



Thornton Hollow Trail - SNP, Virginia

Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
12.8 mls	★	★	★	★	★
Hiking Time:	6.0 hours with a half hour for lunch				
Elev. Gain:	2,250 ft				
Links:	Note: Only two parking spots on 612/Hull School Rd.				

This hike is rated 5 because of the distance. Taking just over 7 hours you will definitely feel tired when you're done! There are great wooded areas with two different rivers the Thornton and Piney.

With only two close parking spots near the end of RT 612 make sure to get an early start. Enter the park on yellow-blazed Thornton River Trail and climb gently for 1.4 miles where you reach the intersection of the Hull School Trail.

Turn Right on the Hull School Trail ascending more steeply to the ridge line in another 0.7 miles. Turn left onto the blue blazed Fork Mountain Trail and ascend the ridge line for 1.2 miles before coming to the junction of the Piney Ridge Trail that comes in from the right.

Continue straight on what is now called the Piney Ridge Trail for another 2.0 miles before coming to a service road junction. Continue straight another 100 yards to the junction of the white blazed Appalachian Trail where you will turn right. Take the Appalachian Trail for 0.5 miles before it meets back up with the service road for 50 yards then veers to the right. Stay on the Appalachian Trail for another 0.5 miles until you get to the intersection of the Pole Bridge Link Trail.

Turn right downhill on the Pole Bridge Link Trail crossing a stream in 0.7 miles and arriving at the junction of the Piney Branch Trail in 1.2 miles.

Turn right downhill on the Piney Branch Trail for 1.2 miles crossing the Piney River and passing the junction of the Piney Ridge Trail at 1.8 miles. Continue downhill on the Piney Branch Trail crossing Piney River again in 0.3 miles and coming to the junction of the Hull School Trail 0.5 miles further. Continue downhill and re-cross Piney River for the last time 100 yards from the last intersection. 25 yards after crossing Piney River you will come to the intersection of the Hull School Trail where you will turn right uphill for 1.0 miles to the Piney Ridge line junction that began the loop earlier.

Continue straight downhill, retracing your steps from earlier turn right on the Thornton River Trail and return to the parking area in another 1.2 miles.