

MAP AND GUIDE: FORT SNELLING STATE PARK

101 SNELLING LAKE ROAD
ST. PAUL, MN 55111
DAKOTA, HENNEPIN AND RAMSEY COUNTIES
612-279-3550
FORTSNELLING.STATEPARK@STATE.MN.US



VISITOR TIPS

- Stay on the trail.
- Do not leave valuables in your car.
- “You are Here” maps are located at all major trailheads in the park.
- Bicycles are not allowed on Pike Island.
- Help keep our rivers and lakes clean. Check your watercraft for aquatic invasives *before* and *after* launching.
- Call 911 in an emergency.



ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Explore exhibits and a gift shop at the visitor center and then hike the Axel Von Bergen Trail.
- Watch for wildlife as you hike around Snelling Lake.
- Pack a picnic. Enjoy a meal overlooking the Minnesota River on Picnic Island or at the beach below planes and viewing the lake.



LOOKING FOR MORE TO EXPLORE DURING YOUR STAY? VISIT MNDNR.GOV/FORTSNELLING

ABOUT THE PARK

The Mississippi and Minnesota rivers have been shaping the landscape for thousands of years. An abundance of plants and animals continues to be sustained by all of this water. The majority of the park is dominated by cottonwood and silver maple trees and visitors can often spy white-tailed deer and wild turkeys while exploring the trails.

The confluence of the rivers is the center of the earth, and a sacred place, for the Mdewakanton Dakota people. It is also where 1600 Dakota people were imprisoned during the winter of 1862-63 before being forcibly removed from Minnesota in the spring. Exhibits in the Visitor Center and the Wokiksuye K'a Woyuonihan (Remembering and Honoring) Dakota Memorial share the cultural significance and history of this sacred site with park users.



Experience floodplain forest along two rivers at the park.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Minnehaha Trail Gentle grade • Paved • Multi-use A gentle, forested climb away from the river bottoms with gorgeous overlooks of the Mississippi River.	3-mile loop
Pike Island Hiking Trail Flat • Gravel Hiking trails on Pike Island meander along the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers and their confluence. Look for beaver, heron, egret and river otter along the shoreline. No biking is allowed on this trail.	1, 2 or 3-mile loop
Snelling Lake Trail Flat • Gravel • Multi-use Year-round this trail offers excellent views of Snelling Lake.	2.5-mile loop
Picnic Island Trail Flat • Gravel • Multi-use Experience river views and watch for wildlife on this short trail that passes two picnic shelters.	1-mile loop

MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Look for naturalist programs based out of the visitor center.
- Borrow a birding kit or Discovery Pack from the visitor center.
- The park has a track chair which can be reserved at the Visitor Center by calling 612-279-3559.
- Rent snowshoes from the park office and step into a winter wonderland.
- Bring your cross-country skis and try out one of our many flat, beginner-friendly, groomed ski trails.
- Walk the trail from the visitor center to Historic Fort Snelling, a site managed by the Minnesota Historical Society.
- The Picnic Island Youth Camp is available by special permit only. Call 612-279-3555 for more information.
- Use Metro Transit to visit the park! The Fort Snelling Station (Minnehaha Ave.) has light rail and bus service and it is a 1-mile walk to the park.
- Grab your fat tire bike and explore our multi-use trails.

SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

A FULL SET OF STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT THE PARK OFFICE OR MNDNR.GOV.



PARK OPEN
8 a.m.–10 p.m. daily.



VEHICLE PERMITS
Permits required; purchase at park office or entrance station.



PETS WELCOME
Keep on 6-foot or less leash; pick up after; attend at all times; not allowed on groomed ski trails, in buildings or at beaches.



FIREWOOD
Purchase only from park office or approved vendor; no gathering firewood in the park.

KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

Please do not feed wildlife at the park. This will keep you and the animals healthy and safe.



WINTER TRAILS

Keep winter trails in great shape. Hiking and snowshoeing are not allowed on groomed ski trails.

Pets are not allowed on groomed ski trails.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FISHING REGULATIONS? VISIT MNDNR.GOV/FISHMN



MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Information Center
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367 or mndnr.gov/parks

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This information may be available in alternative format upon request.