



Directions
 The park's 280 acres are broken into 10 segments located along 22 miles of the Reelfoot Lake shoreline. The other sections of the park including the visitor and interpretive center with its auditorium, picnic and camping areas - are located along State Highways 21 and 22.

We're Mobile!
 The Tennessee State Parks Pocket Ranger app is available at the Apple app store and Google Play.



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Hours of Operation
 The park is open 7 days a week

Reelfoot Lake State Park
 2595 Highway 21 East
 Tiptonville, TN 38079
 Office: 731-253-8003
 Visitor's Center: 731-253-9652

Tennessee State Parks
 William R. Snodgrass TN Tower
 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor
 Nashville, TN 37243
 888-867-2757

www.tnstateparks.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and Friends assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy. It's easy to show your support - join a Friends group or participate in one of the many volunteer opportunities we offer individuals, families and groups.



To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area visit www.tnstateparks.com.



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Reelfoot Lake State Park

Reelfoot Lake State Park is located in the northwest corner of Tennessee and is noted for its fishing, boating and wildlife viewing. The park offers camping year-round. The visitor's center provides insight into the origin of Reelfoot Lake and its complex ecosystem. Seasonal boat tours of the lake and guided tours to view wintering bald eagles and waterfowl are highlights of the park's interpretive efforts.



Historical Significance

The 15,000-acre lake was created by a series of violent earthquakes in 1811-1812 that caused the Mississippi River to flow backwards for a short period of time, creating Reelfoot Lake. The park's ecosystem is unlike any other place in Tennessee, as Reelfoot Lake is a flooded forest. While majestic Cypress trees rise above the water, below the surface are many submerged Cypress stumps. A variety of aquatic plants and flowers occupy the shoreline and saturate the shallow water. The lake harbors almost every kind of shore and wading bird as well as Golden and American Bald eagles.

Meeting Rooms

The Ellington Hall Auditorium is ideal for banquets, reunions and meetings. The 3,700 square foot, air conditioned hall has kitchen facilities and can seat approximately 400 people theater-style or 240 banquet-style. Some audio/visual equipment is available and outside catering can be used to provide food and beverages. Reservations are accepted up to 12 months in advance.

Museum

Interpretive programming is available at the Reelfoot Lake State Park's R.C. Donaldson Memorial Museum and Nature Center. The center's attractions include non-releasable raptors, snakes and other wildlife of the area. The museum is open year-round excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Admission is free.



Picnic Pavilions and Playgrounds

Reelfoot Lake State Park has five picnic shelters/pavilions that may be reserved for your next event or gathering. Depending on the shelter, the maximum capacity ranges from 40 to 90 people. The shelters are equipped with picnic tables and a grill and most have access to restrooms. The shelters offer gorgeous views of Reelfoot Lake and are excellent locations for bird watching and other wildlife viewing.

Fishing

Tennessee's only natural lake is nationally known for crappie and Bluegill fishing. Fishing is best for these in April and May. Anglers can hook these as well as bass and catfish throughout the year. Fishing is productive by boat and from the bank, pier and boardwalk. A special lake permit is required. The park has five public boat launch ramps to accommodate fishing boats and small pontoon boats. Fish cleaning stations are located throughout the park. Bait, tackle, snacks and fishing licenses are for sale at nearby locations. Many guides are available locally.

Planned Programs

From early January through early March, park naturalists conduct daily eagle tours. Scenic pontoon tours are available daily May through September. A guide is available to answer questions and to interpret the natural and cultural wonders of the lake.



Camping

Reelfoot features two campgrounds. Campsites provide water, electricity, tables and grills with many campsites located on the lake shore. Both campgrounds have a small number of primitive sites with water accessible and some with picnic tables only.



Hiking

The park has several hiking trails that are popular for bird watching and wildlife viewing.

Boating

One of the best ways to experience Reelfoot Lake is by boat. The lake is a flooded forest and is shallow with lots of submerged stumps and standing trees. Boaters have to navigate slowly and cautiously. As such there are few large boats on the lake which makes it a nice place for canoes, kayaks and jon boats when the winds are calm. Boats may be rented from local private businesses.



Nearby Attractions

- Emmett Lewis Heritage Museum - Tiptonville - 3 miles
- Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge - 8 miles
- Dixie Gun Works, Union City - 25 miles

Other Nearby State Parks

- Big Cypress Tree State Park - 46 miles

Annual Events

- January-February: Bald Eagle and Waterfowl Tours
- February-Eagle Festival
- May-September: Scenic Pontoon Tours
- First Weekend in October: Arts and Crafts Festival
- October - Pelican Festival

