

Carter Caves State Resort Park TRAIL MAP

Two state nature preserves are located within the borders of Carter Caves State Resort Park. Both areas were dedicated into the nature preserves system in 1981 to protect several rare species and habitat. Bat Cave harbors one of the largest wintering populations of the federally endangered Indiana bat. The bats begin cave hibernation in October with sufficient fat reserves to survive until spring. The steep north-facing slopes at Cascade Caverns support two rare plants usually found in cooler northern climates; the Mountain maple and the Canadian yew. The Kentucky Department of Parks recognized the significance of these areas and pursued the highest level of protection possible for Bat Cave, 128 surface acres surrounding the cave's openings and 18 acres of land above Cascade Caverns.

KHT Kiser Hollow Trail - 8.6 mi
A multi-use trail that passes the mature hardwoods of Tygarts State Forest, the scenic Smoky Creek Valley, and old home places in Kiser Hollow. This trail is steep and rocky in places. During designated hunting seasons, avoid this section of the trail or wear blaze orange. Yellow blazes mark the trail.

GBT Cave Branch Trail - 2.5 mi
This is a multi-use trail within Tygarts State Forest that explores the picturesque valley of the stream, known as Cave Branch Creek. This creek flows underground through Bat Cave before it resurfaces near the park entrance. During designated hunting seasons, avoid this section of the trail or wear blaze orange. Blue blazes mark the trail.

RT Ridge Top Trail - 3.6 mi
This multi-use ridge top trail - within Tygarts State Forest - follows the border around a hardwood tree reforestation project. During the warm seasons, users need to be prepared for tick and poison ivy encounters. The trail provides some great overlooks, especially during the fall and winter months. During designated hunting seasons, avoid this section of the trail or wear blaze orange. Orange blazes mark the trail.

CPT Collings Passage Trail - 0.8 mi
This short multi-use trail connects the Carter Caves Trail System to the Olive Hill Trail Town System. From the end of this trail, there is an 8 mile trail via paved roads that will lead you to the Depot, which is the heart of the Olive Hill Trail Town System. This trail has very, steep terrain and a short creek crossing. Green blazes mark the trail.

MT Mulligan Trail - 2.2 mi
Perfect for either walking or bicycling, this 2.2 mile trail is paved and located along what used to be the park golf course. Now this trail provides great habitat for all kinds of wildlife and is almost sure to allow a glimpse of deer and a variety of birds. The terrain is a bit hilly but relatively easy. (This is a walking and bicycling trail ONLY, no horseback riding is allowed.)

TBT Three Bridges Trail - 3.6 mi
This popular trail highlights three of the Park's natural bridges, including Smoky Bridge (the largest), Raven Bridge, and Fern Bridge. The trail overlooks many vistas of Smoky Valley Lake and traverses alongside many impressive sandstone cliffs. Red blazes mark the trail.

RBT Raven Bridge Trail - 0.6 mi
This trail is the most direct and easiest route to the delicately balanced sandstone arch, Raven Bridge. This ridgetop trail is fairly level and can be combined with the Three Bridges Trail to make a loop from the lodge. Blue blazes mark the trail.

RHT Rockhouse Trail - 0.1 mi
This is a short connector trail between TBT and RBT trails. The trail takes you alongside some striking sandstone cliff faces. Yellow blazes mark the trail.

NHT Horn Hollow Trail - 1.5 mi
This hilly, but scenic trail, takes you from the ridges into the streamless valley of Horn Hollow, where you see multiple cave entrances. This trail is especially rewarding during the spring wildflower season from April - May. Green blazes mark the trail.

NBT Natural Bridge Trail - 0.5 mi
This impressive limestone Natural Bridge is one of the landmarks of the area and may be considered unique in Kentucky. Why? It is the only natural bridge in Kentucky that supports a paved highway. White Blazes mark the trail.

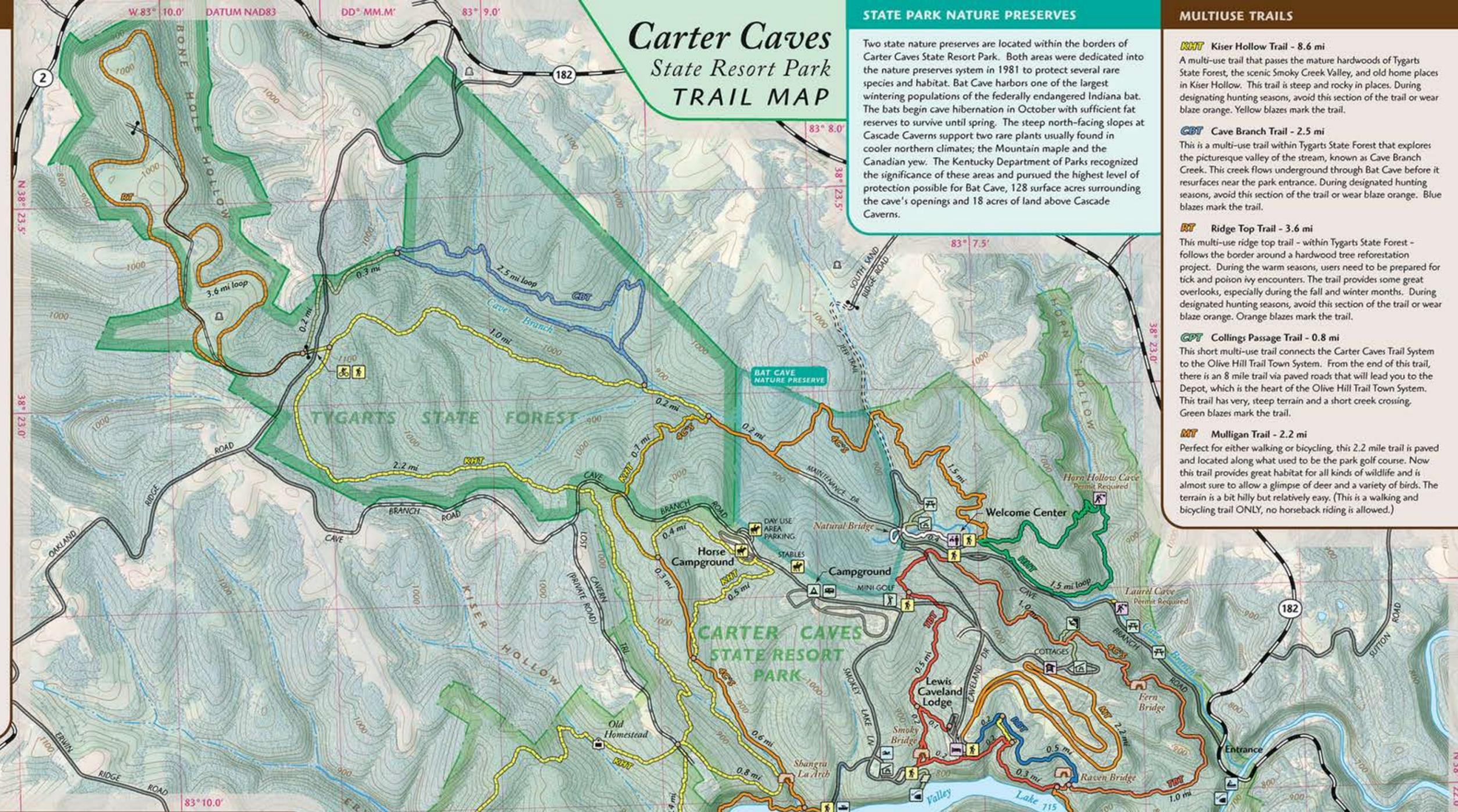
BCT Box Canyon Trail - 0.8 mi
The trail is one of the most scenic trails that supports unusual geologic features in the park, including the Cascade Natural Bridge, the Box Canyon, and the Wind Tunnel. This trail is hilly and fairly difficult. Orange blazes mark the trail.

CCS Carter Caves Cross Country Trail - 8.3 mi
One of our longer hiking trails that visits the Park's backcountry. Two suspension bridges are found on this trail. Johnson Home place is a backcountry campsite that requires a permit. A short portion of this trail is within Tygarts State Forest and allows equestrian and mountain bike use. During designated hunting seasons, avoid this section of the trail or wear blaze orange. Orange blazes mark the trail.

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPSITES
These primitive sites require a permit. Contact the Front Desk at the Lewis Caveland Lodge to get an overnight permit.

Eagles Nest Backcountry Campsite is located along the 4 C's trail on the far west side of Smoky Lake, this site includes a raised half-face shelter with 2 fire rings and space for 2 tents.

Johnson Homeplace Backcountry Campsite is located on the south side of Smoky Lake. This site is large enough to accommodate several tents.



MAP SYMBOLS

- Foot Travel Trailhead
- Equestrian Trailhead & Facilities
- Mountain Bike Trailhead
- Restroom
- Backcountry Camp Permit Required
- Tent Campsites
- RV Campsites
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic Area
- Golfing Facilities
- Playground
- Welcome Center
- Lewis Caveland Lodge
- Cottages
- Cave Tour
- Scenic Arch
- Historic Feature
- Cemetery
- Trail Intersection
- Suspension Foot Bridge
- Stairs
- Gate
- Rock Climbing Area
- Swimming Pool
- Canoe Launch
- Fishing Area
- Dam
- Boat Ramp

TOPOGRAPHY & PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Elevation contours are shown over aerial photography, which indicates canopy cover and agricultural or human uses.

Contour interval: 20 ft
Index contours labeled every 100 feet above sea level.
Hatched contours indicate a sinkhole.

100 vertical feet

Ephemeral Stream

Perennial stream

Pond or Lake with average pool elevation

Sinkhole

TRAVEL & TRAIL SYMBOLS

Hiking Trail

Multiuse Trail

For example, this segment of trail shows a combined 0.7 miles of hiking & multiuse along the 4C's & Kiser Hollow Trails.

Trail line symbols are colored to match trail blazing and patterned to show to designated use. Trail names are abbreviated and mileage is shown between trail intersections.

State Highways

County & Local Roads

Gate

All motorized travel must stay on paved or gravel public roads within the park.

PAVED GRAVEL JEEP



Map created by outrageGIS mapping in July 2012 and updated July, 2018. GPS data provided by KY Department of Parks with additional data provided by Kentucky Division of Geographic Information and the United States Geological Survey. Projection: Kentucky State Plane Single Zone, NAD 83.