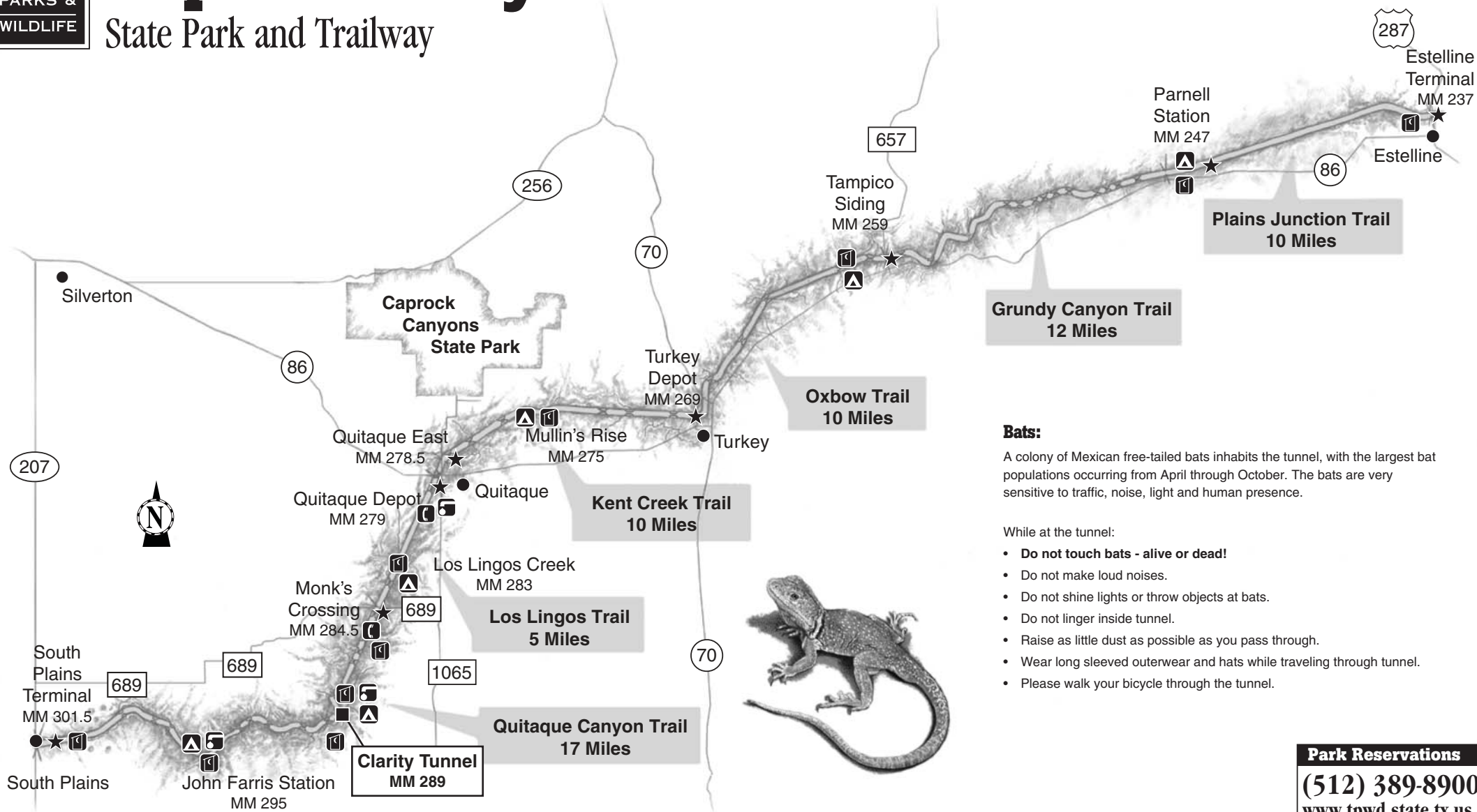


Caprock Canyons

State Park and Trailway



Legend:

- ★ Trailhead Access/ Parking (no parking at Quitaque East)
- (=) Bridge
- MM Mile Marker (approximate)
- Town
- ☎ Public Telephone
- ☒ Comfort Station
- ▲ Camping
- ☕ Water (availability of drinking water is not dependable)
- Clarity Tunnel
The tunnel lies approximately 13 miles east of the South Plains parking lot and 4.5 miles west of the Monk's Crossing parking lot.

Bats:

A colony of Mexican free-tailed bats inhabits the tunnel, with the largest bat populations occurring from April through October. The bats are very sensitive to traffic, noise, light and human presence.

While at the tunnel:

- Do not touch bats - alive or dead!
- Do not make loud noises.
- Do not shine lights or throw objects at bats.
- Do not linger inside tunnel.
- Raise as little dust as possible as you pass through.
- Wear long sleeved outerwear and hats while traveling through tunnel.
- Please walk your bicycle through the tunnel.



Park Reservations
(512) 389-8900
www.tpwd.state.tx.us

Note: If you plan to complete the entire Trailway, ask about special park promotions.

P.O. Box 204
3 miles north of Quitaque
on F.M. 1065
Quitaque, TX 79255
(806) 455-1492

CAPROCK CANYONS TRAILWAY

Welcome to Caprock Canyons Trailway!

This 64-mile long, multi-purpose trailway offers a unique and exciting recreational experience for hikers, bikers and equestrian trail riders. Day-use permits and updated trailway information can be obtained from Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway headquarters:

3 miles north of Quitaque on E.M. 1065
(806) 455-1492.

Before Proceeding

- All visitors must obtain an entrance permit to use parking area and trailway.
- Overnight campers must obtain permits at Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway Headquarters.
- Day-use fees may also be paid at one of the volunteer pay stations located at each trailhead.
- Do not tie animals to man-made structures.

Be Prepared

- Visitor services are limited and sections of the trailway are remote.
- We do not recommend traveling the trailway alone.
- Carry all water, equipment and supplies needed for your trip.
- Drinking water stations and equestrian water tubs are available at many trailheads and developed primitive camping sites. Please note that availability of water is not dependable. During freezing weather and through the winter, water is usually not available!
- Portable phones may be useful for reporting problems and emergencies, however, cell phone coverage is limited.
- Beware of falling rocks. Rockslides are common in trailway cuts and near tunnel.
- Rattlesnakes are common. Always watch where you put your hands and feet!
- **Do not touch bats – alive or dead!**

Completion times are only estimates. Actual completion times can take much longer and vary according to weather, surface conditions, user's physical condition and luck.

Regulations

- **NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES PERMITTED.**
- It is an offense to operate an unauthorized vehicle, including a motorcycle, motorbike, mini-bike, all terrain vehicle, golf cart, etc.
- ALL Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Rules and Regulations apply.
- Please do not trespass. Creek beds and side roads off trailway lands are private.
- Defacing or removal of plants, rocks and artifacts prohibited.
- No open ground fires.
- No hunting or firearms.
- Public consumption or display of an open container of an alcoholic beverage is prohibited.

QUITAQUE CANYON TRAIL

17.5 miles – access trailway at South Plains or Monk's Crossing.

Trail Information:

Western end: South Plains, MM 301.5
Eastern end: Monk's Crossing Trailhead, MM 284.5
Comfort Station: MM 301, MM 295, MM 289, MM 288, MM 284.5

Telephone: MM 284.5

Recommended backcountry sites:

Near rest rooms at John Farris Station (MM 295)
Clarity Tunnel eastbound (MM 289)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 12–15 hours

Bikers: 1.5–2 hours

Horseback Riders: 5 hours

KENT CREEK TRAIL

10 miles – access trail at Quitaque East or Turkey Depot.

Trail Information:

Western end: Quitaque Depot (TX Hwy 86), MM 279 or Quitaque East (No Parking)
Eastern end: Turkey Depot, MM 269

Comfort Station: MM 275

Recommended backcountry site:

Mullin's Rise (MM 275)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 5–7 hours

Bikers: 1–1.5 hours

Horseback Riders: 2.5 hours

THE CLARITY TUNNEL (MM 289)

PLEASE OBSERVE ALL WARNING SIGNS, ESPECIALLY THOSE REGARDING BATS IN CLARITY TUNNEL!

The tunnel lies approximately 1.3 miles east of the South Plains parking lot and 4.5 miles west of the Monk's Crossing parking lot. Round trip from Monk's Crossing is approximately 9 miles.

Day-hikers wishing to see the Clarity Tunnel should access the trailway at Monk's Crossing and hike west. There are no trailway access points between either South Plains or Monk's Crossing and the tunnel.

A colony of Mexican free-tailed bats inhabits the tunnel, with the largest bat populations occurring from April through October. The size of this colony varies and is very sensitive to traffic, noise, light and human presence.

While at the tunnel:

- **Do not touch bats – alive or dead!**
- Do not make loud noises.
- Do not shine lights or throw objects at bats.
- Do not linger inside tunnel.
- Raise as little dust as possible as you pass through.
- Wear long sleeved outerwear and hats while travelling through tunnel.

Bats are known to transmit only two diseases to humans: **rabies** and **histoplasmosis**. Very few bats contract **rabies** and those that do rarely become aggressive. Bats that are easily captured are more likely sick and will bite in self-defense. Therefore, bats should never be picked up. **Histoplasmosis** is caused by a common ground fungus that lives in soil enriched by bird or bat droppings. A low percentage of individuals may become ill when inhaling large quantities of spore-laden dust.

LOS LINGOS TRAIL

5 miles – access trail at Monk's Crossing or Quitaque Depot.

Trail Information:

Western end: Monk's Crossing Trailhead, MM 284.5

Eastern end: Quitaque Depot (TX Hwy 86), MM 279

Comfort Station: MM 284.5, MM 283

Telephone: MM 284.5, MM 279

Recommended backcountry site:

Los Lingos Creek (MM 283)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 2–2.5 hours

Bikers: 30–45 minutes

Horseback Riders: 1.25 hours

OXBOW TRAIL

10 miles – access trail at Turkey Depot or Tampico Siding.

Trail Information:

Western end: Turkey Depot, MM 269

Eastern end: Tampico Siding (FM 657), MM 259

Comfort Station: MM 259

Recommended backcountry site:

Westbound from Tampico Parking (MM 259)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 5–7 hours

Bikers: 1–1.5 hours

Horseback Riders: 2.5 hours

GRUNDY CANYON TRAIL

12 miles – access trail at Tampico Siding or Parnell Station.

Trail Information:

Western end: Tampico Siding (FM 657), MM 259

Eastern end: Parnell Station, MM 247

Comfort Station: MM 259, MM 247

Recommended backcountry site:

Parnell Station (MM 247)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 6.5–9 hours

Bikers: 1–1.5 hours

Horseback Riders: 3.5 hours

PLAINS JUNCTION TRAIL

10 miles – access trail at Parnell Station or Estelline.

Trail Information:

Western end: Parnell Station, MM 247

Eastern end: Estelline (US HWY 287), MM 237

Comfort Station: MM 247.5, MM 237.5

Recommended backcountry site:

Parnell Station (MM 247)

Estimated Completion Time:

Hikers: 5–7 hours

Bikers: 1–1.5 hours

Horseback Riders: 3 hours