The Park

Castle Rock State Park
1365 West Castle Road
Oregon, IL 61061, (815) 732-7329


east in the 19th century. This area was popular as an

terestion and crowded with vegetation. The

The Castle Rock area was studied by early scientists

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History

state park in 1921 by the "Friends of Our Native Land-

Castle Rock State Park contains natural resources that are unique to Illinois. A thin layer of glacial till covers this region, and several distinctive plant species, remnants of the native forest and prairie, still exist. In one valley, 27 different types of ferns have been identified.

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- While groups of 25 or more are welcome and encouraged to use the park's facilities, they are required to register in advance with the site office to avoid crowding or scheduling conflicts.
- At least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors.
- Pets must be kept on leashes at all times.
- Actions by nature can result in closed roads and other facilities. We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks, write to the Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; or visit our website at www.dnr.state.il.us.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity’s Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.
- Hearing-impaired individuals may call the Department of Natural Resources’ TTY number, (217) 782-9175, or use the Ameritech Relay Number, 1-800-526-0844.

Natural Area

Castle Rock State Park consists of approximately 2,000 acres, 710 of which are designated as an Illinois Nature Preserve. The site was dedicated as a state park in 1978.

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The park is one of the largest significant natural areas in the northern part of Illinois.

Most of the outstanding natural features are located in the dedicated Nature Preserve, which is protected by state law. Use of the 710-acre preserve is restricted to scientific study and limited interpretation activities.

**Facilities**

- **Picnicking**—There are three picnic shelters, with tables, playground equipment, grills, toilets and drinking water. There are also scattered tables for use along the river. Two of the park’s shelters may be reserved with a fee.
- **Trails**—There are seven miles of marked hiking trails offering the opportunity to view woodland animals and birds and scenic views. Cross-country skiing and sledding are also available when weather permits.
- **Fishing**—All fishing is in the Rock River. The park offers 1 1/2 miles of bank fishing. There is also a boat ramp available for public use. Boat size is limited due to the varying depth of the river. Catfish are the most commonly caught fish, but some bass, northern, wall-eye and crappie may also be taken.
- **Camping**—Castle Rock does not have a campground except for a primitive canoe camping area. Access to the area is by canoe or boat only.
- **Hunting**—Limited squirrel, turkey and deer hunting is available at the park. For more information, please contact the park office.