Frazier Discovery Trail Hike

1.2-mile circuit

1-hr hiking time



! Easiest

√ 429-ft elevation gain

From the north end of the Loft Mountain Wayside parking area, cross Skyline Drive and follow the blue-blazed Frazier Discovery Trail. Go right at the intersection and follow the fairly steep uphill grade to where the trail joins the Appalachian Trail. Turn left, staying on the blue-blazed trail and left again at the next trail post to descend to your starting point. NO PETS.

Doyles River Falls Hike



3.3-mile round trip

2½-hrs hiking time

Moderate

∧ 1,189-ft elevation gain

From the trailhead at mile 81.1, take the blue-blazed Doyles River Trail. Cross the Appalachian Trail and pass the access trails to Doyles River Cabin and Browns Gap Road. Trail posts mark the locations of Upper (2.7 miles) and Lower Doyles River Falls. 1 stream crossing. Retrace your steps to return.

Jones River Falls Hike



3.2-mile circuit

2½-hrs hiking time



∧ 1045-ft elevation gain

From the trailhead at mile 84.1, Cross the Appalachian Trail and follow the blue-blazed Jones Run Trail to Jones Run Falls and return by the same route. 1 stream crossing.

Browns Gap Hike

6.5-mile circuit

7-hrs hiking time



Moderately Strenuous

∧
↑
↑
1400-ft elevation gain

From Browns Gap Parking at mile 83, cross Skyline Drive and take Browns Gap Fire Road to its intersection with Doyles River Trail. Turn right and connect with Jones Run Trail. At the Jones Run parking area take a right onto the Appalachian Trail and follow it back to your starting point.

Blackrock Summit Hike

1-mile circuit

³/₄-hrs hiking time

! Easiest

√ 175-ft elevation gain

From the Blackrock parking area at mile 84.4, follow the Appalachian Trail (A.T.) south. At the trail post, turn right and continue to the boulder field where you can see the layers and quartzite patterns on the rocks and a beautiful view. Continue south on the A.T. around the slope. At the intersection, turn left onto the Blackrock Hut Road-Trayfoot Mountain Trail and follow to the parking lot.

Markers & Blazes

Trail markers are at trailheads and intersections. The metal bands are stamped with directional and mileage information.



Trail blazes are found on trees and rocks throughout the Park. The color identifies the trail type:

Blue - Hiking trail White - Appalachian Trail Yellow - Open to horses

Need to Know

- Pets are not allowed on Frazier Discovery Trail. Where allowed, pets must be on a leash no longer than 6' at all times.
- Do not attempt to cross streams during icy conditions or flooding.
- Be sure you are physically able to complete the hike you've
- Take plenty of water—at least a quart per hour.
- When you return from your hike, check for ticks.
- Stay on the trail and avoid trampling sensitive vegetation.
- Be sure someone knows where you are and when to expect your return.
- It's dangerous and potentially deadly to climb on the rocks near waterfalls.
- Filter or treat water from streams before drinking.

Hiking Difficulty Scale

Easiest: Generally suitable for anyone who enjoys walking. Mostly level or with a slight incline. Generally less than 3 miles.

Moderate: Generally suitable for novice hikers seeking a bit of a challenge. The terrain will involve a moderate incline and may have some steeper sections. Generally 3 to 5 miles.

Moderately Strenuous: Generally challenging for an unconditioned person. The terrain will involve a steady and often steep incline. Generally 5 to 8 miles.

Strenuous: Will challenge most hikers. The hike will generally be longer and steeper, but may be deemed strenuous because of the elevation gain. Generally 7 to 10 miles.

Very Strenuous: Only well conditioned and well prepared hikers should attempt. Generally long and steep, and may include rock scrambling, stream crossings, and other challenging terrain. Generally 8 miles and over.