



Bear Head Lake State Park

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Fall Colors

25-50%
The
Blueberry
and Norberg
hiking trails are
wonderful...

[More details »](#)

Bear Head Lake State Park

Secluded in the Northwoods, this park contains pristine lakes; it is home to black bears, nesting eagles, wolves and moose. Stands of white and red pine trees tower over the birch, aspen and fir trees. Located just south of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, the park shares a similar wilderness quality. Explore miles of shoreline by canoe. Swim at the beach, picnic in the shelter building, or fish for walleye, bass, crappies or trout. Trails in the park link-up with the Taconite State Trail and offer snowmobilers, skiers and hikers plenty to enjoy. Rent a three-bedroom guest house or camper cabin any season of the year.


Tell me more about this park's wildlife, history, geology and landscape.

Visitor Alert!

Exciting news: Construction for the new Trail Center has begun. As always please drive cautiously within the park as trucks are hauling equipment and materials.

Park Notes

State Forest Campgrounds:

Bear Head Lake State Park also manages the Woodenfrog, Ash River and Wakemup Bay campgrounds inside the Kabetogama State Forest. For information on these units, please contact the Bear Head Lake State Park office at (218) 365-7229 .

2010 America's Favorite Park!

Bear Head Lake State Park won the 2010 title of "America's Favorite Park" and a \$100,000 gift in a nationwide campaign sponsored by Coca-Cola. The money improved a trail center at the park. Thank you Minnesota, and thank you America! [Watch the video of the award ceremony.](#)



Virtual Tour:

Take a panoramic virtual tour of Bear Head Lake State Park. Peek inside a camper cabin, meander along the Blueberry Lake hiking trail and check out a few of our many great fishing spots.

[Panoramic tour](#) | [Accessible tour](#)

There's also [a short video](#)^{VID} of scenes from the park.

Gift Card:

Purchase a Minnesota State Parks [Gift Card](#).

Firewood Restrictions Information:

Minnesota has enacted legislation that restricts firewood being brought to or used on DNR lands. [Learn more](#) and [review vendor lists](#).

Birders:

[Bird Checklist](#) ^{PDF} at Bear Head Lake State Park.

Directions:

From Tower, go east on MN Highway 169 for 9 miles to County Highway 128. Follow this road south 7 miles to the park.
From Ely, go west on MN Highway 169 to County Highway 128. Follow this road south 7 miles to the park.

Park Highlights

🌲 Camping	🌲 Fishing
🌲 Great Hiking Trails	🌲 Wilderness Atmosphere
🌲 Wildlife	🌲 23 Miles of Lakeshore

Events

 [Printable version](#)

Find more State Park events on the [DNR Events Calendar!](#)

There are currently no event listings.

Hours

Best time to contact the park:

June - Labor Day: Daily, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
September: Daily, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
October - Memorial Day weekend: Intermittent between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact

9301 Bear Head State Park Road
Ely, MN 55731

tel: 218-365-7229📞
email: bearhead.statepark@state.mn.us

Getting There



From the town of Tower, go east on U.S. Highway 169, 9 miles to St. Louis County Highway 128. Take Highway 128 south 7 miles to the contact station.