

Roundtop Ridge Trail

Hot Springs Area

Trail # 295



Characteristics

To easily access this trail, take the Appalachian Trail north from Tanyard Gap or head north for two miles to intersection with Roundtop Ridge Trail. From the upper end, the trail meanders down Roundtop Ridge, passes through old farm fields and alongside timber harvest areas. The trail ends at town of Hot Springs' water reservoir tank. If hikers walk down Reservoir Road for half a mile, cars can pick them up at the tank. Access the Pump Gap Trail, Lover's Leap Loop Trail and Appalachian Trail from SR 1304 near the US-25/70 Bridge at the French Broad River.

Highlights

- Offers a walk through oak-hickory hardwood forests.
- Loop opportunity with the Appalachian Trail. Provides access from Hot Springs to Rich Mountain Fire Tower.

Statistics

Total Length: 3.1 miles

Total Elevation Change: 1,400 feet

Degree of Difficulty: Difficult

Beginning Point: Appalachian Trail

Ending Point: Reservoir Road, Hot Springs

Average Hiking Time: Three hours (one way)

Amount of Use: Light

Blaze Color: Yellow Rectangle

Area Trail Map: Harmon Den/Hot Springs Trail Map

USGS Quad Map: Hot Springs

Access

From Burnsville, go west on NC 19E and then merge onto I-26 East. Take Exit 11 toward Mars Hill/Marshall. Turn Left onto NC-213/Carl Eller Road. This leads into Marshall. Take the US-25 Bypass/ US-70 Ramp, merging onto US-25/US-70 heading to Hot Springs. Eventually, turn left to continue on US-25/US-70. Just before Tanyard Gap, where the Appalachian Trail crosses the highway on a concrete bridge, turn right. Turn right again at the next intersection and follow the paved road. At pavement's end, turn left onto FR 467 and go four miles to Hurricane Gap, where AT crosses FR 467. Park along the road and follow the AT south for 1.3 miles to Roundtop Ridge Trail on right.



Pisgah National Forest

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