

HISTORIC BEGINNINGS

Koreshan State Park offers a window into the lives of a unique and interesting pioneer group that made its home under towering oaks on the banks of the Estero River.

The founding of the Koreshan Unity Settlement in Florida continued a movement that began in Moravia, New York, in 1880. Dr. Cyrus R. Teed led the religious group that shared a commitment to communal living and a belief that the universe existed on the inside of the Earth.

Facing criticism and hostility for their beliefs, Dr. Teed and 200 followers relocated to the Florida frontier in 1894 to build their utopian community. Encouraged by their visionary leader, the industrious Koreshans built and operated a store, bakery, sawmill, boat works, printing press and machine shop. Education, science and art also helped shape the community, which produced plays and created elaborate gardens.

After the death of Dr. Teed in 1908, membership of his religious group began to decline. In 1961, the four remaining members deeded 305 acres of their land to the state of Florida as a park and memorial. The Koreshan Unity Settlement Historic District is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Koreshan State Park maintains the heart of Dr. Teed's "New Jerusalem" with historic buildings and landscaped grounds. Today, the pioneer settlement is a quiet refuge with opportunities to learn and to enjoy nature.



KORESHAN STATE PARK

3800 Corkscrew Road
Estero, FL 33928
239-992-0311

PARK GUIDELINES

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is required.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. Please help preserve our historic resources.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a hand-held leash no longer than 6 feet and well-behaved at all times.
- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited, except in designated areas

MORE INFORMATION

- Inquire at the ranger station about becoming a volunteer.
- For camping information, call 866-I CAMP FL, or contact Reserve America at 800-326-3521 or TDD 888-433-0287 or online at ReserveAmerica.com.
- Florida State Parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station.

FloridaStateParks.org

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KORESHAN STATE PARK

A historic treasure



FLORIDA STATE PARKS

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EXPERIENCES AND AMENITIES

Experience the past as you explore the place where the settlers of the Koreshan Unity lived and worked. Join a **guided tour** and learn about the daily life of the Koreshans, from what they ate to how they produced electricity. **Self-guided tour booklets** are available.

Visitors also can enjoy **hiking, picnicking, canoeing** and **camping** in the 200-acre park.

A **nature trail** meanders along the Estero River through pines, palmettos, oaks and palms where bobcats, gray foxes, river otters and alligators can be found. Koreshan is home to over 100 bird species, including bald eagles.

A **boat ramp** provides access to the brackish Estero River with snook, mullet and other popular game fish. Estero Bay is nearby and offers saltwater **fishing**. **Canoe and kayak rentals** are available at the park.

Sixty secluded **campsites** have water, electricity, a picnic table and fire ring. Other amenities include a utility area with a washer, dryer and sinks, and a vending machine. Twelve tent-only campsites are located next to the Estero River; limited hammock camping is available. A well-shaded **picnic area** with a **playground** is a short walk away.

The nearest Gulf Coast beaches are found to the south at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park and to the west at Lovers Key State Park. Estero Bay Preserve State Park, just northwest of Koreshan State Park, has hiking trails.



Koreshan State Park

Directions

Take I-75 exit 123 (Corkscrew Road). Head west 3 miles, cross U.S. 41 and continue on Corkscrew Road approximately 1,000 yards to park entrance. If traveling U.S. 41 (Tamiami Trail), Koreshan is located at the intersection of U.S. 41 and Corkscrew Road in Estero.



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	Bathhouse		Canoeing/Kayaking		Pavilion
	Boating		Fishing		Picnicking
	Boat Ramp		Hiking		Playground
	Campfire Circle		Parking		Restrooms
	Camping		Nature Trail		Wildlife Viewing

