

Letchworth State Park



General Information

Visitor Center: (585) 493-3600 Park Police: (585) 658-4692
TDD NYS Relay (800) 662-1220 Emergency Telephone: 911
Highbanks Tent & Trailer (Camping): (585) 237-3303

Location: 35 miles south of Rochester, NY. Park Entrances are located at Mount Morris, Perry, Castile, Portageville, and the Parade Grounds from Rte. 436 (see area map). The Portageville and Parade Grounds entrances are closed in the winter months.

Hours: Open 6 a.m. - 11 p.m. every day.

Vehicle Use Fee: \$6.00 per car; \$35.00 for non-profit, tax-exempt non-commercial buses and \$75.00 for commercial buses. Fee is collected weekends April to mid-May and in winter, daily mid-May through October.

Carry In - Carry Out

Letchworth State Park is a "Carry In - Carry Out" State Park. This means that everything daily visitors bring into the park (carry in) must be taken home (carry out). This includes picnicking trash and garbage. The park has no garbage receptacles in the picnic grounds and other day use areas.

Attractions

Hiking: Hiking opportunities abound on trails ranging from one-half to twenty miles, with difficulty from easy to moderate. About half the trails are available for winter hiking or skiing.

Swimming: Swimming is available at a pool which is located in the north end of the park in the Highbanks Recreation Area. The pool is open during the summer season when lifeguards are on duty, generally 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Whitewater: The Genesee River is a Class II-III whitewater river. Registration is available for canoeists and kayakers. Participants must be experienced whitewater paddlers and able swimmers. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Whitewater rafting and guided canoe trips are a concession activity that advertises in this guide. Trips originate from the Lee's Landing area and travel about six miles over two hours. For more information contact Adventure Calls Outfitters, P.O. Box 391, LeRoy, NY 14482, call (888) 270-2410, or visit them at the Lower Falls swimming pool.

Hot Air Ballooning: For a spectacular bird's eye view, contact Balloons Over Letchworth at (585) 493-3340.

Horseback Riding: Letchworth has guided trail rides on horseback. On weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through Columbus Day, Wolcott Farms offers guided horseback rides in the park. Beginners are welcome. For information, call (585) 786-3504.

Picnic Areas: Picnic tables, grills and shelters are located throughout the park. Fuel for grill fires is not provided. Some picnic shelters are available for reservations. Remember: carry in - carry out.

Winter Sports: Winter sports in Letchworth Park include cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, skating, snowtubing, snowmobiling in designated areas, and hiking.

History: The William Pryor Letchworth Museum in the Middle Falls Area features displays about early regional settlement and Native American Artifacts. On a ridge behind the Glen Iris Inn is a restored Seneca Indian Council House, the grave of Mary Jemison, and the cabin of Nancy Jemison, all of which were preserved by Mr. Letchworth.

The Falls

Within the park, the Genesee River cascades over three falls, including the 107-foot drop of the Middle Falls. Lights illuminate the Middle Falls after dark from May through October.

Reservations

Campsites & Cabins

Reservations for cabins and campsites in State Parks, as well as campgrounds run by the Environmental Conservation Department, are available through the NYS Cabin/Camping Reservation System. Call 1-800-456-CAMP (1-800-456-2267).

Inn and Lodge

Accommodations

The Glen Iris Inn and Restaurant, located within the park near the Middle Falls, offers fine dining, country inn guest rooms and a gift shop. Open March 21 through Nov. 1. Room reservations suggested.

Pinewood Lodge, a short distance from and operated by the Inn, features newly-remodeled light housekeeping units.

Caroline's Cottage, a three bedroom home great for family vacations.

For information, call the Inn at (585) 493-2622, or write to Glen Iris Inn, 7 Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY 14427.

Food Service

In addition to the Glen Iris Inn, the park offers a Lower Falls restaurant and four snack bars within the park. The camping area has a store and laundry for campers.

Park Regulations

For the enjoyment and safety of all visitors, a number of regulations apply. Park rules and regulations are posted at all comfort stations and are available at the Visitor Center. A few frequently-asked-about regulations are listed here.

Pets: Household pets are permitted if confined on a leash not exceeding six feet in length. Proof of rabies inoculation is required. Pets are prohibited in all park buildings, cabins, cabin areas, and pool areas.

Alcoholic Beverages: Permits are required for most groups bringing alcoholic beverages into the park. Permits and specific regulations are available from the Visitor Center.

Fires: Fires are permitted only in fireplaces; visitors must bring their own fuel or purchase it at the concession stand.

River/Gorge: Entry into the Genesee River within the park is prohibited, except by permit in a canoe group. Swimming is allowed only in the swimming pool. Climbing the river gorge is prohibited.