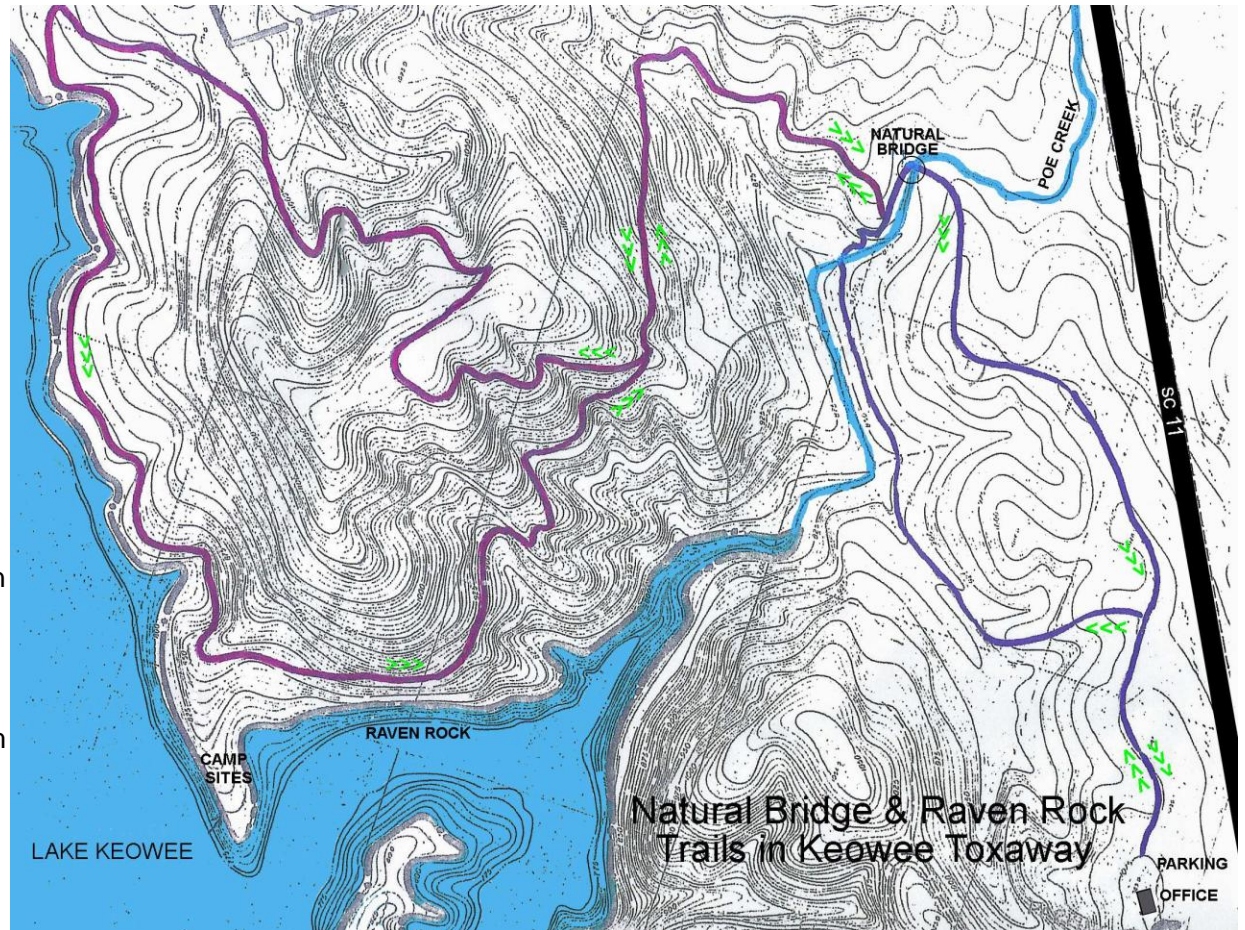


RAVEN ROCK and NATURAL BRIDGE TRAILS in KEOWEE TOXAWAY STATE PARK, SC

DIRECTIONS: (GPS: 34.9318, -82.88641) Gather and depart from KKEPA at 845AM. From KKEPA go north on SC130 for 2.5mi, right on Nimmons Br Rd for 4.8mi, right on Swallowford for 1mi, left on Fall Cr Rd for 0.9mi, right on SC11 for 3mi, then turn left into the park. There are no facilities or fees. Expect to return around 2PM



DESCRIPTION: This hike offers a fine combination of creek, lakeside, small falls, rockery, and natural bridge encounters plus a fine vista from the Raven Rock overlooking Lake Keowee. We usually lunch there. The Raven Rock Trail is a 3.5 mile loop that stems from the 1.5 mile Natural Bridge Trail, which is also a loop. There is thus little backtracking. Both trails include a mix of flat and rolling terrain with a few steep, but short, climbs totaling about 1000ft. Begin at the kiosk behind the office. Turn left downhill at the first junction. This makes the return less steep. Cross Poe creek, turn left and climb, looping around McKinney Mountain and descend to the Keowee lakeside. Pause and enjoy the view from the campground on the lake, then climb to Raven Rock for lunch. Continue around McKinney and back down to Poe Creek. Catch the falls and natural bridge on the return. Both trails are well developed and well marked.



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