

Barren Fork Area Trails

Daniel Boone National Forest | Stearns Ranger District

	US Highway		Ranger Station
	KY Highway		Horse Camp
	County Road		Parking
	Forest Road		Cemetery
	Gated Road		Trailhead
	Forest Trail		Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail
	Streams		
	Private Land		
	National Forest Land		

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

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FOOD STORAGE REQUIRED

Under Order DB-01-13, visitors in developed sites must store food, garbage and other odorous items that may attract bears in a bear-resistant container, inside their vehicle, or in an enclosed hard-body trailer. Backcountry campers must suspend food, garbage and odorous items at least 10 feet off the ground and four feet away from any tree or pole. All food leftovers and trash must be properly disposed of in a bear-resistant trash receptacle or other container where provided by the Forest Service.



Put trash in a bear-resistant trash can or other receptacle provided by the Forest Service.



Store food and trash in closed motor vehicle with a solid top or a closed hard-body trailer.



Store food, trash and other bear attractants in a bear-resistant container.



Hang food and trash from a tree, out of a bear's reach in backcountry areas where bear-resistant trash cans and vehicles are not nearby.

Arabian Loop Trail #622 makes a loop along the ridge top. Halfway through the loop, the trail nears the cliff for a scenic view. Parking is available at Barren Fork Horse Camp; Forest Service Road 684. Trail connections: Canter Loop Trail #625. Park at the Barren Fork Horse Camp or at the end of Barren Fork Road.

Begins/Ends Forest Service Road 684 at Barren Fork Horse Camp
Length: 4 miles
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Easy
Surface: Dirt
Latitude: 36.7756
Longitude: -84.468033
County: McCreary

Belgian Loop Trail #624 follows the ridge for about one mile before descending to Barren Fork. To make a loop, cross the creek and follow the Sheltoewe Trace National Recreation Trail to your left. After approximately 3/4-mile, the trail will reconnect with the Belgian Loop. The trail will make a steep climb to the ridgetop and then level out. It will follow the ridge until it meets an old logging road. Turn left onto the old logging road, which will bring you back to Forest Service Road 682. Follow this to return to the cemetery. Parking is limited. Park at the cemetery or you may continue to the end of the Flat Rock Ridge road and park there. You may also park at Barren Fork Horse Camp or the US 27 Sheltoewe Trace trailhead and ride the connector trails.

Begins: Chrisman Cemetery
Ends: Flat Rock Ridge Road 682
Length: 3 miles
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Most difficult
Surface: Dirt
County: McCreary
Latitude: 36.7868
Longitude: -84.44315

Canter Loop Trail #625 makes a loop following the edge of the ridgetop. Two trail connections access the Sheltoewe Trace National Recreation Trail. Connections: Sheltoewe Trace and Arabian Loop #622. Park at the Barren Fork Horse Camp or at the end of Barren Fork Road.

Begins/Ends Barren Fork Road 684 across from horse camp
Surface: Dirt
Length: 2.25 miles
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Easy
County: McCreary
Latitude: 36.7756
Longitude: -84.468033

Indian Creek Trail #626 follows a pine ridge and then descends to Indian Creek, crosses it, then climbs up to the ridgetop. It then levels out and will end on Flat Rock Ridge Road (Forest Road 682). Connections: Belgian Loop Trail #624 (3 miles) by following Flat Rock Ridge Road (Forest Road 682) east. Park along Zeb Perry Road; Flat Rock Ridge Road; and the US 27 Sheltoewe Trace trailhead.

Begins: Zeb Perry Road
Ends: Forest Service Road 682
County: McCreary
Length: 1.75 miles
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Most difficult
Surface: Dirt
Quad: Wiborg
Latitude: 36.801083
Longitude: -84.453716

North Flat Rock Trail #627 follows the edge of the ridgetop through an oak forest. During the winter you can see sandstone cliffs and ridges across Indian Creek. You will often see deer, squirrels and maybe even a bear. Connections: Indian Creek Trail #626 and Belgian Loop Trail #624. Park at the end of Flat Rock Ridge Road or at Chrisman Cemetery. You may also park at Barren Fork Horse Camp or at the US 27 Sheltoewe Trace Trailhead and ride the connector trails.

Begins: Forest Service Road 682
Ends: Indian Creek Trail #626
County: McCreary
Length: 3 miles
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: More difficult
Surface: Dirt
Quad: Wiborg
Latitude: 36.7833
Longitude: -84.42985



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 fs.usda.gov/r8.



Barren Fork Area Trails

Stearns Ranger District • Daniel Boone National Forest • Kentucky



Stearns District
3320 US 27 North
Whitley City, KY 42653
606-376-5323



Directions
Near the Stearns office on US 27. From Somerset, go south on US 27 for 22 miles to the Stearns office, on your left. From Whitley City, go north on US 27 for 3.7 miles to the Stearns office on your right. Take 684 to campground.



Open Dates
Trails are open all year.



Trail Fees
None.



Parking
Near trailheads and at overflow parking at Barren Fork Campground.



Camping
At Barren Fork Campground (US Fee Area). Pay at site or buy a fee pass at the Stearns office.



Restrooms
Accessible vault toilets at Barren Fork Campground (seasonally)



Water
At Barren Fork Campground (seasonally)



Accessibility
Trails do not meet accessibility standards for persons with disabilities, except for trail #621.



Do not tie horses to the trees. Use picket lines and corrals to secure horses.



Trails closed to motorized vehicles.



Consumption of alcohol and open containers of alcohol are prohibited.

Guides like this are available at fs.usda.gov/dbnf. 5/22/2014



Welcome To Barren Fork Area

This area was the site of a coal mining town operated by Barren Fork Mining and Coal Company from 1881 to 1935. Here they mined what was considered some of the best quality low sulfur coal in McCreary County. Over 100 families were thought to have lived and worked in the mining community. The mines were sold to Eagle Coal Company in 1895. The mines were closed in 1935 due to labor disputes. The land was then sold to the United States in 1936, but the minerals were reserved by the company and small mining operations continued until 1948. In this vicinity you may find the old foundations of some of the buildings that were part of the community.

Barren Fork Area Trails are located on Stearns Ranger District near Barren Fork Horse Camp on the Daniel Boone National Forest. This popular campground is for horseback riders who enjoy the forest setting. Several interconnecting trails provide miles of riding pleasure.

Flat Rock Ridge Trail #616 follows a ridge until it descends along the cliff. The trail continues to descend until reaching the Sheltoewe Trace National Recreation Trail, which follows Railroad Fork. Park at US 27 trailhead.

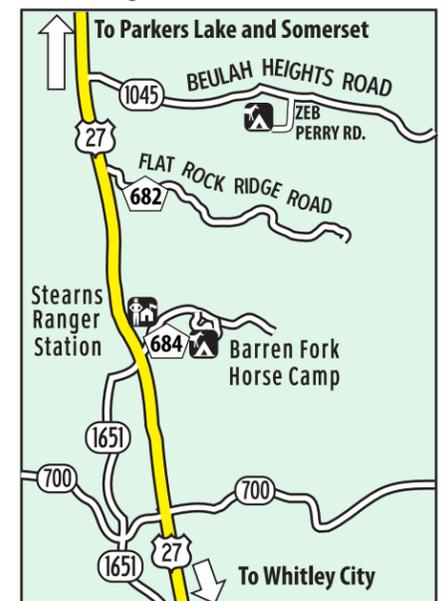
Begins/Ends: Sheltoewe Trace near US 27
Length: 1.50 miles
County: McCreary
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Most difficult
Surface: Dirt
Latitude: 36.78507
Longitude: -84.481972

Draft Trail #617 begins at Barren Fork Road 684 and ends at Sheltoewe Trace National Recreation Trail, Section 30. This trail follows an old logging road and powerline before entering the forest. It crosses a drain with a wooden bridge and then ascends to the ridgetop where it connects with the Sheltoewe Trace National Recreation Trail. Park at the pull-off to the left on 684 past the Stearns office, at the Barren Fork Horse Camp or at the US 27 Sheltoewe Trace trailhead.

Begins: Barren Fork Road 684
Ends: Sheltoewe Trace Sect. 30
Length: .75 mile
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Difficulty: Easy
Surface: Dirt
County: McCreary
Latitude: 36.78507
Longitude: -84.481972

Barren Fork Accessible Heritage Trail #621 is a 0.75-mile trail paved for wheelchair accessibility. **It is closed to mountain bikes and horses.** The trail provides visitors with a glimpse into the past. Several signs along the trail interpret the area's mining history, and you can see the old foundations of some of the buildings that were part of the community. This area was the site of a coal mining town operated by Barren Fork Mining and Coal Company from 1881 to 1935.

Begins/Ends Barren Fork Cemetery Road 684B
Difficulty: Easy
Surface: Concrete
Length: .75 mile
County: McCreary
Quad: Wiborg
Closest Town: Whitley City
Longitude: -84.46841
Longitude: -84.46841



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

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