

Bullen Hollow - Reynolds Ridge Loop to Kennedy Cabin

8.7 Mile Loop - Strenuous - Elevation Gain 2200 Feet

Rocky, Muddy Footpath - Multi Use Trail

3 Easy Creek Crossings - Hiked April 17, 2009

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Directions to Trailhead: Leave Greeneville on McKee Street which becomes The Jones Bridge Road. Drive approximately 5 miles from town, cross the Nolichucky River, until you reach the intersection with Highway 107 at the Crossroads Service Station and Hardware. Drive straight through the intersection on the Greystone Road for 1.7 miles to the intersection with Tabor Road. Turn right on Tabor Road and drive 1.8 miles to the deadend with Shelton Mission Road. Turn right on Shelton Mission and drive 1.1 miles to the Margarete Falls Parking Lot. You can also stay on the Greystone Road without turning on Tabor and you will also reach Shelton Mission Road, turning right.

This loop hike to the remains of the historic Kennedy Cabin is one of the most rewarding yet strenuous hikes in the area. The climb up the Bullen Hollow Trail is exceedingly rocky and steep but after covering approximately 4 miles, the trail becomes very pleasant and easy. You will hike through a long rhododendron tunnel, then cross Reynolds Ridge with several vistas of northeastern Tennessee.

Begin at the Margarete Falls-Bullen Hollow Trailhead at the large parking lot on the Shelton Mission Road. The first section is very easy walking along a graveled forest service road. After a little over a half mile the trail forks, with the left fork leading to Margarete Falls.

For this loop hike to Kennedy Cabin, take the right fork which is the Bullen Hollow Trail, a very steep, rocky uphill climb of about 4 miles, with a total elevation gain of over 2200 feet.

After covering about a mile and a quarter from the trailhead, you will see a trail descending steeply from the right which is the trail on which you will return near the end of the hike to complete the loop.

If you wish to take a shorter, less strenuous route to Kennedy Cabin, you can take this steep uphill trail to the top of Reynolds Ridge and do this hike in a reverse manner turning around at Kennedy Cabin and retuning by this same route.

If you choose the longer, more rewarding route, continue straight on the Bullen Hollow Trail.

After covering a little over three miles from the trailhead, you will go by a small pond and reach an intersection with a forest service road. Take this road to the right and continue for a little less than a mile (4 miles from the trailhead) to a point where the Bullen Hollow Trail leaves this old road and continues steeply toward Low Gap up a hill to your left. (No Trail Sign Present)

You will leave the Bullen Hollow Trail here and continue on the road for a very short distance and turn to the right on the Greene Mountain Trail (a trail sign was present when this hike was taken).

Follow the Greene Mountain Trail on a Forest Service Road for about 3/4 mile. The trail will go past a gated road until a sign showing Kennedy Cabin to the right with the Greene Mountain Trail continuing to the left. Turn right and descend steeply for a short distance, past the Camp Creek Trail, which branches off to the left just before reaching Kennedy Cabin.

There isn't much left of the cabin but a few pieces of tin roof and a spring with a pipe on the hillside.

To finish the loop, continue on the trail steeply uphill for a short distance reaching an intersection with an old forest service road. Take the road to the left and proceed downhill through a long, beautiful rhododendron tunnel. While in the tunnel, watch for an obvious trail to the right which you want to follow to Reynolds Ridge.

Proceed along this narrow ridge which has very pleasant, level walking with beautiful views of Greene County and the surrounding area. After approximately 7 miles from the trailhead, the trail leaves the ridgetop and proceeds steeply downhill to intersect with Bullen Hollow Trail.

The trailhead is about a mile and a quarter to your left.

SYNOPSIS OF HIKE

Mile	Elevation	Description
0		Trailhead
.059		JCT Margarette Falls and Bullen Hollow Trails. Take the right.
1.3		JCT Trail coming in from right. Continue Straight.
1.81		Creek Crossing
2.01		Small Creek
2.23		Old road to left. Continue straight.
3.13	3587	JCT. FS Road just past small pond. Take road to right.
4.02	3918	JCT. Bullen Hollow Trail goes left uphill. Take Greene Mtn. Trail to right.
4.78	3976	JCT. Old gated road to left. Continue straight.
4.82		JCT. Greene Mtn. Trail goes left. Take to right toward Kennedy Cabin.
5.08	3873	Kennedy Cabin remains just beyond Camp Creek Trail going to left.
5.18	3943	Steep uphill past Cabin to road JCT. Take the left. Proceed thru rhodo tunnel.
5.42		JCT in rhodo tunnel. Take the right toward Reynolds Ridge.
6.09	3410	Vista and Lookoff on Ridgetop.
6.63	3209	Vista and Lookoff.
7.04		Return to Bullen Hollow Trail. Take the left back to trailhead.
8.7		Trailhead.

