Sam A. Baker State Park

SHUT-INS TRAIL

This trail immediately begins a steep descent down several steps, leading you across a footbridge and down a second staircase to the floodplain of Big Creek. From there, hikers explore the trail as it follows along the base of Mudlick Mountain. Majestic sweet gums, sycamores and cottonwoods border this scenic stretch of trail. Hikers also travel through areas of rich vegetation, rushing water cascading over dellenite boulders in the spring, and talus hillsides that harbor the uncommon yellowwood tree. Close to the end of the trail, there is the option of stopping off at the Big Creek shut-in’s bluff hole for a swim, turning around for the return trip, or heading up to shelter #1 where Shut-Ins Trail connects to Mudlick Trail. Before beginning your hike or after returning to the lodge area, check out the Big Creek overlook, located behind the dining lodge. A fantastic view of the flowing Big Creek stream passes below the overlook.

Distance: 1.1 Miles
Uses: Hiking
Blazes: Blue
Class: Linear
Surface Type: Natural
Trail Rating: Rugged
Estimated Hiking Time: 1 Hour, 7 Minutes
Trailhead & GPS Location:
37.26052, -90.50622

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
6) Wood or stone steps
7) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%
8) Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail
9) Bridges and/or structural crossings
10) Water/stream crossings without bridges

This trail or a portion of this trail travels through: Mudlick Mountain 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 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.