Mount Nebo State Park

Rising 1,350 feet above the mountain valleys of west central Arkansas, majestic Mount Nebo favors visitors with a spectacular view of 34,000-acre Lake Dardanelle, the Arkansas River, and surrounding mountain ridges. Atop this plateau, fringed by the Ozark National Forest, is Mount Nebo State Park.

Inhabited since pre-Civil War years, the mountain has always been a favorite vacation spot. During the 1890s, a resort hotel was built to house steamboat passengers from the Arkansas River. These summertime travelers enjoyed the mountain’s cooler temperatures, lush vegetation, abundant wildlife, and breathtaking scenery.

In 1927, Mount Nebo was designated as a state park. The majority of the park’s trails, cabins, bridges, and pavilions were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps as part of the New Deal of the early 1930s.

The approach to the summit of Mount Nebo is as breathtaking as the park itself. State Hwy. 155 (paved) zigzags up the eastern side of the mountain. From base to top there are a series of tight hairpin turns. We recommend no trailers or RV’s over 24 ft. long attempt the climb. Be sure your vehicle is in good condition, use low gear, and turn off the A/C to avoid overheating. At the Bench Overlook you can stop to enjoy a panoramic view and rest your vehicle.

Numerous private residences continue to be maintained on the mountain within the state park. We ask park visitors to respect these private land holdings.

 Lodging Facilities

Cabins ◆ Eleven rustic and four modern A-frame housekeeping cabins located at scenic points around the mountain provide year-round vacation comfort. All-electric kitchens, spacious rooms, fireplaces, linens, kitchen utensils, plus heating and air-conditioning make these cabins a favorite retreat. Please call the park for “Dog Friendly” cabin options.

Camping ◆ A wooded campground, accommodating up to 24 camping units, is open year-round. All are equipped with tables, grills, water, and electricity. A modern bathhouse, open year-round, is located in the campground. Registered self-contained camping units may use the sanitary dump station at nearby Lake Dardanelle State Park free of charge. The park also offers 10 hike-in campsites located along the “Bench.” These primitive sites may be reached by well-marked access trails (tents only).

Recreational Facilities

Picnicking/Pavilions ◆ A tree-shaded picnic area and playgrounds are located near the swimming pool. Picnic tables and playgrounds are also near the tennis courts. A large, enclosed pavilion (3,000 sq. ft.) may be rented by groups for weddings, family reunions, or meetings. A smaller pavilion, ideally suited for group picnics or birthday parties, is also available for rent.

Swimming/Games ◆ At the south end of the park is space for activities ranging from tennis courts to a ballfield. Located near the amphitheater are horseshoe pits for your enjoyment year-round. Looking out over the eastern rim of the mountain is a modern swimming pool and bathhouse, generally open Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Other Facilities ◆ The park visitor center provides a small store stocked with camping and picnicking needs plus a variety of gift items. If you wish to take a two-wheel tour of the park, bicycles may be rented at the visitor center. Complete shopping, service stations, laundry, restaurants, and medical facilities are located in nearby towns (off the mountain).

NOTE: Campers must register at the visitor center before occupying a campsite. All sites are reservable and may be reserved up to one year in advance. Please call or visit online to check availability. The group pavilions must be reserved before being used (deposit required). Reservations for pavilions and cabins can be made by calling or writing the park. All cabins are reservable up to one year in advance.

Interpretive Services

Trails ◆ One of Mount Nebo’s finest attractions is its unique trail system. Seven trails provide more than 14 miles of hiking pleasure. Some of the trails, built by the CCC, follow the “Bench” around the mountainside. Others lead to the park’s fascinating historical and natural features. Please, for your safety, stay on marked trails. The 4.5-mile Bench Trail is also open to mountain bikes. So too are historic residences located near Mount Nebo State Park. These are private homes, even though the trail in some cases passes within a few feet of the dwelling. Please respect the owners’ privacy and property.

Programs ◆ Year-round interpretive programs offer visitors the opportunity to learn about the geology, history, and environment of Mount Nebo. Programs such as guided hikes, historic Cornwall House tours, nature demonstrations, and other special activities are available.

Contact the park or visit online for a schedule. Organized groups may request special interest programs by contacting the park in advance.

Location

From I-40W:
Exit 88, turn left at stop sign. Continue on Hwy 247 approx. 6 miles. At light, turn left onto Hwy 7 South. Cross over the river bridge into Dardanelle. Get in right lane which veers right onto Hwy 22 west. Travel approx. 1/8 mile then turn left on Hwy 155 west and continue up to mountain.

From I-40E:
Exit 81, turn right. Follow Hwy 7 south through the city of Russellville for approx. 6 miles. Cross over river bridge, into Dardanelle. Get in right lane which veers right onto Hwy 22 west. Travel approx. 1/8 mile then turn left on Hwy. 155 west and continue up the mountain.

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.

For further information on park hours, fees or services, contact:
Mount Nebo State Park
16728 West State Highway 155
Dardanelle, AR 72834
(479) 229-3655
(479) 229-3650 after 5 p.m., Emergency Number, Park Ranger
For reservations, book online or call 1-877-879-2741.
e-mail: MountNebo@Arkansas.com
www.ArkansasStateParks.com/MountNebo

For information on Arkansas’ other fine state parks, contact:
Arkansas State Parks
One Capitol Mall, 4A-900
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1191
ArkansasStateParks.com

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Mount Nebo’s many trails let you explore the beauty and history of this mountain. Before you hike, stop at the visitor center and pick up the interpretive guide to Summit Park Trail and a park trails brochure and map. Stay on trails, practice Leave No Trace outdoor ethics, use caution, and watch your children.

**Map Legend**
- Bench Trail
- Rim Trail
- Trails connecting Bench & Rim
- Summit Park Trail
- Parking
- Cabins
- Trailhead
- X Hike-in Camping
- Springs

**Emergency Phone Numbers**
- Ranger (479) 229-3650
- Fire (479) 229-3550
- Sheriff (479) 495-4881

You may want to plan your hike to reach Sunset Point at sundown. Relax and absorb the breathtaking glow of pink, purples, red, and blues, as the sun makes its final debut. Or catch its early morning splendor at Sunrise Point. Enjoy your adventures!