

Symbol Key - Descriptions and Directions

Note: All directions start at the Coker Creek Welcome Center

- 1. Church of God site The date 1881 is carved on the rock cliff located one mile North of Hwy. 68 on Barney Creek. This marks the location of the building in which Christian Union was organized. In 1907 the church officially adopted the name Church of God in Cleveland. TN.
 - Go South on Hwy. 68 2.7 miles to Barney Creek Rd. (CR 631). Turn Right on 631. Go 1 mile to Church of God site on the right.
- 2. Ironsburg Cemetery Several civil war grave sites can be found here. A Methodist Church once stood near the large oak tree. Go South on Hwy. 68 3.1 miles. Turn Right on Ironsburg Rd. (CR 628). Go .8 mile to cemetery.
- **3. Unicoi Turnpike Trail -** Declared a Millennium Trail in 2000, this is the oldest known traveled path and the first toll road in North America having been used for thousands of years by Native Americans, pioneers and settlers.
 - To trailhead go 2.9 miles on Joe Brown Highway (CR 618) to parking area on left.
- **4. CCC Camp, Old Tollgate site** Located just off the Unicoi Trail, the Civilian Conservation Corps established a camp here in the early 1930's called Camp Rolling Stone #1454 which employed young men in an era of depression. Near the old camp is the site of the first tollgate in America. A toll was charged for the passage of any "person or thing". "For every man and horse, twelve and one-half cents; for every lead horse not in a drove, six and one-fourth cents."
 - To trailhead go 1.9 miles on Joe Brown Highway (CR 618) to parking area on right.
- **5. Doc Rogers Field -** Beautiful, open fields with native plants, grasses and animals nestled in the mountains. Coker Creek runs along side, as well as the Unicoi Turnpike and Trail of Tears.
 - Go .3 miles on Joe Brown Highway (CR 618) to parking area on left.
- **6. Old Coker Creek Cemetery -** Stop by and see the markers dating back to the 1700's. See if you can spot the marker "Jim Morrow, Bushwhacked while cradling goats."
 - Go .1 mile North on Hwy 68. Turn right at brick building. Bear right up the hill. Cemetery straight ahead.
- 7. Waucheesi Overlook At 3692 feet, Waucheesi boasts impressive panoramic views of the Bald River Wilderness Area, Long Ridge and some peaks along the Cherohala Skyway.
 - Go 1.7 miles North on Hwy. 68. Turn Right on Smithfield Road (CR 623) and go 4 miles. Turn Right on Bald River Road (FR 126) and go 3 miles. Turn Right on Lookout Tower Road and drive 1.5 miles to the top.
- **8. Coker Creek Falls** An amazing series of seven stair-step cascading waterfalls provide a great place to picnic, wade or swim. Take an easy 3 mile hike right along Coker Creek to the John Muir Trail.
 - Go South on Hwy 68 3.1 miles. Turn Right on Ironsburg Rd. (CR 628). Go .8 mile. Veer left at Ironsburg Cemetery on CR 626. Go 3 miles. Turn left on US Forest Service Road 2138. Go 1.1 mile to parking lot.
- 9. Old Tellico Mountain Camp (Now Coker Creek Village) This Christian Retreat Camp is the site of two local community service organizations annual fundraising festivals, the Coker Creek Spring Celebration and Autumn Gold Festival. Held the second full weekend in May, the Spring Celebration is a festival of mountain life including food, music, history and art and craft demonstrations. Autumn Gold Festival, held the 2nd full weekend in October features well over 100 art and crafts vendors, food, music and entertainment. For more information contact the Coker Creek Welcome Center at 423-261-2286.
 - Go 1 mile South on Hwy 68. Coker Creek Village will be on the left.
- **10. Buck Bald -** Unbelievable panoramic views of three states from the top of this bald mountain. Picnic tables, grills and benches make this the perfect spot for a picnic.
 - Go 7.4 miles South on Hwy 68. Turn left on Buck Bald Rd. (CR #624). Go left at the fork at 1.8 miles. Continue .7 miles to the top.
- 11. Gold Panning Gold was discovered here in the early 1830's making Coker Creek one of the first gold producing areas in the country long before the great California Gold Rush. A local chapter of the Gold Panning Association of America can be reached at 423-261-2982 if you want to try your hand at "striking it rich".
- **12. Unicoi Gap -** The most historic pass in the Southern Appalachians is located on the TN/NC state line. From the men and guns that manned Fort Loudoun, to the Cherokee traders then pioneers and settlers, this pass has seen travelers for thousands of years. Go 2.9 miles on Joe Brown Highway (CR 618) to parking area on left.