

Year round



## Blue Springs State Park

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Blue-Spring>

Blue Springs is a 2600 acre park with largest spring on the St John's River. We think it is best in Jan/Feb timeframe due to the increased West Indian Manatee population. It is also a designated Manatee refuge.

A short 1 hour drive from Palm Coast, just west of Orange City.

**Address:** 2100 W French Ave, Orange City, FL 32763

**Phone:** (386) 775-3663

~November 15 – January 15



## St. Augustine Nights of Lights

<http://www.oldcity.com/st-augustine-nights-of-lights/>

The yearly event was chosen by National Geographic as 1 of top 10 holiday displays in 2012. Spend an evening strolling through the town. Take a horse drawn carriage ride & enjoy a nice meal at Old City Restaurant behind the Casa Monica or Columbia at center of St George St.

A short 25 miles north along A1A drops you over the St Augustine Bridge onto the square.

**Address:** St George Street, St. Augustine FL 32084

~November 15 – January 14 special holiday tours, as well as year round tours



## Stetson Mansion in Deland

<http://www.stetsonmansion.com/>

Built in 1886, this luxury mansion was home to famed hat maker John Stetson. There are excellent tours of the mansion and a favorite is at holiday time Nov 15 – Jan 14 when the mansion is decorated for Christmas.

Less than an hour drive, don't miss historic down town Deland where they have one of my favorite quilt shops and village shops near the Stetson University campus.

**Address:** 1031 Camphor Lane, Deland, FL 32720

Year round



Washington Oaks State Park

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Washington-Oaks>

Walk the grounds of this beautiful park positioned along the Intracoastal just a short drive north of the Hammock Dunes Bridge on the Island. They have several events throughout the year for earth day, holidays and even host weddings in the park near the rose garden and artesian spring. This hammock oak is my favorite spot so be sure to walk the grounds to find it.

**Address:** 6400 N Ocean Shore Blvd, Palm Coast, FL 32137

**Phone:** (386) 446-6783

Year round



St. Augustine Nights tour of Historic Churches

<https://www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine/historic-churches-st-augustine>

Whether you take the trolley tour, horse drawn carriage or walk the streets with your trusty map, these historic churches are one of the treasures of St. Augustine.

A short 25 miles north along A1A drops you over the St Augustine Bridge onto the square.

**Address:** St George Street, St. Augustine FL 32084

Year round



Sugar Mill Bulow

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/bulow-plantation>

The Bulow family grew sugar cane on the plantation which is now a state park. It was destroyed in the Seminole Indian War, but remains a beautiful spot to take a historic walk through the ruins.

Just a short 10 minute drive south of Palm Coast.

**Address:** 3501 Old Kings Road, Flagler Beach, FL 32136

Year round



Marineland Dolphin Adventure

<http://www.marineland.net/>

We love our dolphins at Marineland and you can schedule to feed or interact with them right here in Flagler County. Marineland was established in 1938, making it the world's first oceanarium. Today it is a leader in marine conservation, animal care and education.

Just a little over 5 miles north on A1A.

**Address:** A1A Marineland, FL

**Phone:** (904) 471-1111

Year round



Flagler County's many Parks

<http://www.flaglerparks.com/>

There are many parks to explore. We have many favorites. Princess Place Preserve offers many walking trails and tours of the lodge on weekends. Call (386) 313-4020 for updated schedule as some months they include Fridays as well.

A short 25 miles north along A1A drops you over the St Augustine Bridge onto the square.

**Address:** 2500 Princess Place Road, Palm Coast, FL 32137

Another favorite of ours is Varn Park for walking the beach and having it nearly all to yourselves!

Year round



Old Spanish Sugar Mill at De Leon Springs State Park

<http://www.oldspanishsugarmill.com>

Cook your own pancakes at your table griddle at the Sugar Mill. There are also boat rentals and history tours you can take.

Just a short 10 minute drive south of Palm Coast.

**Address:** 601 Ponce Deleon Blvd, De Leon Springs, FL 32130

**Phone:** (386) 985-5644

Year round



St Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum

<http://www.staugustinelighthouse.com/>

You can climb to the top of the St Augustine Lighthouse for an awesome view of the area. There is a nice museum that even offers ghost tours (famously was on Ghost Adventures). A second museum on the grounds includes Spanish treasures that were brought up from the sea from the many ships just off the shore by a group of local divers.

**Address:** 81 Lighthouse Avenue, St Augustine, FL 32080

**Phone:** (904) 829-0745

Year round



St. Augustine Alligator Farm

<https://www.alligatorfarm.com/>

The biggest attraction for us is in April/May when the rockery is full of nesting birds where you will see hundreds of nests and several types of birds – even our favorite Spoonbills.

A short 20 miles north along A1A near the Lighthouse

**Address:** 999 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine FL 32080

Year round, with Azalea Festival March 3-4, 2018



Ravine Gardens State Park

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/Fpark-events/Ravine-Gardens>

Pretty all year round with 2 ravines up to 120 feet deep and a spring-fed creek. Lots of places to picnic and areas to explore.

They host the Florida Azalea Festival in March (March 3-4, 2018).

Just a short 10 minute drive south of Palm Coast.

**Address:** 3501 Old Kings Road, Flagler Beach, FL 32136

March 1 – 11, 2018



Florida Strawberry Festival  
<http://flstrawberryfestival.com/>

Find Strawberry everything at the 11 day festival in Plant City. You can buy tickets to some concerts or enjoy the free entertainment, fill up on strawberries and enjoy the many rides and exhibits. Be sure to check the website for special discount days.

**Address:** 303 North Lemon Street, Plant City, FL 33563

**Phone:** (813) 752-9194

Year round



Ponce Inlet Lighthouse  
<https://www.ponceinlet.org>

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is the tallest one in our state and has an wonderfully restored grounds. It is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the preservation and sharing of maritime and social history of Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station. The Lens exhibit building has a great display of the Fresnel lenses.

**Address:** 4931 S Peninsula Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

A beautiful drive south on A1A all along the coast until you reach the end of the island. Several good restaurants near the lighthouse on the Halifax River – Hidden Treasure Grill and Down the Hatch Seafood Company.

Year round



Silver Springs Glass bottom boat tour  
<http://www.silversprings.com/>

Silver Springs is one of the largest artesian springs ever discovered. Taking a glass bottom boat tour through the springs is a great way to experience the natural beauty. There is plenty of opportunity to get fabulous wildlife and wilderness pictures.

**Address:** 5656 Silver Springs Blvd (SR 40), Silver Springs, FL 34488

About an hour drive west on 40 through the Ocala National Forest.