

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Music

David VO:

On this episode of Georgia Traveler, we're on a Rabun Gap Ramble, traveling U.S. 441 through the northeast mountains in search of family fun, a place to eat, a place to sleep, an outdoor activity, and a local legend. That's next on Georgia Traveler.

Music

Music

On the road most every day, looking for a place where you can play, looking for the best place you can stay. From the mountains to the coast, looking for a trip you'll like the most, we may even find a friendly ghost, we're Georgia Traveler. Well, we're from Georgia and we travel, that's why we call it Georgia Traveler, and nothing rhymes with Georgia Traveler, but still we're called the Georgia Traveler.

Music

Woman VO:

Georgia Traveler is made possible in part by...

Music

Man VO:

Few places on earth match Georgia for natural beauty, and we plan to keep it that way. We're Georgia Power, a proud sponsor of public broadcasting. We're on, so you can be. Georgia Power, a Southern Company.

Music

Woman VO:

And by supporters of Georgia Public Broadcasting. Thank you.

Music

Keely VO:

Our Rabun Gap Ramble down U.S. 441 begins in far northeast Georgia at the famed Dillard House, in Dillard, Georgia.

Music

Keely VO:

Welcome to the Dillard House, located in the foothills of the Smokey Mountains!

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

With a wide variety of activities located onsite and around town, Dillard House is an excellent spot to centralize your North Georgia experience.

John Dillard:

Dillard House is not a real structured, organized place. It's really more of a nice base camp for enjoying this part of the mountains. And I'm prejudiced, of course, but I think this is the best part of the Georgia mountains.

Keely VO:

Along with beautiful scenery, Dillard House has many of its own attractions. One I just could not pass up was horseback riding.

Music

Pam Thompson:

We have about 35 horses. And mostly quarter horses, all ages and all sizes; something for everybody. We have a beginner ride for children ages six and older, and that's our farm ride. And then we also have our river ride, which goes across the farm and up the middle of the Little Tennessee River and that's a really popular ride.

Keely:

This is pretty unique to be able to ride in a river, isn't it?

Pam Thompson:

Uh-huh, it is.

Keely:

Do the horses like it as much as the riders?

Pam Thompson:

I think they do. Especially when it's hot in July, we can ride, and it's just so nice.

Music

Pam Thompson:

We also offer a day ride for experienced riders and that goes down to the Chattahoochee National Forest, and along side Chattooga River.

Music

Pam Thompson:

Bring the family.

Keely:

It's great. Well, I recommend it!

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Music

Keely VO:

After riding, I needed to freshen up, and the Dillard House has many different ways to enjoy a night's stay.

John Dillard:

We've got a pretty wide selection of rooms. Our best our best rooms, I would rate four star, but we have them all the way to fairly sparse rooms, but of course they're budgeted accordingly. And we have some nice bed and breakfast-type rooms here in the original rock house. We also have over 25 cabins or chalets, and they're anywhere from A frames to four-bedroom lodges.

Keely VO:

After a quick rest I'm ready to tackle dinner. I've heard that the Dillard House serves food family style, so I've asked Phil to join me.

Phil:

Don't we need a menu or something?

Waitress:

No, the family style concept is everything on that menu outside.

Phil:

Hold up, hold up, hold up! Family style? What's family style?

Waitress:

Every single item on the menu will be brought to your table, and you share in big bowls.

Phil:

Wait a minute! All them items I ran through?

Waitress:

Yes, everything outside...

Keely:

We don't have to choose!

Phil:

We get all that?

Waitress:

You don't have to choose anything, everything's coming out.

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Phil:

We get all that? We get all that!

Music

Keely:

I don't think that I could eat another bite! How 'bout you?

Phil:

Mmm-hmm. Yeah, okay.

Keely:

Yeah. So....anyway, I think next we're gonna go whitewater rafting. Are you excited about that?

Phil:

Yeah...

Keely:

Okay, I'm all fueled up for it. Are you ready?

Phil:

Fuel...Mmm-hmm...

Keely:

Well, I'm done. I'm gonna go gear up. Whitewater rafting's next. Chattooga River. Alright, you know what, I'll see you back at the rooms...

Phil:

Okay...

Music

David VO:

How in the heck did the Georgia Traveler team get themselves in this position? Well, it began with a trip to Chattooga Outpost...

Music

Jacob Trant:

Good morning, ya'll! Welcome to the Chattooga River.

David:

Thank you...

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Jacob Trant:

First thing we're gonna do is have y'all fill out some assumptions of risk waivers. If y'all could just kinda read over that and give me your John Hancock on those.

David:

It's Herbie Hancock!

Phil:

And what am I assuming here?

Jacob Trant:

You are pretty much signing away most of your natural born rights to us.

David VO:

Don George, master guide, gave us some background on the Chattooga River.

Don George:

Well, probably the most legendary point of the river is the fact that the Chattooga was the site for filming of the movie, *Deliverance*.

David VO:

Deliverance! Well, we're not Burt and the boys, but Keely, Phil, and I wanted to tame this river...

Jacob Trant:

Alright, good morning you guys, welcome to the Chattooga River. Hope y'all are ready for some fun rafting today, but I've got a few little safety things to go over with y'all to keep y'all protected out here today.

Music

Jacob Trant:

On this river we promote self preservation—save your own butt.

David VO:

Sounds like the new Georgia Traveler creed.

Keely:

Are you more nervous after that trip talk or less nervous?

David:

What talk?

Keely:

Trip talk...

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

David:

Oh, I wasn't paying attention.

Video Narrator:

You may find yourself tempted to put your feet down and stand up; don't do it!

David:

So what did you learn in the video, Keely?

Keely:

How to save your life David.

David:

Alright, thank-you!

David VO:

With confidence only friendly support can provide we load up and take off for the river.

Music

Phil:

See, that reminds me of a t-bone steak!

Don George:

So Section Four, as far as length, is six miles on the river. There's an international scale of rating rapids, anywhere from Class 1 to Class 6. So 1 is easy; 6 is hazardous to your health. The first two miles are a bunch of Class 3, so these are rapids that are not real difficult, but they're not real easy at the same time. This is like a warm up period, and things pick up after that.

Music

David VO:

Nice warm-up but where are the big rapids? I think I found it...

Music

Don George:

At lower levels, we omit the first two miles, 'cause it's pretty low, and in lieu of the first two miles, we do a lot of swimming. So there's the pot-hole swim that we did.

David:

This is called the Pot-Hole. We go down underneath the rock; come back up on the other side...hopefully.

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Music

Don George:

A couple of spots we can jump off rocks.

Phil:

Ahhhhh!

Music

Don George:

The Section 4 trip, we'll span anywhere from four and a half hours to five hours on the water. You won't get back 'till late afternoon, so again, you're four and a half to five hours on the water.

Music

David VO:

Did somebody say lunch?

Music

Phil:

We got a little healthy food over here. We got our carrots, we got our celery. And don't forget about Oreos. You gotta have your Oreos; your PB&J. No matter where you go, you can always find a Fantastic Food Find, even when you're on the river. And, excuse me, I gotta go finish doing what I do best!

Music

David VO:

Fueled up and ready to tackle...Wait a minute! Is that banjo music?

Music

Don George:

If you look over to the right, you'll see the cleared area, and if you remember in the movie, *Deliverance*, the "squeal like a pig" scene, they actually filmed that there in that cleared area. And then to the right of the cleared area, there's a small stream called Camp Creek. And there's a scene in the movie where they drag the body up to bury it and they actually use Camp Creek for that filming.

Keely:

Wow....

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Phil:

Man, you got a local legend right here on the river...

David VO:

I think we should take the fastest route out of here, and that's how we got into this situation!

Music

Don George:

The rapids are big and exciting. Lots of splashing, big waves in there, big bounces, and of course, there's always the possibility of falling out of the raft. So it makes it for a lot of fun.

Music

Keely VO:

From a picture-perfect ending to another awesome Outdoor Activity, let's check out Phil as he motors down the open road with a little help from some friends.

Phil:

When it comes to experiencing the beauty of the Georgia mountains, you can raft, you can hike, you can even drive. Or my new favorite---motorcycling!

Music

Phil VO:

There's no doubt that hitting the open road is fun, but when it comes to motorcycles, safety should come first. That's why I enrolled in the state's Motorcycle Safety Program Basic Rider Course, or BRC. If you want to learn how to ride a motorcycle safely and responsibly, the 15-hour BRC is the place to start. There's approximately eight hours of classroom and seven hours of on-cycle instruction.

Roger Wiles:

So that tells us that operating a motorcycle is pretty near four times as brain-consuming as driving a car.

Phil VO:

My course was taught at Road Atlanta, but classes are offered across the state. Georgia's Department of Driver Services has more information on their website.

Phil:

Look, Ma...I made it! I'm on top of the world!

Phil:

GEORGIA TRAVELER 204 CAPTION SCRIPT

Now that I got my license, it's time to motor. That's what brings us here to Clayton, GA, in Rabun County, for our Rabun Gap Ramble. I brought some friends along; come on, I want you to meet 'em!

Phil VO:

First, there's my long-time buddy, big Harold Clopton, riding a Honda Goldwing. Marlon Balkstra, one of my instructors, joins this ride as a private citizen, riding a 2007 Ducati Hyper-Motard. Also on this ride as a private citizen is my instructor Roger Wiles. He's on his 1968 BMW R-69 US. And Norma Wiles, his wife. She heard there was gonna be a ride and came on over on her 750 Moto Guzzi Brevia. Another of my good friends, "Daddy" Ron Ross. Now, he's on his 1996 Harley-Davidson ElectroGlide Classic. He'll be riding two-up today with my lovely wife, Kim. And last, but certainly not least, my new bud, Bill Jones. That's him on the 2006 Harley-Davidson Ultra Classic with the side car. He'll be toting my man Dan to get some great video. I think it's time we got rolling!

Phil:

Alright, we're gonna begin our ride right here in Clayton. We're gonna head north on Highway 441. Are you ready? Let's ride!

Music

Phil VO:

U.S. 441 is a spur route of U.S. Highway 41. It runs for 939 miles from Lake City, Tennessee to Miami, Florida. It goes right through Rabun County, so what better way to ramble?

Music

Phil VO:

Now, you might have noticed that we gained a rider. Marlon's friend, Karl Snell, caught up with us in Clayton. He's riding the yellow R-1200 GS BMW.

Karl Snell:

You know, motorcycling is actually something that can be done all by yourself. Your decisions and your direction is entirely up to you. A lot of people do it as a group sport, but, you know, it's a group sport of individuals.

"Daddy" Ron Ross:

The first thing I guess all bikers talk about is the freedom. Everything you do, every aspect of your body, every movement has a reaction to the motorcycle and riding. There's something about just you and that motorcycle, like the cowboys experienced. Like the last great independent Americans are the motorcycle riders. You get out on your horse in the desert someplace, and it was just you and it, and you could commune and your life was good. It's the same thing with a motorcycle.

GEORGIA TRAVELER 204 CAPTION SCRIPT

Bill Jones:

Well, it's not for everybody, but handicapped people can ride too. It's something, if you want to do it, you can find a way. I have an Easy Pull Clutch, which Harley came out with sometime in the early '90s. I ride with the clutch and the gas on the same hand. I've got cerebral palsy, and the clutch and the gas is on the right, and I ride with the brake on the left. It enables me to ride a motorcycle, and I've been riding that way ever since '72.

Marlon Balkstra:

It's one of the few things I can do where I can achieve sort of a zone-like existence. I can really become one with the bike and just enjoy the curves and have a great time riding the motorcycle, just the whole physical experience of it. The other side of it is the people that I've met, you know. We all come from different walks of life, but it's a brotherhood; a sisterhood. It's just, it's awesome. There's no way that I've ever belonged to anything else that has brought me so close to so many different people.

Norma Wiles:

Roger and I met through our mutual love of motorcycling. The best thing about motorcycling is the freedom that I feel. It makes you one with the grass, the trees, the earth. It's just everything.

Roger Wiles:

Well, there's a T-shirt that says, "If I have to explain, you wouldn't understand." So I probably won't try real hard to explain other than I've done it all my life; it's part of who I am. I enjoy it. And a bad day on a motorcycle is still better than a good day working, and it's what I do.

Phil:

Up here in the mountains, there are curvier and more challenging routes, but for now, I'll leave that to the more experienced riders!

Motorcycles roar by

Roger Wiles:

Phil did well. I didn't really see him all that much, but those occasions when I did see him, I saw him turning corners, and turning his chin. He looked like he was in full control, and what he needs to do is get out there and ride more.

Harold Clopton:

My favorite part was actually watching Phil for the first time. For the very first time to get a chance to watch and see that he really do know how to ride now. I'm really, really pleased. I'm proud of him. He's doing a real good job. I'm looking forward to getting out on the road with him more often.

GEORGIA TRAVELER 204 CAPTION SCRIPT

Phil VO:

And I'm looking forward to it as well. I want to thank all my friends that rode with me on this trip. No matter what mode of transportation you use, I hope you have a chance to Ramble through Rabun County sometime soon. Now while I continue to journey through Rabun, David is heading down to Clarkesville to enjoy a more serene setting.

Music

David VO:

After motoring the Blue Ridge Mountains like Phil, you may want to take it down a notch, so how about weekend at a place "Where Spring Spends the Summer"? That's the slogan for Moccasin Creek State Park, nestled right on the shores of beautiful Lake Burton.

Music

Brian S. Nichols

We're the smallest Georgia State Park at 32 acres. We have 55 campsites, however. We're located in between the Chattahoochee National Forest and Lake Burton Wilderness Management Area, which is about 12,500 acres, and Lake Burton, which is behind us, is about 2800 acres.

David:

There are several activities here at Moccasin Creek State Park. You can go camping with an RV or a tent in one of the spots they have here. You can rent a boat or canoe for the day. You can go fishing, with a license of course, or you can take out a bike on one of the many trails, like this leisurely loop I'm taking, here at Moccasin Creek State Park.

Music

Brian S. Nichols:

Many people fishing from right here in the banks, or taking the boat out, whether they bring their own or rent from us. You can ride bikes here in the park, a road bike, or take the mountain bikes out. Even things like stargazing or geocasting.

David VO:

Brian set me up with a motor boat out the lake. I then showed off some of my hoop skills, followed by a horseshoe clinic, and of course volleyball. However I do suggest bringing a friend to the park because competition can make the experience more enjoyable...Marjorie Wood is a frequent and long-time visitor of Moccasin Creek.

Marjorie Wood:

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

I've been camping here for years. When I was growing up in my teens, my dad would come up and we'd go fishing. So I said, well, I've got to find this place again when I grow up, and sure enough, I have. And I've loved it; every moment.

David VO:

Fishing is a major part of the Moccasin Creek experience, and why wouldn't it be when the U.S Fish Hatchery is right across the creek?

Perry Thompson

We're one of three state trout hatcheries in Georgia. We have a trout stocking program that produces and stocks about 1.1 million trout per year. Here at Lake Burton, we produce primarily rainbow and brown trout. No charge. No charge at all, and the hatchery's open, every day of the year. The kids' fishing pond, there's no charge for that. Fishing in the lake requires a license if you're 16 or older. And the stream, of course, requires a license at 16, and you have to have a trout stamp.

David:

When you come to the fish hatchery here at Lake Burton, you can either fish out in the ponds or in the nearby streams to catch some trout, but they really don't recommend you doing it this way. Hey, alright! Four!

David VO:

After finding out that net fishing was not permitted in the Hatchery, I headed back over the bridge to the State Park and tried my luck as an angler.

Brian:

Sir, do you have your fishing license with you today?

David:

Uh, yeah...it's in the van. So, you need a fishing license to do this?

Brian:

Come with me.

David VO:

Don't worry, Brian let me off the hook...this time.

Brian S. Nichols:

It's a beautiful part of Georgia. Tremendous diversity. The mountains, the scenery is just unbeatable.

Music

David VO:

GEORGIA TRAVELER 204 CAPTION SCRIPT

As I take this high-powered speed boat out on Lake Burton, I can only assume that Phil is somewhere eating...

Music

Phil:

You know, when it comes to vacation, there's two places I really enjoy going, the beach and the mountains. Well today I'm in Tallulah Falls, the north Georgia mountains, and I was told to go check out a place called Isabelle's on the Gorge. Let's go see what they got on the menu.

Phil VO:

The restaurant is named after five generations of Isabelles, including Nancy, and the menu has changed even in the time of this Isabelle, but it still keeps its southern flavor.

Nancy Isabelle Almoyan:

Oh we have lots of neat things. Our chicken salad is very popular, it's homemade. We have wonderful fried green tomatoes that we're really proud of; they're stuff with provolone cheese, and a little bit of a twist to the normal fried green tomato, but really good. Paul's Reuben sandwich, his mile high Reuben is amazing and bring his New York, New Jersey flair into our menu a little bit.

Phil VO:

When visiting Isabelle's you'll notice Nancy taking care of everything up front. Her husband Paul is commander-in-chef of the kitchen fixing everything from salad to a bear of a burger that won't leave you lonely.

Paul Almoyan:

It's covered with crumbled Maytag bleu cheese, melted, and served on a bun with all the fixings.

Phil:

Okay, okay, Paul, y'all gotta help me here, what is Maytag bleu cheese? Because y'all remember the Maytag repairman never could get a machine to work on? What is Maytag bleu cheese?

Paul Almoyan:

Maytag bleu cheese, just another one of your aged bleu cheese. It's just another one of your style of bleu cheeses that are out there. There's several different kind of bleu cheese. Maytag is a good quality, strong blue cheese. You know you're eating bleu cheese when you're eating Maytag bleu cheese.

Phil VO:

Now most people have there desert after the big meal, but not me! Especially when Nancy brings out the worlds smallest sundae, and their signature desert,

GEORGIA TRAVELER 204 CAPTION SCRIPT

the Topiary, which to me is an ice cream sundae in a flower pot. As you can see, for the last 12 years, every meal served is a labor of love.

Paul Almoyan:

The best thing I enjoy about restaurants is interacting with people be able to be creative and doing different things. You know, food's a passion, and I enjoy cooking, and I enjoy making people happy with food, and so that's what keeps me coming back each morning.

Phil:

Okay, Paul was right when he said all the food was fantastic; it looks great. Now let's start with over here we got, Paul's Big Reuben Sandwich. I want y'all to take a look at that. Look at all the meat inside of that, boy you can't beat that! I got some fries to go along with it. Over here, I started messing around with the fried green tomatoes, now their stuffed with provolone cheese, and my left and I don't really... oh yeah, oh that's some kind of good...that's some kind of good! Here, I got a little stromboli, and I know this is hot and the cheese is melted, so I'm gonna take this kind of slow 'cause I don't want to hurt myself. Oh my goodness, you can't beat that! Right here sweet potato fries. Fantastic! Last but not least, this is what they call the Bleu Bear Burger. And I'm going to pile that over there...it's got bleu cheese on it, and Paul was telling us earlier, Maytag bleu cheese. I know I'm messy, but it's fantastic. And speaking of it, that's another Fantastic Food Find. I'm here in Tallulah Falls, at Isabelle's on the Gorge, if you get a chance, come by and check 'em out! I definitely got to try this again. That's pretty good...

Music

Phil:

I am stuffed! Well, that's it for the Rabun Gap Ramble. I want to thank all my good friends here at Isabelle's, and all my new friends that I met. We hope you'll join us for our next episode of Georgia Traveler, but until then, I'm Phil Proctor wishing you, pleasant journeys. I'm stuffed!

Music

Woman VO:

Georgia traveler is made possible in part by...

Music

Man VO:

Few places on earth match Georgia for natural beauty, and we plan to keep it that way. We're Georgia Power, a proud sponsor of public broadcasting. We're on, so you can be. Georgia Power, a Southern Company.

**GEORGIA TRAVELER 204
CAPTION SCRIPT**

Music

Woman VO:

And by supporters of Georgia Public Broadcasting. Thank you.

Music

Man VO:

Georgia Traveler is produced in partnership with the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Tourism Foundation.

Music

Man VO:

This has been a production of Georgia Public Broadcasting.