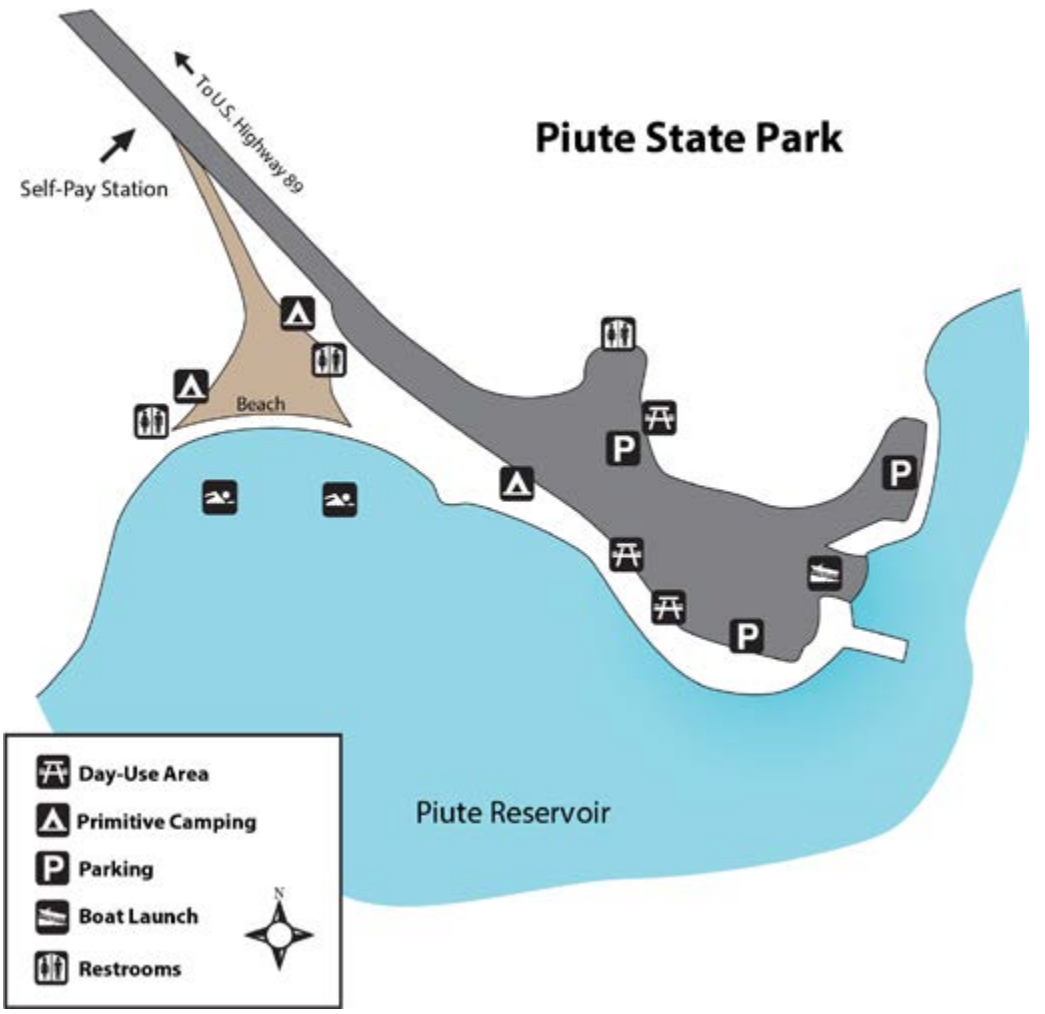
Piute & Otter Creek State Park

Utah State Parks

Piute

Resting on the cliffs of the Sevier Plateau, Piute Reservoir attracts anglers who enjoy trophy fishing for trout without all the crowds. This primitive park is a quiet getaway and a well-kept secret.



History

Robert D. Young, who was responsible for building Otter Creek Dam, built Piute Dam along the main fork of the Sevier River in 1908 creating Piute Reservoir. The reservoir increased the irrigation capacities of the region and most of the water is still used for irrigation.

Things to do

Piute offers incredible fishing opportunities whether from shore or on a boat. Game fish include rainbow, cutthroat, and brown trout, and smallmouth bass. Piute is also a great lake for water sports, including waterskiing, jetskiing and wakeboarding. The park offers camping and picnicking on the beach, and access to the Paiute Trail System for OHV riding. No culinary water is available at Piute and camping areas are primitive.

Otter Creek

Otter Creek Reservoir, conveniently located in central Utah, offers some of the state's finest year-round trout fishing. The park is also a favorite for boating, camping, waterskiing and birdwatching.

History

On October 11, 1897, construction began on the dam to create the reservoir. Despite many setbacks to the project, including funding problems, lack of support, a lack of experience among those building it, and suspicion that the all-earth dam would not be strong enough to hold water, the dam was finally completed in 1901. Upon its completion, state engineers called it "one of the best and more secure earth reservoir dams in the country." The south end of the reservoir became a state park in 1964.

Things to do

A host of activities and sight-seeing adventures await visitors to Otter Creek. Reel in a trout or waterski the seven miles of the reservoir. Head to the backcountry trails on horseback, mountain bike or ATV and enjoy the grandeur of nature, big open sky and wildlife.

Visitors have access to three ATV trails right from the park. Explore the Garfield County OHV and Great Western Trail systems or the internationally popular Paiute Trail System. Out-of-state riders must make sure to register their OHVs in compliance with Utah law.

Fishing

Otter Creek has been rated one of Utah's best fisheries for rainbow trout. Anglers will also find cutthroat, brown trout and smallmouth bass in the reservoir. Otter Creek has a reputation of producing trout in the four to eight-pound range. The lake's record is a brown trout weighing 16 pounds, seven ounces.

Group-Use Pavilion

Enjoy your next family reunion, picnic or community event in the beautiful new group-use pavilion. Complete with lawn, fire pit, large charcoal grill, horseshoe pits, water, lights, and camping for trailers and tents, the pavilion accomodates a minimum of 25 people and up to more than 100. The pavilion can be used for day-use events or camping. Reservations can be made up to one year in advance through the reservation office, (800) 322-3770.

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

Park Guidelines

Camping – Camp only in designated areas. Each permit covers one vehicle and any attached recreational equipment. There is an extra fee for additional vehicles or camping equipment. Up to eight people are allowed in a campsite.

Fires – Campfires may be built in specified areas only and gathering firewood is prohibited.

Fireworks – Fireworks or firecrackers are prohibited in state parks.

Pets – Pets are allowed in Utah state parks, but must be on a maximum six-foot leash. Service animals are the only animals admitted in park buildings. For safety and courtesy, please keep pets under control and clean up after them.

Bicycles – Bicycling is permitted on established public roads and in parking areas.

Off-highway vehicles – Off-highway vehicle riding is permitted in both parks to access nearby trails.

Parking – Park only in designated parking areas.

Firearms – Possession or use of firearms, traps or other devices capable of launching a projectile that can immobilize, injure or kill a person or animal, or damage property is prohibited unless the weapon or device is 1) unloaded and packed away to prevent its use, 2) being used by authorized enforcement officers in the performance of official duties.

Plants and animals – All plants, animals, minerals and other natural features in state parks are protected. It is unlawful to remove, alter or destroy them.

Speed limit – The speed limit within all park areas is 15 m.p.h.

Waste water – It is unlawful to dump or drain water from campers or trailers onto the ground. A sanitary disposal station is provided for registered campers.

Quiet hours – 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Vandalism – It is unlawful to mutilate or deface any natural or constructed feature or structure. Please help keep our parks beautiful.

Accidents – Please report accidents or suspicious activities to a ranger.

Permits – A Special Use Permit is required for all special events and commercial or professional filming and photography.

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

Operating Hours:

Otter Creek: Summer: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Winter: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Open year-round with no holiday closures.

Piute: Open 24 hours a day, year-round. No holiday closures.

Park Location:

Otter Creek: Travel east 11 miles on U-62 from the U.S. 89 and U-62 junction. Where U-62 turns north, continue east for one half-mile on U-22.

Piute: From I-70 W take exit 23 to U.S. 89. Heading south on U.S. 89, turn left at the park sign (about 20 miles).

Address Inquiries To:

Otter Creek\Piute State Park

P.O. Box 43

Antimony, UT 84712-0043

(435) 624-3268

or

Utah State Parks and Recreation

P.O. Box 146001

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6001

(801) 538-7220, (877) UT-PARKS

stateparks.utah.gov

For Reservations Call:

(800) 322-3770 or visit reserveamerica.com

Utah State Parks Mission:

To enhance the quality of life of Utahns and visitors by preserving and providing natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.