

ACCESS POINTS

The blue box indicates the nearest mile marker, or "Mile ID" for each access point.

TAILWATER ACCESS (KERR SCOTT DAM)
202 Ranger Rd
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
GPS 36.136526, -81.222138
Maintained by US Army Corps of Engineers, (336) 921-3390
Miles to next access: 5 miles for kayakers can take 2+ hours. (Double that for floaters!)

SMOOT PARK (NORTH WILKESBORO)
202 Chestnut St
Wilkesboro, NC 28659
GPS 36.163400, -81.134499
Maintained by North Wilkesboro, (336) 838-3359
Entry Type: Hand Carry; Steps (#1) and gravel ramp (#2)

ROARING RIVER ACCESS
9214 Elkin Hwy
Roaring River, NC 28669
GPS 36.205925, -80.984027
Maintained by Wilkes County and NC Wildlife Resources Commission (336) 651-7501

RONDA MEMORIAL PARK
238 Clingman Rd, Ronda, NC 28670
GPS 36.215930, -80.937172
Maintained by the Town of Ronda, (336) 835-2061

CRATER PARK (ELKIN)
310 Standard St.
Elkin, NC 28621
GPS 36.241717, -80.847351
Maintained by Town of Elkin and NC Wildlife Resources (336) 258-8917

BURCH STATION (AT MITCHELL RIVER)
116 Greenwood Cir, Elkin, NC 28621
GPS 36.275577, -80.768861
Maintained by Surry County and NC Wildlife Resources Commission (336) 401-8235

YADKIN SHORE ACCESS (AT US-601)
8420 US-601, Boonville, NC 27011
GPS 36.269781, -80.720338
Maintained by Yadkin County and NC Wildlife Resources (336) 849-7909

SHOALS (AT PILOT MTN STATE PARK)
4454 Shoals Rd, East Bend, NC 27018
GPS 36.257547, -80.517135
Maintained by Pilot Mountain State Park & NC Wildlife Resources (336) 444-5100

DONNAHA (DAM PORTAGE) * CLOSED UNTIL FALL 2023
6131 Donnah Park Rd,
East Bend, NC 27018
GPS 36.215656, -80.434345
Maintained by Yadkin County and NC Wildlife Resources (336) 849-7909

OLD 421 PARK
7699 Yadkinville Rd,
Lewisville, NC 27023
GPS 36.133038, -80.444102
Maintained by Forsyth County, (336) 703-2500

HUNTSVILLE (UNDEVELOPED)
5600 Courtney-Huntsville Rd,
Yadkinville, NC 27055
GPS 36.093049, -80.516312
Maintained by Yadkin County (336) 849-7909

TANGLEWOOD (IDOL'S DAM PORTAGE)
4061 Clemmons Rd,
Clemmons, NC 27012
GPS 36.013597, -80.416689
Maintained by Forsyth County (336) 778-6300

US HIGHWAY 64
6970 US 64, Lexington, NC 27295
GPS 35.8569, -80.386142
Maintained by Davidson County (336) 242-2958

CONCORD CHURCH (NC-801)
5897 NC-801, Mocksville, NC 27028
GPS 35.838120, -80.494555
Maintained by NC Wildlife Resources, (919) 707-0150

BOONE'S CAVE PARK
3552 Boone's Cave Rd
Lexington, NC 27295
GPS 35.798694, -80.467343
Maintained by Davidson County (336) 242-2285

HANNAH FERRY (AT SOUTH YADKIN RIVER)
955 Hannah Ferry Rd
Salisbury, NC 28144
GPS 35.746942, -80.461051
Maintained by NC Wildlife Resources, (919) 707-0150

YORK HILL (YADKIN RIVER PARK)
1212 Wilcox Way, Linwood, NC 27299
GPS 35.723440, -80.390369
Maintained by Davidson County (336) 242-2958

Note: There are two access points: #1 is a concrete ramp for larger boats, #2 is specific for canoes and kayaks. York Hill marks the beginning of High Rock Lake. Paddlers will encounter High Rock Dam about 15 miles downstream.

See reverse side of map for access below York Hill.

LEGEND

- # YADKIN RIVER ACCESS POINTS (AT NEAREST MILE MARKER)
- # MILE MARKERS
- TRIBUTARY ACCESS POINTS
- TRIBUTARY OF THE YADKIN RIVER
- ROADWAYS
- STREAM
- HISTORIC SITE
- MILES TO NEXT TAKEOUT
- BRIDGE (USE CAUTION)
- COUNTY LINE
- DAM (USE CAUTION)
- STEPS TO WATER-HAND CARRY
- BOAT LAUNCH
- MANDATORY PORTAGE
- CONCRETE BOAT RAMP
- PORT-A-JOHN
- PAVED PARKING LOT
- GRAVEL RAMP/ ROCK SLOPE
- RESTROOM
- PICNIC TABLES
- GRAVEL OR DIRT PARKING LOT
- TENT CAMPING ALLOWED
- HIKING TRAILS
- PLAY-GROUND

2023 YEAR OF THE TRAIL
Published in the spring of 2023 in honor of North Carolina's "Year of the Trail"

See the Safety Section for important information on the map scale and travel time.

PORTAGE AT REDDIES RIVER DAM

SMOOT PARK ACCESS

ROARING RIVER ACCESS

YADKIN SHORE ACCESS AT US-601

CRATER PARK ACCESS (ELKIN)

YADKIN SHORE ACCESS AT US-601

DONNAHA ACCESS

PORTAGE AT MILE 93

PORTAGE AT IDOL'S DAM

PORTAGE AT RIVER PARK AT COOLEEMEE FALLS

SAFETY ON THE YADKIN RIVER: What to know before you go!

A Personal Flotation Device (PFD) is the most important safety gear for paddlers!

Essential items to carry with you include a first aid kit, repair kit, flashlight, and a paper map of the trail.

MANDATORY PORTAGE

"PORTAGE" MEANS CARRYING YOUR BOAT OR ITS CARGO BETWEEN NAVIGABLE WATERS. PORTAGE IS MANDATORY AT ALL DAMS. PORTAGE TRAILS ARE MAGNIFIED AT EACH DAM ALONG THE YADKIN.

Portage when you observe an over- or underwater hazard ahead. Portage is mandatory at dams, and failing to use the portage trails can make the difference between life and death for you, your passengers, or your rescuers! Look for the dam symbols on the map and their corresponding views of the portage trails. Check the online map for greater visual detail and more information.

SAFETY FIRST: ALWAYS WEAR A PFD!

Pack and Load Properly

Secure loose items in your craft, and take care not to overload! Tie an extra paddle to the boat, and place food, change of clothes, etc., in containers tied to the boat. Secure a strong painter (rope) at least 10' long to the bow and stern.

THROW ROPE BAGS CAN SAVE A SWIMMER IN DISTRESS!

Rope used in the bags is at least partially made of polypropylene, because it floats. There should be a minimum of one per boat on any trip.

SWEEPERS AND STRAINERS

AVOID paddling close to sweepers and strainers. Sweepers are overhanging obstacles like low-hanging tree branches, while strainers are submerged objects -- downed trees, tires, and other objects hidden under the surface.

NEVER attempt to boat over a dam or waterfall. Small dams are very dangerous because of the hydraulic turbulence at the base of the dam that trap boats and people. And remember that many dams have low overhead clearance. Always check portage details ahead of time.

DO NOT attempt to stand or walk in swift-moving water. Feet can get trapped between submerged rocks, risking drowning if a strong current holds one's body under water. Always keep feet up and pointed downstream and swim to shore or calm water before standing.

ALSO WATCH OUT for upstream "V"s and downstream "V"s; both are indications of underwater obstructions.

TAKE ADVANTAGE of eddies; they are often good places to get out of the current and rest for awhile.

BE WARY of riffles, where the surface of the water is broken up by stones just underneath the surface. It's easy to get stuck in these shallow areas!

Practice the Basics with an Experienced Guide

Your local Parks & Recreation Department is a great place to look for guided outings for beginners; visit your county or municipal website to find classes and group paddles. You can also utilize a private outfitter; see: www.yadkinriverkeeper.org/outfitters

An Important Note Regarding Map Scale: Due to the many bends in the river, scaled distances will be considerably shorter than the actual distance. Most first-time river users (especially floaters) may seriously underestimate the time needed to reach the next takeout. Depending on the section of the river and your own speed, paddling five miles by tube or raft can take two hours or more, while floating in a tube or raft can easily double that estimate.

UPPER YADKIN RIVER STATE TRAIL

SEE BACK OF MAP FOR LOWER YADKIN LAKES

ACCESS AT PILOT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK - RIVER SECTION

PORTAGE AT MILE 93

PORTAGE AT IDOL'S DAM

PORTAGE AT RIVER PARK AT COOLEEMEE FALLS

US HIGHWAY 64 ACCESS

CONCORD CHURCH ACCESS

BOONE'S CAVE PARK ACCESS

YADKIN RIVER PARK ACCESS

Yadkin Riverkeeper is a nonprofit membership organization whose mission is to protect and enhance the Yadkin River basin through education, advocacy and action. Yadkin Riverkeeper is the official NC State Trails nonprofit partner for the Yadkin River State Trail.

WWW.YADKINRIVERKEEPER.ORG

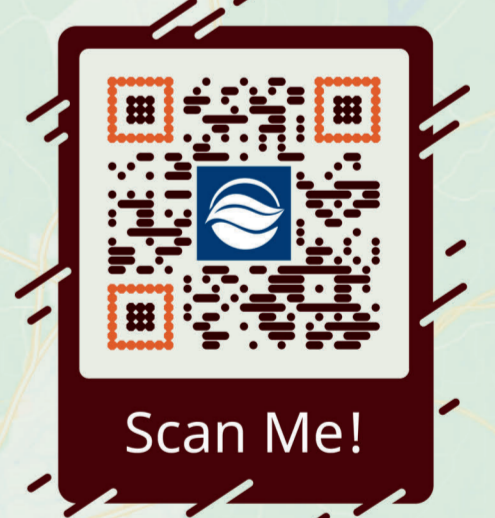
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YADKIN RIVER STATE TRAIL

Discover public access points, park amenities, and tips to help you plan a safe and enjoyable trip along the blueway!

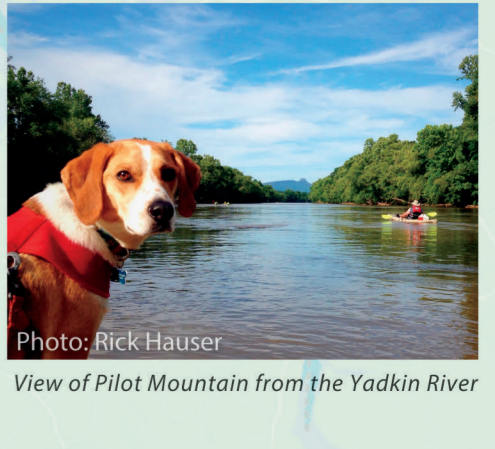
NCTRAILS



<https://qrco.de/bdkVMF>

Make sure to utilize the *Yadkin River State Trail (YRST) Online Story Map* when planning your trip to get the most up-to-date trail information, including newly opened access points, temporary closures, and renovations.

Save screenshots to your phone or print them out; cell phone service can be weak in places. Plan ahead to help ensure that you and everyone in your group have a safe and enjoyable day on the Yadkin River State Trail!



HISTORY

Along the Yadkin

The Yadkin River valley has been home to indigenous peoples for more than 13,000 years, including the tribes of the Saura, Keyauwee, Saponi, Tutelo, Catawba, and Cherokee, as well as many others whose names are lost to history. Reminders of their presence dot the landscape, from the Hardaway archaeological site near Badin Lake, to the "V"- and "W"-shaped stone fish weirs visible within the Yadkin River itself.

Please take extra care to preserve fish weirs (as shown at left) and other remnants of historic sites along the river.

HISTORIC DAMS ON THE YADKIN

Alcoa built the Yadkin Hydroelectric Project between 1917 (Narrows Dam) and 1962 (Tuckertown Dam), and the High Rock and Falls Reservoirs, along a 38-mile stretch of the Yadkin River in the Piedmont region of NC. The dams are currently operated by Cube Hydro Carolinas.

At the time of construction, High Rock was the largest reservoir in NC and one of the largest in the United States.

Completed in 1962, the Tuckertown Dam was the last of the project developments to be constructed.

At the time of its completion in 1917, the Narrows Dam was the world's highest overflow type dam.

Falls Dam, finished in 1919, is situated farthest downstream of the four Yadkin projects.

Respect and Protect the Water and the Land

Today the Yadkin River and its tributaries supply drinking water for more than one million people! While treatment plants ensure the water is safe to drink, the water quality of the Yadkin River has suffered from years of wastewater and industrial pollution, as well as from stormwater and agricultural runoff. This pollution increases water treatment costs, poses public health threats and harms the River and lake ecosystems. Rare plants and animals call the river home, including threatened and endangered freshwater mussels and fish. Take care not to trample plant life along the riverbank and make sure to bring a bag with you to collect your refuse. Together we can advocate for standards and programs to improve water quality and help preserve river and stream buffers and sensitive plant and wildlife habitats.

The rivers are public, but they do flow through private property. Don't allow those in your party to trespass, litter the waters or damage plant life on the riverbanks. Use the public access points to enter and exit the river, and remember to bring a bag for collecting your refuse. Together we can keep the trail cleaner and safer for all those who follow!

Help keep the Yadkin River healthy right from the start! These waters eventually empty into the Atlantic Ocean.

Europeans began settling the Piedmont in large numbers in the 1740s, using fords and ferries to cross the river. The earliest settlements along the Yadkin included Mulberry Fields, the Moravian Towns of the Wachovia Tract, the Forks of the Yadkin, and the Jersey Settlement.

Land was plentiful and reasonable. Water provided power to saw timber and grind corn and wheat. Hard-working settlers spread across the land, populating farms and towns, serving on juries, and building and maintaining public roads.

South Yadkin River Ferry, near Cooleemee. Photo courtesy of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Idol's Dam and Power House during construction, 1898. Photo courtesy of Old Salem Restoration, Winston-Salem

The twentieth century saw quantum shifts in all aspects of life along the river. Cars replaced horses and buggies and bridges replaced fords and ferries. The river's water was used to power steam turbines instead of water-driven mills. Both on the Yadkin River and below it, dams were built to power steam turbines as well as drinking water for cities and towns.

The Wil-Cox Bridge was completed in 1924, replacing the Beard toll bridge built in 1818. Photo courtesy of the State Historic Preservation Office.

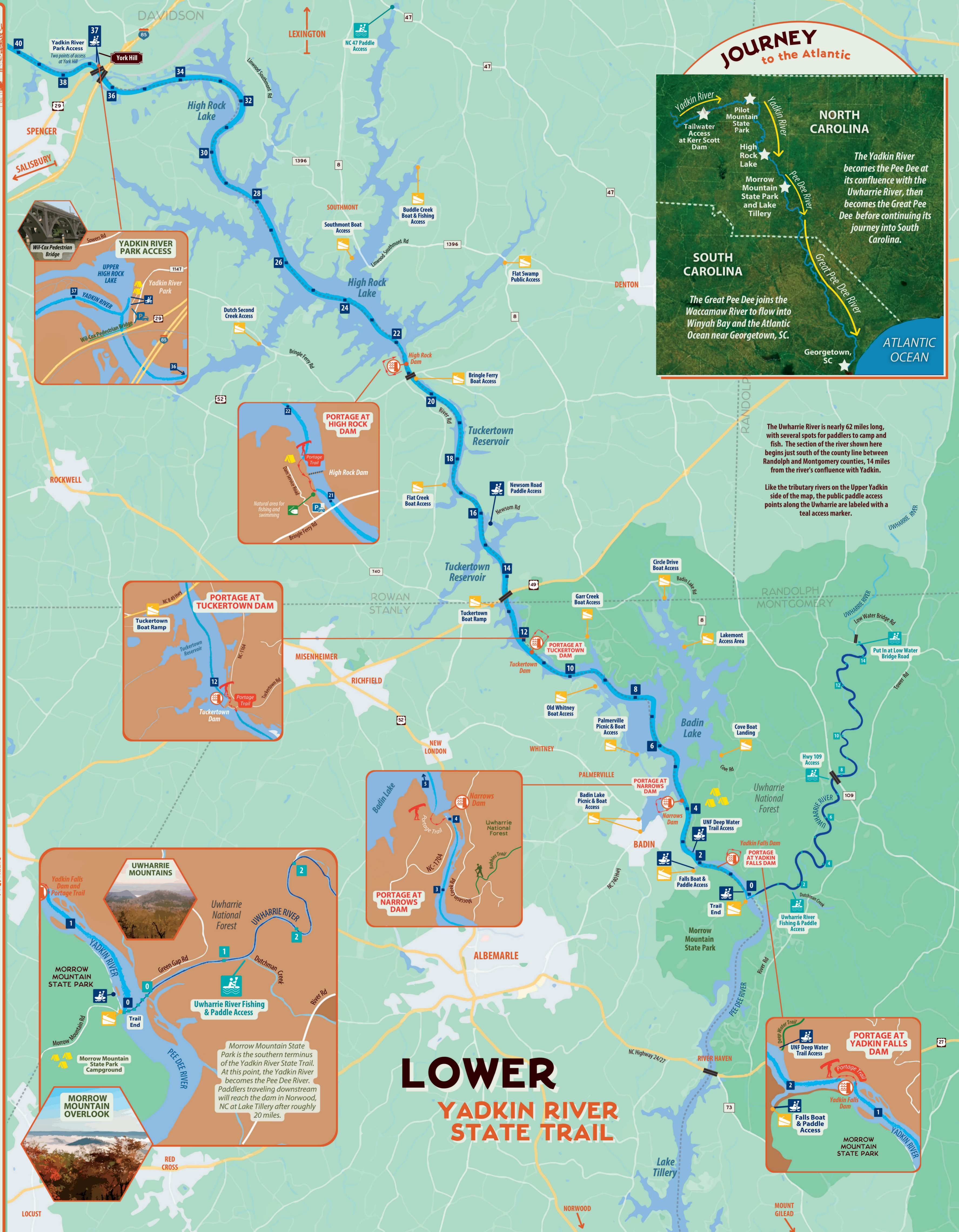
People had more time for leisure activities, and they turned to the river for recreation - fishing, swimming, boating, canoeing, kayaking - in the great outdoors. The river that had been humankind's partner from the earliest days of settlement became a new-found source of pleasure.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS

North Carolina's 41 state parks and recreation areas are naturally wonderful and also wonderfully diverse! The NC General Assembly established the first state park in 1915 when a group of citizens sought to protect the summit of Mount Mitchell. It became the first state park in the Southeast and among the first in the nation. Many of the state parks - including Pilot Mountain and Morrow Mountain state parks - were initiated by local citizens with a strong conservation ethic. Learn more about the history of the parks system at ncparks.gov.

YADKIN RIVER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The online map and printed brochures were made possible through a grant from Cube Yadkin Generation, distributed by NC Division of Parks and Recreation. The Yadkin River is beloved for its history, wildlife, resources and recreational opportunities. Yadkin Riverkeeper managed the funds and contracted with the Piedmont Triad Regional Council (PTRC) to facilitate meetings among local and state government employees, regional experts, and other stakeholders. These representatives pooled their knowledge and skills, but also their great love of the river and our shared natural resources. The PTRC designed the brochure map and the interactive story map hosted in the ArcGIS map portal. Access the map on the portal at <https://giscr.com/bdkvMF>.



The Uwharrie River is nearly 62 miles long, with several spots for paddlers to camp and fish. The section of the river shown here begins just south of the county line between Randolph and Montgomery counties, 14 miles from the river's confluence with Yadkin.

Like the tributary rivers on the Upper Yadkin side of the map, the public paddle access points along the Uwharrie are labeled with a teal access marker.

LOWER YADKIN RIVER STATE TRAIL

