



LAKE VERMILION- SOUDAN UNDERGROUND MINE STATE PARK

P.O. BOX 335
1379 STUNTZ BAY RD.
SOUDAN, MN 55782
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VISITOR TIPS

- Respect trail closures.
- Gates to the Soudan Underground Mine close at 6 p.m.
- Watch for construction closures within the park as we build new recreational opportunities near Lake Vermilion.
- Help keep our lakes pristine. Check your watercraft for aquatic invasives before and after launching.
- Please respect safety fencing near open pits.
- The park has two main entrances. Soudan Underground Mine is located at the 1302 McKinley Park Dr. entrance.
- In an emergency call 911.



ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Take a self-guided audio surface tour of the mining operations. Check out MP3 players from the park visitor center at no charge.
- Hike the Hiking Club Trail to the banded iron formation, a unique geological feature.
- Walk the West Tower Mine Trail to a boardwalk overlooking the deepest mine pit.
- Park at Armstrong Bay and hike to Onamani Overlook.
- Bike sections of the Mesabi Trail.



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

ABOUT THE PARK



Explore a historic mine.

In 2014, the state legislature combined two neighboring parks to create Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park. This new park offers both the beauty of the Lake Vermilion shoreline and the one-of-a-kind experience of touring the Soudan Underground Mine. At 40,557 acres, Lake Vermilion is the fifth largest lake located entirely within the borders of Minnesota. The nearby mine is a National Historic Landmark that highlights a mining history reaching back over 4,000 years. The park offers 31 electric sites, 3 group camp sites, a rental house, 8 camper cabins and a day-use area.

TAKE A TOUR OF THE MINE

Historic Mine Tour

- Experience the life of the miner as you travel by cage a half-mile underground.
- Ride the rails three-fourths of a mile to the former working area of the mine.
- Gain insight into the working conditions of the miners and their remarkable mining methods.
- Learn firsthand why this mine was called the Cadillac of Mines.

Surface Tour

- Discover what happens to ore once it reaches the surface.
- Learn about jobs on the surface that made mining possible.
- Explore the equipment used in mining.

Tour Tips

- Call the park for exact times.
- Tours are ADA accessible.
- Dress for 51-degree temperatures underground.
- Wear sturdy shoes for uneven terrain.



MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Attend a naturalist program.
- Borrow a GPS unit and search for a geocache.
- Checkout a birding kit from the park visitor center.
- Explore a park hiking trail.
- Cast a line from the fishing pier.
- Launch or land at the boat access.

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.
Soudan Underground Mine open 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m.



VEHICLE PERMITS

Required for all except main Soudan Underground Mine and Stuntz Bay parking lots; purchase at visitor center or entrance kiosk.



PETS WELCOME

Keep on 6-foot leash; pick up after; attend at all times; only service animals allowed in buildings.



FIREWOOD

A daily firewood permit, which includes firewood provided by the park, must be purchased for anyone having a campfire; no gathering of firewood is allowed in state parks..

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Hiking Club Trail

2.4-mile loop

Hilly • Rocky • Roadway

View the famous banded iron formation and the Alaska shaft. Pass mine pits and go through an old-growth forest. Part of the trail involves walking up the entrance road which has car traffic, so use caution.

West Tower Mine Trail

0.2-mile loop

Wooden boardwalk • Rocky

Take a short hike through the woods and by several open pits left from early mining. Follow the boardwalk past the deepest pit on the property. Finally, experience nature conducting its own reclamation project on an old pit.

TAKE A TOUR

CURIOUS ABOUT SPECIAL TOURS AT STATE PARKS?
VISIT MNDNR.GOV/STATE_PARKS/TOURS



MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Information Center

500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367 or mndnr.gov/parks

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

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STATE PARKS AND TRAILS