back to the intersection of the white blazed AT, and where the Jeremy's Run Trail ends.

Mile 14.4- Stay on the AT for the remaining 0.3 miles back to the parking area.

Mile 14.7- Arrive back at the parking lot.

Visitors Centers

Dickey Ridge Visitors Center

54 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 15 minute drive) is located near Front Royal, Virginia, in the northern part of the Park. It's the ideal place for visitors entering through the Front Royal Entrance Station to find restrooms, information, a bookstore, publications, and maps.

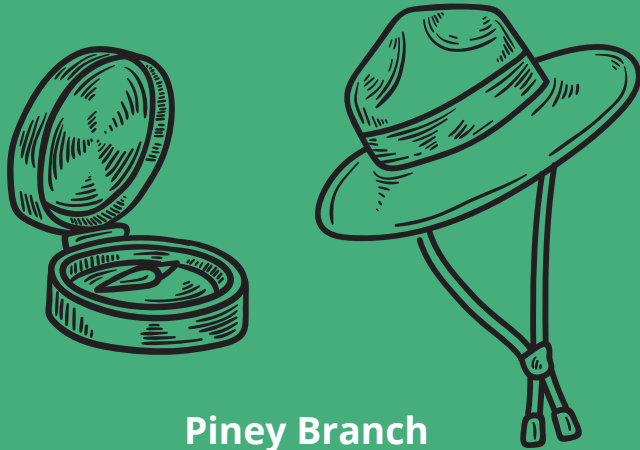


Camping

Matthew Arm

45 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 5 minute drive)- is the nearest campground for those entering Shenandoah National Park from Front Royal, in the northern section of the Park. All sites include a place for a tent or RV, a fire ring, and picnic table. Elkwallow Wayside, with camping supplies and food service, is two miles away.





Piney Branch

Piney River Area Road 8.7 miles , 45 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 5 minute drive)

Loop

Mile 0.0 - From the parking area find the bulletin board and trail post for Piney Branch Trail between the parking area and Skyline Drive. Proceed down the blue-blazed Piney Branch Trail.

Mile 0.3 - come to the junction of the white-blazed Appalachian Trail. It is a woods road at this point. Turn right here. Leave the AT, walking through the clearing, toward the spring, and turning right onto a service road. At the top of the hill (less than 50 yd.) turn left onto blue-blazed Piney Ridge Trail.

Mile 4.1 - Continue straight on Fork Trail.

Mile 5.2 - Come to the junction of yellow-blazed Hull School Trail. Turn left, following it down to Piney Run where you'll make your first crossing. Turn left, walking upstream. For a short distance Hull School and Piney Branch Trails share the same tread. In about 300 yd. Hull School trail will bear off to the right. Continue straight on blue-blazed Piney Branch Trail.

Mile 7.1 - you'll come to a T intersection. Poole Bridge Trail comes in from the right. You'll turn left staying on Piney Branch Trail.

Mile 8.7 - The last 0.5 miles will be a straight climb, crossing what appears to be a trail, but is actually the route of some survey posts, and the AT before reaching the parking lot and your vehicle.

Dickey Ridge

Dickey Ridge Visitors Center 5.3 miles , 54 miles from Horizons (1 hour 15 minute drive)

Lollypop:

Mile 0.0 - From walk back to the front of the Dickey Ridge Visitor Center then cross Skyline Drive. Follow the Dickey Ridge Trail north for 0.2 miles to the intersection of the Fox Hollow Trail.

Mile 3.33 - Turn right downhill for 0.1 miles to the parking area to the Fox Family Cemetery. Soon pass a spring, then in another 100 yards the trail crosses a stream and heads back uphill. Follow the trail for 0.6 miles back to the bottom of the clearing and intersection of the Dickey Ridge Trail.

Mile 1.3 - Turn left/south on the narrower Dickey Ridge Trail.

Mile 1.8 - Arrive at the Dickey Hill access road and turn left (the Dickey Ridge Trail will cross the road here). Remain on the access road for 0.1 miles where the road splits.

Mile 2.13 - Stay right uphill where the road splits again and follow it for 0.5 miles to the Snead Farm ruins.

Mile 2.63 - Look for a narrow unmarked trail that leads off the road to the Snead Farm Loop Trail marker. Turn left downhill on the trail where it soon turns right to the south. Follow the Snead Farm Loop Trail for 0.72 miles to the ridge and intersection of the Dickey Ridge Trail.

Mile 3.35 - Turn right uphill/north on the Dickey Ridge Trail as the trail climbs towards Dickey Hill. Just as the trail begins to descend look for a side trail on the right that continues upward.

Mile 3.7 - Continue north on the Dickey Ridge Trail and shortly arrive at the best vista of the hike with expansive views southwest of the Massanutten Range. Continue north as the trail begins to descend and in 0.9 miles arrive back at the Dickey Hill access road intersection.

Mile 4.6 - Cross the road continuing on the Dickey Ridge Trail 0.5 miles back to the intersection of the Fox Hollow Trail and clearing.

Mile 5.1 - Turn left through the clearing re-crossing Skyline Drive.

Mile 5.3 - Arrive back at the Dickey Ridge Visitor Center and parking area.



Shenandoah National Park

Swift Run Gap Entrance

East of Elkton



Hawksbill Mountain

Lower Hawksbill Trail 2.9 miles , 48 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 15 minute drive)

In and Out:

Mile 0.0 - Start in the parking lot of Lower Hawksbill and see the trail head on the right of the lot for the Hawksbill Gap connector trail with signs pointing towards the Appalachian Trail (AT).

Mile 0.2 -Take a left south onto the At where you will see the white blazes.

Mile 0.62 -Stay straight remaining on the A.T. where the trail now begins to climb around the northern side of Hawksbill Mountain. Pass through a rock slide with views to the north. The A.T. becomes less steep after the rock slide area.

Mile 1.74- Stay left onto the blue blazed Salamander Trail and begin the climb of Hawksbill Mountain. The trail will make four switchbacks before passing a spectacular view to the west of the Massanutten Range. Pass two more nice viewpoints and then the trail ends at the Birds Nest 2 Road.

Mile 2.51- Turn left uphill on the Birds Nest 2 Road and pass the Birds Nest 2 shelter (day use only before arriving at the lookout at the summit of Hawksbill Mountain.

Mile 2.64- At the summit there are expansive 270° views to the west, north and east, with a vista of Old Rag Mountain to the northeast. Return past the Birds Nest 2 shelter then take the Birds Nest 2 Road for 50 yards to the first **trail intersection.**

Mile 2.72- Turn left downhill at with the blue blazed Lower Hawksbill Trail. The trail becomes increasingly steep, then levels out just before the intersection of the connector trail and Hawksbill Gap parking area at Skyline Drive.

Lewis Mountain Trail

Lewis Mountain was the designated area of the of the park for African Americans from 1939 until the park was integrated in 1950. 4.75 miles total, Google Maps: Pocosin Cabin, 35 miles from Horizons (50minute drive)

In and Out:

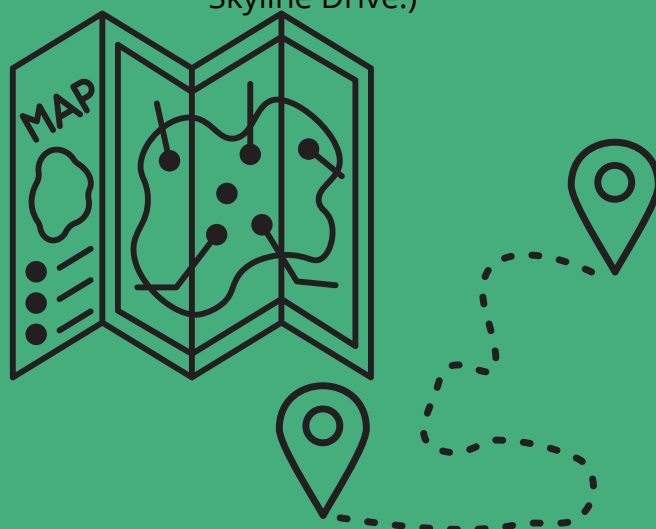
Mile 0.0 - Parking along the Pocosin fire road is where the hike starts, you will follow the fire road for 0.2 miles until you reach the Appalachian Trail (AT).

Mile 0.2 - Take a left at the cement marker for the AT. Continue north for a couple tenths of a mile where you will cross a spring.

Mile 1.5 - Trail runs closely parallels Skyline Drive. You will reach another cement marker on the trail at about 2 miles in. This will be at the southern end of the Lewis campground. Camp store, history and restrooms are to the left.

Mile 2.0- From the cement marker turn right onto Lewis Mountain Trail, continuing thorough an open grass field, some wooden steps and then you will hit the summit of Lewis Mountain. Head back the same way from Lewis Mountain to The Appalachian Trail.

Mile - Arrive back at the parking on Pocosin Road (unmarked at Mile marker 59.5 on Skyline Drive.)



Jones Run/ Doyles River

Brown's Gap 6.6 miles , 47 miles from Horizons
(1 hour and 10 minute drive)

Loop:

Mile 0.0 - Start in the Browns gap parking area, crossing sky line drive and follow the white blazed Appalachian Trail (AT).

Mile 1.4 -You will reach an intersection of the blue blazed Jones Run Trail and parking lot. Turn left onto the Jones Run trail .

Mile 3.0. - You will reach the top of the first set of falls, continuing on the trail for .1 miles to reach the base of the main falls and another.5 you will cross Jones Run.

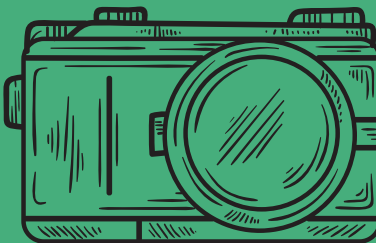
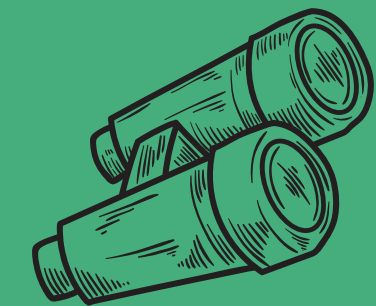
Mile 3.7- Continuing on the left side of Jones run you will reach a post marking Doyles River Trail, turn left uphill on the blue blazed Doyles River Trail passing several pools and crossing a foot bridge. You will soon reach the largest set of falls.

Mile 4.9- After a section of less steep trail, you will reach the intersection of Browns Gap Fire Road.

Turn left crossing Doyles River on the yellow blazed fire road for the remaining 1.7 miles back to the Browns Gap Fire Road.

Mile 6.6- Arrive back at the Browns Gap Fire Road
want a longer loop:

Mile 4.9- Instead of turning left on the fire road off the Doyles River Trail, you can continue on the Doyles River Trail another 0.9 miles to the AT, then turn left/south on the AT for 1.5 miles to return to Brown's Gap making it a 8.5 mile circuit. This is a good option in the summer months when the ticks can be bad in the fire roads long grasses.



Visitors Centers

Harry F. Byrd, Sr. Visitors Center

45 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 10 minute drive) -is located across from Big Meadows in the center of Shenandoah National Park. Available facilities include: restrooms, information desk, ranger programs, bookstore, publications, maps, and first aid.



Camping

Big Meadows

45 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 10 minute drive) -All sites include a place for a tent or RV, a fire ring, and a picnic table. Camp Store and Dinning available.

Lewis Mountain

37 miles from Horizons (54 minute drive) -appeals to those who want a little more privacy while still staying within a close distance to many of the most popular destinations in the Park. Camp store available.

Loft Mountain

45 miles from Horizons (1 hour and 10 minute drive) -the largest campground in the park, sits atop Big Flat Mountain in the southern part of Shenandoah National Park, with outstanding views to east and west. Camp Store Available.

Dundo Group

47 miles for Horizons (1 hour and 15 minute drive)-is a small, beautiful campground located in the southern part of Shenandoah National Park that offers group campsites, only. All sites include fire rings and picnic tables.

