**Weekends at Pilot Mountain State Park**

*Pilot Mountain State Park is at capacity most weekends.* This guide outlines what to expect when you visit during the weekends, and page 2 has a list of alternatives should the park be full when you arrive for your visit.

**Parking rules on weekends:**

- The Summit parking lot is open to vehicles from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on weekends and holidays.

- From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekends and holidays, no visitor vehicles are permitted uphill past the visitor center parking lot.

- During the months when the park is open past 6:00 p.m., the Summit parking lot reopens to visitor vehicles from 6:00 p.m. to when the park closes.

- Oversized vehicles are not permitted at the Summit parking lot on weekends and holidays.

- Expect a wait for parking on weekends and holidays. We recommend arriving early or later in the day. We also recommend visiting on weekdays if you can.

- Once a parking lot fills, cars will only be let in as space allows.

- Please note that drones, UAVs, flying machines or RC aircraft are NOT permitted at Pilot Mountain State Park at anytime. Drones cannot be launched from the state road or US highway outside the front gate.

**Shuttle information:**

The park’s shuttle service takes visitors from the new visitor center parking lot to the Summit area.

The shuttle is available every Saturday, Sunday and state holidays until the day after Thanksgiving. Shuttle service runs from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The round-trip fare for adults is $5. One-way tickets are available for $2.50. Kids 13 and under ride free.

On weekends and holidays, visitor vehicles are not allowed uphill past the visitor center from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You must park at the visitor center parking lot and either utilize the shuttle service or hike up if you want to access the Summit area.
Satellite parking lots

Can’t get into Pilot Mountain State Park on a busy weekend? You may also enjoy:

**Pilot Creek access**
382 Boyd Nelson Road
Pinnacle, NC 27043
- *access to Pilot Creek Trail*
- *15 cars*

**Pinnacle Hotel Rd / Culler Road**
134 Culler Road
Pinnacle, NC 27043
- *Mountain and Corridor trails*
- *50 cars*

**Hauser Road**
622 Hauser Road
Pinnacle, NC 27043
- *Corridor Trail*
- *north river section*
- *40 cars*

**Ivy Bluff access**
4240 Shoals Road
East Bend, NC 27018
- *south river section*
- *20 cars*

**Ivy Bluff canoe**
4454 Shoals Road
East Bend, NC 27018
- *fishing and canoe access*
- *10 cars*

**Yadkin River Section at Bean Shoals access**
The oldest contiguous canal remnants in NC can be seen after a short hike on the canal trail.
- Exit 129 off U.S. 52 South
- 10 miles south

**Hanging Rock State Park**
One of North Carolina’s oldest state parks, offering waterfalls, fishing, swimming, paddling, and rock climbing.
- 1790 Hanging Rock Park Road
- Danbury, NC 27016
- 22 miles east

**Blue Ridge Parkway**
Enjoy this scenic drive, offering stunning long-range vistas and views of the Appalachian landscape. Be sure to check out Cumberland Knob (first developed recreation area on the parkway), Mabry Mill, and the Blue Ridge Music Center.
- 21 miles on U.S. 52 North

**Horne Creek Farm State Historic Site**
Restored 19th century farm features a glimpse into farm life of the 1800s. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 308 Horne Creek Farm Road
- Pinnacle, NC 27043
- 9 miles south

**Downtown Mount Airy**
Walk downtown, enjoy shops and restaurants, the historic Earle Theater and the Mount Airy Museum of History
- 14 miles north on U.S. 52

**Nelson Acres Town Park**
Downtown Pilot Mountain park offering trails & disc golf course.
- 873 W. 52 Bypass
- Pilot Mountain, NC
- 5 miles north

**Fishing**
Ararat, Fisher, Mitchell or Yadkin rivers. Visit the NCWRC map of public accesses »

**More ideas and information**
Goyadkinvalley.com