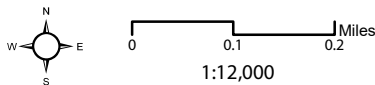


### Ridgecrest Conference Center Trail Map

- Hiking Trail
- Hiking/Biking Trail
- Stream
- Prayer Garden
- Tennis
- Trailhead
- Rec Fields
- Gate
- Ridgecrest
- Paved Road
- Gravel Road
- Unimproved Rd
- Amphitheater
- Helipad
- Gate House
- Overlook
- Parking
- Montreat



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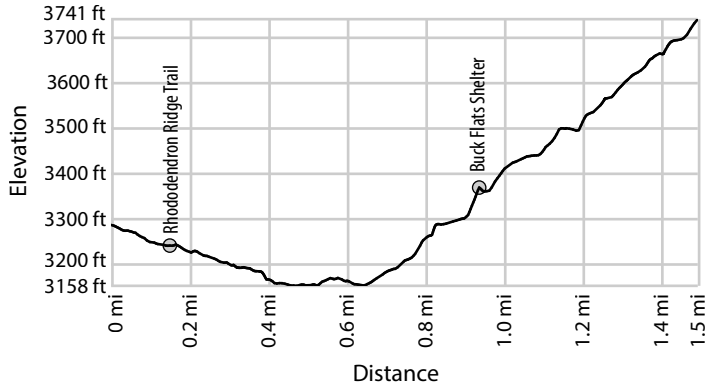
The **Ridgecrest Trail System** is located on private property. All guests must register at the Main Entrance and agree to all rules and regulations when hiking on Ridgecrest Conference Center's property. Overnight camping by permit only. Trail descriptions and elevation profiles start at the bottom and ascend up the trail with the exception of the Rhododendron Ridge Trail. Trail distances are one-way.

The **Ridgecrest Trail System** is closed to the public from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Additionally, trails could be closed at other times of the year based on facility usage. Call the Front Desk at 828-669-8022 to confirm access.

*In case of emergency, dial 911; then contact Ridgecrest Safety at 828-669-3772 so they can direct emergency personnel to your location.*

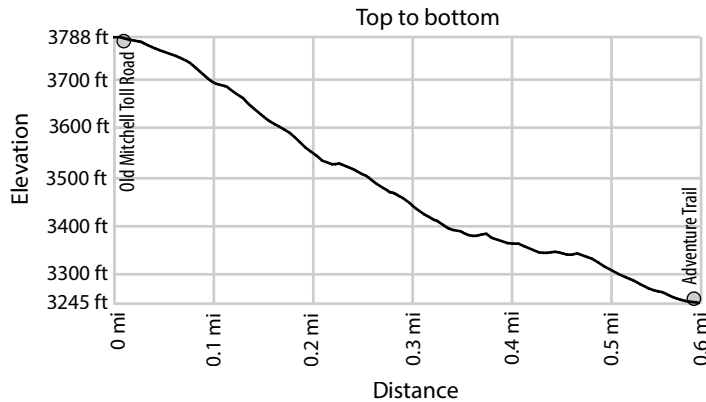
### Adventure Trail: 1.5 miles / Moderate

Approximate one-way time to Buck Flats Shelter: 30 minutes  
The trailhead is located near the Royal Gorge Overlook. The Adventure Trail follows an old road and is a relatively flat hike to the Buck Flats Shelter. From the Buck Flats Shelter, the trail becomes more strenuous and gains elevation leading to the Old Mitchell Toll Road.



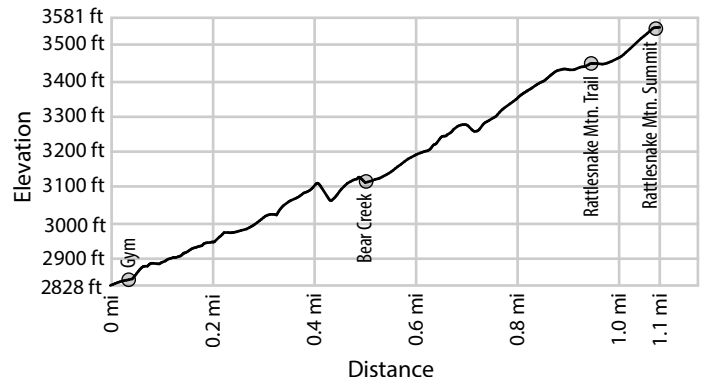
### Rhododendron Ridge Trail: 0.6 miles / Moderate

Approximate one-way time (top to bottom): 20 minutes  
The trailhead is located at the intersection of Old Mitchell Toll Road and Rhododendron Ridge Trail and is easiest when hiking from Old Mitchell Toll Road down to the Adventure Trail. The trail is a narrow single track that descends along a ridge of rhododendrons and can be an enjoyable way to loop back around to the Adventure Trail and Royal Gorge Overlook.



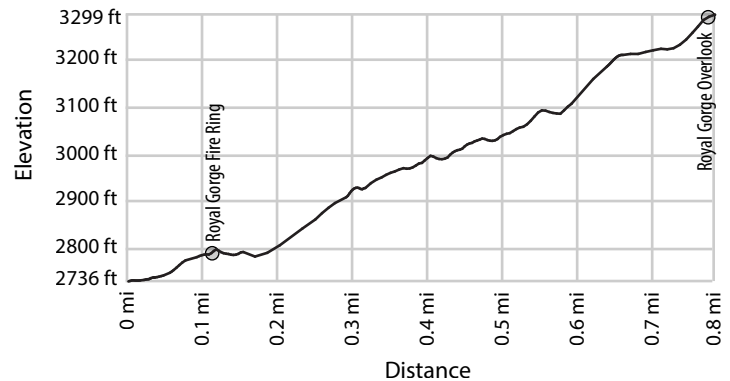
### Rattlesnake Trail: 1.2 miles / Strenuous

Approximate one-way time: 45 minutes  
Trailhead is located above the Rec Gym at Field 3. The trail follows an old road and is well traveled year-round. It is a steady climb until just before the summit where it becomes steep and technical, with minor rock scrambling to the top.



### Royal Gorge Trail: 0.8 miles / Moderate

Approximate one-way time: 40 minutes  
Trailhead begins at the Royal Gorge Fire Ring and follows the ridge up Royal Gorge through dense hardwood forest. The trail tops out at the Royal Gorge Overlook.



### Other trail/road distances:

- Nature Trail: 0.3 miles / Easy
- Old Mitchell Toll Road (Adv. Trail to Rattlesnake Trail): 0.7 miles / Moderate

### Ridgecrest Loop: 4.8 miles / Moderate

Approximate one-way time (counterclockwise): 2.5-3 hours

Ridgecrest Loop - 2.5 - 3 hours. Moderate. The trailhead is located at the Royal Gorge Fire Ring and follows an old road and some single track ascending the ridge up to Royal Gorge Overlook. From the Royal Gorge Overlook, follow the gravel road northwest and the Adventure Trail will be on your right. The Adventure Trail follows an old road and is a relatively flat hike to the Buck Flats Shelter. From the Buck Flats Shelter, the trail becomes more strenuous and gains elevation leading to the Old Mitchell Toll Road. Turn left (south) on the Old Mitchell Toll Road and follow 0.7 miles until you reach the Rattlesnake Trail. Turn left (south) on the Rattlesnake Trail and hike down to the Rec Shack & Pavilion where you will hike down the Nature Trail to the Prayer Garden and return to the main campus of the conference center.

