

Hillman Heritage National Recreation Trail



Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area

January 2011

The 5.47 miles of trails within the Hillman Ferry Campground woods are listed as a Heritage National Recreation Trail. The trail system often follows old historic roads used by the former Star Lime Works community which was the site of a thriving lime industry that began some time before the Civil War. The community survived through changes in lime works ownership and many economic fluctuations in the production of lime and limestone, until it was disbanded sometime after 1945 due to construction of the Kentucky Lake Reservoir. Star Lime Works is being recorded as a historic district and the remaining cultural features, landscape, and history are just beginning to be portrayed through interpretive stops along the trail. Current interpretive stops are along Bohanon Loop and Vogle Loop.

The trails are open to Hillman campers, as well as the general public, for hiking and biking only. There is a small parking lot on the north (right) side of the Hillman Ferry Campground entrance road, just before the gatehouse, for the general public.

Bohanon Loop (Yellow) – At 2 miles in length, this is the longest of the trails in this system. This main loop trail provides access to Brown Spring Loop, James Nickell Loop, and Vogle Loop via connector trails. This trail takes you up and over ridgelines and offers users an excellent opportunity to view wildlife.

Brown Spring Loop (Red) – This 0.66-mile trail winds its way through mature hardwood stands and meanders up and down ridgelines. This trail can be used for a short hike or can be linked up with the James Nickell Loop or Bohanon Loop to add to the length of your hike. This trail can be accessed via Bohanon Loop or the Trailhead near the boat ramp in Area A.

James Nickell Loop (Blue) – This trail is 0.48 miles in length and leads hikers to a scenic overlook of Kentucky Lake. The trail follows the ridge top along the edge of Kentucky Lake and then dips back into the bottoms. This trail is accessible via the connector trail from Brown Spring Loop.

Vogle Loop (Green) – Notice the heritage markers along the way on this 0.94-mile trail that takes you to a primitive rock beach on Kentucky Lake. Vogle Loop is accessed via Bohanon Loop. Vogle Loop takes hikers past an old homesite and limestone quarry associated with the Star Lime Works District. Stop along the way to learn about the history of the area.

Length: Approximately 5.5 miles total

Trailhead: Hillman Ferry Campground

Surface Type: Dirt

Difficulty Level: Easy to Moderate

Bohanon Loop ~ Easy

Brown Spring Loop ~ Easy

James Nickell Loop ~ Easy

Vogle Loop ~ Easy

Recommended Seasons: Spring, Fall, Winter (*Some portions of trails may flood after spring rains.*)

Trail Markings: *Bohanon Loop*–Yellow Diamonds ◇

Brown Spring Loop–Red Diamonds ◇

James Nickell Loop–Blue Diamonds ◇

Vogle Loop–Green Diamonds ◇

Connector Trails–Orange Diamonds ◇

Trail Ethics: Pack it in. Pack it out! If you want to see wildlife, try to keep your group quiet and alert.

Backcountry Camping: Camping is not allowed in this area.

Safety: *You are responsible for your own safety.* Trail use has inherent risks. You may encounter a variety of unexpected and/or dangerous conditions. It is your responsibility to be informed and take precautions. Trail Markers are placed to better orient hikers. Please refer to map for specific location. The Lone Star Tick and the American Dog Tick are very abundant; precautions should be taken primarily from mid-March through mid-October. Poison ivy flourishes in many areas in LBL, please use caution.

Be a Steward of the Past:

- *Treat remains of past cultures with respect.*
- *Tread lightly when visiting heritage sites.*
- *Leave artifacts where you find them.*
- *Photograph, enjoy, but do not touch fragile surfaces.*

Due to the 2009 Ice Storm, trail users should be looking for overhead hazards such as snags, hanging limbs, and leaning/uprooted trees. During windy conditions, users should exercise extra caution.

Hillman Heritage Trail Rules

1. Trail is open from dawn to dusk only.
2. For your safety, all hikers/bikers not camping at Hillman Ferry are required to register at the Hillman Ferry Gatehouse.
3. Low impact hiking/biking techniques should be followed at all times. Stay on the trail, even through wet areas, to help prevent soil erosion. All garbage must be packed out.
4. Mountain bikes are allowed on designated trails only. Motor vehicles including mopeds, scooters, and golf carts are strictly prohibited.
5. *Respect the Resource*–leave plants and flowers for others to enjoy, and do not harass the wildlife!
6. Firearms are strictly prohibited.
7. Pets must be on a leash of 6' or less and under physical control at all times. Respect other users and always clean up after your pet.
8. LBL strongly encourages users to "Call Before You Haul" to check current trail conditions at 270-924-2000 ext. 3, or visit us on the web at www.lbl.org under Alerts & Notices.
9. ♻️ Help us eliminate garbage–take your trash to one of our Recycling Stations located at Hillman Ferry Campground, Golden Pond Visitor Center, The Homeplace, Woodlands Nature Station, and Wranglers Campground.

Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area has been set aside for your recreation and education. As you hike these trails, take time to enjoy the natural beauty and learn something about the natural or cultural history of this special place.



USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Emergencies

Call 877-861-2457 or 911
 for 24-hr Dispatch, or the
 USDA Forest Service
 Law Enforcement Office
 270-924-2196
 Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm

For More Information

USDA Forest Service
 Land Between The Lakes
 100 Van Morgan Drive
 Golden Pond, KY 42211
 270-924-2000 or 800-LBL-7077
www.lbl.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Friends of LBL
 Volunteer Coordinator
 270-924-2007
www.friendsoflbl.org

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