

# Ash Hollow State Historical Park

## park information:

Sweet spring water made the Ash Hollow area a major stopover on the Overland Trail and prompted prehistoric Indians to use it, too. A small rock overhang in the side of the bluff was used as a campsite by later Plains Indians for about 3,000 years. Several layers of prehistoric deposits have helped scientists establish the time sequence for the occupation of the High Plains. Ruts etched by west-bound wagons are still visible on the bluffs.

Today, the area's beauty and sweeping vistas continue to make it a popular stopover for vacationers and travelers. There is a picnic area and 9 miles of hiking trails scattered throughout the park. The area also offers birdwatching and wildlife viewing opportunities. Other attractions at Ash Hollow include a rock schoolhouse, the Ash Hollow Cemetery and Windlass Hill, where ruts from the Oregon-California Trail are still visible.

The Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., from May 26 through Labor Day. (Closed on Mondays.) Park grounds are open daily from 8 a.m. until sunset. A valid Nebraska vehicle park permit is required and can be purchased at the Visitor Center.

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camping amenities: Camping is not available.

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activities: Find fun things to do at [www.negpp.org](http://www.negpp.org) under "Activities."

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directions: Ash Hollow SHP is 3 miles southeast of Lewellen, NE on US Hwy 26.

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**clue:** From the Visitor Center follow the trail to the bottom of the canyon to the spring pond. Or from the picnic area parking lot walk 200 yards to the spring pond.

**distance:** 500 yards from the Visitor Center. 200 yards coming from the picnic area (one way).

**surface:** Paved path from Visitor Center. Grass path from picnic area.

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(imprint here)

contact: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

city: \_\_\_\_\_ state: \_\_\_\_\_

zip: \_\_\_\_\_ phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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