

AN ANGLER'S PARADISE

WRITER JENNIFER CHANDLER



The Greers Ferry Lake and Little Red River area of Arkansas offers exceptional opportunities to explore the great out-of-doors.

For the fisherman, this part of Arkansas is pure paradise. It is one of the few places in the country where it's possible to fish for largemouth bass, white bass hybrids, walleye and trout all in the same day.

With two world-record catches on Greers Ferry Lake and one world record on the Little Red River, it's understandable why anglers are attracted to the region.

"On the lake, there is great bass fishing," says Orvis-endorsed, fly-fishing guide Jamie Rouse. "In the fall, it's fun to fish for hybrids—a cross between a white bass and a striper—since the cooler water makes them more fishable by a fly rod."

Emerging icy cold from beneath the massive dam at Greers Ferry Lake, the Little Red River is a premier-class trout stream.

"There are plenty of wadeable waters with public access," Rouse continues, "but for the more adventurous angler, floating or boating is the productive way to fish."

When taking a break from fishing, there is plenty to occupy your time. Whether your tastes run to boating, golfing, hiking, biking, hunting or antique shopping, this is a place where you can do it all.

"The fall in the Ozarks is just beautiful with all the colored leaves," adds Rouse. "And with the change of the leaves comes some incredible fishing."

LOWER LEFT AND RIGHT: Guided fishing trips led by Jamie Rouse. PHOTOS BY TROY GLASGOW.



Fat Possum Hollow

TROY GLASGOW



Fat Possum Hollow

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SLEEP

Fat Possum Hollow Whether looking for a cozy home away from home or just a weekend fishing getaway, Fat Possum Hollow (1219 Libby Rd., 501.362.7738, www.fatpossumhollow.com) is a beautiful, serene and scenic escape from the rest of the world. Resting on 250 private acres, Fat Possum Hollow is tucked away along a rolling stretch of the Little Red River in the foothills of

the Ozark Mountains. The luxury cabins are furnished with all the comforts of home including linens, kitchenware, appliances and stone fireplaces. Each cabin sleeps six to eight people, and all have decks with spectacular river views.



The Red Apple Inn Resort & Conference Center's 18-hole Championship Golf Course.

The Red Apple Inn Resort & Conference Center Located on Greers Ferry Lake, The Red Apple Inn Resort & Conference Center (1000 Club Rd., 800.733.2775, www.redappleinn.com) has 57 individually decorated rooms and two suites, a conference center, an 18-hole championship golf course, fitness center, tennis courts and two swimming pools. It is also home to one of Heber Springs' finest restaurants, The Red Apple Dining Room.

The Brown Trout Inn & Gallery The Brown Trout Inn & Gallery (110 W. Spring St., 501.362.7724, www.thebrowntroutinn.com) is a historic Bed & Breakfast and Art Gallery located in downtown Heber Springs. This 115-year-old house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and offers three guest rooms, each with private bath. The gallery features artists, sculptures and photographers, both local and from across the nation.

FISHING RESOURCES

Guided Fishing Trip Led by Jamie Rouse (501.691.0149, www.jamierouse.net) and his 12 years of guiding experience in both Arkansas and Alaska, you can enjoy the great outdoors and have the ultimate fly-fishing adventure. As the Orvis-endorsed guide for the area, Jamie is considered an instructional outfitter having something to offer all skill levels from the new fly fisherman to the most advanced angler. Trips consist of both wade and boat fishing and can be customized to meet the customer's preference or needs.

Little Red Fly Shop The Little Red Fly Shop (35 Swinging Bridge, 501.887.9988, www.littleredflyshop.com) is a one-stop source for equipment, clothing and supplies. Located mere seconds from one of the best fly-fishing spots in Heber Springs, they offer a wide selection of quality goods from shoes and waders to rods and flies as well as instruction on fly tying and casting.



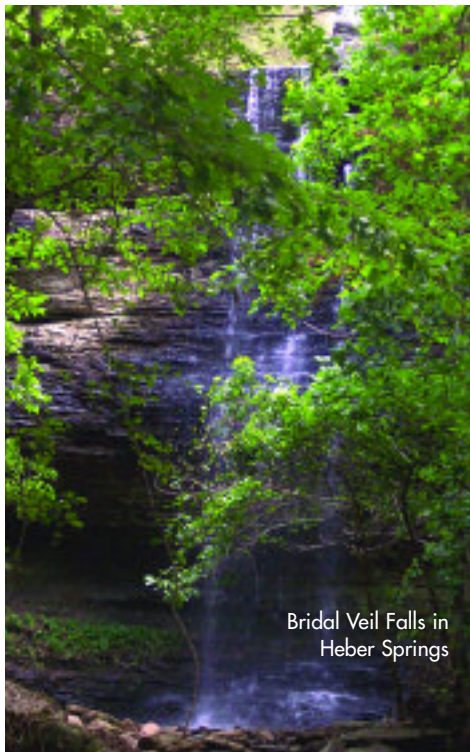
Aromatique

Boat Rental Located on the river just two miles away from the popular Mossy Shoals catch and release area, Lobo Landing Resort (3525 Libby Rd., Highway 337, 501.362.5802, www.lobolandingresort.com) rents aluminum boats and motors to help get you to your favorite honey-hole in style and comfort. If you have never fished the Little Red River, they will be happy to share the location of some of their favorite fishing holes. If you have no boating experience on the Little Red River, they also can reserve a guide for you.

TO DO WHEN YOU ARE OFF THE WATER

Greers Ferry National Fish Hatchery Built in 1965, the Greers Ferry National Fish Hatchery (349 Hatchery Rd., 501.362.3615, www.fws.gov/greersferry/) produces about one million rainbow trout yearly for restocking the Little Red and other Arkansas streams. The visitor center contains exhibits on the life cycle of trout and a brief history of the hatchery. Cold-water raceways hold thousands of fish in various growing stages, including some monster-sized lunkers. Located below Greers Ferry Dam, the hatchery is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

Hike The Heber Springs area is home to several outstanding hiking trails. Of note are the Josh Park Memorial Trail, which is popular with cross-country runners, joggers and bikers; the Mossy Bluff National Natural Trail, a beautiful trail that follows along a wooded bluff overlooking the Little Red River; and the Sugar Loaf Mountain Nature Trail on the pristine Sugarloaf Island in Greers Ferry Lake. Hikers of all ages will enjoy the scenic views of the river's valley from atop Sugarloaf Mountain.



Bridal Veil Falls in Heber Springs

Shop After a morning of fishing, take an afternoon to peruse the numerous quaint antique shops and specialty boutiques that line the streets of downtown Heber Springs. Aromatique, which is known the world over for its beautiful gifts and wonderfully scented candles, oils and sprays, is located in Heber Springs, and its official gift shop, Panache, is located right next door to the company's headquarters (3421 Highway 25B N., 501.362.7919).

If in town the last Saturday of the month, head Downtown for the monthly gallery walk. The local art galleries and other shops stay open until 8:00 p.m. and feature works by artists and authors, live music and provide an array of hors d'oeuvres.

EAT

Café Klaser Famous for their crawfish-stuffed tenderloin steak, Café Klaser (Highway 110 E. [across from Swinging Bridge Resort], 501.206.0688, www.cafeklaser.com) is located right on the banks of the Little Red River. Enjoy some of the area's finest food while taking in the spectacular views of the river from your dining table, either inside or outside on their large deck or screened-in porch, at this casual restaurant.

Rustic Inn Serving up the best breakfast in town, Rustic Inn (404 South 7th St., 501.362.2872) is known for their skillet breakfasts and friendly service. This casual joint also serves a wide variety of sandwiches and burgers on its lunch and dinner menus.

El Rey Mexican Restaurant An authentic Mexican restaurant is not what you would normally expect to find in the Ozarks, but El Rey Mexican Restaurant (523 Highway 110 E., 501.362.7960) is so popular they just opened their second location in this small town of 6,500. Don't miss out on the cheese dip.

TEAM TREK

Team Trek is America's premier source for custom-designed team-building, leadership development, and individual and team coaching.

Customers have the option of meeting in their own facilities, but many choose to escape to Team Trek's state-of-the-art learning center in the peaceful Ozark foothills.

The Team Trek Learning Center rests on 800 wooded acres on Greers Ferry Lake. With interruptions from the outside world kept to a minimum, the solitude of Team Trek is the perfect setting to focus. Only at Team Trek will you find one-of-a-kind, lifelike scenarios where your team can practice their leadership and team-building skills.

For more information, visit www.teamtrek.com or call 501.362.8801. ●

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