



Matthiessen State Park

Dells Area Trails

Head left on trail

Crossthe river

Left down stairs

Go left and down

Cross bridge

Head up stairs

Go up the stairs

Right at bottom

Stay right

Lower dells falls

Stay left

Fort

Rest room

Parking

Stay left

End of trail

Sidewalk

Tee - go left

Head up stairs

Go right

Go down stairs

Left to boardwalk

Left into gorge

Trailhead

Parking

Mile	Name	Description
0.03	Parking	Parking lot
0.06	Trailhead	Trailhead
0.10	Go down stairs	Head down the stairs (mapboard, trail brochure)
0.15	Go right	Take a right at bottom of stairs - yellow dot trail
0.52	Stay left	Stay left to go straight (Bench)
0.70	Tee - go left	Tee - go left
0.84	Sidewalk	Path turns to sidewalk - bench
1.14	Cross bridge	Intersection - go straight and cross bridge over waterfall
1.22	Go left and down	Branch - go left and down
1.26	Left down stairs	Go left and down the wooden stairs into the dell
1.29	Crossthe river	Cross the river on the cement stepping stones
1.64	Right at bottom	Climb then descend stairs, head right towards Cedar Falls at the bottom
2.02	Go up the stairs	Climb out of the gorge via the wooden stairway
2.07	Head left on trail	At the top of the stairs, go left on the main trail
2.07	Stay right	Stay right on the trail - go past the bridge
2.30	Left to boardwalk	Branch left onto the descending wooden boardwalk
2.40	Left into gorge	At the end of the bridge, go left down into the gorge
2.68	Lower dells falls	At the falls, retrace path to the top of the stairs, then continue left
3.28	Stay left	Branch - stay left
3.34	Head up stairs	Take a right and head up the stairs to the parking lot
3.49	End of trail	End of trail

Directions

From the intersection of Interstates 39 and 80 near Peru, Illinois, head east roughly 2 miles to IL-178.

Take IL-78 southbound 5.1 miles to N25th Rd, which is the entrance to Matthiessen State Park.

Take a right onto the entrance to the park and follow the park road 0.9 miles to the parking lot.

41.295901
-89.025800