



Cove Creek Falls – Pisgah National Forest, NC

Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
2.5 mls	★	★	N/A	★	N/A
Hiking Time:	1 hour and 20 minutes with 15 minutes of breaks				
Elev. Gain:	470 ft				
Parking:	Parking area on FR 475. 35.28301, -82.81684				

[Click Here For Detailed Location](#)

By Trail Contributor: Zach Robbins



FR 475 along the Davidson River in Pisgah National Forest is loaded with popular trails and rewarding destinations. Cove Creek Falls, a splendid 50-foot waterfall, is within earshot of the Cove Creek Group Camp. This waterfall hike is not lengthy or difficult, making it a good choice for beginner hikers or those looking to combine multiple waterfalls in one day. Although there are some twists and turns at the beginning near the campground, trails and signs point the way.

Additionally, there's a nice 15-foot waterfall beside the forest road before you reach the campground. While you're in the area, consider hiking Pilot Mountain or John Rock and Cedar Rock Falls.

- ▶ **Mile 0.0** – Begin at the parking area on FR 475 at the T-junction with FR 809, located beside the bridge over Cove Creek. FR 809 is the access road for the Cove Creek Group Camp, but parking at the campground is reserved for campers only and is also locked during the winter.
- ▶ **Mile 0.1** – FR 809 fords Cove Creek. Turn right on an alternate trail leading to a footbridge over the creek. Rejoin FR 809 on the other side of the creek.
- ▶ **Mile 0.3** – A steep scramble trail on the right leads to the base of an unnamed 15-foot waterfall on Cove Creek.
- ▶ **Mile 0.45** – At a Y-junction turn left beginning the Caney Bottom Trail [361] (*blue blaze*). (**Note** – this section of the Caney Bottom Trail is open to mountain bikers.)
- ▶ **Mile 0.55** – Turn right at a T-junction crossing a small stream to continue following the Caney Bottom Trail. An unofficial trail goes straight connecting with the Daniel Ridge Trail. The trail swings around the perimeter of Cove Creek Group Camp.
- ▶ **Mile 0.8** – Continue straight on the Cove Creek Trail [340] (*yellow blaze*) at a T-junction where the Caney Bottom Trail turns right. (**Note** – the Cove Creek Trail is open to mountain bikers.) The trail begins climbing around the left side of a dry cove.
- ▶ **Mile 1.2** – Turn right on a side path marked with a Cove Creek Falls brown carsonite sign. The trail initially passes near the top of the waterfall. Avoid exploring this area, there is not much room at the top and a fall could be fatal. Follow the path downstream, which swings wide and curves back to the left towards the base.
- ▶ **Mile 1.3** – Reach the base of Cove Creek Falls. The creek cascades over colorful, bare rock more than 50 feet into a shallow pool at the base.
- ▶ **Mile 2.5** – Hike ends at FR 475.