ABOUT THE PARK

Established in 1961, Blue Mounds State Park protects sheer quartzite cliffs and over 1,500 acres of highly diverse prairie. Here you have the opportunity to see more rare prairie species than in any other park in southwestern Minnesota. Management programs restore native grasses and wildflowers, resulting in a panorama of prairie colors in late summer. Amid this rich landscape, you may also spot bison. The herd you see today began with the introduction of three bison from Nebraska in 1961. New calves are born each spring.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Bur Oak Trail
0.75 miles one-way
Steep terrain • Bare rock • Packed dirt
This narrow trail leads through a bur oak forest and large quartzite boulders and cliff faces.

Mound Trail
1.5-miles one-way
One long, gradual hill • Mowed grass
Hike along the western edge of the bison range and over the top of the Mound. You’ll be rewarded with abundant views of tallgrass prairie. Loops can be made by returning on the Upper Cliffline Trail.

Upper Cliffline Trail
1.5-miles one-way
One long, gradual hill • Mowed grass
Travel along the upper edge of the cliffline and old quartzite quarry to experience the unique, pink rock.

Lower Cliffline Trail
1-miles one-way
Mostly flat • Mowed grass • Some paved segments
Take this trail to skirt around the base of a cliffline and join the bike trail. Connecting trails lead up the cliff to the Upper Cliffline Trail.

MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

• Bike along three miles of paved park trails and continue onto trails that lead to Luverne, MN.
• Bring your own gear and go rock climbing.

Experience a stunning prairie landscape.