

## Hiking Trials

### Tam-a-láu Trail

**Length:** 6 miles round trip from the trailhead in the Deschutes Campground; 7 miles round trip from the trailhead in the Upper Deschutes Day-use Area boat trailer parking lot. **Difficulty:** Moderate, with 600 feet elevation gain.

Trek to the top of a high plateau for spectacular views of the snow-capped Cascade Range and the Deschutes and Crooked river canyons. You'll pass stunning geological formations and areas rich in wildlife and unspoiled native vegetation.

The Tam-a-láu Trail derives its name from a Native American phrase meaning "place of big rocks on the ground." This also was the name of an ancient trail that passed through the area as part of a trade route to the Columbia River.

### Wetland Nature Trail Loop

**Length:** ¼ mile. **Difficulty:** Easy

Observe deer, rabbits and hawks as you stroll through an ongoing wetland restoration project at the site of a 2015 wildfire. Before the fire, invasive plants choked and flooded the Crooked River wetlands. Now the area is a monarch butterfly habitat and an outdoor classroom for Culver Middle School students, who adopted the site and planted milkweed, coyote willow and red twig dogwood.



Wetland Trail

In 1878, the original homesteader named a refreshing swimming hole on the Crooked River "The Cove." The name stuck when the state leased the first land for a park in 1940. "Palisades" refers to the tall column-like formations seen in the basalt rimrocks.

### Crooked River Rim Trail

**Length:** 2 miles, out-and-back.

**Difficulty:** Moderate, 210 feet elevation gain

Enjoy spectacular views of the Cascades and the Crooked River arm of the reservoir, with glimpses of the Deschutes arm in the distance. Designed and constructed by our partner, PGE, this trail provides the perfect vantage point to view "The Island," a 200-acre landform that splits the two arms and serves as vital habitat for raptors. You'll also look down on a sculpted erosional remnant known as "The Ship."

## Boating

Each summer, Lake Billy Chinook's expansive waters, sunny skies and dramatic scenery attract all manner of boaters.

From April to October, **The Cove Palisades Resort & Marina** rents boat moorages, boats and water toys, including water skis, tubes, life jackets and ropes. Houseboat rentals offer a luxurious overnight stay right on the water. The marina also includes a café and store that sells fuel and ice. For information, visit [covepalisadesresort.com](http://covepalisadesresort.com) or call 877-546-7171.

## Paddling

From fall to spring, the Crooked and Deschutes rivers provide 30 miles of flat water paddling. In the absence of summer's crowds, the lake's surface is as smooth as glass. Eagles and raptors soar above; wildlife venture out in the open.

The Cove Palisades also offers guided kayak excursions in spring and fall. For details and registration, go to "Events" at [store.oregonstateparks.org](http://store.oregonstateparks.org).

### Crooked River Water Trail

Paddlers of all experience levels can explore the six-mile Crooked River Water Trail on the Crooked River arm of the reservoir. Beneath the surface of the water lie many historical features that became submerged when Round Butte Dam was installed in 1964, including a homestead, peach orchard, and the original state park campground, built in the late 1930's and early 1940's.

Experienced paddlers will enjoy the solitude on the two-mile stretch south of the bridge, where few motorized boats venture.



ADA kayak launches are at the Crooked River and Upper Deschutes day-use areas.



Crooked River Day-use Area

## Fishing

Lake Billy Chinook's varied catch includes Kokanee (sockeye salmon), small and large mouth bass, and many trout species. The lake is especially well known for its bull trout fishery. Crawfish fishing is also popular. A tribal angling permit is required on the Metolius arm; an Oregon fishing license is required everywhere. The Crooked River and Deschutes arms are open year round; the Metolius arm has a limited season. The Crooked River Day-use Area offers an accessible fishing platform according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

## Staying overnight

A popular year-round destination for camping, The Cove Palisades offers the following overnight accommodations:

- ▶ 265 campsites, including 174 RV sites in two campgrounds;
- ▶ Six campsites that are accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- ▶ Three deluxe log cabins with bathrooms and lake views;
- ▶ Group tent area with three group sites. Reserve campsites, group areas and cabins at [oregonstateparks.org](http://oregonstateparks.org) up to nine months in advance.

## Day-use parking permits

Parking for the day requires a parking permit year round. Automatic ticket machines are in each of the three day-use parking lots. Annual and two-year parking passes are available at the park office, camping registration booths (summer only) and from the online store at [oregonstateparks.org](http://oregonstateparks.org). A valid Oregon State Parks camping receipt serves as a day-use parking permit for the days listed.

## Trail etiquette

- ▶ **Stay on the trail.** Taking shortcuts causes erosion and harms plants and wildlife.
- ▶ **Take only pictures; leave only footprints.** Do not pick or dig plants. Do not disturb or remove any rock structures.
- ▶ **Stay hydrated** and carry plenty of water when hiking.
- ▶ **Rattlesnakes** inhabit the area; be alert.
- ▶ **Pack out all trash.** There are no garbage cans on trails.
- ▶ **Keep dogs** on leashes (6' max) at all times.
- ▶ **Camping** is not permitted on park trails.



### The Cove Palisades State Park

7300 SW Jordan Rd.  
Culver, OR 97734  
541-546-3412

Reservations: 800-452-5687

[oregonstateparks.org](http://oregonstateparks.org)



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63400-8072 (10/17)



## The Cove Palisades State Park

### Recreation Guide



Located in the heart of central Oregon and encompassing the Deschutes and Crooked River canyons, The Cove Palisades State Park is a popular year-round destination for camping and watersports. Hiking trails allow visitors to experience the beautiful sounds and scenery of Oregon's high desert, while paddling routes showcase the views from a whole new perspective.



Tam-a-láu Trailhead



## Millions of years in the making

Violent volcanic eruptions, oozing lava and raging river torrents battered this region for millions of years, carving dramatic cliffs of volcanic basalt that tower some 500 feet above the water. What is now a lake was once a rocky, plunging canyon, dry and desolate but for the narrow, life-giving Crooked River. Native Americans battled the harsh terrain in order to fish, hunt and trade here. Pioneers attempted to homestead and farm in this inhospitable region—not many succeeded.

With progress came the need for the Round Butte Dam, built by Portland General Electric in 1964. The hydroelectric facility, co-managed by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, generates approximately 800,000 megawatts of electricity per year for the Portland metropolitan area.

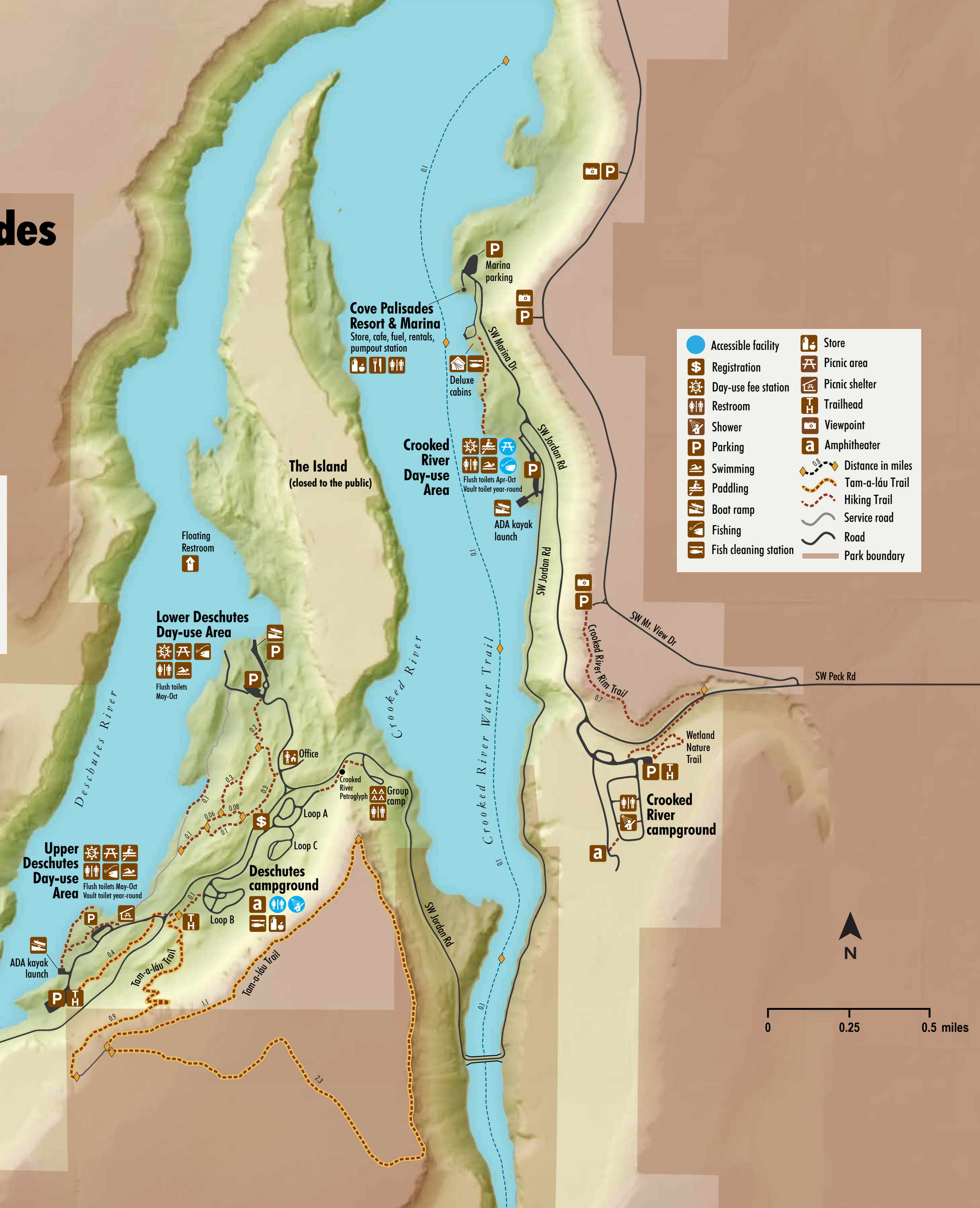


# The Cove Palisades State Park



## The Island

The 200-acre landform that separates the Deschutes and Crooked river arms of the reservoir is the largest remaining ungrazed and unaltered ecosystems of its type in the U.S. This National Natural Landmark is an important habitat for eagles and other raptors. Damage from recreation led to the Island's closure in 1997 to all use except research and education in order to protect this fragile habitat.



Accessible facility	Store
Registration	Picnic area
Day-use fee station	Picnic shelter
Restroom	Trailhead
Shower	Viewpoint
Parking	Amphitheater
Swimming	Distance in miles
Paddling	Tam-a-láu Trail
Boat ramp	Hiking Trail
Fishing	Service road
Fish cleaning station	Road
	Park boundary

