

Calling All Adventure Seekers: Looking for a heart-pumping adventure in the great outdoors?



Embark on an Epic Adventure in Arkansas' Natural Wonderland

NEWS RELEASE BY YOURUPDATETV

New York, NY | June 01, 2023 02:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From mountain biking to rock climbing to white-water rafting, it might surprise you to learn that Arkansas offers something for every level of adventure seeker. Recently, Travis Napper from Arkansas Tourism and Suzanne Grobmyer from Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism conducted a satellite media tour to talk about the hidden gems of Arkansas.

A video accompanying this announcement is available at: https://youtu.be/Dsd_giujvbk



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Outside Magazine recently named Arkansas' Monument Trails as the best mountain biking destination in the country. Arkansas is a state of visionaries when it comes to outdoor recreation. The State has been blessed with beautiful mountain ranges – from the Ozark Mountains in the north to Pinnacle Mountain in central Arkansas.

The Monument Trails are a series of shared-use trails located in various Arkansas state parks. Through a partnership with the Walton Family Foundation, professional trail builders designed and developed the trails with designs that are innovative and sustainable, and that help highlight Arkansas' beauty. There are trails for beginners and trails for those who are experienced.

Arkansas has a collection of world-class, mountain biking routes within four Arkansas State Parks – Mount Nebo State Park, Hobbs State Park, Pinnacle Mountain State Park, and Devil's Den State Park. The shared-use trails, which were professionally crafted by the world's best trail builders, showcase Arkansas's natural beauty and are woven into the beautiful landscape.

If you would rather find your adventure on the water, there is plenty of adrenaline-pumping white water rafting in Arkansas. Try Cossatot River State Park and the Class IV rapids of Cossatot Falls. If a leisurely float down the river is more your speed, then you can do that at Cossatot, too.

There are few activities more serene and calming than a hike along the 300 miles of trails in Arkansas State Parks. There is no better way to see The Natural State. Petit Jean Mountain State Park offers trails that are rather easy and others that are strenuous.

Most everyone can navigate the Cedar Falls Trail, and it is definitely worth the effort because the trail's end is the stunning 95-foot Cedar Falls Waterfall, which begins behind the breezeway at the park's historic Mather Lodge. Arkansas is also home to two world-class fine arts museums – Crystal Bridges and Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts.

Another reason Arkansas is called The Natural State is the abundance of outstanding lakes and rivers. Arkansas, for instance, is known as one of the premier locations for trout fishing. Record trout are caught at the Little Red River and the White River. The State also has some of the world's best bass fishing locations. The Buffalo National River is an ideal place for a quiet float.

Ready to ride? **Arkansas.com** is a one-stop resource for all things Arkansas.

Travis Napper Bio

Travis Napper is the Director of Tourism within the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism. He is responsible for leading the sales and marketing efforts of the state and oversees the state's welcome centers.

Napper serves on the Board of Mississippi River Country USA(MRC) and Travel South USA. Prior to joining the Arkansas Department of Tourism in 2020, he served as the executive of the Ruston, Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Napper attended Louisiana Tech University, earning his bachelor's degree in marketing in 2006 and received his CDME (Certified Destination Management Executive) designation in 2016.

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