

**LAC QUI PARLE STATE PARK**

**Upper Campground**

**Lower Campground**

# MAP AND GUIDE: LAC QUI PARLE STATE PARK

14047 20TH STREET NORTHWEST  
WATSON, MN 56295  
CHIPPEWA AND  
LAC QUI PARLE COUNTIES  
320-734-4450



## ! VISITOR TIPS

- Fishing is popular at the Lac qui Parle dam in the US Army Corps of Engineers Recreation Area.
- Stop by the nearby Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area for over 30,000 acres of public land.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff's number: 320-269-2121 (east side of lake) 320-598-3720 (west side of lake)

## 🕒 ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Enjoy a lake overlook off Chippewa County Road 32. Watch for pelicans, eagles and geese.
- Find the state record cottonwood tree near the historic fort site.
- Visit the unique Map Shelter in the lower campground. The historic shelter was a 1930s Works Progress Administration project.



LOOKING FOR MORE TO DISCOVER?  
VISIT [MNDNR.GOV/LACQUIPARLE](http://MNDNR.GOV/LACQUIPARLE)

## ABOUT THE PARK

The park was created in 1941 to offer recreation along Lac qui Parle Lake. It started as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project for flood control along the Minnesota River. The WPA workers also built three, unique stone and timber buildings that you can still find on the west side of the lake. The lake's name is a French translation of the name the Dakota people gave it, "lake that speaks." If you visit in the spring, thousands of migratory waterfowl stop at the lake, adding a chorus of honking and quacking. Visit the park to experience the migration, paddle the lake, cast a line for fish, trek the trails or visit a historic site.



Experience the park's history.

## TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

### Lower Campground Trails

Mostly flat • Mowed grass • Bare dirt

Hike or horseback ride through flat floodplain forest. Take additional loops on the west side of Lac qui Parle Lake to add another mile. Horseback riders, don't forget to purchase your trail pass.

2.1-mile loop

### Upper Campground Trails

Rolling hills • Mowed grass • Bare dirt

Hike rolling topography along the valley. You'll pass through hillside prairies and hardwood forest that leads to the largest recorded cottonwood tree in Minnesota.

0.7 miles one-way

## MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Watch for the park's numerous birds, especially during spring and fall migrations.
- History abounds here! Within minutes of the park are the historic Lac qui Parle Mission and Fort Renville.
- Rent a canoe or kayak from park headquarters and enjoy an afternoon on the lake.
- Stay overnight at a drive-in campsite, cart-in campsite, group camp or camper cabin. Visit [MNDNR.GOV/RESERVATIONS](http://MNDNR.GOV/RESERVATIONS) or call 866-857-2757 to make a reservation.

## SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

A full set of STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS is available at [mndnr.gov](http://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.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FISHING REGULATIONS? VISIT [MNDNR.GOV/FISHMN](http://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](http://mndnr.gov/parks)

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This information may be available in alternative format upon request.

**m** MINNESOTA  
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS