



## Pisgah National Forest Tour

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Henderson County Tourism Development Authority 📍 201 South Main Street 📍 Hendersonville, NC 28792 📞 828.693.9708

The tour starts at the Visitors Center, 201 South Main Street. Proceed north on Main Street to Hwy. 64 W. and turn left.

Continue on Hwy. 64. W. for approximately 18 miles. At the intersection of Hwy. 64 and Hwy. 280, proceed straight ahead to Hwy. 276 and the entrance of Pisgah National Forest.

Pisgah National Forest 's 501,691 acres stretches across the eastern edge of Western North Carolina's mountains. The Forest offers hiking trails, fishing, camping, picnic sites, and spectacular waterfalls. Some of Pisgah National Forest's attractions include Looking Glass Falls, Sliding Rock, Pisgah Forest State Fish Hatchery, Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education, The Cradle of Forestry and the North Mills River Recreational Area. The North Mills River Recreational Area is located 13 miles from Hendersonville and offers 39 picnic sites, 32 campsites, river fishing & tubing.

Stop at the Ranger Station for located on the right for maps of the forest.

Turn follow the signs and turn left to the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education/Fish Hatchery. Ample parking is available.

The Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education is dedicated to exploring the wonders of North Carolina's wildlife. The Center's attractions include: aquariums, hands-on exhibits, garden display, special programs, viewing and feeding of the hatchery trout. The Center is open to the public daily, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. (Outdoor exhibits close at 4:30 p.m.).

Turn left on Hwy. 276 and to proceed to Looking Glass Falls, located on the right. Parking is available along the road.

Looking Glass Falls is a 30-foot wide waterfall the drops 60 feet down a rock cliff. Steps lead to an overlook and continue to the base of the falls. Waterfalls can be dangerous, so stay away from the top of the falls and slippery rocks.

Continue on Hwy. 276 to Sliding Rock located on the left. Ample parking is available.

Sliding Rock is a natural 60-foot rock water slide that slides into a 7-foot deep pool. During the season there is a parking fee per vehicle. The property offers restrooms, changing areas, and observation deck. Sliding Rock is open Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day Weekend; a lifeguard is on duty during open hours.

When leaving Sliding Rock turn left and continue on Hwy. 276 the Cradle of Forestry /Forest Discovery Center.

Cradle of Forestry is a 6,500-acre Historic Site within the Pisgah National Forest, set aside by Congress to commemorate the beginning of forestry conservation in the United States. The Forest Discovery Center commemorates conservation history with an 18-minute movie on Vanderbilt, Pinchot, Schenck and the beginning of forestry in America. Outdoor activities include two guided trails which lead you back in time to seven historical buildings, a 1915 Climax locomotive and the old sawmill.

Open April-October 9:00AM-5:00PM daily. A fee is charged.

Turn right onto Hwy. 276 when leaving the Cradle of Forestry and proceed to the Pink Beds for a picnic.

When leaving Pisgah National Forest turn left and proceed on Hwy. 276 to Hwy. 64 E. and back to Hendersonville.

We hope you enjoyed your tour!