



WHO WE ARE

Kentucky State Parks are committed to providing a sustainable system of parks that delivers quality programs, amenities, and services. Our goal is to create memorable experiences, provide a sense of place, and preserve the historic and natural integrity of our parks for existing and future generations. Our vision is to build public and private partnerships to ensure that state parks bring both recreational and economic value to the communities throughout the commonwealth.

HISTORY OF KENTUCKY STATE PARKS

Established in 1924, Kentucky State Parks represent our state's commitment to preserving natural and historical sites throughout the commonwealth for future generations to visit and enjoy. The first four Kentucky State Parks were Pine Mountain, Natural Bridge, Old Fort Harrod, and the Blue and Gray.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Kentucky State Parks operate on an annual budget of \$99.4 million. Kentucky's park system ranks 3rd in the nation for revenue production with annual revenue of \$53 million. In 2019, state parks welcomed an estimated 7.9 million visitors including 6.7 million day users and 1.6 million overnight guests.

PARK OPERATIONS

Kentucky State Parks operations consist of 17 resorts parks, 8 historic sites, 13 golf courses, 34 pools and beaches, 15 marinas and 30 campgrounds. Kentucky State Parks employ nearly 650 full-time employees in addition to hiring approximately 600 seasonal staff during the summer.

GUEST EXPERIENCE

Kentucky is home to 45 state parks including 17 resort parks. State parks span over 48,000 acres and offer 300 miles of hiking trails. Visitors have access to several outdoor recreational activities, including hiking, biking and horseback riding.

MODERNIZATION OF KENTUCKY STATE PARKS

As part of a bi-partisan commitment to enhance safety, and improve esthetics at Kentucky State Parks, the Kentucky General Assembly allotted \$18 million (FY 16-18) in general funds as part of the Restoring the Finest effort. In 2019, the General Assembly approved a \$50 million bond with \$3.4 million being used for room accommodation upgrades. Funding continues to be used to address approximately 100 projects including the installation of new roofs, upgrades for wastewater treatment plants, painting, repairing walkways, utility repairs/improvements, and hospitality enhancements.



**45 State Parks,
including 17
Resort Parks**



**6 Covered
Bridges**



**300 Miles of
Trails**



13 Golf Courses



**34 Pools/
Beaches**



15 Marinas



30 Campgrounds




**650 Employees
600-700 Seasonal
Staff**



**Approximately
2,400
Campsites**



2 Scenic Trails



48,000+ Acres



KENTUCKY STATE PARKS
"the nation's finest"