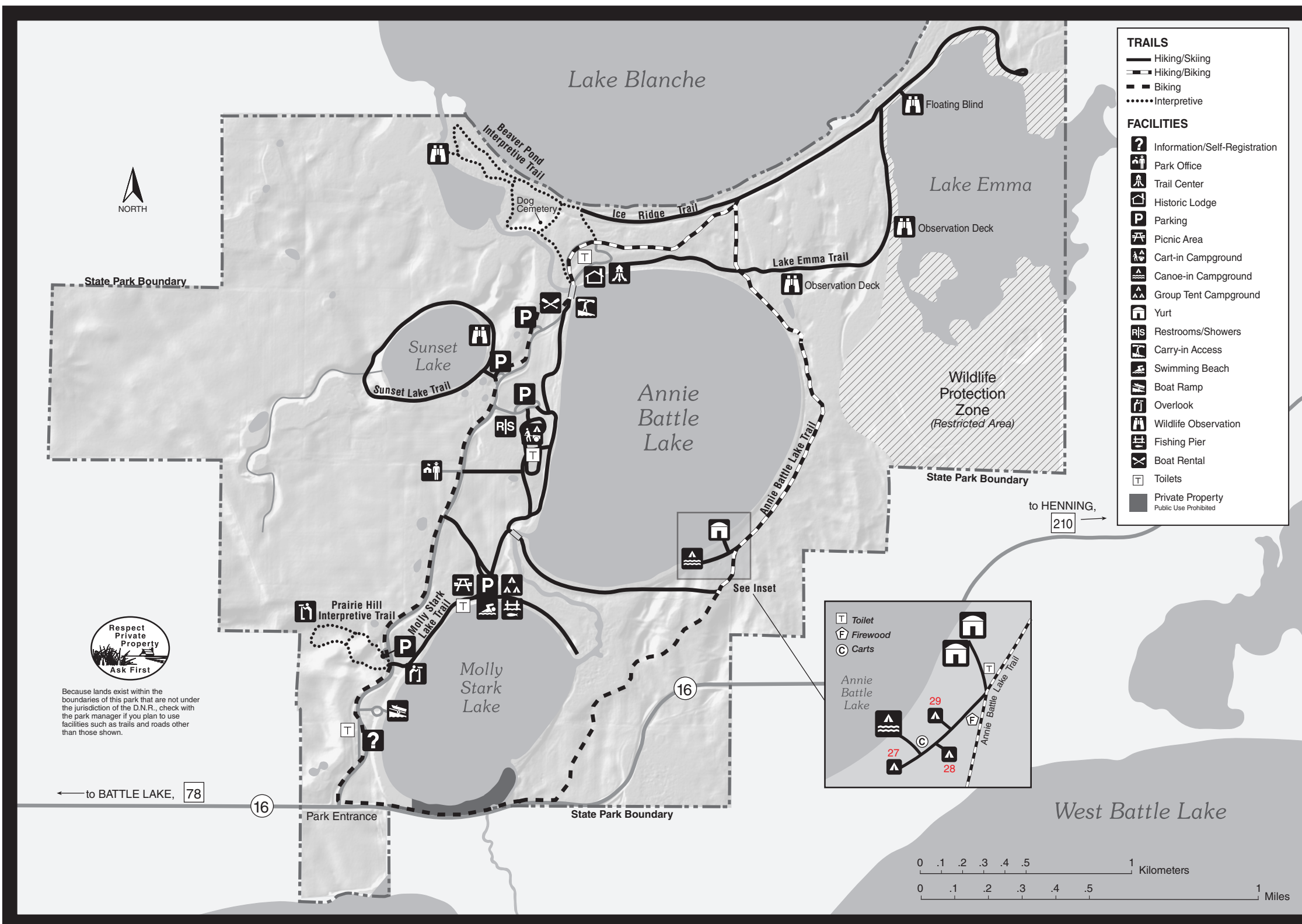
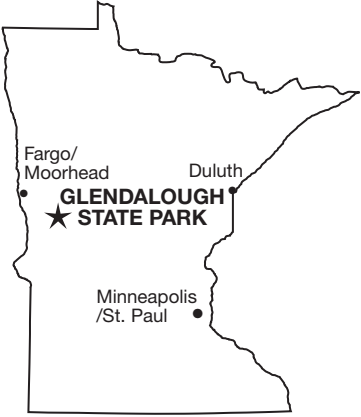


GLENDALOUGH STATE PARK

FACILITIES AND FEATURES

- Cart-in campground, providing 22 tent sites and 4 camper cabins (2 seasonal, 2 year-round that are available Thursday-Sunday), along with modern restroom and shower facilities, in a wooded setting near Annie Battle Lake.
- 3 campsites and 2 yurts on Annie Battle Lake, accessible only by canoe, bike or backpacking.
- Traditional group camp on Battle Creek with a view of two lakes.
- Hiking and groomed ski trails through rich hardwood forests; across native prairie; to wildlife viewing wetlands; and around park lakes.
- Wildlife observation throughout Glendalough. Binoculars and field guides are available to observe large populations of resident deer, waterfowl, and songbirds.
- “Heritage Fishing” from shore or boat. Annie Battle Lake offers a primitive fishing experience in a quiet, non-motorized setting.
- Canoeing and kayaking on Annie Battle Lake and connecting waterways. Paddleboard and paddleboat rentals are available at the park.
- Fishing pier and boat launch on Molly Stark Lake, providing access for modern fishing and water recreation.
- Picnicking and swimming on two lakes. Both lakes have natural sand beaches and crystal clear water. Shelter rentals available.
- Park hours: 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.





GLENDALOUGH STATE PARK

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Glendalough State Park
25287 Whitetail Lane
Battle Lake, MN 56515-9654
(218) 864-0110

Department of Natural Resources
Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

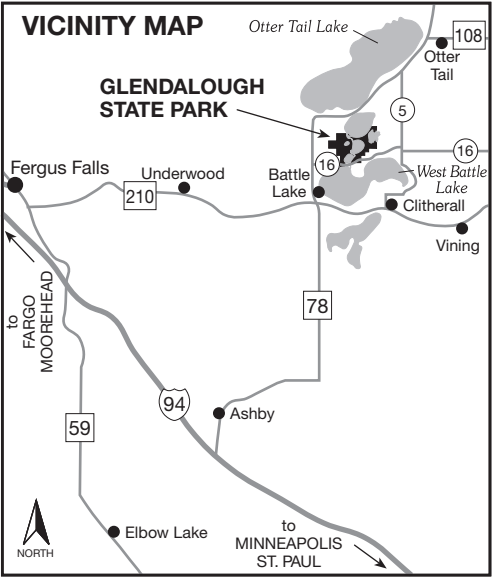
(651) 296-6157 (Metro Area)
1-888-646-6367 (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications
Device for Deaf)
(651) 296-5484 (Metro Area)
1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

mndnr.gov/parks

GLENDALOUGH STATE PARK is located 3 miles northeast of Battle Lake, Minnesota. The park entrance road is off County State Aid Highway #16. Highway map index: D-12.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Containing 1,931 land acres and approximately 1,000 acres of water, Glendalough was managed as a private game farm and corporate retreat for over 85 years prior to becoming a state park in 1991. This type of stewardship has protected a variety of habitat areas



and preserved marshlands, hardwood forests, open lakes, shoreline and remnant native prairie.

The park is unique in its establishment and future management. The 1991 enabling legislation mandates that management of wildlife be emphasized and interpreted to the public. Glendalough provides impressive wildlife viewing with a large resident Canada goose population, a major waterfowl staging area during spring and fall migration and a wintering area for local white-tailed deer.

The park includes six lakes with a variety of fishing opportunities and wildlife qualities. Annie Battle Lake is totally contained within the park boundaries. Molly Stark Lake has a public boat access and the park’s swimming beach and picnic area. Lake Emma, on the northeast side of the park, is a shallow wildlife habitat lake with excellent wildlife viewing. Sunset Lake is also used extensively by waterfowl. The park also borders on Lake Blanche to the north and West Battle Lake to the south. You can fish for sunfish, crappie, largemouth bass, northern pike and walleye. Altogether, Glendalough preserves one of the last large tracts of undeveloped lakeshore in west-central Minnesota.

Glendalough’s management plan recommends that Glendalough State Park be managed to offer a more “primitive” recreational experience than many other state parks. Annie Battle Lake is the focus of this less-developed theme, offering a “heritage fishery” which restricts the use of all motors and electronic

devices while providing a quality fishing opportunity. Cart-in and canoe-in camping near the shores of Annie Battle Lake take advantage of this serene setting, as does the restored historic lodge at the heart of the park.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARY: Lake Emma is the most productive and significant wetland in the park and may be closed to all uses and access (including by foot or boat) during certain times of the year to protect nesting and migrating waterfowl, marsh birds and eagles. If you hike in the area, watch for signs posting the area as restricted.

HIKING TRAILS: For an excellent walk to see wildflowers and birds, go north of the Glendalough Trail Center to hike along a loop trail with views of Blanche Lake and Battle Creek. This 1.4 mile long trail is a self-guided nature trail with many interpretive signs along the way that inform you about the the park’s wildlife, plant life, and some of the park’s history.

Hike a short loop through a remnant of native prairie on the Prairie Hill Interpretive Trail. This trail features many prairie wildflowers and grasses as well as many types of butterflies, dragonflies and birds not seen elsewhere in the park. In late August this area is a monarch migration site, harboring hundreds of migrating monarch butterflies. Signs along the way teach about monarch butterflies and prairie management. End your hike with a fine view of Molly Stark Lake across the road at the overlook and read about the park’s glacial history.

The Lake Emma Trail features two wildlife observation decks and a floating observation blind. The Annie battle Lake Trail passes an active eagle nest in its 3.5 mile scenic jaunt around Annie Battle Lake. Both of these trails are open to bikers as well as hikers. All park trails offer opportunities to see deer, birds, and other park wildlife.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: Annie Battle Lake was entirely within the private Glendalough game farm and corporate retreat for over 50 years. As a result, fish populations in Annie Battle Lake were only lightly exploited. This fact presents a unique opportunity to manage Annie Battle Lake as a “heritage fisheries” with a primitive fishing theme. The objective is to build up a natural population of larger, older fish.

Annie Battle Lake was closed to fishing for several years to allow fish populations to return to a natural state. Current regulations allow an exciting and challenging fishing experience, more reminiscent of years gone by, while still maintaining a healthy,

almost natural-size structure to the fish population. The continued supply of large panfish has made the lake a favorite destination for anglers, both young and old. No motors, including electric, and no fish locators or other electronic devices are allowed to be used on Annie Battle Lake, and special limits apply.

Annie Battle’s sister lake, Molly Stark has no special regulations and provides a boat launch and fishing pier. Although of small size and often overlooked in Annie’s shadow, it is a fine fishing lake.

GLENDALOUGH CAMP HISTORY: The Glendalough site was first developed in 1903 by Ezra G. Valentine as a summer retreat called Valentine’s Camp. In 1903 he constructed several buildings including a cottage, stables, boat house and bath houses. When E.G. Valentine died in 1905, the property was left to his son, John Alden, and daughter, Miss Blanche, who later sold it to Fred A. Everts. The camp was referred to as “Minnechoka Camp” on a 1912 plat map.

F.A. Everts sold the property to F.E. Murphy, who owned and operated the Minneapolis Tribune. In 1927, Mr. Murphy renamed the property Glendalough, after a monastery in Ireland. As surrounding farms came up for sale during the Depression, Murphy expanded Glendalough’s acreage and started a turkey and game farm.

In 1941, Glendalough was purchased, along with the Minneapolis Tribune, by the John Cowles family. The game farm and hunting preserve hosted several dignitaries, including President Dwight Eisenhower, President Richard Nixon, and Vice-President Walter Mondale.

The Cowles family donated the property to the Nature Conservancy in 1990. Glendalough was transferred to the state for use as a state park in 1992, following 1991 legislation.

This information is available in alternative format upon request.

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