



PONCA STATE PARK

2011 Season Information



CABINS

Ponca State Park has 14 rustic log cabin style, two-bedroom cabins with air-conditioning. Each bedroom features a double bed and linen. Bathrooms have showers while kitchens are equipped with a stove, refrigerator, coffee maker, microwave, toaster, dishes, utensils and towels. TVs are in each cabin. We recommend six guests per cabin. Sleeping pads and Pack-N-Play's are available for an additional charge of \$10.00 (limited number).

There are ten, 4 bedroom cabins beautifully furnished with 4 queen beds, wireless internet, cable TV and a fireplace. These 4 bedroom cabins will be open year round. Five additional 4 bedroom cabins will be available sometime in the summer of 2011.

There are two, 2 bedroom "green" cabins beautifully furnished with 2 queen beds, wireless internet and cable TV. These 2 bedroom cabins will be open year round.

Rates - \$85 per night plus tax for the 2 bedroom cabins and \$270 per night plus tax for the 4 bedroom cabins and \$145 for the 2 bedroom "Green" Cabins.

RESOURCE & EDUCATION CENTER

Conference/meeting rooms and a full-service kitchen are available year-round. These rooms may be rented separately or combined to make a single large room. Individually, they are the Oxbow Room, the Willow Room, the Sandbar Room, and the River Bluff Room. Up to 260 people can be seated together by combining all of the rooms. Occupancy may vary depending on seating arrangements. Contact the Park Office for a tour of the rooms, costs and reservations.

CAMPING

Ponca State Park has 93 electrical sites, three campgrounds with 30- and 50-amp electrical services. The campgrounds include showers, paved sites, picnic tables, fire pits, water (not as hookups), playground, and dump station. Riverfront campground has gravel sites and no showers.

Season - Both primitive campsites and campsites with electrical service are available year round. However, water and the shower houses are unavailable from mid-October through mid-April.

Rates - From mid-April through mid-October, primitive camping costs \$12. Electrical campsites are available with 30-amp and 50-amp service for a cost of \$18.

From mid-October through mid-April when shower houses and the dump station are unavailable, primitive camping is \$7 and sites with electrical service cost \$13.

RESERVATIONS

Cabin reservations are accepted for two or more nights up to a year in advance of arrival date, and can be made on-line, by phone or in person during regular park office hours. A two-night minimum stay is required during peak season and holidays.

Campsites in the Oak Bluff campground may be reserved. Sites 1 through 36 in the Turkey Ridge campground are available only on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations may be made up to a year in advance of arrival date, and can be made on-line, by phone or in person.

To make reservations online, go to www.OutdoorNebraska.org. Phone reservations can be made through the Nebraska State Park reservation call center at (402) 471-1414. Guests may contact us at Ponca State Park, 88090 Spur 26E, Ponca, NE 68770, (402) 755-2284.

There is a \$7 (plus tax) nonrefundable reservation fee for each site or unit reserved. The reservation fee applies to each site or unit reserved, regardless of the number of nights staying.

ACTIVITIES

Ponca State Park offers a full slate of activities for the entire family.

Swimming Pool - A modern pool with lifeguards on duty is open seven days a week from mid-June through the middle of August when school starts. From mid-August through Labor Day, the pool is open on weekends only. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children 3-12. Children 2 and under are admitted free. Frequent or long-term visitors may wish to purchase annual pool passes at the Park Office.

Trail Rides - Supervised horseback rides are led three times a day Monday through Friday and five times a day Saturdays and Sundays from Memorial Day through the middle of August when school starts. From mid-August through Labor Day, trail rides are weekends only. Tickets are \$15 per rider and are available at the Park Office. Children must be at least 6 years of age to ride.

Boat Ramp - Boat ramp and docks are available to access the Missouri River.

Archery Range - An archery range with targets is located near the west picnic shelter.

Outdoor Education - Onsite naturalists and volunteers present daily programs during summer months. A weekly activity schedule is posted at the Resource and Education Center. Programs are dependent upon staff availability throughout the winter season.

Hiking Trails - The park has more than 20 miles of trails for hiking and biking. A new hike/bike route connects the park to the city of Ponca.

Hayrack Rides - Educational hayrack rides are offered from Memorial Day to late October, depending on the weather and staff availability.

Special Events - A complete list of special events is printed on the back of this flier including Halloweenfest and the Missouri River Outdoor Expo.

Highland Oaks Golf Course - A nine-hole public course is located at the southwest corner of the park. Call 402-755-4222 for fees and tee times.

North Addition - Ponca State Park has recently added nearly 1,000 acres of bottomland forest, prairie and wetlands. This area offers excellent opportunities for birdwatching, hiking, fishing and mushroom hunting. See the Park Office for more information.

Winter Activities - A sledding hill is located near the Archery Range. Cross-country ski trails are also found within the park.

Other Services - Gift shop, permits, ice and concessions are available at the Park Office. Groceries, gas and restaurants are available in the city of Ponca. Medical and dental services are also available in Ponca.

PARK ENTRY PERMIT

A current Nebraska Park Entry Permit is required at the park from January through December. Permits are available at the Entry Booth or Park Office. Annual permits are \$20. Duplicate permits are available for \$10 and daily permits for \$4. Permits may be purchased online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

OFFICE HOURS

From Memorial Day through Labor Day, the Park Office is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays. Off-season hours are Mon-Sat. 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For information about Nebraska park areas, ask at the Park Office or write the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370, call 1-800-826-PARK (7275) to leave a message and receive a 52-page color brochure on Nebraska State Parklands or look online at www.OutdoorNebraska.org.

Ponca State Park 2011 Special Events

Memorial Day-Labor
Day Weekend

Outdoor Education Programs

Weekly programs which include outdoor skills, environmental education, and arts & crafts are offered Memorial Day – Labor Day Weekend. Schedules are prepared two-weeks in advance.

May 8th

Mother's Day Buffet

Menu includes roast beef, ham, vegetables, salads, and deserts. Reservations are required and numbers are limited.

June 18 - 19th

Father's Day Fossil Hunt and Fish Fry (19th)

The annual paleontologist guided plesiosaur/fossil dig, kids fossil boxes, a treasure hunt, and other related activities. Fish fry menu includes fried fish, cornbread, beans and home-made coleslaw. Reservations required and numbers are limited. Fish fry June 19th.

April 23rd – 24th

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshop

Learn a variety of outdoor skills through hands-on/one-on-one instruction. Training will be provided on topics such as outdoor cooking, camping, Archery, shotgun shooting, kayaking and other outdoor skills. Registration is on-line at OutdoorNebraska.org.

July 15th – 17th

Becoming an Outdoors-Family Workshop

This event is designed to re-connect families through outdoor experiences and hands-on learning. This workshop teaches families outdoor skills such as kayaking, camping, outdoor cooking, fishing, shooting sports, outdoor survival, and much more. Register on-line. at OutdoorNebraska.org.

August 13th

Shooting Sports Skills Day Camp

This event is for those who wish to hone in on their shooting techniques. We will camp out in a hunting camp atmosphere, chow on wild game and then we'll head out to practice shooting various firearms and bows in different type of settings. Registration required.

September 10th - 11th

Archery Sight-in Days

The park's archery range will have 3-D target ranges setup that include big game, small game, the deer herd, and a just for fun range. Range will be open from 10AM to 4PM both days.

September 17th - 18th

7th Annual Missouri River Outdoor Expo

This 7th annual event features hands-on demonstrations, exhibits, presentations, and activities on camping, hunting, nature art, outdoor cooking, fishing, conservation, biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and many other outdoor pursuits.

October 1st – 2nd

2nd Annual Heritage Farm Weekend

The Heritage Farm weekend event focuses on "passing-on" many of the traditional skills and techniques of a small family farm. Programs may include canning & preserving, bee keeping, organic gardening, cheese making, heirloom gardening, quilting, and much more.

October 8th & 15th

Hallowfest

The Park's annual Halloween/autumn event that features haunted hayrack rides, pumpkin rolling and carving contest, a campsite decorating contest, and much more. Haunted hayrack ride reservations begin October 11th by calling the park office.

December 14th

Annual Christmas Bird Count

This event coincides with the Audubon's Society's national Christmas Bird Count. Amateur and expert birdwatchers are invited to attend this event. A free chili feed will be served at noon.

Any program that receives federal funding from the National Park Service, or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, marital status, national origin, age, disability or political affiliation. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, facility, or service, should contact the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE 402-471-0641, the Equal Opportunity Commission, Lincoln, NE 402-471-2024, TTY/TDD 402-471-4693; United States Fish Wildlife Service, Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203; Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Code 0008, Washington, D.C. 20240-0001.



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