

Woody Debris & Rocks
The Chauga River is, by nature, a narrow, rocky river. From its headwaters until its confluence with Lake Hartwell just below Jenkins Bridge Road, paddlers should expect to encounter a variety of shoals, rocks, small drops, chutes, and rapids as well as woody debris. These conditions are typical for mountainous rivers, and while it leads to stunning beauty, should be paddled with caution. For more information, visit www.americanwhitewater.org

For paddling information on the Chattooga River, visit: www.GoPaddleSC.com/chattooga www.WildWaterRafting.com

Blackwell Bridge at Whetstone Rd River Access and Parking Area
Whetstone Rd, Mountain Rest, SC 29664 (34.833684, -83.175533)
A small pulloff is located upstream of the Whetstone Rd bridge, river right, with room for 3-5 cars. This access is just above the popular Chauga Narrows (Class V+) and includes a short 0.6-mile hiking trail along the bank to the waterfall.

Grapevine Primitive Campground
764 Road, Mountain Rest, SC 29664 (34.825991, -83.210317)

DELAYED HARVEST WATERS
catch and release ONLY; single hook, artificial flies, or lures ONLY, Nov 1-May 14. dnr.sc.gov/fish/pdf/TroutBook.pdf

USFS Burson Pond/Reedy Branch Falls
USFS 7462, Long Creek, SC 29664 (34.807360, -83.281046)

Double Branch
Double Branch Rd, Long Creek, SC 29658 (34.775481, -83.223826)

Hell Hole
USFS 738A, Mountain Rest, SC 29658 (34.794487, -83.179500)

Cassidy Bridge Rd. Parking Area and River Access
100 Cassidy Bridge Road, Mountain Rest, SC 29664
A small parking lot with limited parking is located upstream, river right. No overnight parking. A fishing trail follows the river for about 100 yards upstream and downstream of the parking area.

Cassidy Bridge Campground
Cassidy Bridge Rd., Mountain Rest, SC 29664 (34.790070, -83.204468)
Reservations can be made by visiting www.recreation.gov.

Long Creek
Woodall Shoals Rd, Mountain Rest, SC 29664 (34.797866, -83.311816)

Shoulder Bone Branch/Opossum Creek
Turkey Ridge Rd, Long Creek, SC 29664 (34.773452, -83.304144)

Spider Valley
Ivester Rd, Long Creek, SC 29658 (34.773222, -83.228133)

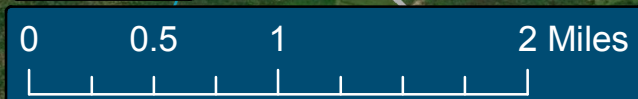
Miller Field
FS 748H Rd, Westminster, SC 29693 (34.760529, -83.213280)

Riley Moore Falls Hiking Trail and Camping
748 C Road, Westminster, SC 29693 (34.739679, -83.190054)

Blue Hole Falls
Rich Mountain Rd, Westminster, SC 29693 (34.768472, -83.179431)

UNOFFICIAL: Cobb Bridge Road Roadside Parking and River Access
1098 Cobb Bridge Road, Westminster, SC 29693
Extremely limited roadside parking is available downstream, river left, or upstream, river right. Do not block driveways or park on private property. Park away from the bridge and portage boats to the river.

Brasstown Falls Hiking Trail and Parking Area
FS 751 Road, Long Creek, SC 29693 (34.721459, -83.296514)



Welcome to the Chauga River Blueway

The Chauga River Blueway is located in scenic Oconee County, SC in the midst of lush, mountainous landscapes. With a myriad of nearby national forest, state, and county parks, camping and fishing, sight-seeing, hiking, and exciting paddling opportunities, the Chauga River scenic corridor provides rich recreational offerings to visitors of all interests.

The Chauga River is a 31-mile sanctuary of recreation opportunities offering pristine fishing conditions as well as exciting whitewater and flatwater paddling. Helping to form Lake Hartwell, the emerald green waters of the Chauga River flow through Sumter National Forest near Mountain Rest, SC and through densely wooded areas west of Westminster, SC before slowing down and entering Lake Hartwell just north of the South Carolina and Georgia state boundary. Known as a freestone river and characterized by steep gradients and rapid currents, paddlers will see a large range of Class I-V rapids as well as rocky shoals, waterfalls, and narrow chutes, making the Chauga River an exciting paddling resource. The headwaters of the Chauga River are classified by SCDNR as "Outstanding Water Resources" and are known to locals as some of the best fishing in South Carolina for rainbow, brook, and brown trout.

Unofficial River Accesses are ones that are widely used, however, are not officially constructed river accesses. While the Chauga River can generally be accessed under any SCDOT-maintained road, the accesses included in this map are ones that are most often used. There are many great options at all skill levels for a fantastic day on the river. Learn how you can protect this and other hometown rivers by visiting www.UpstateForever.org. This and other blueway maps from across South Carolina are available at www.GoPaddleSC.com.

Planning and Safety

- 1) Review the map carefully.
- 2) Plan your start and end points according to your skill level.
- 3) Check current river conditions before paddling. A flooded river can be dangerous, and a low river may expose logs, rocks, or other debris, slowing your trip down significantly.
- 4) Always wear a life jacket with a whistle.
- 5) Avoid boating alone. Let someone know your plan and when to expect you to return.
- 6) Minimize your impact on the river by properly disposing of waste, respecting wildlife, and leaving what you find.
- 7) Do not trespass on private property. Stay in the river until your take-out.
- 8) If you fall out in a rapid, assume the whitewater "swimming" position - with your feet up and pointing downstream (like you're in a recliner) until you reach flatwater and can get back in your boat.
- 9) Roadside river accesses with listed addresses are approximate locations of bridges and should not direct you to private homes. Please do not access the river on private property.

Suggested Trips

CHAUGA RIVER Blackwell Bridge to Cassidy Bridge Rd Trip Length: 5.25 miles Trip Level: Advanced Trip Duration: 2.5-3 hours	CHAUGA RIVER Cobb Bridge Rd. to Chau Ram Park Trip Length: 4.7 miles Trip Level: Difficult Trip Duration: 2.5-3 hours
CHAUGA RIVER Chau Ram Park to Jenkins Bridge Rd. Trip Length: 6.8 miles Trip Level: Difficult Trip Duration: 3.5-4 hours	CHAUGA RIVER Jenkins Bridge Rd. to Spring Branch Ramp Trip Length: 4.3 mile Trip Level: Beginner Trip Duration: 2-2.5 hours

River Rapids Classification

Class I Rapids: Easy
Fast-moving water with riffles and small waves. Little or no prior paddling experience necessary.

Class II Rapids: Moderate
Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels. Some prior paddling experience is suggested.

Class III Rapids: Difficult
Moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to maneuver. Prior experience required.

Class IV Rapids and Above: Advanced
Intense, powerful, or extremely long rapids requiring precise boat handling in turbulent water. Drops may contain large, unvoidable waves and holes or constricted passages. Extensive experience is essential.

River Levels*

Adequate river flow is essential to paddling. If levels are too low or too high, paddling may not be possible. Please check the following stream gauges for real-time information to determine if flow levels are suitable for paddling. Flow is measured in either cubic feet per second (volume) or feet (height of river).

*There are not currently any USGS Gauge Stations on the Chauga or Little Rivers. The gauge listed below measures the flow of the Chattooga River. For the Chauga/Little Rivers to be runnable, look for levels of 2-3 feet on the Chattooga River. Use caution when paddling as levels are unpredictable.

USGS Site No. 02177000
Chattooga River near Clayton, GA
Ideal Conditions: 2-5 feet
www.upstateforever.org/chattooga

The Chauga River Blueway
A Map and Guide to the Chauga River Scenic Corridor
December 2018

This map was made possible by the generous support of the Uprate Forever Foundation, support to the Callie and John Rainey Foundation. Map designed by Uprate Forever. All rights reserved. Pictures kindly provided by Uprate Forever staff unless otherwise noted.



UNOFFICIAL: Cobb Bridge Road Roadside Parking and River Access
 1098 Cobb Bridge Road
 Westminster, SC 29693

Extremely limited roadside parking is available downstream, river left, or upstream, river right. Do not block driveways or park on private property. Park away from the bridge and portage boats to the river.

Chau Ram Park
 1220 Chau Ram Park Road
 Westminster, SC 29693

Located at the confluence of Ramsey Creek and the Chauga River, this park offers over 26 campsites, over 3 miles of hiking trails, over a mile of the Chauga River with whitewater sections, a handicap accessible 40 foot waterfall and a 160 foot suspension bridge. For more information, visit: www.oconeeconomy.com/chaurampark

UNOFFICIAL: Jenkins Bridge Road River Access and Roadside Parking
 683 Jenkins Bridge Road
 Westminster, SC 29693

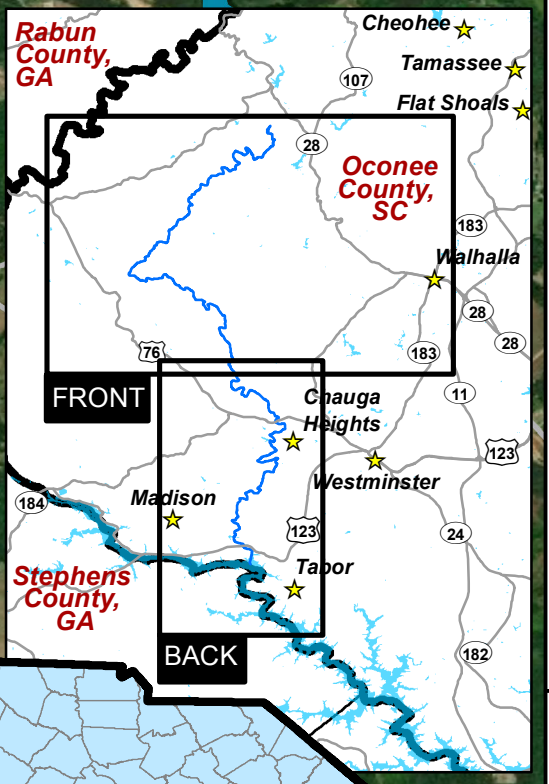
A small roadside pulloff is located downstream, river left with room for 1-2 cars. Although this access is unofficial, it is widely used. Use at your own risk.

Spring Branch Boat Ramp and Parking Area
 end of E. Silver Shoals Rd.
 Toccoa, GA 30577

This ramp is open year round from 6 AM - 10 PM. Amenities include a ramp, small dock, and limited parking.

Tabor Boat Ramp and Parking Area
 end of Tabor Ramp Rd
 Westminster, SC 29693

This one-lane public boat ramp (river left) on Lake Hartwell has limited parking. No wading or swimming is allowed from this access.



Chauga River Blueway Sponsors and Partners

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Common Fish in the Chauga River

Help conserve native species by never releasing aquatic organisms into waters other than that from which they were caught. Don't dump your bait bucket unless it is back into the waterbody where that bait was collected. Freshwater fishing requires a valid SC recreational fishing license, which can be obtained from SCDNR. The native species of Redeye Bass is known as "Bartram's" Bass and is threatened by competition and hybridization from the non-native Spotted/Alabama Bass. Conservation of the Redeye/Bartram's Bass is of high priority. Consumption of largemouth and spotted bass caught in Lake Hartwell should be limited to 1 meal per month. For more information on fishing on the Chauga River, visit: www.dnr.sc.gov/fish/pdf/TroutBook.pdf or www.mountainbridgeto.org.

Legend

- River Access
- Parking Area
- Roadside Parking
- Point of Interest
- Hiking Trail
- Accessible
- Parks and Preserves
- County Boundary
- Fishing
- Camping
- Unofficial Roadside Parking
- Restroom Facilities
- Hiking Trails
- Cities and Towns
- River
- Roads
- Railroads
- Delayed Harvest Fishing Area

Disclaimer

There is some risk involved in water paddling. The ultimate responsibility for safety lies solely with you. Upstate Forever and its partners disclaim all warranties, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information provided in this map and shall not be held liable to any user of this map.

