

Nearby Parks

If you’re having a great time here, don’t forget to visit one of these two nearby state parks!

**Jerome State Historic Park** (10 miles) This park reveals the story of the city of Jerome inside the historic Douglas Mansion. The museum features photographs, artifacts, and minerals in addition to a video presentation and a 3-D model of the town with its underground mines. (928) 634-5381

**Fort Verde State Historic Park** (19 miles) Experience living history and life through the eyes of a frontier soldier. The fort was a base for General Crook’s U.S. Army scouts and soldiers in the 1870s and 1880s. From 1865 – 1891, Camp Lincoln, Camp Verde, and Fort Verde were home to officers, doctors, families, enlisted men, and scouts. (928) 567-3275

Cabins

The park has camping cabins available for reservation. Each cabin has a covered porch, a full-sized bed, two sets of bunk beds, a table with chairs, electricity, lights, heating and air conditioning, and a locking door. Campers must supply their own linens or sleeping bags. Restrooms and showers are within walking distance. Cabins sleep up to six people. Check-in time for cabins is 3 p.m. Checkout time is 10 a.m.

Reserve a camping cabin and start your park adventure at [azstateparks.com/cabins](https://azstateparks.com/cabins).

Firearms

Discharging firearms within the park is prohibited! This includes BB and pellet guns, bows, and slingshots.



**Dead Horse Ranch State Park**  
675 Dead Horse Ranch Rd, Cottonwood, AZ 86326  
**(928) 634-5283 | 1-877-MYPARKS**  
[azstateparks.com/dead-horse](https://azstateparks.com/dead-horse)



02/23

**Dead Horse Ranch State Park** has 423 acres, ideal for camping, mountain biking in the Coconino National Forest, hiking along the Verde River, canoeing, picnicking, fishing, or just wading in the cool water of the Verde River.

The ranch got its name when the Ireys family came to Arizona from Minnesota in the late 1940s looking to buy a ranch. At one property they discovered a dead horse lying by the road. When Mr. Ireys asked the kids which ranch they liked best, they said, “the one with the dead horse.” The family named it “Dead Horse Ranch,” and when Arizona State Parks acquired the park in 1973, the Ireys made retaining the name a condition of sale.

Thank you for visiting!



1-877-MYPARKS | [azstateparks.com](https://azstateparks.com)

Hiking Trails

Trails are located within the park and the adjacent Coconino National Forest.

**Canopy:** A 0.25-mile ADA-accessible trail that loops under a Fremont cottonwood tree canopy. Bird watching and wildlife viewing abound.

**Creosote:** 0.5-mile shortcut trail. Shared-use.

**Dead Horse Trail System:** A non-motorized 20+ mile shared-use mix of double track and single track trails. Four trailheads throughout the park lead up to the high desert of Coconino National Forest. The Lime Kiln Trail leg follows a portion of the historic Lime Kiln Wagon Road from Cottonwood to Sedona. Hikers and equestrians are encouraged to travel counterclockwise on the basic loop — **Lime Kiln, Thumper, and Raptor Trails**. Mountain bikers usually find that starting at the Roadrunner trailhead and riding the loop clockwise is more fun. For most cyclists, the trail is rated intermediate to expert.

**Forest Loop:** A 0.5-mile shared-use loop trail that circles around and through a diversely forested area with river access.

**Hickey Ditch:** A 0.5-mile shared-use trail that follows along the Hickey irrigation ditch to the Verde River. Intersects with Quail Wash Trail. The trailhead is located at north end of the west lagoon parking lot.

**Mesa:** A 1-mile loop that circles the top of the hill west of Red-Tail Hawk campground with scenic views.

**Quail Wash:** A 0.25-mile trail that intersects with Hickey Ditch Trail. **Hikers and bicycles only.**

**Tavasci Marsh:** 1-mile shared-use trail.

Staying in the Park

Please observe the following in addition to the Park Rules when in the park:

- Park fees are per vehicle, unless the vehicle is in-tow.
- Stay limit is 14 days in a 30-day period.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. - 8 a.m.
- No loud music or public address systems.
- Check-in time for visitors with reservations is 2 p.m.
- Checkout time is noon.

Park Rules

General Rules

- Do not litter! Recreate responsibly and pack out what you bring in, or use the trash receptacles provided in the park.
- Drive your vehicle only on designated paved surfaces. Park only in designated parking areas. Do not park on the side of the road.
- Stay on designated trails. Cutting trails degrades habitat and harms the landscape.
- Do not use glass containers in the park.
- All of our parks adhere to firearm and hunting regulations. Please familiarize yourself with this information.

Fires

- Keep fires in grills or designated state parks fire rings. Never leave fires unattended!
- **Do not gather firewood in the parks.** Firewood is for sale in most park stores.
- Fireworks are not permitted in state parks.
- Be “fire smart” and check fire restrictions at [azstateparks.com/fire-safety](https://azstateparks.com/fire-safety).

Camping

- Campsites are limited to up to six adults and up to 10 people total. Cabins are limited to six people total.
- There are designated dump facilities at the park for your convenience.

Boating

- Review boating regulations before heading out on the water.
- Only kayaks, canoes, and boats powered by oars are permitted on lagoons.
- Paddleboarding is not permitted on lagoons.

Pets

- Keep your pets on a maximum six-foot leash at all times. Pets must be attended at all times.
- **Pick up after your pet.**
- For additional information related to pets, visit our website or ask park staff.

Additional Rules

- Do not hang hammocks from trees.
- Contain all grey water.
- Do not wash RVs or vehicles in the park.
- **Generators are NOT allowed.**
- **Do not swim in the lagoons.**

The rules of this park are not limited to the rules listed above. Additional park rules may be found at [azstateparks.com](https://azstateparks.com).

DEAD HORSE RANCH  
STATE PARK

- Accessible Pier
- Dump Station
- Fishing
- Gift Shop
- Parking
- Playground
- Ramada
- Ranger Station
- Restroom
- Self-Pay Station
- Shower
- Cabin
- Junction
- Trailhead
- Trail
- Motorized Trail
- Gate
- Wash
- Stream
- Park Boundary

