



MONTGOMERY BELL

Distance	36 miles from Nashville
Directions	Take I-40 West out of Nashville to Exit 196. Turn right onto US 70 S, then take a left at the US 70 junction. Montgomery Bell is located roughly five miles past the city of White Bluff on the left.
Description	Although Montgomery Bell State Park offers few natural highlights, the hiker will encounter many historical landmarks on this 11.7-mile loop trail. In the early 1800s, the land of Montgomery Bell was used for mining. Many ore pits, the remains of the old Laurel Furnace, log cabins, and Hall Cemetery can still be seen along this historic trail. Also, Lake Woodhaven and the stream that feeds it are a favorite spot for a beaver colony and other wildlife. Other lakes along this trail include Creech Hollow Lake and Acorn Lake. The trail rating is moderate.
Campsites	There are three campsites located along this trail. Campsite One, known as Hall Spring, is located three miles from the start. Hall Spring has an eight-person bunk shelter and a pit toilet. Campsite Two, known as Woodland, is located 4.7 miles from the start and 0.3 miles off of the main trail. It also provides the hiker with an eight-person bunk shelter and pit toilet. The last campsite, known as Wildcat Hollow, is located 8.7 miles from the start. Although the log cabin was never fully completed, it still provides the camper with moderate protection. Make sure to register at the Montgomery Bell Ranger Office for whichever campsite you plan to use before beginning your walk. Be sure to bring a water filter or water purification tablets because none of the campsites provides filtered water. Although these three campsites are provided for the hiker, Montgomery Bell can be walked in a long day hike.
Car Camping	Montgomery Bell offers the closest place to Vanderbilt for “car camping.” There are 120 campsites, each with picnic table and grill as well as two large group camps. Cabin rentals are also available.
In the Area	To the East of Montgomery Bell, one will find the Narrows of the Harpeth Day Park and the Cheatham Wildlife Management Area. Located to the North is the Dunbar Cave State Natural Area and the Port Royal State Historical Area. Located to the West is Jewel Cave, the Tennessee River, Nathan Bedford Forrest State Historical Area, and Natchez Trace State Park and Forest.
For More Information	Consult pages 89 through 92 of <u>Tennessee Trails: Third Edition</u> by Evan Means and Middle Tennessee on Foot by Robert Brandt, pp. 91-106.