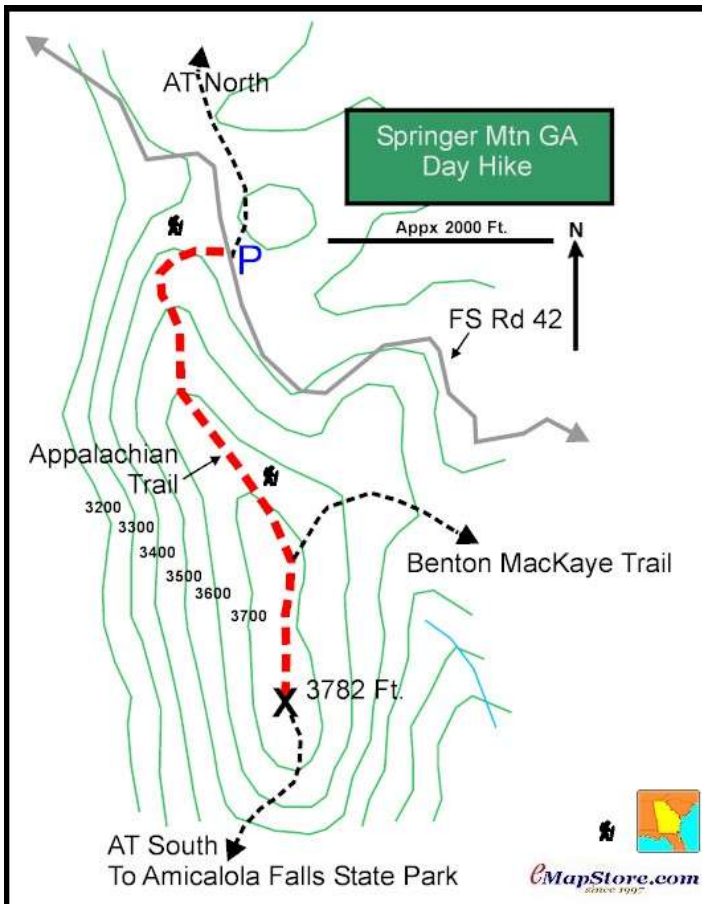


Springer Mountain Shortcut Hike, AT GA

Sneak in the "back door" on this easy 2 mile round trip day hike to **Springer Mountain**.

Directions to Trailhead: This approach is rough and best done in a 4WD truck. Travel west appx 9 miles on GA 52 from Dahlonega, GA. Bear right onto the second North Church Rd intersection toward Nimblewill, GA. In approximately 1 mile Nimblewill Gap Road (FS 28-2) bears left. Stay to the right. In a short distance bear left onto Chattahoochee National Forest Road 28-1. After 2 miles, bear left onto Chattahoochee National Forest Road FS-77 (Winding Stair Gap Rd) near wildlife check station. In the spring of 2008, this gravel road was very rough. In approximately 4 miles, bear left onto FS-42. After approximately 3 miles bear right into the gravel parking lot at the trail head.

Trail Summary: The hike begins across the gravel road from the parking area (south side - look for the Appalachian Trail (white blazed)). It climbs 400+ feet in 1 mile to the rounded and wooded summit at an elevation of 3,782 feet, the Appalachian Trail Southern Terminus. There are two plaques on the summit to commemorate this terminus. Just before the summit, there is a spur path to the left (east) to a camping area, lean-to shelter, privy and a source of untreated water. On the summit there is an open rocky face with views toward the southwest. Return along the same route. Be careful to return along the Appalachian Trail. The Benton MacKaye Trail uses the same footpath for a short distance from the summit north before veering to the right. Stay left on the AT.



View from Summit



Appalachian Trail Plaque

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