

Bear Brook State Park

Trail Information

With nearly 10,000 acres, Bear Brook State Park is the largest developed state park in New Hampshire. The park offers a wide range of recreational opportunities, including fishing, swimming, and boating. Archery Pond is a favorite spot for fly-fishing enthusiasts and is universally accessible. Across the road is a special pond for children under 12 to fish. Hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians are welcome on all park trails unless otherwise posted. If archery is your sport, Bear Brook has two public archery ranges, including one that is universally accessible. Bear Brook State Park Campground is remotely located in the park on the shore of Beaver Pond, five miles from the day-use area. The campground is open for reservable stays from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend.

With over 40 miles of trails leading to seldom visited marshes, bogs, summits, and ponds, there are trails to suit every skill level.

One Mile Trail: This is a relatively easy trail that leads to Bear Brook Trail and Catamount Trail and is the main artery for the more popular and more challenging trails. Formerly a fire road, it is often used by mountain bikers, hikers and equestrian riders. You will encounter many different tree species and possibly some wildlife.

Bear Brook Trail: This is a beautiful trail that follows the inspiration for the Park's name, Bear Brook. The trail is well shaded and stays relatively cool even in the heat of the summer. If you enjoy the sounds of running water and the occasional brook trout, this is an excellent trail. Difficulty: moderate

Catamount Trail: Catamount provides access to one of the best open lookouts in the entire park. This vista is just before the actual peak. Catamount is a fairly steep trail and can be quite rocky at times. The peak is an open outcrop of granite but is not above tree line. Difficulty: difficult

For a more complete trail listing, check the Trail Guide available at the park or at www.nhstateparks.org.

Important reminders:

- Respect the rights of owners of private roads, access trails, and property adjacent to the park.
- It is unlawful to cut any standing trees or their limbs, shrubs, or vegetation found in the park.
- All New Hampshire State Parks are carry in/carry out. Please carry all of your litter home with you.
- Camping is only allowed in the park campground at Beaver Pond.
- Fires are only permitted in the campground.
- Pets must be leashed and attended at all times on the trails.
- All trail use requires payment of the day-use fee.
- All trails in the park are multi-use. Please share with care.

Telephone Numbers

Emergency.....911
Local Police.....603.485.9501
Park Manager.....603.485.9874

Park trails are maintained with the help of volunteers. For information on how you can help, or for more information on New Hampshire State Parks, contact the main office at 603-271-3556, P.O. Box 172, Pembroke Road, Concord, NH 03302, or visit our website at www.nhstateparks.org.

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