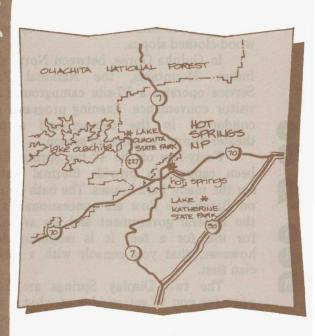
HOT SPRINGS National Park

planner for



have a SUPER visit

Safely
Use
Preserve
Enjoy
this Resource

Five wooded mountains dominate the Hot Springs scene, collecting rain water, absorbing it to torrid depths, and discharging it — years later — from 47 steaming springs. Nestled at the foot of the mountains is the City of Hot Springs and the world famous Bathhouse Row Historic District in a formal setting of magnolias and holly trees and hedges. In 1832, when similar spas were reaching popularity in Europe, our government "reserved" this natural heritage for all people for all time. Your visit can be an enjoyable and educational experience.

Paved roads — many paved horse-carriage routes from the past century — carry you on scenic drives with panoramic views and picnic areas on North, Hot Springs and West Mountains. Miles of good trails offer hikers a more intimate visit to these hardwood-clothed slopes.

In Gulpha Gorge, between North and Indian Mountains, the National Park Service operates a 57-site campground for visitor convenience. Evening programs are conducted in the campground amphitheater during the summer season.

Forty-five of the 47 hot springs have been capped to provide thermal waters for the many bath houses. The bath houses on Bathhouse Row are concessionaires of the Federal government and are available for use for a fee. It is recommended, however, that you consult with a physician first.

The two Display Springs are kept open for you to get an idea of what it was like here when all flowed down the mountainside. They are located just off the Grand Promenade.

The Promenade is a pleasant, wide brick walk of about a half-mile at the foot of Hot Springs Mountain just behind Bathhouse Row.

Hot Springs can be your gateway to a large and diversified recreation area. To the north and west is Ouachita National Forest, with 17 forest recreation areas, all offering camping and picnicking facilities. Eight have swimming facilities. U.S. Highway 270 runs west from Hot Springs to Lake Ouachita in the heart of the Forest.

About five miles west of downtown Hot Springs, on U.S. 270, State Highway runs north 12 miles to Lake Ouachita State Park, with camping, picnicking and swimming facilities.

The Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce sponsors many special events, including a 10-day Fun Festival in early June and a 3-day Octoberfest in late October.

Five golf courses challenge both pros and duffers. A 50-day horse racing season in February and March attracts record crowds.

Hot Springs National Park is located at the hub of highway network in west-central Arkansas. U.S. 70 and 270 and State Route 7 all intersect at Hot Springs. All intersect with I-30 on the east and south. AR-7 intersects I-40 at Russellville, 73 miles to the north.

Hot Springs is served by Trailway

Hot Springs is served by Trailway buses, their depot is only 2 blocks from the Park Visitor Center.

Frontier and Texas International Airlines serve the Hot Springs Municipal airport. Hotel and motel limousines will meet incoming planes.

The City of Hot Springs offers a wide range of overnight and dining accommodations. Lists are available from the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1500, Hot Springs, AR, 71901.

For campers, the Park operates a modern, 57-site campground in Gulpha Gorge, 2 miles northeast of the center of the City. Tables and fireplaces are

provided; there are no hook-ups for trailers. You are limited to 14 days; no reservations are accepted. A nominal use-fee is charged.

The nearest State installation offering camping is at Lake Ouachita State Park, 17 miles north of the City on AR-227.

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You will find many opportunities for picnicking throughout the Park, but you'll have to bring your own picnic lunch. There are no food concessions in the Park. A wide variety of snack shops and restaurants are available in the City of Hot Springs.

Hot Springs is located at the foot of the mountains and far enough inland to have the advantages of regular weather variations. Summers are hot but extended heat waves are uncommon. Winter storms from the north moderate quickly. Fall and spring seasons have long periods when temperatures approximate the average annual temperature of 63 degrees. Average rainfall is 53 inches; you can expect sunshine 65 per cent of the time.

Summers at Hot Springs are the festive season with intensive visitation. Nearly 2 of every 5 visitors to Hot Springs come during the summer months.

April and May, in contrast, receive only 17 per cent of the visitation. And spring, with redbud, dogwoods and shadblow, mixed with red maple buds, a profusion of violets and phlox, make this a colorful season. Bird watchers find this a good time to visit. Mild weather and signs of spring come as early as February.

September and October receive another 17.5 per cent of the visits. Fall, with its invigorating weather, is the prime time for hikers. Squirrels and chipmunks are active, leaves take on flaming coloration, and falling leaves open views not seen during the summer months.

directions

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Your check or money order should be made out to the Eastern National Park and Monument Association. Address your requests to Hot Springs National Park Information, P.O. Box 1860, Hot Springs, AR, 71901.

Few people are hurt visiting the Park, but those who are will assure you it's no way to enjoy a vacation. So. . .

Drive defensively to avoid automobile accidents. Be especially careful to keep speed low enough to negotiate sharp curves, take steep grades, and consistently stay on your side of the road.

Poisonous snakes are very uncommon: nevertheless, keep alert when clambering in rocks.

Yellow jacket stings cause severe reactions in many people.

Learn to recognize and be alert for poison ivy.

Watch your children around Gulpha Creek. It can rise quickly and foot-cutting rocks project from the creek bed.

Elderly visitors should be aware of limited agility and reduced strength which makes them prone to trips and falls. Please assist Rangers to protect Park features and allow others to appreciate the Park by...

leaving rocks, flowering plants, and animals unmolested.

keeping your pets on a leash.

observing the posted campground regulations regarding quiet hours and sanitation.

using trash bags.

putting potential litter in the proper containers.

PARKS AND FORESTS

When you are enjoying yourself, what difference does it make if you are in a National Park or a National Forest? Both offer outstanding recreational opportunities and special facilities and services to enhance your visit.

Differences are in concept which determines the way they are managed. National Forests are managed as renewable natural resources timber, forage, water, wildlife. National Parks are set aside to be preserved, as they are, in perpetuity.

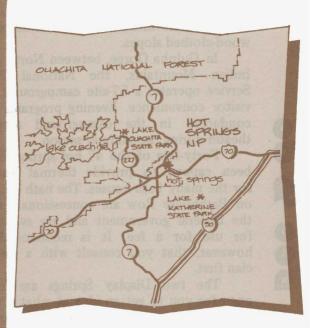
National Forests are managed for your benefit by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The National Park Service is a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Included in the National Park System are great natural areas, as Parks, Monuments, Seashores, Lakeshores, Rivers and Riverways. The System also includes prehistoric and historic areas, as Monuments, Memorials, Memorial Parks, Historic Sites, Historical Parks, Battlefields and Battlefield Sites. "National" is generally part of their title.

National Park Service ***** U.S. Department of the Interior

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National Park



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