

HIGH FALLS STATE PARK

Located northwest of Macon, High Falls State Park is named for tumbling cascades on the Towaliga River. Boat rental, ramps and fishing docks provide easy access to the park's lake, known as one of Georgia's top fishing spots for hybrid and white bass. Overnight visitors can choose from a spacious campground or lakeside yurts, which are like canvas and wood tents.

Visitors can hike along the river's edge and through hilly forest to the remains of a hydroelectric power plant foundation. In the early 1800s, this area was a prosperous industrial town with several stores, a grist mill, cotton gin, blacksmith shop, shoe factory and hotel. High Falls fell from prosperity in the 1880s when a major railroad bypassed it. Today, the park is a popular camping destination and a relaxing side trip for travelers on I-75.

"Marvel at the tallest cascading waterfall south of Atlanta at High Falls State Park, where you can revel in nostalgic recreational pastimes, investigate a rich cultural timeline and natural backdrop, while you throw a line in High Falls Lake which is recognized as one of the nation's top family fishing destinations."

ACTIVITIES & FACILITIES

Camping – The campground has 106 tent, trailer and RV sites with water and electricity. Comfort stations provide hot showers and coin-operated washers and dryers.

Yurts - 6 lakeside yurts can be reserved. Each yurt features a small deck, picnic table, grill, furniture, electrical outlets, ceiling fan, heating and air-conditioning.

Group Gatherings – Five covered picnic shelters may be reserved or used on a first- come, first-served basis. A group shelter may be reserved for large groups such as reunions, weddings, or parties for up to 130 people.

Fishing – The lake is open for legal fishing year-round. Persons age 16 and older must have a valid resident or non-resided fishing license, which may be purchased online at georgiawildlife.com.

Boating – A cycles, canoes, and kayaks may be rented through the park office when available. Please contact the park office for availability. Personal boats, canoes, and kayaks may be used on High Falls Lake, but motors may not exceed 10HP.

Geocaching – Discover hidden caches using GPS – a fun activity for all ages.

Playgrounds – A playground is in the day use area of the park, as well as multiple picnic tables and a fishing dock.

Falls View Trail

Follow this trail along the side of the largest waterfall south of Atlanta, which cascades with tumbling whitewater over a span of 135 feet. This double looped trail takes you through a rocky forest alongside the banks of the river downstream of the falls. The forest floor is littered with boulders along the trail. The Falls View Trail head is located right across the street from our day use area.

- Length: 1.5 miles
- Difficulty: Strenuous
- Surface: Natural
- Uses: Walking
- Accessibility: Limited

Historic Trail

Take a stroll through history on our ADA accessible trail! As you walk along this trail you will see historic structures that tell you the story of our park's history. This includes the dam, berm walls, Powerhouse penstocks, the Grist Mill, and the Old Alabama Bridge. You will also come across a beautiful overlook of the falls partway down the trail.

- Length: 0.5 miles
- Difficulty: Easy
- Surface: Crushed Gravel Base
- Uses: Walking
- Accessibility: ADA Accessible

Tranquility Trail

Take a peaceful walk through the woods on our tranquil trail, the longest at our park. This hilly, woodland trail also hosts a bubbling stream that runs through areas of the trail. As you walk you will find many of the plant and animal species that call High Falls State Park home.

- Length: 2.5 miles
- Difficulty: Moderate
- Surface: Natural
- Uses: Walking
- Accessibility: Limited

Programs

High Falls offers a variety of ranger-led interpretive programs available for the general public and for private groups (upon availability). To view a list of upcoming programs please visit the High Falls State Park Facebook page or view our event calendar.

Ranger-led school programs can also be scheduled at High Falls State Park. All programs are based on Georgia's current performance standards. The cost of the programs varies depending on program length and activity. Please call 478-993-3053 or email highfalls.park@dnr.ga.gov for more information or to schedule a ranger-led program.

ParkPass is required for all vehicles.

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS



SAFETY TIPS & ETIQUETTE

Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.

Take a map, water, snacks, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.

Do not stray from trails. If you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.

Don't count on cell phones to work in the wilderness, but if they do, be able to give details about your location.

Invest in good hiking socks such as those found at sporting goods stores. Avoid blisters by carrying "moleskin" and applying it as soon as you feel hot spots on your feet. Available in the foot care section of drug stores, moleskin is like felt that sticks to your skin.

Be prepared for unexpected rain and wind which can lead to hypothermia. Always carry quality rain gear and turn back in bad weather. If you become wet or cold, it is important to get dry and warm as quickly as possible.

Dress in layers and avoid cotton. Today's hikers can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly and conserve heat. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.

Pack out all trash.

Keep pets on a leash at all times and clean up after them.

Do not pick flowers, disturb wildlife or take anything off the park. This is illegal to do at any Georgia State Park.

Protect the park and help prevent erosion by staying on marked trails.

