# TAUM SAUK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK MAP



# **LEGEND**



Gravel road

Land contour

Natural area

Not state park property

Park boundary

Stream or creek

Trail blazed in red

Ozark Trail

Trail (overlapping)

▲ Camping

🔥 Hiking trail

Backpacking trail

Picnicking

Natural Feature

(T) Overlook

Parking

Special-use area

Trailhead

VT Vault toilet

### CONTACT INFORMATION

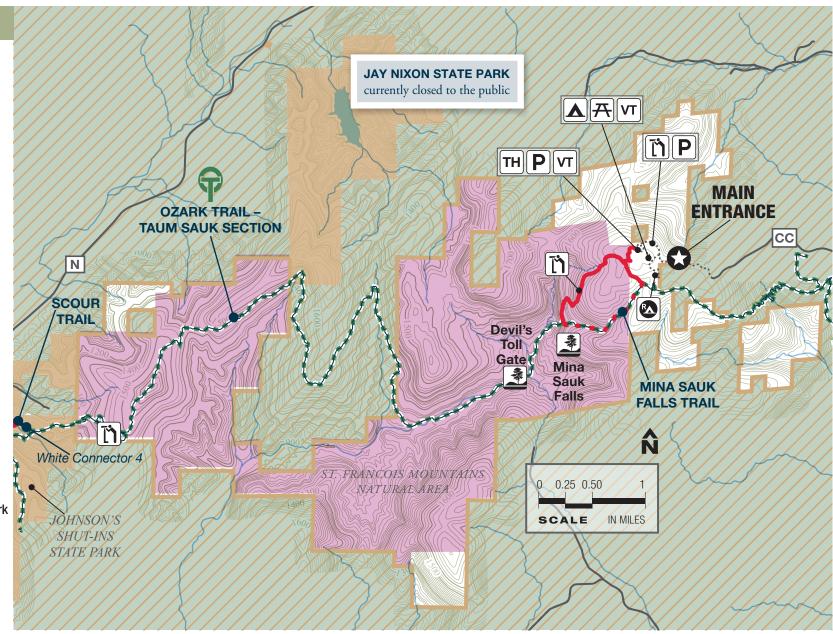
**Taum Sauk Mountain State Park** Highway CC

Ironton MO 63656 573-546-2450

C/O Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park

148 Taum Sauk Trail Middlebrook MO 63656 573-546-2450

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.

#### MINA SAUK FALLS TRAIL

2.90-mile loop TRAIL RATING: Rugged ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 2 hours, 55 minutes

Mina Sauk Falls Trail provides access to two of Missouri's most important geologic wonders - its highest point and its tallest waterfall. From the parking area, a short walk along a wheelchair-accessible trail leads to the top of Taum Sauk Mountain and the highest point in the state at 1,772 feet above sea level. Beyond this point, the trail becomes rocky and rugged and is not considered accessible to wheelchairs. The trail passes through oak-hickory woodlands that give way to rocky, open glades with expansive and impressive views of the St. François Mountains. The trail passes along the top of Mina Sauk Falls, the tallest waterfall in Missouri. Cascading 132 feet over a series of ledges into Taum Sauk Creek, this wet-weather waterfall flows best after a rain. A hike back up the mountain ends at the trailhead. This is a strenuous and challenging trail so be prepared for the rugged, rocky climb and carry plenty of water. Hikers may encounter water crossings in wet weather.

The Taum Sauk Section of the Ozark Trail can be accessed from Mina Sauk Falls Trail trailhead. These two trails run together for approximately one mile. At the top of the falls, Ozark Trail continues down the valley while Mina Sauk Falls Trail loops back up the mountain.

#### **OZARK TRAIL**

12.75 miles through park TRAIL RATING: Rugged ESTIMATED HIKING TIME: 12 hour, 45 minutes

The Taum Sauk Section of the Ozark Trail is roughly 36 miles long and runs through the heart of the ancient St. Francois Mountains. Nearly 26 miles of the trail go through Taum Sauk Mountain and Johnson's Shut-Ins State Parks. One of the most popular and scenic portions of the Taum Sauk Section is between the parks. This rugged portion of trail through two state parks winds across mountains of oakhickory woodland dotted with shortleaf pine trees, bluffs and rocky glades.

| TRAIL NAME  | MILEAGE  | BLAZE COLOR | APPROVED USAGE   | RATING | TRAIL EXPERIENCE*     |
|---|----------|-------------|------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Mina Sauk Falls Tr  | ail 2.90 | Red         | <b>ķ</b> /       | Rugged | 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11 |
| Ozark Trail   | 12.75    | Green/\     | White <b>(*)</b> | Rugged | 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11 |
| Connector Trail (   |          |             |                  |        |                       |
| * 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% ⑥ Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail ② Bridges and/or structural crossings ⑩ Water/stream crossings without bridges ⑪ Occasional water over trail ⑫ Road/highway crossing ⑥ Emergency response signs ⑥ Narrow passages ⑥ Raised or protruding obstacles ⑥ Electric fence crossings ⑪ Bison ⑥ Rapidly changing weather conditions ⑨ Motorized boat traffic ⑳ Unexpected waves ㉑ Changing water levels ㉑ Surface or submerged objects |          |             |                  |        |                       |

The hike at Taum Sauk Mountain State Park begins on Mina Sauk Falls Trail with steep rocky climbs on high rock 'steps' that take hikers past the tallest waterfall in Missouri. Soon after passing the falls, Ozark Trail continues down the valley while Mina Sauk Falls Trail loops back up the mountain. One mile below the falls on Ozark Trail lies Devil's Tollgate, an 8-foot-wide passage through 50 feet of volcanic rhyolite standing 30 feet high. The trail continues on to Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park with several creek crossings. After reaching the park, it connects with Scour Trail and

Goggins Mountain Equestrian Trail. Follow the green and white 'OT' trail markers, allowing plenty of time to complete the hike. Watch out for trail intersections with old roads and fire lines. Carry plenty of water since water to treat for drinking may not be available along the trail. Seasonal flooding is possible and rocks are very slippery when wet. For more information and maps of the Ozark Trail please

For more information and maps of the Ozark Trail please visit ozarktrail.com.

## **Rules of the Trail**

- All pets must be leashed for their protection and that of visitors and wildlife.
- Dispersed camping is allowed along the Taum Sauk Section of the Ozark Trail. Backpackers must camp at least 100 feet from the trail; 200 feet from any major public use area, water source or private property; and at least 1/4 mile from the trail entry/exit point. Camping from Taum Sauk Mountain Trailhead, headed west to Mina Sauk Falls, is prohibited. Please do not camp directly at Mina Sauk Falls.
- Fire building along the Ozark Trail within State Parks is prohibited and discouraged along the rest of the trail.

NOTE: Ticks and chiggers are abundant April through mid-October. Be prepared with insect repellent.

## The Ethics of Good Trail Use

- Carry out what you carry in. If the trail users before you have not done this, you can help by removing their trash.
- Please do not create new trails. Trails are designed to prevent soil erosion and damage to surrounding vegetation.



