

Sassafras Mtn SC – Bike (& hike)

Sassafras Mtn (3,554 ft) SC South Carolina’s highest peak – on the NC border – challenging bike or hike.

Directions to Trail-Head: Laurel Valley Trail Access Parking lot – between Rosman NC and Pickens. Approximate GPS Coordinates 35°02'56.78"N 82°48'49.61"W. There are no facilities at this parking area except for a porta-potty.

Bike Summary: From parking area, follow gravel road back to US 178. At 0.2 miles, turn right on US 178 and at 1.0 miles left on F. Van Clayton Hwy in the Rocky Bottom Community. Strenuous climb to Chimneytop Gap at 2.4 miles. Continue downhill and then strenuous climb. At 4.0 miles right at fork continuing to climb. At 5.8 miles arrive at gravel parking lot left of gate. Beyond gate is short path to summit and limited view. Return along same route.

Hike Summary: Also park at Laurel Valley parking lot. Follow the Foothills Trail to the summit. – 4.8 miles one way – strenuous climb - see map below.

