

Planning Your Visit to Hart Prairie Preserve



Location

Hart Prairie Preserve is located at the base of Arizona's Highest Peak, Mount Humphreys. Our elevation is 8500 feet, which provides for a cool retreat in the summer and a breathtaking, crisp autumn.

Temperatures are generally 15 degrees cooler than our nearby city of Flagstaff with strong sun, so please plan accordingly. The National Weather Service offers an accurate forecast at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/>.

What to Bring

We encourage our guests to bring clothing for all weather conditions, including rain gear, a hat, a sweater, and a jacket or wind breaker, as well as comfortable walking shoes, water bottles, sunscreen, and a small day pack for carrying personal items. There is no outside lighting, **so a flashlight is a must!**

You may also want to bring binoculars and field guides as it is not uncommon to spot herds of elk and mule deer, ambling porcupines, an occasional bobcat, a wide variety of birds, and unusual plant species while hiking at the preserve. Walks through this fascinating area will reward the patient observer with sightings of many unique animals and plants.

What to Do

While taking a break from your schedule activities and meetings, we encourage you to take advantage of this unique area.

The preserve is surrounded on three sides by the Coconino National Forest (www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/). Nearby trails range from easy to strenuous and offer wonderful wildlife viewing and exceptional views.

Flagstaff also boasts a wide variety of cultural activities including the Museum of Northern Arizona (www.musnaz.org), Lowell Observatory (www.lowell.edu), The Arboretum at Flagstaff (www.thearb.org), and much more. For a full list, visit our Visitors' Bureau website (www.flagstaffarizona.org).

Getting Here

Hart Prairie Road (Forest Road 151) is a dirt road maintained by the Coconino National Forest and is suitable for passenger cars in most weather.

Our on-site host is always available to welcome you to the preserve. However, **it is highly recommended that you arrive before dark, as there is no lighting of any kind on the road.**

Flagstaff has Flagstaff Pulliam Airport (<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.asp?NID=24>) that is served by America West Airlines (www.americawest.com) and also has rental car services available at the airport through Avis (www.avis.com); Budget (budget.com); Hertz (www.hertz.com); and National (www.national.com). There is no public transportation to Hart Prairie Preserve. We do encourage you to carpool as much as possible.

Phoenix's Sky Harbor Airport (<http://phoenix.gov/AVIATION/index.html>) is served by all major airlines and has all major rental car options available. Please allow two hours (during non-rush times) for travel from Sky Harbor to Flagstaff, and an additional half-hour from Flagstaff to Hart Prairie Preserve.

Driving Directions

- From Flagstaff, take Highway 180W (follow signs to Arizona Snowbowl ski resort) approximately 10 miles (the entrance to Snowbowl is 7 miles outside town, so you will go 3 miles beyond that).
- Turn right onto Forest Road 151 (there is a bright yellow daytime headlight use sign at this turn)
- Drive 4.5 miles and look for The Nature Conservancy sign. Please drive slowly into the Preserve.

Communication Capabilities

- Phone: Hart Prairie has an office phone that can be used by guests for brief calls. The number at the preserve, should you wish to leave it with family, etc., is 928-606-3007.
- Internet Access: Mariposa Lodge is a "hot spot" with high-speed wireless internet access if you wish to check email, etc. during your stay. A laptop with a wireless card is necessary.
- Cell Phone Service: As of summer 2005, Verizon has coverage in the parking area, in front of Mariposa Lodge and other various spots in the area.

Contact:
Neil Chapman
The Nature Conservancy in Arizona
Northern Arizona Program Operations Manager
114 N. San Francisco Street, Suite 205
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
928-774-8892 ex 5; fax: 928-774-4108
hartprairie@tnc.org



Thank you for your interest in
The Nature Conservancy's
Hart Prairie Preserve.
nature.org/arizona