

Goose Island State Park, Texas

Goose Island State Park is located near Lamar, Texas, just north of Rockport along Highway 35. The park is situated on a point of land adjacent to Copano, Aransas and St. Charles Bays making it a true fisherman's paradise.

The park provides standard Texas State Park amenities including power and water at each campsite, but unlike most, has no full hookup sites available.

There are two major areas in which to camp, an inland area and a beach front section. The inland camp sites varied greatly in appearance. The beach front sites were much closer together, giving you the feeling that you were camping right on top of your neighbor. But these sites appeared very popular nevertheless.

As for recreation, the park has some walking/biking trails, bird watching, which is reputed to be excellent, and some play areas for the kids.

But honestly the park truly only has one major attraction and that is fishing. During my stay, nearly every site had a boat. The park provides a nice boat ramp and fish cleaning stations. To properly fish the local bays, you need a boat that doesn't draft very deep.

Goose Island also has a long fishing pier off which we spent many hours fishing in 1-3 feet of water. In fact, I'm pretty sure we could have walked out halfway across the bay and not been in over our heads.

The Park claims it has a park store, but the 'store' is really just a few trinkets available at the front office. They have some clothing, patches and limited firewood available. Fortunately there's a real store back at the gas station where you turned off Hwy 35.

Overall the park is nice, very quiet and an excellent place to kick off a fishing trip.

Jim Bray

Goose Island State Park web site: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goose_island/

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