

First Day Hikes

January 1, 2012

All hikes are different in length and difficulty. Please read the descriptions below and check out our website at www.SouthCarolinaParks.com for more information.

Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site – History Trail Hike

9-10am

Meeting Place: Visitor Center lobby

What to Bring: Water, comfortable walking shoes

Let's start your New Year's resolution out on the right foot and hit a State Park trail. Join a ranger at Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site and enjoy the History and Garden trails, trails full of history,

Cheraw State Park – Turkey Oak Trail

1-4pm

Registration Deadline: 5pm, Dec. 29

Meeting Place: Turkey Oak trail head

What to Bring: Water, dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking boots or shoes.

Let's start your New Year's resolution out on the right foot and hit a State Park trail. Join a ranger at Cheraw State Park and enjoy the Turkey Oak Trail. This 4.5 mile, moderately strenuous hike will get rid of the guilt of that extra piece of pie!

Edisto Beach State Park – Spanish Mount Trail

1-2pm

Meeting Place: Spanish Mount trail head

What to Bring: Water bottle, camera, binoculars, walking shoes

Join a ranger at Edisto Beach State Park and enjoy the Spanish Mount Trail, a trail full of history and culture.

Givhans Ferry State Park

1-2pm

Meeting Place: Community Building at the park

What to Bring: water, comfortable walking/hiking shoes

Let's start your New Year's resolution out on the right foot and hit a State Park trail. Join a ranger at Givhans Ferry State Park and enjoy a walk in the woods along the beautiful Edisto River.

Hickory Knob State Resort Park – Beaver Run Trail

10am-noon

Meeting Place: Lodge lobby

What to Bring: Dress for the weather, water, camera

Join a ranger at Hickory Knob State Park and enjoy the moderately strenuous, 2-mile Beaver Run Trail as it wanders through the beautiful hardwood forest along Strom Thurmond Lake. Stick around for lunch and hot cocoa in the restaurant after the hike!

Huntington Beach State Park – Sandpiper Pond and Beach Explorations

10am-noon

Registration Deadline: 5pm, Dec. 29

Meeting Place: North Beach parking lot

What to Bring: Dress for the weather and have comfortable walking shoes for sandy and wet conditions. Water bottle, binoculars (optional), and a small bag for shells (optional).

Join a ranger at Huntington Beach State Park and enjoy the Sandpiper Pond Trail and beach walk. Half the walk will be in the maritime forest around Sandpiper Pond and the other half will be on the beach. Most of the walking surface is flat, but sandy, and some loose sand may be encountered.

Kings Mountain State Park – Kings Mountain to Crowders Mountain

10am-1pm

Meeting Place: Kings Mountain State Park day-use parking lot

What to Bring: Water, comfortable walking/hiking shoes. Sturdy-soled shoes are recommended as the trail is not paved and rocky in areas.

Join a ranger at Kings Mountain State Park and enjoy a moderately strenuous hike from Kings Mountain SP in South Carolina across the border to North Carolina's Crowders Mountain State Park's Boulder Access area. This hike is approximately 5 miles round trip, but if you only want to hike one way, please make arrangements for pick up at the Boulders Access area in Crowders Mountain.

Lake Warren State Park – Pet Hike

8:30-9:30am

Meeting Place: Meet at the park office

What to Bring: Your pet on a leash

Happy New Year! Let's start your New Year's resolution out on the right foot and hit a state park trail. Join a ranger at Lake Warren State Park and enjoy an easy, 1.25-mile hike with your favorite, furry friend! Pets must be on a 6' leash and get along with other animals and people. Stick around after the hike and enjoy some warm beverages!

Lake Warren State Park – Discovery Trail Hike

10:30-11:30am

Meeting Place: Meet at the park office

What to Bring: Water and comfortable walking shoes. Dress appropriately for the weather.

Join a ranger at Lake Warren State Park and enjoy a leisurely walk around the 1.25-mile Discovery Trail. The trail is stroller friendly, but they may have to be lifted over one step at the bridge. After the hike, stick around for some hot beverages.

Landsford Canal State Park – Landsford Canal Nature Trail

10-11am

Meeting Place: Main parking lot area

What to Bring: Dress for the weather. Wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots, some water and a camera or binoculars.

Join a ranger at Landsford Canal State Park and enjoy the Nature Trail along the Catawba River. This easy, ½-mile trail will take you to the eagle viewing area. If you choose, you can continue down the Canal Trail to the spider lily overlook deck and old lock structure.

Musgrove Mill State Historic Site – First Day Hike

1-2:30pm

Registration Deadline: 4pm, Dec. 31

Meeting Place: Horseshoe Falls parking area

What to Bring: Water, shoes for hiking

Bring in the New Year at Musgrove Mill State Historic Site by taking a ranger-led hike of the Musgrove Mill Battlefield Trail. The hike will be a 1.3-mile guided walk of the Musgrove Mill battlefield, and is part of a nationwide First Day Hikes program, in which state parks in all 50 states will be offering hikes on the same day. You don't want to miss this event. There is no charge for the hike, but space is limited, and reservations are required. You can reserve your spot by contacting the park at (864) 938-0100, or mgmillsp@scprt.com

Myrtle Beach State Park – New Year's Resolutions You Can "Nature-ly" Enjoy All Year

10:30am-12:30pm

Registration Deadline: Two days before hike

Meeting Place: Nature Center

What to Bring: Wear shoes that can be worn both on the beach and in the woods. Please no cell phones.

Get outside at Myrtle Beach State Park on the first day of this new year and resolve to spend more of the upcoming year outside enjoying the natural world. Feel, see, hear, and smell your way through a diversity of coastal habitats as we enjoy a 1.5-mile stroll and appreciate the serenity that the maritime forest and beach provide. Let's unplug and unwind from our fast paced world for just a few hours and be inspired by nature and its calming ways.

Oconee State Park – Swimming Lake Loop Trail

2-3pm

Meeting Place: Front porch of park office

What to Bring: Bring your favorite mug for hot chocolate or buy a souvenir mug from the park store! Dress with warm outer wear and good hiking shoes (prepare for cold, slick or snowy conditions).

Join a ranger at Oconee State Park and enjoy the loop trail around the swimming lake. This small lake is home to many waterfowl and the forest around the lake are filled with birds and other wildlife. After the hike, enjoy a hot chocolate on the porch of the park office.

Paris Mountain State Park – Lessons from Nature

2-3:30pm

Meeting Place: Park Center

What to Bring: Dress for the weather, sturdy walking/hiking shoes, water

Join Ranger Cathy Taylor at Paris Mountain State Park for a one-mile hike around Turtle Trail. During the hike, Cathy will inspire you with many life lessons that we can learn from nature as we enter the New Year.

Poinsett State Park – Coquina Trail

1-2pm

Meeting Place – Park Office

What to Bring: Dress for the weather, wear sturdy hiking boots or shoes, a snack and a water bottle.

Join a ranger at Poinsett State Park and enjoy the Coquina Trail where you will explore and discover the unique habitat, geography and history of the mountains of the midlands.

Table Rock State Park – Table Rock Mountain

9am-2pm

Registration Deadline: 5pm, Dec. 29

Meeting Place: Table Rock State Park trail head and Nature Center

What to Bring: Dress for the weather, wear sturdy hiking boots/shoes, a light lunch or snack, and at least two liters of water per person.

Let's start your New Year's resolution out on the right foot and hit a State Park trail. Join Ranger Scott as he leads the group to the top of Table Rock Mountain. This 7.4 mile, strenuous hike, will make the rest of your resolutions feel easy! Dress appropriate for the weather and wear sturdy hiking boots/shoes.