# GORGE GAZETTE

YOUR GUIDE TO FAMILY FUN IN THE RED RIVER GORGE

Complimentary Copy - Please, Take One!

*The Official (only!) Newspaper of The Red River Gorge*

Vol. 2 No. 6 Adventure ~ Relaxation ~ Accommodations ~ Awe Inspiring Natural Beauty ~ Friendly People August 2022



HAND DIPPED ICE CREAM
HOUSE MADE FUDGE
Red River Gorge Souvenir Mason Jar Milkshakes
RED RIVER GORGE General STORE
Mountain Hippie® Apparel
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Hoodies - T-Shirts
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The Red River Gorge General Store (formerly known as Brandenburg General Store) is located along Natural Bridge Road, next to La Cabana and is open 7 days a week. We offer various goods & gifts from camping gear to souvenir mugs and magnets along with handmade local soaps, jewelry, and more. Stop in and try a free sample of our homemade fudge, or stop by our ice cream store and grab a scoop of fresh ice cream, a sundae, or a milkshake! We also have recently added vegan options to our menu. Our newly remodeled store has something for everyone! Stop in anytime Sun-Thurs 9:30am - 6pm, and Fri-Sat 9:30am-8pm.

Try one of our **Red River Gorge logo souvenir Mason Jar Milkshakes with Sasquatch's picture** and, our unique **Mountain Hippie™ Apparel** line locally designed by Ingrid Miller at **The Earth Store.**

Our biggest seller is our fudge. We like to say it's the best in the gorge! We have at least sixteen flavors on display and can make many more.

Stop in and see us!

Thanks,

*Gretchen and Courtney*

***We got an email from TripAdvisor that said:***

*You're in the top 10% of hotels worldwide!*

**Congratulations, you're a 2021 Travelers' Choice Award Winner**

2021 Travelers' Choice Tripadvisor

## The Top Ten Reasons Why You're Gonna Love The Red River Gorge Area

*(BTW, There are probably a thousand more that you and your family will discover on your own)*

1. Beautiful Scenery unsurpassed anywhere.
2. Hundreds of Sandstone Arches.
3. An abundance of clear Mountain Streams and Lakes teeming with Game Fish.
4. Hundreds of species of plants: Trees, Flowers, Ferns, Mosses, Mushrooms and Fungi, Grasses.
5. A myriad of Wildlife: From Deer to Salamanders. Hundreds of Bird Species including flocks of Wild Turkeys. Mammals like Raccoons, Weasels, Skunks and Flying Squirrels, Tree Squirrels, Chipmunks, Bears and many, many more. There are Turtles, Terrapins, Snakes, Lizards, Frogs, Salamanders and others.
6. Hundreds of Miles of Trails and Foot Paths.
7. Almost Unlimited Family Friendly Activities such as Zipline Tours, Off Road Parks, Horseback Riding, Kayak and Canoeing, Underground Water Adventure, Camping, Souvenir Shopping.
8. Friendly Folks eager to show off their patch of the Serene Mountain Life
9. Lodging Choices range from Primitive Campsites to RV Parks to Individual Cabin Rentals and the Unique Yurt Experience to *Luxury Lodge Accommodations at Cliffview Resort.*
10. World Class Rock Climbing. The Red River Gorge Area is the World's Fifth most Popular Rock Climbing Destination.

***Electrifying News!***

**We have three Tesla Charging Stations, one of which is universal. Now you can recharge your Tesla, Prius, Leaf, Volt, or any electric or hybrid car while enjoying unforgettable time in the Gorge zipping, hiking or just napping. And, we offer this service to anyone, you do not have to be a guest at Cliffview.**

**Oh yeah, I almost forgot - you can charge absolutely free! Uh huh. *Free!***

# THE GORGE GAZETTE

*The unofficial newsletter of*
**The Red River Gorge**
**Rogers, Kentucky**

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We gratefully acknowledge the information and assistance given us by the State of Kentucky Parks Department and the staff of the Natural Bridge State Park and thanks to the staff of the Natural Bridge State Park's newsletter, the *Natural Bridge Hiker*.

The Gorge Gazette is published monthly except January and February for entertainment of Cliffview Resort Guests, Owners, Visitors, Staff, Tourists and Friends.



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## HELPFUL WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS
## State, County & City Facilities

**Natural Bridge State Resort Park General Information**
(606) 663-2214 or 1-800-325-1710 (reservations) 2135 Natural Bridge Rd. Slade, KY 40376 Trail map & descriptions, park laws and regulations, lodging, camping, group meeting facilities, group programs
*"Natural Bridge State Resort Park is hiking, arches, exploring, scenery, reflection, and making memories."*
www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/nb

**Kentucky State Nature Preserve Commission**
www.naturepreserves.ky.gov

**Red River Gorge National Geological Area** (606) 663-8100
www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/redriver_gorge.shtml

**Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center** (606) 663-8100
www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/districts/cumberland/gladie.shtml

**Red River Gorge Trail Crew (Volunteers)** www.RRGTC.com

**Leave No Trace – Outdoor Ethics** www.lnt.org

**Kentucky State Parks** - Create your own Experience.
www.parks.ky.gov Become a KYSP fan at:
http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kentucky-State-Parks/152588316577

**Lee County Tourism Commision**
Dedra Brandenburg Director 606.464.5038
www.visitleecountyky.com

### Private Facilities

**Cliffview Resort & Cliffview Retreat 606.668.6222**
www.cliffviewresort.com 455 Cliff View Road, Campton, KY 41031
***The Lodge, The Retreat and Lakeside Lodges are available for groups, weddings and retreats. Also available is the 8,000 sq foot ReceptionHall***

**Red River Gorge Zip Lines 855.ZIP.TOUR ( 855.947.8687)**
**606.668.6222 www.redrivergorgezipline.com**

**Scenic Cabin Rentals** 606.668.6487 www.sceniccabin.com
**Paul Hamann** 513.378.8716 **Nancy Hamann** 513.919.7150

**Red River Gorge Cabin Rentals** 606.668.3272
www.redrivergorgecabinrentals.com

**The Gorge Underground** 844.254.6244) Thrillsville.org
**Ian Teal** 513.284.2332

**The Gorge Gazette: Jenny or Jerry Ison 865.674.6740**
***Email stories, ideas, suggestions, news to: jerry@jerryison.com***

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# *Things To Do, Places To Visit, Where To Eat In The Red River Gorge*

- **Red River Climbing Guides** where "*Your Adventure Awaits*!" Catering to all ages and experience levels. Visit: RedRiverClimbingGuides.com or call 629.207.0697
- **HillTop Pizza:** Pizza, Salads, Subs, Spaghetti, Lasagna. *Delivery to Cliffview available*. 606.464.9990 2034 Hwy 11N Beattyville.
- **Daniel Boone Coffee Shoppe & Deli:** Gourmet Coffees, Deli Foods, Camping Supplies 606-663-2549 Natural Bridge Road (KY Rt. 11) near Slade Exit 33
- **Gorge Underground:** A Unique Waterborne Family Adventure *On The Water, Underground!* Kayak and Pontoon Boat Tours 844-354-6244 Thrillsville.org
- **Natural Bridge State Park, Lodge & Sky Lift:** Camping, Hiking, Rooms, Fine Dining parks.ky.gov/resortparks/nb/index.htm
- **Red River Gorge Hiking, Rock Climbing:** fs.fed.us/r8/boone/
- Doggie Daycare **Scooter's Station** South from Resort on Rt. 11, right on Rt 498, right on Rt 52 west, left on Rte 399 to # 5814 on mailbox. 606.560.9091
- **Red River Gorge General Store:** Hand Dipped Ice Cream, Hoodies, Gifts, Camping Supplies, T-Shirts Fudge, Local Artisan Crafts 1321 Natural Bridge Road (KY Rt. 11) Slade, KY
- **Daniel Boone Trading Post:** 606-663-2549; Natural Bridge Rd (KY Rt 11)
- **Ye Ole Country Peddler:** 606-663-2683. KY Rt 11, 15 minute drive.
- **Red River Adventure:** Kayaking and Canoeing redriveradventure.net 606-663-1012
- **Via Ferrata Rock Climbing Park:** Great for beginners 606-668-6441 torrentfalls.com
- Hiking Trail Guide and Descriptions: **Kentucky's Unseen Scenes** 606.560.4949
- **Beech Fork Golf Club:** In Clay City - 606-663-9479
- **Sag Hollow Golf Course:** In Booneville 606-593-4653
- **Beattyville Public Golf Course:** Off Rt. 52 in Beattyville, KY 606.356.4199
- **Gorge Outfitters Gear, Clothes Trail Food** 606.481.3989 Nat Bridge Rd. Slade

If a **Holiday Party, *any Party*, Family Reunion, Corporate Meeting, Church Retreat or Wedding** is on your to-do list, go ahead and check it off. We have the perfect solution to party planning from catering to lodging to activities. The **Lodge at Cliffview** will sleep 64. The 7000 square foot **Reception/Activity Center** seats up to 250 and has a fully equipped *commercial grade kitchen*. Our newest Lodges, the **Retreat** and **Lakeside** will each sleep up to 50. Both have *double appliances* kitchens and technically compatible *theater style media rooms*.

# Safe Hiking in State and Federal Forests of the Red River Gorge Geological Area

The hiking season is now in full swing. Hundreds, thousands of folks from all over the country regularly visit Cliffview Resort and the Red River Gorge Area to enjoy nature's bounty. There is no better way to experience all the area has to offer than to hike the hundreds of trails in federal, state and private land. We want everyone to have the best hiking experience possible and leave the area with fond memories and beautiful pictures and videos.
To make the experience fun, informative and safe we offer a few hints and some do's and don'ts.

* **First and foremost, the Boy Scouts are right, *Be Prepared!***

* The Mountains are known for unpredictable weather. Check the weather forecast for the area.
* Plan your hike--know about the area and how to get there. Get detailed maps.
* Take enough food, clothing, and equipment to keep you comfortable for at least another day and night longer than planned in case of emergency.
* Notify others of where you will be, and when you plan to be home, in case someone needs to contact you. Let them know when you return.
* If you are a beginner, contact local outfitters or camping and hiking locations for a general check list of needed equipment. It's a very good idea to have a comprehensive Red Cross approved First Aid kit and manual.
* Take a cell phone with a fully charged battery. Make certain there is service in the area you plan to explore
* Download a GPS app so friends and family can track your progress and always know exactly where you are. In areas with no service, inexpensive walkie-talkies are a reasonable alternative .
* Always bring waterproof matches or a couple of Bic lighters and a knife of some kind.
* A loud whistle is another good idea. It can be used to attract attention if 'confused' and may convince an unwelcome animal to leave the area.
* If hiking in an area bears are known to habituate, make some noise while hiking. Sing, clap your hands, talk, whatever. Bears don't like to be surprised and if they know you're approaching, they'll usually go the other way.
* Remember, you're a guest, be courteous and appreciative.

***If you carry it in, please carry it out!***

* Take only pictures; leave only footprints and leave those only on ***designated trails and areas.*** Remember, when you're enjoying any federal area, guidelines forbid the taking of even a pebble from national parks.
* Never, ever cut a live tree for firewood or any other reason.
* Be respectful of your state and national forests; keep the trees and shrubs alive and growing.
* If hiking with Fido, keep him on a leash no longer than 6 feet.

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# Yesterday - the Day the Fish Bite

by Jerry Ison

A few years ago, I took one of my many nephews, six year old Isaac, for an afternoon of blue gill fishing. We headed out to a quiet little cove on Douglas Lake. It was fairly early in the spring, but it had been warm for several days and we guessed we had waited long enough for the season to begin. We stopped in a bait store and since we were thinking positive thoughts, bought three dozen worms and two dozen crickets. We would get a mess of fish today and have our first fish fry of the year tonight.

We arrived at the reservoir about ten or so and went to the northwest corner where I thought the water would be the warmest since that corner gets the early sun. It was about a half mile to the spot and when we reached it there were already several people with lines in the water.

Just a little further on were some old cattails and a couple rocks showing so Isaac and I set up there.

By noon, it had warmed considerably but it appeared we had selected a bad spot and we decided to move on. The next couple of places we tried produced no results either.

Oh sure we had those worm nibblers and cricket stealers.

The hits we did get resulted in reeling in fish you don't want anyone else to see. You know, fish so small they would usually be bait.

By about three, we decided to call it quits and headed for the truck. On the way around the reservoir, we met a couple of guys who were also leaving. I asked them if they had caught any fish and one of them said, "No, not today but you should have been here yesterday. We were pulling 'em in left and right!"

Those thoughts stayed with us on the way home so we decided to give it a try the next day, but at a different locations.

Early the next morning found us on the banks of a Douglas Lake backwater pool. We were certain the several dozen worms and crickets would run out before we were through. About two-thirty we were downsizing our expectations. As four o'clock rolled around we pulled in the lines and headed for the parking area. There were several men and boys standing around the vehicles talking fishing. I struck up a conversation with one who told me, "Yeah, there's a lot of good fishing in these inlets. Just yesterday, I limited out on panfish and largemouth in a couple of hours.

I asked, "That was yesterday, right?"

"Yep, you shoulda been here yesterday."

Isaac gave me a pained look and threw his gear in the truck bed.

As we drove home I asked him if he wanted to go back and try again the following Saturday.

Isaac thought for a second, then a big smile flashed and he said, "Uncle Jerry, let's go on Friday."

"Why Friday?"

"Well, if we were to go Saturday, wouldn't that make Friday yesterday. - *The day the fish bite?"*

*Ed Note: The boy in the picture isn't Isaac; its four year old Logan Kassenbrock with his sis and dad*