Welcome to Moran State Park

Float, drive and hike to find treasures at Moran State Park, an island gem of the San Juan Islands, and part of the Olympics. The park is open year-round.

Moran State Park is located on Orcas Island in Washington State's San Juan Islands. The park is part of the Olympic National Park. Moran State Park is managed by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. The park is open year-round.

Moran State Park sits on Orcas Island, the largest of the San Juan Archipelago. Orcas Island is within the accustomed territory of the Central Coast Salish peoples, including Lummi, Samish and Swinomish tribes. The establishment of Moran State Park, the first major Washington state park, was largely owed to prominent shipbuilder and two-term Seattle Mayor, Edward Moran, who in 1905, Moran began buying up land on Orcas Island for his retirement. Though the idea took as early as 1910, the idea took until the 1930s to become a reality. The Discover Pass can be purchased at local Washington State Ferries, local recreation areas, or online at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries.

The park is open year-round. The Discover Pass is required for day visits to state parks.

A PRECIOUS SAVINGS

The Mount Pickett Natural Area Preserve in the eastern section of the park is the central portion of the largest contiguous tract of naturally protected, unlogged forest remaining in the Puget Sound Trough. It is home to a large year-round population of bald eagles. Wildlife and plants are varied and abundant on this 3,000-acre area, which includes camping, picnicking, hiking, boating and fishing. For one of 25 campsites or one of the challenging hikes, there are two mountains to explore— Mount Pickett and Mount Constitution. The Mount Pickett and Mount Constitution Trails are open to hikers only.

AERIAL ADVANTAGE

The Mount Pickett Natural Area Preserve is a 3,000-acre area that is open to hikers only.

DAY-USE AREAS

The day-use areas include picnic areas, a swimming beach, and a pump-out facility for boats. The park has a variety of accommodations, including campgrounds, cabins, and the heated rustic lodge "The Alpaca." The park is open year-round.

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Flora and Fauna

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**1. WEST BOUNDARY LOOP**
Difficult, 5.6 miles, 1,800 feet elevation gain
The trail begins to the left of the picnic shelter across from the road from the Cascade Lake day-use area. After 5 mi at a sharp switchback go left on the West Boundary Trail. Climbs up the short, steep trail to a service road and go right. This road climbs steeply under power lines for 1.7 miles to the junction with the North Boundary Loop trail. Turn right and hike 1.3 mi through the dense Lodgepole Pine forest to the junction with the Cold Springs Trail. Turn right and descend 2 mi back to Cascade Lake. Hikers should use caution on the steep uphill West Boundary portion of the trail as it is heavily used by downhill, free-ride bicyclists.

**2. CASCADE LAKE LOOP**
Easy, 2.7 miles, slight elevation gain and loss
Start at the Cascade Lake day-use area, and follow the trail counterclockwise. About .75 mi cross over the bridge that spans Cascade Lagoon. Continue left along the lake another .75 mi to the South End Campground. Follow the road through the campground and pick up the trail again near campsite #1. Cross the road above the Camp Moran beach following the Cascade Lake Loop sign. You will cross Olga Road, go uphill, and turn left at the Cascade Lake sign to reach the day-use area.

**3. COLD SPRINGS TRAIL (CASCADE LAKE TO MOUNT CONSTITUTION)**
Difficult, 4.2 miles, 2,056 feet elevation gain
Start at Cascade Lake across the county road from the day-use area. Take the trailhead to the left of the picnic shelter, passing by an interpretive exhibit that describes the powerful windstorm that hit the park in 1972. The trail switches back up steep slopes toward Cold Springs. At the top of the switchbacks (approximately 2.3 mi) you come to the junction with the North Boundary Loop trail. Continue straight ahead to the Cold Springs shelter. From the Cold Springs shelter, cross Mount Constitution Road and follow the trail 1.5 mi to the intersection with the Little Summit Trail. Turn left and continue 1 mi to the stone tower at the summit of Mount Constitution.

**4. CASCADE LAKE TO CASCADE FALLS**
Easy, 1.5 miles, 150 feet elevation gain
The trailhead starts to the right of the restrooms across the road from the swim beach at the Cascade Lake day-use area. Follow the trail to the service road above Midway campground and turn right on the road. Take the next trail to the left and continue on, passing the primitive camp area on your right (restrooms available here). Cross Mount Constitution Road to the Cascade Falls parking area and follow the signs downhill to the falls.

**5. CASCADE CREEK TRAIL**
Easy to challenging, Cascade Lake to Cascade Falls 11 mi, 500 feet elevation gain; Cascade Falls to Mountain Lake picnic shelter, 1.9 mi, 620 feet elevation gain

(Continued on other side...)