



APPROXIMATE DISTANCES

Yonah Dam > Walker Creek Ramp
1.8 mile

Walker Creek Ramp > Prather Bridge
2.9 mile

Prather Bridge > Broken Bridges
5.2 miles

TOTAL DISTANCE
9.9 miles



PADDLING THE TUGALOO CORRIDOR

KAYAK TOUR

CANOE/KAYAK RENTAL RATES

\$40 per day
or
\$30 per day
(2 or more vessels)

706-282-7636
www.tugaloobend.org/canoe-kayak-rental



MORE INFO, DIRECTIONS, AND RENTAL INFORMATION:
www.tugaloobend.org/canoe-kayak-rental
706-282-7636

A PROJECT OF:
THE STEPHENS COUNTY FOUNDATION
A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
706-282-7636
www.tugaloocorridor.org

ADVENTURE CHECKLIST!

BOATING

- Canoe or Kayak
- Paddle
- Personal Flotation Devices
- Sunscreen
- Corridor Map

FOOD

- Plenty of Water
- Picnic Lunch
- Energy Snack Bars
- Small Cooler

CLOTHING

- Hat with Brim
- Quick Dry Clothing
- Towel(s)

OTHER

- Insect Repellent
- Dry Bags
- Rain Suit
- Knife
- Waterproof Camera
- Fishing Tackle & License

THE TUGALOO CORRIDOR

The Tugaloo Corridor comprises the only remaining untamed portion of the Tugaloo River, extending ten miles from Panther Creek and the Yonah Dam area south to Broken Bridges at Hwy 123. In addition to having a number of canoes and kayaks available for rent, the Stephens County Foundation also sponsors Memorial and Labor Day weekend canoe/kayak river history tours. To find out more about the Corridor and its unique history, visit www.tugalooecorridor.org.

* All trip duration times are downstream paddles.

** Upstream paddles above The Island not recommended.



= BOAT ACCESS

1. LAKE YONAH & YONAH DAM



Georgia Power completed construction of Yonah Dam in 1925, creating a 325-acre lake with 9 miles of shoreline. Yonah Dam to Tugaloo Dam is a nice paddle of 3.3 mi. taking about 60 min. with a leisurely paddle. Easy in and out is available at the Lake Yonah Boat Ramp above Yonah Dam.

Plan on a minimum of 2 hrs. round trip. A good jumping rock is found on the Georgia side along the way and a nice rope swing on the South Carolina side near Tugaloo Dam. There is a park and picnic area on the Georgia side of Tugaloo Dam.

2. YONAH PARK & PANTHER CREEK



Just over the Panther Creek Bridge is a small parking and picnic area. A short switchback trail near the bridge provides easy access to the river where Panther Creek joins the Tugaloo.

3. THE ISLAND



No parking is available on Yonah Dam Rd, but a small pull-off area is available to unload your canoe or kayak for the short 30 yd. trail to the river adjacent to the island. There are nice, primitive camping sites on the island as well as on the Georgia river side. Yonah Park to the Island is 1 mi. and is about a 20 min. paddle.

4. WALKER CREEK



Walker Creek Boat Ramp has plenty of parking but no facilities. Easy in and out. Yonah Park to Walker Creek Access is 1.8 mi. and is about a 30 min. paddle.

5. TIMBER SLUICE LOG JAM

Below Walker Creek Access, when the water is low, one can see three large rock piles spanning the river and girdled about with heavy timbers. Extensive logging in the upper Tugaloo and Chauga watersheds in the late 19th and early 20th century brought about the need for this timber sluice to provide the necessary water flow to carry timber over the shoals below to lumber companies just below Broken Bridges.

6. TUGALOO BEND HERITAGE PARK

Below Walker Creek Access and the Timber Sluice is the ancient Cherokee town of Estatoe, which later became the site of an operating farm for most of the 20th century. The Park is owned and operated by the Stephens County Foundation, a community foundation which has created hiking trails, a picnic area, a covered pavilion, and restroom facilities. The Park is accessible from Yonah Dam Road. No river access.

7. ROCKY BRANCH



Rocky Branch enters the river from the Georgia side and is a popular place for fishing. There is room for two or three cars along the road with a short, 30 yard trail to the river. Walker Creek to Rocky Branch is 2.1 mi. and about a 35 min. paddle.

8. PRATHER BRIDGE



South of the bridge are three pillars which once supported the Prather Bridge, a covered bridge constructed and destroyed four times during its history. The bridge was first constructed in 1804 by James J. Prather. The last Prather Covered Bridge burned in 1978. Access from the Georgia side. Rocky Branch to Prather Bridge is about .8 mi. and is a 15 min. paddle.

9. BARTON CREEK & RIVER ROAD



On the South Carolina side is a nice area to bank for lunch. Also, traveling about 100 yards up Barton Creek provides a River Road access point for easy in or out.

10. BREVARD FAULT ZONE

The Brevard Fault Zone intersects the Tugaloo River Corridor. At one time, it was believed to represent the area where Proto-Africa joined Proto-North America to form the supercontinent Pangaea. Geologists continue to debate the Brevard's structure and significance, and the nature and direction of ancient movement on the fault, but the twisted rock escarpment on the Georgia side across from Barton Creek (more easily visible when the water is low) certainly appears to be evidence of this cataclysmic shifting.

11. LONGNOSE CREEK FALLS & GRIST MILL



Access to the creek is located below the Longnose Creek Bridge on River Rd. Please park farther down on the road side, well away from the neighbor's mail box. The beautiful waterfall, about .5 mi. paddle up Longnose Creek, also hosts the ruins of an old grist mill built around 1800. The access and falls are only accessible by boat when the water level is at full pool.

12. TUGALOO MOUND



Colonel George Chicken, in his journal of 1725, described Tugaloo Town as "the most ancient town in these parts" and the people of Tugaloo to be "the most turbulent in the nation and also the most taken notice of by the other towns." Prior to the Lake Hartwell impoundment in the late 1950s, the Smithsonian Institution and UGA excavated the council house mound at Tugaloo Town in 1957-1958.

Note: Tugaloo Indian Mound is protected property. Collection of artifacts from the mound area or along the river is illegal and may result in arrest or fines.

Adjacent to the Tugaloo Mound on the South Carolina side is an access point. Limited parking for several vehicles is available River Road side. Prather Bridge to the Tugaloo Mound access point is 2.7 mi. and is about a 40 min. paddle.

13. SOUTHERN RAILWAY VIADUCT

The Southern Railway Viaduct was built in 1918 to re-route the railroad to avoid the dangerous curves in the original line.

14. JARRETT BRIDGE

The 454' Jarrett Covered Bridge spanning the river valley was built by Devereaux Jarrett in the early 1800s and was used extensively throughout the 19th century as a toll bridge, until it was overturned in a hurricane in 1921. When the water levels are low, the rock foundation stones can still be seen on each side of the river banks just a few yards below the train overpass.

15. BROKEN BRIDGES & STEPHENS CO. PARK



Stephens Co. Park has picnic tables, a boat ramp, and restrooms. It features the locally-famous Broken Bridges, the original railroad bridge, built in 1872 and used until the railroad was re-routed in 1918. The removed section of the bridge has been relocated to Cobb Bridge Rd. in South Carolina and spans the Chauga Creek. Paddling distance from Tugaloo Mound to Broken Bridges is 2.5 mi. and is about a 40 min. paddle.

