

MIRROR LAKE STATE PARK

E10320 Fern Dell Road
Baraboo, WI 53913
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Located only 3 miles from the Wisconsin Dells, Mirror Lake State Park has a great campground for rustic camping, but is not as well-known as nearby Devil's Lake (thus avoiding the crowds). The park contains many scenic wonders, including Mirror Lake, which is often so calm that not a ripple can be seen. 50 foot cliffs, wetlands, and forests are just some of the ecosystems you will encounter while visiting this park. Wisconsin Dells is just around the corner, so there are plenty of things to do in the area, including scenic and historic boat rides through the dells, where scouts and scouters alike can learn about the geology and history of the area.

Camping Availability: Mirror Lake has 151 family campsites and 7 group sites. The park also has an accessible cabin for people with disabilities and a rental cottage that was designed by famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Activities Inside the Park: Mirror Lake State Park offers the only house in the world designed by Frank Lloyd Wright that is available for rental occupancy. Designed in 1958, it was one of Wright's last works. Known as the Seth Peterson cottage (after the Wisconsin native who encouraged Wright to design the house), it was restored in 1989. Tours are also available the second Sunday of each month from 1 – 4 PM, for \$2/person. Groups of 10 or more should call (608) 254-6051 for a tour.

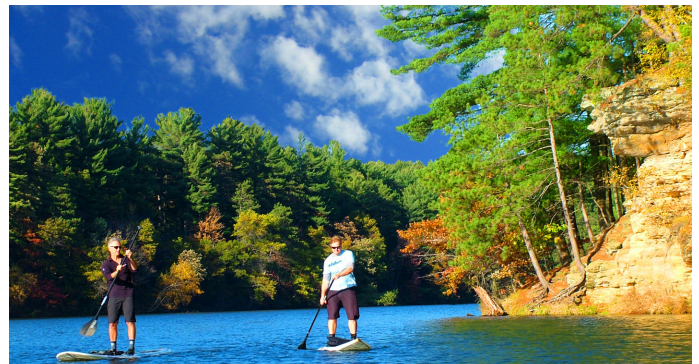
Mirror Lake state park has two different habitats for fishing. Dell Creek is 10.5 miles long and flows into Mirror Lake. The stream is stocked with 5,000 fall fingerling and 3,000 spring yearlings each year. Most are brown trout. Mirror Lake has 137 acres of fishing habitat. The lake contains largemouth bass, bluegill, northern pike, yellow perch, black crappie, pumpkinseeds, yellow and black bullheads, and walleyes. Boat, canoe, and kayak rentals are available in the summer.

Mirror Lake State Park has 20 miles of hiking. 17 of these are available for cross-country skiing, 9 are available for biking, 1 mile is available for snowshoeing, 1 is available as an interpretive nature trail, and .5 mile is accessible for people with disabilities. Along the hiking trails you may see such wildlife as deer, raccoons, squirrels, bats, chipmunks, muskrats, beavers, mink, red foxes, cottontail rabbits, and coyotes.

Seasonal Information: The campground is open year-round, and winter activities include cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Cascade Mountain is nearby, and offers skiing, snowboarding, and tubing. Many shops in the Dells are closed for the season, but year-round activities have been growing in number in the Dells in recent years.

Interesting Fact About the Camp: The Blockbuster hit "Public Enemies", starring Johnny Depp and Christian Bale, was partly filmed in Mirror Lake State Park. Several gunfights and car chases were filmed in Mirror Lake State park and the surrounding areas. Visitors who hike the Echo Rock Trail at Mirror Lake will recognize the hilly terrain from the film. Fern Dell Road was also used for a car chase scene and shootout.

Must Do Before you Leave: Visit the Wisconsin Dells! The campground is right next to the Dells and Lake Delton. If you wish to take a break and return to civilization for a bit, the Dells have plenty of attractions to offer, from mini-golf to year-round haunted houses. You can even take a boat ride through the dells, and learn about the geology of the dells.



Authored by Chris Brown