



Abbas Furniturewalla <abbas.furniturewalla@gmail.com>

[OAR-L] Linville Gorge Wandering - October 27 - 29

1 message

Henry Matthews <admin@adventureanywhere.org>

Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 12:36 PM

Reply-To: matthewshenry24@gmail.com

To: OAR-L@lists.ufl.edu

Hi everyone,

Let's backpack Linville Gorge during the most colorful weekend of the year! Linville Gorge Wilderness Area is one of the most remote and breathtaking hiking areas in the east. It's known for its wickedly steep and rocky terrain with little to no trail markers and plenty of opportunities for bushwacking! Some say that 2 miles almost anywhere else equals 1 mile in the gorge, and for that reason I'm labelling this one as intermediate to advanced. You should be able to do a full gator mountain.

The Plan:

-Leave Friday around noon from the gear shed and arrive at Table Rock Gap late. We'll have to shuttle cars before we start hiking, as we're taking a point-to-point route. Campsites start about 1.5 miles (all uphill) from Wolf Pit trailhead. Always expect to do some night hiking on Henry-led trips!

-On Saturday we'll hike about 8 miles on the ridge, hitting iconic spots like Shortoff Mountain, the Chimneys, and Table Rock. The plan is to then make the difficult trek down into the gorge to camp at "Cave Camp" (exactly what it sounds like) next to Cathedral Falls, where there's a great swimming hole.

-On Sunday we'll hike back out of the gorge (800 ft of elevation in less than a mile) and from there it's only half a mile to the cars. Drive home.

One thing I will mention is that permits won't open up until the Wednesday before we leave, so I will try my best to obtain those for us but there's a chance we have to find a backup hike in the region. If anything, I can guarantee that it'll be beautiful either way!

If you're signing up for this trip you should already know what to pack, but I'll just remind you to dress warm and bring a swimsuit. New members are welcome as long as you're fit and confident in your abilities. I highly recommend downloading the free Linville Gorge map from Avenza. If you have any questions let us know.

Love always/eternally/forever,
Handsome Fairness Henry

To find out more about the trip and to sign up, visit the [trip page](#)

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