DISCOVER SWAN ISLAND

Swan Island, at the head of Merrymeeting Bay, welcomes hikers, campers, birders, anglers, wildlife watchers and explorers to its shores for an unforgettable Maine experience. Visitors may immerse themselves in history, surround themselves in nature and discover abundant wildlife. There is a kids-only trout fishing pond, a wildlife viewing tower and special food plots for wildlife. This State Wildlife Management Area preserves a part of history and a place in time. Come visit!

Swan Island is a small island with a large history. In centuries past, Abanaki Indians had a summer hunting camp here. While some claim the island was named by English explorers for migrating swans, others believe the name is short for ‘Swango,’ the Abanaki word for ‘island of eagles.’ Evolving into an active farming community during the 1800s, over 100 people in 27 homes lived and worked here. Five historic homes still stand today. The island is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) began acquiring island properties in the 1940s. By 1988, it became the Steve Powell Wildlife Management Area in its entirety.

DIRECTIONS

To get to Swan Island, take Route I-295 to Exit 43 (Richmond/Litchfield). From the exit, follow Route 197 East for approximately three miles to Richmond Village. Turn left at the intersection of Routes 197 & 24. The Swan Island Parking lot is immediately on your right & identified with a large State of Maine sign.

NEARBY

65 minutes from Camden
45 minutes from Portland
35 minutes from Boothbay
30 minutes from LL Bean in Freeport
30 minutes from antique shops in Hallowell
30 minutes from Old Fort Western in Augusta
Minutes from ice cream, drinks and great food right in Richmond

FOR SWAN ISLAND RESERVATIONS

Email: Swan.Island@Maine.gov
Phone: 207-547-5322
Maine.gov/swanisland

Find us on Facebook
Mefishwildlife.com

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**EXPLORE WITH US!**
On Swan Island, you can hike or bike the length of this 4-mile long island on the central dirt road, discover 5-foot to 7-foot freshwater tides, and encounter deer and other wildlife. Swan Island provides nesting habitat for a variety of waterfowl and shorebirds. Look up and you may spot bald eagles, Canada geese, hawks and warblers. Look down to find the tracks of coyotes, porcupines, raccoons - sometimes moose! The river has abundant striped and largemouth bass as well as enormous Atlantic sturgeon. Plan to take advantage of a variety of wildlife, conservation and historical programs and events offered throughout the season.

**ON-SITE CONVENIENCES**
- 10 Adirondack shelters in a grassy field overlooking Little Swan Island and Kennebec River
- Fire pit and picnic table at every site
- One group site
- Drinking water
- Picnic shelter
- Clean, modern restrooms
- Utility/dish room
- 7 miles of hiking
- 4.5-mile dirt road for hiking/biking
- Fishing pond for kids under 16 - fishing gear provided!
- Wildlife viewing tower

**THE SWAN ISLAND SEASON**
Swan Island is open daily from May 1 through the end of October. To protect the island’s wildlife, pets are not allowed.

**SELF ACCESS**
Paddle your canoe or kayak to the main island landing or to the campground on the east side. Both sites have “iron rangers” to deposit user fees. Reservations are not required for day use.

**FERRY SCHEDULE**
Ferry service provided by MDIFW is for passengers only; vehicles are not allowed. Bicycles are welcomed. The ferry ride takes about 5 minutes and is available by prior reservation only!

Leaves Richmond Parking Area:
9:15 AM, 11:15 AM, 1:15 PM, 3:15 PM

Leaves Swan Island:
9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM

**FEES**
All 5 and under visitors are free!

**Day Use**
$8 per person

**Camping**
$8 per person plus $20 per site per night

**Season Passes***
Individual Day Use: $30
Individual Camping: $45
Family Day Use: $75
Family Camping: $130

**Picnic Shelter** – Day use fee applies + $20
**Canoe/Kayak** – $10/hr or $35/day
**Firewood** – $4/bundle

Call 207-547-5322 to make a reservation!

***Specific rules apply. For more information, call 207-547-5322; email Swan.Island@maine.gov or visit maine.gov/swanisland.