



BLUE RIDGE HORSE TRAIL

Mark Twain National Forest Eleven Point District

The **BLUE RIDGE HORSE TRAIL** in the heart of the Missouri Ozarks weaves through the hills and hollows of the Eleven Point Ranger District. Climbing from low hollow bottoms to rocky ridge tops, the trail meanders through a forest of oak and pine.

The Blue Ridge Trail is about 10 miles long. Additional miles may be ridden on a portion of the Ozark Trail. The total trail distance when using the Ozark Trail loop is 22.5 miles.

Deer, raccoon, and squirrels are common and can be seen or heard along the trail. An occasional glimpse of the wild turkey or the colorful Pileated Woodpecker is possible.

Natural water for horses along the trail is very limited and may be seasonal.

TRAIL LOG

TRAIL-HEAD The main trailhead access is located on Forest Road 3241 (called Flat Pond Road) off of Forest Road 3174 (called High Tower Road) and State Highway 19. Forest Road 3174 at Highway 19 is located approximately 12 miles south of Winona, Missouri or 15 miles north of Alton, Missouri on Highway 19. The easiest way to locate the trailhead is to follow the horse trail signs on the Flat Pond and High Tower Roads.

Miles

0.0-1.3 The trail follows Forest Road 3241 towards the south.

1.3-1.8 The trail turns west and descends to Bull Camp Hollow.

1.8-2.7 Trail is located on an old roadbed in Bull Camp Hollow.

2.7-4.2 A switchback climbs to a ridge top. The trail stays on the ridge top (jogging south on Forest Road 3239) until entering Wolfpen Hollow.

4.2-6.0 The trail crosses Wolfpen Hollow, climbs a ridge and follows an old roadbed to Paty Pond Road (Forest Road 3238).

6.0-6.6 The trail continues on a gravel road known as Paty Pond Road or Forest Road number 3238.

6.6-6.7 At the junction of Forest Road 3238 and Forest Road 3173, head south 0.1 mile on Forest Road 3173.

6.7-7.7 Junction of Forest Road 3173 and Forest Road 4157, follow Forest Road 4157 towards the east. Trail then turns south and heads down the ridge.

7.7-8.6 The trail reaches the bottom of the hollow and crosses Spring Creek.

8.6-9.3 Here, the trail parallels and crosses Spring Creek several times.

9.3-9.9 The trail leaves Spring Creek and follows an old road (4155A) to Forest Road 4155 and the Paty Trailhead parking area.

If a round trip is desired, horses are permitted on a portion of the Ozark Trail. The Ozark Trail adds 9.1 miles and connects with the Blue Ridge Horse Trail at the Paty Trailhead. You must retrace 3.5 miles to return to the main trailhead parking lot. Horses may also use any other part of the Eleven Point River section of the Ozark Trail. Optional rides may be made on many of the roads and trails found in the area.

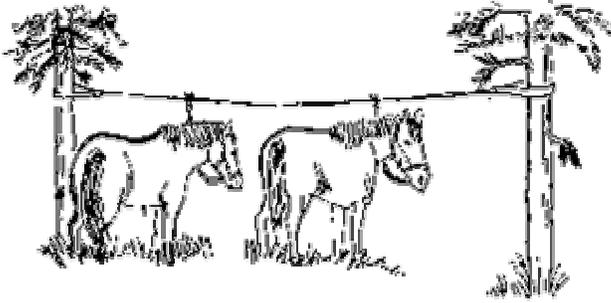
A Map of the trail is found on page 3.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Please help protect the environment by minimizing impacts caused by horse use on the land and trails.

A few things to keep in mind to lessen your impact on the land when using horses:

- To prevent damage during short stops, tie horses to trees at least 8 inches in diameter.
- Use the **888 Rule** - During long periods, tie horses to a high line that stretches between two sturdy trees, that are at least 8 inches in diameter, 8 feet off the ground and 8 feet between horses so they can move about freely. One or several animals can be tied to this hitch line.
 - To protect vegetation, move livestock often if you picket them. Picketed horses require good feed. Picketing horses can be very hard on soil and vegetation.
 - A lightweight, but sturdy pair of leather or nylon hobbles can be carried for short-term restraint, especially while the horse is under your immediate supervision. They are great for short stops while traveling or as you first make camp and begin the unloading procedure.
- Avoid grazing your stock or turning them loose at night.
- To avoid water pollution and damage to fragile riparian areas, keep horses 200 feet from lakes, streams, and springs. Water your horse with a bucket.
- Do not graze horses in wet meadows.
- When feeding grains, use a feedbag.



Camping is allowed along the trail and at the trailheads. Please set up camp at least 100 feet off the trail. If you build a fire, use only dead and down wood. Make sure the fire is completely extinguished and cover the burned spot with soil before leaving. Please pack out what you pack in.

Enjoy your ride!

For additional information contact us at either one of the two offices listed in the box:



Mark Twain National Forest Eleven Point Ranger District

RR 1 Box 1908
(Highway 19 North)
Winona, Missouri 65588
(573) 325-4233

Or

1104 Walnut
Doniphan, Missouri 63935
(573) 996-2153

www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain

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