



Leah DiPietro

Communications Manager

Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism



Mountain Biking & Road Cycling in Arkansas

EPIC TRAIL 1



OUACHITA National Recreation TRAIL

At 223 miles, the Ouachita Trail is the longest hiking trail in Arkansas. It starts in Tallahatchie State Park and it travels east, all the way to Little Rock, Arkansas.

The 108-mile stretch between Tallahatchie National Scenic Byway and Highway 7 north of Hot Springs is the longest in the state. The most trail mountain bikers is a section used as part of the Ouachita Bike Race each spring.

The trail features camp sites approximately every 10 miles. This ride provides beautiful views, stream crossings, and more. Expect to do some hill climbing on this trail.



"Some of the best trails in the state are on the Ouachita Trail."



Arkansas MOUNTAIN BIKING Guide



Featuring
five EPIC TRAILS,
LOCAL FAVORITES
and RIDE CENTERS

Base Camp: NORTHWEST

After ripping through the Ozark backcountry, and find plenty to see and do and great place Bicycle-Friendly Communities of Bentonville both designated as International Mountain Association (IMBA) Ride Centers (see page 18) as cities like Springdale, Rogers and Eureka Springs. Fill up on food and fun on your restaurants, shops, music venues, museum and league ballpark.

A must-see stop in the region is Crystal of American Art in Bentonville, which offers an "art ride" on the grounds. The Bentonville will get your wheels turning exhibits geared toward learners of all ages. While in Fayetteville, cruise down at the Walmart Arkansas Music Pavilion welcomes a variety of national acts.

Bikes and brews pair well on the Fayetteville. Start at the Fayetteville Visitors Center, pick up a passport, and ride to local breweries in Fayetteville, Rogers, and Springdale. While in Fayetteville, cruise down on music and a taste of the nightlife.



West Mountain Brewing Co. on the Square, Fayetteville



Lake Leatherwood, Eureka Springs

Walmart Arkansas Music Pavilion, Rogers



LAKE LEATHERWOOD
Eureka Springs



Lake Leatherwood City Park has over 25 miles of multi-use trails and is the home of the Eureka Springs Fat Tire Festival for good reason. Cross country and downhill riding are the stars here with rocky ledges, steep slopes, extended grades, creek crossings and varied terrain making it challenging to all riders. Trailheads in the campground and day-use area take mountain bikers around the lake or up the surrounding hills. The Twin Knobs Trail and the Bescham Trail are by far the most technical; Miners Rock and Overlook Trail have challenging climbs and long, fast downhills. The park has swimming, bathrooms and bathhouses, and cabins are available for rent or stay in Eureka Springs, a Victorian-era mountain town with excellent restaurants, hotels and B&Bs.

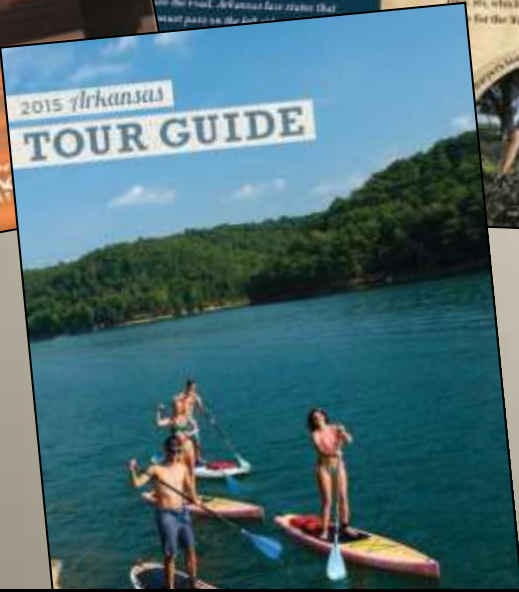
Nearby Trail
• Hidden Diversity Trail

MOUNT KESSLER Fayetteville



The Mount Kessler mountain bike trails are some of the toughest and most scenic in the state. Nine miles of rocky singletrack loop around this urban mountain in Fayetteville. The karst landscape makes for challenging riding and world-class bragging rights. Views from atop Mount Kessler are spectacular year-round with fall hosting that particular wow factor you can only get in the Boston Mountains. Visitors should park at the Mount Kessler Trailhead at 2800 West Judge Cummings Road in Fayetteville off of Highway 265. A 1.3-mile connector trail winds from the trailhead to the singletrack on the mountain. A regional park is under development at the base of the mountain.

Nearby Trails
• Mount Sequoyah
• Lake Fayetteville



Bicycling in Arkansas Brochure
Arkansas Tour Guide
Arkansas Adventure Guide

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Excellent and exciting single tracks can be found all across Arkansas. With 52 state parks, three national forests and numerous city parks across the state, it's an extensive list of trails to choose from. Below are a few favorites to discover.



UPPER BUFFALO, Red Star
(14.0 miles)



ENDERS FAULT, Woodly Hollow State Park
Greensboro (9.2 miles)



MOUNT KESSLER, Fayetteville
(7 miles)



WOMBLE, Ouachita National Forest
near Mena (13.7 miles)



Scan for more

EPIC RIDES

Arkansas's diverse terrain was seemingly built for epic status. The International Mountain Biking Association has found four trails nestled within the Ozarks and Ouachitas that have earned the title of "Epic Rides": the **SYLLAMO TRAIL**, north of Mountain View; the **WOMBLE TRAIL**, near Mena; **LAKE OUACHITA VISTA TRAIL**, near Mount Ida; and the **UPPER BUFFALO TRAIL**, near Kingston. These rides offer challenging climbs up mountainous slopes, technical twists along rocky ridgelines and exhilarating descents with rewarding views at every turn.

In addition to Epic Rides, IMBA also recognizes destinations that offer premier trails and facilities in urban settings. In Arkansas, IMBA Ride Centers include **BENTONVILLE** (Silver Level) and **FAYETTEVILLE** (Bronze Level).



Mark your calendars to
celebrate **SYLLAMO'S REVENGE**,
the annual 50-mile mountain
bike race, in May.



LAKE OUACHITA VISTA TRAIL, Mount Ida (14.5 miles and growing)



BIKING

Home / Outdoors / Biking



OUTDOORS

ATVs/ORVs

Biking

- Mountain Biking
- Road Cycling
- Selected Rides
- Biking Events

Birding & Watchable Wildlife

Camping & RVing

Hike & Climb

Motorcycling

Scenic Byways and Trails

Sports & Gaming

Water Activities

Unique Outdoors

Find scenic bicycle vacations in The Natural State

A great way to enjoy the scenery of Arkansas is on bicycle vacations via pedal power. The state is one of the nation's premier destinations for cycling and mountain biking. Whether you want to spend the day cycling a scenic back road in the **Ozarks**, riding single-track in the Ouachitas, or testing your mettle in a stage race, there is a route for you here. The state hosts terrain and events for all skill levels and our mild climate allows for **bicycle vacations** year-round.

In the midst of our **52 state parks**, three National Forests, and many city parks are thousands of miles of supreme mountain biking trails. The state has plenty of terrain for riders to test their gears on, be it a single-track trail in the **Ouachitas** or a long winding IMBA Epic route.

We are home to five trails that hold "Epic" status from the international Mountain Bicycling Association: the Womble Trail, 108 miles of the Ouachita National Recreation Trail, and Lake Ouachita Vista Trail in the Ouachita region, and the Syllamo Trails and Upper Buffalo Trail in the Ozarks. In addition to the trails, IMBA has named Bentonville, Fayetteville and Hot Springs as Ride Centers. Northwest Arkansas has been designated as the first-ever Regional Ride Center by the same group.

At **Delta Heritage Trail State Park** in southeast Arkansas, a rails-to-trails conversion open to bicyclists and hikers is being



BICYCLING IN ARKANSAS BROCHURE

VIEW ONLINE

DOWNLOAD



BIKE SAFETY IN ARKANSAS BROCHURE

VIEW ONLINE

10-mile former Union Pacific Railroad as is home to hundreds of miles of trails that traverse both urban centers and the scenic **Ark Greenway** includes over 35 miles of trails that extend from Bentonville to Fayetteville popular community destinations, including six downtown areas.



OUTDOORS

ATVs/ORVs

Biking

- Mountain Biking
- Road Cycling
- Selected Rides
- Biking Events

Birding & Watchable Wildlife

Camping & RVing

Hike & Climb

Motorcycling

Scenic Byways and Trails

Sports & Gaming

Water Activities

Unique Outdoors

Here is a Look at a Few of the Hiking and Biking Trails Across the State.

Cane Creek State Park

(Park Details)

Delta View Trail

Cane Creek State Park uniquely sits on the border of two natural divisions of Arkansas. These divisions are the Gulf Coastal Plains and the Mississippi Alluvial Plain, also known as "The Delta." The Delta View Trail is located within the "Coastal Plains" and is characterized by gently sloping hills. The bench at the one mile mark will give a fantastic view of Cane Creek Lake, which lies within "The Delta." This trail provides an excellent opportunity for interpretive programs, exercise and wildlife viewing.

Cane Creek Lake Trail

Exploring Cane Creek Lake Trail by foot or mountain bike, you will traverse along deep draws between the steeply sloping ridges of a thick forest. In order to revise your preconceived picture of southeast Arkansas, the trail bends, snags, water lilies, lotus blossoms and bald cypress brakes.

Delta Heritage Trail State Park

(Park Details)

Delta Heritage Trail

The Delta Heritage Trail is a rail-to-trail conversion that was acquired by Arkansas. The conversion open to bicyclists and hikers is being developed in phases along right-of-way. Call for updated information.

OUTDOORS

ATVs/ORVs

Biking

- Mountain Biking
- Road Cycling
- Selected Rides
- Biking Events

Birding & Watchable Wildlife

Camping & RVing

Hike & Climb

Motorcycling

Scenic Byways and Trails

Sports & Gaming

Water Activities

Unique Outdoors

Arkansas's Best Bicycle Tours

Here is a look at a few trail and road bike routes available across the state:

Arkansas River Trail

The Arkansas River Trail winds its way across the entire metropolitan area, through Little Rock and North Little Rock, and connects 38 parks, six museums and over 5,000 acres of federal, state and local parkland - easily one of the best bicycle tours in Central Arkansas.



BICYCLING IN ARKANSAS BROCHURE
VIEW ONLINE | DOWNLOAD



BIKE SAFETY IN ARKANSAS BROCHURE
VIEW ONLINE

Mississippi River Trail

Projects like the Mississippi River Trail highlight road bike routes in the Delta as part of a 3,000-mile network of bicycle-friendly roads that connect 10 states - perfect if you're looking for a bike tour that'll last you a few days. An 85-mile portion of the route offers cycling-friendly roads and multi-use pathways from West Memphis to Helena-West Helena. The trail's website has an **interactive map** to help plan your trip. Check out www.mississippivertrail.org for details.

Scott-England/Harper's Loop

The Scott-England Loop (35-50-miles) offers a smooth flat ride past some of the most beautiful road bike routes in the USA. Featuring scenery such as cotton fields and pecan groves. The long version of this ride follows Harper's Loop, a signed cycling route from the Arkansas River Trail in North Little Rock to Hwy. 165. The shorter route starts at the Plantation Agricultural Museum State Park in Scott and continues to England where you make a right onto Hwy. 161, which loops back to Scott. This is the route for the Tour de Rock charity ride.



WHERE IS THIS?

BIKING EVENTS

Outdoors / Biking / Biking Events

SHARE

OUTDOORS

ATVs/ORVs

Biking

- Mountain Biking
- Road Cycling
- Selected Rides
- **Biking Events**

Birding & Watchable Wildlife

Camping & RVing

Hike & Climb

Motorcycling

Scenic Byways and Trails

Sports & Gaming

Water Activities

Unique Outdoors



Annual Bike Races and Charity Cycling Events

Arkansas is host to many biking events such as races and **charity cycling events** that take place across the state. Including long, short and **middle distance cycling events**. Here is a look at a few of them:

Headwater Challenge

A January ride departing from Foggy Rock Farm in the Buffalo Headwaters near Red Star that features 35-miles of challenging singletrack, doubletrack and road riding.

Highway 71 Classic

Annual ride on Scenic Highway 71 in Northwest Arkansas each spring: 35- and 75-mile options.

Ouachita Challenge

Annual mountain bike race held each spring in the Ouachita Mountains of southwest Arkansas which includes the Womble Trail and the Ouachita National Recreation Trail.

Ozark Mountain Bike Festival

Annual two-day mountain bike event held in April at scenic Devil's Den State Park in Northwest Arkansas.

Carlo Ferrari, Ciclismo Magazine



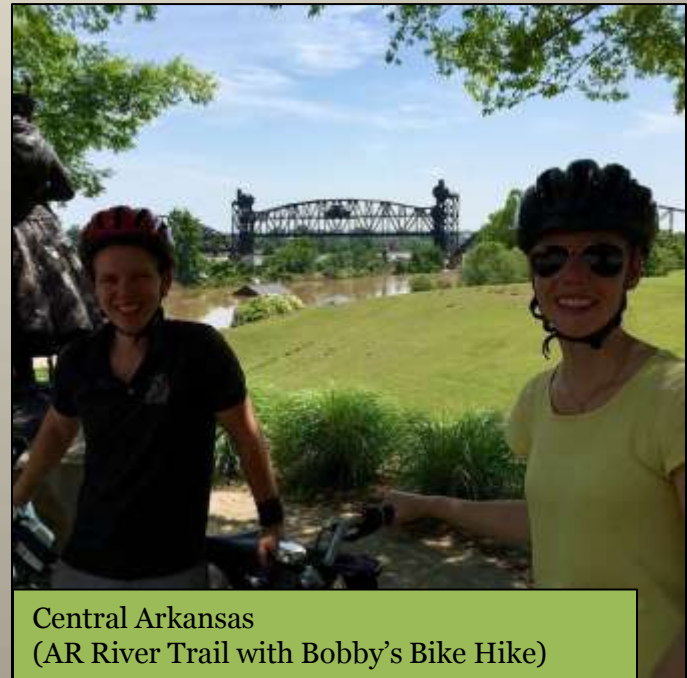
North Central Arkansas (Syllamo Trail)



Northwest Arkansas (Razorback Greenway)



Southwest Arkansas (LOViT)



Central Arkansas
(AR River Trail with Bobby's Bike Hike)

Darley Newman, Travels with Darley

**2015 INTERBIKE
PREVIEW**

interbike®

Inside

- All New Hall E,
Featuring The Circuit
- Fit Symposium and
Other New Education
- Two New Mann
University Events
- Interbike's Biggest
Night - The IB Awards
- All New North By
Northwest

And Much More...

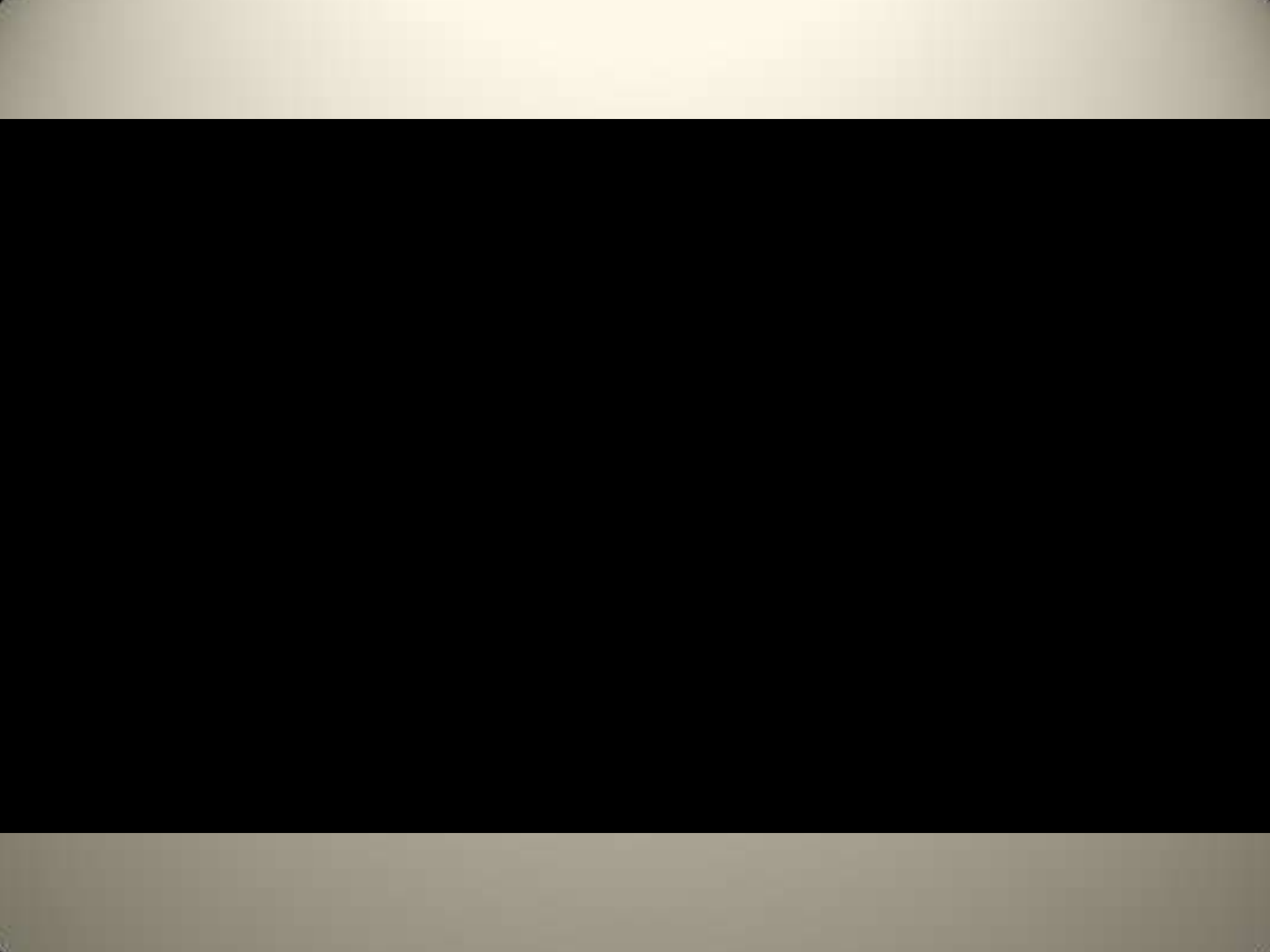


CARLA BARTOLUCCI

2015 Interbike Conference, Las Vegas, NV



September 14-15, 2015
Booths Casino
Boulder City, Nevada





Arkansas
THE NATURAL STATE

Thank You!