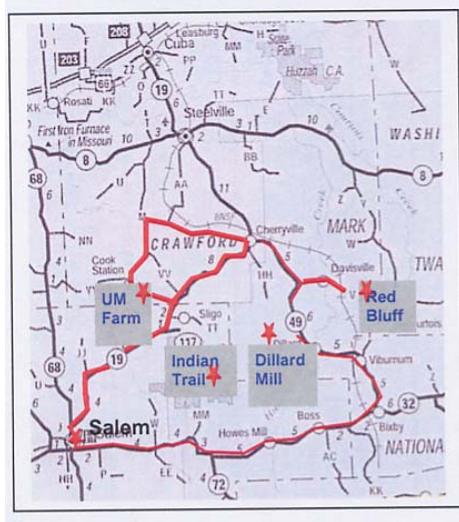


# Northeast Auto Tour Forest

## Dillard Mill, Red Bluff, Mark Twain National Forest



### Mileage

- 0.0 At the Jct. of Hwy. 32-72 and Hwy 19, go east on Hwy 32-72.
- 0.5 On the left behind the retail businesses is **U.S. Food Service**, a division of the second largest food service distributor in the nation.
- 1.1 On the right is the **Master's Industrial Park**- home of Heartland Metal, Quality Machine Works, Small Miracles, Village Gallery, and Astral Sea.
- 7.2 Crossing the upper end of **Meramec River**, which at this point has seasonal intermittent flow in a northeastern direction. It flows into the Mississippi River just south of St Louis.
- 9.5 Entering **Mark Twain National Forest**. **1.5 Million acres**. It provides lots of recreational opportunities.



An area of diverse landscape, Mark Twain National Forest includes 742 miles of hiking, equestrian, and ATV trails. Hunting and fishing are allowed in most of the Forest.

The forest is not solid ownership of a land area. Private lands are interspersed in the National Forest. Lands were acquired during the Depression from 1935 to 1940. Many people could not pay their property taxes, so the government bought their land for one to three dollars per acre.

**12.2** Continue on Hwy. 32 (leaving Hwy. 72). You may notice the pine trees with larger trunks along here, which were started by the **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)** in the late 1930s.

The U.S. Forest Service, in conjunction with the Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, implemented intermittent pine conversions in the 1940s and 1950s. Since the oak borer is an extreme problem for this area, pine tree numbers are expected to increase as oak tree numbers decline. The oak and pine combined in the forest provide colorful spring and fall displays.

**15.2 Howes Mill, Mo**

**16.3 Huzzah (pronounced Hoo'-zah)**

**Ponds-** although there are no facilities, there is a nice picnic and fishing area. It is managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service.

**17.5** The west fork of the **Huzzah River**, which runs into the Courtois River and eventually into the Meramec River.

**18.0 Huzzah Ponds**-more fishing ponds, but less desirable than the first ones.

**21.8** The east fork of **Huzzah River**.

**21.9 Boss, MO**-Boss Assembly of God Church and the Boss Cemetery are important components of this tiny community. There are about 3,000

people buried in the Boss Cemetery, making it one of the largest rural cemeteries around.

**24.1** Entering **Iron County**.

**24.4** To the right about 2 miles on Hwy KK is the **Doe Run Recycling Plant**.

This facility processes spent lead acid batteries and other lead-bearing waste. This state-of-the-art facility has proven to be the most advanced, environmentally sound, and safest of its kind in North America. It reclaims 90,000 tons of refined lead annually.

**26.2 Bixby, MO**-Look for the little red caboose!

**26.4** Jct. Hwy 49, continue on Hwy 32.

**26.6** Stop at the **Good Ole Days Country Store** (MFA Oil).

This is a great stopping place for hand-dipped ice cream or lunch. Gas is also available here and you can eat inside the caboose-the entrance is inside the building and there is a working model train at ceiling height. Although it is not always open, there is an antique store next door, which is truly a great example of a hand-hewn log building.

**26.7** Turn around and return to Hwy. 49 and turn right.

**26.9** On the right is **Canoak USA**. Rough logs are purchased here from loggers by the pound. Saw logs are debarked and sawed into cants. The cants are then taken to Salem for flooring, cabinets, or grade material. This area is a prime source of oak. Timber from here is shipped all over the world. The timber industry has an important economic impact to this area.

**30.3 Viburnum, MO**-The occurrence of lead in southeast Missouri was to early settlers in the 17th century. Missouri has been the leading producer since 1909. The "New Lead Belt" (also known as the Viburnum

Trend) was discovered in 1955 near Viburnum. Seven mining companies operated a total of eleven mines during prime production. Full production capacity of one million tons per year was reached in 1971. Fuel and Pizza are available.

**31.4** Continue on Hwy 49 (Hwy.Y leads to the Viburnum Golf Course which is open to the public.)

**\*\* Side trip to Courtois, Mo: Turn Rt. on Hwy Y** about 5 miles. **Murder in the Afternoon**, by Ella Jo Ban-Sadler, is a true story of the owners of the Barr Store in Courtois. The house and store where the murders of Ella's father and her girlfriend took place in 1959 still stands next to the new bridge at Courtois Creek. The motive for the murders was to "get a car."

**32.0** Continue on Hwy. 49 entering **Crawford County**.

**35.0** Huzzah Valley

**36.2** Turn left onto Dillard Mill Road.

**37.6** Enter **Dillard Mill State Historic Site**.

**37.8** Turn left into the parking lot. Park at the end by the cemetery. Take the path by the sign under the roof.



**Dillard Mill State Historic Site**- It's advisable to call (573-244-3120) ahead and schedule a time for a short tour. It's about 1/4 mile hike to the old mill site. Picnic areas with grills are available. The site consists of 137 acres. Built in 1908, it is one of Missouri's best-preserved water-powered gristmills. The mill is located on the banks of **Huzzah Creek**. It served farmers until 1956. The barn-red mill was

actually, the second mill built at this site. The **Dillard Mill** included innovations such as steel roller mills for grinding the wheat and a turbine for power.

**39.7** Return to Hwy. 49 and turn left.

**45.0** Junction of Hwy. 49 and Hwy V; Turn right.

**47.2** Turn left into **Red Bluff**.

**47.5** Turn right into the Pines Overlook Campground for a beautiful overlook of **Red Bluff**. Then go to the bottom of the valley.



*Red Bluff overlooking the Huzzah River.*

**47.7** Turn right out of the Pines Overlook Campground.

**48.3** Go straight. There is a beautiful picnic area on the **Huzzah River**. There are mostly pine groves here.

**49.5** Return to Hwy. V and turn right onto Hwy. V.

**49.8** Stop at **Davisville General Store**, which is actually located at **Pucky Huddle, MO**. There are grocery supplies and hand crafted products from their community: Richardson Knives, Hillbilly Crafters, Game Acres Jerky, and Buzzard Barn Metal-Works. Next-door is an old house full of antiques for sale.

**51.8** At Jct. Hwy. 49 & V go straight onto Hwy. 49.

**56.9** Hwy. 49 and 19—**Cherryville, MO**. The rock building is **Bowers Cottrell Store**. It is a small general store with gas and a post office.

**OPTION 1:** Go left on Hwy. 19 to Salem, 25 miles

**OPTION 2:** Go left on Hwy. 19 to Hwy. TT-mile

**56.9** If you do not take option 1 or 2,

continue on Hwy. 49 across Hwy. 19 at the junction down Cherryville Rd.

**61.8** Cherryville Road turns into AA Road.

**64.0** Keep left to leave AA and turn on Keysville road. It is gravel. Keysville was named after descendants of Francis Scott Key. As you travel along here, the Keysville road generally parallels the old railroad bed to the left.

**65.9** Go left on Hwy Y.

**66.2** Go left on to Hwy M at the stop sign. You will be back on pavement.

**66.4** **Crooked Creek**.

**68.1** Stay on Hwy M at the junction of Hwy. M and VV.

**70.5** Crossing the **Meramec River**.

**71.4** Stay on M at the jct. of Hwy. M & YY.

**71.6** **Cook Station, Mo** was founded by Captain Christopher Columbus Cook over 200 years ago. Located on the upper **Meramec River**, it served the St. Louis-San Francisco Railroad. Iron mines were the lifeblood of this tiny community. The river served the recreational needs of the community. The mercantile, and hotel provided them with groceries & dry goods.

**71.8** Go left between the buildings—the house and the mercantile—onto the gravel road.

**72.0** Crossing the **Meramec River**. This is about as far up as you would want to float on the **Meramec**.

**72.5** Keep straight on Old Mine Road at the junction

**73.4** **University Of Missouri Agriculture Research Farm**-Brent Booker, Mgr. 573-743-6612. Reservations for tours are requested.

**76.1** Turn right on Hwy. 19

**76.4** Turn left onto Hwy. TT.

**77.1** **Sligo, MO**- Remnants of the company store and furnace can be seen in the field.

**77.4** Crossing **Crooked Creek** again.

**Sligo** is the reason that charcoal production in Salem is such a huge operation. During the days that the Sligo furnace was

operating for smelting iron, they used a very large amount of charcoal produced from the local forests to fire the furnaces.

**81.8** Turn right (you have to) -Hwy. TT ends and the pavement ends.

**81.9** Turn right. If you turn left, it is about 4-5 miles back to **Dillard**. Cross **Crooked Creek** (the center fork) again. Pay

attention to the mileage. If you miss the next turn, it is about 20 miles of gravel road, and you will end up at Howes Mill.

**82.6** Turn right onto Missouri Conservation Road 1017.



*Indian Trail Park Entrance*

**83.1** Continue straight on Road 1017.

**83.9** This is a former hatchery, but no fishing is allowed. **Indian Trail State Forest**-13 miles from Salem contains over 13,503 acres. It was a camp for the **Civilian Conservation Corps** (CCC) in the 1930s. The stone walls around the lake were built by the CCC. This area was formerly a state park. It is managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation

**84.0** Go left, then very left.

**84.8** Keep straight. If you go left here, there is a spring just past the low water bridge. You can walk. Look on the left for a pipe of water. You have actually crossed the White River Trace. You can see the grader blade that documents The White River Trace in this area of Missouri.

**White River Trace**, or more commonly known as **Trail of Tears**, is the route of the forced migration of the Cherokee Indians in 1837-1838.

**85.9** Go right.

**86.6** You can read the **Trail of Tears** marker here. Veer right. There is a fire tower that used to be maintained with someone at the top. A fire seen from three different towers allowed foresters to triangulate to get a precise location.

**90.6** Entering Hwy. 117

**90.9** Turn left onto Hwy 19 heading south.

**92.7** Crossing Meramec River

**92.8** Short Bend Access-11 miles from Salem. On the north side of the road is a public access to the Meramec River. There is no boat access.

**98.8** On Hwy. JJ to the right about a mile, is **Royal Oak Charcoal** plant- one of the largest producing charcoal plants in the world.

**99.4** On your left you will see **Salem Wood Products**-the largest stave company in the world, producing white oak staves for barrels for companies such as Jim Beam and many wineries in Europe and U.S. It does not have public tours.

**100.0** **White River Trace** portion of the Trail of Tears Highway Marker is on the right.

**103.0** **Entering Salem**.

**103.7** **Salem Historical Marker** on the Rt. **103.9** On left - **Dent County Courthouse**.

The courthouse was built in 1870 for \$17,200. It is MO's oldest Courthouse of the 2nd Empire Architectural Style. It is on the National Registry of Historic Places.



**104.9** Jct. Hwy 19-32-72.

**Welcome back to Salem, MO!**