

## OMH Trail Data / History

### Cedar Creek Trail / Petit Jean

Petit Jean State Park, AR

This trail goes upstream, above Cedar Falls, from the Mather Lodge to the falls overlook, then across the creek at one of two crossings (one with bridge). Downstream on the far side is another overlook, some fantastic rock formations, and Rockhouse Cave. Return via same route (or use opposite creek crossing). Overlooks are always an SSS. Cedar Falls, Rockhouse Cave, and pioneer sites are all highlights of this trip. Rockhouse cave has prehistoric art on walls.

**Planning notes:**

1. Fall and spring are best times for this hike. Winter offers more open views, and perhaps more water. This hike can be combined with Cedar Falls Trail (going to bottom of falls) for a total of about 5 1/2 miles - a good Saturday combo.
2. Bring Flashlight to get a good look at rock art in cave.
3. About 1:15 minutes (60 miles) to lodge from HSV East gate. Lodge has full facilities before hike.
4. Lunch afterwards at lodge (if not too crowded) or at one of several places on way back. Jones Family Restaurant (AR hwy 9, south of Perryville) has all day breakfast; good lunch menu. Brenda's at foot of mountain in Centerville (Closed)

**Access Notes:** 1. Park at Mather Lodge.

**For additional info:** Check with any of recent hike leaders shown below. Jeannie Eichler and Jim Gifford are good consultants for this hike.  
State Park Visitor's Center has trail maps  
State Parks web page has detailed trail data base: <http://www.arkansasstateparks.com/things-to-do/trails/> (see link on OMH Trails page)

### Recent Hikes

**Nov 21, 2009**      **Leader:** Jeannie Eichler      **15 Hikers**      **OMH Saturday**

**Route:** From Mather Lodge, upstream past overlook, across Cedar Creek, to far overlook and Rockhouse cave, return via upstream crossing, and back to lodge.

**4.5 miles**      **Difficulty Rating 2**      **Scenic Rating 4**

*It was a cloudy day, but good views. Cloudy day made it difficult to see the art on the cave walls.*

*We had a short snack break at the cave.*

*Hike Leader says: "No one got hurt, lost or left behind.....that is interesting to me!"*

*Lunch at Jones Family Restaurant on way back*

**sss:** Views of falls form overlooks; views down canyon.      **Waterfall** Cedar Falls  
Rockhouse cave.

**Oct 21, 2006**      **Leader:** Glenn Wortham      **15 Hikers**      **OMH Saturday**

**Route:** From Mather Lodge, upstream past overlook, across Cedar Creek, to far overlook and Rockhouse cave, return via upstream crossing, and back to lodge.

**4.5 miles**      **Difficulty Rating 2**      **Scenic Rating 4**

*The scenery was beautiful at the leaves were changing colors. We made stops at Cedar Fall Overlook, Rock House Cave and the Pioneer Cabin.*

*Creek and falls almost dry; just a trickle. Dryest most of us have ever seen.*

*Stopped for lunch at Jones Family Restaurant, AR Hwy 9, south of Perryville.*

**sss:** Views form overlooks; views down canyon with fall color.      **Waterfall** Cedar Falls  
Rockhouse cave.

**April 17, 2004**      **Leader:** Don Baggett      **14 Hikers**      **OMH Saturday**

**Route:** Hiked from Mather Lodge upstream; across creek; down Boy Scout Trail to northern overlook. Then returned and went down Cedar Creek Trail to Falls and back.

**4.0 miles**      **Difficulty Rating 3**      **Scenic Rating 5**

*View from overlook across from Lodge; water fall at full flow.*

*"A former OMH President was seen behind the falls skipping stones as if he were still a youth".*

**sss:** Overlook      **Waterfall** Cedar Falls

*View from Petit Jean Mt --  
above the falls*



*Top of Cedar Falls*