

## 22 Premier Fishing Locations

1. Big Ridge State Park  
1015 Big Ridge Park Road  
Maynardville, TN 37807  
800-471-5305
2. Bledsoe Creek State Park  
400 Zeiglers Fort Road  
Gallatin, TN 37066  
615-452-3706
3. Booker T. Washington State Park  
5801 Champion Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37416  
423-894-4955
4. Edgar Ewins State Park  
1630 Edgar Ewins State Park Rd.  
Silver Point, TN 38582  
800-250-8619
5. Fall Creek Falls State Park  
2009 Village Camp Road  
Spencer, TN 38585  
800-250-8611
6. Harrison Bay State Park  
8411 Harrison Bay Road  
Harrison, TN 37341  
423-344-6214
7. Hiwassee / Ocoee State Park  
404 Spring Creek Road  
Delano, TN 37325  
423-263-0050
8. Johnsonville State Historic Park  
90 Nell Beard Road  
New Johnsonville, TN 37134  
931-535-2789
9. Long Hunter State Park  
2910 Hobson Pike  
Hermitage, TN 37076  
615-885-2422
10. Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park  
910 Riddick Road  
Millington, TN 38053  
800-471-5293
11. Mouse Tail Landing State Park  
3 Campground Road  
Linden, TN 37096 / 731-847-0841  
800-250-8616
12. Natchez Trace State Park  
24845 Natchez Trace Road  
Wilder, TN 38388  
800-250-8616
13. Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park  
1825 Pilot Knob Road  
Eva, TN 38333 / 800-714-7305
14. Norris Dam State Park  
125 Village Green Circle  
Rocky Top, TN 37769 / 800-543-9335
15. Panther Creek State Park  
2010 Panther Creek Road  
Morristown, TN 37814  
423-587-7046
16. Paris Landing State Park  
1605 Hwy 79-N  
Buchanan, TN 38222  
800-250-8614
17. Pickwick Landing State Park  
116 State Park Road  
Pickwick Dam, TN 38365  
800-250-8615
18. Port Royal State Historic Park  
3300 Old Clarksville Hwy.  
Adams, TN 37010  
931-358-9696
19. Reelfoot Lake State Park  
2595 Highway 21-E  
Tiptonville, TN 38079  
731-253-9652
20. Roan Mountain State Park  
1015 Hwy. 143  
Roan Mountain, TN 37687  
800-250-8620
21. Rock Island State Park  
82 Beach Road  
Rock Island, TN 38581  
800-713-6065
22. Tims Ford State Park  
570 Tims Ford Drive  
Winchester, TN 37398  
800-471-5295



**Tennessee Fishing License**  
All persons ages 13 and older must have a fishing license to fish in Tennessee. There are a variety of fishing licenses available for residents and non-residents, including a junior license for residents ages 13-15. Non-residents have the option of buying a 1-day, 3-day, 10-day or annual license. Those licenses are available with and without trout fishing privileges. Fishing licenses can be purchased at some local sporting goods stores, online at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org) or by calling 888-814-8972.

**Do Your Part for the Environment**

- Always drain bait buckets on land.
- Don't dump bait in the water.
- Clean hitchhiking animals and invasive plants from boats and motors.

**WEAR A LIFE JACKET**  
Life jackets Save Lives. Children ages 12 and younger must wear a lifejacket except when the watercraft is anchored, moored or aground.

### River Information

For information on reservoir elevations and streamflows, call the Tennessee Valley Authority Reservoir Information Line 800-238-2264 or visit [www.lakeinfo.tva.gov](http://www.lakeinfo.tva.gov).

The TVA Lake Info app is an easy-to-use resource for operating on and around reservoirs and dams in the TVA region. The app is available for iPhone and Android devices. [www.tva.gov/river/mobile\\_app.htm](http://www.tva.gov/river/mobile_app.htm).

Don't have an IOS or Android device? This information is also available on TVA's mobile site. <http://m.tva.com>.

### Tennessee Fishing & Boating Information

To view the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency interactive on-line fishing guide or to obtain Tennessee fishing licenses for immediate use apply on-line at [www.gooutdoorstennessee.com](http://www.gooutdoorstennessee.com). For information about nearby TWRA boat ramps, visit [www.tn.gov/twra/topic/gis-boating-fishing-access](http://www.tn.gov/twra/topic/gis-boating-fishing-access).

### Paddling & Water Trail Information

For an interactive map of public river access sites and water trails, visit <http://tnvalleywatertrails.org>.

### State Park Information

The Tennessee State Parks website provides information about all Tennessee State Parks including lodging, activities, amenities, maps and directions. Plan your day or stay at a TN State Park.

### General TN State Park information

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

### On-line reservations

[www.tnstateparks.com/reservations](http://www.tnstateparks.com/reservations)



Free Fishing Day is always the Saturday of the first full week in June. Anyone (resident or non-resident) of any age can fish free without a license in Tennessee's public waters, agency owned and operated lakes, and Tennessee State Parks.

Free Fishing Week always follows Free Fishing Day in June. Children, ages 15 and younger can fish for free all week in the waters listed above.

First Fish Certificate commemorates that special moment in every child's life when they land that first fish. Download your free 8.5 x 11 certificate, suitable for framing, and learn more about fishing programs in Tennessee at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org).



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The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation EEO/AA Coordinator, 615-532-0207 or the ADA Coordinator, 615-532-0059 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service 1-800-848-0298.



T E N N E S S E E  
State Parks



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State Parks

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)



### Reelfoot Lake

*Crappie/Bluegill*

Tennessee's only natural lake is nationally known for crappie and bluegill fishing. Fishing is best for these panfish in April and May. Experienced anglers can find these as well as bass and catfish throughout the seasons. Many guides are available locally. The lake is very shallow with lots of submerged stumps and standing trees. Boaters have to navigate slowly and cautiously. As such there are few large boats on the lake which makes it a nice place for canoes, kayaks and jon boats when the winds are calm.

**Reelfoot Lake State Park** features cabins, campgrounds, five boat ramps, a boardwalk and fishing pier. A Reelfoot Lake Preservation Permit is required of anglers over age 16 and may be obtained at the park or local bait shops.

### Poplar Tree Lake

*Bass/Bluegill/Catfish*

Some outstanding Largemouth Bass have been taken from this 125-acre wooded lake nestled within **Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park**. The park offers a campground, fishing pier, boat dock with jon boat rentals, and fee launch ramp for personal jon boats. No gas motors allowed.

### Lakes of Natchez Trace State Park

*Bass/Bluegill/Catfish*

There are four lakes in **Natchez Trace State Park**, Brown's Creek Lake (167 acre) is managed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and is stocked with Florida strain Largemouth Bass. Fish surveys as recent as 2012 have documented that there are bass in the 10-pound class in the lake. Maple's Creek Lake (90 acre) is also managed by the TWRA and provides catches of catfish and Bluegill and Redear Sunfish. A TWRA Agency Lake permit is required for these lakes. Nearby Pin Oak Lake (750 acre) attracts recreational boaters and is large enough for waterskiing. Evening fishing on Pin Oak Lake can be productive. Day or Annual Lake Use Permits for Pin Oak Lake may be purchased at the inn. Cub Lake (52 acre) provides canoe and jon boat rentals. Pin Oak Lake and Cub Lake offer fair fishing for bass, bluegill and catfish. The state park features an inn, restaurant, cabins, campgrounds, launch ramps and jon boat rentals.

### Pickwick Lake

*Bass/Crappie/Sauger/White Bass/Catfish*

**Pickwick Landing State Park** is located on the banks of Pickwick Lake close to the dam. The reservoir has fisheries similar to those listed for Kentucky Lake. Below the dam is Pickwick Lake. In this tailwater area, just a few minutes from the park there are excellent fisheries for Sauger (winter/spring), White and Yellow Bass (spring), Striped Bass (spring through fall) and catfish year-round. These fish can be caught from shore or by boat. The park offers an on-site restaurant, inn, cabins and campground, full-service marina with covered, uncovered and transient slips, dry storage, boat rental and two launch ramps.

### Kentucky Lake / Tennessee River

*Bass/Crappie/Catfish/Striped Bass*

Kentucky Lake is a 160,000-acre reservoir of the Tennessee River. Four state parks provide entry to this lake that is known for great sport fishing. While some enjoy fishing from banks or fishing piers, the best way to experience this large reservoir is by boat. The creek mouths and embayments are popular for spring crappie fishing from late March through May. Bluegill and Redear Sunfish are also commonly harvested from the lake. Bass fishing is best in the spring and fall. Catfish are commonly caught in summer and fall. **Paris Landing State Park** is the most northern park featuring an inn, cabins and campground, full-service marina with covered and uncovered slips, four lane ramp and overnight parking lot with charging outlets. Local guides and tournaments are plentiful. **Johnsonville State Historic Park** features bank fishing and a privately owned marina with a fee ramp at the park entrance. Nearby **Nathan Bedford Forrest State Historic Park** has cabins, a campground, launch ramp and courtesy dock. Further downstream, **Mousetail Landing State Park** provides a campground, ramp, courtesy dock and plenty of shoreline.

### J. Percy Priest Lake

*Bass/Crappie/White Bass/Hybrid Striped Bass*

This popular 14,000-acre reservoir is located near Nashville. Spring is a great time to fish for all species. **Long Hunter State Park** is a day-use park that offers two launch ramps and large parking lots. The park's Bryant's Grove Recreation Area offers limited day use opportunities to fish the shoreline of this large reservoir. The Couchville Lake Area features a small lake off the main lake and provides Largemouth Bass fishing.

### Old Hickory Lake

*Bass/Striped Bass/Crappie/Sauger/Catfish*

This popular 22,500-acre reservoir is on the Cumberland River which runs through downtown Nashville. The lake is known for bass and crappie fishing, but also has big (30 lb+) Striped Bass and catfish. In the spring, Sauger and White Bass are plentiful in the upper lake and tributaries. **Bledsoe Creek State Park** offers a campground and launch ramp for registered campers only and a separate ramp with courtesy dock for public use.

### Great Falls Lake

*Bass/Bluegill/Muskellunge*

This 2,110-acre reservoir is located near **Rock Island State Park** and is known for bass fishing and Muskellunge. The Blue Hole located in the headwaters of Center Hill Lake at Rock Island State Park is a popular place to fish for Walleye in the spring. Other Muskellunge fisheries and launch ramps on the Collins and Caney Fork Rivers are located a short distance from the park. The local area was the site of the 2012 Musky Fly Fishing World Championships. The park offers cabins, campgrounds, and a launch ramp and has produced a one-time US record walleye and a current state record paddlefish.

### Center Hill Lake

*Bass/Crappie/Walleye/Catfish/Trout*

This 18,000-acre reservoir with rocky shorelines supports three species of bass. Bass fishing is best in spring and fall, although many bass anglers fish at night in the summer. **Edgar Evins State Park** features cabins, a campground, full-service marina with covered and uncovered slips, two launch ramps and courtesy dock. Immediately below Center Hill Dam, and just minutes from the park is a coldwater tailwater in the Caney Fork River. Fishing for Rainbow, Brook and Brown Trout is best during non-generation periods.

### Tims Ford Lake

*Bass/Crappie/Catfish/Striped Bass/Hybrid Striped Bass/Trout*

This long winding reservoir (10,000 acre) has Largemouth, Spotted and Smallmouth Bass and is best known for the latter. It is stocked annually with Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass which can be caught year-round. Striped Bass commonly exceed fifteen pounds and hybrids are typically about seven pounds. **Tims Ford State Park** features cabins, a campground, boat ramp and small marina. Fifteen minutes away is a full-service marina with slips, pontoon boat rentals and a restaurant. Immediately below Tims Ford Dam, and just minutes from the state park is a coldwater tailwater on the Elk River. Fishing for Rainbow and Brown Trout may be best during non-generation periods.

### Red River

*Smallmouth Bass/Catfish*

The Red River is a free-flowing river that is best known for Smallmouth Bass and catfish. Fishing is best spring through fall. **Port Royal State Historic Park** provides limited bank fishing and a canoe launch site.

### Fall Creek Falls Lake

*Largemouth Bass/Bluegill/Catfish*

This 345-acre lake at **Fall Creek Falls State Park** is home to state record catches for Channel Catfish and Bluegill. Fishing is best spring through fall. The park features an inn, restaurant, cabins, campground, launch area, and boat dock with jon boat and canoe rentals. While personal jon boats are not allowed; canoes, kayaks and electric trolling motors are permitted.

### Norris Lake

*Black Bass/Crappie/Catfish/Striped Bass/Trout*

Norris Lake is a 34,000-acre flood control impoundment on the Clinch River. It has Largemouth, and Spotted Bass and is getting a reputation for Smallmouth Bass. It is stocked annually with Walleye and Striped Bass. Striped Bass regularly reach sizes of 25 lbs, and larger. Immediately below Norris Dam, and just minutes from **Big Ridge State Park**, is a coldwater tailwater on the Clinch River. Wade fishing for Rainbow, Brook, and Brown Trout may be best during non-generation periods. Bigger trout are often taken by boat during generation flows. **Norris Dam State Park** offers cabins, a campground, launch ramp and marina. **Big Ridge State Park** offers cabins, a campground, a 42-acre lake and jon boat rentals.

### Cherokee Lake

*Black Bass/Hybrid Striped Bass/Walleye/Redear Sunfish*

Cherokee Lake is a 30,000-acre lake on the Holston River. Bass and crappie fishing are best in the spring. The lake is stocked annually with Hybrid Striped Bass which commonly reach seven pounds or more. **Panther Creek State Park** features a campground, small marina and launch ramp.

### Chickamauga Lake

*Black Bass/Crappie/Catfish*

This 35,000-acre impoundment is located on the Tennessee River near Chattanooga. In recent years Largemouth Bass fishing has been outstanding with 10-lb fish becoming more common. Crappie fishing is best in the spring. Catfish and bass are targeted almost year-round. Two state parks are located on the shores of Chickamauga Lake. **Harrison Bay State Park** features a campground, launch ramp and one of the most complete marina facilities in the area. **Booker T. Washington State Park** is a day-use park featuring a launch ramp and fishing pier.

### Hiwassee River

*Rainbow Trout/Brown Trout*

This large, regulated river flows through the Scenic Cherokee National Forest and **Hiwassee/Ocoee State Park**. At high flows the river is heavily used by rafters and kayakers but you can also hire a guide to fish from a drift boat. Wade fishing is limited to low flow periods. Fishing is best fall through late spring during the stocking seasons. Many anglers flyfish but other tackle are just as effective. **Hiwassee/Ocoee River State Park** offers a campground and nearby launch ramp.

### Doe River

*Rainbow Trout/Brown Trout*

The Doe River is one of the most productive wild trout streams in Tennessee and runs through **Roan Mountain State Park**. Most anglers flyfish for the abundant Rainbow and Brown Trout. The park features cabins, and trail access to the river. It is also in the vicinity of other wild trout streams as well as the Watauga River.

