

Spirit of Virginia Airstream Club Rally at *Breaks Interstate Park*June 10-13

Are you looking to "break" out of the same old campgrounds & parks rut? Looking for some adventure? Join us in June at Breaks Interstate Park.

Breaks is the home of the "Grand Canyon of the South" where the Russell Fork River has cut a 1600 foot deep "break" thru Pine Mountain, providing Daniel Boone and other settlers access to Kentucky. The park includes both Virginia and Kentucky in its 4500 acres; hence "Interstate".

"180 million years ago, in an area now lying across Kentucky and Virginia, a vast inland sea receded, leaving in its wake a veritable cradle of botany. Meanwhile the river that is now Russell Fork got about the work of carving out an immense, spectacular gorge, renowned as the largest east of the Mississippi. Here fractal ferns, galax, colts foot, tea berries and a profusion of fungi and moss species dot an undergrowth of rich greens with their bright yellows, oranges and pinks.

Hikers, be prepared for the catch of breath as you lift your eyes from the delicate landscape underfoot to the wonder of a raptor soaring overhead. Boaters, rafters, horseback riders, take a moment to rest in awe of these timeless mountains, as their undulating profiles resolve into the distance in ever-paler shades of blue."

As found at: Our History | Breaks Park

Camping:

We recommend you <u>make reservations on Reserve America</u> for a site on **'C' Loop**. These are some of the limited sites with 3-way hookups (Water/50A Electric/Sewer). Sites are only \$28/night. We've done an on-site scouting of the loop and these sites are very suitable for your travel trailer

Sites are available now for the 3-4 nights of the rally. **But they won't last! Reserve now** and you can cancel as late as 30 days beforehand and only be out \$15 bucks.



The sites are relatively flat—both back ins and pull thru's—bring leveling blocks. The hookups on some sites are oddly positioned, so bring an extra water hose, sewer extension, and power cord. There is no shower\rest room in loop C.



Rally Fee:

Still TBD. Less than \$30. Be sure to fill out the attached JotForm so we have an accurate headcount.

Activities:

- Many Miles of hiking trails and nature walks
- Unspoiled natural beauty (you've got to see to believe)
- Many Miles of mountain bike trail
- Fishing
- Swimming pool, water park, canoe and paddle boat rental, restaurant, zip-line concession, horseback riding at the Park
- Local Outfitters available for rafting and kayaking
- Day tripping to Pikesville KY (Hatfield and McCoy Feud sites)

Directions to Breaks (IMPORTANT):

Breaks Interstate Park is in the far southwest corner of Virginia. From Richmond, it is a good 7+ hours if you are towing. The last 30 minutes through the mountains is a bit challenging but nothing horrible.

No matter what you read or what your GPS tells you there is only one good way, to approach Breaks Interstate Park from the VA side. We have had the route verified by the Park staff, as well as other club members. We even drove this route ourselves.

If you are coming from somewhere in Virginia, you will most probably approach Breaks from I-81. As you approach Wytheville on I-81, take the exit for I-77 North. You will head north and pass (briefly) into West Virginia. Take Exit 1 to Route 52 North (John F Nash Boulevard) toward Bluefield WV. You will stay on 52 North for a short time—approximately 2.3 miles. You will then merge on to Route 460 West toward Bluefield.

You will follow 460 West through Tazewell, Richlands and finally Grundy. Just beyond Grundy you will take a left on Route 609.

Route 609 is the last 30 minutes of the trip. Here you will be on a two--lane well-maintained black top with a couple of steep climbs and a few tight turns (one 15 mph switch back). This last bit on Rt 609 is the only challenging section of the trip. I would suggest doing this piece while it's still light.

The entrance to Breaks Park is on the left.

Information Links:

Pike County, KY | Breaks Park

Breaks Interstate Park, Virginia - Camping & Reservations | ReserveAmerica

Our History | Breaks Park

Activities & Recreation | Breaks Park

Wagonmasters:

Ken Tarrant (804) 357-9977 Joe Baum (804) 709-4007