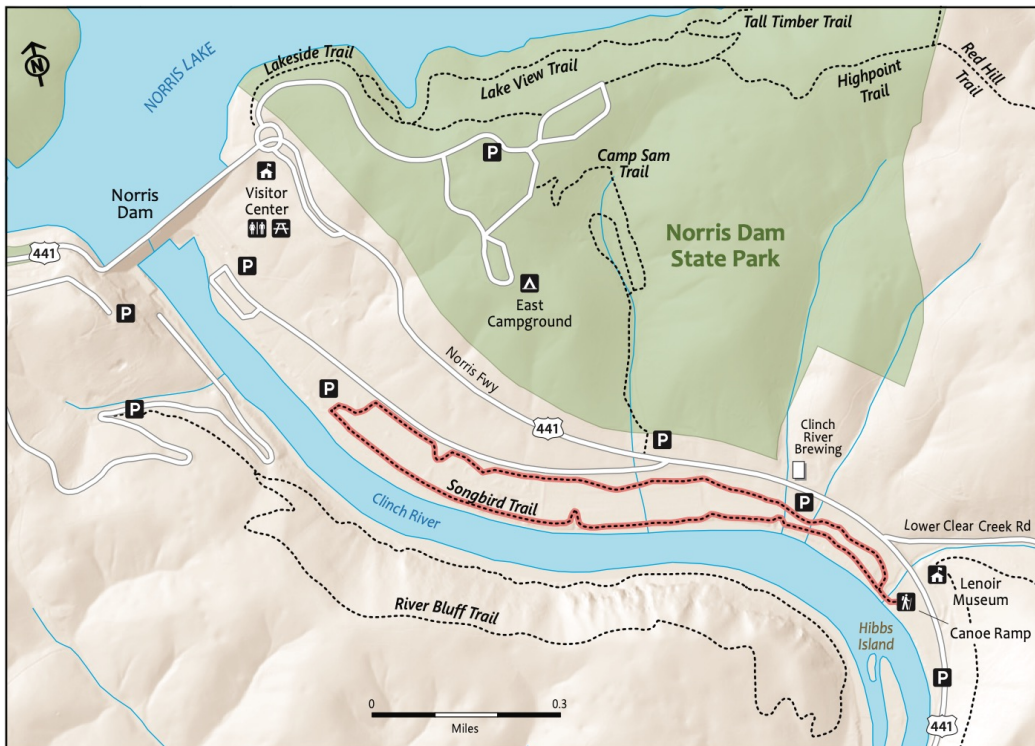


Trail 11: Norris Dam

Key Characteristics

Trail Name	Songbird Loop
Region	Knoxville and Surroundings
Trail #	11
Time Estimate - Hiking Fast	1.5 hours
Time Estimate - Hiking Slowly	2.5 hours
Trail Distance (Miles)	2.3
Elevation Change	Gentle
Pets	Allowed on leash
Parking Pass/Entrance Fee	Not Required
Restroom(s)	No
Terrain	Gravel path



Overview

Part of Norris Dam State Park, around thirty minutes north of Knoxville on the pretty Norris Lake. This hike is one of the flattest we feature. Further, it's on a graded gravel path. Like the Knox-Blount Greenway along the Tennessee River, you may be surprised by the variety and quantity of wildlife you see along this scenic river, the Clinch. A relaxing trail for a family outing that might end with a drive over Norris Dam or a stop for a bite and a drink at the nearby Clinch River Brewery. This hike would be a fun challenge for the toddler ready to hike a bit farther.



Directions to the Trailhead

Trailhead Address	Canoe Ramp by the Songbird Loop, 6W6G+R7 Rocky Top, Tennessee
Trailhead GPS Coordinates	36.21210, -84.07397

There are several possible trailheads, all easy to access. We chose to start this hike from a put in spot for kayaks and canoes. In Google Maps, you can search the above address. Please note it uses a “Plus code” instead of a street address, as the canoe ramp does not have an address. This is immediately off Norris Fwy. (Highway 441) — curiously, the same highway that bisects the Smokies. Park in the large parking lot and head toward the river.

Trail Description

Distance from Start	Description
0.0	Start by crossing a short bridge over Clear Creek.
0.05	Turn right to start the loop in a counterclockwise fashion (of course, you can hike the other way, too!).
0.3	Short bridge.
1.0	Turn left, toward the river, remaining on the same trail.
1.05	Follow the trail back along the river.
2.3	Trailhead.

Nearby

- Stopping by the Clinch River Brewery. Clinch River Brewing (2045 Norris Fwy, Norris, TN 37828) is not within the boundaries of the Norris Dam State Park—but it’s very close to the trailhead and is a fun place to stop for lunch or dinner before or after a hike.
- Checking out Norris Dam. Stop at the TVA Norris Dam Visitor Center on the same side of the Clinch River as this hike — or drive across and back over the dam for an impressive—and a bit of an otherworldly—view and experience.