

## **Heritage Landmarks Corridor OUTDOOR RECREATION**

Visitors to Kentucky's Heritage Landmarks Corridor can view the Kentucky River Palisades, a unique geological feature that is estimated to be over 400-million-years-old. The majestic limestone cliffs run along the Kentucky River for almost 100 miles and reach heights of 225 feet. The Palisades provide unique scenery and opportunities for wildlife viewing.

Additional **wildlife viewing** opportunities can be enjoyed at Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge, Jim Beam Nature Preserve, Tom Dorman State Nature Preserve, Sally Brown Nature Preserve, Central Kentucky AG/EXPO Center, and Logan-Hubble Park. Sightings can include deer, fox, river otter, muskrat, woodchuck, grey squirrel, flying squirrel and fox squirrel.

The nature preserves and parks also offer a variety of **hiking** trails. Serious hikers can explore the strenuous Ridge Trail and the moderate Circle Trail at Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge or the moderately strenuous Foot Trail at Tom Dorman State Nature Preserve. A more relaxing hike can be enjoyed on Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge's Deer Trail, Jim Beam Nature Preserve's Jacob Beam's Path Trail or Logan-Hubble Park's Walking Trail. The trail at the Central Kentucky AG/EXPO Center accommodates hikers, bikers, horseback and wagon riders. Civil War history can be learned while exploring the interpretive trails at Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park. **Horseback riding** is available on 10 miles of trails at Logan-Hubble Park and over 30 miles of trails at Sugar Creek Resort.

The waterways in Heritage Landmarks Corridor provide excellent **fishing** opportunities. Black crappie, bluebill, channel catfish, Kentucky bass, large mouth bass, longear sunfish, redear sunfish and smallmouth bass are plentiful. Favorite fishing spots include Cedar Creek Lake, Herrington Lake, Lake Liberty, Green River, Goose Creek, and Stanford Reservoir. The Kentucky River in Jessamine County has yielded record-size muskie, bass and catfish. The waterways also provide **boating** opportunities. Pontoon and fishing boat rentals are available at several marinas on Herrington Lake. The waters of Sugar Creek provide a chance to canoe or kayak on flatwater. Putting-in at Route 38 provides a 2.5 hour trip back to camp. Rentals are available at Sugar Creek Resort. Heritage Landmarks Corridor is a **golfing** destination. With seven courses to choose from, golfers of every skill level will have plenty of opportunities to tee-up.

**The following are just some of the outdoor recreational areas available in Heritage Landmarks Corridor:**

**The Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge** (859-332-8672), located off Hwy. 37 on Carpenter Creek Road near Parksville, offers 500 acres of knob lands that have been reserved for the study of plant and animal life. The area is known for its wildflowers

including lady slippers, blue bells, trout lilies, violets and trilliums. Bird watchers can be on the outlook for purple finch, evening grosbeaks, towhees, flickers, Carolina chickadees and nuthatches. There are five walking trails ranging from easy to strenuous. Other facilities include a bird blind, nature center and picnic area.

**Jim Beam Nature Preserve** (859-881-9126) is located off US 27 on Payne's Lane near Nicholasville. Marked trails take hikers through the 115 acres of forest and along the Kentucky River Palisades. The 1-mile Jacob Beam's Path Trail is among the favorites. Hikers must stay on the trails at all times. The Preserve is home to rare plant species including water stitchwork, Svenson's wild rye, mountain lover and cleft phlox.

**Tom Dorman State Nature Preserve** (859-259-9655) is located on Hwy 1845 near Nicholasville. Activities at the 565-acre preserve that runs along the Kentucky River include hiking, bird watching and nature study. It is home to rare plants such as the cleft phlox and Eggleston's violet. The foot trail is moderately difficult.

**Sally Brown Nature Preserve** (859-259-9655) is located along the Kentucky River off Hwy 1845 near Lancaster. This 632-acre nature preserve includes numerous scenic vistas of the Kentucky River Palisades during the fall and winter months. Wildflowers and migrating birds are abundant in the spring. Visitors can enjoy activities that include hiking, photography, and bird watching. In order to protect the unique habitat of the preserve, visitors must stay on the trail at all times.

**Logan-Hubble Park** (606-365-3997), located on US 27N near Stanford offers 400 acres with a small fishing lake, picnic shelters, walking trails, horse trails and 6 overnight primitive camp sites.

**Herrington Lake** (859-748-4444) is accessible from Hwy. 34 near Lancaster. The largest white bass caught in Kentucky waters was a 5-pounder from Herrington Lake. Other species in the lake include crappie, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, catfish, bluegill, sunfish and freshwater drum. There are full service marinas offering floating cabins, restaurants, launching ramps, marina supplies, boat slips, pontoon and fishing boat rentals and gift shops.

**Cedar Creek Lake** (606-365-2533) is located along US 150 east of Sanford. This 784-acre lake, created in 2003, is Kentucky's second largest state-controlled lake. The fisherman's paradise has largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, black crappie and channel catfish. There are three boat ramps.

**Lake Liberty** (606-787-6691) KY 70E, Liberty. This 88-acre impounded lake is considered to be one of the top four small fishing lakes in Kentucky for largemouth bass, Kentucky bass and a variety of sunfish. There are also primitive nature trails for hiking.

**Stanford Reservoir** (606-365-4500) is located off KY 698 near Stanford. The 43-acre fishing lake is stocked with largemouth bass, rainbow trout, bluegill, spotted bass, green sunfish and longear sunfish. Primitive camping is permitted in designated areas.

**Planter's Row Golf Links** (859-885-1254) is located on US 27 in Nicholasville. The 18-hole course, set on 55 acres of beautiful farm land, will challenge golfers of all skill levels. The par 56 course was built in 1991.

**High Point Golf Club** (859-887-4614) is an 18-hole golf course that will challenge any golfer. The course was built in 1992 and features bent grass greens with Bermuda tees and fairways. There is also a chipping/putting practice facility. The course is located on High Point Drive in Nicholasville.

**Old Bridge Golf Club** (859-236-6051) is located on Hwy. 34 east of Danville. The 18-hole golf course, located beside Herrington Lake, includes a pro shop, driving range, putting green, bar & grill and club house. PGA golf professional and lessons are available. A new bar & grill is located at the club house. The course is known for its rolling terrain and water hazards on nine holes.

**Hickory Hills Country Club** (606-787-7368), located off KY 1532 on Short Town Rd, near Liberty, is a short 9-hole course built on rolling terrain. There is one pond that comes into play on Hole #4. The toughest hole on the course is #9, a 500-yard, par 5, requiring a tee shot up a dogleg left fairway.

**Peninsula Golf Resort** (859-548-5055) is located off Hwy. 1845 on Clubhouse Dr. near Lancaster. Designed by Pete Dye on 200 acres of rolling terrain, the greens and fairways have over 60 strategically placed bunkers. All the greens are surrounded by bent grass approaches. The 18-hole championship course is open to the public and has a driving range, practice green and pro shop.

**Connemara Golf Links** (859-885-4331) is located on Lexington Pike near Nicholasville. Facilities at the 18-hole course include pro shop, driving range, practice green, Irish-style pub and a historic bed & breakfast. Hole #15 is reputed to be the most challenging. Par on the course is 71.

**Widow's Watch Golf Club** (859-223-4516), located on Harrodsburg Road near Nicholasville, has a 110-year-old house with watchtower that serves as the pro shop. The 18-hole, 6,949-yard, par 72 course is a Keith Foster-Barry Sarafin design, built in 1999 and featuring bent grass from tee to green. It is host to the annual PGA Junior National. The course is dominated by the Italianate Widow's Watch House built in the late 1800s with a tower from which original owner John Steele could observe his workers on his surrounding farm, which raised wheat and hemp along with mules and sheep.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Outfitters in the region include:

**Sugar Creek Resort** (859-885-9359), located at 5800 Sugar Creek Pike, Nicholasville, KY 40366, offers canoe and kayak rentals. Guided horseback riding on over 30 miles of scenic trails is also available. The resort has facilities for primitive or RV camping.

