Whatever the season, hiking is a great way to explore the Ozarks. Spring offers wildflowers, flowering trees and waterfalls. Summer hikes are fun – despite the heat – with so many trails close to our Ozark streams, ideal for wading or swimming.

Fall is ideal for Ozark hikes – with clear, crisp days and eye-popping fall foliage. The Ozarks’ relatively mild winters make for great hiking opportunities, offering outstanding views obscured in other seasons by foliage.

So put on your hiking boots and enjoy a hike in the Ozarks! Some of the most popular Ozark trails include:

1. **Lost Valley** – an easy to moderate 3.5 mile round trip, this trail passes a natural bridge, bluff shelter, cliffs, and a waterfall – before ending at a cave.

2. **Hemmed in Hollow** – a difficult 5.0 miles round trip, the highlight of this trail is the tallest waterfall between the Rockies and the Appalachians.

3. **Alum Cove Natural Bridge** – this 1.1 mile trail leads to an impressive natural rock bridge. In wet season, waterfalls actually cascade behind the bridge – quite a site!

4. **Mill Creek Trail** – an easy to moderate 1.3 mile loop, this trail follows Mill Creek, travels through Ozark forests, and goes by the Shaddox Cabin, a pioneer homesite.

In addition to hiking, there are a number of other attractions and activities that you can enjoy in Newton County and Buffalo River Country. Be sure to make time to enjoy it all!

- Watching and Learning about Arkansas’s Elk Herd
- Driving the Area’s Scenic Highways and Byways
- Rock Climbing and Caving
- “Getting Wet” at Local Waterfalls and Swimming Holes
- Horseback Riding
- Exploring Ozark History
- Canoeing the Buffalo River
- Shopping for One-of-a-Kind Gifts at Area Gift Shops and Art Galleries

To learn more about the many things to see and do, be sure to visit the Chamber of Commerce Gift Shop and Visitors Center at 204 North Spring Street on Jasper’s Historic Courthouse Square. There you will find brochures, maps and additional information to help you plan your perfect Ozark getaway.
Pedestal Rocks/Kings Bluff – actually 2 trails, the Pedestal Rocks trail is 2.6 miles in length and features many beautiful rock formations. The Kings Bluff Loop is 1.9 miles in length, following the Kings Bluff bluffline and features beautiful views and a tall waterfall. Due to the high bluffs on these trails, they are not recommended for small children or careless hikers.

The Glory Hole – at Glory Hole, water has bored a hole through a bluff, creating a truly amazing 30 foot waterfall. It’s a 2 mile round trip hike along Dismal Creek to see this beautiful waterfall.

Hawksbill Crag – one of the most photographed spots in the Ozarks, the crag is an amazing rock outcrop that sticks out from a tall bluff located in the Upper Buffalo Wilderness Area.

Koen Interpretive Trail – on this short, wheelchair accessible 0.5 mile trail you will see over 34 different trees and plants identified.

Hideout Hollow Trail – an easy 2.0 mile trail, Hideout Hollow takes you into a large bluff and waterfall.

Erbie Trails – located in the old community of Erbie, the Erbie Trails offer excellent opportunities to visit historic farmsteads, waterfalls, old farm fields and bluff-top vistas. All together, there are 7.5 miles of easy to moderate trails to hike in the Erbie area.

Interested in backpacking? If so, two of the finest trails in the Ozarks are in Newton County. The longest is the Ozark Highlands Trail (OHT), a 180-mile trail that passes through some of the Ozarks most remote and scenic areas. Access points for the OHT can be found at the Fairview Recreation Area and at the Ben Hur community, both in southeast Newton County. Another backpacking option is the Buffalo River Trail, a 37-mile long trail that begins in historic Boxley Valley and follows the Buffalo River to Pruitt.