

Directions to Turtle Island Preserve — West Entrance

Please make your way to Western NC and then use the following directions.

PLEASE be sure to only use these directions – it tells you more than your GPS ever could
(Taking Blue Ridge Parkway? take Bamboo Gap Exit - Follow asterisked directions below)

From Winston-Salem area:

- Take Hwy 421 North through Wilkesboro, NC
- From Wilkes County you climb, climb, climb the mountain on Hwy 421.
- When you get to the top of the mountain, the Blue Ridge Parkway has an overpass over Hwy 421. *This is the only overpass. Its large and made of stone. You can't miss it.*
- Head towards Boone, as you approach town there will be a Marathon/Kangaroo Gas station on your left, Turn Left onto Bamboo Rd. just before this Gas Station on your left.
- Follow Bamboo Rd. all the way up the mountain, making a left on Little Laurel Rd. – immediately going underneath a parkway overpass. *(if Bamboo Rd. turns to gravel, you just missed your turn)*
- See asterisked directions below...

From Charlotte, Lenoir, Blowing Rock areas:

- Take Hwy 321 toward Boone
- 321 becomes Blowing Rock Rd just as you begin to enter the town of Boone, take a Right at the light onto Deerfield Rd. *Walgreens is on your left, if you pass Lowes Hardware on the right you just missed Deerfield Rd. You will pass the Hospital on your right once you have turned onto Deerfield Rd.*
- As you proceed up Deerfield, veer right at the T where Deerfield meets Wilson Ridge
- Take Deerfield Rd all the way until it dead-ends at Bamboo - Go Right onto Bamboo

(Do not turn onto Bamboo at the 4-way stop sign, wait until Deerfield DEAD-ENDS onto Bamboo)

- Before Bamboo turns to gravel, Turn Left on Little Laurel Rd. (promptly going under a parkway overpass)
- See asterisked directions below.

From Boone – (not taking Blue Ridge Parkway):

- Travel East on Hwy 421 S (towards Wilkesboro).
- At the eastern edge of Boone there is a Hardees on the left at a traffic light.
- Go about 1.7 miles from Hardees, cross the South Fork of the New River
- Take a right at the traffic light onto Bamboo Rd. (A Marathon/Kangaroo Gas Station is on the right)
- Travel on Bamboo Rd. for about 3 miles and look for Little Laurel Rd. on the left.
- Take a Left on Little Laurel Rd. *(you'll immediately go under a parkway overpass)*
- Stay on Little Laurel Rd. almost 4 miles, until gravel entrance to Turtle Island.
(See asterisked directions below for details of last 4 miles on Little Laurel)

***Asterisked Directions* (continued from all points above):**

- * Proceed under the Blue Ridge Parkway overpass, following Little Laurel Rd to its end.
- * At 1.3 miles from Parkway Exit "Bamboo Gap" you will pass *Little Laurel Rd. EXT* on the right. **Do not take it!**
Continue straight on Little Laurel Rd.
- * Look for a log house on the right about a mile past *Little Laurel EXT*
- * You will then pass Heavenly Mountain Drive on your right. Continue downhill.
- * At the bottom of the hill our gravel driveway begins straight-ahead between two residential driveways.
- * Proceed down this gravel driveway, keeping left, continue down between our wooden entrance gate.
- * Park on the right-hand side of the road in our upper overnight parking lot.

T.I. Staff will meet you at the parking lot and lead the group into camp on foot, once all belongings have been loaded onto our gear-truck.