

# Red Top Mountain State Park Trail Map

50 Lodge Road • Cartersville, GA 30121 • 770-975-0055 • Reservations 1-800-864-7275 • [www.GeorgiaStateParks.org](http://www.GeorgiaStateParks.org)



### Hiking Trails

- Campground Trail
- Homestead Trail
- Iron Hill Trail
- Lakeside Trail
- Sweet Gum Trail
- Visitor Center Loop Trail
- White Tail Trail

### Symbols

- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Park Visitor Center
- Parking
- Phone
- Restrooms

- Lodge & Restaurant
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Group Shelter
- Cottage
- Campground

- Pioneer Camping Area
- Boat Ramp
- Beach
- Miniature Golf
- Tennis
- Wheelchair Access

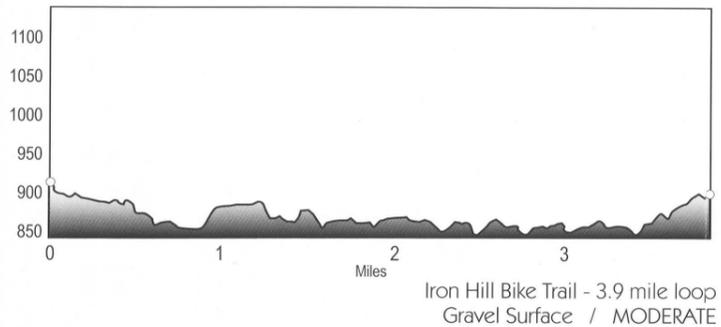


## RED TOP MOUNTAIN STATE PARK & LODGE

Red Top Mountain State Park & Lodge is a very popular park located on 12,000-acre Lake Allatoona and is ideal for swimming, boating and fishing. Visitors can bring their own boats or rent from nearby marinas. More than 15 miles of hiking trails wind through the park, providing opportunities for exercise and exploring a reconstructed 1860s homestead. The park's lodge, restaurant and meeting facilities make Red Top a great getaway for family reunions and business groups. A 0.75-mile paved trail behind the restaurant is suitable for wheelchairs and strollers, and the new 3.5-mile Iron Hill Trail is open to both hikers and bikers. Named for the soil's rich red color caused by high iron-ore content, Red Top Mountain was once an important mining area for iron.

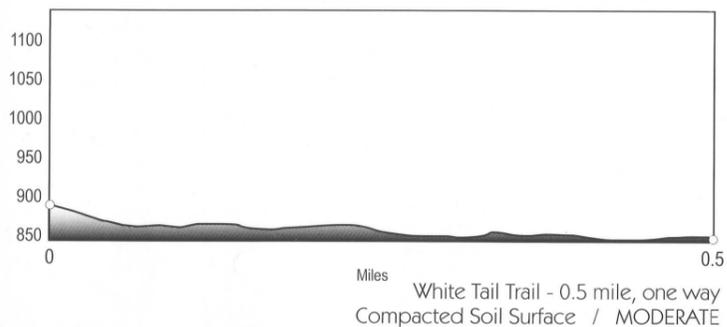
### IRON HILL BIKE TRAIL

The parking lot for this trail is located off Red Top Mountain Road, on the right a half mile past the campground. It is a graveled trail that is accessible to both hikers and bicycles. From the parking lot, follow the directional signs to the trailhead. This scenic trail is a loop that winds along the banks of the lake through a historic area that was once home to an active iron mining community in the mid 1800's. Along the way you will have the opportunity to observe both native wildlife and a profusion of native plants.



### WHITE TAIL TRAIL

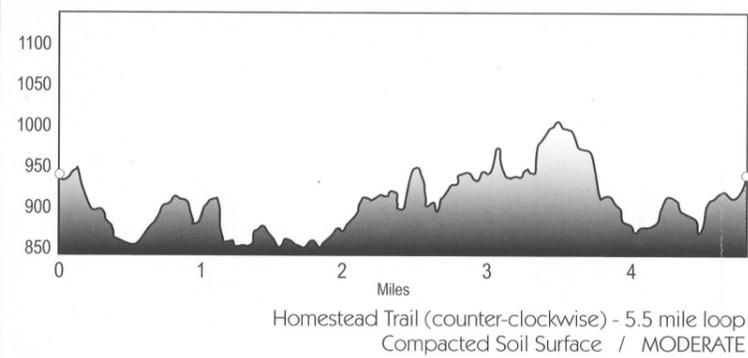
This trail begins at the Lodge parking area and shares a trailhead with the Sweet Gum Trail Loop. The Whitetail Trail then turns off the Sweet Gum Trail Loop and runs north to the end of a scenic point at the edge of Lake Allatoona.



## PARK TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS AND OTHER INFORMATION

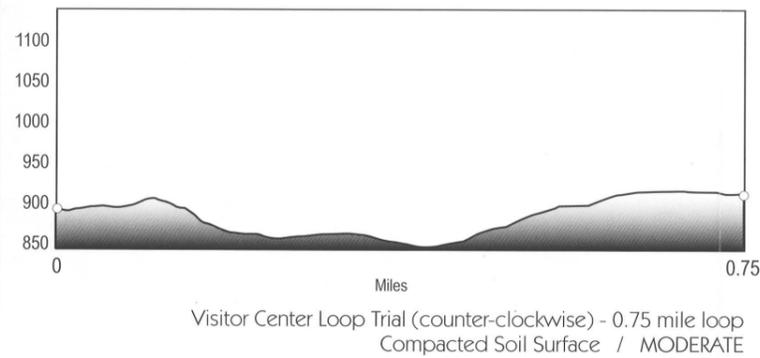
### HOMESTEAD TRAIL

This trail begins at the front porch of the park Visitor Center, turns north for one mile, crosses Lodge Road and then makes a 3.5 mile loop through some of the most beautiful areas of the park. The loop portion follows the lakeshore for approximately half its length. Completion of the loop brings the hiker back to the same one mile route to the front porch. This trail is named after one of several homesteads which were once located in the loop portion. Trail is blazed yellow and is not accessible to bicycles.



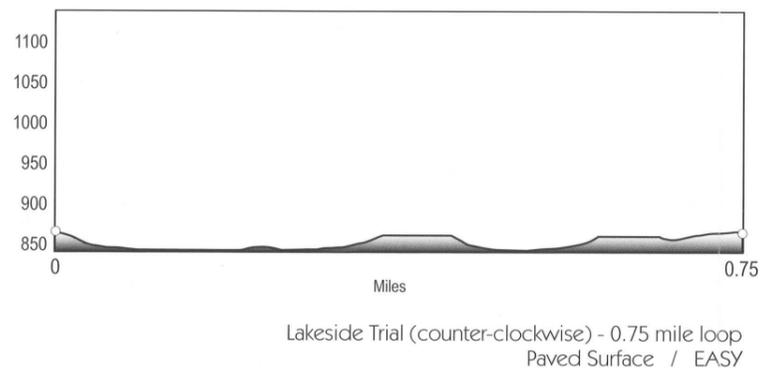
### VISITOR CENTER LOOP TRAIL

This beautiful trail begins one hundred yards down the beginning of the Sweet Gum Trail from the Visitor Center parking area. The Sweet Gum Trail will bear sharp left and the Visitor Center Loop will bear sharp right. Shaded hardwood forest, a small spring fed stream, and two viewing/relaxation platforms can be enjoyed. Trail is blazed red and is not accessible to bicycles.



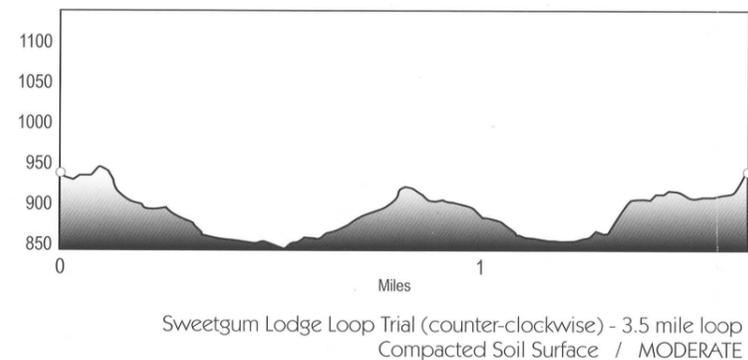
### LAKESIDE TRAIL

This short paved trail starts at the Lodge parking lot and makes a loop behind the lodge on the shore of Lake Allatoona. It is ADA Accessible for the entire length. A focal point is the 1869 Vaughn cabin located right along the trail. Visitors enjoy special programs held at the cabin as well as relaxing on the benches along the trail and shoreline. Trail is not blazed and no bicycles are allowed.



### SWEETGUM LODGE LOOP TRAIL

This trail begins at the Visitor Center parking area and also follows a route north. After 0.5 mile the trail then makes a loop through the Lodge area of the park and then back to the 0.5 mile section for a return to the Visitor Center. The Sweet Gum Trail also travels south from the Visitor Center to the campground, allowing campers to access the park trail without driving. There are sections of the trail where Homestead and Sweet Gum share the same pathway. These sections are marked with yellow and red blazes. Trail is not accessible to bicycles.



## SAFETY TIPS & ETIQUETTE

- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.
- Be prepared for unexpected weather changes by dressing in layers and carrying rain gear.
- 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.
- 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. 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.
- Pack out all trash.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times. This is strictly enforced. Maximum leash length is 6 feet.
- Do not pick flowers or disturb wildlife.
- Protect the landscape by staying on trails.
- Alcohol is prohibited in public areas of the park.
- A Georgia ParkPass is required to be displayed in your vehicle. Passes are available at all major parking lots and inside the Visitor Center or Lodge.

## CLIMATE DATA FOR CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA

Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low	Avg. Mean	Avg. Precip.	Record High	Record Low
Jan	50°F	30°F	40°F	4.00 in	79°F (2002)	-9°F (1985)
Feb	55°F	32°F	44°F	4.30 in	83°F (1977)	1°F (1996)
Mar	64°F	38°F	51°F	5.23 in	87°F (2002)	8°F (1960)
Apr	72°F	45°F	58°F	4.07 in	93°F (1986)	22°F (1987)
May	78°F	55°F	66°F	3.27 in	98°F (1962)	31°F (1961)
Jun	85°F	63°F	74°F	3.57 in	105°F (1954)	40°F (1966)
Jul	89°F	67°F	78°F	3.62 in	106°F (1954)	49°F (1967)
Aug	88°F	66°F	77°F	3.05 in	108°F (1954)	48°F (1964)
Sep	82°F	60°F	71°F	3.27 in	106°F (1954)	30°F (1967)
Oct	72°F	47°F	60°F	2.55 in	100°F (1954)	23°F (1961)
Nov	62°F	39°F	51°F	3.69 in	87°F (1961)	4°F (1950)
Dec	53°F	33°F	43°F	3.84 in	81°F (1956)	-3°F (1983)