



General Butler State Resort Park

Location: Carroll County, in western Northern Kentucky, near convergence of Kentucky and Ohio Rivers. 1608 Hwy 227, Carrollton, KY 41008. 502-732-4384

Website: <http://parks.ky.gov/parks/resortparks/general-butler/trails.aspx>

Driving Directions: Take I-71 to exit 44, then go northwest on KY-227.

Hiking Trail Miles: Up to 6.25

Trail Features: Woodland Trail is a 1.5 mile loop with access available at many points throughout the park, going through a mature woodland forest of large tulip trees, beech and hickory, many popular wildflowers and bushes along trail. Fossil Trail is a 4.5 mile loop with 3 access points, crossing open fields and going through old hardwood forests behind a stone overlook which is the county's highest point. Boy Scout Trail is a .25 mile trail connecting Butler-Turpin State Historic House to Fossil Trail. Fossil Trail is also open to bikers April-November.

Trails are not well marked, but their paths are clear and mostly in wooded areas. A hiking stick comes in handy in some places. Restrooms are available at the lodge. Be sure to check out the overlooks both from the lodge and the one built by the CCC which is close to the trail.

Dogs: Dogs are allowed on leash.

History: General Butler is Northern Kentucky's 1st state park and one of the first ten in the commonwealth. On August 12, 1931, a 300-acre tract comprising part of the old William O. Butler family farm became Kentucky's 6th state park. Not only is the park a historic site, it is also a place of great natural beauty, the only spot in Kentucky that has a unique view of the convergence of the Kentucky and Ohio Rivers. The Butler family for which the park is named is one of Kentucky's great historic families. General Percival Butler, a Revolutionary War soldier settled in what is now Carroll County, Kentucky in 1796. Butler's 4 sons became prominent figures in Kentucky history.

General Butler State Resort Park preserves the Butler family home built in 1859, a brick federal-style residence with 8 large rooms, 2 wide halls, a 3rd floor and spacious basement. The house is open for tours. The original park built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) has 791 acres. CCC built a beautiful stone pavilion on the highest hill overlooking the Kentucky River.

Other Activities: Besides hiking, park is great for biking, birding, camping (111 campsites with utility hookups and grills), canoeing, fishing (in the 30-acre Butler Lake, no motorized boats allowed), golf, tennis and swimming (in the lodge pool - open seasonally). There are rental cabins and a lodge, gift shop, museum and a recreation building including a game room.

