Register at Park Visitor Center.

(P) – Permit Required

1 inch equals 2000 Feet

Climate Data for Tallulah Falls, Georgia

**Month** | **High** | **Low** | **Mean** | **Precip.** | **Record High** | **Record Low**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Jan | 53ºF | 29ºF | 41ºF | 5.29 in | 78ºF (1981) | -5ºF (1958)
Feb | 53ºF | 29ºF | 41ºF | 5.26 in | 78ºF (1981) | -5ºF (1958)
Apr | 76ºF | 52ºF | 64ºF | 5.46 in | 95ºF (1953) | 29ºF (1989)
May | 83ºF | 59ºF | 71ºF | 5.28 in | 100ºF (1964) | 39ºF (1972)
Jul | 86ºF | 63ºF | 75ºF | 5.61 in | 102ºF (1952) | 38ºF (1957)
Sep | 79ºF | 57ºF | 68ºF | 4.91 in | 98ºF (1954) | 30ºF (1974)
Oct | 70ºF | 44ºF | 57ºF | 4.08 in | 92ºF (1954) | 22ºF (1987)
Dec | 52ºF | 29ºF | 41ºF | 5.29 in | 75ºF (1971) | -2ºF (1962)

- 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.
- Take a map, water, snacks, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.
- Protect the landscape and help prevent erosion by staying on marked trails.
- Do not pick flowers or disturb wildlife.
- Keep pets on a leash.
- Pack out all trash.
- Don’t count on cell phones to work in the wilderness.
- 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.
- Invest in good hiking socks, found at sporting goods stores. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly or conserve heat. Many 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.
- If they do, be able to give details about your location.
- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.
- Whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.
- Catherine H. Beardsley, Ph.D., a licensed psychologist, says hypothermia is not just a problem for cold-weather hikers. “Hikers who become wet and cold without proper clothing are vulnerable to hypothermia,” she says. “Overexertion 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.
- Pack out all trash.
Tallulah Gorge
State Park

Tallulah Gorge is one of the oldest geological features in North America. Being one of the most spectacular canyons in the eastern U.S., it is two miles long and nearly 1,000 feet deep. Visitors can hike rim trails to several overlooks, or they can obtain a free permit to hike down to the gorge floor (limit 100 per day, not available during scheduled water releases). A suspension bridge spans 80 feet above the rocky bottom, providing spectacular views of the river and the top of Hurricane Falls.

Designated a State Park in 1932, Tallulah Gorge is jointly operated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Power Company through a unique public-private partnership. Located in the historic town of Tallulah Falls, the 2739-acre state park features hiking, biking, camping, picnicking, swimming and opportunities for learning.

Jana Murt Yarn Interpretive Center

16,000-square-foot educational facility with rich cultural, historical and natural exhibits, offering an award-winning film, classroom space, gift shop, restrooms, and staff offices. The center is named for a Georgia conservationist, counselor, and educator who devoted 30 years of her life to the preservation and wise use of natural resources.

Terroe Campground

50 RV/tent sites may be reserved or are otherwise available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 706-754-7979 for reservations.

Day-Use Area

Picnic tables, 65-acre lake with beach (swim at your own risk; closes 30 min. after Labor Day weekend), 20 miles of hiking and biking trails, and two tennis courts. Free permit required for gorge floor hiking and rock climbing/appalaching.

Water Releases

Whitewater boating releases are scheduled for the first two weekends in April and the first three weekends in November, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Water volumes are 500 cfs (buoyed feet per second) on Saturday and 700 cfs on Sunday. Kayakers access the river below Hurricane Falls and can be best viewed from North Rim Trail Overlook 1 and Inspiration Point. South Rim Trail overlooks 8, 9 and 10.

Gorge Floor Access

Sliding Rock Trail is approximately one quarter mile at a 45-degree angle, over boulders and very strenuous. Access is at South Wadenta Tower or steps off the North or South Rim Trails. You can access the gorge via Hurricane Falls Staircase. (approximately 550 metal steps).

A free permit is required. Every person going into the gorge must come to the Interpretive Center first, read the safety pamphlet and fill out the gorge permit. For visitors younger than 16, an adult must also sign the permit and accompany them into the gorge. Permits must be carried with hikers at all times. Hikers are in the gorge checking permits. Hikers without permits will be fined.

Only 100 permits are issued per day, on a first-come, first-served basis. No permits issued after 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. based on day light saving time permits. Permits help ensure hikers’ safety and protection of natural resources.

If it is raining, or has rained and trail is still wet, no permits will be issued. This is for hikers’ safety and protection of natural resources. In general, if the road and trail are completely dry, most of the trail should be dry as well.

Hikers must wear hiking boots, athletic shoes with good tread, or hiking sandals with ankle strap. Carrying bottled water is recommended.

Do not leave trash in gorge. Pack it in; pack it out.

No alcoholic beverages allowed. No glass bottles in gorge.

Not recommended for children younger than 8 or people with heart, back or knee problems.

It is not recommended that babies be carried in a baby backpack.

Pets are not allowed on any gorge floor access trail.

Several summer camps have a blanket permit for their groups. Camp management has attended training sessions on what is expected of youth going into the gorge. Camps are required to bring a list of hikers’ names to the Interpretive Center. Weekends must be approved by park management in advance.

Gorge Floor Trail

Approximately 10 miles, round-trip | Body 3, compacted soil | Moderate/ Difficult

Accessed on Interpretive Center Road.

Part of the trail is used for mountain biking.

Must obtain permit at the Interpretive Center.

Consists of an old railroad bed with large cuts in several areas.

During hunting season, it is recommended hikers and bikers wear brightly colored clothing.

Hurricane Falls Trail Loop

The North and South Rim Trails consist of 3 miles round-trip which will take approximately 2 hours to hike. It is a matched trail with exposed rocks that is a leisurely walk. From the Interpretive Center there is a recycled rubber tire that accesses Overlook 2 and 3.

North Rim Trail

Access this trail behind Interpretive Center. It is approximately 3/4-mile one-way, moderate with some inclines and stairs. This trail has six Scenic Overlooks described below:

1. Inspiration Point is the best southern view into the gorge. Oceana Falls is below with a view of the amphithaet/horseshoe bend rock formation. Gorge depth is 900 plus feet. Aeralist, Professor Leon made a walk from this point to the south rim in 1886.

2. View of Oceana Falls, with Bridal Veil Falls at the far end of the gorge. Tightrope walker Karl Wallenda walked from this overlook to his tower on the south rim in 1970.

3. View of L’Eau d’Or (pronounced Laddo) Falls, top of Tempesta Falls, and Hawthorne Cascade and Pool. Gorge depth is 350 feet.

4. View of L’Eau d’Or Falls, Hawthorne Pool, and remains of a water compressor plant used in building Tallulah Falls Dam.

5. Good view of Tallulah Falls Dam (completed in 1913) and upper portions of the gorge.

6. View of upper gorge and southern view to Hawthorne Pool and Overlook 2 and 3. Gorge depth is 250 feet.

South Rim Trail

Located on the opposite side of the gorge from the Interpretive Center and is approximately 3 miles one-way, moderate with inclines. This trail has five Scenic Overlooks described below:

1. View of Hawthorne Pool, North Rim Trail Overlook 2 and 3, top of Tempesta Falls, and gorge towards Hurricane Falls. Gorge depth is 350 feet.

2. View of Hawthorne Pool, Tempesta Falls and Pool. Gorge depth is 400 feet.


4. View of Hurricane Falls, Oceana Falls, Caledonia Cascade (600 feet), and North Rim Overlook 1. Gorge depth is 650 feet.

5. View of Caledonia Cascade and the Wallenda north tower area. Bluff to far right is approximately 1,000 feet high.

This trail can be accessed from Terrora Circle Road, is paved and can be used for hiking and biking. It follows part of an old railroad bed.

Hurricane Falls Trail Loop

Approximately 2 miles, round-trip | Mulched with natural clain | Difficult

This trail has a total of 1,099 stairs (including staircace to gorge floor).

Please do not attempt this trial if you have any known health condition.

No dogs allowed on this trail.