

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE



Along the Mighty Mississippi



From its headwaters at Lake Itasca to where it empties into the Gulf of Mexico, the Mississippi River stretches more than 2,300 miles. Its collective stories celebrate the flow of life that has shaped and sustained land, people, fauna, and flora over centuries.

Experience these stories as you drive along the Great River Road National Scenic Byway, which traverses ten states on both sides of the river. Visit our website for the locations of nearly 100 official Interpretive Centers along the way.

Many of the Great River Road Interpretive Centers are great places to spot some of the diverse habitat nurtured by the Mississippi River.



ExperienceMississippiRiver.com

Change to "Into the Wild"

~~WATCHABLE WILDLIFE~~

Some Suggested Interpretive Centers

National Eagle Center

50 Pembroke Ave. - Wabasha, Minnesota - 877.332.4537

nationaleaglecenter.org

There is no better place in America to learn about the majestic bald eagle. Watch wild bald eagles from a wide bank of windows overlooking a pool on the Mississippi River.

Great River Road Visitor & Learning Center

200 Monroe St. - Prescott, Wisconsin - 715.262.0104

freedomparkwi.org

Perched high above the river valley, this site gives a snapshot of the entire region. Use the center's spotting scopes to watch eagles, raptors and other birds year-round.

Hurstville Interpretive Center

18670 63rd St. - Maquoketa, Iowa - 563.652.3783

mycountyparks.com

This center is an excellent place to view wildlife. The property offers prairies and wetlands and is a particularly good location for birdwatching. You'll find walking trails as well as blinds for wildlife viewing.

Insert Mississippi River Eco-Tourism Center from "Recreation" between these.

Mississippi River Visitor Center

328 Rodman Ave. - Rock Island, Illinois - 309.794.5338

missriver.org

Located in Rock Island at Lock & Dam #15, this center provides views of the many bald eagles that travel to the locks and dams of the Mississippi to feed during the winter.

Pere Marquette State Park Visitor Center

13112 Visitors Center Lane - Grafton, Illinois - 618.786.3323

dnr.illinois.gov/Parks/Pages/PereMarquette.aspx

The 8,000-acre park offers spectacular views of the Illinois River and its backwaters from several points atop the bluffs. The visitor center includes exhibits on wildlife habitat and geology.

Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center

2289 County Park Drive - Cape Girardeau, Missouri - 573.290.5218

mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/cape

Good birdwatching opportunities are available in the natural area. Hiking trails run through the forests adjacent to the nature center. Wildlife viewing is excellent throughout the property.

~~**Reelfoot Lake State Park Visitor Center**~~

~~2595 State Rte. 21E Tiptonville, Tennessee 731-253-9652~~

~~tnstateparks.com/parks/about/reelfoot-lake~~

~~*This outstanding birdwatching destination attracts songbirds, shore birds and waterfowl as they make their way down the Mississippi River Flyway during spring and fall migrations. Bald eagles are a common sight.*~~

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge

57 S. CC Camp Rd. - Saint Charles, Arkansas - 870.282.8200

fws.gov/refuge/white_river

This is one of the finest birdwatching destinations anywhere. The bottomland forests, lakes and wetlands support hundreds of species of birds who nest here or use the refuge during migrations.