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Catskills Hiking & Camping Information

While the trails around Kaaterskill Falls are being improved, we wanted to offer you some information about additional walking, hiking and swimming options in the Catskills and provide you with some resources for your visit to the region to ensure you have an enjoyable visit!

Visit the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center in Mount Tremper!

The recently opened Catskill Interpretive Center, operated by a partnership of regional organizations, is a visitor center for the Catskill Park and the space for the interpretation of our natural and cultural resources. Staff and volunteers are on hand to provide information on trails, recreation, local communities and more! The Interpretive Center is home to the Catskills only fully accessible walking trail and offers the opportunity to walk and fish on the site. The Interpretive Center is open from 9:30am to 4:30pm, 7 days a week and is located at 5096 Route 28 in the Village of Mount Tremper.

Get hiking trail maps for your Catskill adventures!

The Trail Conference publishes a 6-map set that covers over 400 miles of trails in the Catskill Park. The printed set is available at local retailers and you can purchase and download it directly to your smartphone or tablet at <http://www.nynjtc.org/content/pdfmaps-catskills-qr> or scan the QR code to the right.



Easy Hike Options

North & South Lake Campground Trails and the Kaaterskill Rail Trail: These nearby trails are your best option overall as an alternative to Kaaterskill Falls. The trails feature views of Kaaterskill Clove and the Hudson Valley. Download the Trail Conference's guide to the trails of the region by visiting www.nynjtc.org/catskills or using the QR code to the right.



Onteora Lake Area: Located near Kingston on Route 28, the Onteora Lake area includes a large parking area, 3 easy loop hikes and lake-side picnic areas

Ashokan Reservoir: Located near Kingston and just south of Shokan off of Route 28. There is plenty of parking and a great easy walk on a hard packed/pave surface where you can walk, bike or push a stroller. Amazing views of the reservoir, the mountains and a great place to see a bald eagle!

Windham Path: The Windham Path offers an easy walk near the village of Windham just off our Route 23. There's plenty of parking and views of the surrounding mountains as you walk along the path.

Pratt Rock: Located in Prattsville, Pratt Rock is a hiking and picnicking destination with beautiful views of the Schoharie River Valley and historical stone carvings. Located on Route 23 in the Village of Prattsville.

Catskill Scenic Trail: The 26 mile former railroad offers walkers, hikers, bikers and horseback riders the opportunity to experience the Catskills close up in a friendly, easy to walk way. Running between Roxbury and Bloomville in Delaware County, the trail is accessible in a number of locations along Routes 10, 23 and 30. For more information visit www.catskillscenictrail.org.



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Waterfalls & Swimming

North Lake Beach: Located in the North & South Lake State Campground, the North Lake Beach offers a beautiful swimming area surrounded by the mountains of the Catskills.

Platte Clove Preserve: Located at the head of Platte Clove, there is plenty of parking at the parking lot on Steenburgh Road. There's a short road walk and then a short, easy hike down to a Plattekill Falls, a beautiful waterfall. Platte Clove Preserve is located at 2375 Platte Cove Road in Elka Park.

Colgate Lake: Colgate Lake is located in the Town of Jewett on Colgate Lake Road (County Route 78), which is off of County Route 23C. The lake offers swimming and picnicking areas, along with the opportunity to paddle if you've brought a boat.

More Hiking Options

Colgate Lake Trail: There are miles of relatively flat wooded trails in the area, along with a very interesting beaver meadow with great views. To the beaver meadow and back is approximately 5 miles

Catskill Fire Towers: Each summer, thousands of people from all over the world visit the fire towers to enjoy the beauty and splendor of the Catskill Mountains. Volunteer interpreters welcome these visitors, sharing the history and lore of the fire towers and of the Catskill Mountains. Fire Towers are located on Hunter Mountain, Overlook Mountain, Balsam Lake Mountain, Red Hill and Tremper Mountain. The Trail Conference offers free maps and guides for the towers at www.nynjtc.org/catskillfiretowers or via the QR code to the right.



Acra point and Burnt Knob: A more challenging hike and more of a wilderness experience along the Escarpment Trail, this approximately 5 mile round trip hike features stiff climbs and great views of the Catskills and the Hudson Valley. The trail begins on Big Hollow Road in Maplecrest.

Giant Ledge: A challenging, 3 mile roundtrip hike that offers some of the most incredible views in the Catskills. This is a very popular hiking destination and the parking lot fills up early on weekends. The hike is steep with some rocky scrambles and be sure to arrive early before the parking lot fills. The trailhead and parking area is located on Oliverea Road (County Route 47).

For More Information

Visit the Trail Conference's Catskill Mountains Program page for maps, guides and more information to help you enjoy your stay in the Catskills. You can also learn more about the Catskill Conservation Corps, the Trail Conference's volunteer program in the Catskills. Visit www.nynjtc.org/catskills or scan the QR code to the right for more details and information.



Support provided by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference through its Catskill Community Trails Fund and the Catskill Conservation Corps program, both of which seek to help protect and promote stewardship of the Catskill Park. You can support this program by making a donation at www.nynjtc.org/catskillsdonate.

