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De Soto discovered it--and so can you.

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, often called "A Little Switzerland" is unchanged and unspoiled from its natural all-weather beauty of four centuries ago when De Soto stumbled upon it in his historic quest for Spanish colonial possessions in the New World.

The picturesque Quachita Mountains, in which this internationally famous hot springs spa nestles, frame a natural playground of irresistible appeal.

All this lies within 20 miles of Hot Springs, Arkansas, sportsmen's mecca, convention center and, of course, headquarters for all seeking the recuperative effects of the hot springs themselves.

American Airlines, which spans the continent and reaches into Canada and Mexico, offers swift and frequent service to the capital of Arkansas, Little Rock, just 50 miles from Hot Springs.

This present-day ease of access to the highly popular resort is a far cry from the year 1832 when Hot Springs National Park was dedicated as America's first national park.

Hot Springs National Park is now a modern American city, cupped in valleys created by four mountains rising abruptly from the city's busy streets. Three of these mountains are contained entirely within the Federal Reservation, as are all the hot springs.

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The National Park Reservation contains approximately 1,000 acres. Administration of the National Park by the Federal Government does not extend to the city, which operates under its own state and municipal governments.

At no other American spa can be found such a wealth of playtime diversion, to vary the hours many visitors devote to the healing and relaxing baths. There are two large lakes, Catherine and Hamilton, with many miles of scenic shoreline which offer boating, water skiing, fishing and picnicking.

Three championship 18-hole golf courses vie with superb tennis courts and mountain-and-forest bridle paths of breath-taking beauty for your attention.

The variety of accommodations at Hot Springs is extensive. You can find what you want among the resort hotels, informal family-style hotels, apartments, rooms, cottages and some of the finest tourist courts in the South.

Added to the fun and excitement of a lakeside vacation are the unsurpassed facilities for applied hydrotherapy, including tub, needle and vapor baths, hot packs and message.

De Soto discovered it, but it's almost certain that he never enjoyed Hot Springs National Park as much as you can.