Buffalo National River

Hemmed-In Hollow

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior





Attractions:

The Hemmed-in Hollow Trail begins in the heart of the Ponca Wilderness at the Compton trailhead, and winds down the mountain side descending nearly 1400ft to the sandstone bluffs along the Buffalo River. The trail opens up along the way giving visitors outstanding scenic views of the Buffalo River and the Ozark Mountains that surround it. The gem of the hike is the Hemmed in Hollow falls. The picturesque Hemmed-in Hollow falls cascade nearly 210 feet over the rugged Ozark bluffs, making it the highest waterfall between the Rockies and the Appalachians.

Trail Distance:

Compton to Hemmed-in Hollow (3.8 miles)
Centerpoint to Hemmed-in Hollow (5.4 miles)

Location:

Take Hwy. 43 out of Harrison and travel approximately 18.5 miles to Compton Community. Turn left on the dirt road across from the Compton Post Office and travel 1 mile. Follow the signs to the trailhead parking area.

Information Contact:

Pruitt Ranger Station (870) 446-5373 Tyler Bend Visitor Center (870) 439-2502

Emergency Contact:

MROCC Emergency Dispatch 1-888-692-1162

Trailhead Coordinates:

Lat/Long:

Lat: 36.0810215Long: 93.3031781

Degrees Minutes Seconds:

Lat: 36 4' 51.6786Long: 93 18' 11.4408

The Hemmed-in Hollow Trail is an extremely steep and strenuous trail that will humble even the most experienced hiker. Visitors will need to plan to take the entire day to hike this trail, due to the rough wilderness terrain. The Hemmed-in Hollow Trail intersects with many of the other trail systems in the Ponca Wilderness creating multiple spur trails for the more adventurous hiker. The spur trails connect the Hemmed-in Hollow Trail with the Sneeds Creek Trail, Centerpoint Trail, Bench Trail, and Old River Trail. The Hemmed-in Hollow Trail can also be accessed via the Center point Trailhead located on Hwy. 43. This option is not quite as strenuous as Compton Trailhead, but visitors will still need to plan an entire day for this hike, due to the rough wilderness terrain.

Helpful Information: Pets are not permitted on the Hemmed-in Hollow Trail. Backcountry camping is allowed on the Hemmed-in Hollow trail and all the connecting spur trails, other than in the box canyon below the Hemmed-in Hollow Falls. Cell Phone service is very spotty within the Buffalo River; visitors should not depend on cell service in case of emergency.

