EL DORADO

El Dorado Reservoir is located just north and east of the city of El Dorado, Kansas, at the edge of the scenic Flint Hills. The lake has approximately 8,000 surface acres of water and 98 miles of shoreline. The average depth of the lake is 19 feet. There are approximately 6,000 acres of land available for public hunting and roughly 4,000 acres of developed park and recreation areas for your enjoyment. To get to the lake, simply take I-35 north from Wichita to the North El Dorado exit and then follow the signs.

The lake was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a multipurpose (flood control, water supply, and outdoor recreation) project. It was completed in June of 1981. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has granted responsibility to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to manage the fisheries, wildlife, boating, and park resources of the area.

Facilities

El Dorado State Park consists of four primary campgrounds, which are open to a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The facilities include nearly 1,148 campsites that range from primitive to full utility hookups, 11 group picnic shelters, five camping cabins and five deluxe cabins, modern shower, laundry, restroom facilities, swim beaches, and an equestrian arena, as well as a trail system consisting of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. A hardened trail for wheelchair access is also available. An ADA archery range and staffed ADA firearm shooting range are also available.

Fees

Fees required for the state park include vehicle permits, camping and utility permits, special event permits, and reservations. All permits must be purchased before facilities can be used. Permits can be purchased from the state park office, gate houses, camp hosts, or from the self pay stations.

Things to Remember

Vehicles may only be driven on maintained roadways. Quiet hours are enforced from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am. All vessels including personal watercraft must be unloaded and loaded from a designated boat ramp. All vehicles entering the park are required to have a valid State Park vehicle permit. UTVs and golf carts need an Unconventional Vehicle Permit available at the El Dorado State Park Office.

Go-Ped operation is strictly prohibited.

Fireworks are strictly prohibited.

Consult area information signs for additional rules and regulations.

Download the Campl KS mobile app today and reserve your Kansas State Park campsite from anywhere, on any mobile device! Available now in the Apple App and Google Play stores.
Park Trails

Teter Nature Trail
The Teter Nature Trail is a 3/4-mile hiking/interpretive trail located at the east end of the Walnut River campground. The trail is named in honor of the Teter family, which owned and preserved the area for many years until it was purchased in 1974 for the construction of El Dorado Reservoir. It winds through 8-acres of land known for its riparian timber and contains one of the most diverse collections of plant life found anywhere in Butler County. The site also provides a home for many different kinds of birds and animals such as deer, raccoon, and turkey.

Walnut Ridge Trail
The Walnut Ridge Trail is a 3/4-mile hiking/biking Trail located across the Walnut River from the Walnut River Campground. The trail takes the visitor on a scenic tour through dense timber and along the Walnut River. Wildlife is abundant with whitetail deer frequenting the area, especially during the spring. The trail also connects directly with the Linear Trail from El Dorado.

Bike Trail
The Double Black Diamond Mountain Bike Trail is a 2-mile hike/bike trail for those who like a little more of a challenge. Located just across the river from the Walnut River campground and connecting with the Linear Trail, the Double Black Diamond trail is a scenic tour through the uplands of the Flint Hills to the bottomlands of the Walnut River. Along the way, rock outcroppings and steep grade changes can be expected. The trail is narrow, winds through dense timber, and has two water crossings as an additional challenge.

Walnut River Trail
The Walnut River is an extension of the Linear Trail, which enters the campground from the west. The hardened trail is approximately 2-miles long and winds throughout the Walnut River Campground. It is open for hiking, biking, and especially wheelchair access. Along the course of the trail, the observer will see the entire campground, will cross over the Walnut River three times, and will get to spend time at the swim beach located in the center of the campground.

Linear Trail
The Linear Trail is a hardened multiuse trail constructed by the city of El Dorado. The trail starts from two locations in the city and ends as it crosses the bridge into the Walnut River Campground.

Shady Creek Nature Trail
The Shady Creek Nature Trail is a hiking/interpretive trail which is about 3/4-mile long. The trail begins near the self-pay station in the Shady Creek Campground, extends across the prairie, and loops down into a unique and scenic wetland area. During the spring and fall, when rain is abundant, expect to see an abundance of waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds in the wetland. In the spring, the trail is a favorite birthing area for white-tail deer, so it is not uncommon to see several spotted fawns playing together.

Boulder Bluff Horse Trail
The Boulder Bluff Horse Trail begins at the Boulder Bluff Area One and Two horse camping areas. This 17-mile trail follows the shoreline of scenic El Dorado Reservoir through a variety of terrain. The horse camping areas have facilities for camping and care of your horses. The trail is also open to hiking and biking as well. Area 2 campground contains 23 utility campsites along with corrals, wash bay, manure bunker, a large riding arena, and a large picnic shelter with electricity.

Rules and Regulations

General Rules:
* Vehicles may only be driven on maintained roads.
* Camping is restricted to designated campsites.
* Quiet hours are enforced from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 am.
* All personal watercraft must be loaded and unloaded from a designated boat ramp.
* All vehicles entering the state park are required to have a valid park permit.
* Go-Ped operation is strictly prohibited.
* Fireworks are strictly prohibited.
* All pets must be kept on a leash.
* Kegs and party balls are strictly prohibited.
* Grey water must be disposed of at the dump station.
* Camping with horses is allowed in Boulder Bluff Area Two only.

Trail Rules:
* Trails are open during daylight hours only
* No camping or fires are allowed on the trails.
* Horses and bicycles must stay on the designated trail.
* Motorized vehicles are prohibited.
* Horse camping is permitted in designated areas only.
* Use caution when crossing roadways.
* All litter must be properly disposed of.

Cabins and Camping
Located throughout the four campgrounds of El Dorado State Park are nearly 1,148 campsites and ten cabins. The campsites range from primitive (having no utilities) to full-service (which includes electric, water, and sewer).

50-amp electrical service is provided at campsites in Frontier and Eagle Pass loops of the Walnut River Area; Fisherman's Point, Bemis Creek, and Quail Run loop of the Bluestem area and equestrian areas.

Two styles of cabins are available for your convenience. Camping cabins are small one-room cabins with sleeping quarters. The deluxe cabins are full service with a kitchen, restroom, and sleeping quarters. Reservations can be made by contacting the state park office Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm, or on the web at campitks.com.