

Trail of Tears State Park

PEEWAH TRAIL

Peewah Trail explores Indian Creek Wild Area, a 1,300-acre area located in one of the most rugged areas of the Mississippi River hills. The Mississippi River, along with Indian Creek and small tributaries, dissect the surrounding loess-covered hills, creating a maze of ravines and side hollows. Majestic hardwood forests of white oak, tulip poplar and hickory cover the hills. Floodplain forests along Indian Creek contain large sweet gums and willows, while junglelike areas thick with wild grapevines abound within the lowlands. Spring wildflowers bloom in abundance along the ridges and deep within the hollows. Nearby, majestic limestone bluffs tower above the river. Hikers may see white-tailed deer, turkey, eagles and snakes.

Visitors can follow this trail into one of the most remote parts of the park and experience a sense of solitude devoid of the sights and sounds of everyday life. The trail consists of two loops with a short connector trail between the two. The east loop traverses the ridges of the area and runs atop the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. A short spur leads to an overlook of the Mississippi River for a 1.5-mile round trip from the main trailhead to the overlook. The yellow trail runs along the Mississippi River bluffs for a period before dropping down into a valley with several creek bed crossings. The bottomland along the creek is full of wildflowers in the spring and also contains giant cane. This area is subject to backwater flooding depending upon the water level of the Mississippi River, and portions of the trail may be under water at times. The trail has a steep climb back up to the ridge top. At this point, white connector 1 connects to the trail's west loop for a longer hike.


The west loop traverses several valleys and ridges and showcases a variety of forest types. There are sections of dry cherty soils with lots of oaks and hickories as well as bottomland areas with large sycamore and sweet gum trees and an abundance of ferns. Steep drainages empty rainwater into Indian Creek and flash flooding may occur. Some backwater flooding can occur when the water level of the Mississippi River is high. At times, a small portion of the trail may be under water.

White connector 2 divides the west loop and provides access to a backpack camp. Groups of seven or more must camp in this area. The camp contains no improvements or water. No open fires are allowed; backpacking stoves must be carried to the campsite for cooking. Backpackers should notify park staff before camping.

Peewah Trail can be slippery during wet conditions. The Overlook Road gate will be closed daily at the assigned times. Equestrians with larger trailers may park on the grass outside the overlook gate at the entrance to the west (red) loop. Equestrians should take care not to travel on the trail when conditions are wet and use caution while riding on the bluffs above the river. Equestrian camping is not allowed.

Distance from Trailhead 1: 8.0 Miles

Uses:

Hiking 


Backpacking 

Equestrian 

Blazes:

Red 

Yellow 

White 1 

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
- 4) Low-hanging vegetation
- 7) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%
- 8) Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail
- 10) Water/stream crossings without bridges





TRAILS OF MISSOURI STATE PARKS

White 2

Class: Multi-loop

Surface Type: Natural

Trail Rating: Rugged

Estimated Hiking Time: 7 Hours, 57 Minutes

Trailhead & GPS Location:

1) 37.45634, -89.48806

2) 37.46382, -89.48515

11) Occasional water over trail

This trail or a portion of this trail travels through: Indian Creek Wild Area

- RED
- ORANGE
- YELLOW
- GREEN
- BLUE
- BROWN
- WHITE CONNECTOR
- SHARED TREAD

- NATURAL
- GRAVEL
- PAVED
- WATER
- BOARDWALK

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.

- 1 Slippery conditions and/or downed vegetation
- 2 Natural surface: dirt, mud, gravel, shifting 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/elk
- 18 Rapidly changing weather conditions
- 19 Motorized boat traffic
- 20 Unexpected waves
- 21 Changing water levels
- 22 Surface or submerged objects

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.

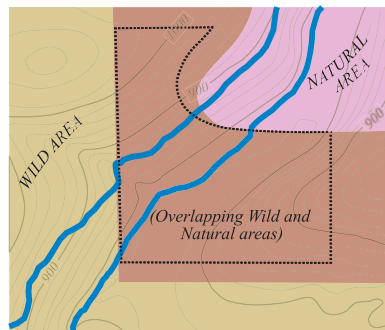
GPS COORDINATES

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 pink. 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.



TRAIL USE

-  Hiking Trail
-  Backpacking Trail
-  Mountain Biking Trail
-  Equestrian Trail
-  Accessible
-  Hardened-Surface Bicycling Trail
-  Paddling Trail
-  Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail
-  Motorized Boating Trail
-  Wagon Suitable Trail
-  Interpretive Trail
-  Fitness Trail
-  Interpretive Water Trail
-  Wildlife Viewing Trail

POINTS OF INTEREST

-  Main Park Entrance / Park Entrance
-  Trailhead
-  Parking
-  Trail Access
-  Overlook
-  Restroom
-  Camping
-  Special-Use Camping Area
-  Check Station / Park Office / Ranger Office
-  Visitor Center / Orientation Center
-  Emergency Response / First Aid
-  Picnicking
-  Playground
-  Technical Feature
-  Natural Feature
-  Cultural Feature
-  Amphitheater
-  Backpack Camping Shelter
-  Backpack Campsite
-  Boat Ramp
-  Dining
-  Equestrian Parking
-  Interpretive Panel
-  Interpretive Shelter
-  Intersection
-  Lodging / Cabin / Camper Cabin
-  Marina / Boat Dock
-  Nature Center
-  Organized Group Camp
-  Picnic Shelter
-  Recreation Feature
-  Skills Course
-  Stables
-  Store
-  Swimming
-  Telephone
- Water Fountain
- Water Access