

Pet Friendly Trails

Whitaker Point (Hawksbill Crag): Is a beautiful moderate 3-mile R/t trail featuring, a magnificent view, waterfall area, wildflowers, and outstanding fall color. The Point/Crag is the most photographed point in Arkansas. **Directions:** Ask one of our friendly staff members for a Map.

Glory Hole: A wonderful moderate 2-Mile R/T trail featuring a 30ft waterfall. Nature has created a hole in the roof of an overhanging bluff and the creek/water now flows through the hole to create a beautiful waterfall. **Directions:** Ask one of our friendly staff members for a Map.

Smith Creek Preserve: The preserve is approximately 2 miles R/T and is considered to be a moderate trail. The trail is great for nature lovers and photographers. The trail features large boulders, many waterfall cascades, wildlife and wildflowers in the spring. **Directions from Ponca:** Take HWY 43 S 4.7 Miles to HWY 21S. Turn left on Hwy 21S and go approximately 5 miles and look for the large Nature Conservancy Smith Creek sign on the left side of the highway. Turn into the entrance road and park in the designated area. Smith Creek is located about a 15-minute drive from Ponca.

Sweden Creek Falls: The Sweden Creek Natural Area is protected by the Natural Heritage Commission and features many waterfalls, scenic bluff lines and wildflowers. The trail is approximately 2miles R/T and is considered to be a moderate trail. **Directions from Ponca:** Take HWY 43S 4.7 Miles to HWY 21N. Turn right on 21N and go approximately 4 miles and turn left onto the Red Star Road. There will be a Madison County road sign as well, #3260. Drive down the gravel road for about 3 miles and look for the Sweden Creek Falls Sign. There is a small parking area near the sign. Sweden Creek Falls is located about a 20-minute drive from Ponca.

Alum Cove Natural Bridge: A very unique natural stone bridge located in the Ozark National Forest. The 1.1-mile easy/moderate trail, offers access and views of the arch. The arch of the Natural Bridge spans 130ft and is approximately 20ft wide. After viewing the arch you can either return back or continue along the looped trail. The looped trail will descend below the arch, cross a small stream and follow the bluffs and eventually returning back to the Natural Bridge.

Directions from Ponca: Take HWY 43 S to HWY 21S. Turn left on HWY 21S and go approximately 11 miles to the Junction of HWY 16. Turn left on HWY 16E and go approximately 12 miles and take a left HWY 327. There will be a sign on the right side of the road that will say Alum Cove Natural Bridge. Follow the paved road approximately 3miles and turn right on the Alum Cove Road. Once you turn, follow the road to the parking area. Alum Cove is located about a 45-minute drive from Ponca.

Pedestal Rocks/King's Bluff Trail: This scenic area consists of two hiking trails. Pedestal Rocks is 2.2 miles and Kings Bluff is 1.7 miles long. Both trails are considered to be moderate trails. The highlight of the Pedestal Rock trail is its showcase of unusual geologic formations made of eroded limestone. The stone towers are located near the end of the trail, a little over a mile in. The Kings Bluff trail features a large flat bluff with a waterfall that flows over the ledge.

Directions from Ponca: Take HWY 43S 4.7 miles to HWY 21S. Turn left of 21S and go approximately 11 miles to the Junction of HWY 16. Turn left on HWY 16E and go about 13miles to the Junction of HWY 7. Turn right on HWY 7S and go another 14miles and turn left on HWY 16E. Once you turn on HWY 16E you have to drive approximately 6 more miles and there will be a Pedestal Rock sign on the right hand side of the road. Pedestal Rocks is located about 1 hour from Ponca.

Sam's Throne: A beautiful scenic trail offering nice views of the Big Creek Valley and bluff lines. The area is known for rock climbers. If you decide to rock climb, please use extreme caution. The trail is considered to be a moderate trail and is approximately 2 miles R/T. **Directions from Ponca:** Head south on HWY43 for about ¼ mile and take a left on HWY 74E. Continue on HWY 74E for about 14miles. Turn right on HWY 7S, cross the Little Buffalo River Bridge, and take a left to get back onto HWY 74E. Continue on HWY 74E for about 10 miles and then turn right on HWY 123S/HWY 74E. Once you are on HWY 123S/HWY 74E, you will be heading towards Mt. Judea. Once you pass through Mt. Judea you will take a right onto HWY 123S and you go an additional 4.5 miles. There is a sign on the right side of the road for Sam's Throne. Follow the gravel road to the parking area. Sam's Throne is located about 1hour from Ponca.

Round Top Mountain: A very unique trail with history to go with it. There are remains of a WWII bomber that crashed in 1948. The trail is Moderate/Hard hike and is about a 3.6 R/T trail. The trail features the crash site, overlooks and views of the Little Buffalo River Valley. **Directions from Ponca:** Take HWY 43S about 1/4mile to Hwy 74E. Take a left on HWY 74E and go about 14 miles to HWY 7S. Take a right on HWY 7S and go approximately 2.5 miles up the mountain out of Jasper and the trail will be on the right hand side of the road. There is a sign and a gravel road that will take you to the parking area.