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Advanced Composition 3130

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Viking Mountain: Greeneville, Tennessee

The Location For Grace, Beauty, And Wonder

“GASP”



Left: Fall

Right: Summer

Overlook Three

Left: Winter

Right: Spring



{Introduction To Viking Mountain}

Viking Mountain is a hiking and scenery destination in Greeneville, Tennessee. Viking Mountain was once intended to be a ski resort, but with that abandoned, it is now just a great place to enjoy nature. With a resting spot at 4,500 feet above sea level, this destination is one

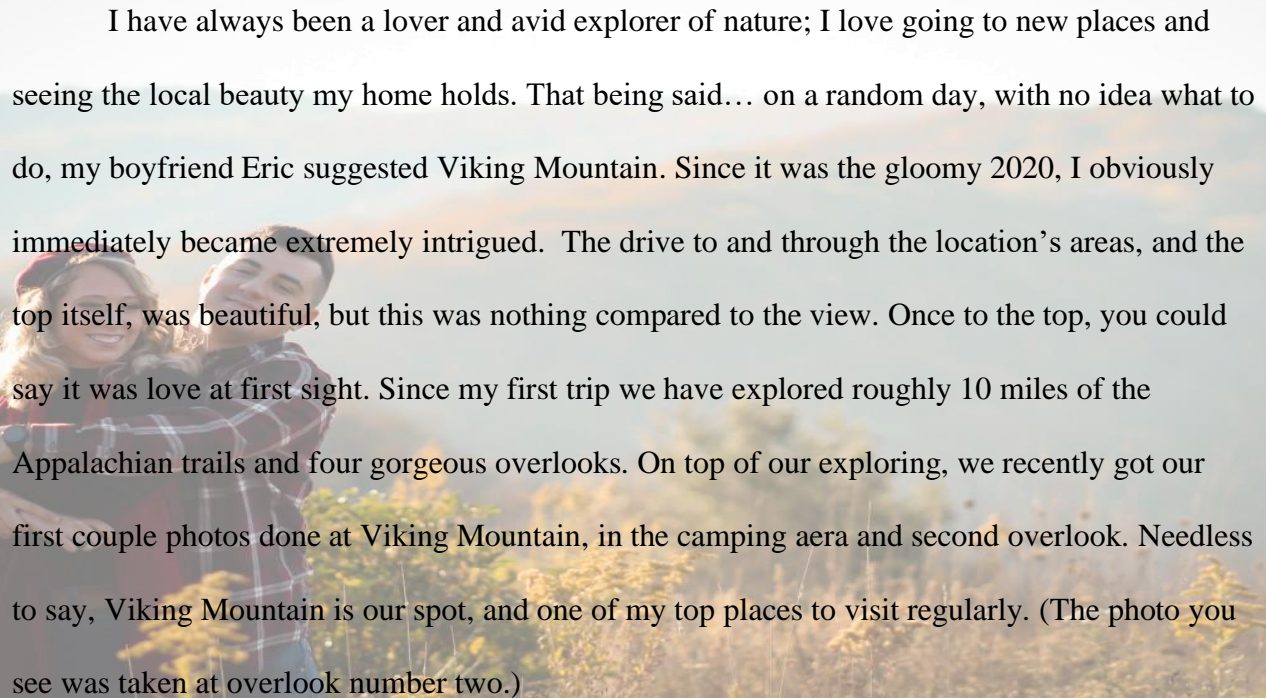


My
favorite
photo of
overlook
Three.

filled with relaxation and views. There are multiple overlooks at this destination, all are of different varieties, not to mention the Appalachian trail that runs from Tennessee to North Carolina. There are the flat,

standing area views, one of which is a mountain overlook, and the other a view of Greeneville and the rock cliffs. The next overlooks are those of the rock cliffs themselves. There are two of these overlooks, one consisting of an out of this world view of Greeneville and surrounds mountains, the other just a breath-taking view of the mountains and their peaks. You come across these overlooks at different stages. Overlook one is on the drive up, overlook two is when you reach the parking area, the same area as the field. Overlook three and four are on the trails themselves, overlook three is the main overlook, straight on the main trail. Overlook four is to the right, off the main trail. No matter the direction you go on Viking Mountain, you will not be disappointed.

{My Ties}

A photograph of a young couple embracing on a mountain trail. The woman is wearing a red jacket and a red headband, and the man is wearing a plaid shirt. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a hazy mountain landscape with some greenery in the foreground.

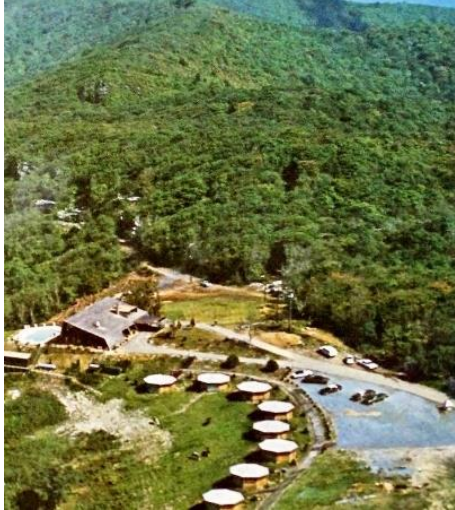
I have always been a lover and avid explorer of nature; I love going to new places and seeing the local beauty my home holds. That being said... on a random day, with no idea what to do, my boyfriend Eric suggested Viking Mountain. Since it was the gloomy 2020, I obviously immediately became extremely intrigued. The drive to and through the location's areas, and the top itself, was beautiful, but this was nothing compared to the view. Once to the top, you could say it was love at first sight. Since my first trip we have explored roughly 10 miles of the Appalachian trails and four gorgeous overlooks. On top of our exploring, we recently got our first couple photos done at Viking Mountain, in the camping area and second overlook. Needless to say, Viking Mountain is our spot, and one of my top places to visit regularly. (The photo you see was taken at overlook number two.)

{History}

Now that we have some background on Viking Mountain and my ties to the location, let us talk history. This is a topic that pulls me into Viking Mountain. It is known that Viking Mountain was originally a trail for the fire department to reach the fire tower on the far-left side of the mountain, the tower still stands but is rarely used today. But there are also some things that are not exactly known. One of the topics that is more mysterious in Viking Mountain history is another tower on top one of the mountains that is visible. The tower is a type of radio tower, once used as a type of communication hub, maybe for the lodge. Another mystery of Viking Mountain is the opening to the walking trails, this is strictly my theory, but I think it was once a path or a road. A form of getting to one point of the mountain to another, or simply a logging road. I theorize about this simply because it is roughly paved in old cement and has small pillars that once supported a small swing gate. Once again this is simply a theory I like to entertain,

there is not a way to know for sure. But what is know for sure is the breathtaking beauty and history that Viking Mountain beholds.

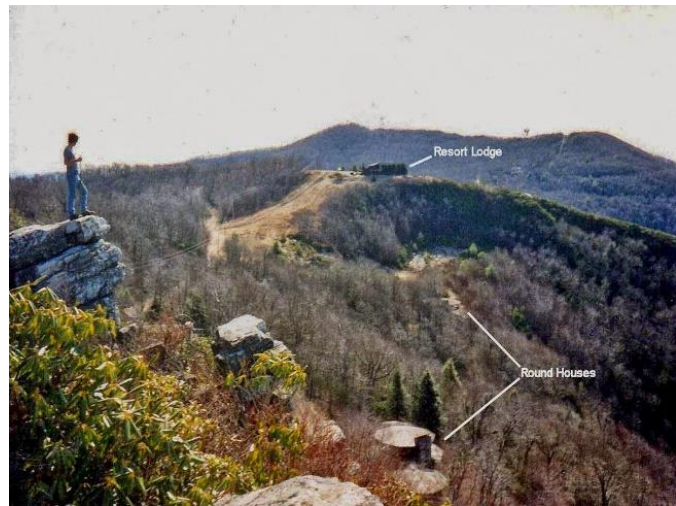
{A Deeper Dive Into The History}



The
main
Lodge.

extensive, with a large resort building, and other lodgings and buildings as well. There is little to no evidence of these building every being on Viking Mountain, which is mind boggling. Though this resort

A little more information on the resort in the 70's, which once being called Camp Creek Bald, is now called Viking Mountain... was indeed there, and was how Viking Mountain gained its name. The resort itself was actually quite



Resort
Lodge and
round
houses
from
overlook
three.

did indeed melt away with the snow, it existed, and after the resort, it passed through many



Resort
Lodge and
A-frame
House from
The field.

companies' hands. The only thing still active, other than the trails of course, is the radio tower, which is used by the radio club, the name of this club is the *Andrew Johnson Amateur Radio Club*. The still active trails, near the radio tower, hold some other "round cabin"

or radio tower like builds, like what is seen in the pictures. Not many are accessible to go in,

most you can climb. Even though I personally have not had the pleasure of exploring all of these old wonders, you better believe that once the weather turns warm again, I will. For more information from someone that has explored these wonders, I suggest Mr. Russell's *Tales From The Wood Booger*, A blog. He has amazing information on his hiking adventures and absolutely fabulous pictures of Viking Mountain, his link can be found here--

<https://thewoodbooger.blogspot.com/2015/04/once-viking-mountain-always-camp-creek.html>.

{The Drive Up}

Now that the history is down, let us start at the beginning of the sensual experience... the drive up. Our drive always starts the same, the scenic back roads of Greeneville, Tennessee. This consists of the alluring, winding roads that are filled with wonderous trees. Next is the small community of Viking Mountain, though some places are broken down and rough, most of the area is rustically beautiful. One of my favorite parts of the drive is stopping to say hi and talk to the cows (I was raised as and will always be a farm girl). My next favorite part of the drive is the bumpy climb to the to the top. Talk about beauty, though the road is rough, it is filled with whispering trees that the sun shines through. If, for you, these things do not compensate for the busted road, the end destinations will.

{First overlook}

The first overlook is what I like to call the teaser trailer. It is a small exposition to the climax. This overlook is actually a part of your drive to the top. It is a beautiful stop, though the view is not as large as the others, the angle of the sun shining over the mountains is magical and definitely worth the stop. The view may not be big but it nothing short of stunning, it is the perfect warm-up for what all that is next.

{Second Overlook, a.k.a. “The Field”}

The second overlook is what holds the road that goes up to the fire and radio tower. Another possibility for this spot is camping, I recently saw people that had pulled their campers to the field and was camping (you learn something new every day). Now for



Second overlook, looking towards Greeneville and the rock cliffs.

the views that are experienced in the field is extensive. You can see the mountains of the left side (where the picture of Eric and I was taken). The next view is of the rock cliffs and a far away view of Greeneville. The second overlook also holds the entrance to the other overlooks and the Appalachian trail.

{Third overlook}

Now for the third overlook, the overlook that holds a special place in my heart. This is my favorite place to spend time at when we go to Viking Mountain. This is where I take most of my photos and have my picnics. It is truly a beauty to behold. It has the breathtaking views of the mountains and

Greenville. At this overlook the standing and sitting area consists of rocks attached to the side of a mountain. This angle is what gives it the advantage of the best view, because once you step onto those rocks the view really opens to its full glory. There is nothing obstructing the view, it is just simply perfect. Not to mention it produces one heck of a sunset.

{Fourth overlook}

The happy accident (a true Bob Ross moment). We stumbled across this treasure because of a wrong turn we took coming off the Appalachian trail, but there were no complaints from me. This is the most recent overlook we have discovered; I am still hoping there is more. This overlook has the world wind view of mountains, and when I say world wind view, I am not kidding. The wind whips through this side of the mountains at a high speed but that does not dampen the beauty. This view really shows the wonderful rolls of the mountains.



{Appalachian trail}

Thought it may not be my most favorite activity to do at Viking Mountain, it is filled with wonder and beauty of its own. It is such a rich biome; through this rich biome you will hike part of the Appalachian trail. This part, which is one of many in the Appalachian trail, will land you in North Carolina. Because I am not physically in shape this is something I will not be conquering completely, but the small bits I have explored were wonderous and gratifying. I am sure the brave soul that conquers this part of the trail will run across many beautiful scenes, like I did.

**{The Happy Ending}**

With eyes full of wonder and beauty I leave Viking Mountain. The full extent of relaxation washing over me, I am completely satisfied. This destination is indeed one filled with wonder, grace, and beauty. There is not a fruit that Viking Mountain can not bare. Everything from the views it beholds to its hiking trails, there is always room for more happy mistakes. The wonderer in me will always be drawn to Viking Mountain, it will always be our special spot. The whisper in the wind, that whips through the trees, will continue to speak to people. If the wonder in you is urning for something... listen to the wind, and soak in the beauty, grace, and wonder that is Viking Mountain.



One of my favorite photos of Eric and me. This one was taken in the field.

Works Cited

Pictures

Google images

Tales From The Wood Booger

Information

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