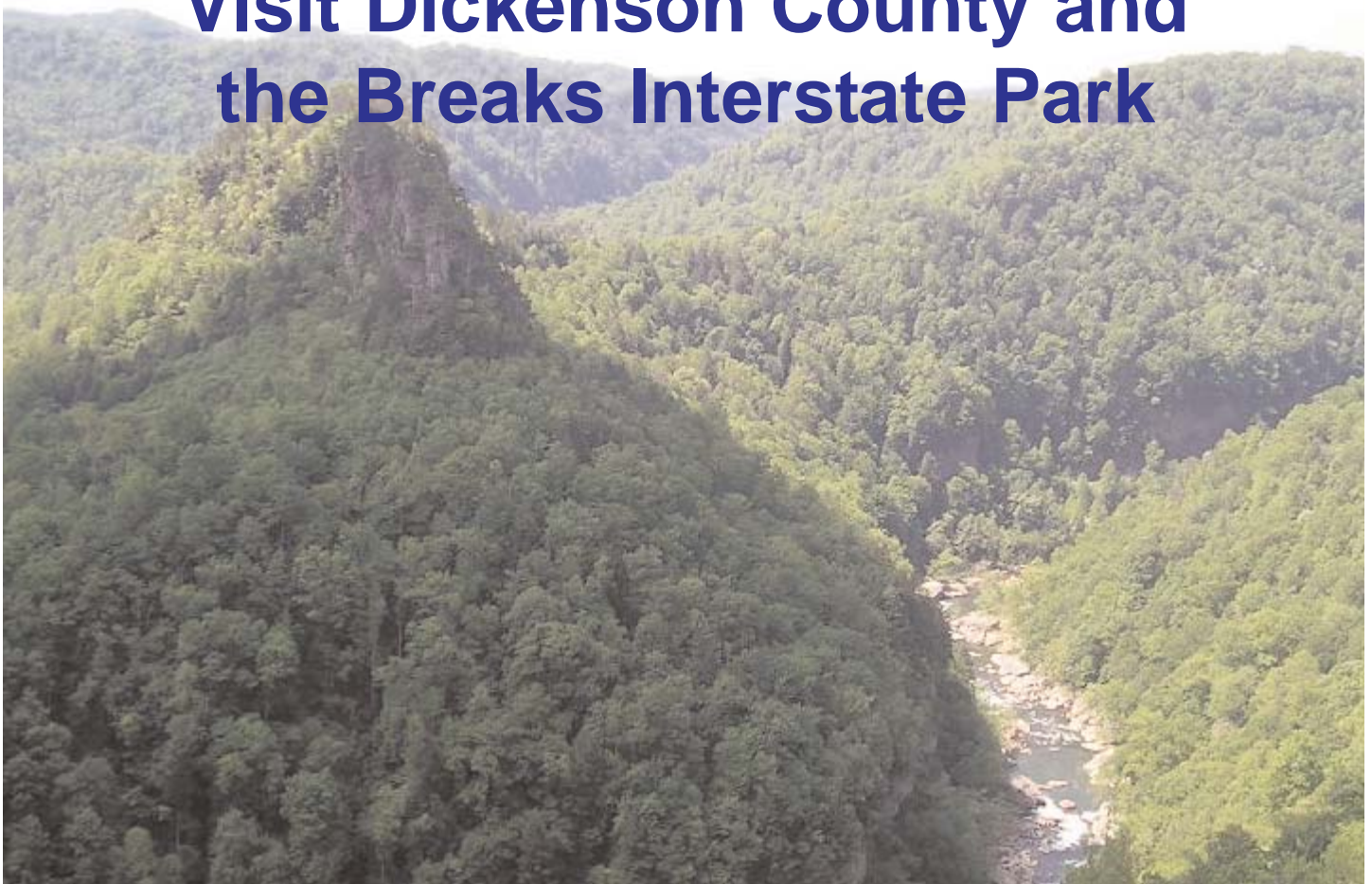


Visit Dickenson County and the Breaks Interstate Park



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.

Biking, hiking, riding, rafting...no matter how you choose to move through The Breaks Interstate Park, you will find yourself exploring, just like those who came here first. Passing through the ancient hunting grounds of the Shawnee and Cherokee, one might just as easily be tracking the 18th century legend of the lost silver mines of John Swift. Or following in the footsteps of Daniel Boone as he searched for a new way into Kentucky and the Ohio River Valley.

In 1767 Boone finally discovered the single passage through the 125-mile stretch of Pine Mountain, and thus gave the area its name: The Breaks. Like these early wanderers, today's visitors are greeted by hidden ponds and craggy rock faces, by awesome critters, and starry nights scented by bloom...in short, by wonders at every turn. But, as exciting as their early explorations surely were, Mr. Swift and Mr. Boone may have wished for the cozier accommodations to be found here these days—as well as the welcoming smiles of an extraordinary park staff.

Do come visit us. If you have never been here, it's time to make plans. If you're returning soon, read through our website to discover new ways to spend your time well. Remember, 4600 acres of pristine beauty are ready to welcome you back.

SOURCE: www.breakspark.com

