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.

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. The backpack camp site on the Rockywood Trail is the only location where backpack camping is allowed. Backpackers 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. 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.

**Distance:** 5.9 Miles

**Uses:**
- Hiking 🛏
- Backpacking 🕸️

**Blazes:**
- Orange 🔴

**Class:** Loop

**Surface Type:** Natural

**Trail Rating:** Rugged

**Estimated Hiking Time:** 5 Hours, 54 Minutes

**Trailhead & GPS Location:**
- 38.08546, -90.68438

**Elevation profile is not available**

**You may experience:**
1) Natural Surface-dirt/mud/gravel, shifting rock, slippery surface, etc.
2) Natural Surface-dirt/mud/gravel, shifting rock, slippery surface, etc.
3) Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail
4) Physically challenging obstacles
5) Wood or stone steps
6) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%
7) Water/stream crossings without bridges
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

**This trail or a portion of this trail travels through:**
- Washington State Park Hardwoods 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.