

Pisgah District Points of Interest

PISGAH RANGER DISTRICT:



Located in the Pisgah National Forest, the 157,000-acre Pisgah Ranger District ranges from 2,200 feet in elevation near the ranger station to 6,410 feet at Balsam Knob. The district's visitor center, located on US 276 near Brevard, is open **Winter hours:** Mon-Fri 8-4:30(closed holidays). **Peak season hours:** Mon-Sat. 9-5, limited hours on Sundays (open holidays). For information call 828-877-3265.

DISTRICT MANAGEMENT:

The Pisgah Ranger District is managed for many uses, including recreation, wildlife habitat, clean water, and wood products. The district's scenic beauty and natural attractions provide many opportunities for recreation. Diverse wildlife habitats provide homes for game animals and songbirds, as well as many threatened and endangered species. The district's watershed provides water for Brevard, Hendersonville, and Rosman. Trees provide wood and fiber for many local wood-based industries.

POINTS OF INTEREST:



Forest Heritage National Scenic Byway: A 79-mile loop highway—US 276, NC 215, and US 64—offers many views of the district's great scenery, as do the Blue Ridge Parkway and Forest Service Road 475.

Sycamore Flats: Forty picnic tables and a reservable picnic shelter. Fishing and tubing on Davidson River. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

Looking Glass Falls: Located on US 276, this beautiful, 30-foot-wide waterfall drops unbroken more than 60 feet over a rock cliff. Steps lead to an overlook and continue to the base of the falls. Parking is available. **Waterfalls can be dangerous.** For your safety, stay away from the top of the falls and keep off wet rocks.

Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education and State Fish Hatchery: The center features indoor/outdoor exhibits and information, and visitors can watch different species and sizes of trout in raceways of this facility off US 276 on Davidson River Road (FS 475). Parking and fish food are available. For group programs, call 828-877-4423.

Sliding Rock Recreation Area: Located on US 276, this is a natural water slide. At their own risk, visitors may slide down a 60-foot-long rock into a 7-foot-deep pool. An observation deck is available. A seasonal fee is charged when lifeguards, restrooms and changing areas are available. Picnicking and drinking of alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

Cradle of Forestry in America: This historic site was the home of the first forestry school in America. Your experience begins at the **Forest Discovery Center**, which features exciting indoor and outdoor exhibits, Hob Nob Cafe and a gift shop. You can explore the Cradle on your own or join a guided tour to see historic cabins, an old logging locomotive, local crafters, and more. Open mid-April to early November from 9-5 daily. A fee is charged. For more information or group rates, call 828-877-3130.

CAMPGROUNDS:

Most sites at these four developed campgrounds are first-come first-served; however, you can make reservations (with service fee) May thru October at all campgrounds except Sunburst by calling toll free 877-444-6777 (TDD 877-833-6777) or visiting www.recreation.gov.



Davidson River: Open all year. Offers 161 sites, some reservable year-round, and over a dozen with electricity. Trails accessible from campground. Numerous sites on river. Fishing.

Lake Powhatan: Open April thru October, offers 98 sites. Trails accessible from campground. Beach with lifeguards in summer/fee area. Fishing. Accessible fishing pier. Large picnic area. Day-use parking fee.

North Mills River: Open year-round; no water in winter. Offers 28 sites. Some sites on river. Fishing. Adjacent large picnic area. Day-use parking fee.

Sunburst: Open April thru October, offers 10 sites. Fishing (river across highway). Adjacent small picnic area.

GROUP CAMPING AREAS:

All group camping areas are by reservation only, year-round. Call toll-free 877-444-6777 (TDD 877-833-6777) or visit www.recreation.gov. All have water pumps and pit toilets. Campfires are permitted in designated fire rings only.



White Pines: Two areas, both on creek via footbridges.

Kuykendall: Vehicles cross creek to camping area; be cautious in high water.

Cove Creek: Vehicles cross creek to two areas; be cautious in high water. Trails accessible from area.



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