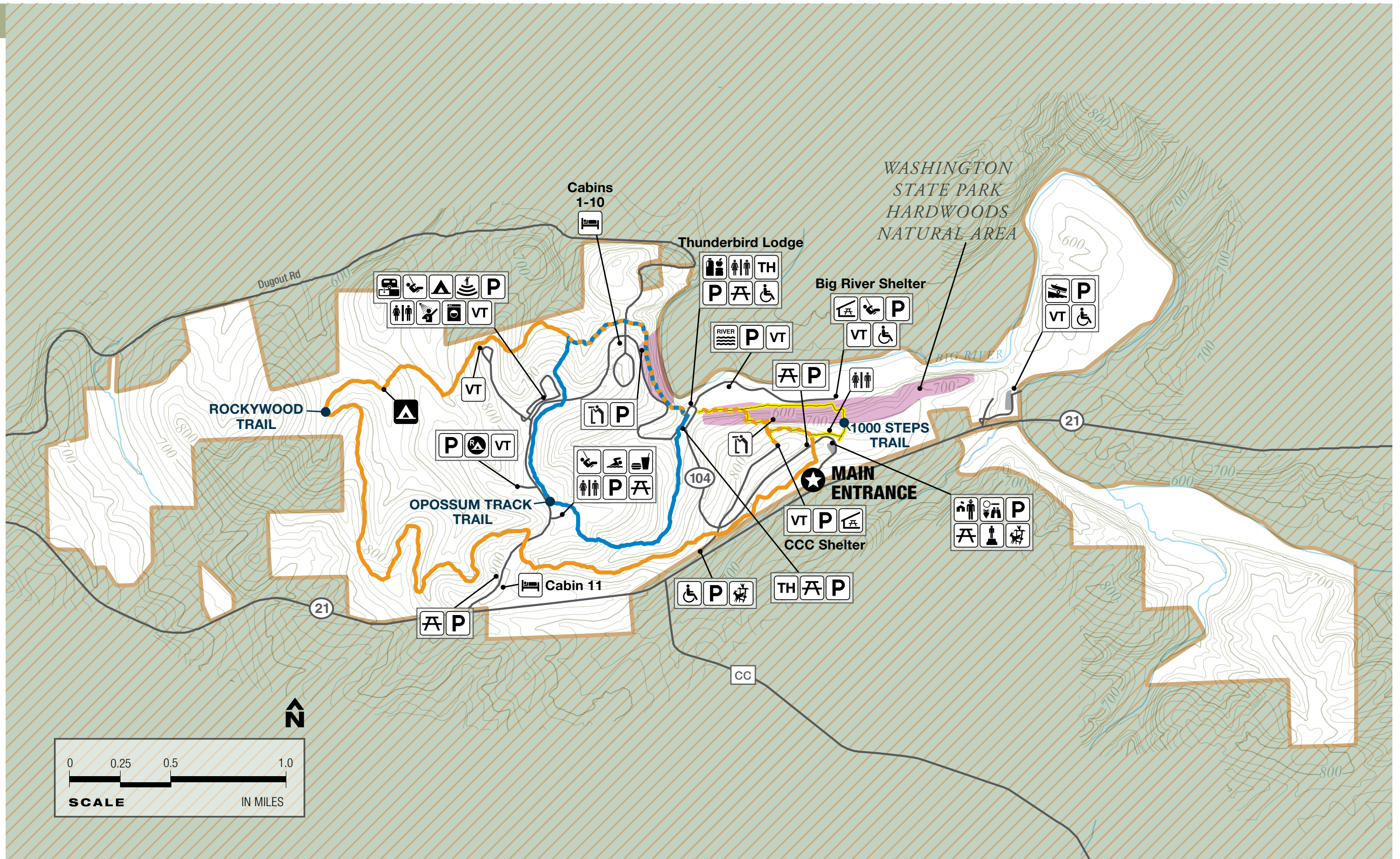


WASHINGTON STATE PARK MAP



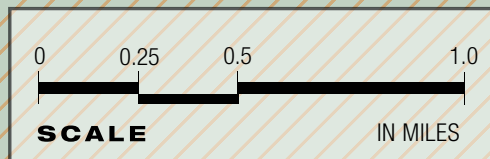
LEGEND

- Main entrance
- Road lines
- Land contour
- Natural area
- Not state park property
- Park boundary
- Stream or creek
- Trail blazed in orange
- Trail blazed in yellow
- Trail blazed in blue
- Trail (overlapping)
- Camping
- Backpack camp
- Camper cabin
- Park store
- Hiking trail
- Backpacking trail
- Picnicking
- Accessible
- Amphitheater
- Boat ramp
- Check station / park office
- Dump station
- Laundry
- Memorial
- Nature center
- Overlook
- Parking
- Petroglyph
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Restroom
- River access
- Showerhouse
- Snacks
- Special-use camping area
- Swimming
- Trailhead
- Vault toilet



CONTACT INFORMATION

Washington State Park
 13041 State Highway 104
 De Soto MO 63020-7000
 Park Office 636-586-5768
 Lodging/Store 636-586-2995
mostateparks.com



DISCLAIMER: This map is not a legal survey. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy of the data or related materials and is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from its use.

1000 STEPS TRAIL

1.25-mile loop TRAIL RATING: Rugged
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 1 hour, 15 minutes

This trail is a remarkable example of the outstanding rock work completed at Washington State Park during the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. In 1936, the CCC's Company 1743 constructed the trail using the large stone steps that gave 1000 Steps Trail its name. After climbing the stone steps through the oak/hickory hardwood woodland, hikers will encounter more of the CCC's handiwork - an overlook shelter built into the hillside to resemble a natural outcropping. This stone shelter overlooks the Big River valley and makes a nice resting place after the long climb up the talus slope. This shelter can only be accessed via the hiking trail. Hiking along this trail, visitors may see many of nature's wonders, including colorful wildflowers, native songbirds, frisky squirrels and other small mammals, majestic hardwood trees and abundant dolomite rock outcroppings. 1000 Steps Trail also meanders through the 68-acre Washington State Park Hardwood Natural Area, an area of land set aside for protection because of its natural beauty.

Along the trail, hikers will encounter several bridges and stonework that may become slippery, rocks and roots sticking up in the trail's natural surface, and steep grades traversed by uneven stone steps. Hikers also may notice a number of downed trees along many sections of the trail; these are a result of severe storm damage and the area is recovering as time passes.

Hikers should register at the trail registration box at the Thunderbird Lodge bulletin board (near the trailhead) prior to beginning their hike. Trail maps are located at the bulletin board as well. The trail shares a trailhead and a section of trail with Rockywood Trail.

OPOSSUM TRACK TRAIL

2.40-mile loop TRAIL RATING: Rugged
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 2 hours, 25 minutes

A portion of Opossum Track Trail travels through the 68-acre Washington State Park Hardwood Natural Area, an area of land set aside for protection because of its natural beauty. Along other sections of the trail, hikers may notice depressions in the earth. Prior to the park's construction, this area was prospected for a mineral called barite and the depressions are the remains of those mining operations. Barite, locally known as tiff, is used in the production of drilling mud and paint. As visitors hike along this scenic trail, they also may enjoy several breathtaking views of the Big River valley, particularly near the CCC Overlook Gazebo, that offers wooden benches for resting. This shelter can be accessed via the hiking trail or along Highway 104 near the cabin entrance. The trail meanders through a typical Missouri oak-hickory hardwood woodland, abounding with many natural wonders including wildflowers, songbirds, native wildlife, majestic trees, and trickling water winding its way along an ancient creek bed.

Along the trail, hikers may encounter slippery conditions, rocks and roots sticking up in the trail's natural surface, steep grades, and creek crossings without bridges. The trail shares a section with Rockywood Trail. Hikers should register at the trail registration box at the Thunderbird Lodge bulletin board (near the trailhead) prior to beginning their hike. Trail maps are located at the bulletin board as well. When arriving at the trailhead, park so multiple cars can use the parking area. Parking is also available at Thunderbird Lodge.

ROCKYWOOD TRAIL

5.90-mile loop TRAIL RATING: Rugged
ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 5 hours, 55 minutes








Rockywood Trail provides a glimpse of the other two trails in the park, Opossum Track and 1000 Steps, as it joins each of these trails for a time as it winds its way through the park's oak/hickory wooded hills. The trail also traverses a section of the 68-acre Washington State Park Hardwood Natural Area, an area of land set aside for protection because of its natural beauty.

Several glades are present along the trail, and hikers may notice evidence of fire in these areas. This is part of an ongoing glade management program that has helped restore these glades to their historic nature. It is common to spot a Missouri tarantula darting across the trail. Colorful glade wildflowers that sprout from the rocky terrain each spring include milkweed, prickly pear cactus and coneflowers. Rockywood Trail also passes by a quarry (behind the campground) that provided the Civilian Conservation Corps workers with the stone used to build many of the park's historic structures.

Dispersed camping is permitted on the portion of trail that lies west of the campground and swimming pool. A backpack camp is located about a third of the way along the trail. No amenities are provided at the camp and there is no fee to backpack camp. Hikers are asked to 'leave no trace' when using the backpack camp and no fires are allowed. The backpack camp site cannot be reserved and is on a first-come first-serve basis. Backpackers should register at the trail registration box at the Thunderbird Lodge bulletin board (near the trailhead) or online prior to beginning their hike. Trail maps are located at the bulletin board as well. More information on the trail and backpack camp can be obtained at the park office.

Along the trail, hikers may encounter slippery conditions, rocks and roots sticking up in the trail's natural surface, steep grades, and creek crossings without bridges.



TRAIL NAME	MILEAGE	BLAZE COLOR	APPROVED USAGE	RATING	TRAIL EXPERIENCE *
1000 Steps Trail	1.25	 Yellow		Rugged	2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
Opossum Track Trail	2.40	 Blue		Rugged	2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Rockywood Trail	5.90	 Orange	 	Rugged	2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

* YOU MAY EXPERIENCE: ① Slippery conditions and/or downed vegetation ② Natural surface: dirt, mud, gravel, loose rocks, slippery surface, etc. ③ Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail ④ Low-hanging vegetation ⑤ Physically challenging obstacles ⑥ Wood or stone steps ⑦ Steep grades and inclines over 10% ⑧ Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail ⑨ Bridges and/or structural crossings ⑩ Water/stream crossings without bridges ⑪ Occasional water over trail ⑫ Road/highway crossing ⑬ Emergency response signs ⑭ Narrow passages ⑮ Raised or protruding obstacles ⑯ Electric fence crossings ⑰ Bison ⑱ Rapidly changing weather conditions ⑲ Motorized boat traffic ⑳ Unexpected waves ㉑ Changing water levels ㉒ Surface or submerged objects



Rules of the Trail

- All pets must be leashed for their protection and that of visitors and wildlife.
- All other rules and regulations pertaining to park use are applicable to trail users.

Backpacking

- Dispersed camping is permitted by backpackers only on the portion of Rockywood Trail that lies west of the campground and swimming pool. There is also a backpack camp for groups of seven or more persons.
- Backpackers must register before starting their trip. Camping is free, but registration is required.
- Campfires are prohibited. Stoves must be used for cooking.
- Cutting implements such as saws and hatchets are not allowed on the trail.
- Overnight parking for hikers is allowed at the Thunderbird Lodge trailhead.

The Ethics of Good Trail Use

- Plan ahead. Bring enough water. Be sure you can get back to your vehicle before it gets dark.
- Carry out what you carry in. If the trail users before you have not done this, you can help by removing their trash.
- Keep your group small. Small groups are less likely to harm the environment.
- Dispose of human waste properly. Hikers should select a spot at least 100 feet from any open water, dig a small hole no deeper than six or eight inches; after use, fill the hole with loose soil.
- Please do not create new trails. Trails are designed to prevent soil erosion and damage to surrounding vegetation.