

Outdoor Package

Northwest Arkansas is known for its outdoor recreation. Whether it's spent on the water or hiking some trails, you won't be disappointed. Choose any of these activities for a full afternoon of fun! Options include kayaking, hiking, canoeing, battlefields, mountain biking, and more!

[Siloam Springs Kayak Park](#)

The Siloam Springs Kayak Park is a beautiful, free amenity about four miles south of Siloam Springs. The rapids have been engineered along the Illinois River. It is great for tubing and kayaking. You can also swing, go down the rapids in an inner tube or free-style! This choice is perfect for a two- to three-hour outing. There are no concessions or outfitter rentals at the site, so arrangements need to be done beforehand (see Arkansas 59 for outfitter recommendation). Open one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset. Free entrance.

Located at 19253 Fisher Ford Road, Siloam Springs, Arkansas 72761, about 15 minutes from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

[Arkansas 59](#)

Looking for a canoe, kayak, or raft to rent for the Siloam Springs Kayak Park? Check out Arkansas 59. This company will drop you upstream of the park so you can enjoy a two- to three-hour float and land where you parked your car! Call 479-524-2223 for more information.

Located at 20466 S. Highway 59, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, about 15 minutes from campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

[Devil's Den](#)

Devil's Den State Park is an Arkansas icon. It is a beloved natural and historic treasure. Lee Creek flows through the park, and the Ozark National Forest surrounds it. Rental canoes and pedal boats are available at the park to enjoy at the eight-acre Lake Devil. Miles of hiking and multiple-use trails wind through Devil's Den and the surrounding forest. The Yellow Rock Trail takes you up 300 feet and provides one of Northwest Arkansas's most iconic views. The Devil's Den Trail takes you through several rock formations including bluffs, caves, crevices and a waterfall. Both trails can be completed in one afternoon. The visitor center is open from 8am to 5pm. Free entrance to the park; paddle boat rental is \$8 per hour.

Located at 11333 West Arkansas Hwy. 74, West Fork, Arkansas 72774, about 1 hour and 15 minutes from campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

[Lincoln Lake](#)

Lincoln Lake is 400 acres, 90 of which is water. It offers pristine water recreation, rock climbing, mountain biking, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, fishing and stunning photographic opportunities. Lincoln Lake is also a nesting home for bald eagles. This choice is a relaxing one to spend the afternoon. Open during daylight hours. Free entrance.

Located at Lake Lincoln Dam, Lincoln, Arkansas, 72744, about 35 minutes away from campus. Ask a member of the Excursion Committee at ACSD2017@jbu.edu or stop by the information desk for help with directions.

[Beaver Lake](#)

Beaver Lake, completed in 1966, is nestled high in the Ozark Mountains. The 28,370-acre lake is the first of the impoundments created in Arkansas and Missouri along the lengthy White River system. With 487 miles of shoreline highlighted by limestone bluffs, Beaver Lake offers a world of recreational opportunities. Water recreation includes boating, scuba diving, fishing, and water sports. Dry recreation includes camping, golf, and hiking. Marinas and outfitters are plentiful. Cabins, resorts, and other lodging ring the lake, and campgrounds are also available in good number. There are so many things to do, this trip can last the whole day or be tailored for an afternoon.

Beaver Lake is located about 1 hour and 10 minutes from campus, depending on what activity you choose to do. For a list of outfitters and providers: <http://www.beaverlake.com/>

[Wild Wilderness Drive-through Safari](#)

The 400-acre safari is home to a variety of exotic animals. The safari consists of a 4-mile drive-through, petting parks, and walk-through areas for interaction with the animals. Walk-through and petting areas include animals such as kangaroos, miniature donkeys, lemurs, rabbits, macaws, capuchin monkeys, and baboons. The drive-through includes black bears, African lions, Bengal tigers, leopards, hippos, buffaloes, Texas longhorns, zebras, lamas, ostriches, and camels. Pony and camel rides operate on a seasonal basis. There are picnic tables available for lunch, and facilities include a snack bar. This is a fun afternoon trip to spend with the whole family. Open daily from 9am-5pm. Cost: age 13+ – \$15; ages 3-12 – \$10; under 2 – no charge.

Located at 20923 Safari Road, Gentry, Arkansas 72734 (479-736-8383), about 20 minutes away from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

[Natural Falls State Park](#)

Located near the Oklahoma-Arkansas state line, Natural Falls State Park is a peaceful, laid back park where relaxing takes a front seat. The 77-foot waterfall is the main attraction, so the walk to the falls is a must-see. This park is an excellent choice for slow nature hikes and quiet relaxation. It can also be combined with other activities close to campus. Hiking trails, disc golf course, and fishing are also available. Open daily from 8:30am–5pm. Cost is a \$5 day-pass per car.

Located 6 miles west of West Siloam Springs in Oklahoma on Hwy 412, about 15 minutes away from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

Pea Ridge National Military Park

On March 7-8, 1862, 26,000 soldiers fought here to decide the fate of Missouri and the West. The 4,300-acre battlefield honors those who fought for their beliefs. Pea Ridge was one of the most pivotal Civil War battles and is the most intact Civil War battlefield in the United States. The self-guided tour road takes you along a 7-mile, 10-stop tour. Biking is permitted and hiking trails are available. This is an all-afternoon activity. The visitor center is open daily from 8:30am–4:30pm and the park grounds are open 6am to dusk. Cost is \$7 per person/\$15 per vehicle.

Located at 15930 E. Hwy 62, Garfield, Arkansas 72732, about 1 hour and 10 minutes away from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

Recognized nationally as one of America's most intact Civil War battlefields, Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park protects the battle site and interprets the Battle of Prairie Grove, where on December 7, 1862, the Confederate Army of the Trans-Mississippi clashed with the Union Army of the Frontier in a day of fierce fighting resulting in about 2,700 casualties. This marked the last major Civil War engagement in northwest Arkansas. The park offers a battlefield guided walking tour, historic house guided tour, and a self-guided driving tour. This choice is an activity for all afternoon. Opens daily at 8am and closes one hour after sunset. Entrance is free. Guided tours are \$5 per adult, \$3 per child (6–12), \$15 for a family.

Located at 506 East Douglas Street, Prairie Grove, Arkansas 72753, about 40 minutes away from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

Buffalo National River

Established in 1972, the Buffalo National River flows 135 miles and is one of the few remaining undammed rivers in the lower 48 states. The area includes running rapids and quiet pools. The river is surrounded by massive bluffs along the Ozark Mountains. The Buffalo River, which is the first national river, offers canoeing, floating, hiking, camping, and fishing activities. This choice is meant to be enjoyed as a day trip. Tyler Bend Visitor Center is open from 8am–4:30pm. Entrance is free.

Located at 170 Ranger Road, St. Joe, Arkansas 72675, about 2 hours and 45 minutes away from JBU's campus.

[Click here for directions](#)

Buffalo River Outfitters

Looking to kayak, canoe or float down the Buffalo River? Check out the Buffalo River Outfitters for service and amenities. The scenery will not disappoint you! Plan for a full day of activity.

[Click here for directions](#)

JBU Mountain Bike Trail

JBU has a new five-mile mountain biking trail on campus which opened in the summer of 2016. The trail is soft-surface and runs along Sager Creek, opening into two different trail systems on the north and west sides of campus. The trail covers terrain with various elevations around JBU's main campus and has been designed as a "gateway" trail to be enjoyed by riders of various skill levels. This activity can be combined with other outings close to campus like the Siloam Springs Kayak Park or Natural Falls State Park, and even the Wild Wilderness Drive-through Safari. Access is free and daylight hours are recommended. Check out a mountain bike from the Walton Lifetime Health Complex on campus!

Located on the north and west side of JBU's campus.

Golf Courses

If you are interested in a golf outing, please review the following courses for further information and specific rates. Please contact a member of the Excursion Committee at ACSD2017@jbu.edu if you would like assistance in setting up a tee time.

[Stonebridge Meadows](#) is located about 50 minutes from JBU's campus [[directions](#)].

[The Links at Fayetteville Golf & Country Club](#) is located about 40 minutes from JBU's campus [[directions](#)].