



# Grandfather Mountain State Park

9872 Hwy 105 S  
Banner Elk, NC 28604

828-963-9522

grandfather.mountain@ncparks.gov

GPS: 36.11139, -81.81250

## Activities

**Education and Events:** Park rangers hold regularly scheduled educational and interpretive programs about Grandfather Mountain State Park. Watch for notices of these programs on park displays and through local media.

To arrange a special exploration of Grandfather Mountain State Park for your group or class, contact the park office. Grandfather Mountain has a rich natural and cultural history, and by special request, park rangers will do on-site and outreach environmental education programs.



**Hiking:** Trek across a scenic landscape that is home to over 70 rare and endangered species and 16 distinct natural communities. The mountain is an International Biosphere Reserve. There's no more appropriate place to obey the maxim: Take only photos; leave only footprints. Hikers should be aware of their timing and hiking ability when hiking the trails at Grandfather Mountain. NC State Rangers and Grandfather Mountain attraction staff will not provide rides from any of the trail heads to or from another location. It is the hiker's personal responsibility to make appropriate accommodations to get from one place to the other.



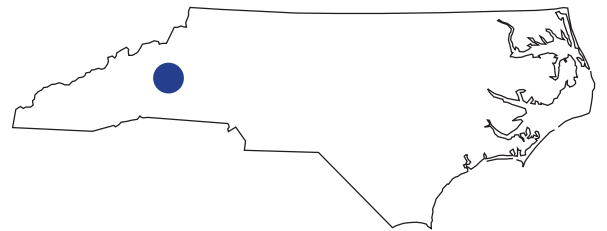
**Camping** is allowed with a permit at 13 backpack camping sites along the trail system including the Hi-Balsam Shelter. In the future, campsites will be available through the state parks system's Central Reservations System. Until that time, follow the self-registration directions: Hikers and campers must leave the white copy of the permit in the permit box located at the trail head and keep the yellow copy in their possession. Permits can be obtained from the Profile Trailhead and along the Tanawha Trail before accessing the Nuwati and Daniel Boone Scout.

Campers may leave vehicles at either the Profile Trail or Blue Ridge Parkway trailheads; no vehicles may be left overnight in the private Grandfather Mountain attraction.



**Park Access:** Trails may be accessed at several locations. *East Side Trails:* visitors may park at the Boone Fork parking area at mile 299.9 on the Blue Ridge Parkway or the Parkway's Asutsi Trail, which begins on US 221 (the only winter access when the Parkway is closed). Hikers can follow the Parkway's Tanawha Trail to reach the Nuwati or Daniel Boone Scout trailheads. *West Side Trails:* visitors may park at the Profile Trail parking area off Hwy 105 S. *Ridgeline Trails:* visitors may park at the private Grandfather Mountain attraction (with mile-high bridge and zoo). Note: fees do apply if entering via the private attraction. To contact the attraction, please call (828) 733-4337.

## Location



**From Asheville** (apprx 70 mi): Travel I-40 East. Take Exit 72 and follow US-70 E (Old Fort) to US-221 N. Turn left and follow US-221 to Linville. Right onto Newland Hwy.

- *From Asheville (to Profile Trail):* At the next intersection, turn left onto Hwy 105 South. Profile Trail Parking will be on the right 0.5 miles past NC 184 (McDonald's & Lowes Foods)
- *From Asheville (to Boone Fork Parking):* Follow 221 for three miles. Turn left and travel north on Blue Ridge Parkway for five miles. The Boone Fork Parking area is located on the left at mile 299.9.

**From Winston-Salem** (apprx. 100 mi): Travel I-40 W to US-421 N Exit. Travel west on 421 through Wilkesboro to Boone.

- *From Boone (to Profile Trail):* From 421, turn left onto Hwy 105 S. Profile Trail Parking area will be on the left (approx 12.5 mi).
- *From Boone (to Boone Fork Parking):* From 421, turn south onto Blue Ridge Parkway. Travel 23.5 miles to Boone Fork Parking area on right at mile 299.9.

## Park Hours

North Carolina State Parks are open every day, with the exception of Christmas Day. Park hours vary with the seasons.

Please visit the North Carolina State Park website or contact the park office for the most current information about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs rules and weather.