Antelope Island State Park

Park Guidelines

Please observe the following park regulations to ensure everyone’s visit is pleasant.

Fires - Seasonal fire closures are posted. Fires are allowed only in designated areas, and gathering firewood is prohibited.

Parking - Park only in designated parking areas. Do not park along roadsides. Horse trailers are limited to designated trailheads.

Pets - Must be on a maximum six-foot leash and under control at all times. Dogs and horses are not allowed on the beach. Horses must wear collars and be kept at least 100 feet from designated hitching areas when not on the trail. Horses are not allowed in ranch area or on Frary Peak Trail.

Plants and Animals - Wildlife, plants, minerals, cultural, and all other natural features within the park are legally protected. It is unlawful to remove, alter, destroy or harass them.

Facilities and Services

Antelope Island is open year-round, and hours vary by season.

Visitor Center - Open year-round. Amenities include wheelchair accessibility, exhibits, publications, gift shop, restrooms and amphitheater. Junior Ranger booklets are available for young visitors.

Fielding Garr Ranch - Accessible year-round. Many amenities are accessible to those with disabilities, and include self-guided tours, exhibits, picnic areas and restrooms. Special events are scheduled during summer months and holidays. There is no drinking water available.

Day-use Facilities - Bridger Bay offers a sandy beach, picnic areas and rentals are seasonally available. Kayak tours and cruises on Great Salt Lake are available by reservation. Kayak tours include picnic tables, shade pavilion, and a vault toilet. No water or electricity. 20 vehicles and up to 80 people are allowed per site.

Ladyfinger Campground - Five primitive campsites include picnic tables, shade pavilions, fire pits/grills and vault toilets. There is no water or electricity. Shade pavilions are available in select sites. Two vehicles and up to 16 people are allowed per site. Two equestrian sites are available.

White Rock Bay Group Campground - 20 primitive campsites include picnic tables, fire pits/grills and vault toilets. No water or electricity. Shade pavilions are available in select sites. Two vehicles and up to 16 people are allowed per site. Two equestrian sites are available.

Gas, food, lodging and medical services are available in Davis County, which is seven to 14 miles east of the island.

Operating Hours: The park is open year-round excluding Thanksgiving and December 25.

Address Inquiries To: Antelope Island State Park
4528 West 1700 South
Syracuse, UT 84075
(801) 773-2941 Entrance Gate
(801) 725-9263 Visitor Center
(801) 721-9669 School group reservations
(800) 322-3770 Camping reservations

Utah State Parks Mission:
To enhance the quality of life by preserving and providing
natural, cultural and recreational resources for the enjoyment,
education and inspiration of this and future generations.

Your park fees provide for the care, protection
and enhancement of this park.

Visit antelopeisland.utah.gov or scan the QR code with your mobile device
for more information.

Information contained in this brochure was accurate at the time of
printing. Policies, facilities, fees, hours and regulations, etc., change as
mandated. For updated information please contact the park.
Fielding Garr Ranch, a western ranching history. Original foundation. Tour the home and historic oldest Anglo-built structure still standing on its residence on the island in 1848, which is Utah's Fielding Garr established the first permanent grazing on the rangelands.

Exploration of Antelope Island in 1845, and named Fremont and Kit Carson made the first known Anglo after observing several pronghorn antelope. Antelope Island is home to free-roaming herds of bison, bighorn sheep, mule deer, and pronghorn antelope. The island provides spectacular views of Great Salt Lake, the Wasatch Mountains, Salt Lake skyline, and benches of ancient Lake Bonneville.

Great Salt Lake
Great Salt Lake is the largest natural lake west of the Mississippi River. The lake is a remnant of pre-historic Lake Bonneville, which covered more than 20,000 square miles during the last Ice Age. Four distinct shorelines from the lake may be seen from Antelope Island.

On average Great Salt Lake is 75 miles long by 28 miles wide, covering 1,700 square miles. At this level, maximum depth is about 33 feet. Size and depth vary greatly with seasonal evaporation and precipitation. Water flows into the lake from four river drainages, carrying 2.2 million tons of minerals into the lake each year. Great Salt Lake has no outlet; water leaves only through evaporation. Because of this, high concentrations of minerals are left behind. Salinity is too high to support fish and most other aquatic species. However, brine shrimp, brine flies, and several types of algae thrive in the lake and are primary food sources for millions of migrating birds.

Nearly 80 percent of Utah’s wetlands surround Great Salt Lake, making its ecosystem one of the most important resources in North America for migratory birds. Nearly 80 percent of Utah’s wetlands surround Great Salt Lake, making its ecosystem one of the most important resources in North America for migratory birds. Nearly 80 percent of Utah’s wetlands surround Great Salt Lake, making its ecosystem one of the most important resources in North America for migratory birds. Nearly 80 percent of Utah’s wetlands surround Great Salt Lake, making its ecosystem one of the most important resources in North America for migratory birds.

Oolitic sand is a unique feature of Great Salt Lake. These round grains of sand are formed when mineral grains or brine shrimp fecal pellets are coated by concentric layers of aragonite, a form of calcium carbonate. This is similar to how pearls are formed.

Wildlife
Antelope Island has several freshwater springs around primarily on the east side supporting island wildlife and vegetation. Bison are the island’s most famous residents. Twelve animals were introduced to the island in 1893 and were the foundation for today’s herd. An annual bison roundup is held each fall to assess the health of the herd and sell extra animals.

The island’s namesake, pronghorn antelope, are native to Utah and to the island. These small, deer-like animals are the fastest animals in North America and can reach speeds of up to 70 miles per hour. Like all other animals on the island, they roam freely and can be seen at various locations throughout the year.

Mule deer and California bighorn sheep are the other large herbivores on the island. Predators include coyotes, bobcats, badgers and numerous birds of prey such as owls, hawks and falcons.

Geology
Antelope Island comprises 28,022 acres, and is 15 miles long and 4.5 miles across at its widest point. Frary Peak is the highest point on the island at 6,596 feet above sea level. The island is part of a basin and range mountain formation located between the Wasatch and Sierra Nevada ranges.

The oldest rocks on Antelope Island are some of the oldest found anywhere in Utah. The Farmington Canyon complex, at 1.7 billion years old, is the same age as rocks found at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. These rocks, which are banded and contorted, comprise the southern two-thirds of the island.

Tintic Quartzite, found on the northern one-third of the island, is 550 million years old and was deposited in a shallow marine environment. Quartzite, which is metamorphosed sandstone, can be seen around the visitor center. The youngest rocks on the island are tufa, deposited by Lake Bonneville only 10,000 to 15,000 years ago. Tufa deposits typically resemble concrete and can be viewed from the Buffalo Point Trail.

Educational Programs and Activities
Engaging and educational programs are offered year-round at Antelope Island. These include guided hikes, Junior Ranger programs, bird walks, astronomy programs and more. Programs help enrich the visitor experience by providing in-depth information about the island and its many unique resources.

School field trips are also offered. Subjects include Great Salt Lake ecology, plant and animal adaptations, geology, Utah history and more. For more information on any of these activities and events, visit the park website at antelopeisland.utah.gov.