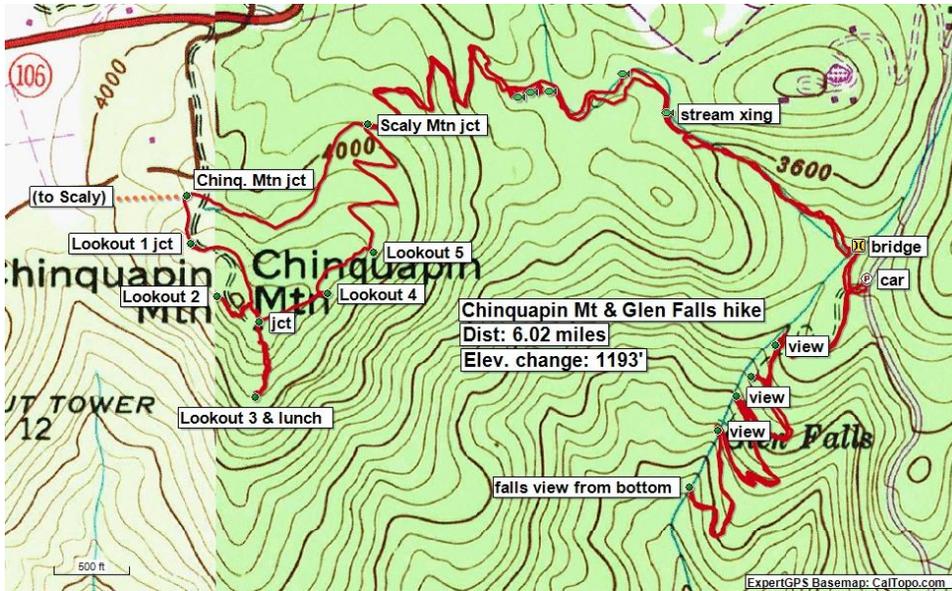


CHINQUAPIN and GLENN FALLS near Highlands, NC



DESCRIPTION: Multiple vistas beckon from the top of Chinquapin Mountain and multiple falls await in the valley below. The kiosk at the parking area guards the two trail heads, one up the mountain; the other down. We head up first, climbing mostly moderate grades and rock hop across multiple streams in route to the 4100ft summit...an elevation gain of about 700ft. Watch for a fork about midway. In the past we have kept left on the Chinquapin trail but hikers in 2017 discovered a loop if we keep right toward Little Scaly, then bear left at the next junction. The summit has five marked overlooks; all with grand vistas. Originally we saw the vistas in reverse, but with the change noted above they are viewed in order in a loop. Lookout 3 and Lookout 5 are the best spots for lunch, 5 being more sunny. The hike to the vistas totals about 4 miles. Once back to the parking area, we head down for the series of Glenn Falls...each about 60ft tall...along a mile of increasingly steep grade, moderated by stairs. The streamside overlooks on short spurs are all worth seeing; the hike to the bottom and back totals about 2 miles. Hiking both mountain and falls totals 6 miles.

DIRECTIONS (GPS: 35.033192, -83.235647)

Meet, pool, and depart from Walhalla at 845A(!). This requires leaving KKEPA by 825A. From Walhalla go NW on SC28 for 30mi into Highlands, then jog W (left) on US64 and continue on NC106 (Dillard Rd) for 2mi, then go S (left) on Glen Falls Rd (good gravel) for about a mile to the parking and trail head(s). No fees and no facilities after Walhalla. Expect to return around 3P...depending on the falls and after hike treat options in Highlands. Organize car pools accordingly.

Note: There is a shortcut to Dillard Rd (NC106) which is achieved by taking a left at Highlands Plaza Rd (shopping plaza) before getting to 64.

UPDATED Oct 2017

