ITASCA STATE PARK

TRAIL DISTANCES

- Alton Heights: 1.0 mi./1.6 k.
- Beaver: 0.7 mi./1.1 k.
- Big Pine: 800 feet
- Bike Trail: 5.8 mi./9.3 k.
- Bohall: 0.5 mi./0.8 k.
- Blowdown: 0.5 mi./0.8 k.
- Brower: 2.2 mi./3.5 k.
- CCC/Forestry Demo: 0.3 mi./0.5 k.
- Crossover (east): 0.7 mi./1.1 k.
- Crossover (west): 0.4 mi./0.7 k.
- Deer Park: 3.9 mi./6.2 k.
- DeSoto: 2.9 mi./4.6 k.
- Dr. Roberts: 2.0 mi./3.2 k.
- Eagle Scout: 2.6 mi./4.2 k.
- Headwaters: 600 feet
- LaSalle: 1.1 mi./1.8 k.
- Landmark: 0.5 mi./0.8 k.
- Maadaadizi: 0.5 mi./0.8 k.
- Mary Lake: 1.2 mi./2.0 k.
- Nicollet: 3.8 mi./6.1 k.
- North Country Trail: 13.0 mi./20.8 k.
- Ozawindib: 2.8 mi./4.5 k.
- Okerson Heights: 0.5 mi./0.8 k.
- Red Pine: 1.2 mi./1.9 k.
- Schoolcraft: 1.1 mi./1.8 k.
- Two Spot: 2.1 mi./3.4 k.

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

The DNR has mapped the state showing federal, state and county lands with their recreational features. Public Recreation Information Maps (PRIM) are available for purchase from the DNR gift shop, DNR regional offices, Minnesota state parks and major sporting and map stores.

Check it out - you'll be glad you did.

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FACILITIES AND FEATURES: Mississippi Headwaters. Here, 1,475 feet above the ocean, the mighty Mississippi begins to flow on its winding way 2,552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. Facilities include the Mary Gibbs Mississippi Headwaters Center, featuring a gift shop, restrooms, cafe and outdoor interpretive displays.

Interpretive Programs. Campfire programs, nature hikes, tours and children’s activities are offered weekends and weekdays during the summer and fall, and periodically during winter and spring. Check park information boards or ask for a copy of the current schedule.

Join in the fun!

Pine Ridge Campground. 155 campsites are available, 65 are electric sites. Three modern toilet facilities with hot showers available mid-May through early October. In winter, camping is rustic, with pit toilets, and water available at the visitor center.

Bear Paw Campground. 79 campsites are available; 68 are drive-in sites, 34 are electric and 31 are camp-in sites (300 yards or less). One modern toilet facility, with showers.

Jacob V. Brower Visitor Center. Park information, restrooms, gift shop and interpretive exhibits.

Trailer Sanitation Station. Located in Bear Paw Campground.

Backpack Sites. Eleven backpack campsites are available year-round with a 1 to 5 mile hiking distance into the southern half of the park.

Lake Ozawindib Group Camp. A semi-modern camp with staff cabin, dining hall and kitchen, modern toilet facility with showers, and tenting area.

Elk Lake Group Camp. A primitive camp with water, pit toilets, fire rings, picnic tables, small shelter with tables, and a tenting area.

Historic Douglas Lodge. Open Memorial Day through early October, the Douglas Lodge has been accommodating guests for over 100 years. It has a large, relaxing lobby with a fireplace, bathroom and kitchen, and a dining room and a coffee shop open to the public, and redecorated, historic suites and guest rooms on the second floor.

Itasca Suites. One bedroom, sitting area, screened porch and kitchenette.

Itasca Clubhouse. Constructed in 1911, the Clubhouse, with 11 rooms, lobby and porch, is rented for family reunions or group use during the summer and fall.

Historic East Station Cabin. Two bedrooms, living room, fireplace, bathroom and kitchen.

Cabins. One, two, and three bedroom cabins are located in the Douglas Lodge area. Housekeeping cabins are available in Bear Paw Campground.

Douglas Lodge Dining. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served throughout the summer. A coffee shop is open when the main dining room is closed.

Brother Inn. The upper level is available for group events.

Gift Shops. The Visitor Center, Headwaters and Forest Inn gift shops carry a broad mix of gifts, souvenirs, books and clothing.

Picnic Area. Picnic along Lake Itasca. A picnic shelter is available and can be rented for your exclusive use.

Wilderness Drive. This 10-mile, one-way scenic drive heads west from the Headwaters and ends near Douglas Lodge. There are many spectacular sights along the drive.

Swimming Beach. The park’s swimming beach and changing house is located just south of Brother Inn.

Lake Itasca Tours. Join your friends on a narrated naturalist tour of Lake Itasca aboard the “Chester Charles” excursion boat. The boat departs from the pier below Douglas Lodge.

Boating, Canoeing and Biking. Bring your boat, canoe, or bike and rent one on site. To rent boats for Lake Ozawindib, Elk Lake and Lake Itasca, check at the Itasca Sports Rental.

Itasca Sports Rental. Located at the Lake Itasca boat landing. Offers a wide selection of rental equipment including; bikes, boats and canoes. Biking and fishing accessories are also available.

Bike Trail. A 5.8 mile, paved bicycle trail along the east side of Lake Itasca connects the Douglas Lodge area to the Mississippi Headwaters. For the full bike tour of Itasca State Park, continue around Wilderness Drive—another 10 miles of spectacular scenery.

Mississippi Headwaters Hostel. Located across from the boat landing on Main Park Drive. Offers clean, comfortable year-round accommodations. This facility is operated by Hosteling International.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: At Itasca State Park, the mighty Mississippi River begins its 2,552-mile journey to the Gulf of Mexico. Established in 1891 to preserve the remnant stands of virgin pine and to protect the basin around the Mississippi’s source, this 32,000-acre park has become a famous natural and cultural landmark in North America.

ITASCA STATE PARK

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Department of Natural Resources

Information Center

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St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

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TDD (Telecommunications Device for Deaf) (651) 296-5484 (Metro Area) 1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

DNR Web Site: www.dnr.state.mn.us


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This information is available in alternative format upon request.