

For Your Protection

Each year, hundreds of hikers walk the scenic and rugged trails of Buffalo National River. Most make it back unassisted – a few, however, require a stretcher for the return trip. Use caution and common sense to stay with the majority. Consider the following when planning your trip:

- Let someone else know of your trip plans – where you are going and when you will return.
- Cliffs, unfenced overlooks, and uneven terrain exist throughout the park. Watch for loose gravel, and keep an eye on children.
- Take extra water – one gallon per person per day is recommended. Water from streams is unsafe unless treated.
- Ticks can carry diseases that are preventable. Check yourself after hiking.
- Poisonous snakes and spiders are common but rarely a problem.
- Proper gear can save a life, maybe your own. Take a map, first-aid kit, matches, compass, flashlight, and extra food.
- Topographical maps, available at park contact stations and retail stores, are recommended for extended day hikes. Old roads that cross hiking trails can be confusing.

Tyler Bend Visitor Center: 870-439-2502
Emergency Dispatch: 888-692-1162
<http://www.nps.gov/buff>



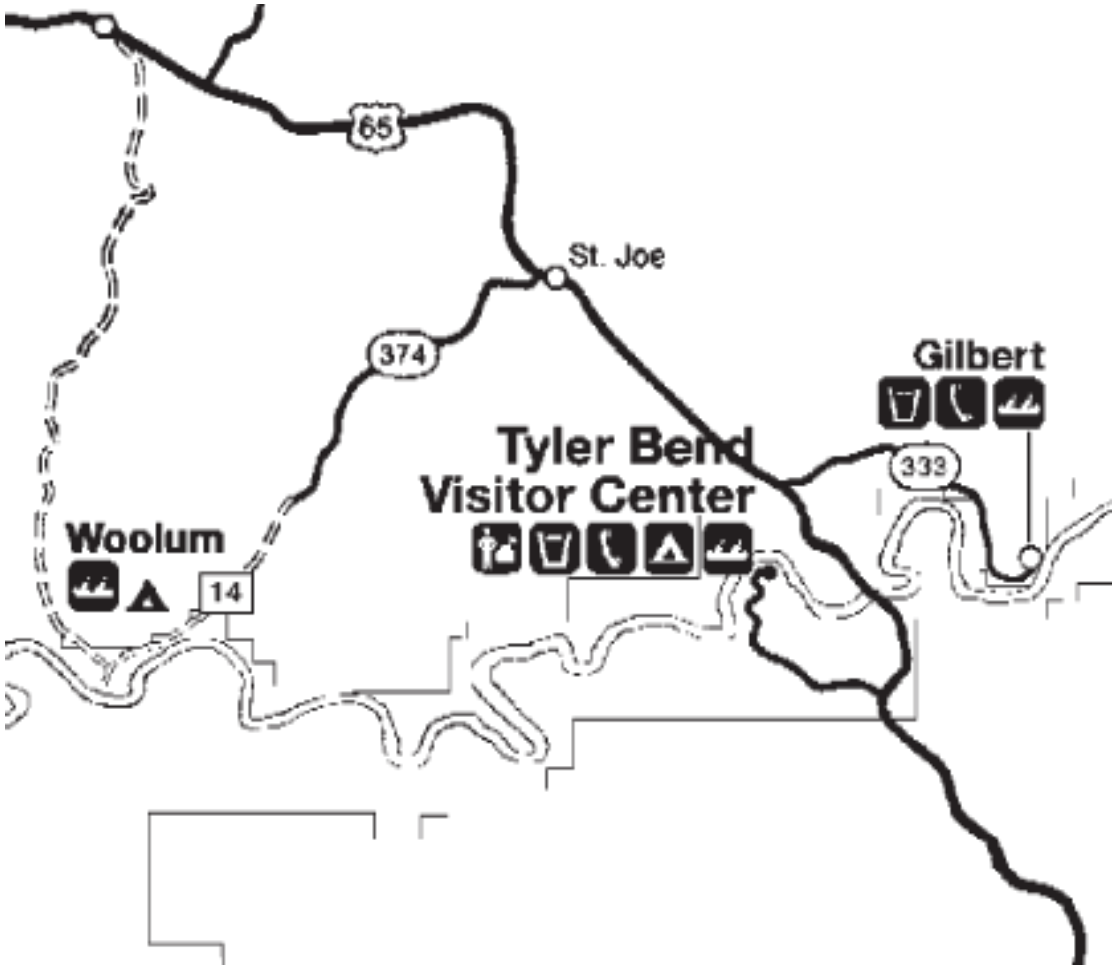
Hiking Trails Middle District

BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER



About This Brochure

This handout includes a sampling of day hikes in the middle district of Buffalo National River. You can combine some of the hikes below for overnight trips. Topographical maps contain more detailed information and are recommended for use on all trails in the park. Maps are sold in park contact stations and local retail stores.



Trail Regulations

The Buffalo River Trail parallels the national river, following bluff lines, meandering up side canyons, and dropping into hollows. Views of the river accent the way. Other hikes lead to scenic vistas and historic sites. Trail difficulty varies, ranging from wheel-chair accessible terrain to steep climbs over rocky slopes. Please assist us in protecting the park by adhering to the following:

- Hiking Trails are posted with white markers - horse/hiking trails with yellow markers. Hikers may travel on horse/ hiker trails, but horses are not allowed on hiking trails.
- Pets are not allowed on trails.
- Mountain biking is prohibited on all hiking and horseback trails.
- All-terrain vehicles are prohibited in the park.
- Stay on the trail – shortcuts create erosion.
- If you must travel cross-country, avoid stepping on lichens and fragile plants. Leave no permanent mark of your travel.
- Trash begets trash – please pack out your own and as much as you can carry of others.
- Leave things as you find them. Law protects all plants, animals, rocks, historic features, and archeological sites.

Trail Descriptions

Area	Trailhead	Distance	Hiking Time	Features
Woolum				
1. Woolum to Hwy. 65 ^{BRT}	Woolum	15.0 mi 24.1 km (o)	9-10 hours	Strenuous, scenic overlooks, links with Ozark Highlands Trail for longer hiking opportunities, river ford
Tyler Bend				
2. River View	Visitor Center	1.4 mi 2.3 km (o)	1 hour	Moderate; spectacular views, historic site
3. Collier Homestead/River View**	Collier Homestead Trail	0.6 mi 1.0 km (o)	1/2-1 hour	Easy; historic site, spectacular views
4. Spring Hollow	Amphitheater	0.9 mi 1.4 km (o)	1 hour	Moderate; streambed, nice display of spring flowers, forested
5. Buck Ridge/Rock Wall	Amphitheater	2.6 mi 4.2 km (rt)	1-2 hours	Moderate; historic features, nice display of spring flowers, forested
6. Tyler Bend to Gilbert	Visitor Center	5.5 mi 8.8 km (o)	4-5 hours	Moderate; varied terrain, old homesite, scenic overlook, can get overgrown in summer
Gilbert				
7. Gilbert Railroad Trail	Gilbert	3.4 mi 5.5 km (rt)	2-3 hours	Easy; old railroad pilings, can get overgrown in summer
*(rt) = round trip	(o) = one way	BRT = Buffalo River Trail		**Wheelchair Accessible