

Welcome To Queen Wilhelmina State Park

We hope you enjoy your stay atop beautiful Rich Mountain in the heart of the Ouachitas. The trails in and around the park give you an opportunity to experience the rich natural heritage of this unique area. If you have questions or encounter any problems with the trails in our park, please talk to one of the park staff.

Trail Rules

All plants, animals and rocks found in the park are protected by law. Please don't disturb them, just appreciate them and leave them for the next visitor to enjoy. Bottles and littering are prohibited! Pack out what you pack in.

"Take nothing but photographs,
leave nothing but footprints."

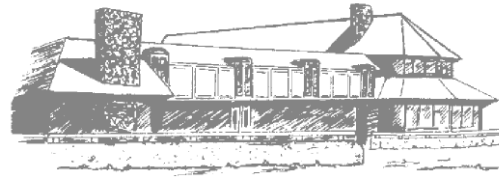
To preserve the fragile environment you will be passing through, we ask you to please stay on the trail. Distinctive rectangle paint blazes of varying colors (roughly 2 x 6 inches) have been placed on trees at eye level to guide you along each trail. A double blaze means that the trail turns sharply. Look closely for the next blaze to stay on the trail and avoid damaging the wildlife habitat.

As you walk the trails you will notice narrow paths leading in many directions. These are "game trails" created by our abundant wildlife.

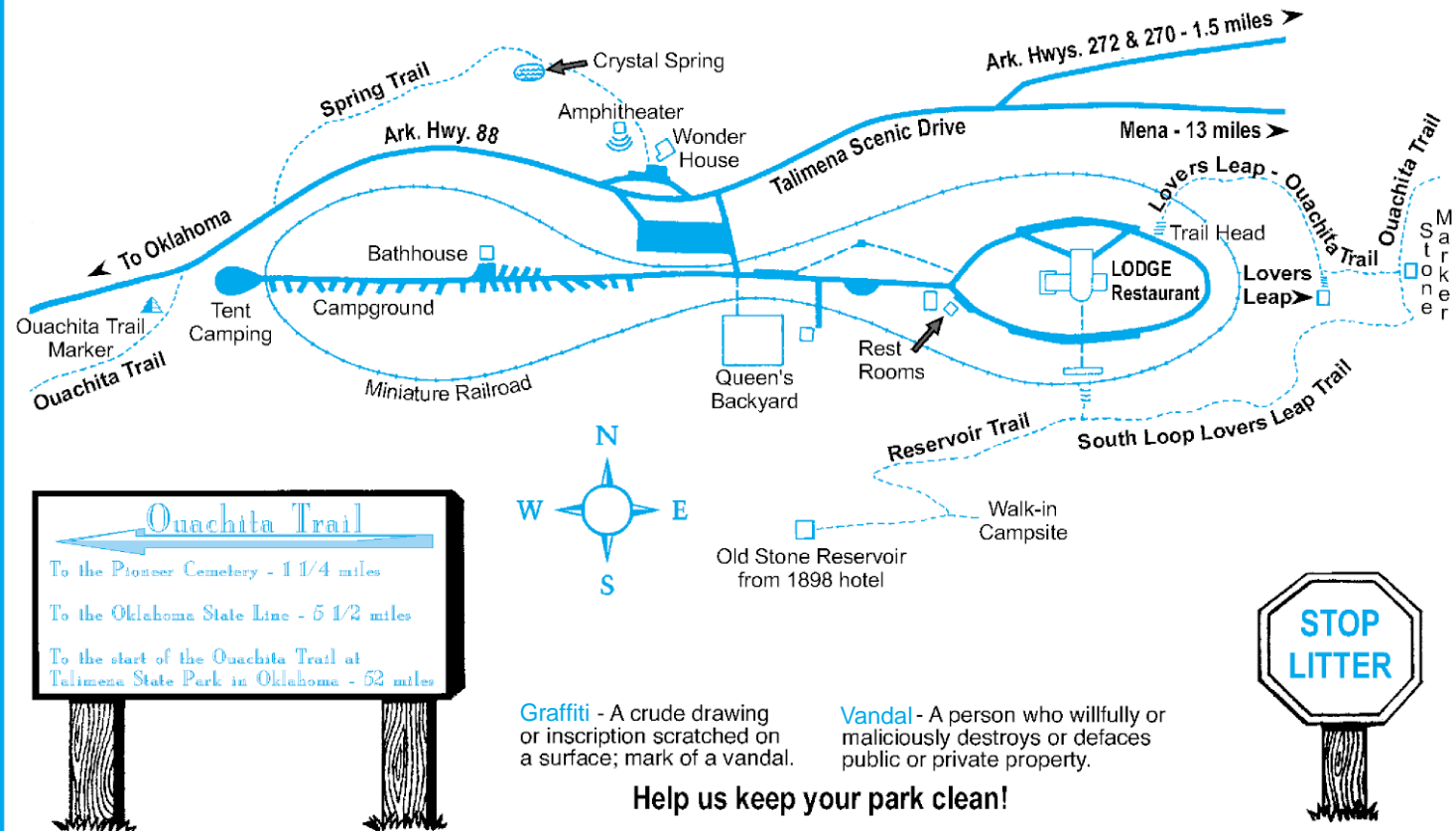
We ask that you DO NOT follow these paths.

We sometimes move trails to new areas. This allows an old trail to recover its natural beauty, and offers returning visitors new vistas to enjoy. Please follow the trails as marked to prevent permanent loss because of overuse.

The Trails of Queen Wilhelmina State Park



NOTICE! To preserve scenic beauty and ecology, fences and warning signs have not been installed in some park locations. Caution and supervision of your children are required while visiting these areas.



Graffiti - A crude drawing or inscription scratched on a surface; mark of a vandal.

Vandal - A person who willfully or maliciously destroys or defaces public or private property.

Help us keep your park clean!

Lover's Leap Trail

Length: 1 mile total, 1 hour
1/3 mile to viewing platform
Difficulty: "Easy" to "Strenuous"
Blaze: Yellow

This trail begins at the stairs on the north-east side of the lodge circle drive. The first 1/3 of the trail is a nice stroll along the north slope of Rich Mountain. With bridges, stairs and benches to rest on, you can easily make the gentle climb to the wooden overlook and be rewarded with a panoramic view of the south slope of Rich Mountain and Powell Valley.

Beyond the overlook, the trail is a little more difficult due to elevation changes, rocky areas and steep slopes. Just past the overlook, the Ouachita National Recreation Trail turns left; this intersection is well marked. The Lover's Leap Trail continues to the right at this junction. It descends along the south face of the mountain through the rich hardwood forest and back to the south side of the lodge. The climb up to the lodge may be strenuous.

Reservoir Trail

Length: 2/3 mile round trip, 45 minutes
Difficulty: "Moderate"
Blaze: Orange

This trail begins south of the lodge at the stairs, and continues 1/3 of a mile down the hill to a stone reservoir. The reservoir was part of the water system for the 1898 hotel. Just up the hill from the reservoir is an excellent spring that was said to have curative powers.

Walk-in Campsite

A walk-in campsite is located on a short spur from the Reservoir Trail. The campsite is primitive. It consists of a fire ring, lantern hanger and a level spot for tents. No water or electricity is available at the site. Register for the site at the front desk in the lodge.

Spring Trail

Length: 1/2 mile one way, 20 minutes
Difficulty: "Easy"
Blaze: Red

Beginning behind the stage at the amphitheater, you'll walk west 100 yards to the spring. This was a favorite gathering place for early mountain settlers and is still a great oasis of relaxation and reflection. The trail continues past the spring for about 1/2 mile and comes out on State Highway 88 across from the west end of the campground. You may return by the same trail, or cross the road into the park.

Ouachita National Recreation Trail

Length: 225 miles
1 1/4 miles to Pioneer Cemetery
Difficulty: "Easy" to "Moderate"
Blaze: Blue

This Arkansas-Oklahoma cross-country hiking trail begins at Talimena State Park in Oklahoma and ends at Pinnacle Mountain State Park west of Little Rock, Arkansas, a distance of 225 miles. There is a trailhead on the Talimena Scenic Drive just past the west end of the Queen Wilhelmina State Park campground. Parking is available at the lodge. Pinnacle Mountain State Park, near

Little Rock, is approximately 170 miles east of Queen Wilhelmina State Park.

For a short hike you'll enjoy 1 1/4 miles of Ouachita Trail between the park and the Pioneer Cemetery. It is of moderate difficulty and passes near many historic sites.

The Ouachita Trail enters Queen Wilhelmina State Park at the west boundary, goes through the campground to the lodge, and continues east along Lover's Leap Trail. Beyond Lover's Leap overlook, the Ouachita Trail splits to the left and goes east out of the park. If you travel the Ouachita Trail east from this junction, in two miles you will cross State Highway 88. The trail then drops off the north side of Rich Mountain to State Highway 270. There is a developed trailhead with parking at that location.

Information & Shuttle Available

Several guide books and maps are available in the Lodge Gift Shop. Limited shuttle service is provided to overnight hikers. Inquire at the front desk of the lodge.

For further information on park trails, interpretive programs, or facilities, contact:

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or visit us and other state parks
at ArkansasStateParks.com



QUEEN WILHELMINA TRAIL GUIDE



Queen Wilhelmina
State Park