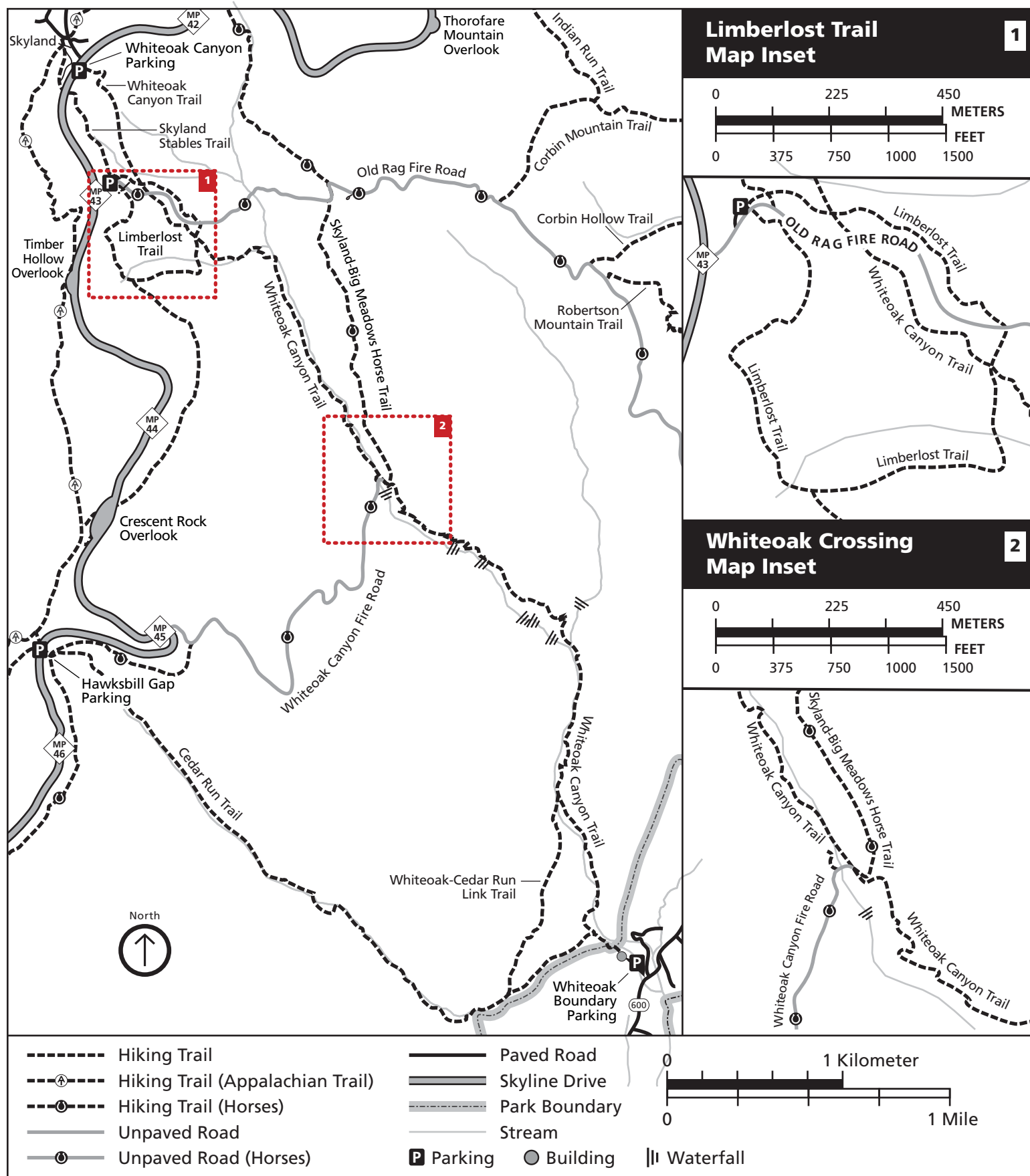




2017



Skyline Drive to Upper Falls Hike

- 🕒 4.6-mile round trip ⌚ 3½-hrs hiking time
⚠️ Moderate 📈 1,040-ft elevation gain

From the Whiteoak Canyon parking area (mile 42.6), follow the Whiteoak Canyon Trail and stay on this trail as you pass the junctions for the Old Rag Fire Road and the Limberlost Trail. About 2.3 miles from the start you will come to a rocky ledge that offers an excellent view of the upper falls. Retrace your steps to return to the parking lot. Remember that the return trip will be very steep.

Cedar Run - Whiteoak Circuit Hike

- 🔄 7.3-mile circuit ⌚ 6¼-hrs hiking time
⚠️ Very strenuous 📈 2,794-ft elevation gain

From Hawksbill Gap parking (mile 45.6), take Cedar Run Trail, then left on the Link Trail, and left on Whiteoak Canyon Trail. Just after the upper falls, go left on the Whiteoak Canyon Fire Road/Horse Trail (see inset #2 for a map of this last intersection). If the water is up, use the pedestrian bridge above the falls.

Boundary to Lower Falls Hike

- 🕒 2-mile round trip ⌚ 1½-hrs hiking time
⚠️ Easiest 📈 500-ft elevation gain

From the parking area located at the Park boundary (directions below), begin at Whiteoak Canyon Trail and keep right at the intersection with Cedar Run Trail. Cross a small stream and arrive shortly at the base of the lower falls. Return by the same route.

Directions to Boundary Trailhead

From Sperryville - Follow Route 211 to Route 522 south for 0.8 mile. Turn right on Route 231, follow 10.2 miles to Etlan, turn right on Route 643. Follow for 4.5 miles and turn right onto Route 600. Proceed 3.5 miles to the parking area.

From Madison - Route 29 Business, take 231 north for 5.6 miles to Route 670 at Banco. Continue 3.6 miles to Route 643 in Syria. Follow 0.8 mile on Route 643 to Route 600. Continue on Route 600 to the parking area.

Hiking Difficulty Scale

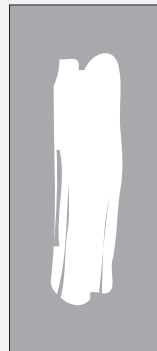
Easiest: Generally suitable for anyone who enjoys walking. Mostly level or with a slight incline. Generally less than 3 miles.

Moderate: A moderate hike 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.

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

- It's dangerous and potentially deadly to climb on the rocks near waterfalls.
- 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 chosen.
- Take plenty of water - at least a quart per hour.
- When you return from your hike, check for ticks.
- Be sure someone knows where you are and when to expect your return.
- There is no public transportation on Skyline Drive or at the Whiteoak boundary trailhead.

Good to Know

- Even if you are hiking from the boundary, you must have an entrance permit or annual pass. Please be prepared to self-pay (correct change or credit card) at the boundary trailhead.
- Backcountry camping sites are very limited in this area, so be prepared to go to a different area in the Park to camp, especially on weekends. Be sure you have a backcountry camping permit and that you understand the regulations, particularly those pertaining to site choice.