Cloudland Canyon State Park, established in 1938, is located on the western slope of Lookout Mountain, the highest ridge in the state of Georgia, and the southernmost highland in the eastern United States.

Waterfalls Trail

Formerly rated as one of the ten top hikes in the U.S. by Backpacker Magazine, the Waterfalls Trail is a five-mile loop-style hike providing several overlooks that showcase the park’s rugged geology, deep canyons, dense woodland, and awe-inspiring vistas. From the Main Trailhead, hikers drop down to Daniel Creek and cross over it. The trail then proceeds uphill to a rocky promontory. Just after one mile, the loop component of the hike begins. At about mile four, you can complete the loop and then head back to the Main Trailhead, retracing your steps for the first mile. The West Rim Loop Trail is marked by yellow blazes and is most easily accessed from the Main Trailhead. Overnight guests can also access it from the Yurt Village, West Rim Campground, Walk-In Campground, and West Rim cottages. The trail is marked by yellow blazes and is rocky and rooty in several locations.

Two-Mile Backcountry Loop

This two-mile loop provides access to the park’s backcountry campgrounds but is also a nice hike in itself. In a clockwise fashion, the trail slopes gently downward through oak woodland on its way to the mouth of Daniel Creek. This short trail takes visitors to an observation deck overlooking cascading, boulder-strewn creeks downward to the mouth of Daniel Creek and cross over it. The trail then proceeds uphill to a rocky promontory. Just after one mile, the loop component of the hike begins. At about mile four, you can complete the loop and then head back to the Main Trailhead, retracing your steps for the first mile. The West Rim Loop Trail is marked by yellow blazes and is most easily accessed from the Main Trailhead. Overnight guests can also access it from the Yurt Village, West Rim Campground, Walk-In Campground, and West Rim cottages. The trail is marked by yellow blazes and is rocky and rooty in several locations.

Sitten’s Gulch Trail

Named after Jacob Sitten, an early settler of Lookout Valley and owner of a prominent sawmill, Sitten’s Gulch Trail parallels cascading, boulder-strewn creeks downward to the mouth of Cloudland Canyon. The first portion of the trail also serves as the Waterfalls Trail, and wildflowers abound along the lower section of the trail in springtime. The trail ends at the Canyon Park Drive parking lot, near Sitten’s Cove and Cove Caves (accessible through Georgia Geol Guides or by permit only). At this point, retrace your steps back upward for a good climb. Sitten’s Gulch Trail is six miles round-trip from the main trailhead. The trail is marked by dark blue blazes.

Meadowlands Trail

This short trail takes visitors to an observation deck overlooking the unique meadow ecosystem and fishing pond area of the park. Guardians are then encouraged to explore this meadowland on the grassy paths. In summer, thousands of small, wild blackberries are ripe for picking. If interested in fishing, no fishing license is needed. Guardians can borrow a fishing pole for free from the Interpretive Center (open yearround Sat-Sun). A fishing license is needed. Guests can borrow a fishing pole for free from the Interpretive Center (open yearround Sat-Sun).

Overlook Trail

Offering picturesque views into the canyon, the Overlook Trail is a flat, one-half mile (one mile, roundtrip) path. It begins at the Interpretive Center to the Main Overlook, then continues onto a second overlook. The quantity of water over the falls varies greatly from month to month, but in general, winter and early spring offer the greatest flow. Hikers with pets should note that dogs are allowed on all park trails, they sometimes have difficulty navigating the numerous metal-aged stamants.

Cloudland Canyon State Park

Cloudland Canyon State Park, established in 1938, is located on the western edge of Lookout Mountain in the northwest corner of Georgia. The 3,518-acre state park includes rugged canyons, dense forest, abundant wildlife, cascades, waterfalls, and caves. The park trails stretch for hundreds of miles and showcase the park’s unique geology and history. Visitors should note that this trail is strenuous and is not suitable for everyone. Visitors who take the Waterfalls Trail exist within and along the rim of the canyon, offering stunning views of the park’s vast reservoirs, waterfalls, and natural beauty. The Overlook Trail is marked by light blue blazes on trees. The Two-Mile Backcountry Trail is marked by red blazes. The Sitten’s Gulch Trail is marked by yellow blazes. The Meadowlands Trail is marked by dark blue blazes.

SAFETY TIPS & ETIQUETTE

• Keep pets on a leash.
• 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.

TRAIL # | NAME | LENGTH (miles)
--- | --- | ---
1 | Cloudland Canyon Connector Trail | 3.4
2 | Bankhead | 0.4
3 | Peace Can | 1.2
4 | Shale Flats | 1.1
5 | Tailings Run | 1.5
6 | Fuggett Lift | 0.8
7 | Windy Shot | 0.8
8 | Slickenside | 0.9
9 | Hanging Wall | 0.4
10 | Foot Wall | 1.0
11 | Kettle Bottom | 2.3
12 | Cross Cut | 1.3
13 | Back End | 0.9
14 | Bella’s | 0.8
15 | Torino Hill | 0.5
16 | Mick’s | 1.3
17 | Caprock | 1.1
18 | Caprock Cut Thru | 0.2
19 | North Hogshack | 1.1
20 | South Hogshack | 0.3
21 | Kettle Bottom Alternate | 0.1
22 | Kettle Bottom | 2.3

TOTAL MILEAGE 23.3

Climate Data for Ringling, Fawn, Georgia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Avg. Low</th>
<th>Avg. High</th>
<th>Avg. Precip</th>
<th>Record High</th>
<th>Record Low</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>22°F 10°C</td>
<td>52°F 11°C</td>
<td>7.36 in 186.3 mm</td>
<td>95°F 35°C</td>
<td>-23°F -31°C</td>
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<td>Feb</td>
<td>23°F 1°C</td>
<td>52°F 11°C</td>
<td>4.30 in 109.2 mm</td>
<td>97°F 36°C</td>
<td>-30°F -34°C</td>
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<td>Mar</td>
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<td>4.09 in 103.9 mm</td>
<td>99°F 37°C</td>
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<td>70°F 21°C</td>
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<td>100°F 38°C</td>
<td>18°F -7°C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>71°F 22°C</td>
<td>85°F 29°C</td>
<td>4.76 in 121.4 mm</td>
<td>101°F 38°C</td>
<td>3°F 2°C</td>
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<td>88°F 31°C</td>
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<td>105°F 41°C</td>
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<td>4.13 in 105.2 mm</td>
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<td>3°F -1°C</td>
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