

BEGIN

17

LET'S GO FOR A DRIVE

RIVER OF LAKES HERITAGE CORRIDOR
SCENIC HIGHWAY TRAVEL ITINERARY
Short Drives to All-Day Excursions



welcome to...

RIVER OF LAKES HERITAGE CORRIDOR

Scenic Highway Itinerary

I Travelers along the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Scenic Highway can experience numerous attractions along the entire corridor when they visit. Visitors looking for things to do in a short amount of time can enjoy one of the following resources from the southern, central or northern sections of the corridor.



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History of Our Cities

History

BARBERVILLE

Once a pioneer settlement, Barberville was established in 1882 by James D. Barber. Today, Barberville is located at the crossroads of Highway 17 and Route 40. It is best known for its annual fall festival, which celebrates Florida history and pioneer heritage with folk arts and crafts, entertainment and exhibits.

CASSADAGA

A small unincorporated community located in Volusia County, Cassadaga is known for its psychics and mediums, and has consequently been named the “Psychic Capital of the World.” The Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp was founded by George P. Colby in 1894 and declared a U.S. Historic District in 1991.

DEBARY

Located in Volusia County on the northern shore of the St. Johns River, the City of DeBary serves as the corridor between Orlando, Sanford and Daytona Beach. With a population of less than 20,000, DeBary has a small-town atmosphere and is known as the “City of Volunteers,” with many of its citizens serving with philanthropic organizations.

DELAND

Named for its founder Henry Addison DeLand in 1876, DeLand is located in west Volusia County and recognized for its award-winning Main Street by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The campus of Stetson University, which is Florida’s oldest private college, is located in DeLand’s National Historic District.

DELEON SPRINGS

DeLeon Springs boasts a rich history with Native Americans using these springs approximately 6,000 years ago. The springs became a winter resort in the 1800s, with tourists promised “a fountain of youth impregnated with a deliciously healthy combination of soda and sulphur.” DeLeon Springs flows into the Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge and is home to DeLeon Springs State Park and the Old Spanish Sugar Mill Grill & Griddle House restaurant.

DELTONA

Located approximately halfway between Orlando and Daytona Beach, Deltona was originally founded by the Mackle brothers in 1962 as a master-planned retirement community. Deltona became a city in 1995 and, with a population of almost 90,000, quickly surpassed Daytona as Volusia County’s largest municipality.

ENTERPRISE

Situated on the north shore of Lake Monroe, Enterprise was once home to the most famous hotel in the state, the Brock House. Guests included presidents Ulysses S. Grant and Grover Cleveland, U.S. generals and visitors from overseas. Today, Enterprise is designated as an “area of special concern” historic district by Volusia County government.

LAKE HELEN

Known as “The Gem of Florida,” Lake Helen was founded by Henry DeLand in 1888 and named after his daughter. Residents of this small Volusia County city – spanning just under 5 square miles – are said to be proud of its well-preserved Victorian architecture.

OAK HILL

Oak Hill is the southernmost city in Volusia County and can be found on a map of a French cartographer dating back to 1564. After several changes of hands, the city was established in 1927, dissolved in 1930 and revitalized in 1962. The following year, Clarence Goodrich became mayor and his term spanned an impressive 26 years.

ORANGE CITY

Orange City, incorporated in 1882, was named for the thousands of acres of orange groves planted in and around the city. Orange City was home to Volusia County’s first public school in 1878. Waterworks began supplying water to residents’ homes in 1895. Orange City water was subsequently shipped worldwide and won an award at the St. Louis World’s Fair for its excellence.

OSTEEN

As part of southwestern Volusia County, Osteen was originally settled by cattle rancher Hezekiah Ellis Osteen and his wife Susannah Gaskins Osteen in the 1800s. Now an unincorporated community, Osteen is reminiscent of historical Florida with nature trails, parks and reserves.

SANFORD

As the largest city in Seminole County, Sanford is home to approximately 50,000 residents and is known as Central Florida’s waterfront gateway because of its position as the head of navigation at the St. Johns River. Sanford’s namesake, Henry Sanford, was a Connecticut lawyer who was President Abraham Lincoln’s first diplomatic appointment.

SEVILLE

Located in northwest Volusia County, Seville was founded in 1882 by William Kemble Lente, a railway executive hoping to take advantage of the Jacksonville, Tampa & Key West Railroad. Today, Seville is an unincorporated rural community with a population of less than 700.



Points of Interest

Interest

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LEGEND

- River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Scenic Highway
- 30-Minute to 2-Hour Itinerary Sites
- 4-Hour Itinerary Sites
- 6-Hour Itinerary Sites
- 8-Hour Itinerary Sites





At a Glance:

- 1. DeBary Hall Historic Site**
210 Sunrise Blvd., DeBary
(386) 668-3840
www.debaryhall.com
- 2. Gateway Center for the Arts**
880 N. Hwy. 17/92, DeBary
(386) 668-5553
www.gatewaycenterforthearts.org
- 3. Gateway Park**
860 N. Hwy. 17/92, DeBary
(386) 668-2040
www.debary.org/parks
- 4. Gemini Springs Park**
37 Dirksen Dr., DeBary
(386) 736-5953
www.volusia.org/parks
- 5. DeBary Community Park Splash Pad**
137 S. Hwy. 17/92, DeBary
(386) 668-2040
www.debary.org/parks.htm#splashpad



starting in... **DeBary**



1. DeBary Hall Historic Site (DeBary)
This site, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1871 by New York wine importer Frederick DeBary as a seasonal hunting estate to offer family guests hospitality and fun on the Florida frontier. The original estate consisted of 9,000 acres and was planted with orange groves and pecan trees. It also boasted Florida's first swimming pool and had a private airstrip and airplane hangar. DeBary wintered here until his death in 1898. Now owned by the State of Florida and leased by the County of Volusia, DeBary Hall is fully restored with period furnishings and filled with award-winning exhibits and interactive programs.



2. Gateway Center for the Arts (DeBary)
Gateway Center for the Arts is a state-of-the-art community cultural facility and arts education center. It provides classrooms, studios, a kiln room, exhibit space, a lecture hall, an auditorium with innovative performance and small theater ability, a catering kitchen, a gift shop, an office and a lobby/reception area.



3. Gateway Park (DeBary)
Great to enjoy on a sunny day, Gateway Park has a playground equipped with climbers, slides and swings. Both kids and adults will enjoy the nature trail, which is ½ mile in length and winds through a wooded area. The family-size pavilion is perfect for birthday parties and picnics.



4. Gemini Springs Park (DeBary) 🐕
Gemini Springs Park offers many outdoor recreational activities for residents, visitors and their four-legged furry friends. Gemini Springs has a fantastic dog park that includes fenced play areas, wash stations, water fountains for dogs, benches and a picnic area. Part of the county's multi-use Spring-to-Spring Trail meanders under the shade of ancient live oak trees, providing ample opportunities to observe the many types of wildlife and vegetation while biking and hiking. Gemini Springs also has picnic pavilions, a children's playground, a fishing dock, a horseback riding trail, a primitive tent camping area and canoe rentals.



5. DeBary Community Park Splash Pad (DeBary)
DeBary Community Park is located at the intersection of 17/92 and DeBary Drive, and features amenities including an open grass field, shaded gazebo, picnic tables, a restroom facility and the popular Splash Pad. Free to the public, the Splash Pad has a bathing load of 70 people and offers five different splash stations and several fountains throughout. So, come beat the Florida heat at this family-friendly destination – and make sure to bring towels and water shoes.

starting in... **DeLand**



1. Museum of Art – DeLand, Florida (DeLand)
The Museum of Art – DeLand, Florida (formerly known as the Museum of Florida Art) is a vital and interactive nonprofit community visual arts museum dedicated to the collection, preservation, display and educational use of the fine arts. In addition to its permanent collection, the Museum is host to several rotating exhibits, gallery talks and receptions, educational programming, master artist workshops and special events throughout the year. The original Museum was established by the American Association of Women in 1951. Today the Museum is recognized statewide for its academic excellence and community outreach. The departments of Art & Exhibition, Education and Special Events collaborate to develop lifelong learning programming that provides enriching experiences for all visitors and residents of Central Florida, from pre-K students to retired adults.



2. Stetson University (DeLand)
Take a tour of Stetson University, a private, nonprofit university with four colleges and schools located across the I-4 corridor in Central Florida, with the primary undergraduate campus located in DeLand. In the 2013 *U.S. News and World Report's* guide to America's Best Colleges, Stetson ranks third in the category of regional universities and also third in Southern Masters-granting institutions.



3. Conrad History Center (DeLand)
Located beside the DeLand House Museum, the Conrad History Center contains one of the most comprehensive collections of Volusia County historical artifacts and collectibles, vintage photos and newspapers dating from 1877. The research library provides historical books, videos, educational programs and frequently changing exhibits of historical interest. It houses the West Volusia Historical Society offices.



4. Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center (DeLand)
Stetson University's Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center is located on Stetson University's Palm Court/Quad. The Hand Art Center is the home of the Vera Bluemner Kouba Collection, which features more than 1,000 of her father's paintings, drawings and archival materials, which she bequeathed to Stetson. Admission is free.



5. Gillespie Museum of Minerals (DeLand)
Gillespie Museum of Minerals exhibits one of the largest private mineral and gem collections in the world, with more than 25,000 rare specimens. It features an outstanding array of minerals, as well as igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks; Florida minerals and fossils; earth science exhibits; and precious and semi-precious gemstones – all showcased in an historic building accented by a native Florida landscape.

Find more sites to explore in DeLand on pages 6 and 7.



At a Glance:

- 1. The Museum of Art – DeLand, Florida**
600 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand
(386) 734-4371
www.moartdeland.org
- 2. Stetson University**
421 N. Woodland Blvd., DeLand
www.stetson.edu
- 3. Conrad History Center**
137 W. Michigan Ave., DeLand
(386) 740-6813
www.delandhouse.com
- 4. Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center**
139 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand
(386) 822-7270
www.stetson.edu
- 5. Gillespie Museum of Minerals**
234 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand
(386) 822-7330
www.stetson.edu/other/gillespie-museum



starting in... DeLand



6. DeLand Sculpture Walk (DeLand)

Discover the work of Florida artists on the DeLand Sculpture Walk – a visual treat throughout downtown featuring a variety of creative styles. A collaborative effort with The City of DeLand and the Museum of Art – DeLand, Florida, the works rotate every other year and are made from a variety of materials including concrete, aluminum, stainless steel, PVC, bronze and copper. The sculptures are available for purchase and include a commission on sales to help fund future exhibitions.



7. Athens Theatre (DeLand)

Experience a piece of cultural history at the Athens Theatre, designed by prominent Orlando architect Murray S. King. The building is one of Central Florida's few existing examples of a classic American theater. Constructed primarily by DeLand craftsmen and laborers, the facility embodies the best in design, construction, decoration and equipment. When the theater opened in 1922 with a movie, live theater performance and several vaudeville acts, the DeLand Daily News declared it "Florida's Handsomest Theater" and "a gem of architecture." Its name derives from the vision of city founder Henry DeLand, who sought to create a place that would be the "Athens of Florida."



8. DeLand Historic Mural Walk (DeLand)

The DeLand Historic Mural Walk presents a history of the community when viewed in chronological order. Each of the 12 murals tells a story, vividly portraying the arrival of Henry DeLand, the great St. Johns River, steamboats, statesmen, wildlife, first hotels, the Spanish sugar mill, the DeLand Naval Air Station, the citrus industry, the traditional African-American settlement (Red City), and more moments, places and characters from the community's past. Featuring the work of six artists, the murals act as illustrated pages of a history book with cleverly placed hidden elements to discover. A walking tour brochure of Woodland Boulevard (U.S. Hwy. 17/92) is available at www.mainstreetdeland.com.



9. Downtown DeLand Historic District (DeLand)

The Downtown DeLand Historic District has 68 buildings of historic merit and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to storefront properties, the district includes several churches, an opera house, a theater, two hotels, the county courthouse and residences (now converted to offices), and features an eclectic mix of building styles constructed between 1886 and 1925. DeLand was one of the first Florida cities to participate in the Main Street program in 1985, when work began to revitalize this architectural gem. This success was recognized with a Great American Main Street Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The area is a lively shopping and dining district, and is also the center of a variety of cultural festivities. It is roughly bounded by Florida and Rich Avenues, Woodland Boulevard and Howry Avenue.



10. African American Museum of the Arts (DeLand)

The African American Museum of the Arts is the only museum in the region devoted primarily to African-American and Caribbean-American cultures and art. The Museum houses a revolving gallery of pieces by established and emerging artists, featuring six major exhibitions per year. It is also home to a permanent collection of more than 200 artifacts, including sculptures and ceremonial masks from the countries of Africa.



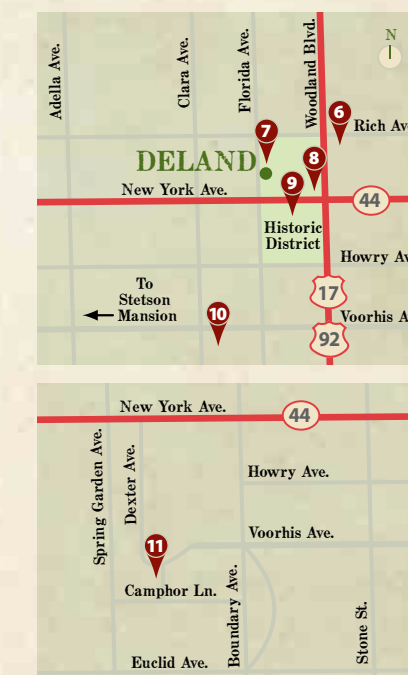
11. Stetson Mansion (DeLand)

Tour Florida's first luxury home, often considered the grandest built in Florida during the 19th century. When completed in 1886 as the winter retreat of famed hat maker and philanthropist John B. Stetson, this home was the only "Gilded Age" estate in Florida. The Stetsons were known for hosting magnificent parties for elite, influential citizens of America's most prosperous era. Henry Flagler built a private railway spur to the Stetson estate, enabling delivery of the finest architectural materials. Tour Hours: March–July, Tuesday and Thursday only at 10:30 a.m. Admission: \$20 regular tour; \$30 grand tour. Cash only. Reservations required. Email your time/date request to: StetsonMansion@hotmail.com. Gates open 25 minutes before the start of each tour. Regular tours last an hour; grand tours are an hour and a half. No high heels, please!



At a Glance:

- 6. DeLand Sculpture Walk
www.moartdeland.org
- 7. Athens Theatre
124 N. Florida Ave., DeLand
(386) 736-1500
www.athensdeland.com
- 8. DeLand Historic Mural Walk
(386) 738-0649
www.mainstreetdeland.com
- 9. Downtown DeLand Historic District
(386) 738-0649
www.mainstreetdeland.com
- 10. African American Museum of the Arts
325 S. Clara Ave., DeLand
(386) 736-4004
www.africanmuseumdeland.org
- 11. Stetson Mansion
1031 Camphor Ln., DeLand
(386) 873-0167
www.stetsonmansion.com





starting in... **Barberville**



1 Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts (Barberville)

Located in Barberville, the Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts is a living history museum and popular heritage tourism site, as well as an adjunct classroom for Volusia County Schools. The Settlement's variety of historic buildings and architectural styles interpret early Florida settlement through exhibitions of traditional hand tools and domestic wares. The

Settlement has a unique hands-on interpretive style with a year-round schedule of special events and festivals. The historic Underhill House, which is the oldest surviving brick house in Volusia County, is also part of the Settlement, purchased through grant funding. The Barberville Central High School building, the settlement's primary facility, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



2 Lake George State Forest (DeLeon Springs)

Lake George State Forest comprises 19,650 acres and is part of the Great Florida Birding Trail, offering ample opportunities to view Southern bald eagles, turkeys, bobwhites, raptors, songbird migrants and swallowtail kites. Other species include the Florida black bear, alligator, gopher tortoise, bobcat and deer. Ecosystems include mesic and wet flatwoods. The

Bluffton Recreational Area offers numerous activities including seasonal hunting, hiking, equestrian riding, picnicking, fishing, camping, wildlife viewing, canoeing and kayaking, as well as an archaeological site and interpretive nature trail.



At a Glance:

1. Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts

1776 Lightfoot Ln., Barberville
(386) 749-2959
www.pioniersettlement.org

2. Lake George State Forest

5458 N. Hwy. 17, DeLeon Springs
(386) 985-7822
www.floridaforestservice.com



starting in... **Deltona**



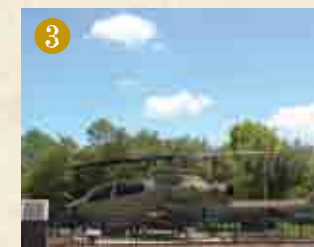
1 Thornby Park (Deltona)

Beautiful Thornby Park overlooks Lake Monroe and is Deltona's only passive park, where visitors can picnic, stroll or just relax in serenity. Thornby Park is a great attraction for travelers to the area and also provides a respite for local residents from pressures of the city. This area is like no other in Central Florida. It contains over seven acres of wetlands and has several different ecosystems on the property. It is a rare microcosm of old, unspoiled Florida at its best.



2 All Saints Episcopal Church (Enterprise)

One of Volusia County's oldest churches, All Saints Episcopal Church was completed in 1884 and services were initially held in the parlor of a local resort – The Brock House – located on the shore of Lake Monroe. Reverend Samuel Carpenter, a local vicar, rowed across the lake to hold services. The sanctuary is constructed in the Carpenter Gothic style, using mostly hard pine and cypress. It was saved from demolition by Bishop Henry Irving Louttit in the late 1940s after suffering hurricane damage. In 1974, All Saints attained parish status from the Diocese of Central Florida, with Father Pugh as the first rector. The church remains largely in its original state, except for a few modern improvements, including the front porch and back sacristy. In May 1974, the building was designated a National Historic Landmark.



3 Veterans Memorial Park & Museum (Deltona)

The Veterans Memorial Park & Museum are centrally located in Deltona, with an extensive display of historical military artifacts. The Park houses 10 different memorials on the 5.6-acre site – commemorating military campaigns beginning with World War I through the recent conflicts in the Middle East. In addition to an actual U.S. Army AH-1 Cobra

helicopter on display, there is a full-size picnic pavilion for the public's use. Annual observances for Memorial Day and Veterans Day take place at Veterans Memorial Park.



4 Lyonia Preserve (Deltona)

Lyonia Preserve is a 360-acre joint project of Volusia County's Land Acquisition and Management Division and the Volusia County School Board to restore and maintain scrub habitat. Since 1994, restoration efforts have removed overgrown sand pines and opened up the understory, creating the characteristic bare sand areas with low-growing vegetation preferred by scrub species. Lyonia Preserve is also home to the

Deltona Regional Library, the Lyonia Environmental Center and the Deltona Amphitheater.

Travelers looking to spend more time along the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Scenic Highway should experience some of the many recreational opportunities and cultural resources along the way.

At a Glance:

1. Thornby Park

110 Providence Blvd., Deltona
(386) 878-8750

2. All Saints Episcopal Church

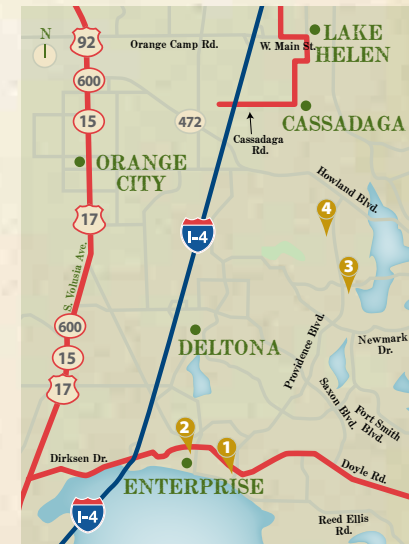
155 Clark St., Enterprise
(386) 668-4108
www.allsaintsenterprise.org

3. Veterans Memorial Park & Museum

1921 Evard Ave., Deltona, FL
(386) 878-8900

4. Lyonia Preserve

2150 Eustace Ave., Deltona
(386) 789-7207
www.lyoniapreserve.com



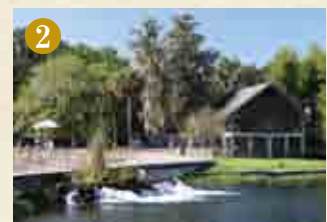
4 hours Itinerary



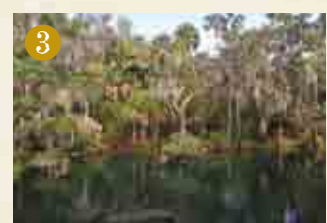
starting in... DeLand



Hontoon Island State Park (DeLand)
Hontoon Island State Park, listed on the Great Florida Birding Trail, is located on the St. Johns River west of DeLand. Visitors can spot osprey, anhinga, limpkins, other wading birds, and various wildlife, including deer and turkey. The nature trails traverse hammocks full of songbirds and woodpeckers. Scrubby flatwoods in the island's interior are good for warblers and vireos. Recreational activities include hiking, biking, picnicking, rustic cabins, tent camping, a children's playground, natural and historic museum, fishing, boat docking, and canoe and kayak rentals. Picnic areas include tables and grills. The park's visitor center features Native American artifacts found on the island, as well as an interpretive video about its history and examples of insects and wildlife. It is accessible by private boat or free ferry.



DeLeon Springs State Park (DeLeon Springs)
DeLeon Springs State Park is on the Great Florida Birding Trail, which has a bird checklist of more than 125 species. Activities include swimming in the spring pool (which is accessible to visitors with disabilities), snorkeling and picnicking. Canoes, kayaks and paddleboats are available to rent. There is also a boat ramp, fishing areas, a nature trail, a 4-mile hiking trail, a playground and picnic pavilions. Trails wind through hardwood forests, oak hammocks, cypress swamps, grasslands and floodplain forests filled with the sounds of woodpeckers and songbirds. The endangered yellow anise tree is abundant, and a paved walkway leads to "Old Methuselah," a huge bald cypress that is more than 500 years old. The spring run hosts a variety of wading birds, alligators, otters and manatees. Adjacent to the spring, the famous Old Spanish Sugar Mill restaurant features cook-your-own pancakes made from stone-ground flours. A Butterfly Garden has more than 600 plants for the benefit of native and migrating butterflies and hummingbirds. Kiosks and exhibits in the visitor center interpret the park's natural and cultural history. The Fountain of Youth Eco/History narrated riverboat tour departs four times daily from the park.



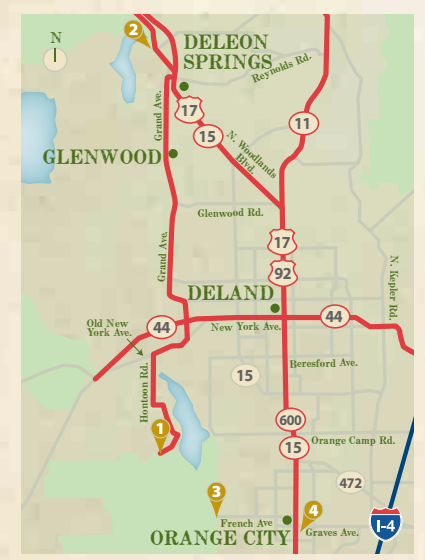
Blue Spring State Park (Orange City)
Blue Spring State Park, located on the St. Johns River near Orange City, is one of the most popular parks in the State of Florida and the largest spring on the river. It is well-known as a winter home for the endangered Florida manatee between November and March. Blue Spring State Park is listed on the Great Florida Birding Trail, and recreational activities include swimming, canoeing, tubing, picnicking, snorkeling, certified cave diving, kayak tours and rentals, fishing, boating, hiking and birding. Vacation cabins, RV sites and tent camping are located in the sandpine scrub. The spring run trail offers the opportunity to see coots, anhingas, cormorants, barred owls and migrating warblers. A 4-mile trail through scrub habitat is home to a growing number of scrub-jays. An award-winning two-hour narrated river cruise departs from the park twice daily.



Orange City Historic District (Orange City)
Explore Heritage Inn and the U.S. Postal Museum – among more than 211 historic buildings and three structures in this U.S. Historic District, designated as such in 2004. The historic district is roughly bounded by French, Banana, Carpenter and Orange Avenues.

At a Glance:

- Hontoon Island State Park**
2309 River Ridge Rd., DeLand
(386) 736-5309
www.floridastateparks.org/hontoonisland
- DeLeon Springs State Park**
601 Ponce de Leon Blvd., DeLeon Springs
(386) 985-4212
www.floridastateparks.org/deleonsprings
- Blue Spring State Park**
2100 W. French Ave., Orange City
(386) 775-3663
www.floridastateparks.org/bluespring
- Orange City Historic District**
www.ci.orange-city.fl.us



starting in... Barberville



Heart Island Conservation Area (Barberville)
The Heart Island Conservation Area encompasses over 12,000 acres southeast of Lake George. This area is part of the 35,000-acre Lake George Wildlife Management Area. Natural communities include basin swamp, floodplain swamp, basin marsh, baygall, blackwater stream, hydric hammock, mesic flatwoods and scrub. These communities provide excellent habitat for a variety of species, including Florida black bears and gopher tortoise along with deer, otters, woodpeckers, songbirds, foxes, alligators and other wildlife. Available recreational activities include hiking, horseback riding, seasonal hunting, bicycling, picnicking, wildlife viewing and primitive camping.



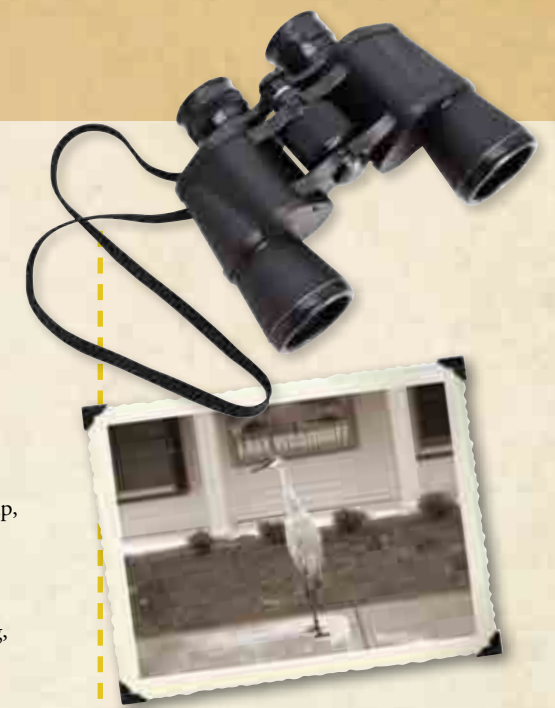
Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge (DeLeon Springs)
Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1964 as a migratory bird refuge, is on the Great Florida Birding Trail, and home to many rare and endangered species. The 21,574-acre refuge is an ideal location to reconnect with nature and view a wide variety of resident and migratory waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, shorebirds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles in their diverse aquatic and terrestrial natural habitats. More than 200 species of birds have been documented at the refuge by the West Volusia Audubon Society. The refuge contains a myriad of habitats including marshes, swamps, creeks, hammocks and uplands. Endangered species include the Florida manatee and Southern bald eagle. Photographers, walkers, joggers, researchers, artists, wildflower enthusiasts, kayakers, nature writers, birders and school groups come to the refuge. Nature trails, an observation tower, bicycling, fishing and hunting are some of the amenities.



Historic Spring Garden Ranch (DeLeon Springs)
Founded in 1912 by Frederick Northrup Burt as a cattle and dairy farm, this ranch evolved into a standard-bred horse training facility after 1949. Featuring the oldest barn in Volusia County, Spring Garden Ranch was named to the National Register of Historic Places and exists today as a renowned equestrian center. Currently the largest harness training facility in North America, it has produced world champions, including three Hambletonian and 18 Breeder Crown winners. Famous horses that have wintered at the ranch include world champion Gallo Blue Chip, who was named "Harness Horse of the Year" in 2000, and Triple Crown Winner No Pan Intended. The ranch contains 80 paddocks, 18 barns, 500 stalls and two clay tracks. Other amenities include tack rooms, offices, an RV park, a recreation center and a full-service restaurant overlooking the track. Daily tours and horse-drawn carriage rides are also available.

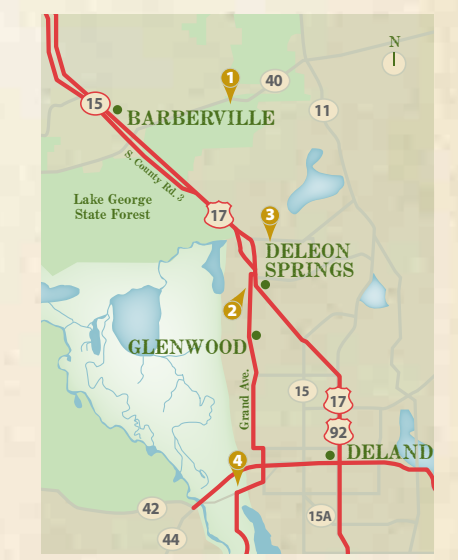


St. Johns River Blueway Trails (DeLand)
St. Johns River Blueway Trails have been developed by Volusia County and the State. Maps of the Blueway Trails can be downloaded from the County website at www.volusia.org/trails/default.htm and include: Hontoon Dead River Paddling Trail, Tick Island Paddling Trail, Alexander Springs State Canoe Trail and Gemini Springs Paddling Trail.



At a Glance:

- Heart Island Conservation Area**
www.sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/heartisland
- Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge**
2045 Mud Lake Rd., DeLeon Springs
(386) 985-4673
www.fws.gov/lakewoodruff
- Historic Spring Garden Ranch**
900 Spring Garden Ranch Rd., DeLeon Springs
(877) 985-5654/(386) 985-5654
www.springgardenranch.com
- St. Johns River Blueway Trails**
www.volusia.org/trails/default.htm



from Sanford...to Lake Helen



1 **Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens (Sanford)**
Enter the lush, tropical world of the Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens – a relaxing, entertaining and educational experience for the entire family. Watch over 400 mammals, reptiles and birds in a variety of habitats, along with the bugs in the Massey Services Insect Zoo. Take to the sky and enjoy the aerial adventure course, ZOOM Air Adventure Park. Or, bring your flip-flops and swimsuit to cool off in the Wharton-Smith Tropical Splash Ground. Open daily from 9 a.m.–5 p.m.



2 **Sanford Historic District (Sanford)**
Get a glimpse of life in Seminole County during the late 1800s, while enjoying shopping, dining and attractions. Catch a play at the beautifully restored historic vaudeville theater. Hunt for hidden treasures in the district's antique shops, art galleries and specialty boutiques. Stop by the farmers market on Saturdays, where you can shop for fruits and veggies, as well as locally hand- and home-made goods, all set to the soundtrack of area musicians. End your day with a stroll on the downtown River Walk and dinner at one of the many bistros and restaurants.



3 **Lake Monroe Conservation Area/Beck Ranch Park (Osteen)**
Experience Florida's scenic beauty at this 7,000-acre conservation area, where Native Americans hunted and fished many years ago. Today, its marshes, wet prairies and swamps serve as a floodplain for Lake Monroe and offer trails for horseback riding and hiking. The western portion of the conservation area is dedicated to Minnie Beck Kratzert, whose family worked the property as a cattle ranch until it was sold to the St. Johns River Water Management District in 1987. The 250-acre Beck Ranch site, part of the original working cattle ranch, was purchased by Volusia County through the Volusia Forever program with hopes of preserving the historical structures and providing a multipurpose park for residents and visitors to enjoy.



4 **Hickory Bluff Preserve (Osteen)**
Enjoy hiking, fishing, camping, horseback riding and wildlife viewing at this 150-acre preserve, overlooking the St. Johns River. The preserve features many natural communities, including mesic and scrubby flatwoods, oak hammock, cypress domes, floodplain swamp and wet prairie. Wildlife along the trail may include osprey, eagle, great blue heron, barred owl, gopher tortoise, alligator, river otter, bobcat, deer and turkey.



5 **Osteen WWI Monument (Osteen)**
Inscribed with the words "Erected by the citizens of Osteen in memory of her heroes of the World War," this monument stands on the east side of SR 415, just north of Railroad Avenue. Thought to have been created in the 1920s when Osteen was incorporated, this monument lists nine names, many of them representing the area's pioneer families. Two names on the stone's south face honor men who died in World War I, while seven on the north face recognize those who served and were discharged at the war's end. One of the latter is Harry A. Osteen, grandson of Hezekiah Osteen, a founder of the community that bears his name.



6 **Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex (Deltona)**
This 66-acre sports complex boasts some of Central Florida's premier soccer fields, and hosts spring training for several major league soccer teams. In addition, baseball and football fields are available for the city's youth and adult leagues. Dewey O. Boster is also the site for the city's annual holiday events: the Halloween Spooktacular, the July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza and the Easter Eggstravaganza.



7 **Lyonia Environmental Center (Deltona)**
Gain insight into Volusia County's fragile ecosystems by visiting the Lyonia Environmental Center. The Center promotes an understanding of the county's natural environment, as well as the heritage it sustains and the challenges it faces. Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Friday–Saturday, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday, 1–5 p.m.



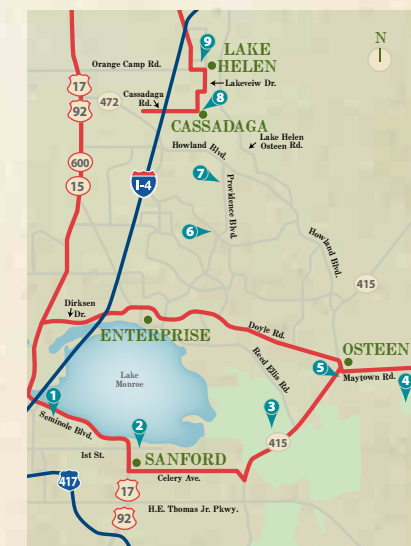
8 **Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp™ (Cassadaga)**
Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp, founded by George P. Colby in 1894, is listed as a National Register Historic District. It is the oldest religious community of its kind in the Southeastern U.S. Colby told his fellow spiritualists that he was guided by his Indian spirit "Seneca" through the pathless wilds of Florida to the location where he founded the Spiritualist Camp. The Camp consists of 57 acres with 80 historic buildings. Public buildings include Colby Memorial Temple, the Cassadaga Hotel, Harmony Hall, Brigham Hall and Andrew Jackson Davis Hall. Complementing these structures is a quaint collection of "good, comfortable homes" dating to the turn of the century. Construction consists of wood-frame cottages and bungalow dwellings with metal roofs. Narrow cobblestone streets, lined with trees and meditation gardens, enhance the historical experience. People from all over the world come to Cassadaga for its mediums, healers, readings and séances.



9 **Lake Helen Historic District (Lake Helen)**
Explore one of Florida's first settlements, which thrived in the 1800s through its dependence on the surrounding citrus groves before the "Big Freeze" of 1896. Today, the town's 71 historic buildings – designated a U.S. historic district in 1993 – offer a window into the past. The historic district is bounded by W. New York and Euclid Avenues, Lakeview Drive and Park Street.

At a Glance:

- Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens**
3755 N.W. Hwy. 17/92, Sanford
407-323-4450
www.centralfloridazoo.org/visit
- Sanford Historic District**
Downtown Sanford
www.visitseminole.com/listingdetail/222/sanford-historic-district.aspx
- Lake Monroe Conservation Area/Beck Ranch Park**
(386) 329-4404
www.sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/lakemonroe
- Hickory Bluff Preserve**
598 Guise Rd., Osteen
www.volusia.org
- Osteen WWI Monument**
SR 415 and New Smyrna Blvd., Osteen
- Dewey O. Boster Sports Complex**
1200 Saxon Blvd., Deltona
(386) 878-8900
- Lyonia Environmental Center**
2150 Eustace Ave., Deltona
www.lyoniapreserve.com
- Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp™ Bookstore and Information Center**
1112 Stevens St., Cassadaga
(386) 228-2880
www.cassadaga.org
- Lake Helen Historic District**
Downtown Lake Helen





Travelers looking to take in the full experience that the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Scenic Highway has to offer can spend a whole day on the corridor and visit one or two resources in each of the communities. Here are some of the best-known sites to explore in each of the towns along the corridor.

8 hours Itinerary

from DeBary...to Seville



1

Lake Monroe Park and Campground (DeBary)

Overlooking the fabled St. Johns River, Lake Monroe Park and Campground offers a spectacular view of nature in its most pristine form. Accessible by two boat ramps, the scenic river offers a wealth of recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. A variety of bass, speckled perch, bluegills and catfish can be caught off the fishing pier. Twenty-five campsites

are nestled within a shady hammock of oaks and slash pines. Family picnic pavilions and a children's playground provide an ideal place for social gatherings. The 42-acre park also features a nature trail and is a trailhead for Volusia County's popular Spring-to-Spring Trail. The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. Admission is free, and there is a \$2 boat launch fee. For more information about facilities, fees and reservations, please call the park at (386) 668-3825.



2

Gemini Springs Park (DeBary) 🐕

Gemini Springs Park offers many outdoor recreational activities for residents and their four-legged furry friends – including a fantastic dog park with fenced play areas, wash stations, water fountains for dogs, benches and a picnic area. Gemini Springs, near DeBary, was once a working farm located next to a bayou connecting with the St. Johns River. Part of the county's multi-use Spring-to-Spring Trail meanders under the shade of ancient

live oak trees, providing ample opportunities to observe the many types of wildlife and vegetation while biking and hiking. Gemini Springs also has picnic pavilions, a children's playground, fishing dock, horseback riding trail, primitive tent camping area and canoe rentals.



3

Green Springs County Park (Enterprise)

The 36-acre park has one of Florida's few green sulfur springs. Native Americans, including the Mayaca and Seminoles, considered the land sacred because they thought the sulfur water in the springs was healing. In 1841, Cornelius Taylor built a hotel on top of a once-massive shell mound at the end of the spring run where it enters Lake Monroe. The spring was the main attraction of Taylor's "hotel for invalids" on the

lakefront – one of Florida's first health spas. By 1883, Green Springs was part of the large estate of wine importer and steamboat baron Frederick DeBary, who used it to entertain guests from DeBary Hall. Today, the park has paved and natural trails, scenic overlooks, a playground and picnic pavilions. It also is a trailhead for the Spring-to-Spring Trail.



4

Seminole Rest (Oak Hill)

Seminole Rest, a pre-historical and interpretive park that is part of the Canaveral National Seashore managed by the National Park Service, is located in the City of Oak Hill off River Road and adjacent to the Mosquito Lagoon. Seminole Rest is an opportunity to step back in time and walk among prehistoric shell mounds dating from 2,000 B.C. to 1565 A.D. – providing a look into the lives of the Timucuan and Ais Indians

who once inhabited this part of Florida. These shell mounds were formed as the Indians seasonally settled along the Mosquito Lagoon, where they would gather and process clams, oysters and fish as part of their food supply. Within these communities, the women and children were responsible for collecting and processing the clams, while the men fished, hunted larger animals and protected their families. The largest mound, Snyder's Mound, is unique because few of its size remain intact today. In the late 1800s, two homes were built on the mounds to help protect them.



5

Blue Spring State Park (Orange City)

Three years after England acquired Florida from Spain, botanist John Bartram explored the St. Johns River to assess resources for the British Crown. His January 4, 1766, written account of his visit includes a description of Blue Spring. The Thursby House, built in 1872 atop a shell midden, still stands as a reminder of the site's heyday as an active destination for steamboats carrying supplies and tourists. Blue Spring has been

occupied for more than 2,000 years – first by the Mayaca Indians, then the Seminoles and, in the 1840s, by the first white settlers. Blue Spring is now a state park of some 2,800 acres and the winter home of the endangered Florida manatee.



6

Lake Helen Equestrian & Environmental Park (Lake Helen)

Lake Helen Equestrian & Environmental Park, located in historic Lake Helen, provides full equestrian facilities including an arena, 18-stall barn, judging booth, warm-up arena, horse trailer parking and a multi-use recreation area. The park serves as the trailhead for the miles of multi-use trails developed in Lake Helen that link the West Volusia area with the Cross-Volusia Trail to New Smyrna Beach.



7

Hontoon Island State Park (DeLand)

Evidence of Native American habitation over thousands of years can be viewed at Hontoon Island State Park. An impressive visitor center has artifacts found on the island, and a video provides details on the early inhabitants' lifestyles and customs.



8

Downtown DeLand Historic District (DeLand)

The Downtown DeLand Historic District has 68 buildings of historic merit and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The physical development of the central business district began in the late 1870s, but the existing buildings were constructed after 1886, following a fire that destroyed most of the downtown structures and initiated a requirement that new buildings be built with brick. In addition to storefront properties, the district included several churches, an opera house, a theater, two hotels, the county courthouse and residences (now converted to offices) – an eclectic mix of styles of buildings constructed between 1886 and 1925. DeLand was one of the first Florida cities to participate in the Main Street program in 1985, when work began to revitalize this architectural gem. The success of the project was recognized with a Great American Main Street Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The area is a lively shopping and dining district and the center of a variety of cultural festivities.

At a Glance:

- Lake Monroe Park**
975 U.S. Hwy. 17/92, DeBary
(386) 668-3825
- Gemini Springs Park**
37 Dirksen Dr., DeBary
(386) 736-5953
www.volusia.org/parks
- Green Springs County Park**
994 Lakeshore Dr., Enterprise
(386) 736-5953
www.volusia.org/parks
- Seminole Rest**
River Rd., Oak Hill
www.nbbd.com/godo/cns/Brochures/SeminoleRest
- Blue Spring State Park**
2100 W. French Ave., Orange City
(386) 775-3663
www.floridastateparks.org/bluespring
- Lake Helen Equestrian & Environmental Park**
321 Pleasant St., Lake Helen
(386) 228-2121
www.visitwestvolusia.com
- Hontoon Island State Park**
2309 River Ridge Rd., DeLand
(386) 736-5309
www.floridastateparks.org/hontoonisland
- Downtown DeLand Historic District**
(386) 738-0649
www.mainstreetdeland.com





At a Glance:

9. DeLeon Springs State Park

601 Ponce de Leon Blvd., DeLeon Springs
(386) 985-4212

www.floridastateparks.org/deleonsprings

10. Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts

1776 Lightfoot Ln., Barberville
(386) 668-384

www.pioneersettlement.org

11. Lake George Conservation Area

www.sjrwmd.com

12. Seville Community Resource Center

1591 N. Hwy. 17, Seville

www.sevillecommunitycenter.com



DeLeon Springs State Park (DeLeon Springs)

The area now known as DeLeon Springs State Park was home to Native Americans for thousands of years. Two dugout canoes found in the spring are among the oldest canoes (5,000 and 6,000 years old) in America. In the 1880s, the site became a famous resort where Northerners would come during the winter to bathe in the constantly temperate waters

of the spring. From 1953 to the early 1960s, the Ponce de Leon Springs attraction operated and included jungle cruises, animals, tram tours and a water-skiing elephant. The State of Florida bought the property in 1982 for operation as a State Park.



Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts (Barberville)

History comes to life at the Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts. This heritage village, founded by a group of art teachers in 1976, is anchored by the Barberville Central High School and features relocated historic structures with collections of folk art: Pierson Railroad Depot (c. 1885), Astor Bridgekeeper's House (c. 1926), Turpentine Commissary/Store (c. 1900),

Turpentine Still (c. 1924), Pottery Shed (c. 1920), Lewis Log Cabin (c. 1875), Midway United Methodist Church (c. 1890), Huntington Post Office (c. 1885) and the Quarters House (c. 1920). Workshops are open to the public, exhibiting various historical trades and lifeways: Print Shop, Wheelwright Shop/Carriage House, Woodwright Shop, Blacksmith Shop, and Timucuan-Mayaca and Seminole Villages. The Settlement hosts numerous special events and educational lectures and is open regularly for tours.



Lake George Conservation Area (Seville)

Lake George Conservation Area, managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District, is located on the eastern shore of the lake, encompasses 12,000 acres and has an 8-mile trail suitable for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Additional recreational activities include seasonal hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and boating. The trail is surrounded

by marshes, wetlands and varying terrain. Species include the Florida black bear, Sherman's fox squirrel and one of the region's largest concentrations of the Southern bald eagle. Facilities include tent camping sites at the lake and recreational vehicle camping at the trailhead. Entrance to the Conservation Area is located off SR 40 on Lake George Road.



Seville Community Resource Center (Seville)

This community center in Seville features tours, a gym, a playground and a large majestic oak tree that is the perfect picnic setting. It is also home to the Historic Seville School House, which was established in 1914.

A FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAY

Mission

To foster and share awareness of Volusia and North Seminole County as a distinct place to live, work and play by preserving the heritage and scenic vistas of the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor.

About

The River of Lakes Heritage Corridor Scenic Highway borders Florida's only federally designated American Heritage River – the 310-mile-long St. Johns – and encompasses 14 historically and culturally distinct towns. The corridor is linked with other Scenic Highways in the state, creating a network of intriguing destinations and improving access to parks, refuges and preserves. Corridor visitors can explore numerous family-friendly recreation options, such as bicycling, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, kayaking and wildlife viewing.

Public/private partnerships help to preserve the corridor's environmental and cultural assets through informational initiatives; infrastructure such as bicycle lanes and streetscapes; community art projects and restoration efforts focused on the region's historic buildings. Together, these partners are united in conserving Volusia and North Seminole County's unique heritage.

DeBary Hall Historic Site Visitors Center

198 Sunrise Blvd. • DeBary, FL 32713
Phone: (386) 668-3840 or (386) 736-5953
www.debaryhall.com

DeLand Area Chamber of Commerce

336 N. Woodland Blvd. • DeLand, FL 32720
Phone: (386) 734-4331 • Fax: (386) 734-4333
contact@delandchamber.org

Seminole County Convention and Visitors Bureau

1515 International Pkwy., Suite 1013 • Lake Mary, FL 32746
Phone: (407) 665-2900 • Toll Free: (800) 800-7832
www.visitseminole.com

West Volusia Tourism Advertising Authority

116 W. New York Ave. • DeLand, FL 32720
Phone: (386) 734-0162 • Toll Free: (800) 749-4350
www.visitwestvolusia.com



www.ROLHC.org