DAY TRIP TO NEW MANCHESTER

From Douglasville · Douglas County, Georgia

MILL, LUMBER AND COMPANY

Photo: Dianne K Frost, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

STATE PARK RUINS

Mill walls stand in Sweetwater Creek State Park, open 7 a.m. to dark; interior closed except on guided hikes (Georgia State Parks, read October 29, 2026).

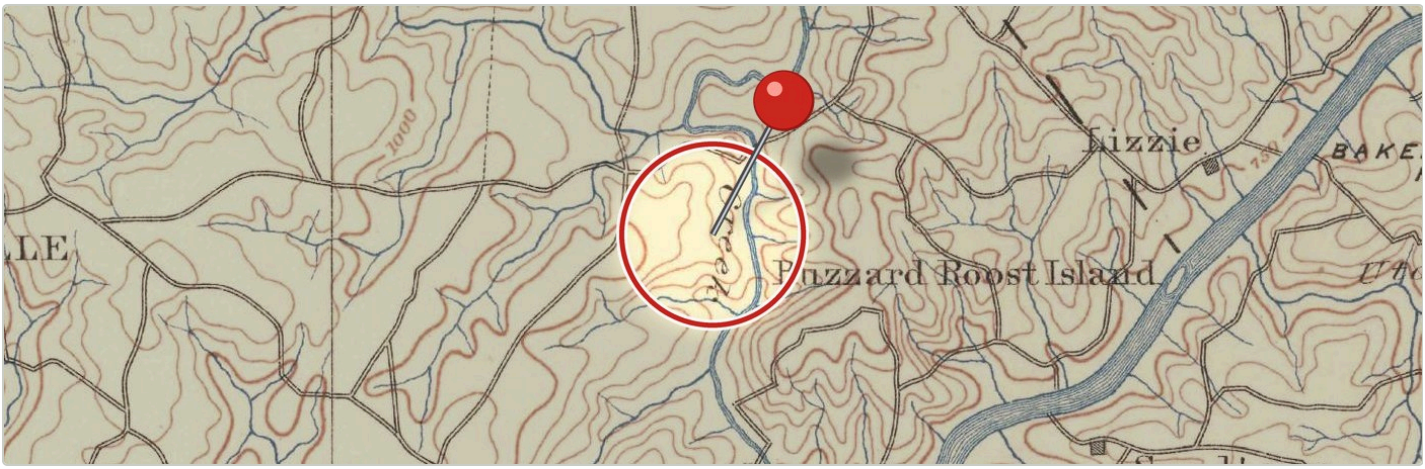
New Manchester is a half-day hike from Douglasville or Atlanta: park at the visitor center, walk the Red Trail along Sweetwater Creek to the mill ruins, and come back the same way or loop on the White Trail.

A SAMPLE DAY

☐	Morning	Drive to the park from Douglasville on I-20, and pay for parking.
☐	Late morning	Walk the Red Trail along the creek to the mill ruins.
☐	Midday	Continue to the overlook where the White Trail meets the Red, then walk back.
☐	Afternoon	Check the park events calendar for a ranger-led hike into the ruins.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The mill walls from the trail.** Window openings frame the creek behind them.
- **The shoals below the ruins.** The rapids that powered the mill.
- **The view from the overlook.** The whole ruin above the water.



USGS topographic map, 1891 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	9 mi, about 18 min each way from downtown Douglasville. From Atlanta: 18 mi, about 30 min.
HOURS	Park 7 a.m. to dark; office 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Georgia State Parks, read October 29, 2026).
ADMISSION	Parking fee required; daily and annual ParkPasses are sold. The park page doesn't state the amount.
RUINS	Interior closed except on guided hikes; walking to the outside of the ruins on your own is allowed.
TIME ON SITE	Two to three hours for the Red Trail and the ruins.
WALKING	Red Trail: 1 mile one way, ruins at half a mile, easy to difficult. White Trail: 5.2-mile loop, moderate to difficult.
CONTACT	770-732-5871
WEBSITE	gastateparks.org/SweetwaterCreek

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 33.74765, −84.62327 · 33°44′52″N 84°37′24″W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/georgia/new-manchester/

Directions Google Maps to Sweetwater Creek State Park visitor center

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.