

The Trails

All trail distances are one-way.

Thurmond – Minden Trail

3.2 miles → easy → hiking/biking

An easy stroll or bike ride along an abandoned branch line of the C & O Railway. This predominantly level trail crosses five railroad trestles. Several overlooks provide scenic views of Thurmond and the New River.

Southside Junction Connector

0.3 miles → moderate → hiking

Located 0.4 miles from the Thurmond Trailhead, this trail follows a railroad grade down to Southside Junction. To stay clear of the active railroad tracks, take a short climb up past an historic church and back down to join the Brooklyn – Southside Junction Trail. **Note: do not walk on railroad tracks!**

Arbuckle Connector

0.2 miles → difficult → hiking

This trail is located 1.2 miles from the Thurmond Trailhead. Just past the third trestle, this trail drops off to the right. It has some steep and rocky terrain, and provides glimpses of some of the stonework and coke ovens of the mining town of WeeWin. Connects with the Brooklyn – Southside Junction Trail near the mouth of Arbuckle Creek.

Brooklyn – Southside Junction Trail

6.0 miles → moderate → hiking/biking

This riverside trail provides great views of the New River, and passes through some of the New River Gorge's abandoned mining towns. Rush Run, Red Ash, and Brooklyn were all once bustling communities located along this abandoned rail line. The first 1.8 miles from the Cunard River Access are open to motorized vehicles. A parking area at Brooklyn marks the end of the maintained road. **Note: the rail lines at Southside Junction are active — do not cross the railroad tracks.**

Stone Cliff Trail

3.5 miles → moderate → hiking/biking

This rugged trail follows an old road along the banks of the New River ending near the site of the abandoned Bragg homestead. Great views and easy access to the river are available along this trail.

Directions

Thurmond – Minden Trail

Thurmond Trailhead

From U.S. Route 19 north of Beckley, take the Glen Jean–Thurmond exit. Take an immediate left, and go 0.5 miles to Glen Jean. Take a right and follow the signs to Thurmond (WV Route 25). The trailhead is on the left, 5.1 miles down WV Route 25.

Minden Trailhead

Take the Main Street Exit (Oak Hill) off U.S. Route 19. If going south on U.S. Route 19, turn left and go 0.2 miles; if going north on U.S. Route 19, turn right and go 0.1 miles. Turn left onto Minden Road, and follow this 2.1 miles. Take a right across a small bridge to the trailhead.

Stone Cliff Trail

From U.S. Route 19 north of Beckley, take the Glen Jean–Thurmond exit. Take an immediate left, and go 0.5 miles to Glen Jean. Take a right and follow the signs to Thurmond (WV Route 25). Continue for 6.0 miles to a three-way intersection. Bear right and go 1.5 miles on this road. Take a right on a gravel road, just before crossing over the New River. Continue past the boat launch to the parking area. The Stone Cliff Trail begins at the closed road beside the picnic area.

Cunard and Brooklyn Trailheads

These trailheads are located on the Cunard River Access Road. This road is reached from Fayetteville or Oak Hill via Salem-Gatewood Road. The Brooklyn trailhead is located 1 mile up-river of the Cunard River Access following a maintained gravel road.

From Fayetteville: Take WV Route 16 South through the town of Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road, and go 4.6 miles to the Cunard turn-off. Turn left and go 1.8 miles. Follow signs indicating Cunard River Access.

From Oak Hill: Take the Main Street Exit (Oak Hill) off of Route 19. If going south on Route 19, turn left and go 0.5 miles; if going north on Route 19, turn right and go 0.4 miles. Take a right on Gatewood Road, and go 5.4 miles to the Cunard turn-off. Turn right and go 1.8 miles. Follow signs indicating Cunard River Access.



Thurmond Area Trails

New River Gorge National River offers more than fifty miles of trails, varying from easy to difficult in terrain and distance. The trail system is still developing, and trail conditions change; check at the park's visitor centers for the most current information.

Trail Regulations

- ◆ Carry out all trash; no littering.
- ◆ Disturbing, destroying, or removing natural and cultural objects is prohibited.
- ◆ Park trails are closed to all motorized vehicles.
- ◆ Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only.
- ◆ Pets must be on a leash at all times.

Safety First

- ◆ All rail lines in the Thurmond area are active, and are private property. Do not cross railroad tracks, or trespass on railroad right-of-ways.
- ◆ Hunting is allowed in New River Gorge National River. Wear blaze orange during hunting season.
- ◆ Lock valuables in the trunk of your car or take them with you.
- ◆ Do not enter structures, mines, or coke ovens.
- ◆ During spring and summer, check for ticks.
- ◆ Poison ivy is common. *Leaflets three, let it be!*
- ◆ Two species of poisonous snakes live here, the copperhead and the timber rattlesnake. Watch where you put your feet and hands.



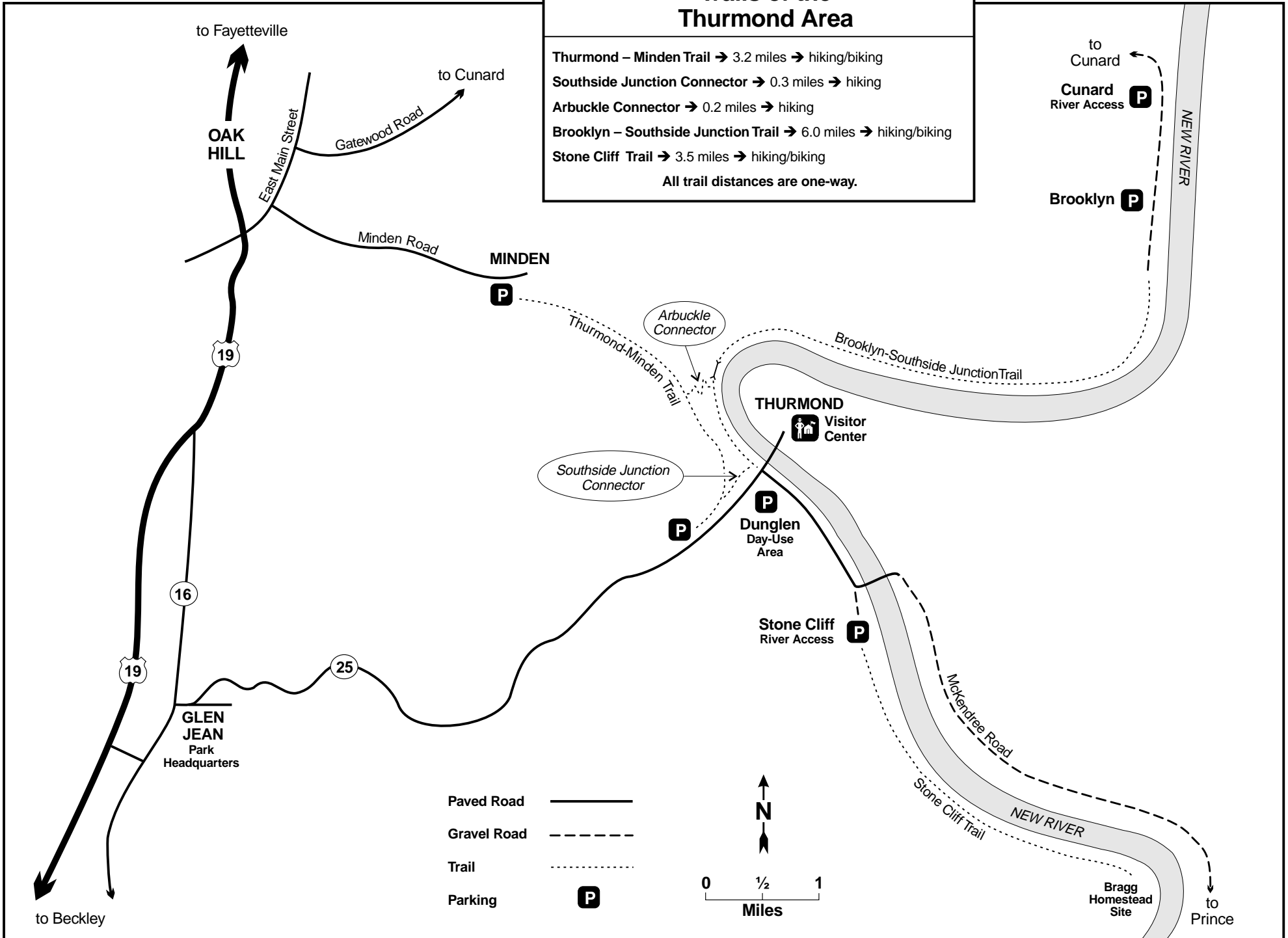
New River Gorge
National River

P.O. Box 246
Glen Jean, WV 25846
(304) 465-0508



Trails of the Thurmond Area

- Thurmond – Minden Trail → 3.2 miles → hiking/biking
 - Southside Junction Connector → 0.3 miles → hiking
 - Arbuckle Connector → 0.2 miles → hiking
 - Brooklyn – Southside Junction Trail → 6.0 miles → hiking/biking
 - Stone Cliff Trail → 3.5 miles → hiking/biking
- All trail distances are one-way.



to Fayetteville

OAK HILL

to Cunard

East Main Street

Gatewood Road

Minden Road

MINDEN

P

Thurmond-Minden Trail

Arbuckle Connector

Brooklyn-Southside Junction Trail

THURMOND

Visitor Center

Southside Junction Connector

P

Dunglen Day-Use Area

Stone Cliff River Access

P

Mokendree Road

Stone Cliff Trail

NEW RIVER

Bragg Homestead Site

to Prince

to Cunard

Cunard River Access **P**

Brooklyn **P**

NEW RIVER

19

16

19

25

GLEN JEAN
Park
Headquarters

to Beckley

Paved Road —————

Gravel Road - - - - -

Trail
.....

Parking **P**

N

0 1/2 1
Miles