

# Pilot Mountain State Park YADKIN RIVER SECTION



## Park Information

### Pilot Mountain State Park

1721 Pilot Knob Park Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043  
(336) 444-5100 ■ [pilot.mountain@ncparks.gov](mailto:pilot.mountain@ncparks.gov)

### Bean Shoals access (North River Section)

103 Yadkin River Park Trail, Pinnacle, NC 27043

### Hauser Road parking (North River Section and Corridor Trail)

622 Hauser Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043

### Ivy Bluff access (South River Section)

4240 Shoals Road, East Bend, NC 27018

### Shoals Public Fishing Area

(South River Section fishing and canoe access)

4454 Shoals Road, East Bend, NC 27018



North Carolina state parks are open every day, except on Christmas Day. Park hours vary by season. Please visit [ncparks.gov/pimo](http://ncparks.gov/pimo) or contact the park for the most current information about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs, rules, and weather.

## Pilot Mountain

Like the rocky escarpments in nearby Hanging Rock State Park, Pilot Mountain is part of the Sauratown Mountains, an ancient high-elevation plateau, and is a quartzite monadnock, or an isolated mountain. This rugged mountain rock survived for 500 million years while the elements eroded surrounding peaks to a rolling plain.

Pilot Mountain is capped by two prominent pinnacles. Big Pinnacle, with walls of bare rock and a rounded top covered by vegetation, rises 1,400 feet above the valley floor, with the knob jutting skyward more than 200 feet from its base. Big Pinnacle is connected to Little Pinnacle by a narrow saddle. Visitors have access to the top of Little Pinnacle, where the expansive view encompasses hundreds of square miles of the Piedmont and nearby mountains in North Carolina and Virginia.



N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation  
Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources  
1615 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699  
(919) 707-9300 [www.ncparks.gov](http://www.ncparks.gov)

## Camping

**Paddle-in camping:** Two primitive paddle-in sites are available on the south side of the river 0.75 mile downstream from the paddle launch on Shoals Road. A pit toilet is available, but you must bring your own water and pack out your trash. Advance reservations are required for these sites and can be made through the online reservation system. Camping is not allowed anywhere on the Yadkin River Islands or other undesigned areas.

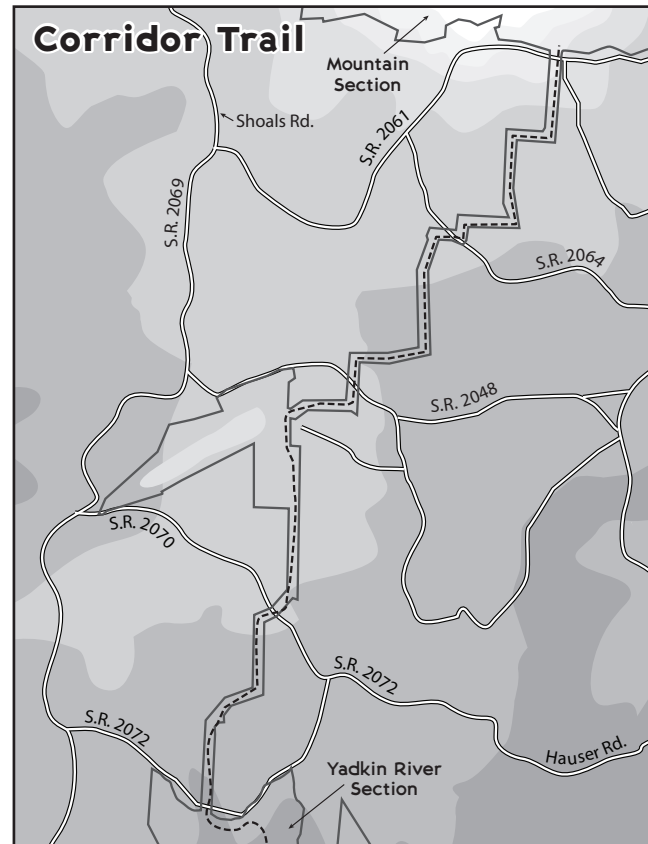


### MAKE A RESERVATION

[ncparks.gov/pimo/reservations](http://ncparks.gov/pimo/reservations) 1-877-722-6762

## Trails

Journey on foot, on horseback or in a canoe. No matter your mode of travel, Pilot Mountain has miles of trails to explore. Equestrians and hikers alike will relish the trails through the 6.6-mile woodland corridor that connects the two sections of the park.



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## On the Water

**Paddling:** Enjoy the Yadkin River by paddling through the state park on a segment of the Yadkin River Paddle Trail. The 130-mile trail follows the course of the river, passing through five reservoirs to the confluence of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers.

The 2-mile portion of the Yadkin River that flows through Pilot Mountain State Park is one of the most scenic stretches along the river's course. Enormous river birches hang over the water and sycamores dot the river banks. Two small islands, 45 and 15 acres in size, lie in the river. The islands may be reached by wading on foot when water is low or by paddling.

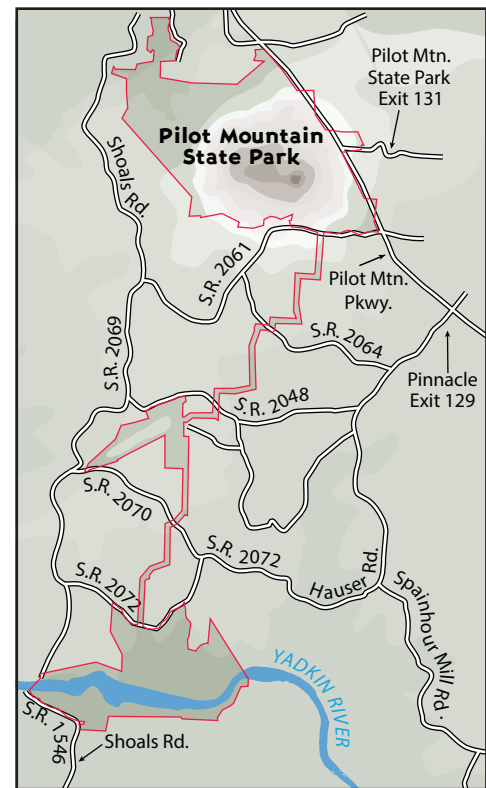
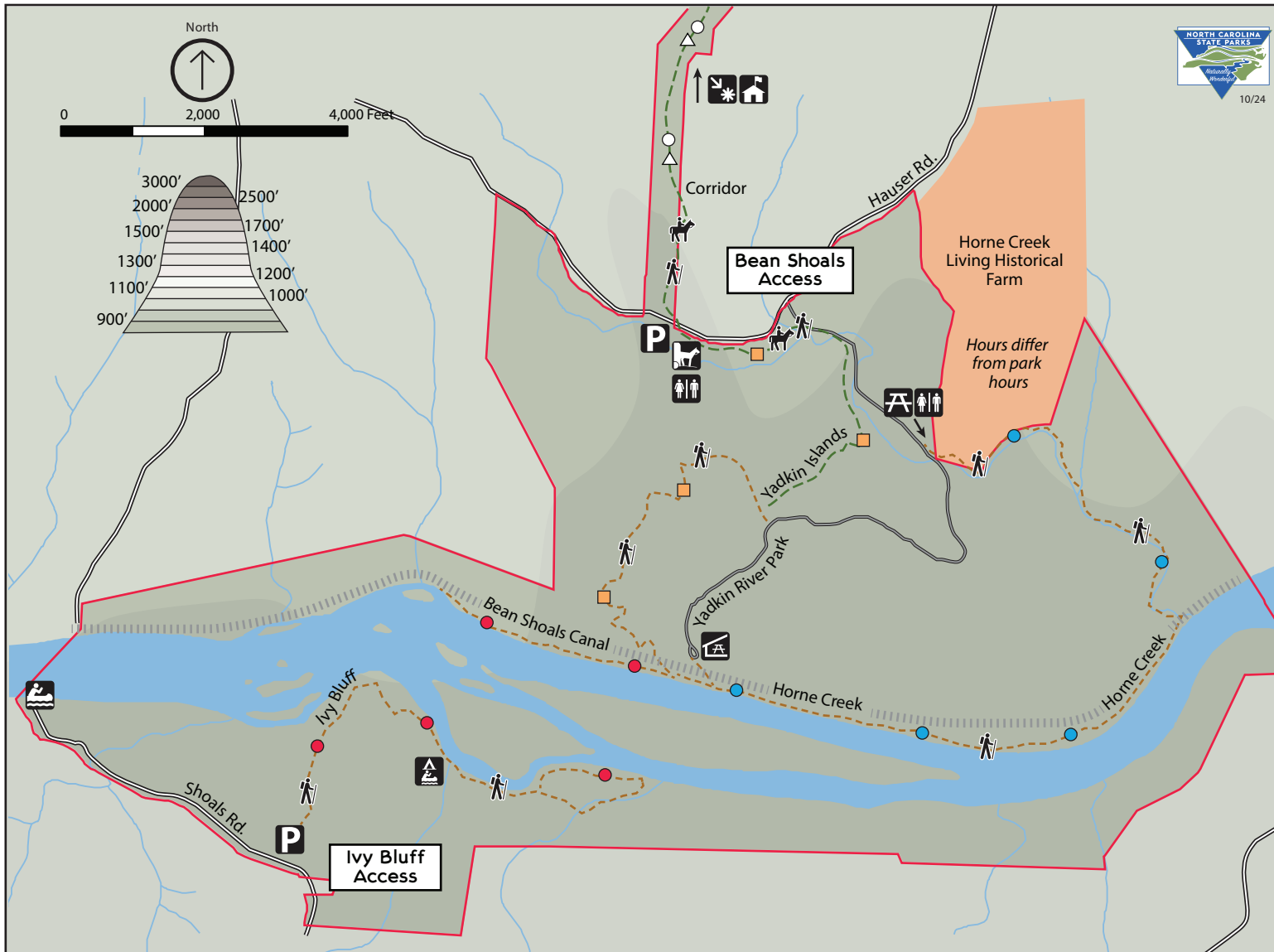
The river flows past the Bean Shoals Canal Wall, part of an ambitious project undertaken between 1820 and 1825 to build a 3-mile canal around Bean Shoals. The project was abandoned before completion. View these historic walls along Bean Shoals Canal Trail.

The paddle launch on Shoals Road is a half mile upstream from the Yadkin Islands. Parts of the river are also suitable for rafting at times. Contact the park office for more information.

**Fishing:** Cast your line from the river banks and reel in dinner. Smallmouth bass, spotted bass and catfish are waiting to be caught. Anglers must possess a state fishing license and obey the regulations of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

## Rules and Regulations

- The removal or destruction of any plant, animal, artifact, rock, or mineral is prohibited.
- All areas managed by the Division of Parks and Recreation are wildlife preserves. Hunting and trapping are prohibited.
- Firearms and other weapons are prohibited, except that those with a proper permit may possess a concealed handgun in permitted areas and under the requirements of North Carolina G.S. 14-415.11. All firearms and weapons are prohibited inside the visitor center and other buildings.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited except in designated areas.
- N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission fishing regulations are enforced. Fishing is permitted only during park hours.
- Pets must be on an attended leash no longer than 6 feet.
- Horses are permitted only on bridle trails.
- The Yadkin River and its tributaries are prone to flooding during heavy rains. Exercise caution when near the river.
- The railroad tracks along the Yadkin River are a functioning part of the railway system. Be alert to oncoming trains and stay off the tracks.



### From the Mountain Section:

**To Bean Shoals Access (Surry County):** 10 mi.  
 From U.S. 52, take the Pinnacle exit 129 and follow the signs to Horne Creek Living Historical Farm. The park entrance is 0.4 mile past Horne Creek Living Historical Farm. Parking lot is 0.3 mile past park entrance on left.

**To Ivy Bluff Access (Yadkin County):** 20 mi.  
 Take NC Hwy. 67 to the town of East Bend. From Main St., turn right onto Fairground Rd. Turn right on Shady Grove Church Rd. Turn right on Shoals Rd. and follow to the park.

## Legend

Bridle Trail	Paddle-in Camping	Picnic Shelter	Roads – Paved
Hiking Trail	Park Boundary	Point of Interest	Gravel
Horse Trailer Parking	Parking Area	Railroad	Visitor Center
Paddle Launch	Picnic Area	Restrooms	

## Trails

Bean Shoals Canal	0.5 mile	easy	
Corridor Trail	6.6 miles	strenuous	
Horne Creek Trail	2.5 miles	moderate	
Ivy Bluff Trail	1.3 miles	moderate	
Yadkin Islands Trail	1.5 miles	moderate	

**In case of emergency: Dial 911**

**\*All trail distances are one-way**

The portion of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail that runs through the park starts at the southern end of the Corridor Trail and travels to the Mountain Trail, past the family campground on the Grindstone Trail, and heads east out of the park on the Sauratown Trail below the visitor center. Follow the white circle blazes.