

LAKE CHARLES STATE PARK

Located in the northeastern foothills of the Arkansas Ozarks is 645 acre Lake Charles. The lake is loaded with bass, crappie, bream and catfish. Five scenic rivers and a 11,200 acre Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Wildlife Management Area are only minutes from the lake. Spread along the western shores of these waters is Lake Charles State Park.

The setting for camping and picnicking combined with the opportunities for fishing make Lake Charles and ideal location for a family vacation or a day's outing.

The primary mission of Lake Charles State Park is to promote tourism by providing high quality services and facilities to all park visitors while providing environmental education opportunities.

Lake Charles State Park was established as part of the Arkansas State Parks system in 1963. Forty acres were leased from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to establish the park. Additional acres were purchased at later dates to complete the park's development. Lake Charles was dedicated May 28, 1967.

FACILITIES

Camping ♦ 61 individual campsites are scattered among the trees around the lake. All are equipped with electric and water connections. Several sites also offer sewer connections. Tables and grills are located at each site for convenience. Modern restrooms and bathhouses are located within walking distance from each campsite. For self-contained camping units, there is a dump station located near the campground.

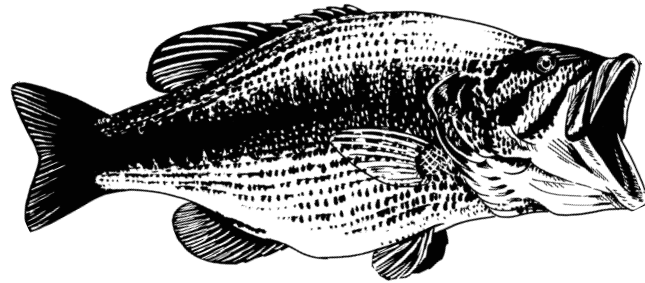
Picnicking ♦ The picnic area is located near the swim beach in the Day Use Area. Most sites have tables and grills. Water fountains, modern rest rooms and plenty of shade trees are available in the picnic area. A screened-in pavilion with lights and ceiling fans is available for group outings (Contact the Visitor Center for reservations). There is a playground that meets ADA requirements located in the picnic area. It has swings, slides, a climber and other play units.

Trails ♦ There are three separate walking trails in the park. Cedar Trail is a paved trail that begins in the Day Use Area and ends in the campground. It is a 1 mile trail that is partially accessible to mobility impaired individuals. The White Oak Trail is a 1-1/2 mile loop trail that begins near the dump station. It is a nature oriented trail and is a more strenuous walk.

The Butterflies & Blooms Trail meanders through wildflowers and wildlife habitat. Wildlife, including birds and butterflies, can be viewed along the trail. This area is continually changing, each visit is a unique experience. We recommend sturdy footwear for all trails. Any of these trails can be easily walked in one hour.

Gift Shop ♦ A gift shop is located inside the Visitor Center for your convenience. Available for purchase is a wide selection of gift and souvenir items. You may also purchase necessities such as ice, wood, fishing license, or charcoal.

Nature Center ♦ The nature center is located in the Day Use Area near the swim beach. It is open on weekends from May to September and provides recreational activities and environmental education programs. Hours of operation and program schedules are posted at the Nature Center, Visitor Center and on bulletin boards located throughout the park.



RECREATION

Fishing ♦ Visitors to Lake Charles like to try to catch their own supper in the quiet water among the snags. The lake is accessed by three launching ramps on park property. There are several small docks for bank fishing and docking boats. There is no horsepower restriction on the lake. Remember, you are responsible for any damage caused by your boat's wake.

Swimming ♦ There is a wide, gently sloping, sandy beach within walking distance of all park facilities. The swim beach is open seasonally, **NO LIFE-GUARDS ON DUTY.**

Other Facilities ♦ Rental equipment includes bicycles and kayaks. We offer RV and boat storage year-round. Contact the park office for applicable fees. Shopping, restaurants, service stations, laundry and hospitals are minutes away in nearby towns.

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

In season, an interpreter provides programs for enjoyment and education. Programs include guided hikes, nature talks, kayak and barge tours, demonstrations, evening illustrated talks and activities. Program schedules are posted at the Visitor Center and on park bulletin boards.

NOTE: Campers **must** register at the Visitor Center **before** occupying a campsite. All sites are reservable and may be reserved up to one year in advance. Please call to check availability.

LOCATION

From U.S. 67 at Hoxie, travel 8 miles north on U.S. 63 to Black Rock, then drive 6 miles south on Arkansas Highway 25 or, from State Highway 167 at Cave City, travel 25 miles east on State Hwys. 230 and 25 to the park.

For further information on park hours or fees, contact:

Lake Charles State Park
3705 Highway 25
Powhatan, AR 72458
Telephone: (870) 878-6595
Fax: (870) 878-6348
e-mail: lakecharles@arkansas.com

NOTICE: To preserve scenic beauty and ecology, fences and warning signs have not been installed in some park locations. Caution and supervision of your children are required while visiting these areas.

For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:

Arkansas State Parks
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
Telephone: (501) 682-1191
www.ArkansasStateParks.com



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Arkansas State Parks 2005

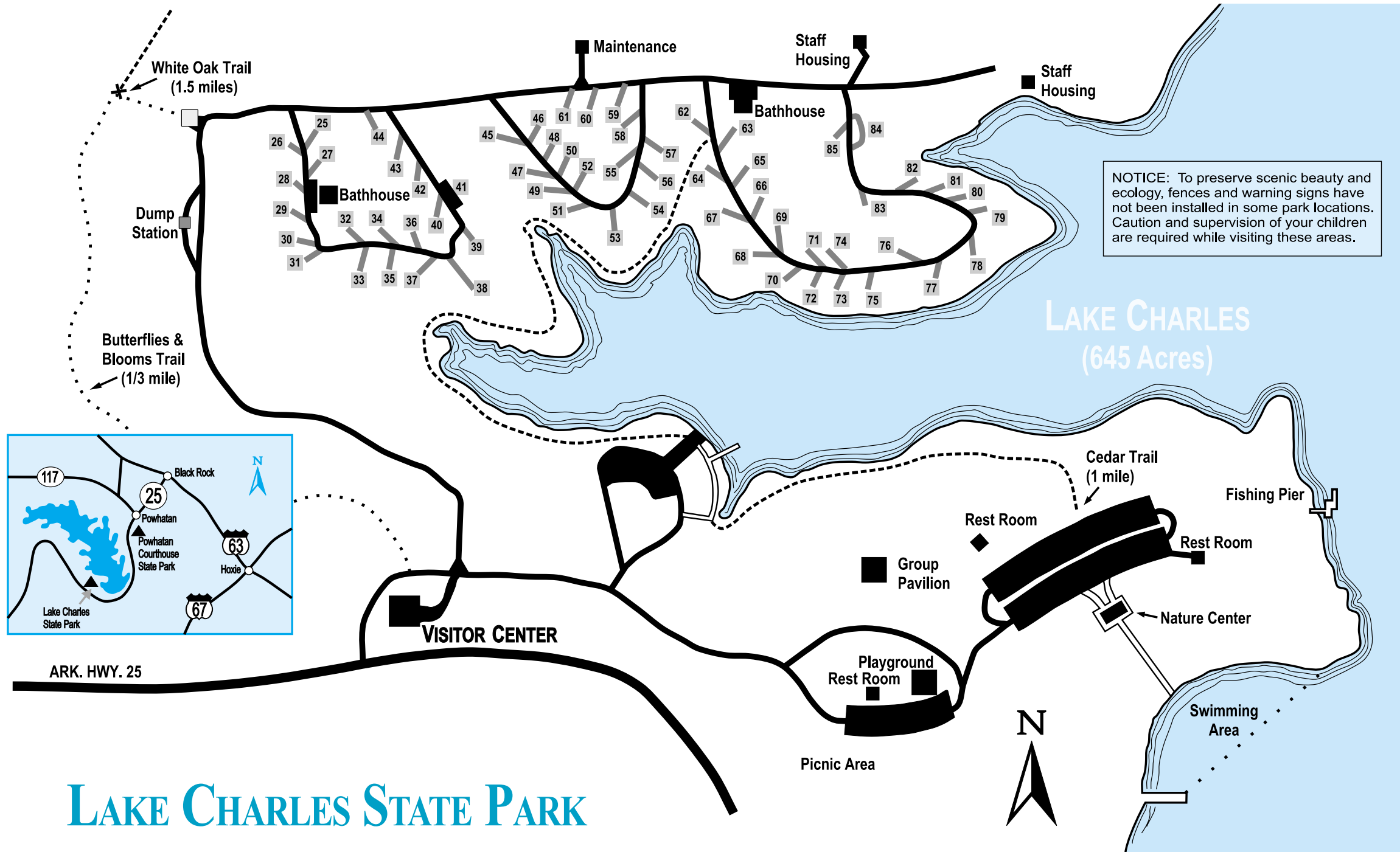
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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM



EXPLORE THE BEAUTY & HISTORY OF ARKANSAS!



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