ABOUT THE PARK

Great River Bluffs State Park was created in 1976 so that everyone could experience the bluffland area of southeastern Minnesota. Perched above the Mississippi River, the park’s 2,835 acres lie within the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest. The park is dedicated to the protection and restoration of natural resources and contains two State Natural Areas.

Visit the park and explore diverse plant communities including maple-basswood forests, old hickory, pines, goat prairies and old fields. Experience this unique landscape while you hike, camp, birdwatch, picnic, snowshoe or ski.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

King’s Bluff Trail
1.25 miles one-way
Some hills • Mowed grass • Packed dirt
Experience scenic vistas of the Mississippi River Valley from overlooks along this trail. This path to impressive views passes through oak savannah and one of the park’s Scientific and Natural Areas. Interpretive signs share the story of the landscape along the way.

South Overlook Trail
0.2 miles one-way
Some hills • Packed dirt
View the mighty Mississippi River as it winds far below the bluffs at the end of this trail. An overlook provides a wooden deck and bench for relaxing as you soak in the view. Start this trail at the picnic area parking lot.

East Overlook Trail
0.3 miles one-way
Some hills • Packed dirt
Your reward at the end of this short hike is one of the most picturesque views in the park. The scenery is especially beautiful in fall when colorful maples and oaks cover the bluffs. Begin this hike at the campground visitor parking lot.

MORE TO EXPLORE

• Visit in early spring to see blooming flowers in the prairie.
• Visit in fall for a stunning display of color across the bluffs.
• Stop back in winter to snowshoe or to ski groomed trails.

BE OUR GUEST

• Unplug, relax and stay awhile at a drive-in or hike-in campsite. Visit mndnr.gov/reservations or call 866-857-2757 to make a reservation.
• Bicyclists, a 5-site bicycle campground is located off south-bound U.S. Highway 61/14 for those biking along the Great River Road.