

Canyon Waterfalls Trip

Five waterfalls in one day, from Noccalula Falls to Pisgah Gorge Falls. Numbers follow the driving order.



1 Noccalula Falls

Gadsden • Arrive about 8–9 am

Take the trail behind the falls, a short walk from the parking lot. Park admission only covers the train, animal habitat and pioneer village, so the overlook is free. Jack's Restaurant next door has breakfast biscuits.

2 Eberhart Point Overlook

Little River Canyon • About 40 min from stop 1

The ideal starting place in the canyon. From here, follow Hwy 176, the Little River Canyon Rim Parkway, and stop at the overlooks for different views of the canyon.

3 Little River Falls

Where the rim parkway ends at Hwy 35

Turn right, cross the bridge and park for the observation deck. Walk to the falls, then take the other trail to the top, shoes off, and wade the flat rock. The Canyon Center across the bridge has restrooms and nature exhibits.

4 DeSoto Falls Picnic Area

Near Mentone • About 20 mi from stop 3

Navigate to the picnic area, not DeSoto State Park. Restrooms and a beach for swimming, kayaking or paddleboarding. Parking was \$5 at the kiosks at time of writing. Make it a beach day, or carry on.

5 Pisgah Gorge Falls

Pisgah Civitan Park • About 23 mi from stop 4

Enter Civitan Park and find the trail behind the picnic pavilion at the back. Multiple cascades make a great final falls. Bugs can be thick late in the day, so bring bug spray.

Know before you go

Falls run fullest after recent rain. DeSoto's site says water is typically higher in winter and early spring, lower in summer and fall.

The Weiss Lake entrance to Little River Canyon has a limited canyon view but is a good fall-color drive.

Pack shoes that slip off, swimwear and bug spray.