

### Picnic Areas

Rock Island has five shelters that may be reserved up to one year in advance. If not reserved, they may be used on a first come basis. Each picnic shelter is equipped with a group grill, picnic tables, and adjacent restrooms. Parking is first come, first served.

### Fishing

Fishing is available year-round on Center Hill and Great Falls Lakes as well as on nearby Caney Fork, Collins, and Rocky Rivers. A variety of catches are common including largemouth and smallmouth bass, catfish, crappie and bluegill among others. Park waters are most widely known for excellent walleye fishing and more recently trophy muskellunge (musky) fishing. Park waters have produced a one-time U.S. record walleye and a Tennessee record catfish. Bait, tackle and required fishing licenses are available at local stores.



### Planned Programs

The park schedules a variety of interpretive and recreational programs during summer months. Programs include canoe floats, rock hops, wildflower hikes, history tours, park ranger talks, live animal presentations and much more.

### Other Nearby State Parks

- Burgess Falls State Park, Sparta – 25 miles
- Fall Creek Falls State Park, Spencer – 30 miles

### Visit Safely

To make your visit to the park as safe and enjoyable as possible, please obtain and read a safety brochure upon arrival to the park, and orient yourself with the geography of the gorge, and the proximity of Great Falls Dam and the TVA Powerhouse. Always use caution in areas around and downstream of TVA Great Falls Dam or the TVA powerhouse. Large amounts of water may be released at any time without warning. Obey posted warnings, sirens and check TVA water release/generation schedules prior to entering the river gorge. Always wear a lifejacket in these areas. For more information call 800-238-2264 option 4, (#36) or visit [www.tva.gov/lakes/gfh\\_r.htm](http://www.tva.gov/lakes/gfh_r.htm). Please visit our website for more detailed information.



### Directions

Rock Island is easily accessed from I-40, exit 288 or I-24, exit 111, located 15 miles southwest of Sparta.



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation authorization no. 327152, 20,000 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.06 per copy, July, 2017.

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.

### Hours of Operation

7:00 AM to 10:00 PM

Some public areas close at earlier times.

### Rock Island State Park

82 Beach Road  
Rock Island, TN 38581  
931-686-2471  
800-713-6065

### 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)

### 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.

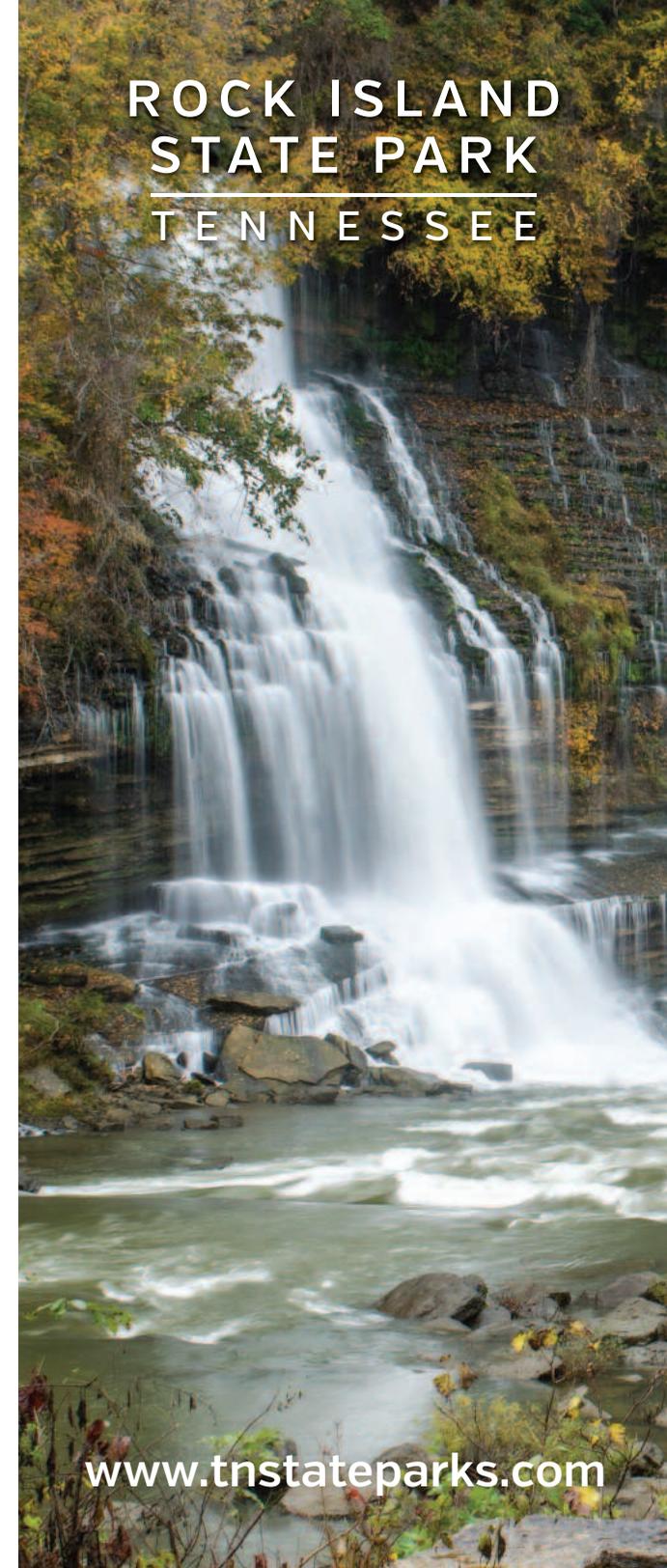


To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area visit [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com).



T E N N E S S E E  
**State Parks**

ROCK ISLAND  
STATE PARK  
TENNESSEE



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



### Cabins

Rock Island has 10 cabins, open year-round. Each three-bedroom, two-bath cabin comes fully equipped for housekeeping, including microwave, cooking utensils, dishes and linens. Each features an indoor fireplace with gas logs (winter only), satellite TV, DVD player, outdoor fire ring and outdoor charcoal grill area. Cabin #10 is handicapped accessible and Cabin #1 is designated for pets. Reservations may be made up to one year in advance.



### Hiking

The park offers eight trails, varying from .15 miles to three miles. Park trails are known for abundant spring wildflower displays, rugged beauty, waterfalls and wildlife viewing.

### Boating

Rock Island has a boat launch ramp on Center Hill Lake. Nearby launch ramps provide access to the Collins, Rocky and Caney Fork Rivers. Canoeing and kayaking are very popular; always wear a life jacket. The park has hosted the U.S. Freestyle Kayaking World Championships. Some sections are for experienced kayakers only and swimming is not permitted due to irregular water releases from the dam and/or powerhouse.



### Rock Island State Park

is an 870-acre park located on the headwaters of Center Hill Lake at the confluence of the Caney Fork, Collins and Rocky Rivers. The park features scenic overlooks, waterfalls, deep pools and limestone paths perfect for hiking, swimming, fishing, kayaking and exploring. It also features a natural sand beach and boating access on Center Hill Lake. The park was named for an island in the Caney Fork River. A textile mill operated here in the 1890s. In 1917, a hydroelectric plant and dam were built by the Tennessee Electric Power Company, just downstream from the Caney Fork and Collins Rivers, creating Great Falls Lake. The plant's village and Rock Island thrived during this time, for employees and as a resort. The community water supply, resembling a castle, is now a charming park feature. The Tennessee Valley Authority took over operations in the 1940s, and in 1966 leased property to the State of Tennessee for park development. Since then, Rock Island has been a leading recreation area.

### Gift Shop

The visitor center sells apparel, caps, books and other items.

### Camping

Rock Island has two campgrounds. The main campground contains 50 sites (#1-#50) that accommodate RVs and trailers. Some sites also accommodate tents. Each is equipped with 20/30/50 amp electrical and water hook-ups, charcoal grill, lantern hanger and picnic table. Sites #31-#34 also have sewer hookups. Sites #31 and #32 are ADA accessible. Two bathhouses with hot showers and ADA accessible restrooms service this campground. Wi-Fi service and a double access dump station are also provided. The tent campground contains 10 sites (#51-#60), each with 20 amp electrical service, water hook-ups, lantern hanger, charcoal grill and picnic table. A bathhouse with hot water services this campground. Reservations may be made up to one year in advance. Pets are allowed as long as they are leashed.

