

Koreshan State Historic Site

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks



CAMP
FIRE
CIRCLE



BOAT
RAMP



NATURE
TRAIL



PICNIC



CANOEING



FISHING



FULL
FACILITY
CAMPING

■ For your safety, please do not feed or attempt to touch any animals.

■ Intoxicants and firearms are prohibited.

■ Pets are permitted in this park's campground. They must be well-behaved and kept on a six-foot, hand-held leash at all times. Please check with the park before arriving and inquire about specific pet restrictions.

■ Florida state parks are managed as natural systems to appear as they would had they not been altered by people. All plant and animal life and cultural resources are protected.

■ The park offers many recreational opportunities to visitors with disabilities and is working to improve access to others. Should you need assistance to enable your full participation, please contact the park office.

■ Become a volunteer and join the Koreshan Unity Alliance, Inc. For information call (239) 992-0311.

■ To discover and experience *the Real Florida*,SM pick up a Florida State Parks Guide at any park or visit our homepage at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks>.

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Koreshan State Historic Site

... More of the Real FloridaSM



*Koreshan General Store
Estero Florida*



*Bamboo Landing circa 1894
Estero Florida*



In 1869, a New York-born doctor named Cyrus Teed claimed he had a "divine illumination." In his vision, Teed believed that all spiritual life was unfolded to him by a divine deity. Preaching his new religion, Teed and a group of followers eventually settled in Chicago. In 1894, Teed moved his group to Florida with the hopes of building a settlement.

Teed, who had taken the biblical name "Koresh," planned to construct his "New Jerusalem" at Estero. He had hoped it would become a great city where people could come to practice his religion of Koreshanity.

Although Teed believed he was immortal, he died in 1908 at the age of 69. After his death, the 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 in Teed's memory.

The Estero River flows through the park into the Estero Bay; and on its banks, the remains of this unusual pioneer settlement are being preserved. A number of the settlement buildings and portions of the grounds have been restored to their appearance during the early years of the 20th century.

In recognition of its historic significance and to encourage preservation, Koreshan Unity Settlement Historic District has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Cultural resources are delicate and non-renewable, please help us take care of them.

Real Fun in the Real Florida™

■ A nature trail wanders along the Estero River and through pine flatwoods and scrub oak communities.

■ Both fishing and boating are available in the park, with a boat ramp located near the picnic area. A Florida saltwater fishing license is required for persons 16 years of age and older.

■ A 60-site camp-ground features well-buffered sites. Ranger guided tours and interpretive programs are available upon request and according to seasonal demand. A schedule of programs and fees is posted at the ranger station and in the camping area restroom.

■ Self-guided tour booklets of the Koreshan Unity Settlement Historic District are available for your convenience and information as you enter the settlement.

■ For more information, contact Koreshan State Historic Site, P.O. Box 7, Estero, FL 33928; (239) 992-0311.



KORESHAN
ACCEPTS
RESERVATIONS

