Custer State Park Horse Trails Information

Custer State Park’s early pioneers, ranchers and loggers have left behind miles of trails and backcountry roads to explore. Several of these trails are shared by hikers, horse riders and mountain bikers.

Please be polite to all that you meet and pay attention to postings due to natural resource management concerns.

Rules and Regulations

- Park Entrance Licenses are required.

- Testing Required: Horses must have a negative coggins test (swamp fever) within the last 12 months. SD law requires anyone transporting horses out of the ownership inspection area to have their horses inspected by a Brand Inspector. Contact French Creek Horse Campground Host for details.

- Do NOT approach the bison. Be aware of the dangers of bison, rattlesnakes, and poison ivy. Bison are extremely dangerous. Be prepared for creek crossings, steep rocky climbs, and inclement weather.

- Feeding and disturbing wildlife is against park regulations.

- Campfires are only allowed in campground and picnic areas within metal grates. Campfires are prohibited when fire restrictions are in place.

- Pets need to be on a leash no longer than 10 feet. Please clean up after your pet. Pets are not allowed in any park buildings or on designated swimming beaches.

- Please leave plants and other resources in their natural settings for others to enjoy. Picking wildflowers or collecting items such as rocks or artifacts is prohibited.

- Note: Horses are not allowed in the Grace Coolidge Walk-in Fishing area or the Sylvan Lake water shed area in Custer State Park.

Cautionary Tips for Riding in Custer State Park

- Thunderstorms containing hail, strong winds, and rain are prominent during the summer months.

- Take at least one quart of water per person.

- NO RESTROOMS located along the trails.

- Pack out your trash.

For more information on Custer State Park Trails:
Custer State Park
605-255-4515
www.custerstatepark.com

Maps

- Detailed topographical maps area available for sale at any of the park general stores.

- AVENZA MAPS app is highly recommended. This app uses your devices built-in GPS to locate you even when you are out of range of a network or Internet connection and is free to use. Download the app from the APP STORE or GOOGLE PLAY. Then search for Custer State Park Maps.

Trail Information

- There are marked horse trails in Custer State Park; all are accessible from Horse Camp.

- Trails are marked with brown fiberglass posts and blue diamonds.

- The Centennial Trail is marked with fiberglass posts and gray diamonds.

- Marked trails are intended to be a primer for our first time visitors. We encourage horse camp guests to purchase topographical maps and explore other areas of the Park as well.

French Creek Horse Camp Information

- All campsites require a reservation:
  - Please call 1-800-710-2267 to make a reservation or visit campsld.com
  - French Creek Horse Camp in Custer State Park is a popular spot and we encourage everyone to make reservations as early as possible. Reservations can be made 1 year in advance.

- Fees: A Park Entrance License will need to be purchases in addition to camping fees.

- Camping Amenities: All sites have electric service, fire grates, picnic tables, showers, flush toilets, and two corral per campsite. Dump station located in camp. Horse Information: Water is available in French Creek.

- Certified weed free hay or complete horse feed is required. Place feed in center of corral to avoid attracting deer and bison.

- Keep your horse confinement area clean. Picketing and portable corrals are not allowed. Electric fence is permitted in a designated area. Horses cannot be left unattended overnight.