

continued from reverse

## STONE DOOR: A FREQUENTLY PHOTOGRAPHED PLACE



Photographers see so much beauty at Stone Door, no wonder is it one of the most frequently photographed locales in South Cumberland State Park. In every season, at any time of day, you're likely to see one of them at work, trying to capture the ever-changing and often fleeting beauty of a moment above the majestic panorama that is Savage Gulf.



A special thanks to all the photographers who've submitted Stone Door and Savage Gulf images to our annual "Picture the Park" photo contest -- their breathtaking work helps us better tell the story of this amazing and fragile place!



**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE PARK'S TRAIL MILEPOST SYSTEM**

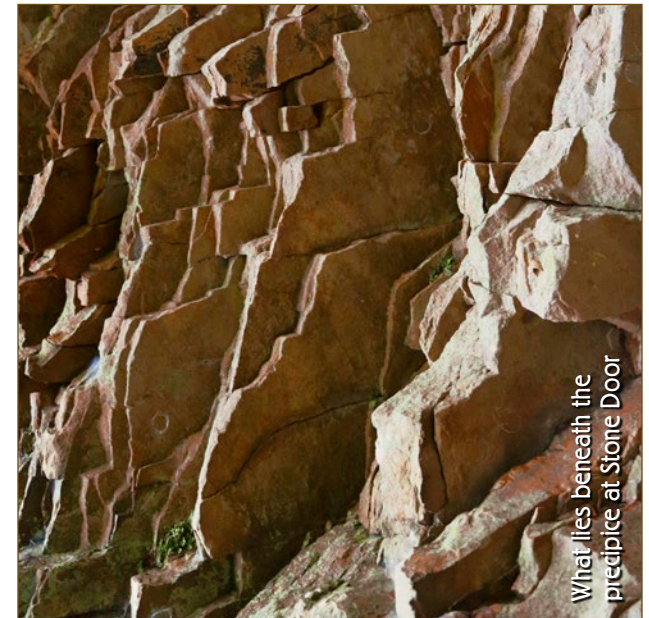
**REPORT THE CODE ON THE NEAREST MILE MARKER TO EMERGENCY RESPONDERS WHEN YOU CALL 911. IT WILL TELL THEM EXACTLY WHERE YOU ARE!**

PRODUCED BY

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# South Cumberland State Park T R A I L G U I D E SAVAGE GULF NORTH

INCLUDING TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS FOR  
**the STONE DOOR TRAIL**



What lies beneath the precipice at Stone Door



RESEARCHED AND PRESENTED BY THE  
**TRAIL FRIENDS INFORMATION TEAM**  
OF THE FRIENDS OF SOUTH CUMBERLAND STATE PARK



## TRAIL DESCRIPTION

# STONE DOOR TRAIL

This easy 2 mile round-trip, out-and-back hike is a must for all those making a first visit to the park. The Great Stone Door and views of Savage Gulf are not to be missed! **THIS IS AN OUT-AND-BACK ROUTE. WHEN YOU'RE DONE EXPLORING, RETURN THE WAY YOU CAME IN.**

## Stone Door Trail Log with Mileage

0.0 The trail begins beside the Stone Door Ranger Station.

0.2 Laurel Gulf Overlook, a great view of Laurel Creek gorge with the Stone Door cliffs to the far right.

0.5 A stream which usually has flow.

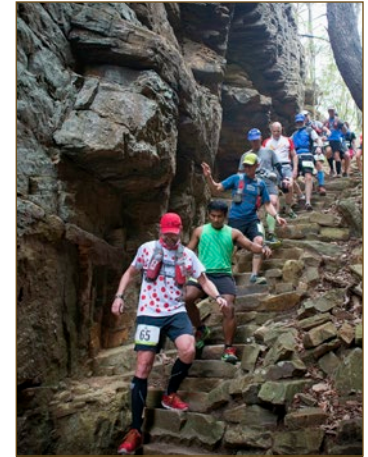
0.6 An unusual misshapen Virginia Pine tree to the right.

0.9 The trail arrives at the Great Stone Door, with several breathtaking overlooks of the Big Creek Gulf. In the distance, to the left, you can see the confluence of Big Creek Gulf and Collins Gulf with, in the far distance, Savage Creek Gulf. Almost all you can see is protected within the boundaries of South Cumberland State Park.

After enjoying the views from the overlooks, **TURN AROUND AND RETURN THE WAY YOU CAME IN.**

### ***But wait! There's More...***

Also be sure to check out the **Laurel Falls Trail**, next to the Stone Door Ranger Station, that leads down to Laurel Falls and the site of an old mill. This 0.3 mile loop trail, part of which follows a very old, historic road, will return to you to the Ranger Station at its end.



**Top Left:** Stone Door has been a favorite place to visit, even back in the 1800s. Beersheba Springs became a popular place to “get away to nature” in the mid-nineteenth century, well before South Cumberland State Park was created in 1978.

**Top Center and Right:** Today, both families and athletes test their stair-walking skills as they traverse the rocky steps of “the Door”. On the right, marathoners test their abilities by *running* 26 miles of Savage Gulf trails during the annual Savage Gulf Marathon, billed as “26.2 miles of the most brutal, rocky, unforgiving, steep terrain imaginable.” And still, each spring, marathoners sign up by the dozens to give that a try!

*continued on reverse*

