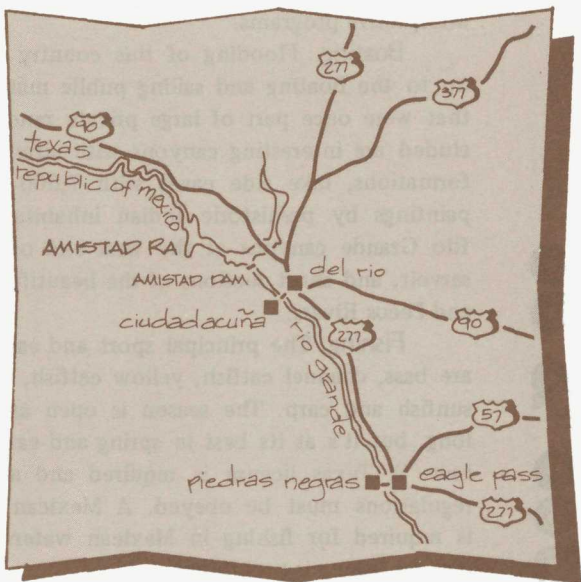


your SUPER 77 visit planner for

AMISTAD Recreation Area



have a SUPER visit

**Safely
Use
Preserve
Enjoy
this Resource**

To control flooding and for general water conservation, the governments of Mexico and the United States cooperatively dammed the Rio Grande 12 miles upstream from Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila. Behind the dam, the Rio Grande backed up a beautiful, clear lake some 74 miles long, the third-largest international man-made lake in the world.

Around the United States' shore, the National Park Service was given the responsibility of managing the facility for the use and enjoyment of all our people.

Water-oriented recreation is the attraction of Amistad Recreation Area. You can boat, scuba dive, fish, and swim. Camping is provided so you can enjoy the water sports. And to enhance your visit, the National Park Service offers a variety of interpretive programs.

Boating. Flooding of this country opened up to the boating and sailing public many areas that were once part of large private ranches. Included are interesting canyons with strange rock formations, lake side caves with 7,000-year-old paintings by prehistoric Indian inhabitants, the Rio Grande canyons at the west end of the reservoir, and short sections of the beautiful Devils and Pecos Rivers.

Fishing. The principal sport and eating fish are bass, channel catfish, yellow catfish, crappie, sunfish and carp. The season is open and year-long, but it's at its best in spring and early summer. A Texas license is required and all State regulations must be obeyed. A Mexican license is required for fishing in Mexican waters. Commercial fishing is prohibited.

Swimming. You can swim anywhere at your own risk, but for your convenience, a public beach with shelters, tables, restrooms and a diving float is located at the east end of the dam.

Scuba Diving. Amistad is generally considered a clear water lake with good fresh water visibility. Divers must have certification from an approved diving organization, a diving buddy, and display a diving flag. Diving is not permitted in harbors, swim beaches or around docks. Check

with a Ranger for up-to-date information and requirements.

Water Skiing. You can water ski during daylight hours provided there is a competent observer in the boat in addition to the operator. Water skiers must wear an approved lifesaving device. Skiing is not permitted in channels, within 500 feet of harbors, swimming beaches or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of any person in the water.

Camping. You may camp anywhere along the shore line below the maximum flood pool level (the 1144.3 contour line). The Park maintains primitive campgrounds. Commercial campgrounds are located near Diablo East, Pecos Canyon and the Pecos ramp.

Hunting. Dove, quail, and waterfowl may be hunted in accordance with Texas law and seasons in areas opened and so designated by the Park Superintendent. There is a special season for bow hunting of deer.

Interpretive Programs. The National Park Service offers visitors a variety of programs at various times and places. Schedules are available at Headquarters. These activities include audio-visual programs, guided tours (led by a Ranger Patrol Boat) and nature walks.

The Bronze Eagles, placed on the dam to signify the friendly cooperation between Mexico and the United States.

"Tlaloc," the large stone carving of the Aztec Rain God, located at the west end of the Dam on the Mexican side.

"Playa Tlaloc," just off the Dam on the road to Ciudad Acuna. It includes a beach area, docks and boat gasoline, and a motel.

The Whitehead Memorial Museum in Del Rio. Formerly an old trading post, it presents a variety of frontier artifacts.

The Val Verde Winery. Ancestors of the present owners brought the vines from Italy in the 1880's and it was for years the only operating winery in Texas.

The Judge Roy Bean Exhibit, Langtry, 60 miles west of Del Rio on U.S. 90.

overnight directions weather

Seminole Canyon State Archeological Park, 40 miles west of Del Rio on Highway 90 on the Seminole Canyon branch of Lake Amistad.

Ciudad Acuna, Mexico, sister city of Del Rio, just across the Rio Grande. It offers curio shops, restaurants and motel accommodations.

Amistad Recreation Area is located on the Rio Grande, 12 miles northwest of Del Rio. It is reached over U.S. 90 (San Antonio is 153 miles to the east, Van Horn, 305 miles to the west) and U.S. 277 (Sonora is 90 miles to the north, Eagle Pass, 56 miles south).

Hotels, motels and restaurants are available in Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuna, Mexico, just across the Rio Grande.

The Park maintains campgrounds at Rough Canyon and Diablo East, and you may camp anywhere along the shoreline below the maximum flood-pool level.

There are no food concessions in the Park, but service is available in Del Rio.

Summers are hot, July thru September the hottest. Daytime temperatures vary from the high 90's to the low 100's.

March through June and October through most of December are the most pleasant months.

From December thru February it is generally cold, with temperatures in the low 30's at times.

Most of the rainfall comes as violent thunderstorms. Winds are generally from the southeast in the summer and northwest in winter. They vary in intensity up to 28 mph, gusting to 30. Higher wind speeds generally are during the winter storms.

Storms occur suddenly, so use caution, judgment and watch for storm warning flags at the major launch ramps.

Amistad is considered excellent for water-oriented recreation 9 months of the year. December thru February will occasionally have temperature drops to the low 30's.

If you have specific questions, write to Amistad Recreation Area Information, P.O. Box 1463, Del Rio, TX78840.

The sudden windstorms cause heavy waves, making it a difficult lake for boats under 16 feet in length.

Be sure you have adequate life jackets on your boat and wear them.

Very high summer temperatures and little shade cause sunburn and sunstroke. Don't get overexposed.

Amistad is the home of rattlers, coral snakes and copperheads, scorpion, tarantula, black widow spider, brown recluse spider, ticks, wasps, and Javalina (wild pigs). The Javalina is particularly dangerous when they have young. *Watch your dogs!*

If you hike, wear high top leather boots. Cacti and thornbushes *do* have thorns.

Do not eat any wild plant fruit unless you are sure what it is. Many wild fruits are poisonous.

When hiking, watch for sharp and sudden drop-offs of the high cliffs. Some drop 100 or more feet into the lake.

Watch for sink holes and caverns when hiking or walking at night.

Good hiking boots are a necessity; the terrain is rough and broken rocks are sharp.

Algae covered rocks or pavement is slippery; watch your step.

Water depth often varies from knee deep to over 100 feet in a very short distance; watch for sudden drop-offs when wading or swimming.

PARKS AND FORESTS

When you are enjoying yourself, what difference does it make if you are in a National Park or a National Forest? Both offer outstanding recreational opportunities and special facilities and services to enhance your visit.

Differences are in concept — which determines the way they are managed. National Forests are managed as renewable natural resources — timber, forage, water, wildlife. National Parks are set aside to be preserved, as they are, in perpetuity.

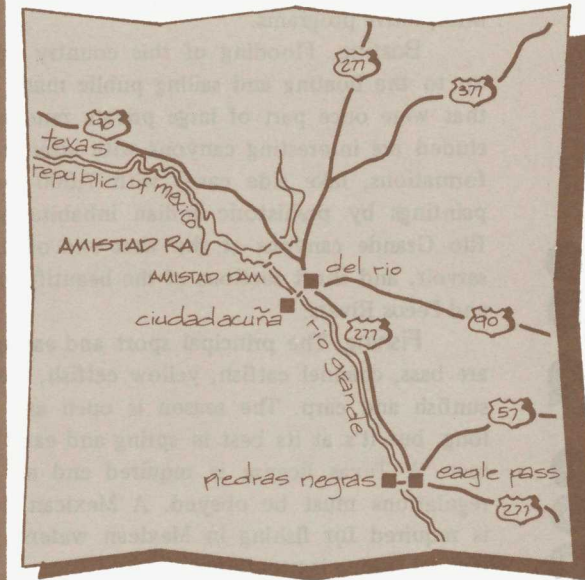
National Forests are managed for your benefit by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The National Park Service is a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Included in the National Park System are great natural areas, as Parks, Monuments, Seashores, Lakeshores, Rivers and Riverways. The System also includes prehistoric and historic areas, as Monuments, Memorials, Memorial Parks, Historic Sites, Historical Parks, Battlefields and Battlefield Sites. "National" is generally part of their title.

The National Forest System includes National Grasslands. The Forest Service also maintains experimental stations, the Institutes of Tropical Forestry and Northern Forestry, and the Forest Products Laboratory.

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National Park Service ★★★★★
U.S. Department of the Interior