



Gregory Ridge trailhead at the end of Forge Creek Road (just past Cable Mill area in Cades Cove) small circle w/ parking for 6-10 vehicles

Forge Creek Road runs through 1800s area called Chestnut Flats - known as the skid row of the Smokies - fights, stabbings, shootings (moonshine)

Gregory Bald Trail

- 4.1 - Campsite #13 at Sheep Pen Gap, named for an enclosure used to gather sheep before driving them home in the fall (campsite is popular); remaining mileage on this trail was the original AT until 1948
- 4.5: Gregory Bald - flame azaleas first noted by botanist William Bartram in the Nantahala Mountains (1775) - meadow has blueberries ripe in August
- 5.2: trail descends through Rich Gap, once a holding area for cattle - named from their droppings making the area's soil fertile

Gregory Ridge Trail: old growth forest for most of trail; listen for Scarlet Tanager "chick-burr" and Black-throated Blue Warbler "I am laa-zeee"

- 1.0-1:8: open views; look for Forge, Brier Lick & Doe Knobs, Spence Field, Thunderhead Mountain (highest peak at 5527')
- 2.0: mountain laurel tunnel
- 2.3: sandstone outcrop with views of western end of park
- 3.1: campsite #12 (2600') along Forge Creek
- 3.2: footlog crossings near large uncut tuliptrees
- 4.7: creek crossing on foot log

