

**Wenasa Quenhotan Lodge 23**

# **Where to Go Camping**



**WENASA QUENHOTAN LODGE**  
**ORDER OF THE ARROW**

**W.D. Boyce Council, BSA**

Greetings Scouts!

This is the Wenasa Quenhotan Where to Go Camping book. One of the purposes of The Order of the Arrow is promoting camping in our home units, so it is my goal to help all of you find somewhere you can enjoy camping. In this book are state parks, scout camps, High Adventure camps, and some trails enjoyed by many people. As much as this book should help, camps change over time so if you notice any inaccuracy, please fill out the form on page 51. Please note that not every camp featured in this book has camping available, some are limited to day events only. Thank you for supporting Wenasa Quenhotan!

Happy Camping!

Luke Lohnes

WQ 23 Promotions Chair

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## Ingersoll Scout Reservation

Ingersoll Scout Reservation is located about 40 miles west of Peoria, Illinois on Route 116. It is operated by our own council, W.D. Boyce. ISR encompasses nearly 1000 acres of beautiful Illinois terrain, with rolling hills, deciduous forest, wetlands, and prairie along several miles of the Cedar Creek. It offers top-of-the-line summer camp program and fantastic year-round camping opportunities. This is definitely a camp that should be visited by area troops, whether for a weekend campout in December or for a week of fun in July.

The ISR summer camp experience is like no other camp program in the country. For one week, your troop can enjoy all of the natural beauty of the camp, while an enthusiastic and helpful staff will help them earn merit badges and guide them through the best scouting experience they have ever seen. Whether you are a young scout on his first outing or a Life Scout coming for your fifth year, there is a program for you that will leave you with skills and memories that will last throughout your lifetime.

**What can you do at summer camp?** There are so many things to do at ISR that you'll wish you had an extra week to do them all! One of the biggest activities at ISR is merit badges. Choose from over 40 badges to work on every day with knowledgeable staff that will help you achieve your goals. The merit badges that are offered include many that are Eagle-required, like Citizenship in the World and Communications, Swimming and Lifesaving at the pool, and Environmental Science at Eco-Con. Also offered are many "just for fun" badges, like Archery and Rifle/Shotgun Shooting at Shooting Sports, Canoeing, Rowing, and Small Boat

Sailing at Lake Roberts, and Wilderness Survival, Pioneering, and Sculpture at Scoutcraft. Got some free time? Head over to any program area, such as the pool or climbing tower, during open program and get help with your merit badges or just have fun. Your free time can also be spent at the trading post, where a variety of snacks and useful camp gadgets are available.

At ISR, program goes beyond merit badges. In the evening on Wednesday, The Order of the Arrow holds a pow wow and its callout ceremony to induct scouts and leaders who live up to the ideals of Scouting into their brotherhood. This captivating display of Native American culture will impress not only scouts, but their families as well, as they will be there for Family Night.

Another unique program at ISR is Camp Wilderness, a number of outposts with fun activities troops can sign up to attend. Troops will get to choose which Outposts they go to: the Muddy Mississippi swim party at Crawdad, the Minnesota Logging camp at Paul Bunyan, and the western saloon and ranch at Horseshoe Bend.

This is just a brief overview of camp program. There is much, much more to experience once you are at camp. Summer camp is the ultimate Scouting experience; make your troop's memorable at Ingersoll Scout Reservation.

## Summer Camp Merit Badges

Changing every year, here's a list of some of the popular merit badges offered at ISR.

Astronomy	Basketry	Emergency
Cooking	Indian Lore	Preparedness
Environmental Science	Nature	Forestry
Fishing	Woodcarving	Communications
Space Exploration	Lifesaving	Orienteering
Geocaching	First Aid	Rowing
Camping	Oceanography	Geology

All merit badges are taught in specialized areas by experienced staff. Some merit badges require things to be completed before camp, so make sure you know your merit badge requirements before leaving for camp.

## Trailblazer Program at Brownsea Island

For first-year campers, a highly recommended program is the Trailblazer Program at Brownsea Island. This program aids new campers in learning about essential Scouting skills, like the patrol method, outdoor skills, and respect for Scouting ideals, while at the same time helping them towards the rank of First Class.

Trailblazer is a great jumpstart for new scouts and will definitely make their first summer camp experience a great one.

### **Camp Wilderness**

The purpose of this new program is to provide scouts with a fresh camp experience beyond regular program. Outposts are special themed activity areas located at various places outside the main camp. The things troops do there are intended to let them unwind and have fun after working on merit badges in camp all week. The Outposts are listed below; each troop can choose which ones to go to.

### **Paul Bunyan**

Get up at the crack of dawn and hike on out to ISR's very own Northern Minnesota logging camp at Paul Bunyan! Chat with the residents of the camp about the life of a lumberjack while climbing spar poles, throwing tomahawks, and playing traditional logging games. After you've spent the morning experiencing the logger lifestyle, enjoy a huge, home-cooked pancake breakfast before heading back to the main camp for regular camp activities.

## **Crawdad**

Afternoon heat getting you down? No worries! Around 5:15, head on down to the banks of the Cedar Creek for the best swim party this side of the Mississippi. Splash around in the creek or ride the waterslide down into the muddy depths! For troops who aren't afraid to get dirty, Crawdad will be a truly memorable experience.

## **Horseshoe Bend**

As the camp day draws to a close, hike on out past the lake and into another era. At the Horseshoe Bend Saloon and Ranch, the lifestyle of the 19th century frontiersman comes alive! Enjoy delicious homemade dinners and desserts, with kettle corn, ice cream, and the ever-popular IBC Horseshoe Bend Root Beer. Also experience lassoing, branding, and blacksmithing, where you can sing, play, and dance the night away in Native American fashion. Horseshoe Bend is a memorable experience for scouts and scouters of all ages.

## **Mountain Board Lunch**

A great program for small troops (5-10 Scouts) after eating lunch, a staff member will guide you through riding on Dining Hall Hill. This is a fun and exciting program for Older Scouts to participate in and have the thrill and adrenalin of riding down the Hill! Troops meet at Scoutcraft for Lunch.

### **Troop Swim**

Enjoy lunch before a swim in the pool! Two Lifeguards are provided. Note the troop must provide a leader (at least 21 years of age) certified in Safe Swim Defense. Troops meet at the Pool Pavilion for Lunch.

### **Troop Climb**

Eat Lunch at the Climbing Tower then enjoy some time climbing, rappelling, zip lining, or compete in a Milk Crate Stacking competition. Troops will meet at the Climbing Tower Pavilion for Lunch.

### **Lake Lunch**

Enjoy lunch then get out on the lake to kayak, canoe, stand-up paddleboard, or have some fun going down the waterslide! Troops participating in Lake Lunch must have an adult leader (at least 21 years or age) certified in Safety Afloat. Troops meet at Eco-Con for Lunch.

### **Troop Shoot**

Troops may choose between shooting at the rifle, shotgun, or archery ranges for some target practice. Troops are responsible for paying for shotgun ammo from the Trading Post. Troops meet at the Rifle Range for lunch.

### **Mountain Bike Lunch**

Enjoy Lunch at the Mountain Bike Program Building then take a ride on the 2-mile-long Mountain Bike Trail or ride along the Cedar Creek Trail! This Lunch Time program has a limit of 10 riders.

### **Night Fishing**

Troops will spend an evening fishing and cooking their own meal on the grill. Scouts and Leaders will use the Fish Shack for cleaning and cooking fish. A staff member will assist with the fishing equipment. Ingersoll has some rods, reels, and tackle, but feel free to bring your own!

### **Year-Round Fishing at Ingersoll**

Whether spring, fall, or winter, the fishing at Ingersoll is fantastic. The camp contains the 17 acre Lake Roberts, which is home to bass, bluegill, carp, and catfish. During the spring and fall, boats and canoes can be rented from the camp. During winter months, ice fishing equipment can be rented for you to use.

### **Cedar Creek Trail**

The Cedar Creek Trail is available for year round hiking. It is an excellent nature trail, following the Cedar Creek for most of its boundary with the camp and looping back through the heart of the Far East Side and into the main camp.

Hikers have the option of hiking 2, 5, or all 12 miles. Participation Patches and mile segments are available through the ranger or at the Council Service Center.

### **Weekend Camping**

Except during summer camp, free weekend tent camping is available year round at ISR. Troops can either rent tents and equipment from the camp or bring their own. During winter months, troops also have the option to rent the dining hall, which comes complete with a wood-burning heater, or the new RMS Lodge.

The RMS Lodge, built in 2018 is a 4 season Lodge designed to get the whole unit out and enjoying the great outdoors. The lodge has 11 bedrooms that can host up to 4 people in each, 6 individual bathrooms with heated showers, a warming kitchen, and a living space great for meals and fellowship! Use the ISR Camp Use Form to rent the RMS Lodge for your Pack's or Troop's next outing.

### **Information or Reservations**

Write the W. D. Boyce Council, BSA at 614 N.E. Madison Ave., Peoria, IL 61603 or call (309) 673-6136 or (800) 369-5069 to secure a camp-use form. This form must be filled out and returned to the Council Service Center at least one week before arrival at camp. For more information about ISR, see the latest copy of the ISR Leader's Guide, available online at the W.D. Boyce Council Website.



**Weekend Camping  
and  
Out-of-Council Summer Camps**

### **Camp Lowden- Blackhawk Area Council**

Located seven miles south of Oregon, Illinois, Camp Lowden is on 250 acres of wooded property surrounded by the Lowden-Miller State Forest. Camp Lowden was established in 1940 on the estate of former Illinois Governor Frank Lowden; it is owned and operated by Blackhawk Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

For information contact:

Blackhawk Area Council

2820 McFarland Road

Rockford, IL, 61107

(815) 397-0210

<http://www.camplowden.org/>

### **Camp Eastman- Mississippi Valley Council**

Camp Eastman is located near Nauvoo, IL, on the banks of the Mississippi River. Camp Eastman offers a dining hall and swimming pool. Boating and sailing are offered on the Mississippi River, in addition to skiing in the winter.

For information contact:

Camp Eastman

3007 Flint Hills Drive

Burlington, IA 52601

(309) 754-8413

<https://www.mississippivalleybsa.org/camps/scoutsbsacamp-resources/>

### **Canyon Camp- Blackhawk Area Council**

As it's name implies, Canyon Camp is nestled in a canyon between Stockton and Apple River, IL. It has been visited and revisited by many scouts from throughout the States for over 65 years. The camp offers programs for the first year camper, which gets them started along the right Scouting trail.

For information contact:

Blackhawk Area Council

2820 McFarland Road

Rockford, IL, 61107

(815) 397-0210

<http://www.canyoncamp.org>

### **Camp Robert Drake- Prairielands Council**

Camp Robert Drake is owned by Prairielands Council. It is located just a few miles south of Oakwood, IL off of Interstate 74 west of Danville, IL.

For information contact:

Camp Robert Drake

10001 E 1500 N. Road

Fairmount, IL 61841

(217) 427-5243

<http://www.campdrake.com>

### **Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan Scout Reservation- Northeast Illinois Council**

Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan consists of 1,560 acres of beautiful forests and has two lakes and a natural creek. The reservation operates two full service camps, a wilderness camp, and a family camp, with a horse ranch available for either. Ma-Ka-Ja-Wan is located in Pearson, Wisconsin, 25 miles northeast of Antigo.

For information contact:

Northeast Illinois Council, BSA

850 Forest Edge Drive

Vernon Hills, IL 60061

(847) 433-1813

### **Owasippe Scout Reservation- Pathway to Adventure Council**

Owasippe consists of two camps, Camp Blackhawk and Camp Wolverine. This camp has many merit badges that you can earn from shooting sports to aquatics. You also have the opportunity to ride horses or take a COPE course.

For information contact:

Owasippe Scout Reservation

9900 Russell Road

Twin Lake, MI 49457

<http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/blackhawk/>

<http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/wolverine/>

### **Camp Napowan- Pathways to Adventure Council**

Located near Wild Rose, Wisconsin, Camp Napowan offers heated cabins for year round rental. Cross country and downhill skiing are available three miles from camp.

For information contact:

Pathways to Adventure Council

N4789 24th Avenue

Wild Rose, WI 54984

<http://www.pathwaytoadventure.org/camping/napowan/>

### **Camp Freeland Leslie- Three Fires Council**

Camp Freeland Leslie is a 500+ acre camp located near Oxford, WI. A 40 acre spring-fed private lake highlights this facility.

For information contact:

Three Fires Council, BSA

415 North Second Street

St. Charles, IL 60174-1254

(630) 584-9250

<http://www.freelandleslie.com/>

### **Camp Joy- Greater St Louis Area Council**

Located near Carlyle, IL, the camp offers a dining hall, campsites, or a lodge for rental.

For information contact:

Greater St Louis Area Council

10700 Camp Joy Road

Carlyle, IL 62231

<https://stlbsa.org/camp-joy-2/>

### **Camp Vanderverter- Greater St. Louis Area Council**

Located near Waterloo, IL, Camp Vanderverter offers campsites, a lodge, and other buildings for rental.

For information contact:

Greater St. Louis Council, B.S.A.

3463 Trout Camp Rd.

Waterloo, IL 62298

618-939-6304

<https://stlbsa.org/camp-vanderverter/>

### **Camp Tamarack-LaSalle Council**

Located in Wood Lake Scout Reservation, just 15 miles southwest of Three Rivers, MI, Camp Tamarack offers 15 campsites with water, latrines, and 3 heated cabins for winter camping and skiing.

For information contact:

LaSalle Council, B.S.A.

1340 South Bend Ave.

South Bend, IN 46617

(219) 289-0337

<http://www.lasallecouncilbsa.org/sbsc>

### **Rota-Kiwan Scout Reservation-Michigan Crossroads Council**

Rota-Kiwan is an over 199 acre camp that has cabins, 1 campsites, and two dining halls for rental.

For information contact:

Rota-Kiwan Scout Reservation

6278 Texas Dr.

Kalamazoo, MI 49009

269-375-0027

<https://michiganscouting.org/rksr/>

### **Camp Indian Trails- Glaciers Edge Council**

Camp Indian Trails is comprised of approximately 200 acres of pristine woodlands about seven miles northwest of Janesville along the Rock River. This camp offers an Olympic sized swimming pool, huge dining hall, and many merit badges.

For information contact:

Glaciers Edge Council

5801 N. River Road

Janesville, Wisconsin 53545

[www.glaciersedge.org](http://www.glaciersedge.org)

### **Ed Bryant Scout Reservation- Glaciers Edge Council**

Ed Bryant Scout Reservation (EBSR) is a 214 acre camp located 20 minutes northwest of the Wisconsin Dells. This camp was recently changed from Castle Rock to EBSR. Ed Bryant has a great lakefront and recently added a biking trail to their many different activities.

For information contact:

Glaciers Edge Council

5846 Manufacturers Drive

Madison, WI 53704-6278

(608) 310-7300

<http://www.glaciersedge.org/ed-bryant-scout-reservations>

### **Camp OhDaKoTa- Three Harbors Council**

The camp encompasses 185 acres of beautiful rolling hills and woodlands including waterfront on Dyer Lake with swimming, boating, and fishing.

For information contact:

Three Harbors Council

3363 Dyer Lake Road

Burlington, WI 53105

414-443-2843

<http://www.threeharborsscouting.org/camping/camp-oh-da-ko-ta/64325>

### **Indian Mound Scout Reservation- Three Harbors Council**

Located 30 miles west of Milwaukee, the 423 acres reservation consists of two camps. Facilities include cabins that can be used at summer camp, trails, tent campsites, a lake, and ponds.

For information contact:

Three Harbors Council

37516 Forest Drive

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

414-443-284

<http://www.threeharborsscouting.org/camping/indian-mound-scout-reservation/61340>

### **Camp Long Lake- Potawatomi Area Council**

Located near Milwaukee WI, Camp Long Lake has many great aquatic programs, a golf merit badge course, and program for Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, and Personal Fitness merit badges.

For information contact:

Potawatomi Area Council

P.O. Box 528

Waukesha, WI 53187-0528

(262)-544-4881

<http://www.pacbsa.org>



Across Illinois, there are more than 130 state parks, forests, and wildlife areas. The following are by no means all of your choices of state parks. For a complete listing of Illinois State Parks with information, pictures, and history, visit the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' website at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Parks/Pages/default.aspx>. The information here can help you plan your next troop activity and help you gain an appreciation for the natural beauty of our state.

### **Anderson Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Located on Hwy. 100 about 11 miles north of Browning, Anderson Lake Conservation Area provides fishing and camping near a backwater lake of the Minois River. Major recreational features include dove, squirrel, and waterfowl hunting as well as exceptional bluegill fishing opportunities.

For information contact:

Anderson Lake Fish and Wildlife Area

R.R. 1 Box 52

Astoria, IL 61501

(309) 759-4484

### **Apple River Canyon State Park**

With its massive limestone cliffs, deep ravines, and timbered hills, Apple River Canyon State Park credits its rugged good looks to centuries of erosion. At 1,907 acres in size, it's tucked into the extreme northwest corner of Illinois, south of the village of Apple River. This park abounds with nice cross-country trails for mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing.

For information contact:

Apple River Canyon State Park

8763E Canyon Rd.

Apple River 61001

(815) 745-3302

### **Argyle Lake State Park**

Located along an old stage route between Galena and Beardstown, Argyle Lake State Park is home to rough terrain, beaver dams, and more than 200 bird species. The 1,700- acre park, which includes the 93 acre Argyle Lake, is west of Macomb and north of Colchester. It has been described as a “fisherman’s delight” because of the fantastic fishing opportunities offered at Argyle Lake.

For information contact:

640 Argyle Park Rd.

Colchester 62326

(309) 776-3422

### **Banner Marsh State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Made up of more than 200 individual bodies of water and more than 200 acres of agricultural fields, Banner Marsh is 25 miles southwest of Peoria in Fulton and Peoria counties. Freshwater marshes established at the site provide fish and wildlife habitat along the Illinois River Valley. Activities include fishing, boating, and wildlife observation. For more activities, visit nearby Rice Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area (see page 24)

For information contact

Banner Marsh Fish and Wildlife Area

c/o Rice Lake, R.R. 3

Canton 61520

(309) 647-9184

### **Beall Woods State Park**

Located on the banks of the Wabash River in southeastern Illinois, Beall (pronounced "bell") Woods boasts one of the last surviving tracts of uncut forest east of the Mississippi River. Featuring 329 acres of wooded areas and 5 established hiking trails, Beall woods is rich in history and natural beauty. It is also home to trees up to a towering 120 feet tall.

For information contact:

Beall Woods State Park

9285 Beall Woods Avenue

Mount Carmel 62863

(618) 298-2442

### **Beaver Dam State Park**

Consisting of 750 acres of oak and hickory woodland, Beaver Dam State Park is a great park for fishing, hiking, and camping. With a large, well-stocked lake and 8 miles of trails, Beaver Dam is full of history and wildlife waiting to be discovered.

For information contact:

Beaver Dam State Park

14548 Beaver Dam Lane

Plainview 62685

(217) 854-8020

### **Big Bend State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Located in Whiteside County, near the town of Prophetstown, Big Bend contains 2376 acres. It's open for hiking and limited fishing.

For information contact:

Big Bend State Fish and Wildlife Area

P.O. Box 181

Prophetstown 61277

(815) 537-2270

### **Big River State Forest**

Encompassing more than 3,000 acres along the Mississippi River, Big River State Forest is a remnant of woodland that once bordered the vast prairies. A fantastic park for hiking, it features 3 1/2 miles of established trails, and a massive 60-mile network of firebreaks that are available for hiking when fires are not a threat. Also popular is fishing in the Mississippi River year-round, with ice fishing permitted.

For information contact

Big River State Forest

R.R. 1, Box 118

Keithsburg 61442-9609

(309) 374-2496

### **Buffalo Rock State Park**

Perched atop a bluff that was formerly an island in the Illinois River, Buffalo Rock State Park now rests on the northern banks 3 miles west of Ottawa. With a rich history of French/Indian interactions, the bluff now provides trails with great views of the Illinois River and the surrounding woodlands. Also of interest is the "Effigy Tumuli," a unique and very large work of art made out of mounds of Earth that was inspired by Indian burial mounds and in the shape of 5 different animals.

For information contact:

Buffalo Rock State Park

PO Box 2034 1300

North 27th Road

Ottawa 61350

(815) 433-2224

### **Castle Rock State Park**

Spectacular rock formations with deep ravines and sandstone buttes overlooking the Rock River make Castle Rock State Park ideal for the day visitor. Located 3 miles south of Oregon on Hwy. 2, more than 700 of the parks 2,000 acres are designated as an Illinois nature preserve.

For information contact:

Castle Rock State Park

1365 W Castle Rock Rd.

Oregon 61061

(815) 732-7329

### **Delabar State Park**

Located along the Mississippi River about 1.5 miles north of Oquawka near Illinois Hwy. 164 in Henderson County, Delabar State Park offers quality outdoor experiences for anglers, hikers, campers, and picnickers. Nice shady trails for hikers and bikers alike. Many of the site's 89 acres are forested with sturdy oak, birch, and hickory trees.

For information contact:

Delabar State Park

R.R. 2, Box 27

Oquawka 61469

(309) 374-2496

### **Donnelley/Depue State Wildlife Area & Complex**

Located in Bureau and Putnam counties on the "Great Bend" of the Illinois River between Spring Valley and Putnam, the complex is on an important North American waterfowl migration corridor. Much of the 3,577 acre complex is managed for waterfowl feeding, nesting, resting, harvesting, and viewing. Visitors enjoy bird watching, boating, fishing, hiking, photography, and nature study.

For information contact:

Donnelley/Depue State Wildlife Area

PO Box 52

Depue 61322

(815) 447-2353

### **Franklin Creek Natural Area**

Developed by local volunteers, Franklin Creek offers scenic trails for hiking, horseback riding, and cross-country skiing, as well as fishing. Located in Lee County, 1 mile northwest of Franklin Grove and 8 miles east of Dixon, it contains a 180 acre nature preserve.

For information contact:

Franklin Creek Natural Area

1872 Twist Rd.

Franklin Grove 6103

(815) 456-2878

### **Green River State Wildlife Area**

Situated six miles northwest of the town of Ohio off hwy. 26, Green River is a multiple use area popular among mountain bikers, hikers, bird watchers, and other outdoor enthusiasts. For bikers, trails range from easy to moderate/technical. Bring the bug spray in the summer.

For information contact:

Green River State Wildlife Area

375 Game Rd.

Harmon 61042

(815) 379-2324

### **Henderson County Conservation Area**

Offering camping, picnicking, fishing, boating, and winter sports, the conservation area is about 20 miles southwest of Monmouth and 5 miles east of the Mississippi River. Group camping is available, in addition to activities at the nearby Mighty Mississippi.

Henderson County Conservation Area

R.R. 1

Keithsburg 61442

(309) 374-2496

### **Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park**

The Hennepin Canal was built at the turn of the twentieth century as a commercial waterway connecting the Illinois River with the Mississippi. Cheaper railway transport soon made its barge traffic obsolete, but by the 1930s, boaters and canoeists were enjoying themselves along the 96-mile canal, and hikers traveled its whole length. For more information on the trail, see the "Trails" section.

For information contact:

Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park

16006 875 E. Street Sheffield 61361

(815) 454-2328

### **Illini State Park**

From its location on the southern bank of the Illinois River south of Marseilles, the 500 acre Illini State Park is a haven for songbirds, waterfowl, and other wildlife.

The young workers of the Civilian Conservation Corps made their mark here in the 1930s when they constructed some of the parks rugged stone picnic shelters. Also available is fishing in the Illinois River and good terrain for winter recreation.

For information contact:

Illini State Park

2660 E 2350th Rd.

Marseilles 61341

(815) 795-2448

### **Johnson-Sauk Trail State Park**

One of the largest round barns in the country can be seen at Johnson-Sauk Trail State Park. For a tour, phone the Friends Foundation at (309) 852-4262. Situated on a glacial moraine five miles north of Kewanee, the park is along a trail Sauk Indians used in their treks between Lake Michigan and the confluence of the Mississippi and Rock rivers. The park contains 8 miles of trails, 3 miles of which can be used for cross-country skiing in winter.

For information contact:

Johnson-Sauk Trail State Park

28616 Sauk Trail Rd. Kewanee 61443

(309) 853-2425

Ryan's Round Barn Phone: +1 (309) 7210305

### **Jubilee College State Park**

Home to one of the earliest educational enterprises in Illinois, Jubilee College State Park and its sister site, Jubilee College State Historic Site, are located 15

miles northwest of Peoria near Kickapoo. In addition to the rich history of the college, the park offers camping, picnicking, hiking, and horseback riding facilities. A fifteenth-century fair is held every summer.

For information contact:

Jubilee College State Park

13921 W. Rte. 150

Brimfield 61517

(309) 446-3758

### **Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park**

This park is named for the nearby village of Lena and the Latin word for "water" Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park is located on a glacial plain, though the 715 acre park is adjacent to an area of northwestern Illinois that is hilly because it wasn't covered by glaciers. Featured are 8.5 miles of trails, a well-stocked lake for fishing, and a small beach for swimming in the lake during summer months.

For information contact:

Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park

8542 N. Lake Rd.

Lena 61048

(815) 369-4282

### **Lowden State Park**

Assuming a restful, reverent pose, a 48-foot-tall concrete monolith of a Native American towers above the Rock River at Lowden State Park. Sculptor Lorado Taft

named it "Black Hawk" in honor of the great Sauk warrior. There are roughly 4 miles of hiking trails in this picturesque park along the Rock River.

For information contact:

Lowden State Park

1411 North River Road

Oregon 61061

(815) 732-6828

### **Lowden-Miller State Forest**

Situated 3 miles south of Oregon along the Rock River, Lowden-Miller State Forest provides excellent deer and turkey habitat on its 2,291 acres. Trails for hiking, and cross-country skiing are available.

For information contact:

Lowden-Miller State Forest

1365 W. Castle Rock Rd.

Oregon 61061

(815) 732- 7329

### **Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Located in Tazewell County 5 miles northeast of Mackinaw, the site offers a diversity of landscape covering 1,448 acres over timbered hills, open meadows, and river bottoms. Canoe access enables visitors to float the scenic Mackinaw River. Other activities include fishing, hiking, and picnicking.

For information contact:

Mackinaw River State Fish and Wildlife Area

15470 Nelson Road

Mackinaw 61755

(309) 963-4969

### **Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Located along nearly 10 miles of scenic Illinois River backwaters, the largest tract of Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area is east of the Illinois River adjacent to Hwy. 26. Bottomlands and bluffs support a variety of animals, plants, and outdoor pursuits including camping, fishing, and hiking. Migrating waterfowl, great blue herons, and bald eagles provide birders exceptional viewing opportunities.

For information contact:

Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area

236 State Rt. 26

Lacon 61540

(309)246-8351

### **Matthiessen State Park**

Bluffs composed of 425 million-year-old St. Peter sandstone, canyons formed by water erosion, and the streaming Cascade Falls are among the park's striking features. Home to more than 200 species of birds and myriad woodland flowers, the 1,938 acre park is south of Utica and a stone's throw away from Starved Rock State Park. The trails are plentiful. Hikers and bikers alike will find this park enjoyable.

For information contact:

Matthiessen State Park

PO. Box 509

Utica 61373

(815) 667-4868

### **Mississippi Palisades State Park**

Located 3 miles north of Savanna in Carrol County, this park features huge, magnificent cliffs overlooking the Mississippi River with Iowa on the other side and 2500 acres of land filled with trails that may very well have been walked by local Native Americans centuries ago. With permission and proper equipment and supervision, areas of cliff can be used for climbing.

For information contact:

Mississippi Palisades State Park

16327A Rte. 84

Savanna 61074

(815) 273-2731

### **Morrison-Rockwood State Park**

Boasting an abundant animal population, Morrison-Rockwood State Park offers woodlands and water to deer, foxes, coyotes, pheasants, quail, and mink. The 1,100 acre site, which includes 77 acre Lake Carlton, is a fantastic fishing spot.

For information contact:

Morrison-Rockwood State Park  
18750 Lake Road Morrison 61270  
(815) 772-4708

### **Prophetstown State Recreation Area**

Featuring a variety of recreational opportunities, Prophetstown State Park is a scenic and historic area. Picnicking, fishing, camping, hiking, and wildlife viewing make this 53 acre site, situated on the northeast edge of Prophetstown along the south bank of the Rock River, a natural for group outings.

For information contact:

Prophetstown State Recreation Area  
PO. Box 181  
Prophetstown 61272  
(815) 537-2926

### **Rice Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Just 15 miles north of Havana in Fulton County, Rice Lake is a birdwatcher's dream: Its high-quality habitat attracts thousands of migrating birds annually. In addition, areas also are available for fishing, boating, camping, and wildlife observation.

For information contact:

Rice Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area

19721 N. U.S. 24

Canton 61520

(309) 647-9184 or (309) 647-9188

### **Rock Cut State Park**

Rock-blasting operations conducted by railroad crews in 1859 gave Rock Cut State Park its name. Located north of Rockford, the park's 3,100 acres are host to a full range of summer and winter activities, including: mountain biking, hiking, fishing, swimming, camping, and cross-country. There are approximately 40 miles of trail, with some technical runs for bikers. The main Rock Cut Trail is rolling doubletrack. Numerous singletracks take off from the primary Rock Cut Trail at various locations and rejoin it at other points. Bikers can take excellent rides through the blast areas, as well some fun technical play areas.

For information contact:

Rock Cut State Park

7318 Harlem Rd.

Loves Park 61111

(815) 885-3311

### **Rock Island Trail State Park**

At the north end of the old railway between Wyoming Illinois and Dunlap, the Rock Island Trail State Park has 26 miles of hiking and biking trails. You can visit the depot, as park staff are available, and see the visitor center and trail museum. Only non-motorized and non-equestrian traffic is allowed on the trail.

For more Information:

113 E. Williams

Wyoming IL 61491

(309) 695-2228

### **Sand Ridge State Park**

Open year round, Sand Ridge State Park is 7200 acres of beautiful woods. It has a multitude of activities and 27 class C campsites. With 44 miles of marked trails and 120 miles of fire lanes, this park is great for hiking and backpacking.

For information contact:

P.O. Box 111

Forest City IL 61532

(309) 597-2212

### **Shabbona Lake State Park**

Named for the Potawatomi chief who briefly possessed a small parcel of land here 10 years after the 1832 Black Hawk War, Shabbona Lake State Park is midway between DeKalb and LaSalle-Peru. 8 miles of trails are available for hiking or cross-country skiing.

For information contact:

Shabbona Lake State Park

4201 Shabbona Grove Rd.

Shabbona 60550

(815) 824-2106

### **Snakeden Hollow State Fish and Wildlife Area**

The 2,500 acre Snakeden Hollow State Fish and Wildlife Area, located in Knox County 1 mile southeast of Victoria, features exceptional waterfowl viewing opportunities. The 115 water impoundments offer largemouth and small-mouth bass, bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, bullhead, rainbow, and brown trout for fishing. Seasonal restrictions and limited access may apply. There are no campsites available, making this park better for day trips.

For information contact:

Snakeden Hollow State Fish and Wildlife Area

P.O. Box 295

Victoria 61485

(309) 879-2607

### **Spring Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Containing a large bluff overlooking a long, narrow lake, the Spring Lake area is 25 miles southwest of Peoria on the east side of the Illinois River. Camping, picnicking, fishing, boating, and hiking opportunities provide a vast recreational experience. Concession and boat rentals also are available.

For information contact:

Spring Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area

7982 S. Park Rd.

Manito 61546

(309) 968-7135

### **Starved Rock State Park**

Waterfalls, bluffs, and canyons dominate the landscape at Starved Rock State Park, one mile south of Utica and midway between the cities of LaSalle-Peru and Ottawa. This is one of the best parks for short hikes, waterfalls, and historical experience. It offers some longer hiking trails through thick forest for beautiful views. Highly recommended for at least a weekend or longer camping.

For information contact:

Starved Rock State Park

P.O. Box 509

Utica 61373

(815) 667-4726

### **White Pines Forest State Park**

Located southwest of Mount Morris, White Pines Forest State Park features the southernmost stand of native white pines in Illinois. It is noted also for its vinecovered limestone bluffs and rich Native American history. Concrete fords span Pine Creek, allowing cars to literally drive through the flowing stream.

For information contact:

White Pines Forest State Park

6712 W. Pines Rd.

Mt. Morris 61054

(815) 946-3717

### **Woodford State Fish and Wildlife Area**

Situated east of the Illinois River northeast of Peoria just off Hwy. 26, Woodford State Fish and Wildlife Area is a picturesque bottomland setting with an abundance of silver maple, cottonwood, ash, and willow trees across 2900 acres. Picnicking, camping, boating, and fishing add to the visitor's enjoyment.

For information contact:

Woodford State Fish and Wildlife Area

R.R. 1

Low Point 61545

(309) 246-8351



# High Adventure



## **Philmont Scout Ranch**

Route 1, Box 35

Cimarron, NM 87714

(505) 376- 2281

Philmont is a national camping area, owned and operated by the Boy Scouts of America. Philmont is large, comprising 137,493 acres or about 215 square miles of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo (Blood of Christ) range of the Rockies. The ranch operates 32 staffed camps and 50 unstaffed camps. Philmont has high mountains that dominate rough terrain with an elevation ranging from 6,500 to 12,441 feet

Since Philmont's first camping season in 1939, more than 700,000 Scouts, Venturers, and their leaders have participated in the rugged challenge of its backpacking program. Base camp isn't quite so rugged, offering the luxuries of a dining hall, showers, platform tents, and a trading post. A medical center is available, as are chapels for different religious faiths. The ranch and surrounding area offer many places to go and things to do. The Kit Carson and Philmont museums and the Seton Memorial Library are well worth visiting before or after your trek. Nearby towns such as Cimarron and Springer are windows to the region's rich history. Philmont Scout Ranch provides an unforgettable adventure along its hundreds of miles of rugged, rocky trails. Program features combine the best of the old West—horseback riding, burro packing, gold panning, chuck wagon dinners, and interpretive history—with exciting challenges for today—rock climbing, burro racing, mountain biking, and rifle shooting—in an unbeatable recipe for fast-moving, outdoor fun. But there's a lot more to Philmont than backpacking. Other programs include horseback expeditions called Cavalcades; extended expeditions called Rayado Treks, a 20-day advanced backpacking trek; R.O.C.S., the 21-day Roving Outdoor Conservation School; Order of the Arrow Trail Crew, a 14-day trail-building and hiking program; and Ranch Hands, a 16-day program in which participants work with the Horse Department and experience a Cavalcade. Reservations are required to stay at Philmont and need to be made one year in advance. If you would like more information on Philmont you can

contact the council service center and ask for the booklets on Philmont. For more information, go to: <http://www.scouting.org/highadventure/philmont.aspx> or [www.philmont.com](http://www.philmont.com)

### **Northern Tier National High Adventure Bases**

P.O. Box 509

Ely, Minnesota 55731-0509

(218) 365-4811

Welcome to the Northern Tier. You are stepping into a country explored by few people. From June through August, Northern Tier takes pride in offering Scouts the world's best canoeing. Choosing your Northern Tier program base is your first step. The Northern Tier has several adventures, each with a different character. Come with the Northern Tier on an unforgettable journey through the heart and soul of Canoe Country. The trip will be approximately 90 miles in length. The price is the same as for a regular trip. It does involve some additional logistics, however. Many contingents split into two groups; for example, one crew starts in Atikokan and one starts in Ely. There is a grand portage trip. This is a little longer than the usual trek. This route covers 125 miles of the route the Voyageurs followed when traveling to and from Lake Superior. It starts at the C.L. Sommers base in Ely and ends at the Grand Portage National Monument area on Lake Superior. There is a shuttle fee of \$320.00 to bring your group back to the base. If you are thinking about this trip you should make your reservations in April of the year before you want to go. There is a special rate of 10% off if you go between June 10 and July 6 because they are not as busy at that time. For more information, go to: <http://www.ntier.org/>

## **Florida National High Adventure Sea Base**

P.O. Drawer 1906

Islamorada, FL 33036

73800 Overseas Hwy, Lower Matecumbe Island

Florida Keys 33036

(305) 664-4173

The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base is headquartered in the heart of the fabulous Florida Keys, on an island 75 miles south of Miami and near Mile Marker 74. Key West, the southernmost point in the Keys, Florida and the United States is located at Mile Marker zero. Scouting's most complete aquatic facility offers a complete variety of water activities from SCUBA diving to sailing "Tall Ships". All participants have the opportunity to swim, snorkel, and fish among the most beautiful coral reefs in the northern hemisphere. The elevated dormitories look out across Florida Bay to one of the many bridges that separate the Gulf of Mexico from the Atlantic Ocean. The harbor has a 300-foot pier for sailing yachts, as well as many smaller docks for the fleet of powerboats. SCUBA instruction is offered in special diving tanks complete with an underwater viewing port. The Ship's Store (Trading Post) sells many items that you may have forgotten and items to take home to help you remember your adventure. Only a few miles offshore, an extensive underwater living coral garden forms a barrier reef protecting the islands. Here, among pillars of living coral, you come face to face with thousands of multi-hued tropical fish in water so clear that while swimming, you have the sensation of floating in mid-air. You do many different things while you are at Sea Base, including Scuba Certification, Scuba Adventure, Out Island Adventure, Keys Adventure, Bahamas Tall Ship Adventure, Bahamas Adventure, Sea Exploring, and Coral Reef Sailing. For more information, go to <http://www.bsaseabase.org/>

## **The Summit Bechel Reserve--Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base**

2550 Jack Furst Dr

Glen Jean, WV 25846

The Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base is part of the Summit Bechel Reserve. High Adventure at SBR focuses on more than the adrenaline and wow-factor, it's about finding and breaking personal limits. The Paul R. Christen High Adventure Base features three program categories with a total of seven programs.

The Summit Experience Program allows scouts to take part in a bit of every program. This is a seven-day and six-night long adventure with half day introductions to all nine venues. Each group will also participate in a half day service project and The Big Zip- a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long zip line. Each night the Scott Summit Center is open for socializing, activities, and small versions of the Summit's venues. All scouts must be 13 years old by the 1<sup>st</sup> of September the year they plan to attend. The minimum group size is seven people (the majority being youth) and there is no maximum.

The Focused Programs allow Scouts and Venturers to focus on a single area and develop skills in that area while still having time to take elective choices. Helmets and Harnesses focus on climbing related activities and challenge courses; The Marksman is shooting sports and archery; Berms and Bars is a BMX bike area, and Ramps and rails is for skateboarding.

Trek Programs are designed to utilize one of the greatest resources in the eastern United States: The New River Gorge. Scouts in Trek Programs get to camp in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains along the river or on the trail overlooking the gorge.

For more information or register for The Summit, go to <https://www.summitbsa.org/> and select the HIGH ADVENTURE heading.

## Cache Lake Camp

Cache Lake Camp is a fishing, boating, and water sports outpost owned by the W. D. Boyce Council, and located just across the border in Ontario, Canada. The camp is located 670 miles north of Bloomington, Illinois, approximately eight miles via water, northeast of Crane Lake, Minnesota. The crystal clear lakes, abundant wildlife (including Eagles), and magnificent sunsets make this one of the best camping experiences that the Council has to offer.

Fishing, boating, canoeing, sailboarding, hiking, and wilderness camping are among the activities available at Cache Lake. Each unit designs its own program based on the interests and skills of those attending. The facility includes a bunkhouse for sleeping, dining area and fully equipped kitchen, fish-cleaning station, showers, flush toilets, and latrines. Limited boats, canoes, and other water craft are available. Rental boats and motors, food supplies, fuel, and other necessities are available at the marina at Crane Lake and at a nearby lodge. Units bring most of their food and supplies to camp with them.

To secure one of the limited number of Cache Lake opportunities that are available each summer, your unit must attend a special meeting held in the fall before each camping season, enter a lottery, and have your number drawn. Individuals may also be able to attend with another unit that needs additional youth to fill their quota. Scouts must be 12 years or older by May 1 in the year they will attend camp, and must have attained First Class rank.

Learn more about Cache Lake Camp at

<http://www.wdboyce.org/programs/scouts-bsa/cache-lake-canada/30288>

# Hiking Trails

## **Lincoln Heritage Trail**

Springfield, IL – New Salem, IL

Length: 22 Miles

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

Abraham Lincoln Council, BSA

Fairhills Mall, Monroe at Chatham  
Road

Springfield, IL 62703

Phone: (217) 546- 5570

## **W.D. Boyce Trail**

Ottawa, IL

Length: 16 miles

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

W.D. Boyce Council, BSA  
614 N.E. Madison Street

Peoria IL 61603

Phone: (309) 673- 6136

## **Lincoln Trail Hike**

New Salem, IL - Springfield, IL

Length 22 miles

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

Abraham Lincoln Council, BSA

Fairhills Mall, Monroe at Chatham  
Road

Springfield, IL 62703

Phone: (217) 546- 5570

## **Rapatuck Trail**

Galesburg, IL

Length: 5, 10, or 16 miles

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

Prairie Council, BSA

520 Bank of Galesburg

Galesburg, IL 61401

Phone: (309) 343- 1145

**Sunsinger Trail and Trail of the Fu  
Dogs**

Monticello, IL

Length: Depends on route you take

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

Sun Singer Trail Chief, Box 32

Monticello, IL 61856

Phone: (217) 762- 2171

**Rock Island Trail State Park**

Alta, IL to Toulon, IL

Length: 27 miles

Awards: No

Contact Information:

Rock Island Trail State Park

P.O. Box 64

Wyoming 61491

Phone: (309) 695-2228

**Chief Shabbona Trail**

Joliet, IL

Length: 16.5 miles

Awards: Yes

Contact Information:

Shabbona Trail Committee

1015 Burry Ave,

Joliet, IL 60435 Phone: (815) 727-  
7054

**Where Do You Like To Go Camping?**

Let us know where you go camping or hiking. Also, please share any comments about a listing or experience that you have had while visiting a site listed in this book. We'll put the information in the next update of Where To Go Camping.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I recommend the following for the listing in Where to Go Camping: Camp:

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Description: \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like to offer the following comments about a listing in this Where To Go Camping: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail this form to:

Order of the Arrow "Where to go Camping" W.D. Boyce Council 614 NE Madison Ave.  
Peoria IL, 61603