

MOUNT MAGAZINE STATE PARK

Magnificent vistas of broad river valleys, deep canyons and distant mountains welcome lovers of beautiful scenery and outdoor adventure to Mount Magazine State Park. At 2,753 feet above sea level, Mount Magazine is the highest point in Arkansas. This state park is managed under a special use agreement from, and in concert with, the Ozark National Forest, and conserves 2,200 acres of the oak-hickory and pine covered, plateau-like summit. Mountain slope and the surrounding forests are part of the National Forest and contain trails, lakes and forest recreation areas.

On the mountaintop, altitude, geography and climate combine to create unique habitats for rare plants and animals. The elevation also makes it a cool place to be on warm summer days.

Mount Magazine State Park offers a variety of activities for outdoor adventure. Trails provide hours of enjoyable hiking, biking and horseback riding through the forests. For those with nerves of steel, there is rappelling and rock climbing on 200-foot high bluffs. Take a leap with your hang glider to soar with the birds over the vast Arkansas River Valley, or enjoy the mountain slowly and quietly through wildflower photography or bird and butterfly watching. New roads complete with bike lanes lead travelers to all new facilities. In the near future, you will be able to enjoy even more new facilities.

The park is surrounded by the Ozark National Forest, which allows you to enjoy hunting, fishing, boating, backpacking, horseback riding and other activities while using the State Park as a base.

It is hard to tell it now, but once the mountain had farms, homesites, and resort lodges. Attracted by lower temperatures (usually 10-15 degrees cooler than the valley), as early as the 1850s, settlers and vacationers began using the mountain to avoid the summer heat. Drought, erosion and the Depression era brought much of that to an end. Campgrounds, trails and a lodge were constructed by the Federal Works Progress Administration. That lodge burned in 1971.

Now, Arkansas State Parks and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service are working to recognize the mountain's recreational potential while conserving the natural resources of this unique ecosystem. Among many resource management techniques, the Forest Service conducts controlled burns on small sections of the mountain to keep the habitat in its pre-settlement

condition. As a result, glades, seeps and other unique habitat support a variety of wildlife, some found in few other places in the world.

FACILITIES

Visitor Center ♦ With interactive exhibits, audio/visual auditorium, wildlife viewing area, concession vending, and offices.

Camping ♦ Cameron Bluff Campground has 18 sites with full hookups (electric, water, and sewer) and a new bathhouse with hot showers. A RV dump station is located in the area.

NOTE: Campers must register at the Visitor Center before occupying a site. All sites are assigned; sixty percent of the park's available campsites may be reserved up to one year in advance.

Picnic Pavilion ♦ A group rental pavilion is located at the Greenfield Picnic Area.

Gift Shop ♦ Located at the Visitor Center.

Future Facilities ♦ Lodge, cabins, restaurant, swimming pool, conference facilities, horsecamp, 19th-century homestead and amphitheater.

RECREATION

Picnicking ♦ Tables and grills are available at the Greenfield, Benefield, Brown Springs and Cameron Bluff areas.

Hiking ♦ The trails on the top of the mountain will lead you through prime examples of oak-hickory and pine forests, wooded glades and soggy seeps. Trail maps are available at the Visitor Center.

Fishing ♦ Both rock quarries hold healthy populations of bream, catfish, and large-mouth bass. Traveling to Cove Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, Cedar Piney Lake or Spring Lake are preferred choices.

Swimming ♦ Available at Cove Lake, Blue Mountain Lake or Spring Lake. A public pool is located in Paris.

Rock Climbing ♦ This is allowed, but only at certain places to protect the sensitive plants and animals living on the park. Check at the Visitor Center for specifics and register upon arrival.

Hang-gliding ♦ Hang-gliding is also allowed but it too has restrictions. Again, check with the Visitor Center and register upon arrival.

Horseback Riding ♦ Horseback riding is permissible on the Huckleberry Horse Trail, which can be accessed at the northeast rock quarry. At the Visitor Center pick up the Forest Service map for this trail.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Guided hikes, history and nature talks, audio/visual programs, and demonstrations are available year-round. Organized groups may request special programs in advance. School groups are encouraged to schedule field trips to the park for hands-on curriculum-based education programs. Children ages 7-14 are invited to participate in the park's Junior Naturalist and the Arkansas State Park Explorer Programs.

LOCATION

The park is on Scenic Highway 309, 16 miles south of Paris; or 10 miles north of Havana.

For further information on park hours, fees and programs, contact:

Mount Magazine State Park

16878 Hwy 309 S

Paris, AR 72855

Telephone: (479) 963-8502

e-mail: mountmagazine@arkansas.com

Mount Magazine State Park is managed through a special partnership with the USDA Forest Service, Ozark-St. Francis National Forests. For information on Forest Recreation Areas and Forest Service activities contact:

Mount Magazine Ranger District Office

(479) 963-3076

3001 East Walnut Street • P.O. Box 511

Paris, AR 72855

Ozark-St. Francis NFS Supervisor's Office • (479) 968-2354

605 West Main Street • Russellville, AR 72801



For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:

Arkansas State Parks

One Capitol Mall, 4A-900

Little Rock, AR 72201

Telephone: (501) 682-1191

www.ArkansasStateParks.com



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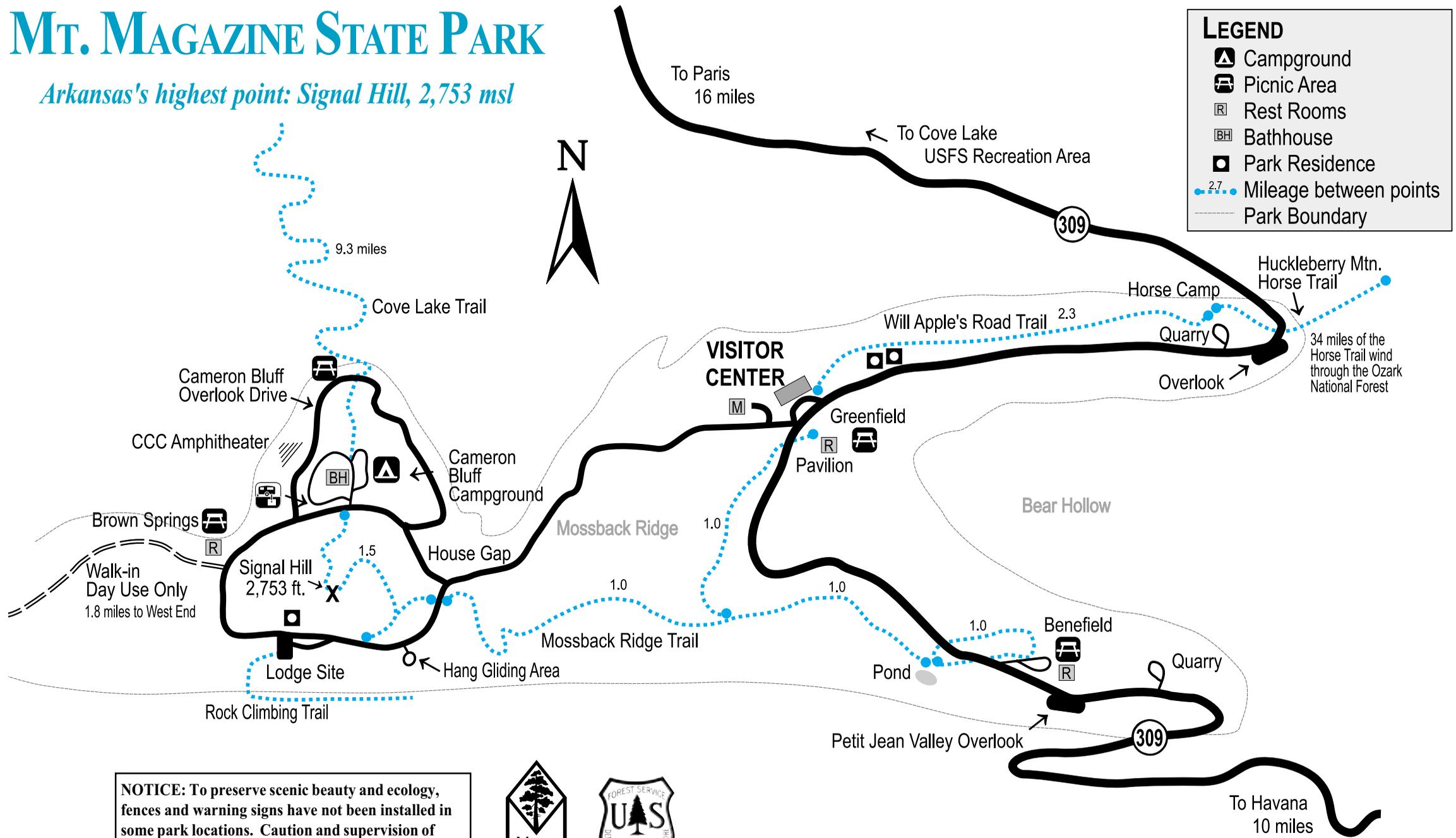


ARKANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM

Mt. Magazine State Park

Arkansas's highest point: Signal Hill, 2,753 msl



NOTICE: To preserve scenic beauty and ecology, fences and warning signs have not been installed in some park locations. Caution and supervision of your children are required while visiting these areas.



EXPLORE THE BEAUTY & HISTORY OF ARKANSAS!