



MAP AND GUIDE: WHITEWATER STATE PARK

19041 HIGHWAY 74
ALTURA, MN 55910
507-312-2300 • WINONA COUNTY
WHITEWATER.STATEPARK@STATE.MN.US



VISITOR TIPS

- Wear hiking shoes (not flip flops).
- Trail crossings and steps may be slippery, use caution.
- There are cliffs, keep small children close.
- Check for wood and black- legged ticks.
- Watch for poison ivy and wild parsnip.
- Find Wi-Fi at the visitor center.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff’s number: 507-457-6368.



ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Hike Chimney Rock Trail for a scenic view of the Whitewater River, or take the Meadow Trail for a more accessible hike surrounded by dramatic bluffs.
- Relax at the beach for a refreshing dip in the cold, spring-fed water.
- Visit the historic Elba Fire Tower (more information at front desk).



LOOKING FOR MORE TO EXPLORE
DURING YOUR STAY?
VISIT [MNDNR.GOV/WHITEWATER](https://mndnr.gov/whitewater)

ABOUT THE PARK

Established in 1919, the park protects one of the most scenic sections of the historic Whitewater Valley. Rare geology in this unglaciated Driftless Area supports diverse ecosystems, dramatic landscapes and unique recreational opportunities. Much of the park was developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration as a result of the Great Depression. Today, the park welcomes over 250,000 visitors each year and serves as a gateway and information center for the nearby 27,000-acre Whitewater Wildlife Management Area. An active Friends Group helps support many park projects and activities.



The timber rattlesnake is a threatened bluffland species sometimes seen in the park in late summer. Report sightings to the park office.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Chimney Rock Trail	0.7-mile loop
Steep and hilly • Over 100 stairs • Bare rock • Packed dirt Hike up a bluff to visit the famous Chimney Rock and watch turkey vultures and eagles soaring while anglers pursue trout on the middle branch of the Whitewater River below.	
Dakota Trail	4.2-mile loop
Steep and hilly • Over 200 stairs • Bare rock • Packed dirt The bluffs and valleys on this rigorous trail are a favorite of scouts, cross country runners and wilderness backpackers.	
Inspiration Point Trail	1.2 miles one-way
Steep and hilly • Over 100 stairs • Bare rock • Packed dirt Witness a pre-settlement vista free from any signs of civilization.	
Trout Run Creek Trail	2 miles one-way
Flat • Wooden Bridges • Packed dirt Enjoy spring wildflowers, the serenity of Trout Run Creek, and a variety of migrating songbirds.	

MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Enjoy a free naturalist program.
- Borrow a GPS unit or birding kit from the park office.
- Swim at the beach.
- Take home a souvenir from the gift shop.
- Rent snowshoes and explore off trail.
- Trout fish year-round within the park.

SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

A FULL SET OF STATE PARK RULES AND
REGULATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT [MNDNR.GOV](https://mndnr.gov).



PARK OPEN
8 a.m.–10 p.m. daily.



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



PETS WELCOME
Keep on leash; pick up after; attend at all
times; not allowed in buildings or beaches.



CAMPGROUND QUIET HOURS
10 p.m.– 8 a.m.; only registered campers
may be in campground during quiet hours.



FIREWOOD
Must be purchased at this park or from
vendors who sell wood approved for this
park; no gathering firewood in the park.

BE OUR GUEST

Reserve a cabin, campsite or the group
center. Go to mndnr.gov/reservations.



CURIOUS ABOUT THE WHITEWATER RIVER
STATE WATER TRAIL?
VISIT [MNDNR.GOV/WATERTRAILS](https://mndnr.gov/watertrails)

? MORE INFORMATION

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

The Minnesota Department of
Natural Resources is an
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This information may be available
in alternative format upon
request.