MOUNT MAGAZINE STATE PARK

Magnificent vistas of broad river valleys, deep hollows, and distant mountains welcome visitors to Mount Magazine State Park. At 2,753 feet above sea level, Mount Magazine is the highest point in Arkansas. Through a special partnership with the USDA Forest Service the park manages the 2,234 acres of Mount Magazine's plateau summit.

Although few remnants remain, the mountain was once home to farms, homesites and earlier resort lodges. As early as the 1870s, people were attracted by lower temperatures (usually 10-15 degrees cooler than in the valley). Settlers and vacationers began using the mountain to escape the summer heat. Drought, erosion and the Great Depression brought much of that to an end. In the 1930s and '40s, campgrounds, trails, cabins, and a lodge were constructed by the federal Works Progress Administration. That lodge burned in 1971.

Mount Magazine's altitude, geography and climate combine to create beautiful vistas and unique habitats for rich wildlife diversity. These characteristics attract thousands of visitors each year.

Mount Magazine State Park offers a variety of activities for outdoor adventure. Enjoy the mountain slowly and quietly through wildflower photography and wildlife watching. Over 14 miles of trails provide hours of enjoyable hiking. For extreme adventure enthusiasts, there is rappelling and rock climbing on high sandstone bluffs. Take a leap with your hang glider to soar with the birds over the vast Petit Jean River Valley. The park is surrounded by the Ozark National Forest, which provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, boating, backpacking, horseback riding, mountain biking and other activities while using the state park as a base.

FACILITIES

Visitor Center ◆ Features interactive exhibits, an audiovisual auditorium, a wildlife viewing area, wildflower and butterfly garden, vending, gifts and park offices **The Lodge at Mount Magazine** ◆ All 60 guest rooms and the lodge's Skycrest Restaurant offer spectacular views of the Petit Jean River Valley and Blue Mountain Lake. Amenities include an indoor swimming pool; fitness center; game room; conference, banquet and meeting rooms; business center; and high-speed Internet access. Forty-three guest rooms feature balconies and 17 offer spa tubs. Four corner suites offer fireplaces and two balconies each. Cabins ◆ Thirteen fully equipped cabins include one-, two- and three-bedroom designs featuring covered decks with hot tubs that offer sweeping views from the bluff. Amenities include wood-burning fireplaces, kitchens, a private bathroom for each bedroom, and high-speed Internet access.

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

NOTE: Campers must register at the visitor center before occupying a campsite. All sites are reservable and can be reserved up to one year in advance. Call to check availability.

Picnic Pavilion ◆ A group rental pavilion is in the Greenfield Picnic Area near the visitor center.
Gift Shops ◆ Located in the visitor center and lodge.

RECREATION

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

Hiking \blacklozenge 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 and lodge.

Cycling ◆ Bikes are available for rent at the lodge. Road cycling is allowed throughout the park. Paved areas feature bike lanes. Mountain biking is allowed on the Will Apple's Road Trail and the Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail. Maps are available at the visitor center and lodge.

Fishing ◆ The rock quarry holds populations of bream, catfish and largemouth bass; however, anglers may prefer to travel from the park to fish Cove Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, Cedar Piney Lake, or Spring Lake.

Swimming ◆ An indoor pool is available for lodge and cabin guests. Swimming can also be enjoyed at nearby Cove Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, or Spring Lake. A public pool is located in Paris.

Rock Climbing \blacklozenge This is allowed, but only at certain places to protect the sensitive plants and animals in the park. Check at the visitor center for specifics and register upon arrival.

Hang gliding \blacklozenge Hang gliding is allowed but there are restrictions. Check at the visitor center for specifics and register upon arrival.

Horseback Riding ◆ Bring your own horses and enjoy horseback riding on the Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail that begins at the northeast rock quarry. Pick up the Forest Service map for this trail at the visitor center.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Guided hikes, history and nature talks, audiovisual programs, and demonstrations are available throughout the year. Organized groups can 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 6-14 are encouraged to participate in the Arkansas State Parks Explorer program. Ask a Park Interpreter or the lodge or visitor center front desk for the Explorer Field Guide.

LOCATION

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

Mount Magazine State Park 16878 Highway 309 South Paris, AR 72855 Park Office/Campsite Reservations: (479) 963-8502 Lodge/Cabin Reservations: 1-877-665-6343 (V/TT) E-mail: mountmagazine@arkansas.com www.MountainStateParks.com

For more information and to book online, visit: www.MountMagazineStatePark.com

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

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Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism

