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## These Boots Were Made for Walking

Some of the best hiking trails in Shelby County reside at Oak Mountain State Park with over 51 miles of trails to fit almost every challenge level. All the Oak Mountain State Park trails are color coded.

The **Red**, **White**, **Blue**, and **Yellow Trails** all begin at the North Trailhead, which is located on John Findley Drive about 6 miles inside the park if you are coming from the front gate. If you use the back entrance, it is about 1.5 - 2 miles inside the gate.



The **Green Trail** begins near the Park Office on Terrace Drive. The **Red Trail** meets Terrace Drive in several places. The **Yellow Trail** also ends on Terrace Drive near the South Trailhead.

The beginning of the **Orange Trail** is located on John Findley Drive near the stables.

The **Red Trail**, also known as the Double Oak Trail, is designated as the bike trail and is 17 miles long. It is steep and rough in places. Hikers, as well as bikers, can use this trail; however, this is the only trail in the park that bikers can use. The **Red Trail** is a loop.

The **White Trail**, or the Shackleford Point Trail, is 6.4 miles long (one way). You must turn around and come back the way you came or pick up a connector trail to go a different way. It begins at the North Trailhead and follows a path similar to the **Blue Trail** but at a lower elevation. The **White Trail** does climb to the highest point in the park, which is known as Shackleford Point at an elevation of 1,260 feet. The **White Trail** ends at the Peavine Falls parking lot.



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The **Blue Trail**, or the South Rim Trail, is 6.7 miles long (one way). You must turn around and come back the way you came or pick up a connector trail to go a different way. Beginning at the North Trailhead, the **Blue Trail** makes a steep climb up the ridge, going from an elevation of approximately 620 feet to approximately 1100 feet. Once the ascent is made, the trail follows the ridge to end at the Peavine Falls parking lot.

The **Yellow Trail**, known as the Foothills Trail, is approximately 8 miles long (one way). It begins at the North Trailhead and travels at a low elevation around Lake Tranquility to end at Peavine Road close to the South Trailhead area (off Terrace Drive). The **Yellow Trail** does make some climbs.

Maggie's Glen is a popular spot to hike to. It sits along a stream bank with many species of plants and trees growing there. It is a very quiet place to sit and relax. It can be accessed from the **White Trail**, the **Yellow Trail**, and the **Red/Yellow** connector.

The **Green Trail**, known as the Peavine Falls Trail, begins near the Park Office/Beach area on Terrace Drive. It is the shortest trail at 1.9 miles long, but it is also the steepest. The **Green Trail** goes from an elevation of approximately 550 feet to approximately 1,100 feet. The **Green Trail** doesn't lead directly to Peavine Falls (the waterfall) but ends at the Peavine Falls parking lot where you can get on the **White** or **Blue Trail** that will take you to the falls. About 1 mile up the trail from Terrace Drive, you begin a climb from approximately 800 feet to approximately 1,020 feet.

The Wildlife Center Trail is a short 0.3 mile trail. It leads from the beach parking lot up to the Wildlife Center. It also connects to the Treetop Nature Trail (which is an elevated boardwalk with several cages housing birds of prey that have been rehabilitated after having been injured), the **Yellow Trail**, and the **Orange Trail**.

The **Orange Trail** is known as the Horse Trail and is 10.7 miles long. The trail begins at the stables (located on John Findley Drive) and winds around through the woods to end back at the stables. The **Orange Trail** is for horses only, no foot or bike traffic.

The marking system is designed to help the Park Rangers cut down on the search time and area when someone is hurt or lost. Each trail is uniquely colored and numbered. The posts are placed approximately every 1/4 mile and colored the same as the trail. Each post has a number and they do NOT repeat. A lost or injured hiker can call the park rangers and tell them the number of the



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last post that they passed & they can tell them the best way to get out or they can go almost straight to them in a short amount of time.

**Blue Trail:** 1 to 26, **White Trail:** 27 to 51, **Green Trail:** 52 to 59, **Yellow Trail:** 60 to 86

Source: AlaParks