

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

St. Francis Ranger District

Bear Creek Lake Recreation Area

Camping
Fishing
Hiking
Picnicking
Swimming



Southern National Forests

Arkansas

August 2011

Attractions:

The St. Francis National Forest lies in the Delta region of southeastern Arkansas with its land divided between fertile bottom lands along the rivers and Crowley's Ridge.

Visitors to this Forest can view serene lakes, the Mississippi and St. Francis Rivers and miles of the St. Francis Scenic Byway.

The 625-acre Bear Creek Lake Recreation Area has 30 miles of shore line and offers the following recreational opportunities: camping, picnicking, swimming, canoeing, fishing and hiking. Sitting atop Crowley's Ridge, the recreation area offers three campgrounds, two picnic areas, a mile-long nature trail, a swim beach and a handicap-accessible fishing pier which all provide visitors a variety of recreational experiences.

Bear Creek Nature Trail provides a one-mile loop winding through a forested area. There are excellent scenic views of the lake shoreline, including Beech Point, and interpretive posts that highlight ecology in action.

Trophy Largemouth Bass, Red-eyed Bream and Channel Catfish are just a few of the many species of fish that you'll find in the lakes and streams in the area.

Surrounding Areas:

Areas of interest include Storm Creek Lake, Hornor Neck Lake, Crowley's Ridge, and the St. Francis Scenic Byway, which is part of the Great River Road System.

Medical services and camping supplies are available seven miles northwest in Marianna. Memphis, Tennessee, is less than an 1 1/2-hour drive away, and offers unique cultural heritage legendary to the South.

Facilities:

- 3 campsites with a total of 31 campsites
- Camping trailers allowed; no special facilities available
- 1 group site
- Day use parking area
- Boat launch (Max 10 hp motors allowed)
- Vault toilets
- Accessible fishing pier
- 2 picnic areas with a total of 14 family picnic units
- Drinking water

Hours Open:

Camping open April-Labor Day. Day-use areas open year-round. User fees and regulations are posted at the self-service pay station.

Location:

From Marianna take Arkansas 44 southeast for seven miles.

Latitude: 34.71221

Longitude: -90.69382

For more information, contact:

St. Francis Ranger District

2675 Hwy 44

Marianna, AR 72360

(870) 295-5278

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