

## Parks & Recreation Management

Students in the Parks & Recreation Management major have produced this guide. For more information about the PRM program contact us at: 828.227.7310 or visit our website at: [wcu.edu/9094.asp](http://wcu.edu/9094.asp)

## Base Camp Cullowhee

Not ready to explore on your own? Or would like to try a new outdoor adventure? Need to rent outdoor gear for your next adventure? WCU's Base Camp Cullowhee (BCC) provides an array of outdoor program services, which include recreation trips, outdoor gear rental, and experiential education services. Contact BCC at 828.227-3633 or visit their website: [www.wcu.edu/8984.asp](http://www.wcu.edu/8984.asp)

## Additional Resources:

Leave No Trace | [Int.org](http://Int.org)  
North Carolina Waterfalls | [ncwaterfalls.com](http://ncwaterfalls.com)

## Authors:

*Emily Baker*  
*Will Butler*  
*Seth Pace*



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# Waterfalls

## *Where Whee Play*



7 Local Waterfalls  
Detailed Map

**Western**  
**Carolina**  
UNIVERSITY

## SILVER RUN FALLS

Access Rating  
1 out of 5

A great 25' waterfall with a nice swimming hole. Silver Run Falls are located a short distance from Cashiers and can be very popular on a warm day.

**Directions:** From campus, take Hwy 107S to Cashiers. Go through town and about 4 miles past the stop light, there will be a pull off on the left side of the road. The trail to the falls is about ¼ mile and you will cross the Whitewater River.



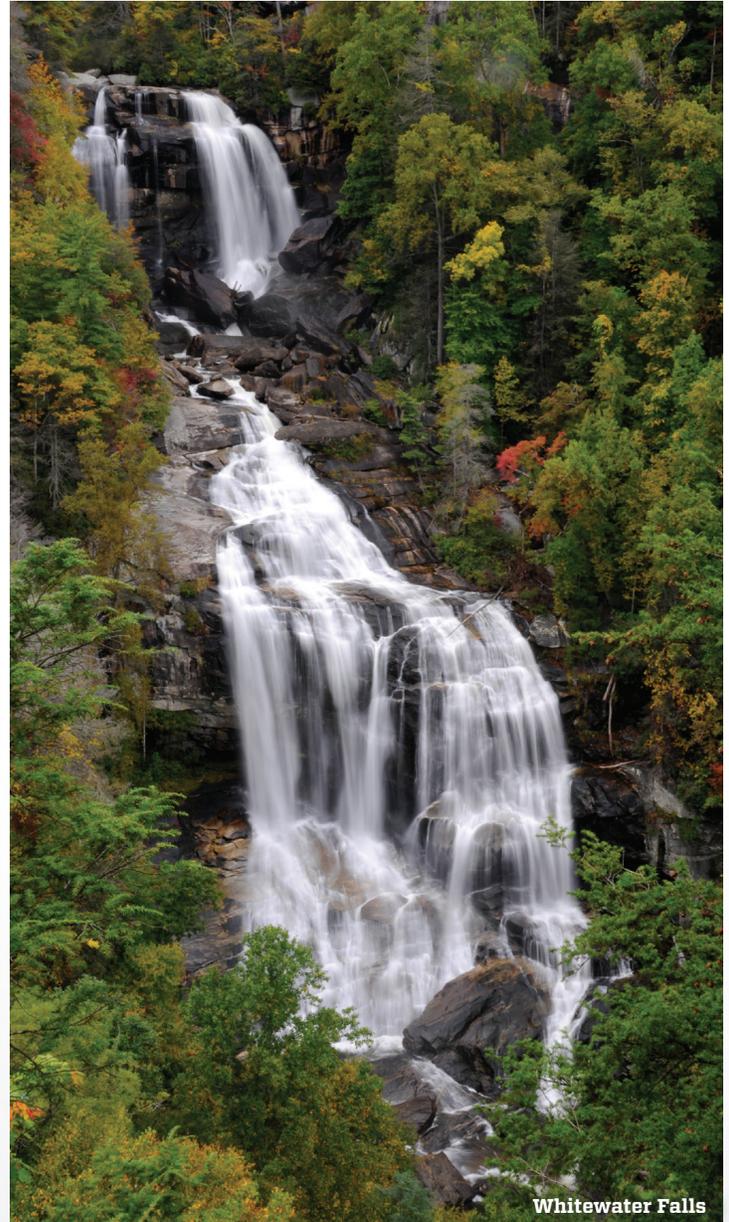
Silver Run Falls

## PARADISE FALLS

Access Rating  
4 out of 5

Located in the Nantahala National Forest, Paradise Falls has a large deep pool at the base and the waterfall is actually set back in a small chasm. This is a popular swimming hole, but you have to be aware of heavy rains and the overflow from nearby Wolf Creek Lake. Both can raise the water level without warning.

**Directions:** From campus, take Highway 107 south. Take a left on 281 north and follow it up to the Jackson County line. This is the top of the hill at Owen Gap. From the county line, continue north on 281 for 4.7 miles to the semi-circle dirt/grass parking area on the left. You will have go around Tanasee Creek Lake on the left, then Wolf Creek Lake on the right. The grassy parking area is just after the lakes.



Whitewater Falls

## WHITewater FALLS

Access Rating  
1 out of 5

Highest falls east of the Mississippi River at 412 feet! Whitewater Falls is located near the NC/SC border. The falls are gorgeous in the fall season.

**Directions:** Turn left out of WCU and follow 107 into Cashiers. At the stop light take a left and follow 64 east towards Lake Toxaway. At 281 turn right and follow it south for 10 miles to the entrance to the falls. A short 1/4 mile paved path will lead you to the falls.

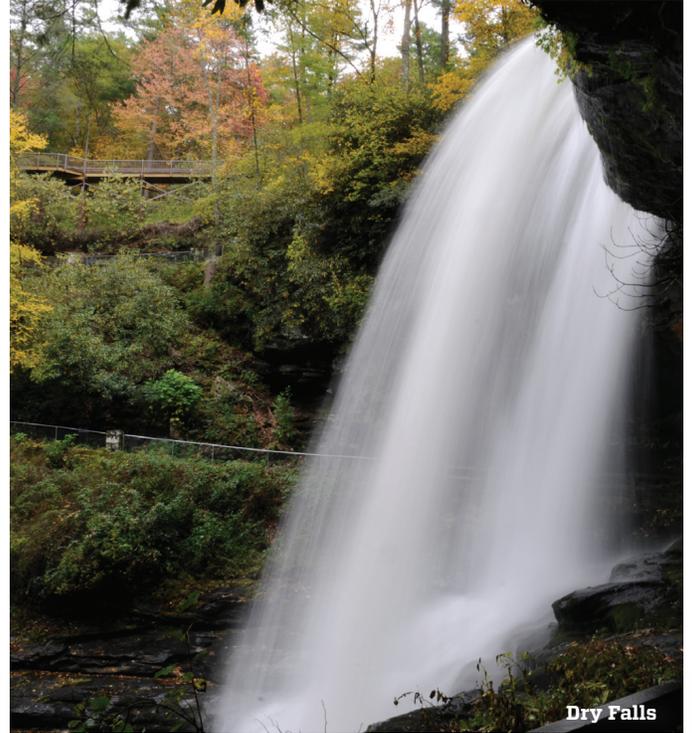
## FALLS OF THE CULLASAJA

Access Rating  
2 out of 5

Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls, and Cullasaja Falls

These falls are part of the Cullasaja River Gorge as it flows from Highlands towards Franklin. It is a drive and stop tour, a great way to spend a day with visiting friends or family members.

**Directions:** From campus, take 107S to Cashiers. In Cashiers, turn right on to Hwy 64 West towards Highlands. In Highlands, turn right on to 64 West/28 South. Bridal Veil Falls will first appear about 2.5 miles west of Highlands on the right side of the road. Pull off under the waterfall for pictures or a refreshing shower on a hot summer day. After Bridal Veil Falls, Dry Falls parking lot will appear a mile further west on the left. Pull off and take the short walk from the end of the parking lot to the viewing area to the falls. You can walk behind and to the other side of the falls. Continue farther west on the highway to view the largest falls, Cullasaja Falls. The easiest way to view these falls is to drive past the pull off on the right, 5 miles west of Dry Falls and find a safer place to turn around. Return east and pull off to view Cullasaja Falls immediately below.



## RAINBOW FALLS

Access Rating  
4 out of 5

Rainbow Falls is located in Gorges State Park on the Horsepasture River. The falls are 125' high and is a 3 mile round trip hike to the viewing area. From Rainbow Falls viewing area you can follow the trail to the top of the falls and on to Turtleback and Drift Falls.

**Directions:** From campus take Highway 107S to Cashiers, turn left on to Hwy 64 east then right on 281 south. Go .9 miles to Gorges State Park parking area on the left. Note: You must park in the parking area.

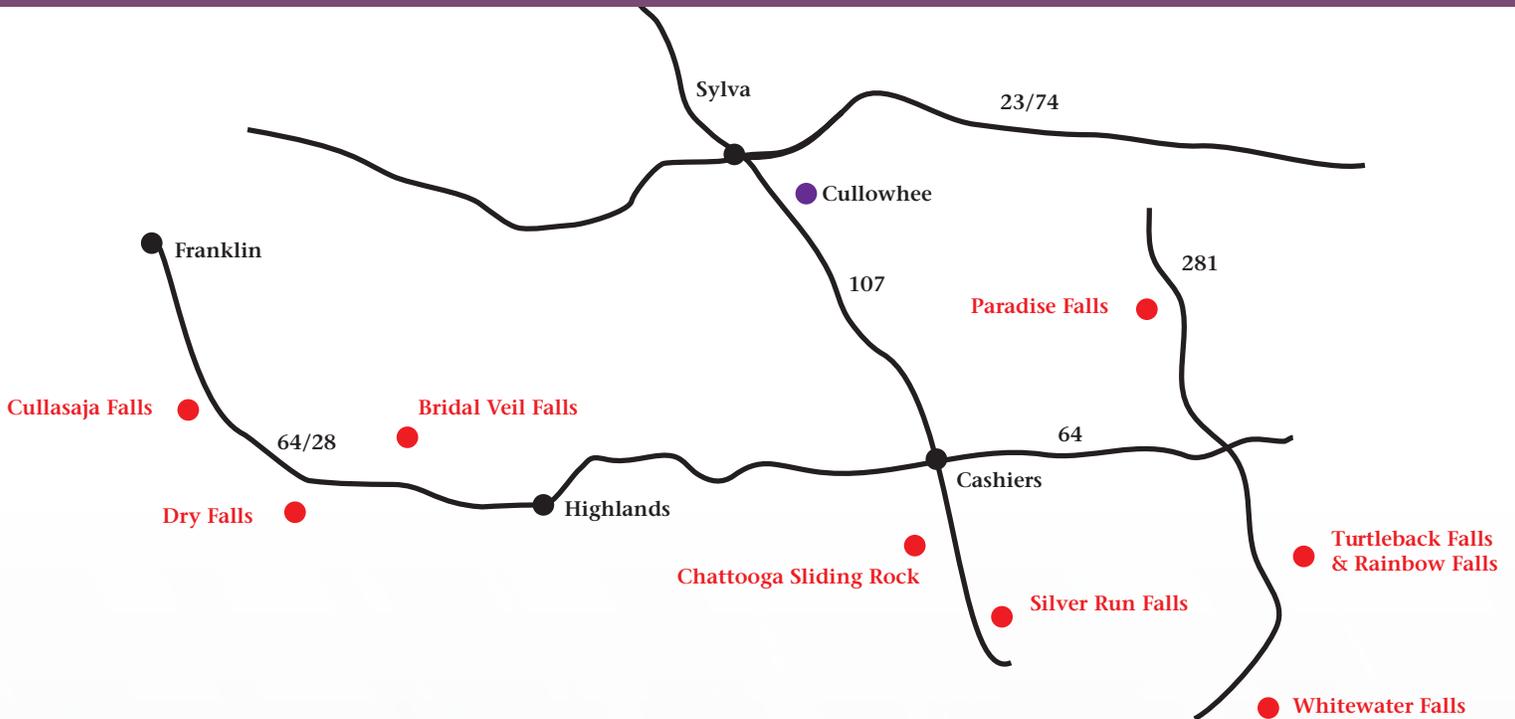
## CHATTOOGA SLIDING ROCK

Access Rating  
1 out of 5

A small natural slide area with a sandy bottomed swimming hole on section 00 of the Chattooga River. Chattooga Sliding Rock is located close to Cashiers and can be very busy on warm days.

**Directions:** From campus, take Highway 107 south to Cashiers. Go through town, pass High Hampton CC, 1.7 miles from the first stoplight, turn right onto Whiteside Cove Road. Follow down to bridge, park on right in parking area.

# Where Whee Relax



This guide will help you find some of the most popular waterfalls in the WCU area. We have provided key aspects and directions for your viewing pleasure as well as a rating on how easy or difficult they are to access.

## Leave No Trace (L.N.T.)

Help preserve the environment by practicing these conservation tips:

- Plan ahead & prepare
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of other visitors

To learn more visit [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

## Other Waterfalls in the Area

**Pantherstown Valley:** School House, Granny Burrell, Frolictown, Wilderness, Pothole, Mac's, Greenland, Halfway, Carlton's, Red Butt, Elbow, Riding Ford, Warden's, Jawbone, Flat Creek, Wolf Creek, Dismal, and Hidden Falls. All of these require hiking and possibly an overnight camp.

**Deep Creek Area:** Indian Creek, Juneywhank, and Toms Branch Falls can be accessed by hiking.

## WARNING!!!

Waterfalls are very dangerous and should be viewed with caution. People have died because care was not taken while viewing the falls. Do not climb or hike on slippery rocks or wade through rivers above cliffs.