Knight Island State Park
North Hero, Vermont

LEGEND

- Rangers residence
- Main trail
- Campground
- Campsite access trail
- Picnic area
- Lean-to
- Beaver pond/marsh
- Rocky shore
- Private Property

STATE PARKS IN THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS
- North Hero State Park
- Knight Island State Park
- Woods Island State Park
- Burton Island State Park

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MAP OF KNIGHT ISLAND

- West Trail
- East Trail
- Cross Trail
- Park office
- Marina
- Picnic area
- Landing
- Swimming
- Primitive camping
- Campground
- Boat launch
- Rangers residence
- Campsite access trail
- Beaver pond/marsh
- Rocky shore

this map is intended for informational purposes only and is not meant for navigation

ephelps rev. 02/2018
Knight Island State Park

Knight Island, acquired by the State in 1990, is one of three island parks in Lake Champlain’s “inland sea.” This 185-acre island is a mile long and nearly a half mile wide. The park includes all but 10 acres of private land on the island’s southern tip. When on Knight Island, please respect the rights of the park neighbor, and keep off the southern end.

The island was farmed historically then was uninhabited for many years. It was a privately operated primitive campground through the 1980s. Under state ownership, remote area camping occurs on seven sites dotted around the island. Land management activities are those which will keep the island unique and unspoiled.

Facilities

Knight Island is a “remote area” campground. Remote Area campsites, while beautiful, are not for everybody. Sanitary facilities (composting privies) are minimal, and there is no potable water supply. The island’s seven campsites, six of them with rustic log lean-tos, are situated approximately equidistant around the 2 ½-mile shoreline, and are connected by a trail system. This gives you great privacy, but also means you’re going to have to walk. From the State dock, it’s up to a mile to the campsites, and while you may be able to come ashore closer, you shouldn’t bring anything you’re not prepared to carry in and carry out. There are no docks at the campsites, and beaching possibilities are limited. Beach your boat or anchor it offshore at your own risk.

Camping is by permit only on designated sites. A permit may be obtained at the ranger station on the west shore, and is necessary before setting up. Reservations are recommended (2-night minimum unless traveling by paddle craft) and may be booked up to 11 months in advance through the Parks’ Reservation Center, or (within two weeks of your proposed stay) through Burton Island State Park. There is a maximum of eight (8) persons per site and a fourteen (14) night maximum stay.

Getting here and back

Knight Island is 2 miles east of North Hero village, and 5.5 miles northwest of Burton Island/Kill Kare State Parks. If you don’t have a boat, you will need to arrange water taxi service ($). There are two water taxi options, with USCG-licensed captains, operating from Grand Isle County. The state does not necessarily endorse nor recommend either, and rates vary by group size and pickup location.

They are:

Little Cove Marina  802-373-8253
Driftwood Tours  802-373-0022

Options for Knight Island parking include Knight Point State Park in North Hero (a three-mile crossing) or Kill Kare State Park in St. Albans (a five-mile crossing), where there is no parking fee for Knight Island campers. If launching a power boat, Kill Kare is your best option. Knight Point is fine for kayaks and canoes. The closest access (2 miles) is from North Hero village, where you may arrange private parking ($) through Hero’s Welcome General Store: 802-372-4161. If traveling to Knight Island via water taxi, you should make your own parking and pickup arrangements through your water taxi operator.

Visitors are advised that weather conditions do occur which can make travel on Lake Champlain hazardous. Delays in getting to and from the Island are not uncommon, and it is neither the responsibility nor the obligation of Vermont State Parks to get visitors to or from the islands when lake conditions preclude safe crossing.

Camp Fires – are permitted in fire rings on designated campsites only. Burn only dead and down wood.

Refuse Removal is carry-in/carry-out. You brought it, please don’t leave it here.

Water Supply – There is no public water supply. Bring your own, or be prepared to treat (filter or boil) lake water.

Plants – Some unusual and rare plants grow on Knight Island. No plant may be uprooted or cut without written permission from the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

Day Use and Hiking – Day use during daylight hours only, day visitors must depart by sundown. No day use on campsites; no day use fires. Hike only on the marked trail system or shoreline below high-water level.

Emergency Assistance – The Ranger has a cellular telephone and 2-way radio.

For More Information:

c/o Burton Island State Park
P.O. Box 123 St. Albans, VT 05481
(802)524-6353 (operating season) or
VT State Parks Reservation Center
(888) 409-7570 M-F 9 AM-4 PM
www.vtstateparks.com

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