

OMH Trail Data / History

Seven Hollows / Petit Jean SP

Petit Jean State Park, AR

This trail is a beautiful loop trail on top of Petit Jean Mountain. The trail goes through rock formations, wooded glens, and a grotto with waterfall. A towering natural bridge is a scenic highlight. There are no significant hills to climb, but footing is difficult in places due to rough terrain, rocks, roots, and stepping over rock formations. An on-going debate continues as to how many "hollows" this trail actually traverses.

Planning notes: 1. Petit Jean is different in Spring (flowers), Fall (color), and winter (views); one of our most popular hikes.
2. Lunch at lodge followed by trip down to Cedar Falls (see) is always popular. There are several other opportunities for after hike activity at Petit Jean (Auto Museum; Heifer Int'l). Lunch at Jones Family Restaurant in Perryville is also popular,

Access Notes: 1. Trailhead is off AR 154, in the state park, about 1 mile west of Mather Lodge
2. Plan an hour and a half from HSV. From HSV East gate - hwy 9 to AR 154 (or) from HSV West Gate - hwy 7 to Centerville AR 154
3. Use 120 miles round trip for carpool costs.

For additional info: Arkansas Hiking Trails (Tim Ernst)
Petit Jean State Park trail maps.

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating 2

Scenic Rating 4

sss: Natural Bridge; Grotto
The whole Trail"

Waterfall: Seven Hollows Grotto

-- Recent Hikes --

Apr 17, 2010

Leader: Jeannie Eichler

20 Hikers

OMH Saturday

Route: Counter-clockwise loop; including grotto

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating 2

Scenic Rating 4

Nice day; warm but breezy. Leaf out green; dogwoods still in bloom; wldflowers abundant.

Big crowd enjoyed the hike and a lingering stop at the (just-dripping) grotto and a stop at natural bridge.

Much of crowd stopped at Jones Family Restaurant (Perryville) after the hike.

Joy, Lynda M, Denise, Jamie, and Miller did a separate hike, including Bear Cave, Blue Hollow, and Cedar Falls, at met us for lunch.

sss: Grotto

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

Natural Bridge

Bluffs; creeks running; April green

Mar 21, 2009

Leader: Cliff & Pamela Harrison/ Ben Glazer

4 Hikers

OMH Saturday

Route: Counter-clockwise loop; including grotto

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating 2

Scenic Rating 4

Rainy day; fifteen hikers drove to Petit Jean in the rain. After some waiting around at Mather Lodge, all but four decided to forego the hike - including the hike leader.

Ben led Joy, Lynda, Bettye on the hike - and apparently had a good time, even though quite damp..

The rest of us drove to the Cedar Falls ovrlook and walked down (in the rain) for the view of a very full-flowing falls. We then came home.

sss: Grotto

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

rock formations

Apr 19, 2008

Leader: John Cramm

16 Hikers

OMH Saturday

Route: Clockwise loop; including grotto

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating 2

Scenic Rating 4

Beautiful day, there was some water at the water falls. Great hike, great scenery.

Most hikers had lunch at the lodge after the hike; several hiked to Cedar Falls and back after lunch.

sss: Grotto

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

rock formations

Patterns in algae on barely moving water in grotto



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- April 8, 2006** Leader: Guy Yates **11 Hikers** OMH Saturday
Route: Loop
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **2** Scenic Rating **4**
Several stayed for lunch at lodge and trip to Cedar Falls after lunch.
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- Nov 19, 2005** Leader: Don Baggett **4 Hikers** OMH Saturday
Route: Clockwise loop; including stop at grotto
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **3** Scenic Rating **3**
Gray, fall day, but perfect temp for hiking. Only four of us went, but had a great time. Grotto was almost completely dry. Lunch after at Mather Lodge.
sss: Rock formations all around this loop
Natural bridge; turtle rocks
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- Apr 16, 2005** Leader: Don Baggett **7 Hikers** OMH Saturday
Route: Clockwise loop
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **2** Scenic Rating **4**
*Dogwoods were in bloom. The small creeks were flowing well but easily forded by rock stepping. The waterfall at the grotto was barely more than a trickle.
A good bit of poison oak/ivy was growing along the trail. The trail needs some major work due to many large trees down. This was both dead trees and live pines that had recently been blown over. They were several potentially dangerous leaners that we did not attempt to move because of their size. In several places the trail was blocked by down trees and had to be skirted.
This was a slow hike primarily due to trail condition and conditioning of one of the hikers. This hiker stumbled and fell several times and was given first aid due to a skinned knee.
It should be noted that when we hiked this trail last fall we had over 30 hikers but only 7 this time. This day was Derby Day at Oaklawn, which could have affected the turnout. Both cars returned directly home, with no after hike activity.*
sss: All four (or is it five) "Hollows" **Waterfall** Seven Hollows Grotto
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- Nov 6, 2004** Leader: Don Baggett **26 Hikers** OMH Saturday
Route: Split group did alternate loops. Half went clockwise; other half went counter-clockwise
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **4** Scenic Rating **2**
*Split group and went in opposite directions; met at grotto. Rex led second half.
Beautiful day; lots of water in the creeks; water coming off the grotto falls*
sss: creeks; falls **Waterfall** Seven Hollows Grotto
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- Nov 1, 2003** Leader: Carolyn Minson **27 Hikers** OMH schedule
Route: Loop counter-clockwise
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **2** Scenic Rating **4**
*Big crowd for a very hot/dry hike. Temps still in 80's; grotto falls just dripping.
Lunch at Mather lodge after hike; nobody went to Cedar Falls - too dry.*
Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto
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- Apr 19, 2003** Leader: Carolyn Minson **19 Hikers** OMH schedule
Route: Once around the loop, including the grotto
4.5 miles Difficulty Rating **2** Scenic Rating **4**
*Good crowd on a warm, but overcast morning. Rain clouds threatened thruout, but it didnt rain on us except for some sprinkles on the last quarter mile.
Lunch at Mather Lodge, when the thunderstorm hit. Heavy rain, lightning, and wind made us reconsider an afternoon trip down to the Falls.*
Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

OMH Trail Data / History

Nov 16, 2002

Leader: Jim Gifford

8 Hikers

OMH Saturday

Route: Loop / counter clockwise

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating **2**

Scenic Rating **4**

*Jim led hike for Carolyn (sick); decided to go around the loop opposite direction of prior trips.
Stopped at Cedar Falls overlook after lunch (in lieu of climb down)*

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

Apr 20, 2002

Leader: Rex Greer

18 Hikers

OMH Saturday

Route: Loop trail

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating **2**

Scenic Rating **4**

This hike was a celebration of Rex' 76th birthday. We walked the trail with funny little birthday hats (compliments of Kay) and celebrated with cake and wine (compliments of Mike Z) in trailhead after hike.

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto

Apr 21, 2001

Leader: Rex Greer

9 Hikers

OMH schedule

Route: loop counterclockwise

4.5 miles

Difficulty Rating **2**

Scenic Rating **4**

Nice day; Petit Jean met all expectations.

sss: The whole trail

Waterfall Seven Hollows Grotto