

Trail Relocations in NBATC Section

Mile markers are N to S on the left and S to N on the right

Long Mountain Wayside (U.S. 60) to Blue Ridge Parkway (Punchbowl Mountain Crossing) Virginia Section 20 10.9 miles

6.0.....4.9
Pass painted Forest Service boundary post on west side of Trail. A major Trail relocation, bypassing Pedlar Dam south of here was completed in 2005.

6.1.....4.8
Pass under powerline.

6.4.....4.5
View of Rice Mountain on east side of Trail.

- Southbound hikers, in 0.1 mi. begin first of four switchbacks. Ahead is a view of field below Pedlar Dam.

6.7.....4.2
Cross Pedlar River on **suspension bridge**.

- Northbound hikers, begin first of four switchbacks. Ahead is a view of field below Pedlar Dam.

6.8.....4.1
Cross USFS 39.

U.S. Forest Service 39-Leads 7.8 miles compass-north to U.S. 60, 2.5 miles west of the northern end of section.

6.9.....4.0
Log steps.

Blue Ridge Parkway (Punchbowl Mountain Crossing) to James River (U.S. 501) Virginia Section 21 10.9 miles

9.8.....1.1
Cross **U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812 (Hercules Rd.)**.

- Northbound hiker, begin 1,630-foot climb to Fullers Rocks.

U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812
(Hercules Rd.)-Leads west 0.9 mi.
to U.S. 501/Va. 130 at A.T. crossing.

9.9.....1.0

Reach **Rocky Row Run** (elev. 760 ft.).

- Southbound hikers, Trail continues after a sharp right along stream on old woods road for 0.6 mi.
- Northbound hikers, turn sharp left and ascend.

10.1.....0.8

Cross Johns Creek on old culvert, with swimming hole below in Rocky Row Run.

10.3.....0.6

Pass under powerlines about 150 feet overhead.

10.6.....0.3

Trail intersects old woods road.

- Southbound hikers descend left toward creek.
- Northbound hikers ascend and join original 1930 route of A.T. along woods road for 0.6 mi.

10.7.....0.2

Cross upper **Rocky Row Run Bridge**.

10.8.....0.1

Cross lower **Rocky Row Run Bridge** south of side trail to boat ramp parking area.

10.9.....0.0

Reach **U.S. 501/Va. 130** at **southern end of section** just south of U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812 (Hercules Rd.) crossing.

- Southbound hikers cross U.S. 501/Va. 130 (leaving Pedlar District

of the George Washington National Forest) and approach James River Foot Bridge via path along river's edge under the CSX railroad trestle (see Va. Section 22).

- Northbound hikers, walk 45 feet north on U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812 (Hercules Rd.) and enter Pedlar District of the George Washington National Forest.

Southern end of section-Located on U.S. 501/Va. 130, 4.0 miles west of Blue Ridge Parkway milepost 63.9, on the northern side of the James River. Ample parking. It is 5.9 miles west to Glasgow (ZIP code 24555, groceries, coin laundry, restaurant, and motel) and 5.6 miles east to Big Island (ZIP Code 24526, groceries, hot food). Otter Creek Campground and Recreation Area (seasonal; camping fee, restaurant) is located on the Blue Ridge Parkway at milepost 60.8, 0.8 mile north of U.S. 130. Wildwood Campground (commercial) is 1.4 miles east of Blue Ridge Parkway on Va. 130.

**James River (U. S. 501) to Petites Gap (USFS 35)
Virginia Section 22
9.9 miles**

0.0.....9.9

At **northern end of section** the Trail crosses **U.S. 501/Va. 130** at junction with U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812 (Hercules Rd.).

- Southbound hikers follow Trail along the James River and pass under CSX railroad bridge in 100 yards.
- Northbound hikers walk 45 feet north on U.S. Forest Service 36/Va. 812 (Hercules Road) and turn right onto Trail (See Va. Section 21).

0.2.....9.7

Cross **James River** on 625-foot **James River Foot Bridge**.

- Southbound hikers follow old railroad bed for 150 feet and turn right near foot of cliffs onto graded Trail. Signs indicate that camping is prohibited along the James River for a mile south.
- Northbound hikers descend steps and turn left, following path under CSX railroad bridge and alongside the James River.

James River Foot Bridge-At 625 feet long, it is the longest foot-use-only bridge on the A.T

1.2.....8.7
Boundary of **James River Face Wilderness**.
Trail passes high rock walls along river.

1.4.....8.5
Trail passes permissible campsites where **Matts Creek** enters the James River.

- Southbound hikers ascend along **Matts Creek**
- Northbound hikers camping is prohibited along Trail from here to Foot Bridge.

2.1.....7.8
Trail intersects blue-blazed **Matts Creek Trail**.

2.2.....7.7
Rock crossing over creek just south of **Matts Creek Shelter** is the northern boundary of the late 1800s **Glenwood Estate**.

- Southbound hikers begin 1,800-foot ascent to Hickory Stand.

Parkers Gap Road (USFS 812) to Jennings Creek Road (Va. 614)
Virginia Section 24
11.4 miles

7.5.....3.9
Reach stream junction, campsite and blue-blazed trail east to **Va. 714** terminus.

- Northbound hikers begin 2,223-foot ascent of Floyd Mountain.

Va. 714-Can be reached *via* this 0.5 mile side trail. Va. 714 leads to Va. 620 in 0.7 mile, and in another 250 feet, turn right on Va. 618 for 0.7 mile to A Wonderful Life Campground.

7.6.....3.8
Reach steps to **Bryant Ridge Shelter**.

7.9.....3.5
Cross **Hamps Branch** in hollow.

- Southbound hikers ascend out of hollow crossing several other creeklets.

8.7.....2.7

- Step across creek on two large rocks.
- Southbound hikers ascend Fork Mountain ahead.
 - Northbound hikers cross several other creeklet ahead.

9.2.....2.2
 Blue-blazed side trail leads east 0.8 mile to **Va. 714** terminus.

Va. 714-See mile 7.5/3.9 above.

Jennings Creek Road (Va. 614) to Bearwallow Gap (Va. 43)
Virginia Section 25
6.6 miles

- 5.7.....0.9
 Reach secondary high point of Cove Mountain (elev. 2,720 ft.).
- Southbound hikers begin rocky descent.
- 6.2.....0.4
 Reach sharp switchback.
- Southbound hikers descent right on graded and gently curving trail to Va. 43.
 - Northbound hikers switchback left and continue ascent of Cove Mountain.
- 6.6.....0.0
 Reach **Bearwallow Gap** (elev. 2,258 ft.) and **southern end of section** at Va. 43.
- Southbound hikers descend bank, cross Va. 43 and enter woods. (See Va. Section 26.)
 - Northbound hikers climb rock steps and begin ascent of Cove Mountain.

Bearwallow Gap (Va. 43) to Black Horse Gap (USFS 186)
Virginia Section 26
8.0 miles

- 0.0.....8.0
 The **northern end of section** is in **Bearwallow Gap** (elev. 2,258 ft.) on Va. 43, 728 feet compass-north of Blue Ridge Parkway overpass at milepost 90.9. The Trail crosses Va. 43 at a large brown sign (for Blue Ridge Parkway) just north of a seasonal creek crossing
- Southbound hikers begin 300-foot ascent on switchbacks.

- Northbound hikers cross Va. 43 and ascend opposite bank on rock steps. (See Va. Section 25.)

Northern end of section-Located just north of the junction of Va. 43 and Va. 695, near milepost 90.9 of the Blue Ridge Parkway. A small parking area is 0.1 mile uphill from the AT on the northbound side of Va. 43. Very limited parking. *Be aware of a large, deep culvert at the edge of the parking area. Numerous vehicles have required towing from here.* Additional parking can be found approximately 300 yards south on Va. 695 beyond Parkway overpass. Buchanan (ZIP Code 24066), with grocery, restaurant, and

0.6.....7.4
Trail curves east at rock steps just north of flat top of knoll.

- Northbound hikers descend toward Va. 43 on switchbacks with occasional views of Cove Mountain ahead.

1.3.....6.7
High point of knoll at **“Survey Marker Witness Post”**.

1.7.....6.3
Cross Parkway diagonally at **Mills Gap Overlook** (elev. 2,435 ft.) on Blue Ridge Parkway milepost 91.8.
