Brighton State Park

Welcome to Brighton State Park. The outstanding attraction of this area is its remoteness: mountains with tree-covered slopes, fast running streams, and clear lakes. The wild lands to the northeast and southeast of the town of Island Pond are suited to the angler, the hunter, or the outdoor lover who likes to roam away from developed roads or towns. Logging roads into the deeper reaches of this area offer adventurous side trips.

Island Pond enjoyed a heyday from the late 1800’s until the Depression years, along with the fortunes of the Grand Trunk railroad between Montreal, Canada and Portland, Maine. Island Pond was the site of the first international railroad junction in the United States. At the height of the town’s population, its streets were lively with railroad men and loggers, most of whom rode in on one of the 13 rail tracks that passed through town. A mere two tracks remain today. The unique wooden bridge, which once held all 13 tracks, is gone, but the heritage of railroading is still evident in the well-kept train station and a few associated structures at the north end of town.

Brighton State Park is located on the shores of Spectacle Pond. A sandy day use beach and bathhouse is located on Island Pond just a half mile from the campground.

Brighton State Park Amenities

- 54 campsites
- 23 lean-to shelters
- 5 cabins
- Nature center and interpretive programs
- Hiking trails
- Boat rentals
- Firewood and ice available
- Two swimming areas

Recreating & Sightseeing in the Area

Island Pond Area

- Wenlock and West Mountain Wildlife Management Areas
- Bluff Mountain, Gore Mountain and Monadnock Mountain hiking trails
- Trout fishing in area streams and ponds
- Moose watching on Vermont Routes 105, 102 and 114 loop
- Silvio O. Conte National Wildlife Refuge

St. Johnsbury

- Maple Grove Museum
- Fairbanks Museum
- St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

Barton

- Crystal Lake State Park

Brownnington

- Historical Granite School and Old Stone House

East Burke

- Burke Mountain Toll Road
- Fire tower
- Kingdom Trails-hiking and mountain biking trails

Newark

- Bald Mountain Fish Hatchery

For more information, contact:

Brighton State Park
P.O. Box 413
102 State Park Road
Island Pond, VT 05846
(802) 723-4360 (Operating Season) or

VT State Parks Reservation Center
(888) 409-7579 M-F 9 am-4 pm
www.vtstateparks.com

Operating Season:
Memorial Day Weekend - Indigenous People’s Day

Camping
Swimming
Fishing
Picnicking
Boating
Hiking
Interpretive Programs

To request this publication in Braille or alternate visual format, please contact parks@vermont.gov
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