



Girl Scouts Love State Parks

Scavenger Hunt 2021

September 11-12th is National Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend. In celebration we would like to encourage you to head out with your troop or your family to earn the Girl Scouts Love State Parks patch. Patches are limited so do not wait! Along the way, you'll want to snap photos of your journey so you can show everyone what you discovered on your adventure and build your outdoor scrapbook!

BEFORE THE HUNT

- Find a State Park near you at (Kansas - ksoutdoors.com/State-Parks) or (Missouri - mostateparks.com) and research things to do at the park that are suitable for everyone in your group. Look for information about park activities and special events on their websites.
- Check the park's website to see if there are any parking or entry fees.
- Take a hike through the park - pick a route or trail by reviewing a park map to see what types of trails are available. Trail maps are often available on the park's website.
- Learn about the Leave No Trace principles by visiting lnt.org and discuss how you'll practice them on your upcoming hunt.
- With your group, pick a date for your adventure. (*Can't go during GSLSP weekend, no worries pick a date that works for your troop/family*)
- Consult Girl Scouts Safety Activity Checkpoints (gsksmo.org/en/forms---resources/forms.html) before heading out on an adventure so everyone is safe and prepared!

WHAT TO BRING

- A small bag to carry your things
- Bring a camera, smartphone or tablet to take photographs, a notebook/scrapbook and a pencil
- Wear appropriate shoes as trails can be uphill, rocky, or covered in nature's debris
- Check the weather and select appropriate layers of clothing
- Bring payment for parking or entry fees for the park
- A water bottle
- Depending on the length of your adventure plan to pack a snack or lunch

Not ready to venture out to state parks in person? No worries... your Girl Scout and/or troop can visit state parks across the country virtually. Just visit GSUSA's Girl Scouts at Home - www.girlscouts.org/lovesstateparks

ON THE HUNT

Complete the 10 steps below to earn your 2021 Girl Scouts Love State Parks patch. We encourage you to take pictures or draw sketches to document each step. Then later you can build a scrapbook of today's outdoor adventure and all the others you'll take.

- 1. Where is our Girl Scout now?** Tell us which park you're at by taking a picture with the park name visible. Use #gslovestateparks #gsoutdoors to share on Facebook or Instagram.
- 2. Find an interesting or indigenous plant.** Look for informational signs or ask park staff for help identifying the plant. Remember to look but don't touch!
- 3. Take a selfie in the park with something or someone that leads the way!** Maybe a directional sign, park staff, campsite number, trail marker, or trail map. Be creative!
- 4. Girl Scouts always leave a place better than they found it.**
Share a picture of how you're using Leave No Trace.
- 5. Find 3 different tree leaves and identify the species.**
- 6. Learn about the history of the park or the area and why it is a state park.**
- 7. Explore what activities are offered to visitors of the park.** Do one with your group!
- 8. Make the world a better place!** Look for conservation programs and environmental stewardship methods in the park. Consider how humans help and hinder those efforts.
- 9. Look for signs of wildlife.** Maybe a bug, a bird, or a bear. Look on the land, in the sky or maybe in the water or under your feet. Be sure to put that in your scrapbook!
- 10. Wow, what a view!** Use your photography skills to capture the best nature landscape you can find.

Patches may be purchased on the national [GSUSA Shop](#). The patch is to be worn on the back of the Girl Scout sash or vest.