

# Backcountry Camping Trip Guide

Two Nights

National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Shenandoah National Park  
Emergency: 1-800-732-0911



## Piney Branch and Piney Ridge

Standard - Circuit

**Level:** Experienced

**Total Length:** 10 miles

**Trip Description:** Cascading mountain stream, small waterfalls, wooded ridgetop

**Entry:** 22 MP - Piney River/MACG

**Exit:** 22 MP - Piney River/MACG

**Map(s):** PATC # 9 North District

### Day One

Campsite: Pole Bridge Link Trail - backcountry

2 miles

Park at Piney River.

Hike down Piney Branch Trail 1.4 miles.

Turn left onto Pole Bridge Link Trail 0.4 + mile.

Camp along Pole Bridge Link Trail.

### Day Two

Campsite: Hull School Trail - backcountry

3.5 miles

Return to Piney Branch Trail 0.4 + mile.

Turn left to continue going down Piney Branch another 3 miles.

Find place to camp below the Hull School intersection.

### Day Three

4.5 miles

Turn right onto Hull School Trail (heading SW) and hike 0.7 mile.

Turn right onto Fork Mountain Trail and hike 1.2 miles.

Stay straight on Piney Ridge Trail, hiking uphill 2 miles.

Turn left onto service road, hiking 0.7 mile to return to vehicle.

### Notes

There are multiple stream crossings on this route which may have high water during the spring and after heavy rains.

### Options

You may hike this route in the other direction, of course, if you would prefer to start with the longer day and end with a short day.