

Accommodations

Marion area

- 1 America's Best Value Inn
828-659-2567
- 2 Backyard Bunkies
828-527-4428
- 3 Budget Inn
828-652-7276
- 4 Comfort Inn
828-652-4888
- 5 Cottages at Spring House Farm
828-738-9798
- 6 Eco Cove House Wildlife Sanctuary
828-724-9757
- 7 Fossie's Cabin – Buck Creek Trout Farm
828-724-9612
- 8 Hampton Inn Marion
828-652-5100
- 9 Holiday Inn Express & Suites
828-527-0035
- 10 Rock House at Maple Hill
828-652-7208
- 11 Sportsman Inn
828-659-7525
- 12 Super 8 Motel
828-659-7940

Old Fort area

- 13 Bear Haven Cabin
828-668-4831
- 14 Catawba Falls Preserve
828-284-7893
- 15 Greybeard Vacation Rentals
828-669-1072
- 16 Indigo Nature Retreat
828-619-0900
- 17 Inn on Mill Creek
877-735-2964 or 828-668-1115
- 18 Isobel Acres
828-669-1072
- 19 Jarrett Creek Cottage
828-231-4132
- 20 Kibbin on Mackey Creek
828-669-1072
- 21 Lookout at Trail's End
828-419-9128
- 22 Mary Ida's Place
828-460-2486
- 23 Mountain Appalachian Inn
828-460-3438
- 24 Mountain Time Memories
919-410-9856
- 25 Newberry Creek Log House
828-652-1234
- 26 Railway Rest
828-460-2486
- 27 Rivers Ridge Lodge
828-243-5762

Lake James/Nebo area

- 28 Appalachian Dream Cabin
251-363-3142
- 29 Jason's Getaway
980-253-3905
- 30 Greybeard Vacation Rentals
855-688-9574
- 31 Lake Front Retreat
919-426-6723
- 32 Lake James Rentals
828-442-5890
- 33 Lake James Property Management
828-443-1715
- 34 Newman's Nook Lakefront Vacation Rental
919-564-9021
- 35 Sarah's Song Cabin
828-659-2879
- 36 Tamarca Hollow Retreat
828-460-7973

Little Switzerland/Linville Falls area

- 37 Alpine Inn
828-765-5380
- 38 Bear Ridge Lodge
828-419-9128
- 39 Between the Falls
386-299-9681
- 40 Big Lynn Lodge
828-765-4257
- 41 Blue Ridge Parkway Cabin Rentals
919-602-6722
- 42 Catawba River Inn
866-756-7001
- 43 Chalet Switz
407-678-9383
- 44 Haus Edelweiss Guest Suite
828-527-2564
- 45 LaPetite Chalet
888-828-1654
- 46 Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages
828-527-2564
- 47 Little Switzerland Vacation Rentals
866-766-0611 or 828-765-7111
- 48 Rocky Falls Retreat
704-489-1559
- 49 Skyline Village Inn
828-765-9394
- 50 Switzerland Inn & Chalet
828-385-4500
- 51 Whispering Creek Cottage
813-215-8906

Attractions

- Linville Caverns
800-419-0540 or 828-756-4171
- Linville Gorge Wilderness Area
828-652-2144
- Orchard at Altapass
888-765-9531 or 828-765-9531
- Bear Creek Marina
828-655-1400
- Buck Creek Trout Farm
828-724-9612
- The Davis Country Store
828-668-6416
- Catawba River Outdoors
828-442-6048
- McDowell Arts Council Gallery & Gifts
828-652-8610
- Arrowhead Gallery & Studios
828-668-1100
- The Catawba Angler
828-460-2390
- Magnolia Market Place
828-442-6096
- Lake James State Park
828-544-6800

Museums

- Historic Carson House
828-724-4948
- Mountain Gateway Museum
828-668-9259

Golfing

- Marion Lake Club Golf Course
828-652-6232
- North Cove Social Club/Disc Golf
828-756-8225

Mining

- 1 Emerald Village
828-765-6463
- 2 The Lucky Strike
828-738-4893

McDowell County Tourism Authority
828-668-4282 | blueridgetraveler.com

Blue Ridge Traveler

TOWNS AND TRAILS

MARION • LAKE JAMES • LITTLE SWITZERLAND
LINVILLE FALLS • OLD FORT

Public & Primitive Camping

- Crabtree Falls Campground - 828-675-5444
Curtis Creek Campground - 828-652-2144
Lake James State Park - 828-652-5047
Linville Gorge Wilderness Area - 828-652-2144



Area Attractions

- Mt. Mitchell State Park
828-675-4611
- Grandfather Mountain State Park
800-468-7325
- Chimney Rock State Park
800-277-9611
- Biltmore House
800-411-3812

Campgrounds & Cabins

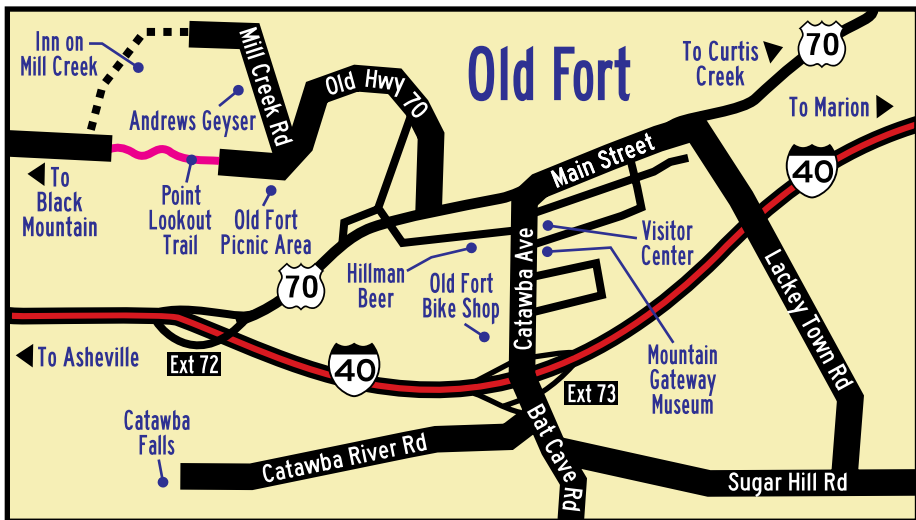
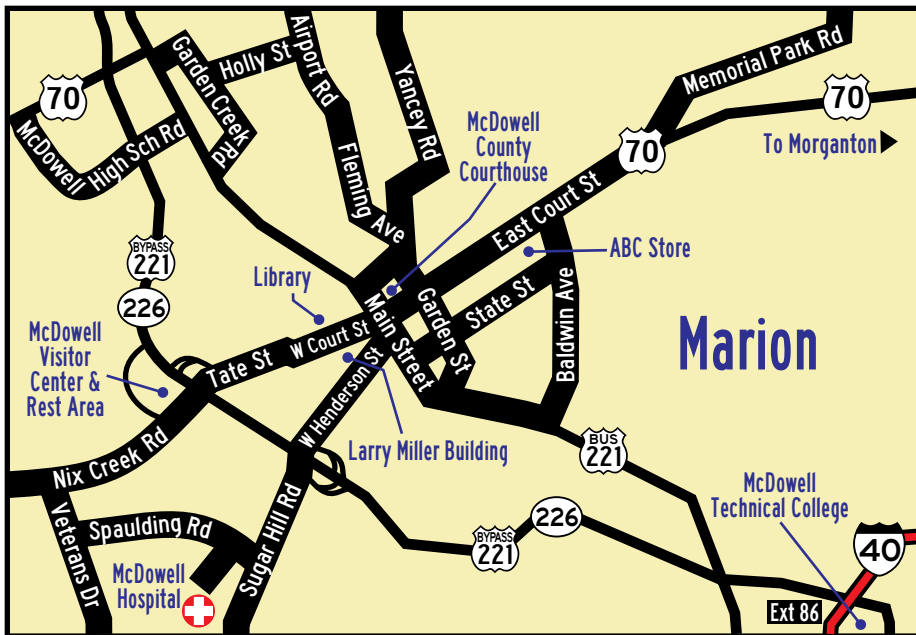
- 1 Spacious Skies Bear Den Campground & Cabins
828-765-2888
- 3 Camp Grier Group Lodges & Cabins
828-668-7793
- 6 Mountain Stream RV Park Mountain Stream Yurts
828-724-9013
- 9 Sky Island Retreat & Campground
828-668-4928
- 20 Gold River Camp & Cabins
828-351-6283
- 12 Spacious Skies Hidden Creek
828-652-7208
- 15 Linville Falls Campground, RV Park & Cabins
828-765-2681
- 16 Barefoot Landing Camping Resort
828-829-5005
- 17 Lake James Camping Resort & Marina
828-584-0190
- 18 Lake James State Park
828-544-6800
- 19 The Lucky Strike Campground
828-738-4893

Campgrounds

- 2 Buck Creek
828-724-4888
- 4 Catawba Falls Campground
828-668-4831
- 5 Mountain Paradise & Pool
828-756-4085
- 7 Mountain View RV Park
828-527-3020
- 8 Riverbreeze Campground
828-925-8524
- 10 Camping World
800-225-7802
- 13 Curtis Creek Campground
828-652-2144
- 14 Crabtree Falls Campground
828-675-5444
- 11 Triple C
828-724-4099

Wineries/Cheese/Bees/Beer/Spirits

- 1 Linville Falls Winery
828-765-1400
- 2 English Farmstead Cheese
828-756-8166
- 3 Copper Creek Distillery
2550 US-221 Business/Marion
- 4 Keeper's Cut Meadery
828-527-6326
- 5 South Creek Vineyards & Winery
828-652-5729
- 6 Silver Fork Vineyard
828-652-5729
- 7 Sweet Betsy Farm
828-724-4444
- 8 Refinery 13
828-559-0027
- 9 Mica Town Brewery (2 locations)
828-559-8300
- 10 Spillway Bridge & Co.
828-460-0269
- 11 Hillman Beer
828-668-6372
- 12 Flavors on Main General Store
828-528-8145
- 13 Taylors Brewing Co.
828-559-0778
- 14 Whaley Farm Brewery
178 Catawba Ave./Old Fort
- 15 Davis Country Store
828-668-6416



10 Point Lookout Trail
HIKE | CYCLE 3.62 miles, easy-moderate.
Non-Motorized Trail. 1800-2900 Feet above sea level depending upon area. Spectacular views of Royal Gorge and 19th century railroad tunnels. I-40 to exit 73, North on Catawba Ave., turn left onto Highway 70, then right onto Old Hwy. 70. 2.4 miles to Mill Creek Road, Old Fort Picnic Area to left with parking available during season. Trail begins at end of Old Hwy. 70, look for U.S.F.S. entry gate.

11 Woodlawn Fitness Trail
HIKE 1.25 miles, easy-moderate.
1600 ft. Fitness trail consists of 7 stations, 2 exercises per station, on a 1/4 mile jogging path. Additional 1-mile loop surrounds exercise trail. Woodlawn Work Center is 6 miles north of Marion on US 221. Trail is behind picnic area on left.

12 Woods Mountain/Betsy Ridge
HIKE | HORSES | MTB 13 miles one way, strenuous, wilderness conditions.
3600 ft. Trail is approximately 6 miles north of Marion on US 221, turn left onto Green Mountain Road. Enter at the Woodlawn Work Center and Fitness Trail. Trail head is behind the picnic area on the left. Excellent views of the Black Mountains, Little Switzerland, and Armstrong Creek watershed areas. The Woods Trail includes trail sections shared with the MST, watch for trail markings. The downhill section on Betsy's Ridge is also used by bear hunters, exercise caution during the season. Wilderness area, no cell service, take detailed paper maps or suggest downloading map from MTB Project.

13 Snook's Nose
HIKE | MTB Strenuous, 2.7 miles. Caution
Experienced hikers only. Narrow trail, ascending approx. 2800 feet. From US 70 turn onto Curtis Creek Road, continuing approximately

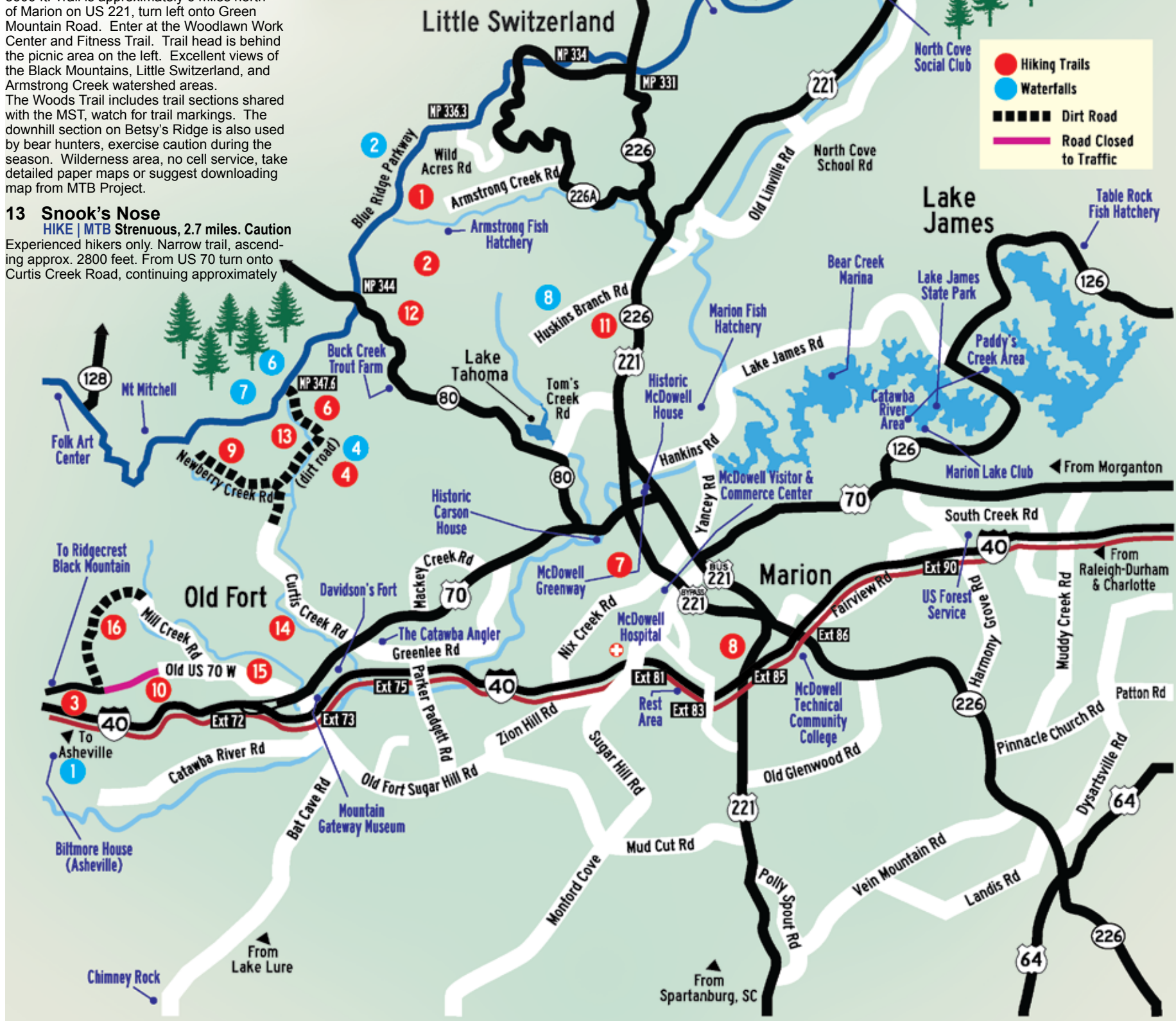
four miles to campground. Trailhead is marked on left side of Curtis Creek Road, across from the campground. Trail rises steeply to Blue Ridge Parkway with long range views along the ridge. Cross Parkway to access Green Knob Lookout Tower with views of Mt. Mitchell.

14 Old Fort Gateway Trails
HIKE | HORSES | MTB
Opening June 2022 (ask us before heading out), the first phase of Old Fort Gateway Trails. Section 1 is a 5.9-mile multi-use system designed for mountain biking, hiking, and equestrians. Drive US 70 to Curtis Creek Road, proceed approximately 1 mile to 1450 Curtis Creek Road, parking entrance on the left.

15 Copper Ridge Trail
HIKE | MTB
Beginning at the intersection of US Hwy. 70 and Catawba Avenue, drive west to Old US 70, turn right driving approx.

1.5 miles to the trailhead that is on the right. A 3-mile natural surface, steep trail. For hikers, it's moderate to strenuous climb with cool switchbacks on descent for MTB riders

16 Bernard Mountain Trail
HIKE | MTB
3.2 mile trail with nice views and technical switchbacks.



Hiking Trails

- 1 Armstrong Creek**
HIKE 3 miles, easy-moderate.
3640 ft. Primitive hiking trail on old logging road. Take NC 226A to Armstrong Fish Hatchery Road (1443). Trail head begins past hatchery parking lot, ends at Woods Mountain Trail..
- 2 Bad Fork**
HIKE 2-6 miles, moderate.
2940 ft. Primitive trail connects with Woods Mountain and Armstrong Creek Trails. Take NC 226A to Armstrong Fish Hatchery Road (1443). Drive 3 miles to trail head on left side at confluence of Bad Fork with Armstrong Creek. Trail ends at Woods Mountain Trail.
- 3 Kitsuma Peak Trail/Young's Ridge**
MTB 9.7 mile loop, moderate.
3195 ft. Two trails merge to create an eight-mile trail opening to breathtaking views, winding around Old Fort Mountain. Also used as a mountain bike trail, listen for riders. Narrow trail, moderate to difficult. Parking available at Ridgcrest Overlook and at Old Fort Picnic Area. From US Hwy. 70, approx. 2.4 miles, U.S.F.S. Old Fort Picnic Area on left. From 1-40/Ridgcrest Exit, turn onto "Old Hwy. 70" to stop sign, past Ridgcrest Conf. Center. Drive straight ahead to road end at parking area.
- 4 Lead Mine Gap**
HIKE 2.8 miles, moderate.
3460 ft. Mixed forested environment with long range views. Take Curtis Creek Road from US 70, east of Old Fort. Continue about 8 1/2 miles to trail head. Trail head is at the intersection of campground site #213. Trail descends to Mackey Creek. Offers a back country experience and can be hard to follow.

- 5 Linville Gorge**
HIKE 3400 ft. Eastern America's most scenic and rugged gorge. On NC 183 in village of Linville Falls, turn right at dirt road (Kistler Memorial Highway, #1238) 3/4 mile from intersection with US 221. There are multiple strenuous trails accessible from Kistler Memorial Highway. Obtain Linville Gorge Wilderness Map from US Forest Service Grandfather District Office in Nebo, 828-652-2144
- 6 Mackey Mountain**
HIKE 7 miles, difficult.
3400 ft. Excellent views in bear sanctuary. Take Curtis Creek Road, off US 70, east of Old Fort. Trailhead is 3.7 miles from Curtis Creek Recreation Area Campground. Follows the Mackey Mountain Ridge through old growth forests. Trail crosses Narrows Knob, elevation 3396, and trail can be hard to follow.
- 7 McDowell Historic Greenway**
HIKE The McDowell Greenway is a paved route, following the path of the Catawba River. Two sections are complete and cover approximately 1.5 miles (one way). Canoe/kayak and fishing access, handicap fishing decks. Enter the park at 136 US 70 West in Marion, parking is behind house.
- 8 Mt. Ida Wilderness Trail**
HIKE Gravel road leads to trailhead, covered picnic shelter and overlook. Trail is approximately .70 mile. Entrance at 1536 Rutherford Road in Marion, beside Ideal Rentals.
- 9 Newberry Creek**
HIKE 5 miles, easy-moderate.
4300 ft. Scenic trail ends at Parkway. Take Curtis Creek Road, off US 70, east of Old Fort. Left at Newberry Creek Road, parking on left side of road, just before road ends at trailhead. Trail begins after 4 miles at end of road.

Waterfalls

- 1 Catawba Falls**
3 miles round-trip, moderate, strenuous.
A 340-foot cascade, upper falls is a 70-foot plunge. I-40 West bound to exit 73. Turn left and go under interstate. Make first right. At fork, bear left onto Catawba River Road. I-40 West bound exit 73. As you approach the stop sign at the end of this exit, Catawba River Road is to the right BEFORE you reach the stop sign. Road ends after 3 miles. Parking area is at the end of the bridge. Follow trail signs. Hiking is permitted during daylight hours only. The McDowell County Sheriff's department patrols this area. Cars left after dusk will be towed.
- 2 Crabtree Falls**
2.5 mile loop, moderate.
60-foot plunge down a wide and even rock face. At Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 339.5, turn into Crabtree Falls Parking lot. Do not use the campground parking lot.
- 3 Dugger's Creek Falls**
0.3 mile loop/easy
On the Blue Ridge Parkway, Milepost 316.5 is the Linville Falls parking area and visitor center. Once in the parking lot, you will find the visitor's center with a map of the park, and some pictures of the waterfalls. To see Dugger's Creek Falls, you will follow the edge of the parking lot back to the street. You will come upon a small, marked trailhead to your right. Once you enter the woods, you will follow a very short trail to a bridge over Dugger's Creek. The falls to your right. This is not a large waterfalls, but is breathtaking. Bring the camera to take great shots from the swinging bridge. There is also a trail going down below for other views of the falls.
- 4 Hickory Branch Falls Trail**
4 miles round-trip, moderate.
View of 20-foot falls. Approximately 2 miles east of Old Fort on US 70, turn onto Curtis Creek Road, go 4 miles to campground. Trailhead is on edge of field to right of campground.
- 5 Linville Falls**
Falls Trail: 1.6 miles round-trip, easy;
Gorge Trail: 1.4 miles round-trip, strenuous;
Plunge Basin Trail: 1 mile round-trip, moderate.
Most popular waterfall in Blue Ridge!
A spectacular three-tiered waterfall plunging into Linville Gorge, the "Grand Canyon of the Southern Appalachians." Exit Blue Ridge Parkway spur at milepost 316.4.
- 6 Roaring Fork Falls**
1 mile round-trip, easy.
Located in Toecane District of Pisgah National Forest. A 30-foot rush down a narrow, zigzag slide. At Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 344.1, exit north onto NC 80. Drive north 2.3 miles, turn left onto FS 472 (South Toe River Road), just before Mt. Mitchell Golf Course. Take first left (after 0.1 miles) at sign indicating Roaring Fork Falls and Busick Work Center. Road dead-ends at work center. Park near gate on right.
- 7 Setrock Creek Falls**
1.4 miles round-trip, easy.
From the Blue Ridge Parkway at MP 344, continue south for 2.2 miles, left on South Toe River Rd (SR 1205). Follow Black Mountain Campground signs approx. 2.8 miles, at 2 miles there is a sharp turn. Park across from the campground entrance, if you're not camping. From here, walk across bridge into campground, take first road to left, then take second trail to the right, stake reads "Setrock Falls."
- 8 Tom's Creek Falls**
2 mile loop, easy.
7 miles north of Marion on US 221. Turn left at Huskins Branch Road, just before Woodlawn Motel. Go 1.3 miles and park on right at gravel lot with kiosk. Trailhead begins at lot. When trail forks, follow left along creek. Gentle falls in picturesque area. Approximate height of falls: 100 feet.