Trail Highlights: This loop trail is created by hiking the Ouachita National Recreation Trail on the north side of the mountain and the Mountain Top trail on the south. The trail leads the hiker along the beautiful north side of the mountain where many varieties of oaks and gums grow.

Approximately ¾ mile from the trailhead, hikers can walk to an overlook where rocks and boulders form a point. The overlook showcases Holson Valley and the Talimena Scenic Drive as it continues west along the mountaintop.

From this point, the trail continues, crossing the Talimena Scenic Drive and guiding the hiker along the south side of the mountain. On this route, a visitor can walk along a small brook as it flows down the mountain.

Other Opportunities: The Mountain Top Trail is adjacent to the Winding Stair Campground and is located along the Talimena Scenic Drive. It is approximately a 25-minute drive to Cedar Lake Recreation Area.

For more information, contact:
US Forest Service
Choctaw Unit—Oklahoma Districts
52175 US Hwy. 59
Hodgen, OK 74939
(918) 653-2991
(Ten miles south of Heavener on Hwy 59/270)

Length: Varies from 0.9 to 1.7 miles.
Directions: From U.S. Highway 259, 2.5 miles west on State Highway 1. Persons staying at the Winding Stair Campground can easily access the trail. The Mountain Top Trail begins at the trailhead that is just off the Talimena Scenic Drive. Visitors may park at the trailhead.

Trail Information: Unsurfaced. The Mountain Top Trail is blazed with white markers; the Ouachita National Recreation Trail has blue markers.

Site Amenities: The trail winds along the crest of Winding Stair Mountain, showcasing the beauty of the pines and hardwoods, and at times the valleys below. Drinking water is available at Winding Stair Campground during late spring, summer, and early fall.

Safety: Always tell someone where you plan to hike and when you expect to be back. The trail is not recommended for hiking after sundown.

Requirements: The Ouachita National Recreation Trail portion of the loop is open to foot travel and bikes only. No stock animals are permitted.

Difficulty Level: Easiest
Recommended Season: Spring through fall.
Mountain Top Trail
Ouachita National Forest

Paved Road
Unpaved Road
Trail
Mountain Top Trail
State Highway
Mileage Markers

Parking
Interpretive Panel
Recreation Area
Picnic Area

ONRT: Ouachita National Recreation Trail

To Highway 271
Overlook
(0.2 miles)
(0.3 miles)

(0.2 miles)
(0.1 miles)
(0.4 miles)

(0.4 miles)
(0.1 miles)

Mountain Top Trail

Trailhead

Talimena Scenic Drive
Choctaw Visitor Center
Emerald Vista
Winding Stair Campground

Winding Stair

OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

Talimena
Heavener
OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

N

USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangle: Big Cedar