Mount Magazine State Park

MOUNT MAGAZINE STATE PARK

Majestic views 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, homesteads, and earlier resort lodges. People have long been attracted here by lower temperatures (usually 10-15 degrees cooler than in the valley). As early as the 1870s, 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 rapping 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, hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, mountain biking, trail running, and other activities while using the state park as a base.

FACILITIES

Visitor Center ◆ Features interactive exhibits, a meeting room (available for rent), 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/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 16 AA and 2 AAA sites with full hookups (electric, water, and sewer) and a modern bathroom with hot showers. A dump station is located in the area. There are also 6 tent only sites at Brown Springs, and 6 self-contained sites at the horse camp.

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.

Cameron Bluff Amphitheater ◆ Constructed in 1939 and updated in 2017, this gathering place offers scenic views. Contact the visitor center for rental information.

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 ◆ The trails on the top of the mountain 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 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 ◆ This is allowed, but only at certain places to protect the sensitive plants and animals.

Check at the visitor center for specifics and register upon arrival.

Hang Gliding ◆ 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 northeastern 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

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

All park services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. Arkansas State Parks is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Arkansas State Parks 2022

Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism
Mount Magazine State Park has been developed by Arkansas State Parks on national forest lands within the Ozark National Forest through a special use permit from the USDA Forest Service. For information on Forest Service recreation areas and 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

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