

# Beavers Bend TRAIL GUIDE



### FOREST HERITAGE TREE TRAIL

This is a 1.1 mile looped trail that starts (and ends) at the Forest Heritage Center. It takes you down the hill to Beaver Creek, along the floodplain of the creek, over a covered bridge, and back to the Forest Heritage Center. It is fairly easy to walk, but you do have a couple of climbs. It has a series of informational signs at key points and trees for more information on the area you are walking. Remember this trail crosses the hiking trail twice. Watch for wooden signs that say TRAIL. The hiking trail is marked with white paint on the trees.

### PINE RIDGE NATURE TRAIL

Pine Ridge is almost a figure-eight trail, but it DOES loop! The first loop starts across from the tennis court, then branches to the right. It will take you up through pine/hardwood forest, by a sewage lagoon (No Swimming, Please!) then across the top of a ridge. The trail branches to your right, and then your right again, and this will take you through bottomland forest and floodplain of Beaver Creek. The trail is about 3/4 mile long and is fairly easy to walk (two uphill grades and two downhill grades).

### PARK CONTACT NUMBERS

Park Office	(580) 494-6538
Nature Center	(580) 494-6556
Cabin Office	(580) 494-6300
Beavers Bend Lodge	(580) 494-6179



Scan here for additional Beavers Bend State Park resources or visit [www.TravelOK.com](http://www.TravelOK.com) for information about other Oklahoma State Parks.



WELCOME to Beavers Bend Trails. This trail guide describes five nature trails and approximately 12 miles of hiking trails that are located in that portion of the park that is below Broken Bow Spillway. For your safety, it is extremely important that before you begin a hike you first register at either the FOREST HERITAGE CENTER or the NATURE CENTER. Please be sure that someone knows which trail you are hiking and when you plan to return.

### SAFETY INFORMATION

Wear proper shoes or boots when hiking. Sandals and slick-soled cowboy boots are not recommended when hiking the rocky trails of this park. Allow about 1/2 to 1 hour for each mile of nature trail to be hiked. Challenging trails which cross steep terrain require about 1 to 2 hours for each mile of trail to be hiked. Take water, a partner, insect repellent and a snack when hiking one of the park's challenging trails. Keep your walk pleasurable, not an ordeal. Avoid overexertion. Stay within the limits of your ability. Observe the difficulty levels assigned to each trail. Watch where you step. Snakes may be seen along the trail. Most of the snakes in this park are not venomous, however, do not attempt to catch or handle any snake. All snakes are important in helping to control the population of rodents in the park. Snakes are most active in late evening and at night.

These trails are here for you, but we need your help.



Please help keep the trail clean. Bag your trash and discard in the nearest receptacle. Thank you for picking up litter left by others.

### BE A COURTEOUS TRAIL USER

Stay on designated trails. Please do not short-cut switchbacks; shortcuts can become a source of soil erosion. Observe, but do not disturb wildlife. Do not pick wildflowers, wild grapes or vegetation along the trail. These items are important sources of food for the animals that live here. Camping is permitted on hiking trails (which are marked with white paint).

### CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED ANYWHERE ON THESE TRAILS.

TRAIL MILEAGE (approximate):  
 SOUTH PARK-BEAVER CREEK: 1 mile; fairly easy to walk.  
 BEAVER CREEK-JUNCTION WITH SOUTH PARK: 1 mile; easy to walk.  
 BEAVER CREEK CROSSING-HWY 259A (DEER CROSSING): About 1.5 miles; challenging, several steep climbs.  
 DEER CROSS-CEDAR BLUFF: About 2 miles; some climbs, but not extremely steep.  
 CEDAR BLUFF-SPILLWAY CREEK: About 7 miles; challenging! Lots of climbs and steep grades (SKYLINE TRAIL).

### DAVID BOREN HIKING TRAIL (DBHT)

The southern 12 miles of the DBHT run from the low-water dam at the south end of Beavers Bend to the Beaver Lodge Nature Trail that runs from the hydro-electric dam to the spillway. The trail was built (and is best marked) from south to north. If you are walking the trail, please be aware of the fact that the hiking trail DOES NOT LOOP - be prepared to walk the trail back or walk on the road back to your starting point. The hiking trail is marked by white spray paint on trees near the trail. There are 4 major trail heads:

1. SOUTH PARK starts at the southern end of the park, just before the low-water dam. It is a fairly easy walk to the creek (1 mile) but there are some hills.

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2. **BEAVER CREEK** can be entered from near the Nature Center (enter near the CCC monument; the trail will cross this creek further upstream). Another entrance is off of the Forest Heritage Tree Trail (trailhead is at the Forest Heritage parking lot). **BEAVER CREEK TRAIL** follows the creek until it intersects the **SOUTH PARK TRAIL** (1 mile distance). Except for the creek crossing near the Nature Center, most of this trail is flat and easy to walk. The hiking trail is marked with red on white tree blazes. The Forest Heritage Trail parallels a portion of the Beaver Creek Trail.

3. **DEER CROSSING** connects Lookout Mountain Trail with Cedar Bluff Nature Trail (2 Miles). It has some climbs, but is moderate in difficulty.

4. **CEDAR BLUFF** is a nature trail AND entrance to the DBHT. It is located between the miniature golf course and River Floats, just across from Dogwood Campground. It serves as the south entrance to the Skyline Trail. Skyline is 7 miles in length from Cedar Bluff to Spillway Creek and has many steep climbs and several creek crossings. It is for experienced hikers only, it is a difficult hike.

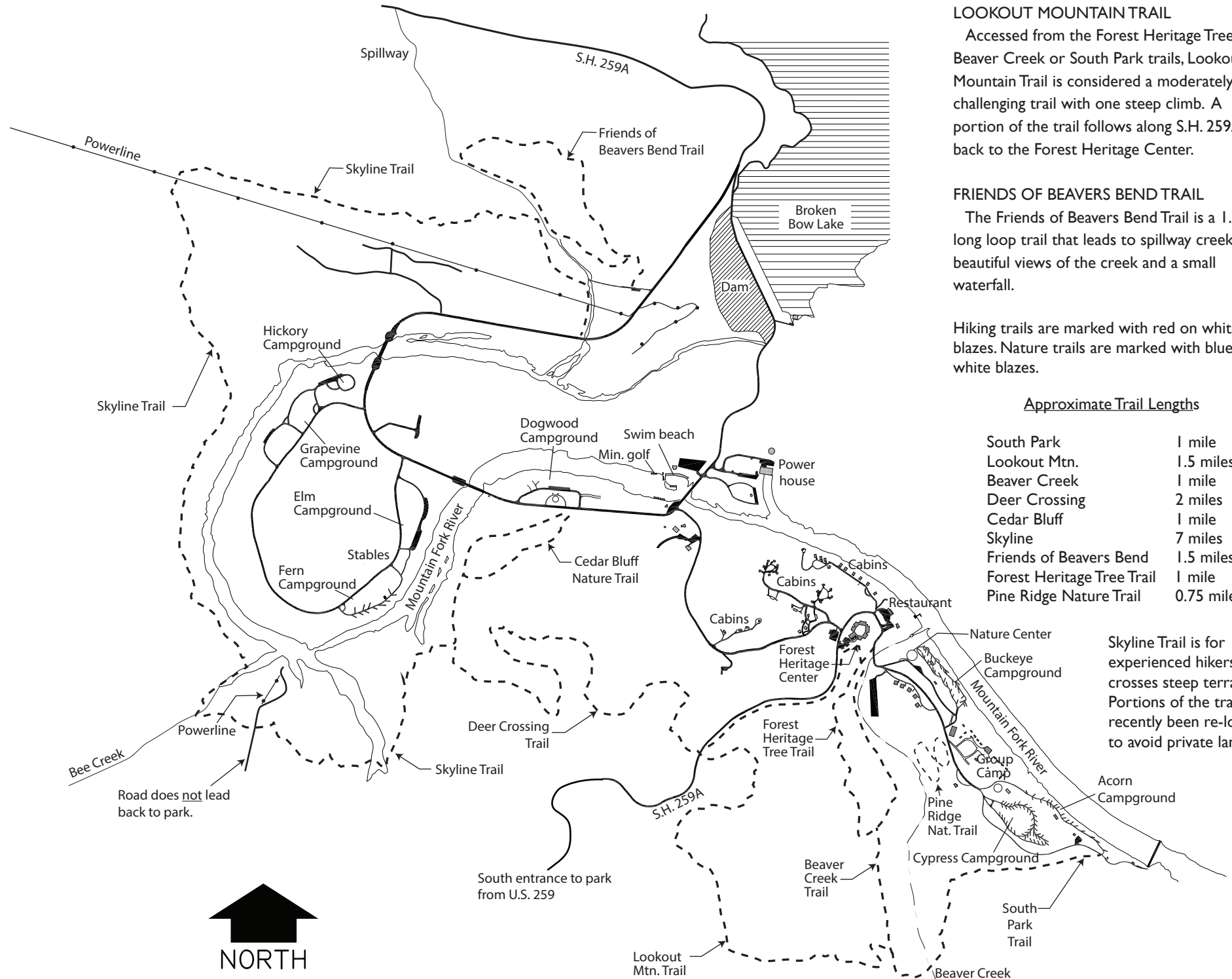
Loops: 3 mile loops are: from the Nature Center, go south on Beaver Creek Trail, east on South Park Trail, and back on the park road. For a more challenging loop: from the Nature Center go south on Beaver Creek Trail, west on Lookout Mountain Trail, and back on the new path leading to the Forest Heritage Center.

**CEDAR BLUFF NATURE TRAIL**

Cedar Bluff starts across from Dogwood Campground. It is a 1 mile loop trail that is designed to be walked **CLOCKWISE**. Start on your left and at each junction, turn right, and you will come out right where you started. The trail is marked with blue on white tree blazes. The trail has both easy grade and hill climb. Stay on the marked trail, **NO SHORTCUTS PLEASE**.

**CAUTION:** occasionally the creek floods causing lower portions of this trail to become hazardous.

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**LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN TRAIL**

Accessed from the Forest Heritage Tree Trail, Beaver Creek or South Park trails, Lookout Mountain Trail is considered a moderately challenging trail with one steep climb. A portion of the trail follows along S.H. 259A back to the Forest Heritage Center.

**FRIENDS OF BEAVERS BEND TRAIL**

The Friends of Beavers Bend Trail is a 1.5 mile long loop trail that leads to spillway creek with beautiful views of the creek and a small waterfall.

Hiking trails are marked with red on white tree blazes. Nature trails are marked with blue on white blazes.

**Approximate Trail Lengths**

South Park	1 mile
Lookout Mtn.	1.5 miles
Beaver Creek	1 mile
Deer Crossing	2 miles
Cedar Bluff	1 mile
Skyline	7 miles
Friends of Beavers Bend	1.5 miles
Forest Heritage Tree Trail	1 mile
Pine Ridge Nature Trail	0.75 mile

Skyline Trail is for experienced hikers; it crosses steep terrain. Portions of the trail have recently been re-located to avoid private land.

