



# Explore the outdoors in Shelby County

## Oak Mountain Trail

GPS: 33.283831 -86.865238

Trail Location: Oak Mountain State Park Trail

Address: 200 Terrace Drive  
Pelham, AL 35124

Type of Trail: Walking, Mountain Biking, Horseback Riding

### Biking Trails

Round Trip Distance: 26 Miles

On the Trail: About 26 miles, the trail (red blazes) is several loops made up of mostly single track but some fire/forest/paved roads. Ride either direction. The trails are varied and heavily ridden, and expect to see riders of all ages and abilities, as well as hikers, back-packers, kids, dogs, anywhere on the trail. Please note that bikes are only permitted off road on the red trail. Fines are available from any park ranger for being caught on any other trail with a bike (whether you are riding or not).

The trail is loosely made up of the following continuously connected sections (traveling counter-clockwise from the South Trailhead):

Other Information: The Double Oak Trail at Oak Mountain State Park was recently added to the IMBA (International Mountain Bike Association) list of only 52 must ride trails in the WORLD. The approximately 26 mile length, and growing, trail is

mostly tight single track, with about five miles of the "loop" double track, and about 1900 feet of climbing.

### Lake Trail:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 2.3 Miles

On the Trail: This is a 4-5 foot wide level trail suitable for all ages and abilities. It offers some of the best views of the lake and the park itself. Please be cautious of horse traffic at trail intersections.

### Rattlesnake Ridge:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 2.7 Miles

On the Trail: Narrow in places and twisty throughout, this leg churner is sure to keep you on your toes. Rocks for texture, obstacles for fun and some short fast downhill in this 2.7 mile thrill ride through the dense pine forest of the park.

### Family Trail:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.7 Miles

On the Trail: This .7 mile serene glide through the oaks is a great way to enjoy some single track without having to concentrate too much on the trail itself. There are some obstacles but nothing anyone can't handle.

## Mr. Toad's Wild Ride:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.8 Miles

On the Trail: All singletrack running counterclockwise along the loop from the South Trailhead approximately .8 miles. Ends at the junction of the bike trail and the horse trail next to Peavine Road. No hills but some tight turns and a few narrow spots between trees. Very smooth and flowing.

## Foreplay:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.5 Miles

On the Trail: Continuing counterclockwise along the loop from the horse trail to the bottom of Johnson's Mountain, Foreplay is also all singletrack. Only 1/2 mile long, very smooth and flowing, and contains one sharp S-turn followed by a short bumpy downhill to the bottom of Johnson's Mountain. Go straight across the gravel lot at the bottom to get to Johnson's Mountain.

## Johnson's Mountain:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.9 Miles

On the Trail: ~1.9 miles of hilly woody singletrack. The first section crosses a creek on a bridge then follows the creek, then

climbs to the spine of Johnson's first ridge. Hundreds of man hours of trail work in 1997 by BUMP created a steady climb and quick descent along Johnson's other two ridges. The trail continues downhill through a banked turn and crosses a bridge before crossing Peavine Road.

### BUMP Trail:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.2 Miles

On the Trail: This is singletrack that climbs about 1.2 miles to the Red Road at the top of the ridge. Hilly but smooth at the bottom, and rocky, technical and steep at the top. A purpose-built log crossing, Blood Rock, and a set of tight, rocky switchbacks mark the upper part of the trail. Blood Rock is named after a red trail blaze painted onto a sharp rock next to the trail. Riding down is challenging but easy to master. Riding up is possible by only a few people - beware of the wet slippery rocks. Turn left onto the Red Road at the top of the BUMP trail.

### Jekyll & Hyde:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 4.5 Miles

On the Trail: Get ready for some tight spots, big rocks, twisting berms and speed to boot. This 4.5 mile roller coaster down Double Oak Mountain has it all. Built in the fall of 2011, it starts out with tight rolling singletrack along the cliffs of the old CCC Quarry and transitions into a half mile descent down a trail littered with rocks and features a three foot

rolling drop. More rocks and obstacles await you before you whip around the Big Rock into some of the fastest singletrack in park. The last 3 miles are a series of white knuckling berms, dips and banked turns mixed in with some short climbs zipping you through some beautiful pine and hardwood groves. Please be aware of blind turns and use caution accordingly. The trail ends back at the road across from Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. Go back to the trailhead or head back up the mountain.

### BUMP Connector:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.3 Miles

### The West Ridge:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.7 Miles

On the Trail: Opened in November of 2010, this beautiful 1.7 mile ride along the ridge of Double Oak Mountain is sure to be fun and challenging. Very different from other areas of the park where you will see tight singletrack mixed in with plenty of rocks, great views and tree canopies. There are optional features on the side for those inclined for some rockhopping or riding off a 6 foot tall boulder.

### Boulder Ridge:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.5 Miles

On the Trail: Expert riders ONLY! Really test your riding skills like no other place in the Birmingham area. Bring your big boy/girl pants as this 1.5 miles of big rocks, tight chokes, obstacles and drops of up to 6 feet will put your bike handling skills through the toughest of challenges. Please use your best judgement when riding here. It is a completely optional route but one well worth exploring. Look for the split rail fencing at each end.

### Red Road:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 4.7 Miles

On the Trail: This is a fire road leading 4.7 miles counterclockwise from the top of B.U.M.P. to the North Trailhead parking area. The last 2.5 miles are a heart pounding downhill, with 8 creek crossings made smooth by mortared flagstones placed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Great for catching big-air, but watch out for the rocky landings. Keep control of your bike, as the Red Road is also used by hikers and bikers riding up-hill. The Red Road ends at the North Trailhead parking lot on the main park road. To continue on the bike trail, turn left ~100 yards before the gate at the end of the Red Road and follow the red trail markers across the bridge. \*\*Do not turn left too early - this will take you down the yellow trail to Maggie's Glen: an area off-limits for bikes.

### Cat Dog Snake:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.2 Miles

On the Trail: Woody, smooth singletrack running roughly parallel to the main park road. One moderate climb at the end places you at the park road leading to the cabins. Cross the cabin road (paved) to continue on the bike trail.

### The Chimneys:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.9 Miles

On the Trail: After climbing to the top of the ridge from the cabin road and descending to the foot of the hill, look for the remnants of a cabin (especially the brick chimney) on your right. This singletrack trail takes you through tight turns where roots grab your wheel and trees grab your handlebars. After crossing a wooden bridge, look for the BMX track on your left. About 100 yards later the trail crosses Tranquility Rd. Water is available at the BMX area from a spigot at the end of the pavement by the big field. Cross the road and continue on the trail.

### Garrett's Gulch:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.3 Miles

On the Trail: A technical rider's playground. Lots of white-tailed deer sightings in this area, especially in the early mornings.

There is a 12 foot long, 16 inch wide bridge over a 4 foot creek deep creek here to test your nerves and some other obstacles. Further up is a small rock garden and ends with a short climb and then a descent to the Group Primitive Camping Road, with a large fallen tree crossing at the bottom. Test your riding skills on the 40 foot long fallen oak or ride around it.

## Lightning:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.8 Miles

On the Trail: Introduces gravity oriented riding to the red trail experience. Built in winter 2012 by Progressive Trail Designs in collaboration with BUMP volunteers, it offers ~4500' of unique and challenging features. This trail is not a cross country trail, but it is an optional, purpose built, one-way "downhill flow trail"; however, there are sections that still require pedaling. Access the lightning trailhead after climbing the group camp road ~0.8 miles above the Garrett's Gulch turn-off. Read the caution signs, and ride the entry filter - a boardwalk to drop-in. Listen to your conscience if it tells you to not proceed. Ahead awaits tabletop jumps, bermed corners, step-up and step-down jumps, rollers, and an (optional) all-mountain style box drop requiring mandatory air. Excessive speed will be a danger factor for the expert cross country rider, unfamiliar with downhill riding techniques. Some tips for the first timers: lower your bike saddle to help prevent you from getting "bucked" off of your bike, visit the pump track and BMX track to practice new bike handling skills, and attend a skills clinic. The lightning trail can be ridden at slow pace without "getting air", as everything is rollable. Only you are in control your bike and thus the outcome of any trail ride. This trail is not a mandatory

extension of the red trail "loop".

### Group Primitive Camping Road:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 1.4 Miles

On the Trail: ~1.4 miles, a dirt access road suitable for cars. The singletrack picks up again on the left almost at the end of the Camping Road, before the gate. NOTE: The parking area by the gate is an alternative start/finish place for a ride, but please DO NOT BLOCK THE GATE if choosing to park here.

### Seven Bridges:

Difficulty:



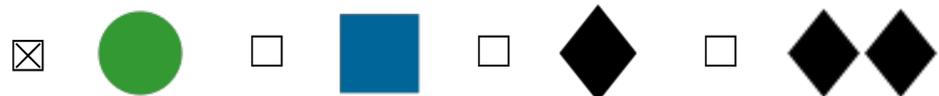
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Round Trip Distance: 1.6 Miles

On the Trail: The final section of trail, actually contains 8 bridges. ~1.6 miles of moderate uphill woody singletrack, very similar to Mr. Toad's, with more grade. It ends on Terrace Drive (the paved road on the way to the South Trailhead). Turn left onto Terrace Drive to get to the South Trailhead.

### Terrace Drive to South Trailhead:

Difficulty:



ADA Accessible: No

Round Trip Distance: 0.85 Miles

On the Trail: Paved road, which passes the paddle boat house on the way to the South Trailhead parking area. ~ 0.85 miles, watch for crowds (in the summer and weekends especially) and cars with distracted drivers on this road.

## Hiking Trails

Distance: Blue numbers: 1-26 (**6.7 miles**- one way)  
White numbers: 27-51 (**6.4 miles** – one way)  
Green numbers: 52-59 (**1.9 miles**)  
Yellow numbers: 60-86 (**8 miles** – one way)  
Red numbers: 100-160 (**22 miles**)

On the Trail:

- 50 plus miles of trails
- Hiking Trails are marked as Red, White, Blue, Yellow, Green and Orange
- Trail Locations
- Red, White, Blue and Yellow begin at North Trail Head (6 miles from front gate on John Findlay Dr. or 1.5-2 miles from back entrance)
- Green Trail begins near Park Office on Terrace Drive
- Orange Trail is located on John Findlay near the Stables

Other Information: The trails (except orange and Wildlife Center trails) are equipped with a marking system designed to help Park staff cut down search time area when someone is hurt or lost. Each trail is uniquely colored and numbered, and do not repeat. The posts are placed approximately every  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. If lost or injured on the trail call the Park Office (620-2520) and indicate the number of the last post passed.

## Horseback Trails

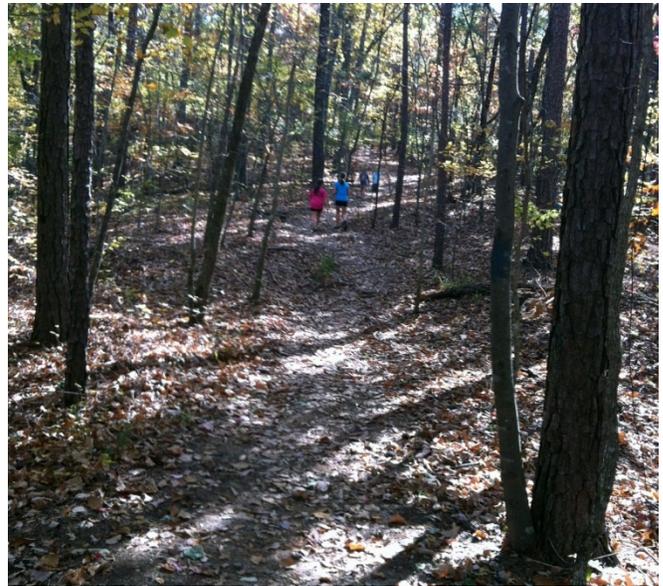
On the Trail:

- Guided Trails rides are available for purchase at the stables Wednesday through Sunday
- Minimum age 8 years old
- Reservations are recommended – 620-3575
- Hours of Operation are seasonal

- Horse boarding also available.
- Check for rates
- There are currently 13 plus miles of horse trails for public use

Photos:

**Blue Hiking Trail**





Peavine Falls





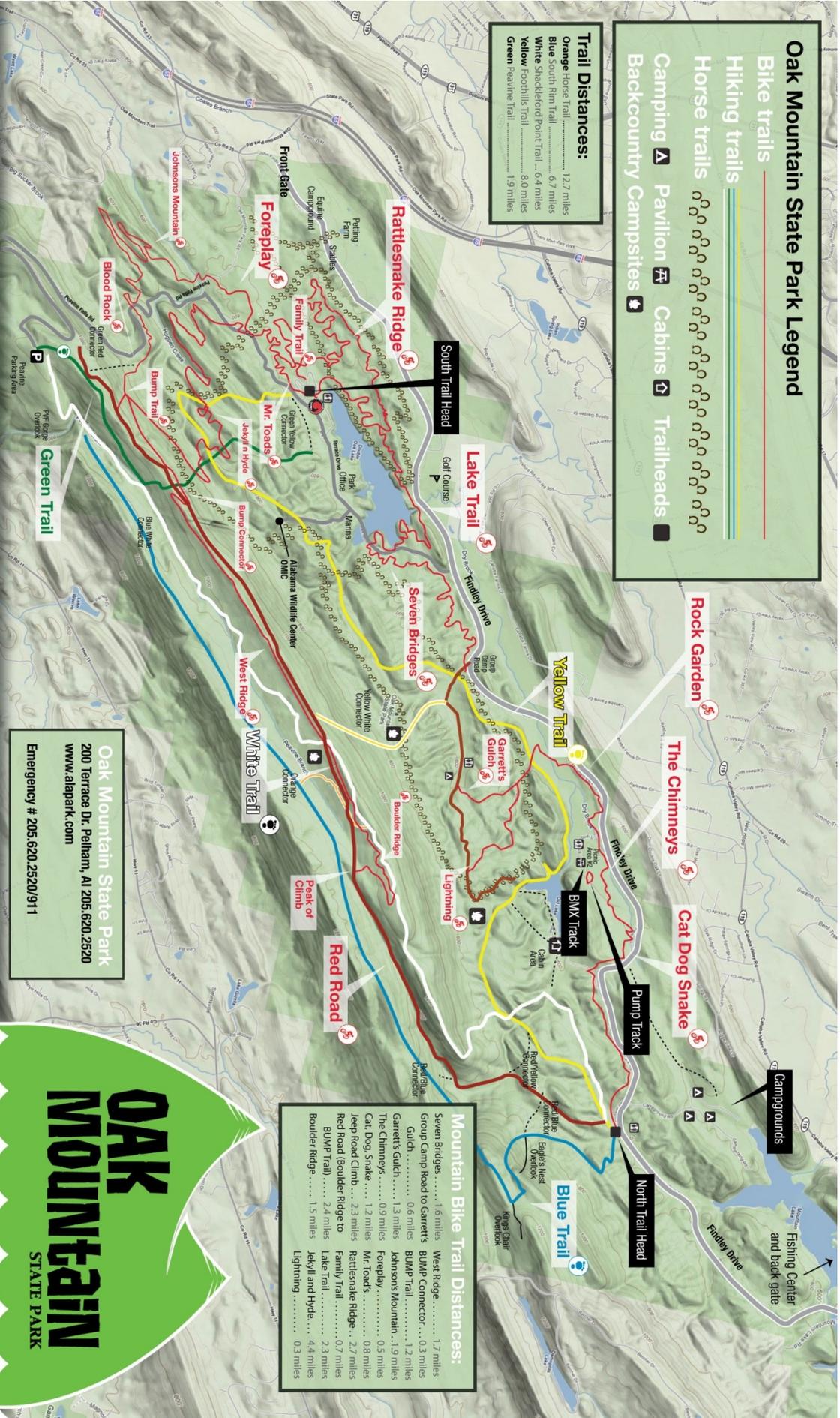
Map:

# Oak Mountain State Park Legend

- Bike trails**
- Hiking trails**
- Horse trails**
- Camping**
- Backcountry Campsites**
- Pavilion**
- Cabins**
- Trailheads**

**Trail Distances:**

Orange Horse Trail	12.7 miles
Blue South Rim Trail	6.7 miles
White Shackelford/Point Trail	6.4 miles
Yellow Foothills Trail	8.0 miles
Green Peavine Trail	1.9 miles

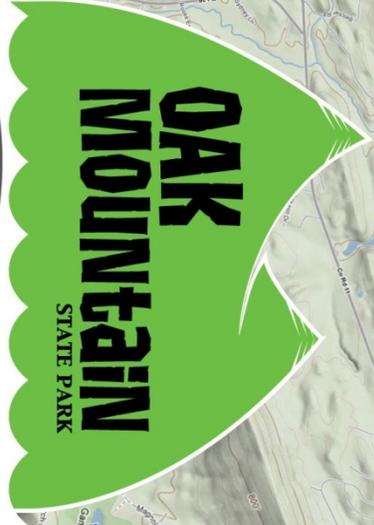


**Mountain Bike Trail Distances:**

West Ridge	1.6 miles
Seven Bridges	1.6 miles
Group Camp Road to Garrett's Gulch	0.6 miles
Garrett's Gulch	1.3 miles
The Chimneys	0.9 miles
Cat, Dog Snake	1.2 miles
Jesp Road Climb	2.3 miles
Red Road (Boulder Ridge to BUMP Trail)	2.4 miles
Boulder Ridge	1.5 miles
Lightning	0.3 miles
Lightning	0.3 miles
West Ridge	1.7 miles
BUMP Connector	0.3 miles
BUMP Trail	1.2 miles
Johnson's Mountain	1.9 miles
Foreplay	0.5 miles
Mr. Toads	0.8 miles
Rattlesnake Ridge	2.7 miles
Family Trail	0.7 miles
Lake Trail	2.3 miles
Jekyl and Hyde	4.4 miles
Lightning	0.3 miles

**Oak Mountain State Park**  
 200 Terrace Dr. Pellham, AL 36562  
 www.alapark.com  
 Emergency # 205.620.2520/911

Oak Mountain State Park, the hidden oasis away from the hustle and bustle of city life, offers 9,940 acres of relaxing recreational opportunities. Whether you are a bike enthusiast or prefer to cast a line in the water to see what bites, we have it all. Nestled among the lush hardwoods & towering pines, you will find 3 large fishing lakes, a beach, championship golf course, 20+ miles of mountain biking trail, 21+ miles of hiking trails, ranging from easy to difficult, a BMX track, Wildlife & Interpretive Centers, and a petting farm. We have 12+ miles of horseback riding trail. We have it all and we're only minutes from the big city. If you don't want to return to the city, stay the night with us. We have 10 cabins surrounding a serene lake, a campground and back country sites, and an equestrian campground.



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