

## **Beavers Bend State Park - Trail Information**

Beaver Lodge Trail to Cedar Bluff Nature Trail via Skyline Trail (GPS 34 08.709, W 94 41.412): The Beaver Lodge Trail is a one mile trail that extends from the spillway to the dam, and after you complete this easy trek, turn left and head southwest on Skyline Trail. As the longest of all the David Boren Hiking Trails, Skyline Trail extends over five miles filled with creek crossings and steep climbs best suited to advanced hikers. However, the trail is well-maintained with clear trail markers, so getting lost should not be an issue. While on the Skyline Trail, you will intersect Highway 259A where the trailhead for Cedar Bluff Nature Trail is located. This one mile trail makes for an easy, and beautiful, conclusion as you cross the Mountain Fork River.

Beaver Lodge Trail to Forest Heritage Center (GPS N 34 08.709, W 94 41.412): This 10.5 mile, expert level trail will actually have you taking parts of the Beavers Lodge Trail, Skyline Trail, Deer Crossing Trail, Lookout Mountain Trail and Forest Heritage Tree Trail. It is important to note the trail markers, as each trail will have a distinct color. Beginning at the same starting point as before, continue from Beaver Lodge Trail to Skyline Trail. After six miles, you'll intersect Deer Crossing Trail. This trail will take a quick dip south before rebounding back and heading steadily southeast across the highway to Lookout Mountain Trail. Though this trail is only a mile and a half long, it does include a difficult climb over Lookout Mountain. Near the trail's end, you'll come to the Beaver Creek Trail, which will lead you to Forest Heritage Center. Cool down after your hike while checking out some of the center's artwork.

Loop Trail from Forest Heritage Center (GPS 34 07.950, W 94 40.829): This three mile loop is perfect for intermediate to expert level hikers looking for a day hike without the need of a car drop. Park at the Forest Heritage Center and take the trail to the left at the first Y. You'll continue south for nearly one mile before turning right onto Lookout Mountain Trail. As stated before, this trail will take you to the summit, so be prepared for an arduous climb. Continue northwest on the trail and turn right. If you go to Highway 259A you've gone too far. The trail concludes with a half mile easy walk paralleling the highway back to the Forest Heritage Center.

In addition to the David Boren Hiking Trail System, there is also the Lakeview Lodge Trail. This four mile trail is actually comprised of three loops, which are marked as either novice or intermediate for mountain bike use. Both Loop 1 and Loop 3 are four miles in length and marked as novice and intermediate, respectively. Loop 2 comes in shorter at 1.75 miles and is appropriate for intermediate mountain bikers. Hikers will enjoy this easy to follow trail for its beautiful pine trees and varied terrain. The trail is meant to be followed in a clockwise direction, and it is important to turn left at each Y you encounter with the exception of the third Y where you will turn right and head toward Lakeview Lodge.