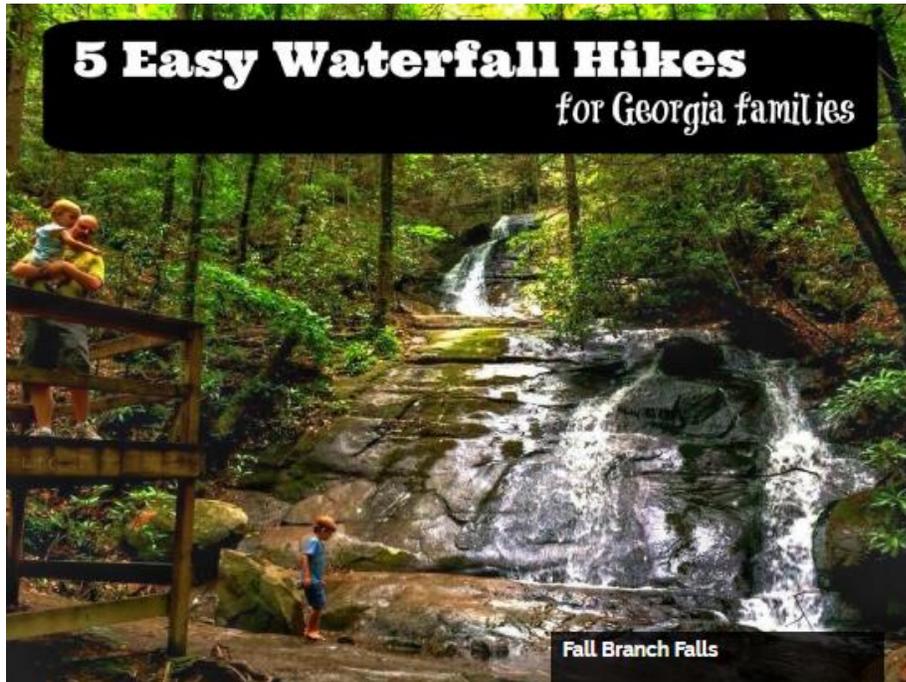




## 5 Easy Waterfall Hikes for Georgia Families



Summer is a time for exploring in nature. Add these five easy waterfall hikes to your adventure bucket list.

**Anna Ruby Falls.** Two falls are visible from the observation deck, merging into a beautiful creek. The paved walk (stroller-friendly) is lined with boulders and flowering shrubs. Bring change for the fish feeder just outside the visitor center; my kids could not get enough of the jumping trout. You're adjacent to Unicoi park, offering hikes, a beach and canoe rental.

**Amicalola Falls.** Little legs will likely not enjoy a climb from bottom to top, but don't let that stop you from visiting. Drive to the middle of the falls and take a short walk to the bridge overlooking the falls. My son was about 4 years old before we decided to climb the stairs from middle of the falls to the bottom, and then back up. I carried the baby in a sling. Advanced hikers can also climb up from the middle falls.



Helton Creek

**Fall Branch Falls.** This gem is tucked away in Blue Ridge, Ga. The walk is wonderful, with towering trees and beautiful large stones greeting you. You'll follow the creek all the way to the falls. There are an upper falls and lower falls here. Don't miss the upper falls like I did. We visited the lower falls and played in the water, but didn't learn about the upper falls until we were back home.

**Helton Creek Falls.** From the parking lot you are only about 1/3 mile from the lower falls. Wear your suite, there is a great water play area here. It is one of our favorite summer spots; we bring a picnic, books and shovels for a day of fun. Don't miss a climb to the upper falls, also. I don't recommend taking the kids out to the water in this area, but it is fun to view from the deck.

**High Shoals Falls.** There is a High Shoals Falls near Helen, Ga that is lovely, but this waterfall selection is in Dallas, Ga. Your GPS will take you to the parking lot of an old graveyard. Have no fear, just follow the trail about .25 miles to the falls. Have a picnic, play in the water and have a grand time. You can even climb to the top of the falls like we did!