

LAKE DARDANELLE STATE PARK

As the Arkansas River journeys through Lake Dardanelle, it continually shapes the land and creates recreation opportunities for visitors.

Surrounded by the beautiful Ouachita Mountains to the south and the Ozarks to the north, Lake Dardanelle offers some of the finest fishing and boating in Arkansas. Formed by the Arkansas River, this 34,000-acre man-made lake is two miles west of Russellville in Pope and Yell Counties.

Lake Dardanelle State Park provides picnicking, camping, boat launching, and a variety of family activities at two areas, one each on the Russellville and Dardanelle sides of the lake.

FACILITIES

Camping ♦ The main campground, the Russellville Area, has 57 campsites (three barrier-free) and the Dardanelle Area has 18 sites. Both areas are open all year. Boat ramps are open all year free of charge.

Campsites include dual-voltage hook-ups, freeze-proof water connections, and modern bathhouses plus a table and grill at each site. A sanitary dump station is also at both the Russellville and Dardanelle areas.

Other Facilities ♦ The park visitor center and exhibit area houses 7,000 gallons of freshwater aquariums displaying fish found in the lake and its tributaries. Other living exhibits include a honeybee hive, river darter tank, and aquatic turtle touch table. Visitors may explore the park's environment and culture through interactive exhibit stations. An orientation video is available at the visitor center theater. The Lakeview Room offers other opportunities for programs, and may be rented for a modest fee.

Spend a pleasant afternoon swimming, fishing, or picnicking by the lake at one of the park's many picnic sites.

The Fishing Tournament Weigh-In Facility provides everything needed to hold a fishing tournament on Lake Dardanelle. Park staff handles release of all tournament fish. Group pavilions and Fishing Tournament Weigh-In Facility may also be reserved for a modest fee. Tournament Facility meeting room may be rented separately.

Marinas are in both the Russellville and Dardanelle areas (both privately owned and operated). Shopping, hospitals, and restaurants are in nearby towns just minutes away.

NOTE: Campers **must** register at the visitor center before occupying a campsite. All Russellville sites are reservable and may be reserved up to one year in advance. Please call to check availability.

Group pavilions must also be reserved at the visitor center before being used (deposit required).

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Interpretive programs are offered year round, designed to connect guests to this park's unique resources and history. They include guided hikes, nature talks, kayaking, lake tours, and demonstrations throughout the park and at the visitor center, plus evening presentations at the outdoor amphitheater (Russellville Area main park). Off-season programs and hikes are available; groups may request special programs to meet specific interests year-round (advance arrangements necessary). Staff offer curriculum-based educational programs which are outlined in the park's teacher handbook (available online or at the park). The Meadowbrook Self-Guided Trail (.7-mile) is at the Russellville Area (ask at the visitor center for a trail guide). Two watchable wildlife areas highlight the diverse wildlife of Lake Dardanelle.

ACTIVITIES

Fishing ♦ Lake Dardanelle's fishery is healthy and diverse, offering you the thrill of nature and the success of the catch. Although stringer-busting catches of crappie, bream, and catfish are common, the outstanding largemouth bass fishery attracts anglers from all over the country. Take a short drive to the waters below the Dardanelle Dam and try your skills on the 40-pound catfish or the 200-pound-and-up alligator gar which lurk here in the depths of the Arkansas River.

Recreation ♦ Fun on Lake Dardanelle comes in many varieties: fishing, waterskiing, swimming in well-marked beach areas, sailing the open waters along the lake's



315 miles of shoreline, or cruising by power boat. Take a party barge or kayak tour, available at the main park area. To explore the lake's coves and shallow waters, kayaks and stand up paddleboards may be rented at the visitor center. Also, available is a barrier-free playground.

Watchable Wildlife ♦ You can explore nature at this park because Lake Dardanelle's diverse habitats sustain many living creatures. A native plant garden at the visitor center and other designated watchable wildlife areas provide opportunities for seeing butterflies, birds, mammals, and more.

LOCATION

MAIN RUSSELLVILLE AREA/PARK HEADQUARTERS

From I-40 (Exit 81) at Russellville, take Hwy. 7 south, then turn right on Hwy. 326 and travel 4 miles to the main park; OR, from west on I-40, take Exit 78, go left on U.S. 64 just 2 miles, then right on Hwy. 326 to the park.

For further information on park hours, fees, and services, contact:

Lake Dardanelle State Park
100 State Park Drive
Russellville, AR 72802
(479) 967-5516 (Russellville)
lakedardanelle@arkansas.com

NOTICE. To preserve scenic beauty and ecology, fences and warning signs have not been installed in some park locations. Caution and supervision of your children are required while visiting these areas.

For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:

Arkansas State Parks
One Capitol Mall, 4A-900
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1191
ArkansasStateParks.com



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