

Prepare To Be Elevated

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park

Enjoy spectacular 75-mile views of Lake Lure, NC and the Carolina Blue Ridge Foothills from the top of the “Rock.” Let your cares fade away in the cool mist of 404-foot Hickory Nut Falls. Hike one or all of the Park’s six unique hiking trails. Learn to rock climb on our ancient cliffs.

Elevator Inside a Mountain

The “Rock” is accessible to folks of all ages and abilities with the help of the Park’s elevator. Where else can you ride a 26-story elevator inside a mountain? The Otis elevator, originally installed in 1948 and opened in 1949, reopened in June of 2018 after a complete renovation.



Choose Your Path to the Chimney

Squeeze through the boulders of Crevice Pass, one of the Park’s newest features, or check out Gneiss Cave before you start your hike up the Outcroppings trail to the Chimney – 494 steps with plenty of outrageous views

along the way. Here guests will find themselves breathless in more ways than one! These wide stairs with numerous lookouts were installed with the help of a helicopter and are truly an engineering marvel.

Trails for Everyone

Take your kids along the family-friendly Great Woodland Adventure trail featuring 12 interactive stations. Test your endurance by climbing more than 820 steps through the Outcroppings and up to Exclamation Point. Hike through dense forest and enjoy amazing views of Lake Lure from Peregrine’s Point lookout on the Skyline trail. Love waterfalls? The Hickory Nut Falls trail will lead to a full view of the 404-foot waterfall. Want to hike some more? Take the Four Seasons trail, which descends more than 400 feet in elevation in .6 miles, down to the Meadows. Whether you’ve got an hour or a day, the Park offers a variety of experiences for everyone.



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Rock Climbing

Novices and experienced climbers alike can see the Park from a whole new perspective with two-hour to all-day climbing lessons with Fox Mountain Guides, the Southeast's only AMGA-accredited guide service.

Naturalist Niche Series

Hit the trail with an expert naturalist to learn about plants, wildlife, birds, geology or other fascinating topics. These guided hikes are held April through December and take folks to parts of the Park seldom seen by Park guests. Reservations are required.

Animal Encounters



Our non-releasable animal ambassadors, such as an opossum, albino chipmunk, groundhog, snakes, Great Horned Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, and other critters, help Park naturalists tell their story during scheduled programs throughout the season. See which ones are on display in the Animal Discovery Den, and then take a walk on the Great Woodland Adventure trail, featuring 12 discovery stations with large

locally hand-crafted animal sculptures.

Visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus

Every December Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves get ready for the holiday season in Chimney Rock. Things kick off at the Old Rock Cafe in Chimney Rock Village where guests can have breakfast with the elves and hear stories read by Mrs. Claus from 9-11 am. Santa then rappels down the Chimney in the Park for visitors every half hour from 11 am-2pm. Between descents, guests can enjoy live music and see Santa's favorite animals from the Park's Animal Discovery Den.

2019 Events

For a complete list of 2019 events, go to ChimneyRockPark.com.

Media Contacts

Landdis Hollifield | promoandevents@ChimneyRockPark.com

Mary Jaeger-Gale | MaryJG@ChimneyRockPark.com

