



Ocoee Reservoir No. 3

TVA Region Map



The Ocoee River is a favorite of whitewater enthusiasts from around the world. A section of the river below Ocoee Dam No. 3 was the whitewater venue for the 1996 Olympics. The name Ocoee is from the Cherokee Indian language and means "apricot vine place."

Ocoee Dam No. 3, located in southeast Tennessee, is the third in a string of three TVA dams on the Ocoee River. It was built by TVA during World War II to produce power for the war effort. Along with the other Ocoee dams, it is an integral part of TVA's hydroelectric system and provides important recreation benefits.

The Ocoee No. 3 powerhouse is located more than two miles downstream from the dam. At the dam, water from the river is diverted into a tunnel and carried to the powerhouse downstream. Because of the drop in elevation from the dam to the powerhouse, power generation is significantly higher than it would be if the dam were right next to the powerhouse.

[More information on Ocoee Reservoir No. 3](#)

[Operating guide](#)

[Daily reservoir operation information](#)

[Recreation release schedule](#)

Ocoee No. 3: Facts & Figures

Construction of Ocoee Dam No. 3 began in 1941 and was completed in 1942.

The dam is 110 feet high and stretches 612 feet across the Ocoee River.

Ocoee Dam No. 3 is a hydroelectric facility. It has one generating unit with a net dependable capacity of 29 megawatts. Net dependable capacity is the amount of power a dam can produce on an average day, minus the electricity used by the dam itself.

Ocoee No. 3 provides 24 miles of shoreline and 360 acres of water surface.

Water is diverted from generation and sluiced from the dam on selected days to provide for whitewater recreation downstream of the dam and through the 1996 Olympic whitewater course.

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