Sassafrass Loop Trail (4 miles)

Boat Ramp

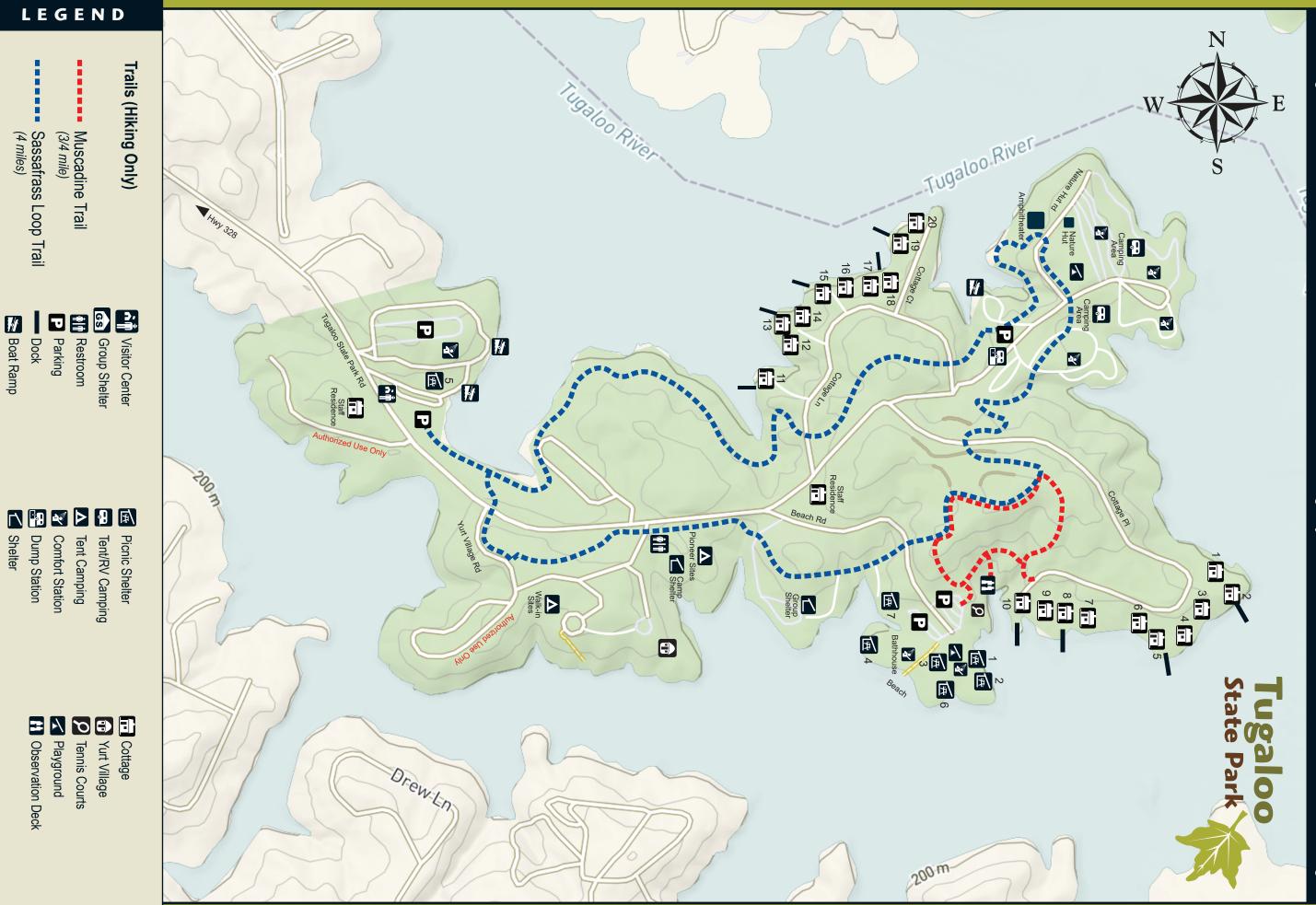
Dock

Comfort Station

Playground

Observation Deck

1763 Tugaloo State Park Rd, Lavonia, GA 30553 • Park: 706-356-4362 • Emergency: 911 • Reservations: 1-800-864-7275 • GaStateParks.org





Welcome to Tugaloo State Park

Situated on a wooded peninsula, Tugaloo's cottages and most campsites offer spectacular views of 55,590-acre Lake Hartwell in every direction. Some cottages even have private boat docks for overnight guests. Tent campers can choose between the developed campground or primitive sites located a short walk from the parking area. During summer, the lake is a popular destination for swimming, water skiing, sailing and boating.

Tugaloo State Park boasts a six-lane mega ramp used for large fishing tournaments and lake access. Fishing is excellent year-round, and large-mouth bass are plentiful. The name "Tugaloo" comes from an Indian name for the river which once flowed freely prior to the construction of Hartwell Dam.

GaStateParks.org/Tugaloo

Park Office: 706-356-4362 Reservations: 1-800-864-7275 1763 Tugaloo State Park Road Lavonia, GA 30553 Franklin County

@GaStateParks#GaStateParks#TugalooStateParkTag us for a chance to be featured.





Hiking Trails

Nearly 5 miles of trails wind through oak, walnut, mulberry and cherry trees, while also highlighting views of Lake Hartwell. Observant hikers may spot white tail deer, raccoon, opossum, red fox, box turtles, anole lizards or black rat snakes. Birders are encouraged to bring binoculars to spot bald eagles, osprey, red-tailed hawk, black and turkey vulture, red-bellied woodpecker, pine siskin, goldfinch, tufted titmouse, cardinal and many more songbirds. For the safety of wildlife, pets and all visitors, please keep dogs on a 6-foot leash at all times.

Trails are blazed with their respective color on trees and have trail markers indicating the trail direction, elevation and GPS coordinates throughout the park. All trail surfaces are mostly firm and can have a grade greater than 8%, cross slope greater than 10% and in places the width of the trail can be less than 24".

Sassafrass Loop Trail

Blue blaze. This 4-mile loop covers much of the 393-acre park. While the main trailhead is located behind the Visitor Center, it can be access from many locations including the campground, cottages, yurt village and day-use areas. Look for a natural springhead off the trail between the Visitor Center and Cottage 11. Elevation varies from 660 to 795 feet.

Muscadine Trail

Red blaze. This short loop is about ¾-mile and popular with families. The main trailhead is next to the tennis court at the end of Beach Road in the main Day-Use Area, and the trail shares a short section with the blue-blazed Sassafras Loop. A short observation deck near Cottage 10 offers views of Lake Hartwell where hikers can look for kingfisher, heron and ducks. Bloodroot flowers bloom in spring, while crane fly orchids can be found in summer. Hikers can look for muscadine grapes during summer as well. Elevation varies from 700 to 795 feet.



In Case of Emergency

Call 911 if you have an emergency. If you need assistance you may also call the Park Office at (706) 356-4352, or (706) 963-0679 if after 5pm.

The Ty Cobb Regional Medical Center emergency room is located about 7 miles from the park on GA Hwy. 59. At the intersection of the park road and Hwy. 328, turn left. Continue for about 4 miles and yield right onto GA Hwy. 59. Continue on GA Hwy. 59 for approximately 3 miles. Take a right at the hospital entrance on Clear Creek Parkway.

Park Emergency Phone

(706) 963-0679

E.M.T./Ambulance (706) 356-4991

Other Emergencies 911



- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.
- Be prepared for unexpected weather changes by dressing in layers and carrying rain gear. Unexpected rain and wind 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. Luckily, today's hikers can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly or conserve heat. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.
- 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 a hot spot on your feet. Available in the foot care section of drug stores, moleskin is like felt that sticks to your skin.
- · Pack out all trash.
- · Keep pets on a leash.
- Do not pick flowers or disturb wildlife.
- Protect the landscape by staying on trails. Do not short-cut switchbacks. This practice is dangerous and can create major erosion problems.
- Stay together. Don't allow hikers, especially children, to run ahead or lag behind.

