

TENNENT MOUNTAIN and BEYOND in the Shining Rock Wilderness



DESCRIPTION

Mile high altitude, rich flora, and rocky balds with great unspoiled vistas make this hike well worth the long drive, few trail markers and often rocky pathways. A true wilderness experience!

DIRECTIONS (GPS: 35.320700, -82.876117)

Gather at Holly Springs for a 9AM departure (830 from KKEPA; 815 if from Walhalla).. Head NW on US178W 17mi, then left on US64W 0.6mi, then north on NC215 17mi to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Cross under then loop onto the BRP heading east 3.3mi thru Devil's Courthouse Tunnel, then left on Black Balsam Rd. Go 1 mi to parking and facilities. Leave one vehicle there and go back about 0.5mi to road side parking and Art Loeb trailhead on the left. Hike north, keeping right and on the most worn trails about 1.8mi to Tennent Mtn summit; a climb of 748ft. Continue NW 0.3 to the Ivestor Trial junction. Turn sharp left SW on Ivestor for a 2mi direct return, mostly on level graveled road bed. OR, add another 0.8mi via the loop to Ivestor Gap, or 4.8 via the loop past Shinning Rock Trail. On return, take drivers only to retrieve other cars from the Loeb TH. Est return about 330-430P.

UPDATED: May 2017

