**Directions**

Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park is on U.S. Hwy. 41 on the north side of Manchester. Exit 110 on I-24 is within one mile of the entrance by way of Hwy. 53 to U.S. Hwy. 41, with signs leading from the interstate. Manchester is approximately one hour from both Nashville and Chattanooga.

**Hours of Operation**

8:00 AM to Sunset

Museum - 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

**Old Stone Fort**

State Archaeological Park

732 Stone Fort Drive

Manchester, TN 37355

931-723-5073

**Tennessee State Parks**

William R. Snodgrass TN Tower

312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor

Nashville, TN 37243

888-867-2757

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

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**Museum and Gift Shop**

A museum provides orientation to the site and interpretation of this remarkable surviving example of Tennessee’s prehistoric heritage. There is a gift shop that offers a wide variety of books on archaeology and Native American culture in addition to Tennessee State Parks merchandise. This is also the location of the park office.

**Other Nearby State Parks**

- Tims Ford State Park - 25 miles
- South Cumberland State Park - 30 miles
- Rock Island State Park – 42 miles
- Henry Horton State Park – 44 miles

**Annual Events**

- March - Nature Day, last Saturday
- Oct. - Flint Knapping and Atlatl Weekend

**Nearby Attractions**

- Bonnaroo Music Festival 1st weekend of June
- Manchester Recreation Complex Manchester
- Arrowheads to Aerospace Cultural Center Manchester
- Foothills Crafts - Manchester

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**Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteers and Friends assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park’s integrity for future generations to enjoy. It’s easy to show your support, join a friends group or participate in one of the many volunteer opportunities we offer individuals, families and groups.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area, visit [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

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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 at 888-867-2757 or the ADA Coordinator at 615-532-0059 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 800-848-0298.
Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park

Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park is an 844-acre historic area dedicated to the preservation, protection and interpretation of the Old Stone Fort, a 2,000-year-old American Indian ceremonial site. The site consists of mounds and earthen walls that combine with cliffs and rivers to form an enclosure, 1.40 miles around. The 50-acre hilltop enclosure mound site is believed to have served as a central ceremonial gathering place for approximately 500 years before it was abandoned. By the time European settlers arrived it was unclear what the area had been used for which resulted in it being misnamed as a fort. The park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today, visitors to the park enjoy camping, hiking, and fishing on the Duck River.

Picnic Area

There are 30 tables with grills, restrooms, and a playground. One shelter may be rented for group gatherings.

Camping

There are 51 campsites with water and electrical hookups, fire rings, grills, picnic tables and hard-surface pads. Some sites also have pea gravel tent pads. A dump station is open year round. One of the two restroom facilities is also open year round. The facility with the showers is seasonal. The stay limit is two weeks in the summer and four weeks in the winter.

Hiking

The trail around the fort is 1.40 miles long and features interpretive panels, a great way to learn about this historic area. The trail follows the main wall of the Old Stone Fort. Winding through the landscape you can see the original entrance of the fort which was designed to face the exact spot on the horizon where the sun rises during the summer solstice. Hikers also enjoy the area’s graceful waterfalls. The three largest falls, Step Falls, Blue Hole Falls, and Big Falls, are visible along the Enclosure Wall Trail. There are two miles of trails beyond the main interpretive trail and two trails in the campground area. Bicycles are not allowed on any park trails.

Planned Programs

Interpretive programs about the Old Stone Fort, the culture and lifestyles of the Woodland Indians and the goals and techniques of archaeology can be scheduled upon request for school and other groups. During the summer, nature and interpretive programs and other activities are offered on the weekends.

Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park