

Kiptopeke State Park



Details at
vasp.fun/FDHphoto2021



How To Play

Use this guide and map to explore the natural, cultural, and historical wonders of Kiptopeke State Park.

Check off each task as you traverse the trails, roads, boardwalks and beaches to find the unique landmarks.

Selfie Challenge

Compete in the Selfie Challenge by snapping a selfie at each designated landmark to receive a special prize.

Rules

Stay on marked trails. Unmarked paths and going off the trail can damage the fragile ecosystems that the plants and animals have worked so hard to create.

Bring a Trail Guide. Even if you have a "keen sense of direction", it's still possible to get lost. A trail guide will not only assist you in getting to the scavenges, but it will also help you find your way home.

Travel in a small group. Although it's possible to hunt on your own, it's safer and more fun to have a partner.

Be respectful of nature. Wildlife is wild! It is always best to leave a plant or animal alone. Do not attempt to capture wildlife or damage plants or trees.

Leave no trace. Please take your trash with you when you scavenge. The best trails are unspoiled trails. Litter is not only harmful to the ecosystem, but it can spoil an adventure by being trashy. Also, don't be afraid to pick up a litterbug's mistakes along the way.

Kiptopeke State Park
3540 Kiptopeke Drive
Cape Charles, VA 23310
(757) 331-2267

2. Bird Banding Station

Kiptopeke State Park and the surrounding areas on the eastern shore a detrimental parts of the Atlantic Flyway during the bi-yearly migration seasons. Natural areas provide a much needed resting place before or after a bird's insurmountable journey across the Chesapeake Bay. By placing a small, light band around a bird's leg an ornithologists can study the time, distance, and direction of a bird's travel patterns to better understand what help is needed.

3. Brown Pelican Trail Overlooks

Many landmarks can be observed from the tops of the bluffs. Look south and you can see the Chesapeake Bay Bridge tunnel which spans the mouth of the Bay. Look right and you will see the nine WWII concrete army ships that were placed offshore to protect the ferries and dock which used to operated on what is now the Kiptopeke State Park fishing pier.

Tree ID

Use the online tree guide to help ID
<https://www.arboday.org/trees/whatTree/>
Or do your best to identify the following trees

_Virginia Pine _Wax Myrtle
_Eastern Redcedar _Yaupon Holly
_Loblolly Pine _American Holly

1. Tourins Motor Court Sign

Built in the 50s to accommodate travelers from the ferry, the motel once stood on the footprint of the Hawk Observation Platform. 1964 and the construction of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel marked the end of the ferries operation at Kiptopeke and the Tourins Motor Court shortly followed.

Wildlife Observation

Observe the sights, sounds, and signs of wildlife.
Draw a picture of an animal or its traces.

4. Pollenator Fields

Remnants of farming can be found throughout the park, the most interesting being 2 fields deep in the woods. These fields once called Sunday Fields were farmed in the privacy of the surrounding trees to avoid Blue Laws which prevented farmers from working on Sundays when the cultural norm was to be in attendance of church. Now the park utilizes them as pollinator fields where birds and insects don't get a day of rest from their hard job of collecting pollen for food and fertilization of plants.

Kiptopeke State Park

(757) 331-2267 kiptopeke@dcr.virginia.gov

3540 Kiptopeke Drive

Cape Charles, VA 23310

TRAIL	Blaze	Mileage	Usage	Difficulty	Access
Baywoods	Blue	0.9	H, B	●	
Chickadee	Yellow	0.4	H, B	●	
Mockingbird	Red	0.3	H, B	●	
Raptor	Orange	1.5	H, B	●	
Songbird	Silver	1.6	H, B	●	
Wren	Brown	0.1	H, B	●	
Taylor Pond	Green	0.3	H, B	●	
Brown Pelican	L. Green	0.6	H, B	●	

BOARDWALK	Blaze	Mileage	Usage	Difficulty	Access
Bald Eagle	None	0.1	H	●	
Osprey	None	0.1	H	●	
Peregrine	None	0.1	H	●	
Wood Warbler	None	0.3	H	●	

OVERLOOK	Blaze	Mileage	Usage	Difficulty	Access
Bay Overlook	None	0.03	H, B	●	
Bald Eagle Bluff	None	0.1	H	●	A

H = Hiking B = Biking ● = Easy ■ = Moderate ♦ = Difficult
HB = Horseback Riding A = Handicapped Accessible

Chesapeake Bay

