

2024 Johnson City Hiking Schedule for JAN - Mar - Apr  
Founded in March 1990 by Sam Lloyd

Guests are welcome on all hikes. Before coming on your first hike with the club, read the "Info for New Hikers" page at [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) and call Joel Zabel at 423-631-6385. Participation in club activities carries with it the obligation to hold the club and its representatives free of liability for your individual safety. Only attend hikes that are comfortably within your ability; if in doubt, contact the hike leader or Joel Zabel. Please bring rain gear, food, plenty to drink, gas money, and appropriate clothing on all hikes. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the hikes or at the trail heads. No pets are allowed on hikes. CHECK the [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) homepage on Friday evening for changes and updates to the next morning's hike. Open dates may be filled with previously canceled hikes, or **if anyone would like to lead a hike on an open date, contact Joel.**

Check the MEETINGS SPOTS page at [jchikers.weebly.com](http://jchikers.weebly.com) for zoomable maps showing the locations listed below and precisely where we park:

\*Long John Silver's, South Johnson City: 1903 S Roan Str, 37601 - corner of University Pkwy & S Roan Str, in east part of parking lot behind LJS and Parkway Wine & Liquor

\*\*Jonesborough Post Office: 121 Boone Str, 37659 - in parking lot south of the PO building, next to the Jonesborough Visitor Center building

\*\*\*Kroger, North Johnson City : 112 Sunset Dr, 37604 - near Browns Mill Rd & N Roan Str , in the SE part of the parking lot, behind Red Pig Bar-B-Q.

\*\*\*\*Elizabethton Food City: 920 Broad Str, 37643 - corner of Broad Str & Hwy 19E, NE corner of parking lot, nearest to the intersection of Broad and 19E.

\*\*\*\*\*Erwin Linear Trail parking: N Industrial Dr, 37650 - in the gravel parking area next to Erwin Linear Trail, on the northwest side (toward Interstate) of Pal's.

\*\*\*\*\*MeadowView Convention Center, Kingsport: 1901 Meadowview Pkwy, 37660 - NW corner of parking lot, closest to Hwy 26/23 Exit 3

1/6/24 open

1/13/24 Moderate 8.3 to 9 mile hike in Roan Mtn State Park. Starting at the visitor center, we hike on Forest Road Trail to the junction with Raven Rock Trail (2.4 miles). Take Raven Rock Trail with a steep climb to a high point with a view over the Doe River Valley and descend to a picnic area (1 mile). Cross the road and hike through the campground entrance to Bearwallow Trail (ca. .25 mile road walk). Follow outside of Bearwallow Trail clockwise to Riverside Trail (1.85 miles). Take Riverside Trail and cross the road to the start of Moonshiners Run (ca. .5 mile with road crossing). Take Moonshiners Run along the Doe River to rejoin Forest Road Trail (.95 mile). Cross the road and return on Forest Road Trail to the visitor center (1.3 miles) for 8.3 miles. There may be an option to hike the Chestnut Ridge trail to the observation deck, which would bring the total to 9 miles. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 9 NINE AM. If you wish to be met at the Elizabethton Food City\*\*\*\* at 9:15, contact leader Adam Bean at 443-756-7014

1/20/24 Moderate 8.5-mile hike in the Dry Creek Rd corridor. We'll park on Dry Creek Rd and start by ascending Briar Creek Rd (FS Rd 188) 1 mile. We then enter the woods to the left at a parking/turn around spot. This trail takes us .1 mile northeast and then left for nearly .1 mile, where we turn right onto Rustic Ridge, which takes us northeast for about 1.5 miles. At the end of Rough Ridge, we make a 3.5-mile loop which includes crossing Dry Creek Rd twice. After looping, we hike back on Church Trail, parallel to and a bit below Rustic Ridge. At the end of Church Trail, we retrace our first mile back to the vehicle. Hike leader Jeff Miller (423-833-7889). Meet behind Long John Silvers\* at 9 NINE AM, or if you are familiar with the trailhead, you may meet us there at 9:10.

1/27/24 open

2/3/24 Strenuous 9.4 mile AT hike from Iron Mtn Gap to Hughes Gap. Over 2800' of total climbing. Great view from our lunch spot near the Little Rock Knob summit. We will also clear any reasonably sized blowdowns with handsaws and clear water diversions. A club member/s will shuttle a vehicle/s from our start at IMG to HG. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 9 (NINE) AM. Leader Joel Zabel (423-631-6385).

2/10/24 An 11.2 mile moderate to strenuous key swap hike with the MAHC on the AT between Spivey Gap and Chestoa. MAHC will start at Spivey Gap and hike north on the AT through open woods and along a beautiful stream (1800' of climbing). JCHC will hike south from Chestoa, starting with wonderful views of the Nolichucky River (3300' of climbing). JCHC Leader: Joel Zabel 423-631-6385. Depart Long John Silver's\* 8 EIGHT AM.

2/17/24 Strenuous 12 mile in/out hike starting in Rocky Fork State Park. We will take the Rocky Fork trail to Birchfield Creek trail to Birchfield Camp Lake for lunch. We may also stop at the highest point in any TN state park, which is close to our route. Leave Long John Silvers at 8 EIGHT am. Hike leader: Luke Carter 423-737-6428

2/24/24 Moderate 11.5-mile hike in the South Holston Dam area. After a 40-minute drive, we'll park at a trailhead on Piney Hill Rd, downstream from the dam. After walking 1.9 miles on Emmett Trail and Tailwater Trail, we'll arrive at Holston View Dam Rd. From there we'll use trails that intertwine with the road for 1.5 miles until we reach the top of the dam. At this point we'll go out & back across the dam. Our next section is a 3.7-mile out & back on Ross Ridge Trail (AKA Spillway road), which ends at Bent Branch Spillway on the shore of South Holston Lake. We'll stop for lunch near the spillway. After returning to the road from the spillway, we'll take a slightly shorter route 3 miles back to the vehicle(s). Meet behind Long John Silvers\* and leave at 8:00 AM. Contact hike leader Jeff Miller (423-833-7889) if you'd like to leave from Food City\*\*\* in Elizabethton. If you're coming from Bluff City, Bristol, or farther north, you're welcome to meet us at 633 Piney Hill Rd, Bristol TN, at 8:40. This address is to the nearest house, but it's very close to our gravel parking lot on the southeast side of Piney Hill Rd. Please tell Jeff if you're taking this option.

3/2/24 open

3/9/24 Strenuous 8.5 mile in & out hike from Rock Creek Rec Area. We'll hike up Rattlesnake Ridge Trail to Brandon's Bluff: a secluded rock ledge with a panoramic view for lunch. 2400' of climbing. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 9 NINE AM. Leader: Yong Li (423-276-2720)

3/16/24 Strenuous 11 mile hike to the Nolichucky overlook (a.k.a. Eagle's Nest). This hike starts above Indian Grave Gap on gravel Ephriam Place Rd. It follows closed forest service roads. We will lunch at the dramatic rocky outcrop perched 900' above the Nolichucky River at the top of one of the steepest gorge walls. Leave Long John Silver's\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Josh Banks (334) 368-6596

3/23/24 Very strenuous 13 mile in & out AT hike from Allen Gap to the Rich Mtn fire tower for lunch. Over 4200' of climbing. Leave JONESBOROUGH POST OFFICE\*\* at 8 EIGHT AM. Leader: Jeff Bennett (973)832-3090

3/30/24 open