

MAP AND GUIDE: WILLIAM O'BRIEN STATE PARK

16821 O'BRIEN TRAIL NORTH
MARINE ON ST. CROIX, MN 55047
WASHINGTON COUNTY
651-539-4980



VISITOR TIPS

- Groomed trails are for skiers only. Hikers and snowshoers, please use the designated winter hiking trails only.
- Plan a winter trip. Heated camper cabins and several plowed campsites are available.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff number: 651-439-9381.



ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Hike or snowshoe 1.6 miles on the Riverside Trail. This self-guided trail winds by the beautiful St. Croix River, Lake Alice and majestic 100-year-old pine trees.
- Explore the visitor center as you investigate the animals and plants that call the park home.
- Bring your classic or skate skis for a spin on the groomed ski trails.



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

ABOUT THE PARK

This area has drawn people for centuries, including: Dakota and Ojibwe tribes utilizing local resources; European trappers drawn by the fur-trade industry; and lumberjacks seeking to harvest the “endless stands” of white pine. The era of timber harvesting began in 1839 and flourished until lumber companies had cleared the St. Croix River valley of pines. Local lumber baron William O'Brien bought much of the land owned by the lumber companies. In 1945, his daughter, Alice O'Brien, donated 180 acres to be developed as a state park in his memory. The park now protects 1,880 acres of prairie, oak savanna, river floodplain and hardwood forest.



Skiers hit the park's many trails.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Wetland Trail Loop Mostly flat • Skiing only The relatively flat terrain and straight trails offer the perfect introduction for newer skiers. You will find expansive views of wetland and prairie habitat during your ski.	2.4-mile loop
Prairie Overlook Trail Loop Hilly • Skiing only This beautiful, secluded overlook trail makes the 2.3-mile journey there worth the effort. Skiers will enjoy a variety of difficulty as the terrain transitions from open prairie to rolling wooded hills.	5-mile loop
Riverside Trail Loop Mostly flat • Hiking or snowshoeing Take in impressive views of the St. Croix River along the winter Hiking Club Trail.	2.7-mile loop

MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Join a naturalist program.
- Rent snowshoes from the park office.
- Hike or snowshoe on designated trails.
- Warm up by the fire in the visitor center.
- Ski on cross-country trails groomed for classic and skate skiing.
- Reserve one of four camper cabins for a rustic get-away with family or friends.

SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

A full set of STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS is available at 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 6-foot leash; pick up after; attend at all times; not allowed in buildings or at 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.

WINTER TRAILS

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



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.

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STATE PARKS AND TRAILS