Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park

HAWTHORN TRAIL

The shortest of the trails at the park, it shows a diversity of geology not found elsewhere in the park. A short distance from the trailhead, before the loop begins, the trail crosses Equestrian Trail. Continuing straight past this intersection, the trail goes along the northeast side of a narrow ridge and returns on the southwestern side. A marked difference in plants and habitat is found on the two aspects of the ridge. The prevailing hot and dry, southwestern winds give a glade-like appearance to the section of trail along the side of the ridge facing the southwest. The soil is dryer, plants are sparser and in many areas, the underlying rock is exposed. In recent years, naturalists at the park have been working to restore the glade. On the northeastern side of the trail, plants are thicker and greener, the soil is deeper and groves of pawpaw trees flourish on the slope and in the valley below the trail.

Distance: 1.2 Miles
Uses: Hiking
Blazes: Yellow
Class: Loop
Surface Type: Natural
Trail Rating: Moderate
Estimated Hiking Time: 52 Minutes
Trailhead & GPS Location:
38.61592, -90.70665

Elevation profile is not available

You may experience:
2) Natural Surface-dirt/mud/gravel, shifting rock, slippery surface, etc.
3) Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail
8) Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail
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.