Trinidad Lake State Park

Who we are
Nestled in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of southern Colorado, Trinidad Lake State Park offers a variety of recreational opportunities and spectacular views of the surrounding mesas and mountains. The park is home to an abundance of wildlife, including fish, birds of prey, coyotes, roadrunners, elk and deer. The lake itself provides for numerous water recreation experiences, such as paddling, sailing, water skiing and excellent fishing. The park also features an archery range, more than 12 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails, picnic areas, seasonal hunting opportunities and unusual geologic formations. The Carpios Ridge Campground, open year round, serves as a scenic base-location from which to explore the nearby mountains, Highway of Legends, Santa Fe Trail and historic Trinidad.

Visitors to Trinidad Lake State Park spend about $8 million annually in local communities.¹

Top attractions
- Mild temperatures, great scenery, plenty of outdoor recreation opportunities and access to historic locations, such as the old Santa Fe Trail.
- Interesting geologic formations around the park and in the nearby areas.
- Part of the Scenic Highway of Legends in southern Colorado.

Our partners
- Trinidad/Las Animas County Chamber of Commerce
- City of Trinidad
- City of Trinidad Tourism Board
- Colorado State Historical Society
- Colorado State Land Board
- Model Ditch Company
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Friends of Trinidad Lake State Park

Challenges we face
- Maintaining and continuing to develop recreational facilities and opportunities that keep pace with the park’s rapidly increasing visitation.
- Increasing campground occupancy rates and recreation visits by developing a regional marketing plan that entices potential visitors off I-25 and from the Front Range of Colorado and northern New Mexico.
- Continuing to develop a sustainable volunteer program by providing volunteer training, opportunities and amenities, while developing park stewardship principles.

Volunteer activities
- Campground Host
- Park Host
- Junior Explorer Camp Helper
- Adopt-a-Trail
- Raptor Monitoring

Trinidad Lake State Park
32610 Highway 12, Trinidad, CO, 81082
(719) 846-6951 • Email: trinidad.lake@state.co.us
Park Manager: Crystal Dreiling

Geography
Region: Southeast
County: Las Animas
Year Acquired: 1978
Elevation: 6,300 ft
Miles From Denver: 200

Acreage
Total Acres: 3,223

Governmental
US Cong Dist: 4th
CO Senate: 35th
CO House: 64th

Employees
Permanent: 5
Temporary: 10
Volunteers: 8
Volunteer Hours: 1,524

Annual Visitation
192,087

Facilities
Archery Range
Boat Ramps
Dump Station
Group Picnic Area
Laundry
Moorings/Docking
46 Picnic Sites
Showers (coin-operated)
Visitor Center

Trails
Biking: 10.8 miles
Hiking: 12.3 miles
Horseback: 4 miles
Snowshoeing: 12.3 miles
Total: 12.3 miles

Recreation
Boating
Fishing
Hunting
Ice Fishing
Ice Skating
Jet Skiing
Ranger/Nature Programs
Sailboarding
Water Skiing
Wildlife/Bird Viewing
Winter Camping

Camping
Basic (seasonal): 10
Electrical (year-round): 56
Full-Hookup (year-round): 7
Group Facilities (year-round): 3

Roads
Paved: 1.2 miles
Unpaved: 5 miles