

BIG BEND NORTH on the CHATTOOGA from BURRELL'S FORD



DESCRIPTION: Big Bend is the largest drop on the Chattooga...a roaring 30-foot cascade across the full flow of the river. Seen in the movie Deliverance, it is accessed from the south, east and, as described here, from the north, Burrells Ford. From behind the kiosk, follow the white-blazed Foothills Trail (FT), about a half mile to a bridge across Kings Creek. Beyond, the black-blazed Chattooga Trail (CT) joins the FT on the right. Follow the combined trails, along the river, about 2.5 miles to the intersect with Big Bend Trail (which climbs to Cherry Hill). Continue on the CT/FT, cross a small bridge, climb, then glimpse and listen for the roaring water. Descend just downstream of the Falls. The surrounding rockery and small beach are great for lunch and a close up whitewater encounter. The best overlook is from a small rock perch just downstream. With only a few hundred feet of net elevation change from Burrell' Ford, the 7.5 mile round trip is mostly easy, For an added show, enjoy the quarter mile, rocky spur to King Creek Falls on the return.



DIRECTIONS (GPS: 34.971314, -83.114447) Gather, pool, and depart as usual from KKEPA at 830A and/or Walhalla at 9AM. From Walhalla go 8mi NW on SC28, 10 N on SC107, then 2.3 E (left) on Burrell's Ford (gravel). There are facilities at Burrell's Ford, and no fees. Expect to return about 3PM.

UPDATED: Jun 2017