

News Release



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Nights Booked for Memorial Day Reservations Break All-Time Record

But...If You are Still Searching for Camping Spot, Here's What to Do

The reservation system at California State Parks shows the number of nights booked by Memorial Day campers is up 4% over the highest year on record. More campers are staying longer than ever before.

The State Parks reservation system, operated by ReserveAmerica, shows that as of today, 26,791 nights have been booked, up 4% over the highest year on record, 2011, when 25,718 nights were booked. Comparing the figures to last year, the nights booked are up 9% over the 24,453 nights booked for Memorial Day 2012.

Keep in mind this does not mean there are more campsites to reserve. It just means that because the holiday falls adjacent to a weekend, on a Monday, people are taking Friday off and maybe Thursday too, to make it a longer camping trip.

However, if you are one of those people who has waited until the last minute to find a camping reservation, be advised that the beach and coastal campgrounds fill up first and are likely full for this Memorial Day weekend. We advise that you look inland and north, meaning those campgrounds that get less reservation pressure and are likely to have some openings left.

Camping reservations are still available, but state park visitors must act fast or try a first-come, first-served campground. California State Parks is providing regular updates online:

Campground Availability
http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=22687

Reservations online or by phone (800) 444-PARK (7275)
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1023

For energy efficient recreation –

California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>



First-come, first-served campgrounds, no reservations taken:
http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/737/files/firstCome_firstServed_06.pdf

State Park officials caution that while the Web page is updated daily, availability at any of the parks listed can change hourly. If you want to make a reservation, do it now. Reservation can be made up to 48 hours in advance of the day chosen, if available.

There are 280 state parks in California, with 115 of them offering camping. There are roughly 15,000 state park camp sites in California, with about 11,000 of those on the reservation system. The rest are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. If your camping group is too large for a traditional site, there are 230 group camp sites available through the State Park system. Group sites can accommodate from 9 to as many as 100 persons, depending on the park. The traditional camp sites accommodate up to 8 people.

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