

Madison County / Rapidan Road / Big Meadows

Madison / Hoover Entrance

Season: April 1st through November 30th

Hours: Day Time / Daylight

Subject to weather closures

General Conditions

1. Daylight Hours only, subject to closures due to adverse weather
 - Calendar to be developed, sunrise to 45 minutes before sunset
2. Detailed information provided and posted on the road, rules and park regulations
3. Sign at beginning of the road restricting through travel to advance ticket holders only
4. Tickets will be sold under the Direction of the Madison County Tourism Agency under an agreement with SNP
5. No parking along the road except at designated locations
6. Speed limit on all gravel road surface is 15 MPH
7. Hikers, fisherman, hunters & horseback riders have the right of way at all times
8. Cars and SUV's and Permitted Vans only
 - Restrictions, no duel wheeled vehicles, vehicles over 10,000 GVW, motorcycles, trailers
9. Fully automated gate installed on Rapidan Road that accepts prepaid programmed permit cards for trips to Big Meadows
 - Road sensor to permit return
10. Gate / Chain to block off road to Hoover's Camp
 - Access only by park employees, Park and County tour vans
11. Employee carpool passes may be provided subject to Park approval
 - As Tanners Ridge Road from Stanley is currently allowed
12. Limit of 10 cars per hour (depending on month and daylight hours)
13. Limit of 6 vans per day
14. Late exits must use Swift Run (Rt. 33) or Thornton Gap (Rt. 211) exits to return to Madison
15. Private cars are not permitted to visit Hoover's camp

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Passenger Vans

1. Proposed schedule below departing from Criglersville
2. Vans to be operated by the Madison County Tourism via a private / public partnership to be developed
3. Tickets will be sold under the Direction of the Madison County Tourism Agency under an agreement with SNP
4. Vans managed by the Madison Tourism in partnership with local businesses
5. Limited van access to Hoovers camp coordinated with SNP bus trips from Big Meadows
6. Shuttle van to serve
 - Direct day trips
 - Lunch & Dinner at the Park
 - Overnight transportation to Park lodging
 - Hiker drop offs
7. Vans to have limited return access for after dark for returns to Madison

Possible Schedule

1. **9:30 am “Hoover Tour & Lunch”** Pick up from Criglersville, Madison with other possible pick up locations. Narrative History by driver, stop at Hoover’s Camp for tour, continue to Big Meadow, stops at Byrd Center and Big Meadows Lodge (possibly Skyland too). Drop offs and pickups for overnight stays.
2:00 pm return to Madison
2. **3:30 pm “Hoover Tour & Dinner”** Pick up from Criglersville, Madison with other possible pick up locations. Narrative History by driver, stop at Hoover’s Camp for tour, continue to Big Meadow, stops at Byrd Center and Big Meadows Lodge (possibly Skyland too). Drop offs and pickups for overnight stays.
8:00 pm return to Madison
3. **10 am “Hikers / Big Meadow Shuttle”** Pick up from Criglersville, Madison with other possible pick up locations. Narrative History by driver, to Big Meadow, stops at Byrd Center and Big Meadows Lodge (possibly Skyland too) Drop offs and pickups for overnight stays.
11:30 noon return to Madison
4. **1 pm “Hikers / Big Meadow Shuttle”** Pick up from Criglersville, Madison with other possible pick up locations. Narrative History by driver, to Big Meadow, stops at Byrd Center and Big Meadows Lodge (possibly Skyland too) Drop offs and pickups for overnight stays.
2:30 pm return to Madison
5. **4 pm “Big Meadow Dinner Shuttle”** Pick up from Criglersville, Madison with other possible pick up locations. Narrative History by driver, to Big Meadow, stops at Byrd Center and Big Meadows Lodge (possibly Skyland too) Drop offs and pickups for overnight stays.
8:00 pm return to Madison

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Volume

Cars

1. Permit 10 vehicles per hour (see attached spreadsheet)
2. Average would be 117 cars per day (averaged 8 months at 100% depending on month and daylight hours)
3. Actual volume will be less than 100% based on demand and weather conditions
4. Permit monthly averages to offset slow demand days or weather closed days. Cap single daily limit at 150%
5. Trade off car capacity for vans if demand shifts
6. Actual would be less based on demand and weather conditions. Permit monthly averages to offset slow demand days or weather closed days. Cap single daily limit at 150%

Vans

1. Permit up to 6 vans per seasonal day
2. Possible extended season

Fees

At full use of the road at proposed limits would generate over \$680,000 per year for the Park

Attached is financial breakdown of volume and possible revenue to the Park

Cars

1. Tickets will be sold under the Direction of the Madison County Tourism Agency under an agreement with SNP
2. Gate fees into SNP at Park rates \$15.00 per car “one way only” “one passage only”
3. Gate fees returning into Madison \$5.00 per car “return fee option” “one passage only”
4. Prepaid tickets may be reserved in advanced based on availability, 50% may be presold
5. Tickets are good only on the days issued
6. Unused tickets may be redeemed for another trip on a first come basis
7. Annual, senior and other discounts are not applicable at this entrance

Vans

1. Gate fees at Shenandoah National Park rates of \$75.00 per trip