

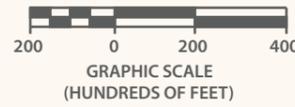
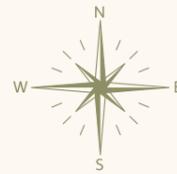


WEST VIRGINIA

state parks

HAWKS NEST STATE PARK

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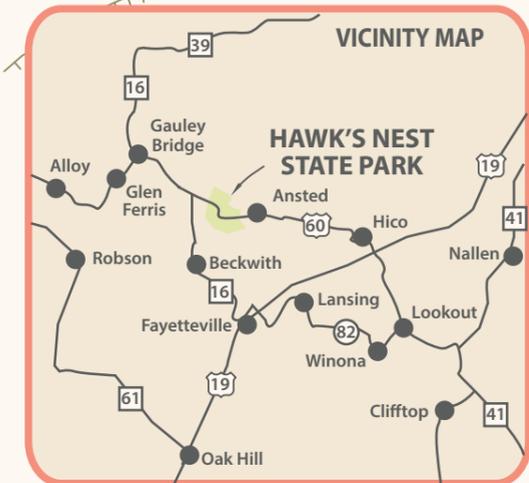


12 miles to New River Gorge and Visitor Center

To U.S. Route 60 at Ansted—1.5 miles

Legend

- Park boundary
- Paved road
- Improved road
- Unimproved road
- Hiking trail
- Multi-Use Trail
- Lake/river
- Cliff edge
- Parking area
- Structures
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Boat launch
- Fishing
- Food service
- Gift shop
- Lodging
- Nature center
- Parking
- Picnic area
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Point of interest
- Restrooms
- Scenic viewpoint/overlook
- Swimming
- Trailhead
- Tramway



250 acres of water Elev. 830 feet

LOWER TRAM Elevation: 840 feet

UPPER TRAM Elevation: 1286 feet

HAWKS NEST OVERLOOK Elevation: 1275 feet

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS | HAWKS NEST STATE PARK

CLIFFSIDE TRAIL | | 1.75 MI ONE WAY

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING | NOT A LOOP TRAIL

This trail starts behind the Midland Trail Shelter and ends near the Hawks Nest Overlook. Sections are rugged and adjacent to steep drop offs. It is an excellent trail for viewing geology of the New River Gorge and surrounding areas. This trail ends at U.S. Route 60 near Overlook. To return to the Lodge: cross U.S. 60 at the Lower Park, take the steps beside the gift shop, follow path past the CCC Picnic Pavilion and through the woods. Take right-hand fork at trail intersection and follow it up the hill until intersect with the service road. Then walk the service road to the end and cross U.S. 60 to the Lodge. Use caution when crossing U.S. 60 and near all steep embankments. Children must be accompanied by an adult and pets must be leashed.

FISHERMAN'S TRAIL | | 0.5 MI ONE WAY

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING | NOT A LOOP TRAIL

This trail begins at the far end of the marina boat launch parking lot toward the Hawks Nest Dam. It follows the north side of the Hawks Nest Lake and has an excellent view of the dam. Trail ends near Turkey Creek Waterfall.

GSYP CANYON TRAIL | | 0.8 MI

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING

This steep scenic trail from the lodge to the New River begins at the tennis court and descends to the New River near the tram and Gift Shop/Nature Center. The trail begins atop the ridge and winds down through a forest of mixed hardwoods, ferns, wildflowers, and rock outcroppings. There are steps most of the way.

HAWKS NEST LAKE TRAIL | | 464 YD

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING

This very steep trail connects the Cliffside Trail to the Fisherman's Trail.

HAWKS NEST OVERLOOK | | 160 YD

TRAIL RATING

A quarter mile west of the lodge (across the road from the CCC Pavilion) is parking for this icon stop. A short, paved trail leads to the Hawks Nest Overlook for a panoramic view of the New River, Hawks Nest Dam and Tunnel area, and mountains. The overlook was constructed in the mid- 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) from local sandstone.

HAWKS NEST RAIL TRAIL | | 1.9 MI ONE WAY

TRAIL RATING | NOT A LOOP TRAIL

This gravel trail begins behind the Gift Shop/Nature Center at the base of the aerial tram, follows Mill Creek, and ends near the town of Ansted. Two bridges, waterfalls, and remains of a coal mine that operated through the 1920 can be seen along this trail that was once a railway for coal train. No trail fees. Slight uphill grade. Bicycles are permitted. Hawks Nest Rail Trail is maintained by the town of Ansted, WV, and volunteers.

LOVERS LEAP TRAIL | | 200 YD ONE WAY

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING

Trail begins at park Head Quarters and ends at a rock outcropping. Steps most of the way. Overlook offers sweeping views of the New River and Marina.

PARK LOOP TRAIL | | 0.6 MI

BLAZE COLOR 

TRAIL RATING

Trail circles through a wooded area behind the CCC Pavilion and returns to the starting point. Many spring wildflowers visible near trail.

ICON KEY:  = Hiking
 = Mountain Bike Riding

TRAIL RATINGS



EASIEST

Smooth graded trail with improved surfaces, few obstacles and gentle grades.



EASIER

Gentle off road trail with typical obstacles including gravel, loose rocks, sticks, bridges, narrow tread and trees.



INTERMEDIATE

Challenging trail with steep slopes, varying obstacles, rocks, significant grades and narrow tread.



EXPERT

Steep grades, loose surfaces, natural and man made obstacles, elevated features, berms, jumps, very narrow tread.



VERY DIFFICULT

Advanced riding skills required, Trails may not be continuously ride able or walkable and air time may be required.

From scenic vistas to beautiful overlooks, hiking trails at West Virginia's state parks and forests lead to breathtaking mountain scenery. Along the way create lasting memories but remember to leave no trace behind in Almost Heaven.

WEST VIRGINIA
state parks
HAWKS NEST STATE PARK

ADVENTURE AWAITS



Scan this QR code to get exclusive deals, book your stay or explore all that Hawks Nest State Park has to offer.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

- CALL 911
- FIND AN EMERGENCY LOCATOR
- TRAIL HEAD ADDRESS:
49 Hawks Nest Park Road, Ansted, WV 25812