## Share the Beauty

# "Favorite Appalachian Waterfalls" HIKING GUIDEBOOK

### HIKE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Waterfalls are dangerous. Do not walk on the top of waterfalls.

Be prepared. Know where you are going. Do not hike alone.

Let someone know your destination & expected time to return.

Obtain good hiking boots. Carry plenty of water & high energy snacks.

Watch out for hornets, yellow jackets, snakes & bears.

Allow yourself one hour of hiking time for each mile of the trail, coming and going. Add extra time to enjoy the waterfalls.

#### OBTAIN AN ACCURATE MAP

Over time, roads & trails, can change. Every effort has been made to provide accurate information. That said, you should obtain a detailed map of your hiking area for your own safety.

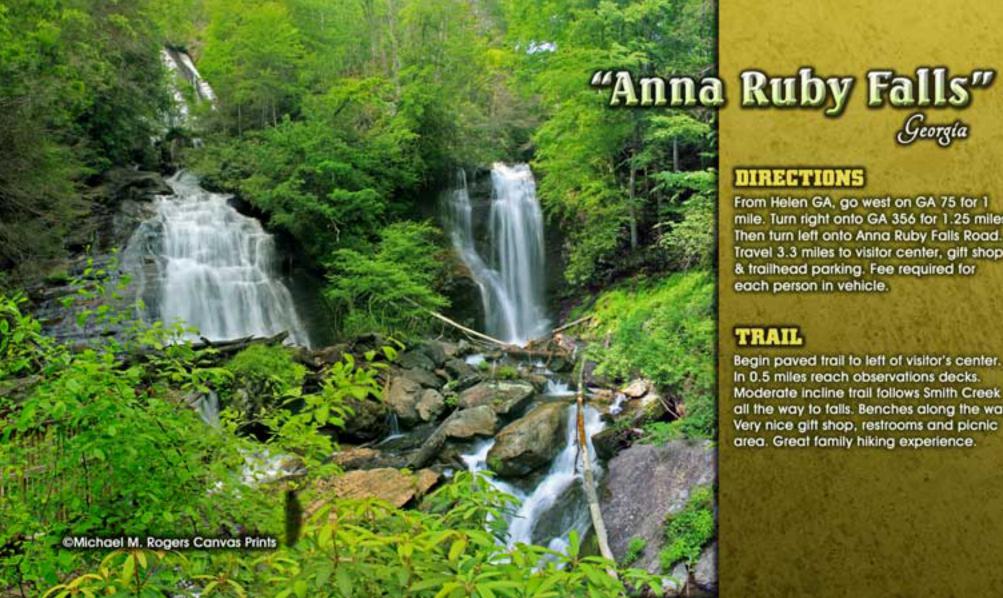
All Photos & descriptions @Michael M. Rogers



From Clayton GA, travel Warwoman Rd. 10 miles east and turn left onto FS 7 (Hale Ridge Rd.) & travel 6.7 miles to intersection with FS 86. Park on roadside near sign.

#### LOOP TRAIL

Begin hiking down trail at signs. Reach Holcomb Creek Falls in 0.25 miles. Continue along trail and after a steep ascent reach Ammons Falls in 0.6 miles. Backtrack a short distance and continue right on the trail. Reach Upper Holcomb Creek Falls on left in 1 mile. Continue Holcomb Creek Trail for another 0.3 miles and reach FS 86. Turn left and reach the trailhead and parking area in about 0.5 miles



From Helen GA, go west on GA 75 for 1 mile. Turn right onto GA 356 for 1.25 miles. Then turn left onto Anna Ruby Falls Road. Travel 3.3 miles to visitor center, gift shop & trailhead parking. Fee required for each person in vehicle.

#### TRAIL

Begin paved trail to left of visitor's center. In 0.5 miles reach observations decks. Moderate incline trail follows Smith Creek all the way to falls. Benches along the way. Very nice gift shop, restrooms and picnic area. Great family hiking experience.



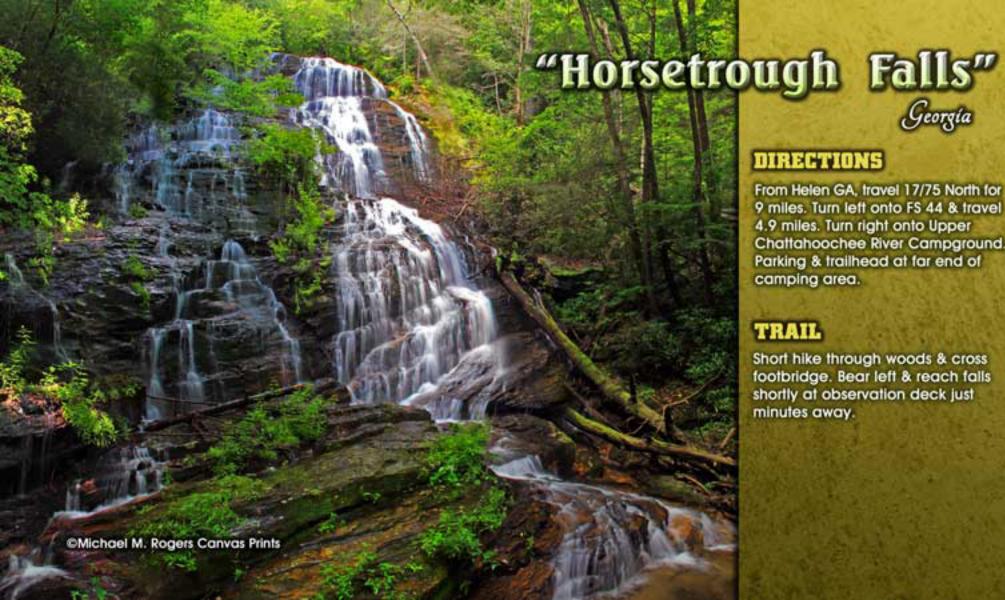
## "Hemlock Falls"

#### DIRECTIONS

From Clayton GA, travel 76 west for 11 miles & turn left onto GA 197. Travel 3.8 miles & turn right at sign for Hemlock Falls Trail #50, just past Moccasin Creek State Park. Travel up gravel road 0.6 miles to parking & trailhead.

#### TRAIL

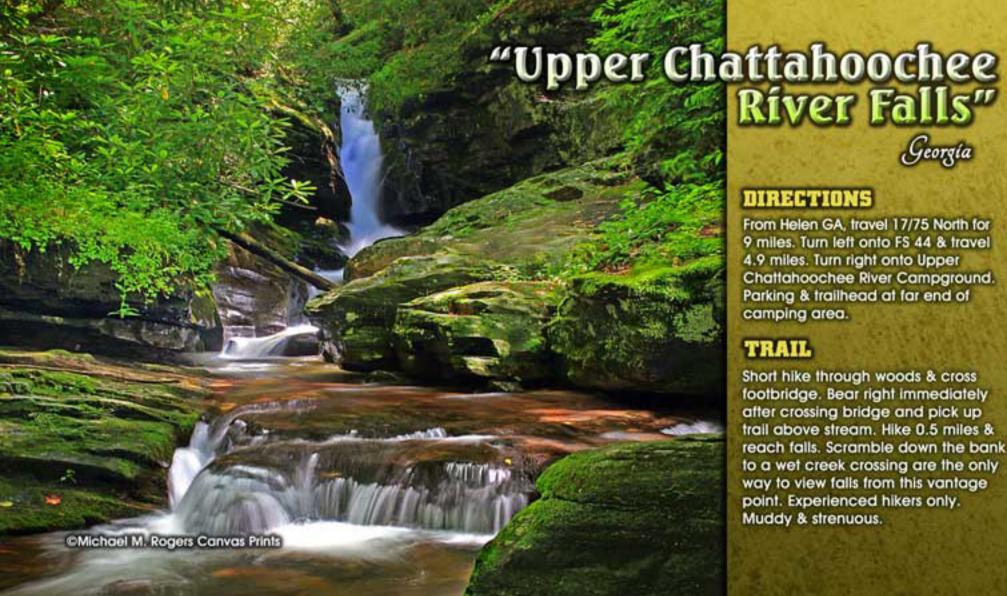
Delightful moderate hike up trail beside Moccasin Creek most of the way. Multiple waterfalls & cascades. In about 0.75 miles cross footbridge. Hike 0.3 miles further & reach Hemlock Falls on left. Great picnic spot on boulders at edge of pool.



From Helen GA, travel 17/75 North for 9 miles. Turn left onto FS 44 & travel 4.9 miles. Turn right onto Upper Chattahoochee River Campground. Parking & trailhead at far end of camping area.

#### TRAIL

Short hike through woods & cross footbridge. Bear left & reach falls shortly at observation deck just minutes away.



From Helen GA, travel 17/75 North for 9 miles. Turn left onto FS 44 & travel 4.9 miles. Turn right onto Upper Chattahoochee River Campground. Parking & trailhead at far end of camping area.

#### TRAIL

Short hike through woods & cross footbridge. Bear right immediately after crossing bridge and pick up trail above stream. Hike 0.5 miles & reach falls. Scramble down the bank to a wet creek crossing are the only way to view falls from this vantage point. Experienced hikers only. Muddy & strenuous.



From Helen GA, go west on GA 75 for 1.2 miles. Turn left onto GA 75 Alt and travel 2.35 miles. Then turn right onto GA 348. Travel 2.6 miles to FS 244 & entrance on left for Rayen Cliffs Recreation Area.

#### TRAIL

Trailhead begins across FS 244 just before bridge. Head into woods. Steep start soon crosses footbridge. Easy hike follows old logging railroad bed for 2.5 miles never venturing far from Dodd Creek. Various footlogs. Delightful & scenic woods. Steep side trails on left access the waterfalls pictured at left. These are waterfalls number 3 & number 4. Watch where you step as this is a known area for copperhead dens. At the end of the trail there is storm damage & erosion problems. However, if you make it this far continue half way up wash beside vertical cliffs to observe all of Dodd Creek cascading down inside "The Crack in the Wall".