



2021 12 Months-12 Hikes Challenge
TRAIL CHECKLIST

JANUARY 1-15: First Day Hike
Trail: _____

FEBRUARY 14-28: Sweetheart Hike
Trail: _____

MARCH 14-28: Wear Green for Parks Hike
Trail: _____

APRIL 4-18: April's Cabin Fever Hike
Trail: _____

BONUS! APRIL 22-25: Earth Day Hike
Trail: _____

MAY 9-23: Mother's Walk
Trail: _____

BONUS! MAY 28-31: Memorial Walk-a-thon
Trail: _____

BONUS! JUNE 5: National Trails Day
Trail: _____

JUNE 13-27: Father's Hike
Trail: _____

JULY 4-18: Independence Day Hike
Trail: _____

AUGUST 8-22: Fido's State Park Adventure
Trail: _____

BONUS! SEPTEMBER 6: Labor Day Hike
Trail: _____

SEPTEMBER 12-26: Fall Colors Hike
Trail: _____

OCTOBER 10-24: Haunted Walk
Trail: _____

BONUS! OCTOBER 31: Halloween Hike
Trail: _____

NOVEMBER 7-21: Blaze Orange Hike
Trail: _____

DECEMBER 12-26: Holiday Walk
Trail: _____

12 Months-12 Hikes Challenge
Complete!

FORT ABRAHAM LINCOLN STATE PARK

Little Soldier Trail | Distance: 1.76 miles

This trail segment that starts at the Valley picnic shelter and meets up with the Young Hawk Interpretive Trail. The trail provides excellent vistas of the On-A-Slant Village, Missouri and Heart rivers and the city of Bismarck.

Mato-tope Trail | Distance: 1.37 miles

Beginning at the confluence of the Missouri and Heart Rivers, the trail loops the campground by running along the rivers and next to the old Northern Pacific Railroad line. The trail is named in honor of Mato-tope (Four Bears). He grew up in On-a-Slant and was the son of Chief Good Boy. Mato-tope was the second Mandan Chief named Four Bears. Trail starts and ends at the Tipi's in the campground.

LAKE METIGOSHE STATE PARK

Old Oak Trail | Distance: 3 miles

This is North Dakota's first National Recreation Trail. Built by the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) in 1974, it was dedicated by Governor Arthur Link in 1976. This self-guided interpretive trail is approximately three miles in length and takes about two hours to hike.

Eagle Loop | Distance: Distance: To Eagle Loop from Cup loop access 0.47 miles, Loop 1.22 miles, Total 1.69 miles

These trails are open to hiking, mountain biking, fat biking and snowshoeing. Keep an eye out for a variety of wildlife and vegetation. You might see Moose, White Tail Deer, a Pine Martin or Ruffed Grouse. Our trails run through forested, grass and wetland areas creating many unique viewing opportunities.

FORT RANSOM STATE PARK

Little Twig Trail | Distance: 0.94 miles

A interpretive trail which takes you through a lowland woodland community dominated by green ash and American elm; twists and turns through oak woodlands; and meanders through meadows. There are several wooden walk bridges that cross the Bjorn Creek. The trail contains several numbered posts and a corresponding trail guide describing geology, plant and wildlife in the area. Trail guides are available at the trailhead and Visitor Center. Keep a watchful eye for the long tailed, brown and gray, secretive black-billed cuckoo which is more often heard than seen. Listen for its "cu-cu-cu-cu-cu-cu-cu-cu". The Eastern wood pewee is another woodland bird that would be overlooked if not for its persistent "pee-ah-wee" song.

Oak Ridge Trail | Distance: 0.23 miles

A trail connecting Ridgeline Nature and Meadow Run Trails. This trail is an excellent choice for those hikers and bikers wishing for a shorter, but diverse trail loop adventure. Access to this trail is via the Ridgeline Nature Trail.

LAKE SAKAKAWEA STATE PARK

Shoreline Trail | Distance: 2.7 miles

The Shoreline Trail transverses the entire length, North-South of the park and is the longest distance trail at this site. Beginning at the east side of the Sanish Group sites the trail follows where the waters of Lake Sakakawea waters meet the land. One will experience the many outcroppings of scoria formations, along with petrified trunks of ancient trees. There are several coal veins that strongly contrast against the red scoria rocks. The trail's southern end encompasses several quieter bays where shorebirds and waterfowl may be seen.

CROSS RANCH STATE PARK

Matah "River" Trail | Distance: 2.9 miles

This trail begins at the Visitor Center and loops around the park's main use areas. Along the river, interpretive signs describe the history, wildlife and geology of the area. The Matah Trail Self Guided Loop is the innermost loop covering 1.4 miles and takes up to an hour and a half to hike. Self-guided brochures are available at the trailhead or Visitor Center.

Ma-ak-oti "Old Village" Trail | Distance: 4.2 miles

This trail is divided into two sections. The 2.5 mile Upper Ma-ak-oti Trail starts from the Matah/Ma-ak-oti trail junction and continues to a creek flowing through a wooded ravine. The 1.7-mile Lower Ma-ak-oti Trail begins at the Sanger trailhead and continues north, joining with the upper trail. Looping in parts, both sections of the trail wind through prairie bluffs and wooded channels, offering vistas of the Missouri River. Steep stairs without handrails are present on portions of the trail. Some areas may be muddy or impassable due to seasonal water fluctuations. This trail is open to hiking and snowshoeing. It is not groomed for skiing.

LEWIS AND CLARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER - FORT MANDAN

Washburn Discovery Trail | Distance: 4.2 miles

The Washburn Discovery Trail begins in Harmony Park at the North Dakota Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, a certified Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail site. The concrete trail proceeds to Washburn's Riverside Park, taking in vistas of the Missouri River along the way.

Throughout the route, historic sites including the bridge spanning the Missouri River, the last operating ferry boat on the River in North Dakota, historic Washburn Landing and the Soo Line Railroad are marked with interpretive signs, benches and other walking/biking amenities.

Fort Mandan Nature Trail | Distance: 1.1 miles

The Fort Mandan Nature and History Trail is located at the replica of Fort Mandan, which served as the wintering post for the Lewis and Clark expedition during 1804-05. The fort is located along the Missouri River west of Washburn, ND.

The loop trail is constructed of fly ash and cement, which was mixed to form a surface that is natural appearing yet hard enough to accommodate wheelchair traffic.

The trail takes walkers through the riparian forest of cottonwood trees along the bank of the Missouri River. This habitat is filled with wildlife, including whitetail deer, pheasants, wild turkeys, and Canada geese. Bald eagles nest nearby. The Nature Trail provides an opportunity for people to enjoy a pristine environment while they are visiting the historic site

TURTLE RIVER STATE PARK

Fisher Timber Loop starting from CCC Trailhead | Distance: 1.81 miles

This wooded trail is accessed from the CCC Trailhead via Fisher Loop and returns to the same location via Riverview. It begins along the Turtle River and meanders back through wooded hillsides. It is groomed along a modified route for cross-country skiing in winter.

Eco Cattail Loop from the Chalet Trailhead | Distance: 1.67 miles

This trail is accessed via the Eco Loop trail. It features a wildlife viewing station of the oxbow wetlands, boardwalk crossing of the oxbow, and finishes in the wooded hillside of the Eco Loop trail.

LEWIS AND CLARK STATE PARK

North Trail System | Distance: 2.6 miles

This trail system starts in the parking lot near next to the camper cabins and returns parallel to Lake Sakakawea and ends at the Meadowlark Basketball Court. The trail continues north through native prairie intermixed with traces of woody draw communities. The trail provides a wonderful badland vista, and a beautiful walking bridge. While taking a break on one of the many benches provided, listen closely for the catlike "meow" of the gray catbird's call or perhaps spot the distinctive deep blue head and underparts of a male Lazuli bunting. Hikers may catch sight of soaring turkey vultures.

South Trail System | Distance: 2.6 miles

Starting point is the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Kiosk. This multi-looped route combines Lewis and Clark interpretation with some wonderful native prairie images, views of majestic badlands and Lake Sakakawea. Open areas and native prairie hilltops provide good butterfly watching opportunities. Catch a glimpse of common banded or Pawnee skippers flitting amongst the blazing stars or perhaps take a photo of an Ottoe skipper sitting on a purple coneflower. Birding opportunities along the trail are also great. Watch for the black bib and horn-like feathers of the horned lark or the large white wing patches of the lark bunting. Take a timeout on the bench under the ash tree and listen to the soft trickling of the stream and perhaps hear the familiar musical song of the yellow warbler, "sweet, sweet, sweet, I'm so very sweet."

ICELANDIC STATE PARK

Old Settlers Trail | Distance: 1.51 miles

The Old Settlers Trail loops through the woodlands of the Gunlogson Nature Preserve and connects to the Bluebird and Basswood Trails. It is open to hiking and is groomed for cross-country skiing in the winter.

FORT STEVENSON STATE PARK

Flicker Loop | Distance: 1 mile

Flicker Trail loops and segments stretch from the trailhead just south of the Guard House, up and along the western shoreline, past the Prairie Dog Town and includes a one-mile loop just north of the North Loop Campground. The trail meanders through a remnant of native prairie. Common native grasses found in these areas include needle-and-thread, western wheatgrass, blue grama, and little bluestem. The trail also skirts tree plantings and a couple of small wooded ravine areas with an overstory of green ash, American elm, and box elder. The trail provides the access point to the Northern Pine Loop.

Northern Pine Loop | Distance: 2.2 miles

This loop trail wanders into the park's northern portion and is accessed by the Flicker Loop. The trail is secluded amongst the ponderosa pine woodlands. There are spectacular views of the marina and Garrison Bay.

GRAHAMS ISLAND STATE PARK

Sivert Thompson Loop | Distance: 1.6 miles

Trails meander through ash/oak woodlands which provide an opportunity to bird watch, photograph waterfowl, and wildlife and view 130 different plant species that are native to Grahams Island. This trails also provide a view of the Devils Lake along the south shore of Grahams Island. During the winter months participants are asked to walk along the side of the trail and not directly on the groomed portion of the trail.

BEAVER LAKE STATE PARK

Moraine Loop Trail | Distance: 2.28 miles

It starts at the entrance road looping through native prairie then meets the Lake View Trail at a signed junction. Hikers can easily see the shape of the landscape carved out by the glacier as they travel up and over the rocky moraine. The trail offers some excellent views of Beaver Lake and offers good bird and butterfly watching opportunities.