

# BALD KNOB on PINNACLE MOUNTAIN in Table Rock State Park



**DESCRIPTION:** From the Nature Center in Table Rock State Park, we follow the Foothills Trail west along Carrick Creek and up Pinnacle Mountain to the Bald Knob Overlook. The round trip is 7.5 miles. After an easy start in the park along Carrick Creek, the outbound leg toward Pinnacle Mtn becomes narrow, winding, and difficult. Total elevation gain is about 2000 ft. However, as an in and out hike, there are options for bail out and early return. Several rockeries and Mill Creek Falls, via a short spur, provide pleasant diversion along the way. Vistas from the rocky, bald overlook are outstanding and well worth the climb. Continuing on to the Pinnacle Mountain summit (3425 ft elevation) is another challenging option. It is another half mile, several hundred more feet up, with little gain in views versus the overlook. Instead, we usually lunch at the overlook then return downhill.

Areas damaged by a major wildfire in the fall of 2016 have since largely recovered and the trails have been reopened.

**DIRECTIONS:** (35.031586, -82.699825)

Gather at Holly Springs (SC11 and US178) for 9:15 AM departure. From the Holly, follow SC11 northeast for about 5 mi to the West Gate of Table Rock State Park. Enter with SC Parks pass or pay a small fee. Follow the road to the main parking lot and Nature Center trail head. Facilities there. Expect return by 3:30PM.

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