



GREATER MIAMI'S NATIONAL PARKS



MIAMI™
GREATER MIAMI AND THE BEACHES

South Dade attractions, museums, arts and culture will enchant you. Stroll through tropical gardens, find unique shopping and dining experiences, sample exotic tropical fruits, tour a winery, visit Zoo Miami, marvel at sea life or take an airboat ride. Best of all, these activities are about a 45-minute drive from Miami International Airport, PortMiami, Downtown Miami and South Beach.

For more information, visit

SouthDadeMoretoExplore.com



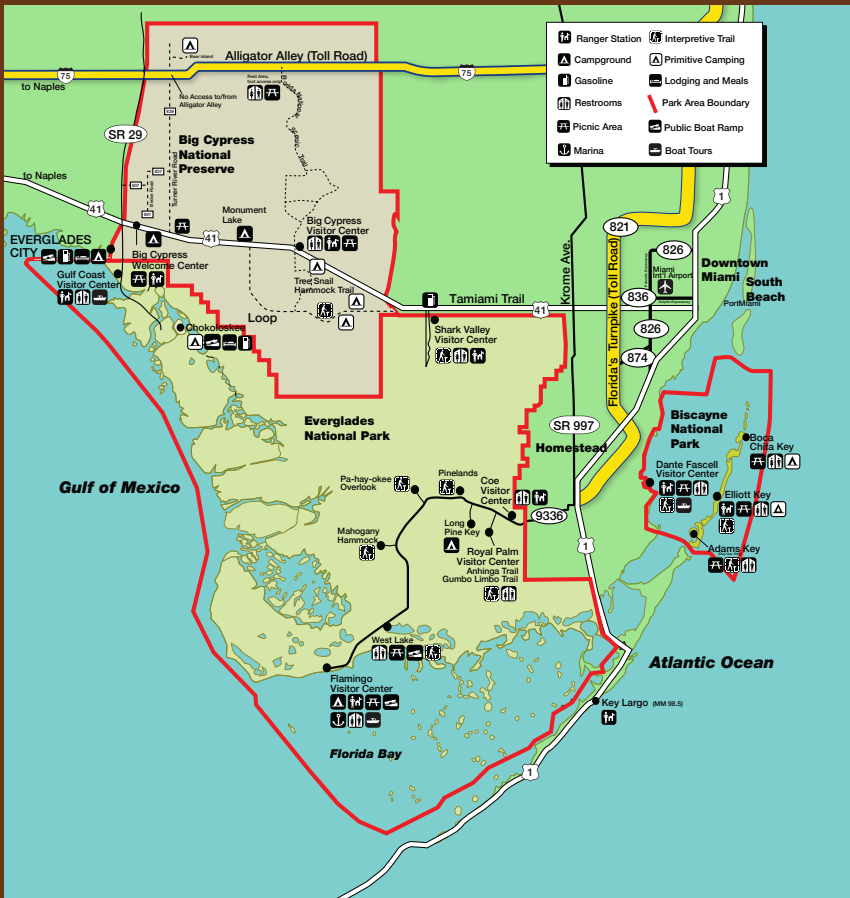
South Dade — More to Explore...

This eco-habitat is full of farm life, wildlife, attractions and home to two national parks — **Everglades National Park** and **Biscayne National Park**.

At Everglades National Park, discover tropical plants, birds, alligators, threatened American crocodiles and West Indian manatees. Experience the fascinating home of coral reefs, mangrove forests, Biscayne Bay, Florida Keys and 10,000 years of human history at Biscayne National Park.

Nearby **Big Cypress National Preserve's** swamps and forests are home to a diversity of wildlife, including the endangered Florida panther.





SEASONAL ACTIVITIES PLANNER

PARK ACTIVITIES	BIG CYPRESS		BISCAYNE		EVERGLADES		RANGER TIPS
	Dry	Rainy	Dry	Rainy	Dry	Rainy	
Alligator Viewing	●	●			●	●	Best in the Dry Season
Bicycling	●				●	●	
Bird Watching	●	●	●	●	●	●	Best in the Dry Season
Boat / Canoe Rentals			●	●	●	●	
Boat Tours					●	●	
Camping	●	●					Best in the Dry Season
Crocodile Viewing					●	●	
Fishing	●	●	●	●	●	●	State license required
Gift and Book Sales	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Hiking			●	●			
Lighthouses			●	●			Accessible by boat only
Manatee Viewing	●				●	●	
Paddling	●	●			●	●	
Picnicking	●	●	●	●	●	●	Buggy in the Wet Season
Ranger Programs	●		●	●	●	●	Visitor Centers have details
Snorkeling/SCUBA			●	●			SCUBA requires license
Tram Tours					●	●	
Walking	●	●	●	●	●	●	Buggy in the Wet Season

Dry Season: November – April. Rainy Season: May – October.

FIND YOUR INNER EXPLORER



BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK

9700 SW 328th St.
Sir Lancelot Jones Way, Homestead, FL 33033
305/230-1144 • nps.gov/bisc
No entrance fees.

Dante Fascell Visitor Center Tour the park's visitor center with exhibits, videos, information and educational sales items. Open daily 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. From Florida's Turnpike, take exit 6 (Speedway Boulevard) and follow signs.

RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES Programs are offered on a regular basis in several areas of the park. A greater number and variety of programs are conducted during the dry season.

FISHING/BOATING Anglers and boaters can launch their own boats from county-operated marinas adjacent to the park to venture into Biscayne Bay and to explore offshore coral reefs.

BOAT TOURS/PADDLING The Biscayne National Park Institute provides amazing eco-adventures including sailing on beautiful Biscayne Bay, interpretive cruises to Boca Chita Key and its lighthouse, snorkeling at colorful coral reefs full of life, camping on undeveloped and scenic Elliott Key, exploring the seldom seen wonders of Jones Lagoon and more! Paddle craft are also available for rent at the visitor center for self-guided tours.

CAMPING Primitive campgrounds, accessible only by boat, are located on Boca Chita and Elliott keys.



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, FL 33034
305/242-7700 • nps.gov/ever
Entrance fees apply and are good for seven consecutive days starting from the day of purchase.

RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES Programs offered on a regular basis in several areas of the park.

PERMITTED GUIDES Whether for eco-tours, fishing, kayaking, bird-watching, photography or other activities, consider enhancing your experience by hiring a professional guide. Visit park website for permitted tours.

EXPLORING TRAILS In many areas of the park, trails allow you to explore the diversity of habitats within South Florida.

FISHING/BOATING The mangrove estuary, Gulf of Mexico and Florida Bay provide opportunities to explore by boat and to fish.

CAMPING Available at Long Pine Key and Flamingo. Call 877/444-6777 for information.

WILDERNESS CAMPING Most sites in the park's Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness are accessible by boat or canoe only. Permits are required for overnight camping.

Ernest F. Coe Visitor Center Reached via the City of Homestead. Open daily, offering information, exhibits and educational sales items.

Royal Palm Visitor Center Four miles past the park's Homestead entrance. Open daily. Information and educational sales items.

ANHINGA TRAIL This half-mile loop trail features ranger-guided tours, and offers one of the best opportunities to view wildlife, including alligators and birds. Accessible.

Gulf Coast Accessed via Everglades City, offers daily boat tours to explore the 10,000 Islands mangrove region of the park.

The Main Park Road Spanning a scenic 38-mile drive from the park's Homestead entrance to Flamingo on Florida Bay.

WALKING TRAILS Experience a diversity of Everglades habitats on several short, wheelchair-accessible trails leaving from parking areas along the Main Park Road.

PINELANDS TRAIL Half-mile loop through subtropical pine forest maintained by fire. Pine rocklands are the most diverse habitat in South Florida.

PA-HAY-OKEE OVERLOOK A quarter-mile boardwalk leads to an observation deck offering a view of the vast Everglades from horizon to horizon.

MAHOGANY HAMMOCK TRAIL Half-mile boardwalk that meanders through a dense, jungle-like hardwood hammock. Glimpse a variety of tropical plants.

WEST LAKE Half-mile boardwalk through the mysterious mangrove forest. Clinging air plants, mangroves and a view of the lake await you.

Flamingo Visitor Center 38 miles past the Homestead entrance. Exhibits, information and wilderness permits. Staffed daily from late November until May 1.

FLAMINGO CONCESSION SERVICES Narrated boat excursions into the mangrove estuary and Florida Bay, boat/canoe/bicycle rentals and marina store (no gas).

WILDLIFE VIEWING At low tide, birds congregate on the Florida Bay mudflats visible from the visitor center breezeway. Alligators and threatened American crocodiles bask around the Flamingo Marina boat basins. Eco pond is a good place to view birds and other wildlife.

CANOEING/KAYAKING The Nine Mile Pond Trail (5.5-mile loop) and trips into Florida Bay (variable distances) are suggested routes. Rentals are available at the Flamingo Marina.



BOAT TOURS Narrated boat excursions into the mangrove estuary and Florida Bay depart daily from the Flamingo Marina.

SHARK VALLEY U.S. Highway 41 (Tamiami Trail), 30 miles west of the Florida's Turnpike exit for Southwest 8th Street. Visitor Center, concessions, narrated tram tour, bicycle rentals and retail options. Visit sharkvalleytramtours.com for more information. The 15-mile Tram Trail is excellent for strolling, biking and wildlife viewing, and there are several shorter gentle walking trails.

Three concession operators provide group and private tours along the Tamiami Trail, between Miami and Shark Valley, each offering retail and food and beverage services. Visit cooperstownboats.com, evergladesafairpark.com and gatorpark.com for more information.

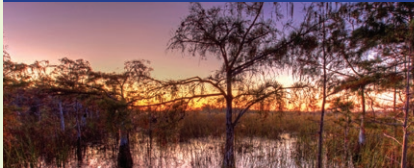
Walking Trails

BOBCAT BOARDWALK A quarter-mile round trip walk starting at the visitor center passes through sawgrass marsh and a bayhead.

OTTER CAVE A one-mile round trip from the visitor center. Enters a tropical hardwood hammock.

TRAM TRAIL The 15-mile tram trail is excellent for strolling and wildlife viewing.

FARTHER AFIELD



BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE

33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141
239/695-2000 • nps.gov/bicy
No entrance fees.

Visitor Centers Oasis Visitor Center is located at Mile Marker 55 and the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center is at Mile Marker 73, both on U.S. Highway 41 (Tamiami Trail). Informational wildlife exhibits, a 15-minute film and educational sales items. Open daily 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except December 25.

RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES Programs are offered from mid-November through mid-April. Join a ranger for a wet walk, boardwalk tour, bike trip, canoe trip or maybe an evening under the stars at our night sky programs.

KIRBY STORTER BOARDWALK Located west of the Oasis Visitor Center along Tamiami Trail. This elevated boardwalk takes you through prairie, dwarf cypress and into the heart of a cypress strand. Look for alligators, wading birds and a variety of migrating songbirds.

FISHING/CANOEING/PADDLING The Turner River and Half-way Creek paddling trails provide amazing canoeing and kayaking experiences. Bring your own, paddle a preserve canoe with a ranger or join one of our permitted commercial eco-tour guides. Anglers can pursue freshwater fishing in the canals along the Tamiami Trail, the Turner River and throughout the preserve.

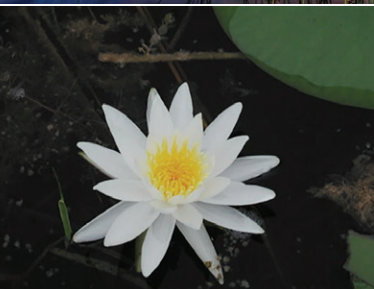
CAMPING Reservations for the Midway, Monument Lake and Burns Lake campgrounds and the Pinecrest primitive group campground can be made online at recreation.gov. Three other primitive campgrounds are located in Bear Island and do not require reservations.

BICYCLE TRAILS Bikes provide a quiet way to see wildlife off the beaten path. Several trails suitable for mountain bikes or hybrid-type bikes can be found throughout the preserve. Ask a ranger about trail conditions.

HIKING The Florida National Scenic Trail begins in the preserve and provides miles of hiking for the adventurer.

LODGING/DINING There are local restaurants in Ochopee, Everglades City and Chokoloskee. Lodging is available in Everglades City and Chokoloskee.

WILDLIFE VIEWING AND BIRD WATCHING Alligators, wading birds and flowers are the main attractions here. They can be seen from wildlife viewing platforms at Oasis and H.P. Williams wayside. A drive along the Turner River Road will provide opportunities to see wildlife. At the Big Cypress Welcome Center, manatees can often be seen from the viewing platform during the winter.



PRODUCED BY:



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