Southeast Auto Tour Springs

Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Round Springs Alley Spring, Current River Rocky Falls





MILEAGE

- **0.0** From the junction of Hwy. 32-72 and Hwy. 19, travel south on Hwy. 19.
- **4.5** Continue south on Hwy. 19 past the junction of Hwy. K and Hwy. B.

- **4.8 Oak Hill R-1 School**—one of four rural K-8 schools in Dent County that feed into Salem for high school.
- 7.4 Junction Hwy. N & Hwy. 19— (Hwy. N goes to **Turtle, Mo.**)
- **9.8 Gladden Creek Bridge**—called **Standing Rock Bridge** by locals because the rocks appear to be standing on end.
- 11.3 Gladden, Mo-No facilities.
- **16.1 Silver Arrow Canoe Rental** has gas.
- **16.3** Junction Hwy. WW and Hwy. 19. To the right is **Persimmon Pond -**a natural sinkhole.
- 16.4 Entering Shannon County.
- **18.3** Continue south on Hwy. 19.
- **20.8** Shannondale, Mo church and craft store.
- **23.0** Timber, Mo—No facilities.
- **23.4** Junction Hwy. A and Hwy. 19.
- 24.6 Running River Canoe Rental has gas.
- 25.2 Turn right onto Hwy. EE to Pulltite Springs, part of the beautiful Ozark National Scenic Riverways.
- 28.2 Ozark National Scenic Riverways.



ONSR was designated in 1964 by Congress, and includes the Current and Jacks Fork rivers—the first rivers to receive national protection. 134 miles of rivers provide year-round canoeing and john-boating as well as many other recreational activities. It has over 300 recorded caves within the boundaries. The rivers are considered class one streams. The **Current River**, the most spring-fed of all the Ozark Rivers, can be floated most any time of the year.

28.7 Weese Cemetery.

28.9 Current River Canoe Rental.

28.9 Left into the **Pulltite Campground**. (You can access the river ahead. It has a boat ramp and is a popular place to put canoes in the river. 20 hp is the maximum motor allowed here.)

- **28.9** Go left into **Pulltite Campground.** Continue driving to Group I Campsite.
- **29.2** Amphitheater used for programs by the ONSR.

29.6 Park at Group I campsite. There is a trail to the river to cross it in low water. The crossing is actually an old roadbed, so it is very visible from the shoreline. After crossing, walk up to the spring. There are many great walking trails and campground areas. **Pulltite Springs** are beautiful. The name was shortened from "Pulltight" from having to "pull tight" on the reins when a guide would cross the river with his team of horses and his wagon.

- **29.8** Group II campsite. If you walk to the river from here, you can see **Fire Hydrant Spring** gushing from the bluff.
- **29.9** Group III campsite has a longer hiking trail that parallels the river for one to two miles.
- 34.5 Return to Hwy. 19, turn right.
- **35.3 Presley Education Center, Mo. Conservation** is a riverside retreat.
- **37.6** Sinking Creek and Current River are accessible on the right.

◆◆◆ Side trip to Sinking Creek conjoining with Current River: On the right is a great access to Sinking Creek flowing into the Current River. There is a pit latrine, great gravel bars for picnicking and rock skipping. Watch out for poison ivy.

- 37.7 Crossing Sinking Creek Bridge. If you look to the right from the bridge, you can see where Sinking Creek flows into the Current River.
- 37.7 Turn left on CR 250. Veer left on to CR 250B at the top of the hill, and you will find the entrance for Zoe Campitheater. Return to Hwy. 19.
- 38.7 River access to the Current River.

- **38.8 Carr's Canoe Rental**—Seasonal services.
- 38.9 Current River Bridge
- **39.0** Cluster campgrounds on the left.
- 39.3 Spring Valley Bridge
- **39.4** Turn left at the entrance to

Round Spring Campground and Cave. Turn left again, then right and

park at the spring. Then either drive or walk to the cave (open Memorial Day through Labor Day). Signs are very clear for the spring and cave. **Round Spring** is one of the most majestic springs on the **ONSR**. The spring is beautiful and has an average output of 26.5 million gallons of water per day— Missouri's 14th largest.

40.4 Return to Hwy. 19, turn left.
42.3 Pioneer Forest includes a Virgin Pine Forest and is privately owned.
★★★ Side trip to Virgin Pine Walk and Pioneer Forest Interpretive Drive.

Turn left to enter the forest. Very close to the beginning of the drive is a brochure describing the drive or walk, an excellent source of information about the forest. The drive is about eight miles in length on a rough road, so we recommend turning around after three miles. Return to Hwy. 19, turn left.

- 46.9 Angeline Conservation Area.
- **47.7** The Road to the left goes to **Jerktail Landing.** It is a beautiful river access and worth the seven miles of gravel road.
- **49.7** Coldwater Ranch has camping and horseback riding.
- 52.1 Eminence, Mo, population 548, is the home of Cross Country Trail Rides, with great canoeing and camping facilities. Notice the Akers Road just below the bridge over the Jacks Fork River is named for astronaut Tom Akers, native to Eminence.
 52.4 Crossing Jacks Fork River.

◆◆◆Side Trip to Rocky Falls, Powder Mill, Blue Spring, Klepzig Mill. Head east on to Hwy. 106 make a right on Hwy. H, head South to Hwy. NN, go 5 miles until you see the turn off for Rocky Falls Shut-In on your right. Klepzig Mill is a few miles further down Hwy. NN on the left. Return to Hwy. 106, going east. Powder Mill campground is on the right after crossing the River Bridge. The Blue Spring turn off is 2 miles east, turn off on the right. Blue Spring is the 9th largest spring in Missouri.



Rocky Falls just off Hwy 106

- 54.0 Crossing Mahan Creek.
- 58.2 Crossing Jacks Fork River.

58.3 Alley Spring - Turn right to see the spring and mill and then immediately left. Park and walk about one half mile. Alley Spring is Missouri's seventh largest spring with an average output of 81 million gallons of water per day flowing into the Jacks Fork River. An old red mill built in the late 1800s was vital to community life, where grain was ground to produce flour.

- **58.7** Returning to the highway, turn left back on to Hwy. 106.
- **58.9** Crossing Jacks Fork River again.
- **64.3** Turn right on Hwy. 19 to visit Eminence, Mo.
- 64.5 Shannon County Courthouse—Park here to walk around the historic downtown area of Eminence. A handhewn, log cabin and the public library on the south side of the courthouse has tourist information. Across the street from the courthouse are some eateries, the Shannon County Museum/Art Gallery, a few antique shops and an old-fashioned soda fountain. Eminence is home to the Roy L. Beck

Golf Course. Return to Hwy. 19 and go north.

- 65.3 Crossing Jacks Fork River.
- 77.2 Round Spring and Cave entrance.
- **83.8** Junction Hwy. A and Hwy. 19.

OPTION 1: Return to **Salem** on Hwy. 19, 24 miles.

OPTION 2: Turn Rt.onto Hwy. A for an alternate route to **Salem**. This is a beautiful drive through national forest and undeveloped land. Much of it parallels **Sinking Creek.** The locals call it **Sinkin Creek**. This is one of the most beautiful and cleanest streams in the Ozarks. You will cross it several times.

84.3 Barren Fork85.6 Barren Fork86.4 Barren Forkaccess and ChriscoCemetery.

Side trip to Barren Fork / Chrisco Cemetery. The road to the right has small springs and crosses Barren Fork to get to the Cemetery. The cemetery has a covered picnic area. It's about .1 of a mile.

- **88.7** Sinking Creek has river access on the west. A great place for skipping rocks or wading.
- **89.5** Sinking Creek has another small area for river access.
- 89.7 Delmar Cemetery

91.8 Entering Mark Twain National Forest. The National Forest straddles the history rich Ozark plateau and contains 1.5 million acres to provide many recreational opportunities. An area of diverse landscape, it has granite knobs, rolling hills, open glades, clear-cool streams, springs and caves, and sinkholes. There are seven wilderness areas in southern Missouri in the Mark Twain National Forest and it includes 742 miles of hiking, biking, equestrian, and ATV trails. Hunting and fishing are allowed in most of the National Forest. **Mark Twain National Forest** is also intertwined with private properties. Lands were acquired during the Depression from 1935 to 1940.

- **92.4 Bay Cemetery** is on the left.
- 93.2 Sinking Creek
- 93.7 Swiney Cemetery is on the left.
 98.9 Bunker, Mo is a typical, small Ozark town relying heavily on the wood industry. It includes several sawmills, a pallet manufacturing
 - operation, and some charcoal kilns. Bunker R-3 School has 278 students in grades K-12. You will see a sign on your left for **Loggers Lake.** Turn right on

Forest Rd. 2221, go 6 miles and then 1 mile down Forest Rd. 2193. The 22 acre lake offers swimming, fishing, camping, and hiking. The lake was constructed by the CCC in 1939-1940. Return to Hwy. A, making a right towards Bunker and the Hwy. 72 junction.

- **99.6** Turn left onto Hwy. 72.
- **102.9** County Road 2083—The Bunker

CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) was one of the largest in the state. It was located off a county road opposite Sinkin Experimental Forest. It is not visible today.

- 108.9 U.S. Forest Road 2341 (not marked) to visit Little Scotia Pond.
- 109.1 Two tenths of a mile down this road is the access to Big Scotia Pond—not well maintained.
 111.1 On the left is the Marcoot
- 11.1 On the left is the Marcoot Lookout Station, one of the few remaining fire towers. It is not open to the public. On the right is the entrance to the Karkaghne Drive.

- **114.7** Stone Hill Branch—a tributary to the Meramec River.
- **116.2** Turn left at the junction of Hwy. 72 & Hwy. 32.
- **118.8** Leaving Mark Twain National Forest.
- 121.1 Crossing the very upper end of Meramec River, at this point has seasonal intermittent flow in a northeasterly direction. It flows into the Mississippi River just south of St. Louis.
 127.2 On the left is the Master's
 - 2 On the left is the Master's Industrial Park—most notable for the home of Heartland Metal Finishing, Small Miracles, Quality Machine Works, Astral Sea and Village Gallery.
- 127.4 On the right is U.S. Food Service, a division of the second the largest food services in the nation.
 128.3 Junction of Hwy. 32-72 &
 - Hwy. 19.

Welcome back to Salem, Missouri



99.0