

## Millions of Years in the Making

This land was once part of the Oregon Coast, but volcanoes, basalt lava flows and falling ash changed the landscape to what you see today. Waterfalls tumble over thick basalt that rests on softer, older rock.

The softer layers beneath the basalt eroded over time and created natural pathways behind some of the falls. Look up and see if you can spot the many tree “chimneys,” or casts, while you walk behind North Falls. These formed when lava engulfed living trees.



Winter Falls



**Silver Falls State Park**  
20024 Silver Falls Hwy. SE  
Sublimity, OR 97385  
Park: 503-873-8681  
Reservations: 800-452-5687



oregonstateparks.org



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63400-8652 (09/19)



## Silver Falls State Park

### Trail Guide



South Falls

One visit, and you'll know why Silver Falls State Park is known as the “crown jewel” of the state parks system. Its majestic beauty, boundless recreational opportunities and historic presence make it a top recreation destination in the nation. Nestled in the foothills of Oregon's Cascade Mountains, less than 45 minutes east of the state capital of Salem, the sprawling 9,000-acre property is the largest state park in Oregon, and one of the most popular.



Upper North Falls



A school group poses behind Lower South Falls.

### Trail of Ten Falls

Where else can you walk behind a 177-foot waterfall? The famous South Falls is the hallmark of the Trail of Ten Falls—a spectacular, nationally recognized hiking trail that passes a series of breathtaking waterfalls along a rocky canyon and descends to a winding creek at the forest floor.

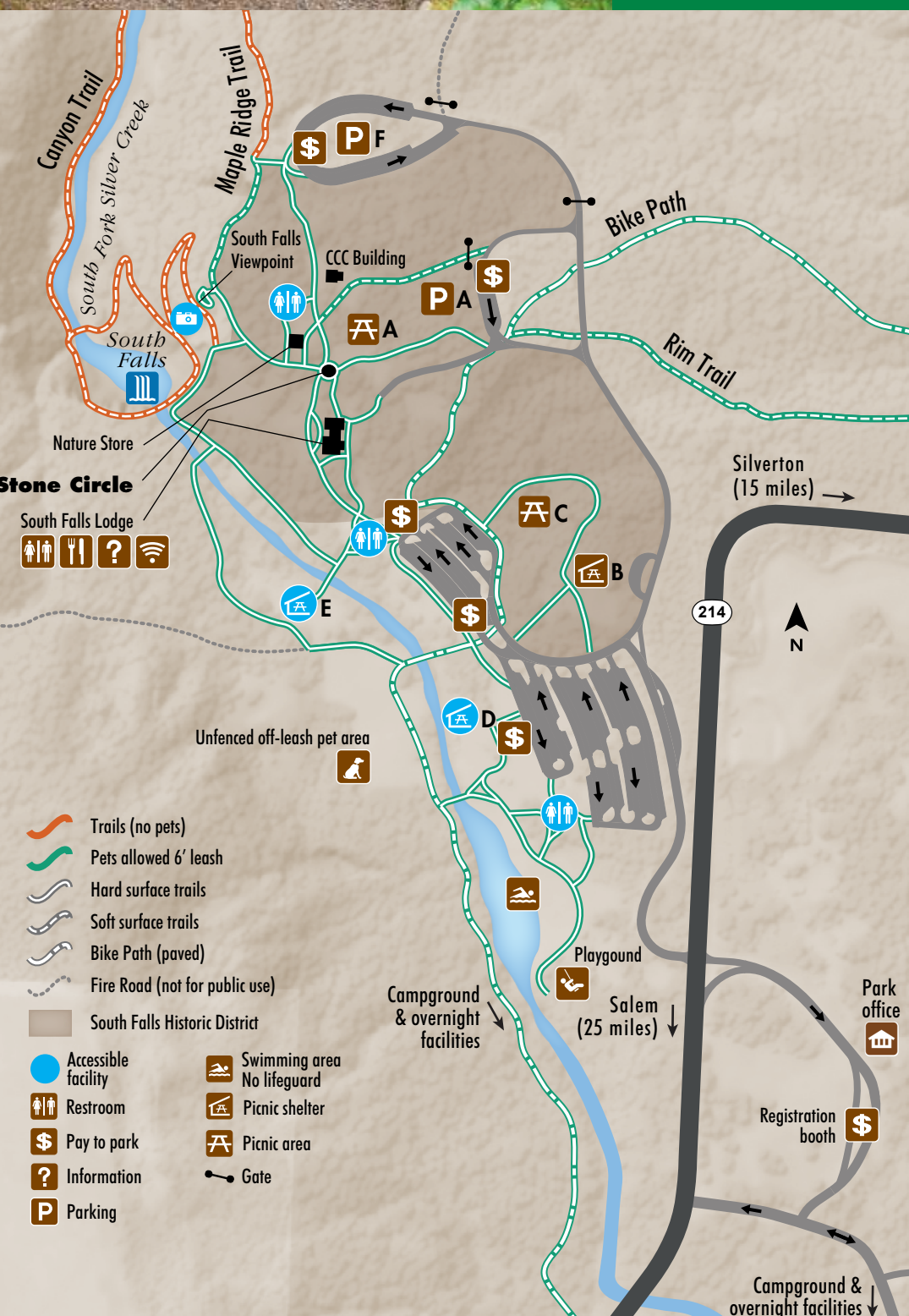
The roughly 7-mile loop is considered to be moderately difficult with some muddy areas, steep sections and an overall elevation change of 800 feet. Several connecting trails with separate access points make shorter (or longer) routes. Most routes begin from the Stone Circle in the South Falls Day-use Area. See the Trail of Ten Falls handout for details.

### Boots, Bikes, Paws and Hooves

For the safety of both pets and hikers, pets are not permitted on the Trail of Ten Falls. But, dogs on leash are welcome on 35 miles of wooded backcountry trails. Hikers share these less-traveled trails with horseback riders, trail runners and mountain bikers. Trails wind through lush, native vegetation including salal, sword fern and Oregon grape—all tucked beneath towering second growth stands of Douglas-fir and western hemlock. Access backcountry trails from the North Falls Trailhead, the parking area in the Howard Creek Horse Camp and the Highway 214 trailhead on the southwest end of the park.

### Bike Path

This mostly paved, 4-mile loop with rolling hills parallels the Rim Trail and passes the swimming area, the day-use area, the campground and a large meadow. There are no waterfalls on this route.



### Play for the Day

The South Falls Day-use Area has spacious lawns, picnic shelters, tables, a playground, an off-leash area for dogs, and charming Silver Creek. Since opening day in 1933, visitors have used these grounds for potlucks, family reunions and weddings. The area is all within a short walk to views of the famous 177-foot South Falls.



### Shop to Support Park Programs

The South Falls Nature Store, operated by The Friends of Silver Falls, sells locally crafted gift items as well as souvenirs and memorabilia. Proceeds support park events, interpretive programs and projects. Information: [friendsofsilverfalls.net](http://friendsofsilverfalls.net)

### A Historic Lodge

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), built the South Falls Lodge in the 1930s. Once used as a restaurant, diners ate on tables and chairs built from only two myrtle trees. The tables inside the lodge today are among the originals. The lodge and surrounding area make up the South Falls Historic District, and the area is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



### Overnight Excursion

#### Camping

The main campground has tent sites, RV spots and cabins. Bring your horse and stay in the Howard Creek horse campground. The park also has group tent and RV camps, dormitory-style bunkhouses (each Ranch sleeps 75) and the historic Youth Camp for up to 250 campers.

### Silver Falls Lodge and Conference Center



Relax and enjoy comfortable lodging within a remote, wooded setting. The Silver Falls Lodge and Conference Center has private cabins and six-bedroom lodges that cater to groups. Guests can enjoy meals in the dining hall. The conference center's peaceful setting makes it a popular choice for weddings, family reunions and other group events. Information: [silverfallsllodge.com](http://silverfallsllodge.com) or 866-575-8875.

### Natural Kids

At the Natural Play Area, located in the North Falls Day-use Area, children can climb a tree, hide in a bear den, growl like a cougar or weave a bird's nest in this playground designed to fit into the natural landscape.



The Catamount Trail is a favorite for mountain biking.

**Day-use Parking Fees:** Parking for the day is \$5 per vehicle. Pay stations are at many trailheads and all booths. Please bring exact change. Visa and MasterCard are accepted at the pay station at the entrance to South Falls Day-use Area. Parking is free with a current camping receipt, valid during the length of your stay. Annual and two-year parking passes are available at the park office, the camping registration booth, the South Falls Nature Store and at [store.oregonstateparks.org](http://store.oregonstateparks.org).

**Hiking With Pets:** For everyone's safety, pets are not allowed on the Trail of Ten Falls, with the exception of the Rim Trail. The South Falls Viewpoint and the short trail to Upper North Falls are the only waterfalls open to hikers with pets. Dogs must be on leashes (6' max). An off-leash pet exercise area is located in the South Falls Day-use Area.

### Park Safety and Etiquette

**Black bears and cougars** are among many species of wildlife that make Silver Falls home. Although sightings are rare, you should know what to do if confronted by a bear or cougar. Awareness pamphlets are available at the campground booth, South Falls Lodge and park office. Please report sightings to a park ranger.

**Restrooms** are located in the parking areas. No restrooms are on any trails.

**Swimming** is permitted only in designated areas, including the base of Upper North Falls.

**Campfires** are only allowed in the park's enclosed metal fire rings due to the danger of forest fires.

For everyone's safety—**bicycles** are prohibited on the Trail of Ten Falls and inside the South Falls Historic Area.

**Keep an eye on children.** Children could become lost or injured if unsupervised.

### Help Keep the Park Beautiful

**Stay on the trail.** Taking shortcuts causes erosion and harms plants and wildlife.

**Take only pictures.** Please do not pick or dig plants. It is unlawful to harass or capture wild animals.

**Leave only footprints.** Please do not carve or write on signs, trees, rocks or structures.

**There are no garbage cans on trails.** Pack out all trash.



Northern Saw-whet Owl

**Pets are prohibited on all waterfall trails, except the Rim and Upper North Falls trails.**



# Silver Falls State Park



## North Falls Day-Use and Group Camp



## North Falls Limited parking



Accessible facility	Picnic area	Horse camp
Waterfall	Picnic area	Cabins
Restrooms	Food	Meeting hall
Non-flush restrooms	Drinking water	Dump station
Parking	Off-leash area	Gate
Pay to park	Playground	Caution
Information	Swimming area	1518 Elevation (feet)
Trailhead	Wi-Fi	

Distance between diamonds in miles  
 Trails  
 Public roads & parking  
 Walkways & sidewalks  
 Maintenance roads (not for public use)

**Trail of Ten Falls**



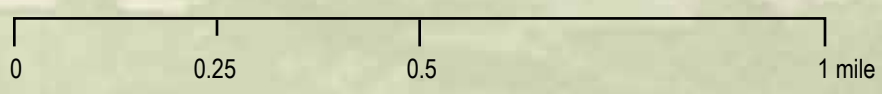
## South Falls Day-use Area



## Campground



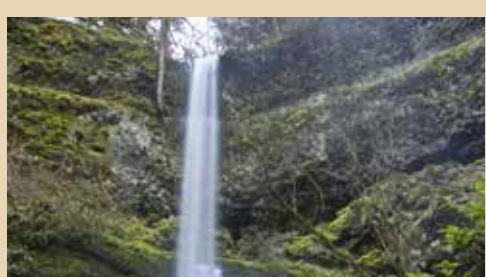
	Trail of Ten Falls
	3.8 Canyon Trail
	1.0 Maple Ridge Trail
	2.1 Rim Trail
	0.5 Twin Falls Trail
	0.3 Upper North Falls
	0.5 Winter Trail
	Other Trails
	1.8 214 Trail
	3.5 Bike Path
	6.8 Buck Mountain Loop
	4.6 Catamount Trail
	0.8 Cutoff Trail
	3.0 Howard Creek Loop
	1.0 Lost Creek Trail
	1.1 Nature Trail
	1.3 Newt Loop
	5.9 Perimeter Trail
	0.6 Rackett Ridge Connector Trail
	2.6 Rackett Ridge Trail
	2.8 Smith Creek Trail



## Trail of Ten Falls



South Falls 177 ft.



Winter Falls 134 ft.



Lower South Falls 93 ft.



Middle North Falls 106 ft.



Lower North Falls 30 ft.



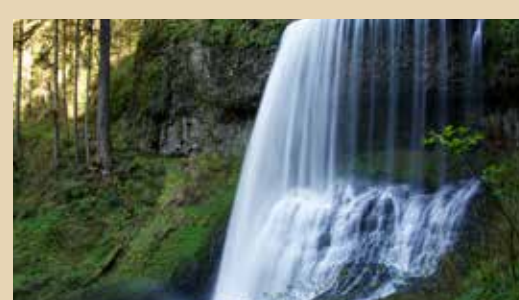
Twin Falls 31 ft.



Drake Falls 27 ft.



Winter Falls 134 ft.



Middle North Falls 106 ft.



Double Falls 178 ft.



North Falls 136 ft.



Upper North Falls 65 ft.