

Welcome to Fouke, Arkansas

HOME OF THE LEGEND OF BOGGY CREEK

The historic town of Fouke is located in Miller County in the southwest corner of Arkansas. Though it is only a short drive from the thriving city of Texarkana, it is a world away, set among the majestic pines and scenic bottomlands of the Sulphur River Bottoms. The town was founded in 1891 at a time when the logging industry was booming and has always maintained a small population of citizens who enjoy the natural backdrop offered by the river basins, bayous, and creeks which run through miles of primitive wilderness surrounding it. You'll pass right through Fouke on Highway 71 between Texarkana and Shreveport.

The town may be small, but its legend is BIG! For years, people living in and around Fouke have reported sightings of a hairy, scary Bigfoot-like creature known as the "Fouke Monster." Each year, thousands of visitors come to the Fouke area for recreation, hunting, hiking, camping, and of course, a chance to see the famous creature that is still reported there today!



Visit the World-Famous Monster Mart



Tips for Visiting

Here's some information to make your visit worthwhile:

- **Monster Mart** - Start your journey here. Located at Highway 71 and Main St. in the center of Fouke, the Monster Mart has convenience store items, a souvenir shop, amazing pizza, and historical Fouke Monster items to see. There are excellent photo ops both inside and outside. Call for hours: 870-653-2497
- **Miller County Historical Museum** - This is another place to see historical artifacts and learn about the history of the area. It's located on East Redcut Road just off Highway 71. 10am - 2pm Saturdays only.
- **Boggy Creek** - Two miles south on Highway 71 from the Monster Mart, you'll cross Boggy Creek. You can also view Boggy Creek where it crosses under County Road 7 before it winds off into the wild lands.
- **Sulphur River** - The Sulphur River public boat ramps are a convenient way to view the river. One is located 9 miles south of Fouke off Highway 71. Another is located within Alex Smith Park.
- **Camping** - Alex Smith Park offers public camping. It's located northwest of Fouke on Highway 247 (Blackmon Ferry Rd) near the intersection of 247 and County Road 151. (151 also provides access to Mercer Bayou.) The park offers mostly primitive campsites, but there are a few sites available with electricity. To reserve, call the camp office: 870-774-1301

About the Monster

The "Fouke Monster" - or "Boggy Creek Monster" as it is sometimes referred to - is a Sasquatch-like creature said to haunt the network of creeks extending from the Sulphur River Bottoms to the small town of Fouke. Over the years, the creature has been seen by countless people, including respected citizens, experienced hunters, two famous musicians, and even a police officer. It has inspired several movies, most notably *The Legend of Boggy Creek*, which became a drive-in sensation in the 1970s, netting nearly \$25 million during its run.

Newspaper accounts and movies may have brought the creature to worldwide fame, but sighting reports did not start in the 1970s nor did they end. People are still reporting encounters with this mysterious creature even today.

The Fouke Monster will always be a stand-out among America's spooky legends due to its fame, continued popularity, and modern sightings. The creature is often covered by documentaries and television shows including *Expedition X*, *The UnXplained*, *Monsters and Mysteries in America*, *Finding Bigfoot*, *Mysteries at the Museum*, *MonsterQuest*, *Lost Tapes*, and *Weird Travels*. Books have also been written about its history, most notably *The Beast of Boggy Creek* (2012).



Sulphur River Wildlife Management Area

The 16,520-acre, managed by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, is one of the last remaining large tracts of bottomland hardwood habitat along the Red River Valley. The Sulphur River runs for approximately 10 miles through the management area. Mercer Bayou (an old river channel) located on the west side of the area consists of approximately 1,000 acres and is approximately 9 miles long. Days Creek is a major tributary on the northeast side. Bottomland hardwoods, cypress breaks, and the associated oxbows and sloughs dominate this area. A small portion of the area contains rolling hills with mixed pine-hardwood adjacent to the floodplain.