

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

- Bring sunscreen for your canoe trip or time at the beach.
- Wear good hiking shoes.
- Have a great hike, but check for ticks before you leave.
- Help keep our rivers clean. Check your watercraft for aquatic invasives before and after launching.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff number: 651-439-9381.



ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Walk 1.6 miles on the Riverside Trail. This self-guided, accessible trail winds by the 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.
- Visit Lake Alice for a picnic, a swim at the beach, or to try your luck on the fishing pier.



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.



There are so many ways to discover
William O'Brien State Park.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS

Prairie Overlook Trail

Hilly • Mowed grass

Hike up and down rolling oak savanna and prairie habitat. Your reward will be a beautiful view of the St. Croix Valley from the top.

3.8 miles one-way

Beaver Lodge Trail

Mostly flat • Mowed grass

Walk in the early evening and you may spot an active beaver lodge along this trail. If you are quiet, you may be lucky enough to see the beavers at work.

1 mile one-way

Wedge Hill Savanna Trail

Hilly • Mowed grass

Enjoy a walk through a 100-acre prairie filled with 6-foot tall native grasses and prairie flowers.

1.5-mile loop

MORE TO EXPLORE AT THE PARK

- Join a naturalist program.
- Grill out or enjoy a lunch at the picnic area.
- Hike 16 miles of trails.
- Swim at the beach.
- Fish from the fishing pier.
- Bicycle on a 2-mile paved trail.
- Reserve a picnic shelter near the river for a family reunion or group get-together.
- Rent canoes, kayaks or paddleboards.
- Borrow GPS units, birding kits, fishing equipment, a volley ball, a soccer ball or horseshoes from the park office.

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.

BE OUR GUEST

- Stay in one of 113 campsites with modern facilities; one of four camper cabins; or one of four spacious group camp sites.
- Visit mndnr.gov/reservations.



MORE INFORMATION

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

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157, or MN Relay 711.