

## Missouri

### 1. Capen Park

**Distance:** 3 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Limestone crag near Columbia  
There are about ~10 boulder problems and 25 to 30 routes. Ratings vary from V0-V4 bouldering and 5.6 to 5.14. Many of the routes are able to be top roped and several routes are bolted. Lead at your own risk due to many instances of loose rock and the overhang creates a possibility of flying into the cliff if leading (protect well). Offers some good overhang climbing and moderate pocket/crack climbing. Bolts to tie into are not all close to the cliff, so bring lots of webbing.

**Directions:** From Columbia: Take Highway 63, south to Stadium blvd. Go right/west on Stadium Blvd, to Rock Quarry Road. Go South on Rock Quarry Road to Capen Drive, and take Capen Drive to Capen Park. The parking lot is on the left.

### 2. Cliff Drive

**Distance:** 3 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Limestone cliffs with easier routes somewhat dirty. After a rain the cliffs take a bit to dry out. A mix of sport and trad climbs ranging from 5.6 to 5.12. Approx. 20 climbs.

**Directions:** North of I-70 near Downtown KC. Once close to downtown watch for Paseo. Take Paseo and go right. The road will turn into Cliff Drive after you pass a couple of stop signs. Look to the right for the cliffs as the road starts to wind.

### 3. Trappers Camp/Reeds Bluff

**Distance:** 2.5 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Quite a few quality sport and mixed routes from 5.5 to 5.11. The cliff is on public land but the top out is on private residential land so do not top rope unless a system is set up off the anchors. Several new routes put up in Feb. 2003. Park up top and walk/scramble down the 3rd class descent just

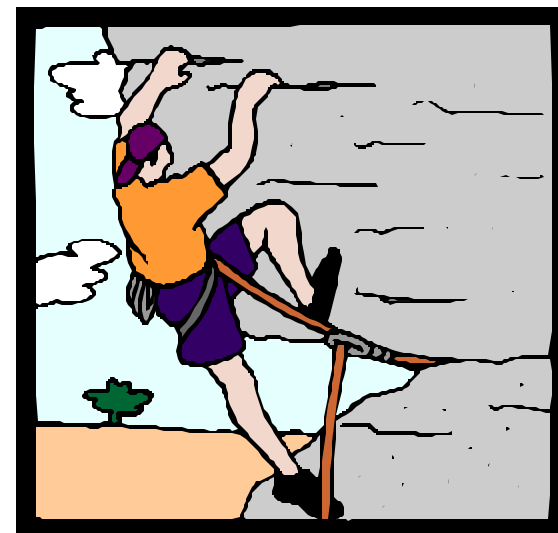
## Leave No Trace

- Plan And Prepare
  - ? Know regulations & restrictions on climbers and prepare for extreme weather.
- Travel/Camp on Durable Surfaces
  - ? Use established trails and campsites. Camp 200 feet from cliff line.
- Dispose of Waste Properly
  - ? Pack In, Pack Out (includes TP, hygiene products).
- Leave What You Find
  - ? Avoid transplanting or introducing non-native species. Leave fossils and artifacts.
- Minimize Campfire Impact
  - ? Use established fire rings.
  - ? Lightweight cooking stove and candle lantern cause little impact.
- Respect Wildlife
  - ? Never feed animals and control pets at all times.
- Be considerate of Others
  - ? Take keep your gear in the area you are climbing at, remove all gear when off a route.

### Other Considerations for Climbers:

- Use minimal amounts of chalk
- Do not tick holds
- No chipping of holds
- Do not damage plants in the area when setting up top ropes or topping out problems/routes

# Climbing In The Ozarks



**OUTDOOR**  
**A** DVENTURES SMSU

Southwest Missouri State University  
Plaster Student Union 135  
(417) 836-5904  
[www.smsu.edu/recreation](http://www.smsu.edu/recreation)

north of the first pullout. Dangerous when wet!  
Guides are available at OA for Trappers Camp, Reeds Bluff and Bump & Grind Bluff.

**Directions:** Take hwy 13 to hwy 82 west. After 2 miles on 82 there should be 2 pullouts atop bluffs. hike down or head south to rap station(300 yards, then hike west through woods). See Topo (at OA) for directions to Reeds Bluff & Bump and Grind Bluff.

#### 4. Providence

**Distance:** 3 from Springfield

**Description:** Just a handful of climbs all rated 5.9 and up. Most climbs can be top-roped with long runners but there are a few bolted routes. Classic clack climb needing large cams as pro.

**Directions:** From Columbia: drive south of Columbia on Providence about 5 miles until you come to a river access sign to Providence landing. Follow the access signs to the parking lot. Head east from the parking lot on the KATY trail. Less than half a mile to the bluffs. Scramble up a steep trail to the base of the bluffs.

#### 5. Elephant Rocks

**Distance:** 3.5 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Bouldering mecca of the Midwest. Hundreds of problems with grades from V0-V10. Granite is tough on the hands, often the limiting factor on the duration of climbing. Smearing is key. No camping at the State Park, but various areas near by such as Johnson Shut-Ins. Guide available, ask OA Staff for more info.

**Directions:** From Springfield take I-44 East to St. James. Exit and from St. James take Hwy 8 East to Potosi. In Potosi turn off onto Hwy 21 South. Elephant Rocks is approximately 6 miles south of Caledonia on the left side of the road.

#### 6. Washington State Park

**Distance:** 3.5 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Only a handful of routes. The two easiest climbs (5.8+ and 5.9) are not exactly classic, but the 3 5.12's and 2 5.13's are worth stopping by this small crag. The cliff line is about 50 feet tall and

offers limestone to climb. Recommended climbing is in early spring or late fall due to insects and the summer heat. Guide available in OA.

**Directions :** From Springfield take I-44 East to St. James. Exit and from St. James take Hwy 8 East to Potosi. In Potosi turn off onto Hwy 21 North. The Park is approximately 10 miles up 21.

### Illinois

#### 1. So Ill Bouldering

**Distance:** 5-6 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Quite a bit of bouldering available at several different sites. Probably worth the drive from St. Louis, but from Springfield you'd be better of heading to the Horseshoe Canyon Ranch or Elephant Rocks.

**Directions :** All sites are slightly southwest of Carbondale, Illinois. For area info or maps, stop by OA.

### Arkansas

#### 1. Sam's Throne

**Distance:** 3 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Hundreds of routes with varying difficult. Sport, Trad and top-rope available. Currently the guide book is out of print but a new edition is in the works for the future. Lots of history in the area. Recent work between climbers and the US Forest Service have made much needed improvements such as designated camping sites. Stop by OA for route details or area maps.

**Directions :** Take Hwy 65 south to Harrison, AR. Stay on 65 S following signs in Harrison. Approximately 14 miles out of Harrison is Western Grove where you will turn right onto Hwy 123. From the 90-degree right turn on Hwy 123 here are some approximate mileages: Sam's Throne 4.3 miles, Cave Creek 7.5 miles.

#### 2. Horseshoe Canyon Ranch

**Distance:** 3 hours from Springfield

**Description:** Awesome bouldering and amazing sport and trad routes. The Ranch

is a privately owned vacationing spot with cabins, horseback riding and other activities. Climbers are allowed daily access for a minimal fee with cabins available to rent or camping available at nearby Steel Creek or Kyles Landing. This is a must for those sport climbers who like to tick off a large number of routes in one day! Beautiful Stop by OA for more info and topos.

**Directions:** From Springfield, take Hwy 65 South to Harrison, Arkansas. In Harrison take Hwy 7 South towards Jasper. Take Hwy 74 west out of Jasper. The Ranch is approx. 7.4 miles west of Jasper. A small sign points to the road leading to the ranch. The Ranch is set back from the road, so you will actually drive past a house or two before you pass through the entrance to Horseshoe Canyon Ranch.

### Tri State Map of Climbing Areas

