

NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST STATE PARK

Guide to Adventure and Education



Fun and Adventure, Naturally!

Guided Hikes

Pafford Wilson History Hike

This 1-mile trail along Happy Hollow Road bears witness to the park's rich history. See signs of the farm and homestead of the Pafford and Wilson families who cared for the park in its infancy.

Nature Hike

Discover the ins and outs of some of the most unique trails in the state with one of our interpretive rangers. From 1-mile to 3-miles or more, we've got the trail for you and your group.

Wildflower Hike

The Polk Creek Wildflower Trail is great for beginners who want to see the best of Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Tree ID Hike

Join a ranger for a fun and informative tree ID hike along one of the park's best hiking trails.

Creek Stomp

Explore the creeks of the park with a ranger to look for crawfish, darters, salamanders, and more!

Night Hike

Join a ranger for an exclusive night time excursion through the park after dark! Learn all about nocturnal creatures and the night sky.

Kayak Adventure Hike

Venture to one of Kentucky Lake's many islands to explore the unique island landscape and see artifacts from the days of the Tennessee River.

Wildlife Education

Birds of Prey

Get an up close encounter with one of our resident Birds of Prey and find out how some Birds of Prey have found a home at Nathan Bedford Forrest and why they are our most beloved residents!

Owl Prowl

Head out at night with a ranger in search of these nocturnal creatures. Learn all about "Whoooo" these animals are and even learn how to call one yourself. Don't forget your flashlight!

Reptile Wrangle

Experience an up close encounter with one of the park's resident reptiles and learn all about their importance in our world. You'll get the chance to meet a resident snake or turtle and will leave with a new understanding of these amazing creatures.

River Ramble

With more living creatures among its waters than you can 'shake a stick at', the Tennessee River is a very special place. Visit the shoreline of this beautiful river with a park ranger and learn all about the different species that call it home.



Survival Skills

Our survival programs feature skills essential to those who want to be ready to survive any situation in the wild should it occur. All programs are led by experienced rangers. Please inquire for pricing.

Survival Pack

Our rangers have years of experience in survival skills. Learn what to pack in your bag from a pro. You never know what you may need on your next adventure.

Primitive Fire Construction

Fire is an essential element to survival. You will learn how to build a fire, even in harsh conditions.

Hunting, Gathering, and Fishing

The practices of hunting, gathering, and fishing have been used throughout history to provide for and meet the needs of many. Learn how to master these skills from one of our rangers.

Shelter Construction

As an essential need for all, the need for shelter is one that everyone should learn. Let a ranger show you the ins and outs of different types of shelters that will come in handy in a survival situation.

Orienteering

Get hands on experience with the basics of using a map and compass and put your newly learned skills to the test in an orienteering challenge.

Primitive Weapons

Want to learn about primitive hunting skills and see if you have what it takes to master the use of primitive weapons? Learn to use a bow and arrow or atlatl and then challenge your group to a friendly competition!



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History

Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park preserves the story of the Tennessee River Valley and the legacy of its people, before the formation of Kentucky Lake.

Eva Archaic Site

Learn about the original inhabitants of Eva and their unique way of life; their customs, tools, and use of the river.

Trail of Tears

Behold the Benge Route of the Trail of Tears. Honor those who walked this path with a self-guided hike or drive along the original route.

Battle of Johnsonville

Experience elements of a soldier's daily life through a living history program and hear the story of the Battle of Johnsonville.

Eva Station Rail Trail

Explore the site of the Eva Depot and the historic NC&StL Railway at our Rail Trail in Eva Beach Day Use Area featuring historic railroad equipment.

Tennessee River Folk Life

Visit Pilot Knob to take in the rich history of folks along the Tennessee River. Our museum features displays of river commerce, lifeways, and customs of the Tennessee River, pre-1930. With original films, a large braille boat, and the best view on Kentucky Lake, you won't want to miss it!

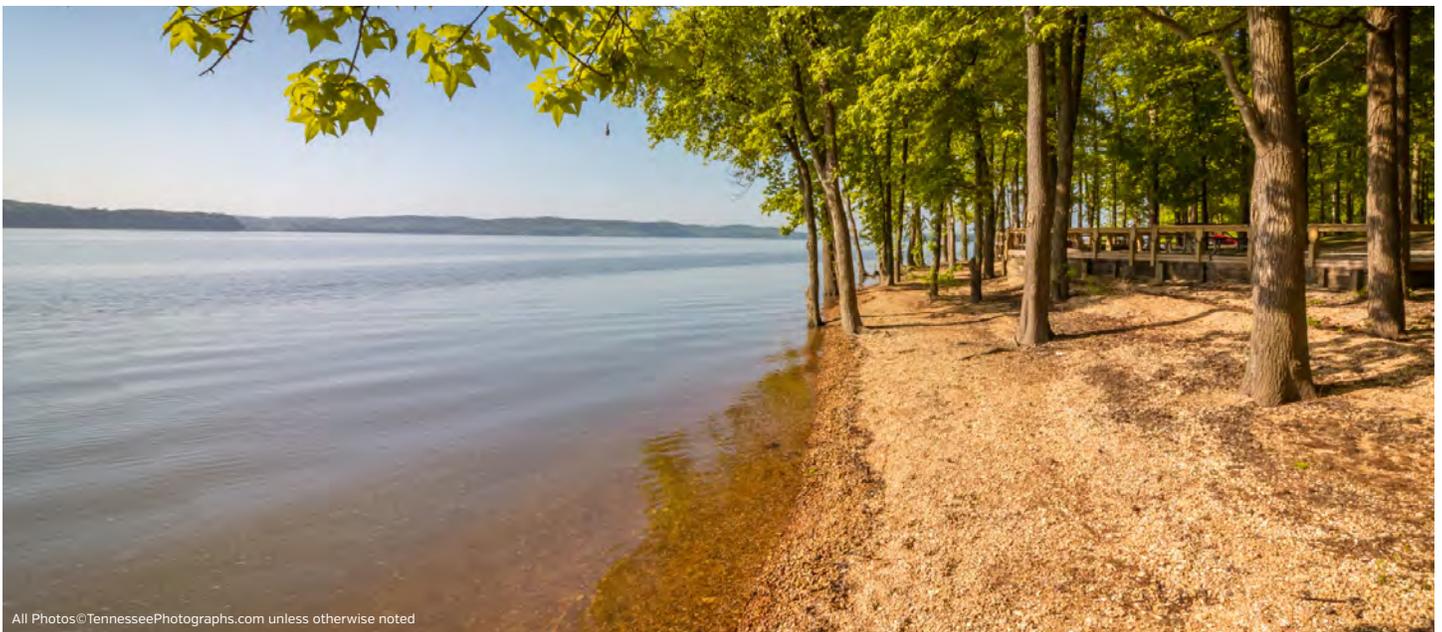
Adventure

Canoe or Kayak Float

Whether you are an experienced kayaker or just want to test the waters, our trips will satisfy your craving for adventure. You'll enjoy a Ranger guided float along the beautiful Tennessee River. Life vests and paddles are included.
1 hour/\$5 per person

Overnight Canoe/Kayak Floats

Kayaking, fishing, and camping are just a few of the many activities you'll dive into on our overnight paddling trips. You'll paddle 3-miles each day along the beautiful Tennessee River, stopping along the shore to camp. Meals will be provided, and a limited supply of camping gear will be available to use if needed.
Overnight/\$40 per person



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