A Historic Lodge

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), built the South Falls Lodge in the 1930s. Once used as a restaurant, dines are on tables and chairs built from only two myrtle trees. The tables inside the lodge today are among the originals. The lodge and surrounding area make up the South Falls Historic District, and the area is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Silver Falls Lodge and Conference Center

Relax and enjoy comfortable lodging within a remote, wooded setting. The Silver Falls Lodge and Conference Center has private cabins and six-bedroom lodges that cater to groups. Guests can enjoy meals in the dining hall. The conference center’s peaceful setting makes it a popular choice for weddings, family reunions and other group events. Information: silverfallsodge.com or 866-573-4875.

Silver Falls State Park

Play for the Day

The South Falls Day-use Area has spacious lawns, picnic shelters, tables, a playground, a volleyball net, horse-drawn carts, an off-leash area for dogs, and charming Silver Creek. Since opening day in 1935, visitors have used these grounds for picnics, family reunions and weddings. The area is all within a short walk to views of the famous 177-foot South Falls.

Shop to Support Park Programs

The South Falls Nature Store, operated by the Friends of Silver Falls, sells locally crafted gift items as well as souvenirs and memorabilia. Proceeds support park events, interpretive programs and projects. Information: friendsofsilverfalls.net

Overnight Excursion

Camping

The main campground has tent sites, RV spots and cabins. Bring your horse and stay in the Howard Creek horse campground. The park also has group tent and RV camps, dormitory-style bunkhouses (each Room sleeps 75) and the historic Youth Camp for up to 250 campers.

Millions of Years in the Making

This land was once part of the Oregon Coast, but volcanoes, basalt lava flows and falling ash changed the landscape to what you see today. Waterfalls tumble over thick basalt that rests on softer, older rock. The softer layers beneath the basalt eroded over time and created natural pathways behind some of the falls. Look up and see if you can spot the many tree “chimneys,” or casts, while you walk up and see if you can spot the many eroded over time and created natural thick basalt that rests on softer, older rock.

The famous South Falls is the waterfall? The famous South Falls is the hallmark of the Trail of Ten Falls—a spectacular nationally recognized hiking trail that passes a series of breathtaking waterfalls along a rocky canyon and descends to a wading creek at the forest floor. The roughly 7-mile loop is considered to be moderately difficult with some muddy areas, steep sections and an overall elevation change of 800 feet. Several connecting trails with separate access points make shorter (or longer) routes. Most routes begin from the Stone Circle in the South Falls Day-use Area. See the Trail of Ten Falls handout for details.

Natural Kids

At the Natural Play Area, located in the North Falls Day-use Area, children can climb a tree, hide in a bear den, growl like a cougar or weave a bird’s nest in this playground designed to fit into the natural landscape.