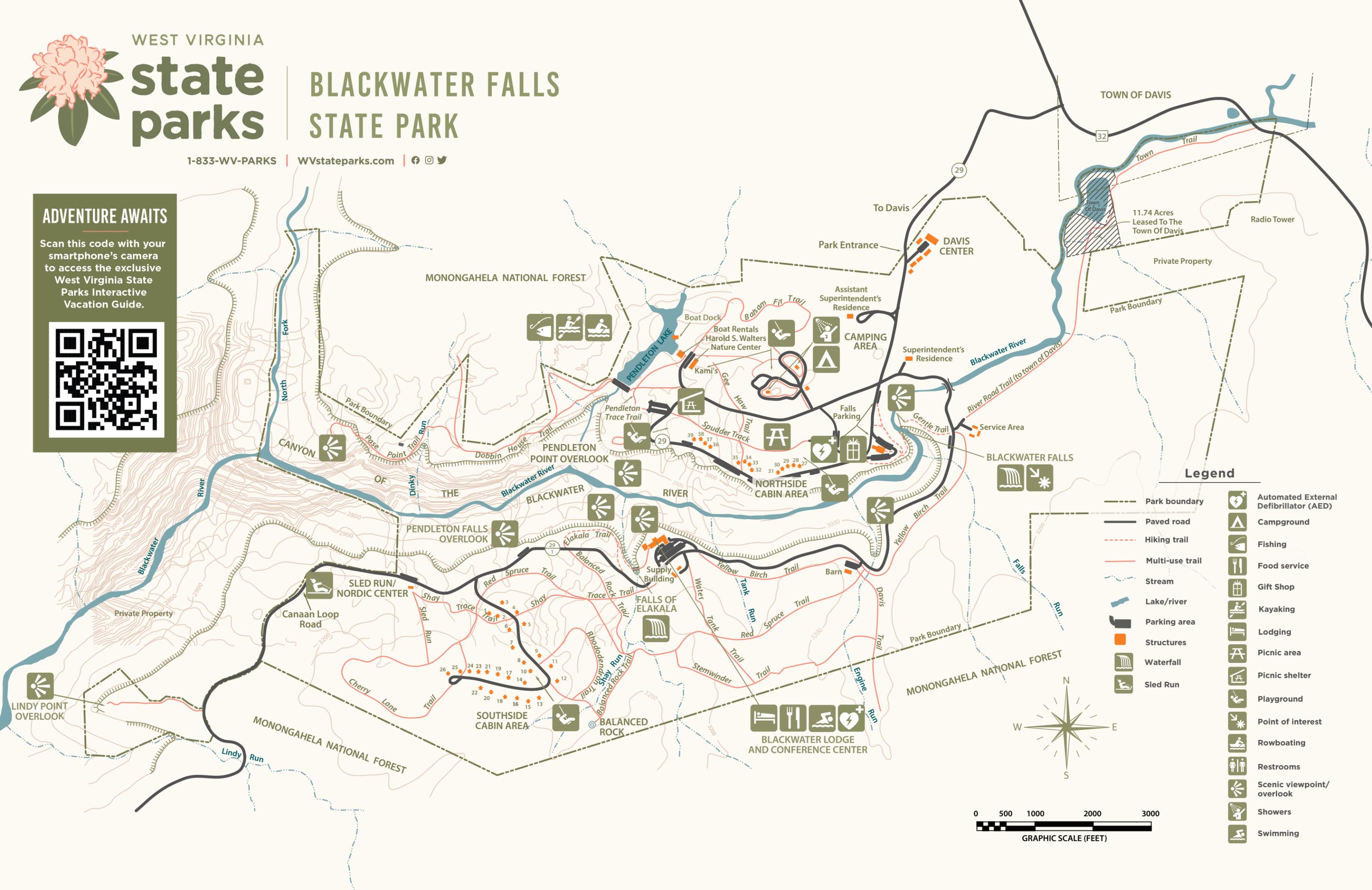


BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

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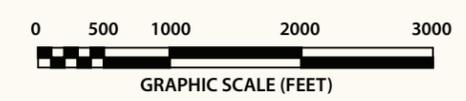
ADVENTURE AWAITS

Scan this code with your smartphone's camera to access the exclusive West Virginia State Parks Interactive Vacation Guide.



Legend

- Park boundary
- Paved road
- Hiking trail
- Multi-use trail
- Stream
- Lake/river
- Parking area
- Structures
- Waterfall
- Sled Run
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Campground
- Fishing
- Food service
- Gift Shop
- Kayaking
- Lodging
- Picnic area
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Point of interest
- Rowboating
- Restrooms
- Scenic viewpoint/overlook
- Showers
- Swimming



PARK TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

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.

 = Hiking  = Horseback Riding  = Mountain Bike Riding  = Cross-Country Skiing

ALLEGHENY TRAIL

The Allegheny trail enters the park at the intersection of Rt. 32 and River Road Trail. It continues along River Road Trail to Yellow Birch Trail and leaves the park on Davis Trail. Overnight parking for trail usage is available at the Blackwater Lodge, but guests must register at the front desk.

Distance: 1.2 miles inside the park
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult

BALANCED ROCK TRAIL

This trail begins at the main park road across from Elakala Trail, crosses Shay Trace and Red Spruce Riding trails, continues to Balanced Rock Trail and ends near Cabin 13.

Distance: 1 mile
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult

BALSAM FIR TRAIL

This trail begins near the Harold Walters Nature Center, winds through beech and maple groves and passes through a stand of balsam fir. It then loops back to the Recreation Building by way of the campground.

Distance: 1.5 miles
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult

BLACKWATER FALLS BOARDWALK TRAIL

This trail starts at the Trading Post parking area and leads to a stone patio and boardwalk more than 200 steps down to an observation deck beside Blackwater Falls. This is the main viewing area for the falls. **NOTE:** For beginner access to the view, take Gentle Trail.

Distance: 0.25 mile
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult

CHERRY LANE TRAIL

This trail begins at the park road before Cabin Number 1, intersects Shay Trace Trail and continues to the cul-de-sac at Cabin Number 26. For cross country skiers, this trail is considered somewhat difficult to difficult.

Distance: 1 mile
Difficulty: easy

DAVIS TRAIL

This trail begins at the stables and leads to a network of trails in the Monongahela National Forest. **NOTE:** The trail becomes more difficult outside the park and transitions to a somewhat difficult rating.

Distance: 0.25 mile
Difficulty: easy

DOBBIN HOUSE TRAIL

This trail leaves the Harold Walters Nature Center by way of the maintenance road across the dam of Pendleton Lake and connects to the Monongalia National Forest Trail System.

Distance: 0.75 mile
Difficulty: easy to somewhat difficult

ELAKALA TRAIL

This trail starts at the south end of Blackwater Lodge, bridges the upper section with a great view of Elakala Falls, continues along the canyon rim and ends at the main park road across from Balanced Rock Trail.

Distance: 0.5 mile
Difficulty: moderate

GEE HAW TRAIL

This trail connects the Harold Walters Nature Center with Supper Track Trail and links to the beginner cross country ski loop.

Distance: 0.5 mile
Difficulty: easy to moderate

GENTLE TRAIL

This trail is a short, paved path to an observation deck overlooking Blackwater Falls. It begins at the parking area across from the maintenance area and ends at the observation deck.

Distance: 0.25 mile
Difficulty: easy

LINDY POINT TRAIL

Located one mile past the sled run parking area, this trail sits at 3,000 feet overlooking the Blackwater Canyon. The trail has a small parking area one mile below the sled run area. In the winter, skiers can ski to the overlook (1.37 miles).

Distance: 0.3 mile
Difficulty: moderate

PASE POINT TRAIL

This is an extension of the Dobbin House Trail that runs through hardwoods and rhododendron to Pase Point, overlooking the North Fork of the Blackwater River.

Distance: 0.7 mile
Difficulty: difficult

RED SPRUCE TRAIL

This trail originates at the barn, winds through spruce and hemlocks and ends at the entrance to the cabin area. In the winter, the trail is a primary X-C ski trail to most park locations.

Distance: 1.25 miles
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult

RHODODENDRON TRAIL

This trail starts near Cabin Number 9, travels through hemlock and hardwoods and connects with Balanced Rock Trail near Cabin 13.

Distance: 0.5 mile
Difficulty: moderate

RIVER ROAD TRAIL

This trail begins at the maintenance area road, where Yellow Birch Trail ends. This trail is an old railroad grade that directly links to the town of Davis. The trail runs along the Blackwater River, which provides good fishing opportunities for hikers. **NOTE:** Some vehicle traffic occurs on this trail.

Distance: 1.56 miles
Difficulty: easy to moderate

PENDLETON TRACE TRAIL

This trail connects the Harold Walters Nature Center with the North Rim Road.

Distance: 0.25 mile
Difficulty: easy to moderate

SHAY TRACE TRAIL

This trail starts just past the lodge at Shay Run, crosses the Red Spruce Trail, the cabin area road, Cherry Lane Trail and goes onto the base at the sled run warming hut.

Distance: 0.75 mile
Difficulty: moderate

SPUDDER TRACK TRAIL

Access this trail via Gee Haw Trail from the Recreation Building and the North Rim Road at either end. It is part of the beginner loop for cross country skiers.

Distance: 0.5 mile
Difficulty: easy to moderate

STEMWINDER TRAIL

This trail parallels the state park boundary and connects Red Spruce Trail and Davis Trail. The trail blaze is blue with a blue square.

Distance: 0.65mile
Difficulty: hiking-beginner; cross-country skiing-intermediate
Blaze: ■

WATERTANK TRAIL

This trail begins across from Blackwater Lodge and provides skiers with access to Red Spruce Trail. It follows a steep uphill grade and forms a “T” intersection with the Red Spruce Trail.

Distance: 0.25 mile
Difficulty: difficult

YELLOW BIRCH TRAIL

This trail begins at the park road near the lodge entrance, crosses the stable entrance road and continues to the maintenance area road. Hikers can then cross the park road to the Gentle Trail.

Distance: 1 mile
Difficulty: somewhat difficult to difficult