




**We're Mobile!**  
The Tennessee State Parks Pocket Ranger app is available at the Apple app store and Google Play.



**Directions**  
From Chattanooga, on I-75 take Exit 7A and follow the signs to the park.  
From Knoxville, on I-75 take Exit 25 and follow the signs to the park.

 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation authorization no. 327152, 10,000 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.07 per copy, June 2016.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation EEO/AA coordinator at 888-867-2757 or the ADA Coordinator at 615-532-0059 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 800-848-0298.

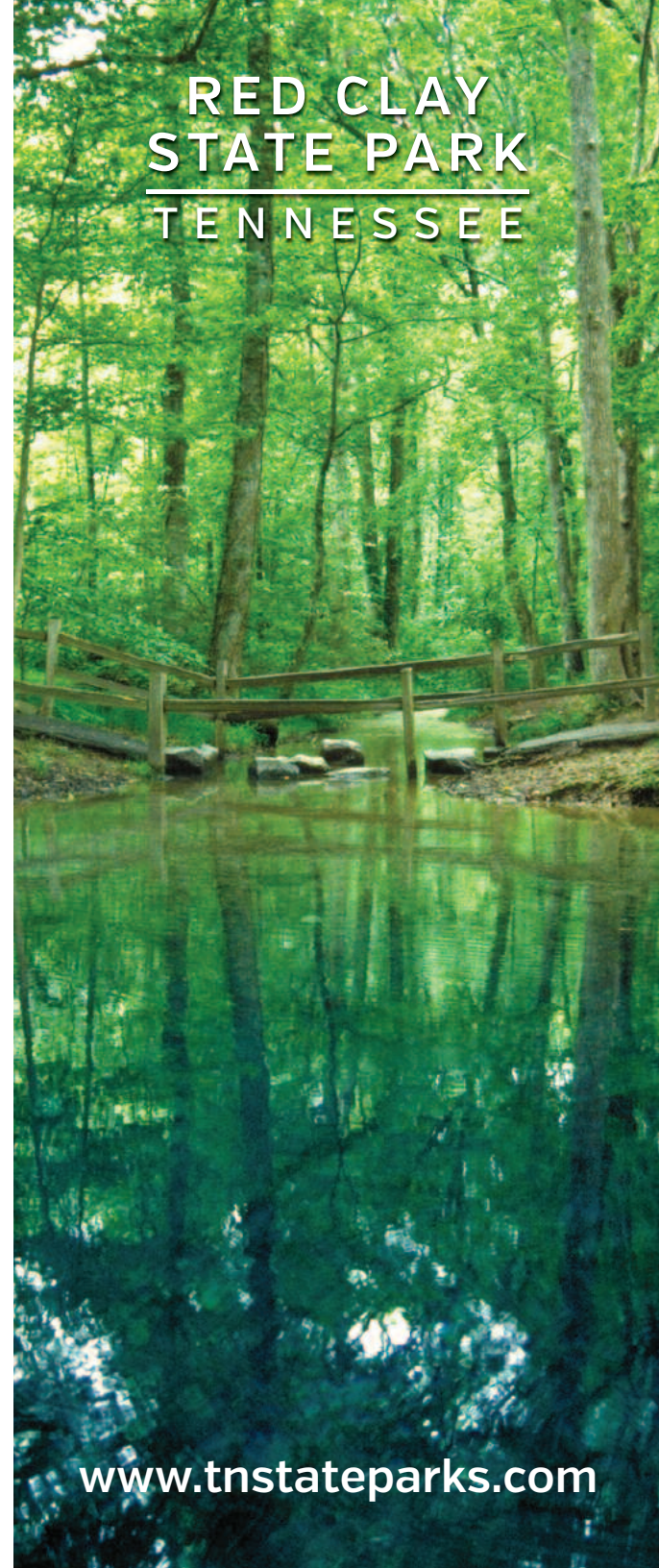
**Hours of Operation**  
8:00 AM to Sunset March-November  
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM December-February  
Closed December 25  
**Visitor's Center Hours - Summer Hours**  
9:00 AM to 5:30 PM Tuesday - Saturday  
1:00 PM to 5:30 PM Sunday - Monday  
**Winter Hours**  
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM  
**Red Clay State Historic Park**  
1140 Red Clay Park  
Cleveland, Tennessee 37311  
423-478-0339  
**Tennessee State Parks**  
William R. Snodgrass TN Tower  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243  
888-867-2757  
[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

**Volunteer Opportunities**  
Volunteers and Friends assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy. It's easy to show your support - join a friends group or participate in one of the many volunteer opportunities we offer individuals, families and groups. To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area, visit [www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com).



T E N N E S S E E  
**State Parks**

RED CLAY  
STATE PARK  
TENNESSEE



[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

**Amphitheater**  
Red Clay's amphitheater seats 500 people and may be reserved for a small fee. Electrical outlets are available for use for musical and theatrical activities.

**Other Nearby State Parks**  
Booker T. Washington State Park, 20 miles  
Harrison Bay State Park, 21 miles

**Annual Event**

- March - Lecture Symposium
- August - Cherokee Heritage Festival
- October - Friends of Red Clay Native American Festival
- December - Christmas by Candlelight, a Tour of Red Clay



**Nearby Attractions**

- Nancy Ward Gravesite
- Museum Center at Five Points
- New Echota Cherokee Capitol State Historic Site



**Red Clay State Historic Park** is located in the extreme southwest corner of Bradley County in Tennessee, just above the Tennessee-Georgia state line. The park encompasses 263-acres of narrow valleys formerly used as cotton and pasture land. There are also forested ridges that average 200 feet or more above the valley floor. The site contains a natural landmark, the Blue Hole Spring, which arises from beneath a limestone ledge to form a deep pool that flows into Mill Creek, a tributary of the Conasauga and Coosa River system. The spring was used by the Cherokee for their water supply during council meetings. Red Clay State Historical Park is a certified interpretive site on the Trail of Tears.



### Visitors Center

The James F. Corn Interpretive Facility contains exhibits on the 19th century Cherokee, the Trail of Tears, and prehistory, Cherokee art, a video theater, gift shop and a small library.



### Historical Significance

Red Clay served as the seat of Cherokee government from 1832 until the forced removal of the Cherokee in 1838. By 1832, The state of Georgia had stripped the Cherokee of their political sovereignty, and had banned all political activity in Georgia. As a result, the Cherokee capital was moved from New Echota, Georgia, to Red Clay, Tennessee. Red Clay was the site of 11 general councils, national affairs attended by up to 5,000 people. Those years were filled with frustrating efforts to insure the future of the Cherokee. One of the leaders of the Cherokee, Principal Chief John Ross, led their fight to keep Cherokee's eastern lands, refusing the government's efforts to move his people to Oklahoma. Controversial treaties, resulted in the surrendering of land and their forced removal. Here, at Red Clay, the Trail of Tears really began, for it was at the Red Clay Council Grounds that the Cherokee learned that they had lost their mountains, streams, and valleys forever.



### Gift Shop

Inventory includes books on Cherokee history and culture, Cherokee videos, replicas of arrowheads, Red Clay t-shirts, Red Clay patches, and other Native American educational materials.

### Planned Programs

Programs for all age groups are available, and are scheduled year-round. Our primary programs concern Cherokee history and culture, the significance of Red Clay, natural history and conservation. Please call the park visitor center at 423-478-0339 for more information and to schedule programs.

### Picnic Pavilion

One picnic pavilion seats 80-100 people and includes a large grill, fireplace and restrooms. Reservations are recommended, especially on weekends and holidays. If the shelter is not reserved for the day, it may be used on a first-come basis.

### Hiking

Over three miles of hiking trails range from easy paved trails to a moderate, marked trail that winds through the woods.

