Ha Ha Tonka State Park

CASTLE TRAIL

Access to the ruins of a 20th century castle and spectacular views of Lake of the Ozarks make Castle Trail one of the park's most popular trails.

Castle Trail can be accessed from either of the two castle parking lots. The upper lot has limited parking and is recommended for people with disabilities and elderly. More parking is offered at the lower lot, which is the first lot you come to. From the lower parking lot, a shaded walk through an open oak woodland area takes hikers to where the trail joins the upper portion. Here, there are two side views of the carriage house ruins. There is a water fountain at this junction and an interpretive kiosk with information on the park's cultural history. The upper portion of trail features three scenic overlooks. There are 12 park benches along the trail, as well as on the overlooks.

This one-way, paved trail is wheelchair and stroller accessible from both castle parking lots. It was constructed in 1980 by park staff and volunteers to allow access to the castle ruins, one of the park's most popular features.

Distance from Trailhead 1: 0.4 Mile

Uses:
Hiking 🍶
Accessible 🏃

Blazes:
Yellow 🌟

Class: Linear

Surface Type: Paved/Concrete

Trail Rating: Moderate

Estimated Hiking Time: 18 Minutes

Trailhead & GPS Location:
1) 37.97798, -92.76632
2) 37.97548, -92.76798

Elevation profile is not available

You may experience:
7) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%
8) Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail

This trail or a portion of this trail travels through: Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area
TRAIL BLAZE COLORS & SURFACE TYPES

The maps on this website indicate the blaze colors for each trail. If more than one trail shares tread, that portion of the trail is identified by more than one color. The surface type of a trail is indicated on the maps generated by this website by a pattern overlapping the blaze color of the trail.

TRAIL TYPE – Loop, Multi-loop, One Way, System or Multi-section

A loop trail is one that will return you to the trailhead. Multi-loop trails offer two or more separate loops, ex. a trail having a north and south loop. A one-way trail takes you from the trailhead to the farthest point on the trail and you will have to retrace your steps to return to the trailhead. If you plan to return to your starting point on a one-way trail, you will have to double the distance to calculate your estimated mileage and/or hiking time.

A trail system is a series of interconnected trails that allow you to choose your own route.

A Multi-section trail offers two or more separate sections, ex. Katy Trail State Park, and distances are shown both for the entire trail and the sections.

YOU MAY EXPERIENCE

These conditions are all things you may encounter while on a Missouri state parks trail. Trailhead signs at the start of each trail also indicate which conditions exist on that trail.

ESTIMATED HIKING TIME

The estimated hiking time was determined by considering the average user’s speed and the conditions that might be experienced on a specific trail. Your speed may be slower or faster than the time listed.

GPS COORDINATES

There are several methods of communicating GPS coordinates. Most GPS units will convert from one coordinate system to another. If you require a different coordinate system for your unit, visit dnr.mo.gov/gisutils to convert the coordinates shown on this map to another version.

NATURAL AREAS / WILD AREAS

Natural areas are identified in brown. Natural areas are recognized as the best remaining examples known of Missouri’s original natural environments. These natural areas are managed and protected for their scientific, educational and historical values. Missouri state parks have 38 designated natural areas, encompassing almost 22,000 acres.

Wild areas are identified in brown. The Missouri Wild Area System is made up of large tracts of land set aside as wilderness, which make the perfect setting for hiking and backpacking. A wild area must be 1,000 or more acres in size, show little impact from humans, and possess outstanding opportunities for solitude. They are strictly protected for their wilderness benefits as well as for their use for environmental education and scientific study.