

Special Events

The amphitheater can seat a crowd of about 300 people in a rustic outdoor setting. The covered stage is equipped with electrical hookups for audio and visual equipment.

Commercial events and groups of 75 people or more require a special-use permit from the U.S. Forest Service. These permits take time to process, so plan ahead when organizing an event that may require a permit. The amphitheater is available on a first-come, first-served basis unless posted as reserved. Contact the Stearns Ranger District office to reserve the facility up to one year in advance.

Picnic Areas

Eight picnic sites and two group picnic shelters with nearby grills, water fountains and toilets are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each group shelter has six picnic tables, a large grill, a serving table, electricity and water to accommodate up to 36 people. The shelters may be rented up to one year in advance by contacting the Stearns Ranger District office. The area is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Please dispose of trash properly in nearby garbage containers.

Playground

Swings, horseshoe pits and climbing blocks are provided for your use. Additional play equipment can be set up in the playground area. Remember to remove your personal play equipment when leaving.

Safety

Natural Arch Scenic Area is located in a secluded forest environment. Be aware of outdoor hazards, including poison ivy, venomous snakes and biting insects. Black bears have been sighted in this area. When hiking or leaving a picnic site, you must move foods to a closed vehicle for safe storage. Put your trash in the provided bear-resistant trash receptacles.

In an emergency, call 911. Cell phone service may not be available in some areas due to cell tower location and rugged terrain.

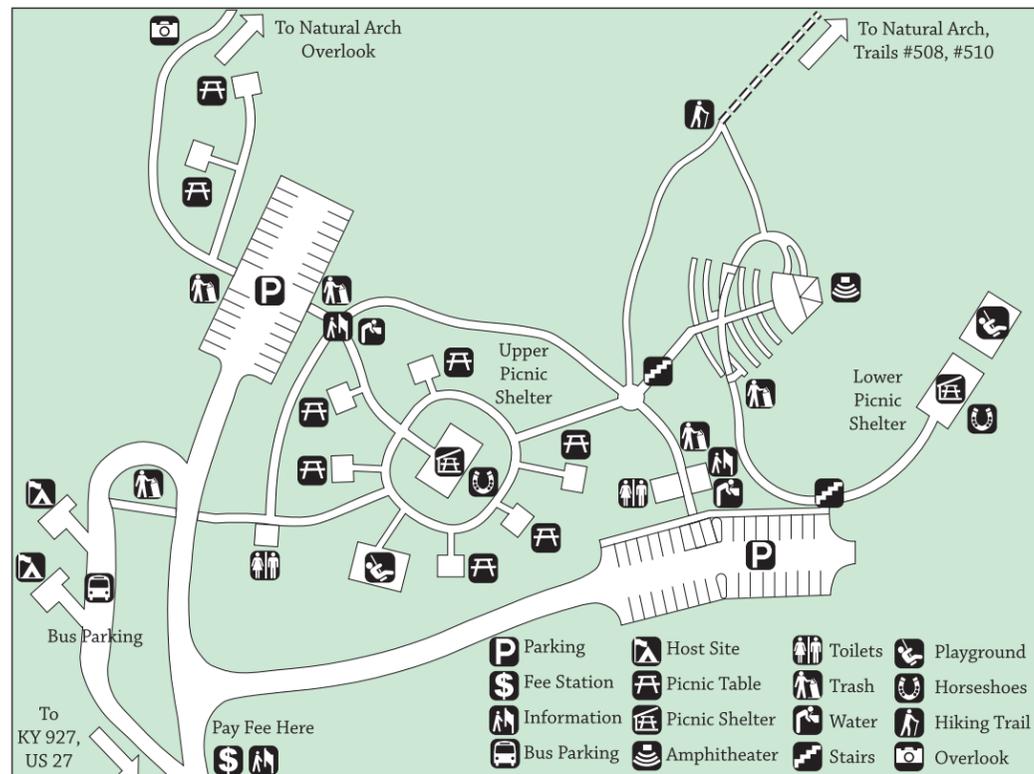


Fees

A fee pass is required to use the Natural Arch Scenic Area. You can self-pay onsite at the entrance, or you can purchase a pass in advance at the Stearns Ranger District office, and the Daniel Boone National Forest Supervisor's Office. Collected fees are used to maintain and improve the recreational facilities.

Accessibility

Most facilities in this area are accessed by concrete walkways, including a walkway to the Natural Arch overlook.



Natural Arch Scenic Area

Stearns Ranger District • Daniel Boone National Forest • Kentucky



Stearns District
3320 US 27 North
Whitley City, KY 42653
606-376-5323
Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Closed on federal holidays.



Location
Take US 27 south from Somerset for 21 miles; turn right on KY 927 and follow the signs for 2 miles. From Whitley City, go north on US 27 for 5 miles; turn left on KY 927 and follow the signs for 2 miles.



Fees
A fee is required at the Natural Arch Scenic Area. You may pay at the site or buy a pass at a local vendor or at the Stearns office.



Parking
At the picnic shelters and amphitheater.



Open Dates
Open all year.



Operational Hours
6 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Picnic Tables
There are 8 picnic tables and 2 shelters with 6 tables each.



Water
Drinking water from faucets near shelters.



Restrooms
Accessible vault toilets

Guides like this are available at www.fs.usda.gov/dbnf.
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Natural Arch Scenic Area is a great place to enjoy the outdoors with your family and friends. The scenic attraction in this area is a spectacular sandstone arch that spans nearly 100 feet. You can see a panoramic view of the arch from an overlook. Picnic sites, group picnic shelters, playgrounds and hiking trails provide year-round enjoyment. Special events can be booked in the amphitheater.

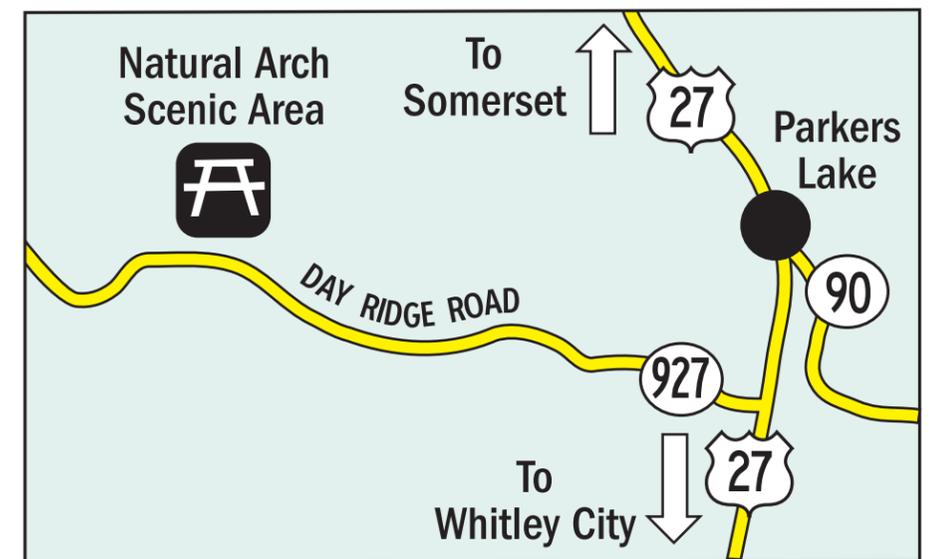


Natural Arch and the surrounding forest are part of our nation's cultural heritage. This region was once the home and hunting grounds of prehistoric peoples. They left no written records, but evidence throughout this area provides many clues about how they lived.

To help preserve the area's cultural integrity, leave everything as you find it. Avoid moving rocks or disturbing the soil. Observe signs and obey the rules. The artifacts and cultural resources in this area are protected by state and federal laws.

KNOW before you GO You are responsible for your own safety.

All outdoor activities have inherent risks and you may encounter a variety of unexpected and/or dangerous conditions. It is your responsibility to be informed and take precautions. Learn more at www.fs.usda.gov/r8.



U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service
Southern Region - Daniel Boone National Forest
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/dbnf>

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