



SUMMER GUIDE to Wakulla County

Every season in Wakulla County has its own unique personality. Summer is when residents and visitors come out to enjoy the abundant sunshine, relax in our numerous waterways, and feast on fresh, in-season seafood. Whether you're attending one of our family-friendly community festivals, immersing yourself in our natural wonders, or beating the heat and taking a dip in the water, an amazing summer in Wakulla County is waiting for you.

Events and Festivals



Sopchoppy 4th of July Celebration

Date: July 4th | **Time:** 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. | **Location:** Myron B. Hodge City Park in Sopchoppy
Contact: Sopchoppy City Hall at (850) 962-4611

Another of Wakulla County's oldest traditions is the Sopchoppy 4th of July Celebration in the heart of downtown Sopchoppy. The festivities begin the morning of Independence Day with a parade, followed by an all-day and all-night festival -- complete with arts and crafts and food vendors -- at Sopchoppy's famed Myron B. Hodge City Park, which rests on the banks of the Sopchoppy River. The evening is then capped with a spectacular fireworks display that will illuminate the sky over the picturesque waterfront.

Wakulla County Coastal Cleanup

Date: Third Saturday in September | **Time:** 8 a.m. | **Website:** www.kwcb.org
Location: St. Marks Wildlife Refuge/Shell Point Beach/Mashes Sands/Panacea

This program is run by volunteers who make it their goal to both beautify the area's beaches and coastlines and educate about how to keep Wakulla County clean and litter-free. Cleanup crews begin at 8 a.m. at various beaches in Wakulla County, and the cleanup culminates with a celebration at noon at Woolley Park in Panacea.

Fall Wildflower Walk at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

Date: Last Saturday in September | **Time:** 9 a.m. to Noon | **Location:** St. Marks Wildlife Refuge
Contact: David Roddenberry | **Email:** sarracenia.nps@gmail.com | **Phone:** 850-556-9530

This is a one-of-a-kind Wildflower walk offered during spring and fall blooming seasons. Featured is a nature walk "Behind the Gates" to areas not usually open to the public. Wildflower experts identify species and give an oral history of Wakulla County's area wildflowers.

Summertime Activities



Boating Ramps for Maritime Pleasure

Wakulla County's numerous rivers, lakes, inlets, and bays mean that there are plenty of places for you to take your boat in and explore the maritime magic of our area. These boat ramps are conveniently located throughout the county, ensuring that you're always just a short drive away from a day of boating fun.

Wakulla Beach

Location: Wakulla Beach Rd | Crawfordville, FL 32327

Type of Fishing: Saltwater | **Parking:** Limited | **Launch Fee:** Free

Extras: Canoeing; kayaking; hiking; shore fishing; bird watching

Open beach site big enough for two boats at a time that launches into the Gulf of Mexico; a moderate to high tide, or rising tide, is required to launch.

Located on Coastal Highway 98 in between St. Marks and Shell Point. Turn onto Wakulla Beach Road and travel approximately 5 miles south until the road dead-ends at a small beach.



Summertime Activities



Ochlockonee River State Park

Open: 8 a.m. - sunset, year round | **Entrance Fee:** \$4/Vehicle

Location: 429 State Park Rd | Sopchoppy, FL 32358 | **Phone:** (850) 962-2771

The Ochlockonee River State Park is a perfect place to camp out or take an easy day hike. Nature trails that wind along the river and through pine flatwoods and oak thickets allow hikers to explore the park and see a diversity of wildlife, especially in the early morning. The natural communities are home for deer, fox squirrel, bobcat, gray fox, and many species of birds including the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. Wildflowers bloom in abundance during the spring and fall. Check the website for ranger-guided walks and campfire programs.

St. Marks River City Park

Location: 180 River Breeze St. | St Marks, FL 32355 | **Type of Fishing:** Freshwater and Saltwater

Parking: Ample | **Launch Fee:** \$5, honor system

Extras: Adjacent to Fort San Marcos de Apalache State Historic Site and Museum; picnic area; hiking and biking trails; public restrooms; water fountain; fishing dock.

Dual-boat ramp that launches into the St. Marks River, which empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

Myron B. Hodge City Park

Location: 220 Park Ave | Sopchoppy, FL 32358 | **Type of Fishing:** Freshwater and Saltwater

Parking: Ample | **Launch Fee:** \$5, honor system

Extras: Large adjacent open park with playground and basketball courts; big picnic area with community grills; long fishing dock; hiking, biking, and birding trails; public restrooms.

Long, steep dual-boat ramp that launches into the Sopchoppy River, which eventually empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

Family-Friendly Historical Sites



From the Native American tribes who made their homes on the Florida panhandle for thousands of years, to the first European explorers to visit the area and beyond, Wakulla County is teeming with sites of historical significance. These historical areas of interest make for excellent excursions for the entire family to learn about the heritage of the area and our country while having fun at the same time.

Fort San Marcos de Apalache

Location: 148 Old Fort Road | St. Marks, Florida

The collection of colorful flags that greet visitors at the gates of Fort San Marcos de Apalache Historic State Park represents the long and varied past of this historically significant site. The recorded history of this National Landmark first began in 1528 when Spanish explorer, Panfilo de Narvaez arrived in search of gold. Likewise, Hernando de Soto followed not long afterward in 1539. The first fort built in 1679, positioned strategically at the point where the St. Marks and Wakulla Rivers come together, was made of wood painted to look like stone. Later an actual stone fort made of quarried limestone would be built. Through the centuries the site at Fort San Marcos would be occupied several times by the Spanish, a short time by the English (1763), by an independent Creek nation of Indians led by William Augustus Bowles for a five brief weeks (1800), by General Andrew Jackson (1818), by United States troops (1821), and finally by Confederate troops (1861).

Today, visitors can take a leisurely self-guided journey along an interpretive trail through park grounds that include remains of Confederate earthworks and powder magazine, Spanish bombproof, bastion wall and moat, and gravesites of American soldiers in a small cemetery. A museum is constructed upon the foundation of the former Marine hospital built to serve victims of yellow fever (1859), and displays exhibits and artifacts unearthed near the original fort. A short entertaining video interprets site history and can be watched on demand in the auditorium.

Tucker's Point is a quiet spot with benches for a scenic view at the water's edge where the St. Marks River joins the Wakulla River and flows out into Apalachee Bay.

The historic site and museum located in St. Marks, off S.R. 363, 148 Old Fort Road. Open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Free park admission, small entrance fee to the museum. Parking, picnic, nature trail, visitor center, restrooms.

Family-Friendly Historical Sites



Historic Sopchoppy Train Depot

Location: 34 Rose St. | Sopchoppy, FL

The historic Sopchoppy Depot was built around 1891. Originally the Depot was part of the Carrabelle, Tallahassee & Georgia Railroad Company which was then absorbed by the Georgia, Florida and Alabama Railroad (G. F. & A.), referred to fondly as the "Gopher, Frog & Alligator." The line first started running in 1893 and operated until 1946. The GF&A brought tourists to the Gulf Coast and transported lumber, turpentine products, honey, farm goods, and soldiers to the seaport terminal. When ice became available, fish and oysters were packed in barrels and shipped back up to northern markets and towns along the line. From the Sopchoppy River came shipments of caviar from the river sturgeon, frog legs, and catfish.

The Sopchoppy Depot was once a busy railroad hub for both passengers and freight. From the Depot adventuresome passengers could transfer to the mule-drawn tramcar to brave the 2½-hour, 7-mile trip down the wooden rail track to Panacea. There they bathed in the highly touted mineral springs and toured the big hotel located about 400 yards south of the springs. Other passengers continued on the train to the coast where they could "enjoy a dip in the brine and drink in the salt air of the Gulf." The train crossed over the Sopchoppy and Ochlockonee Rivers and traveled through the thick swamps and piney forests of Franklin County before emerging into the open air of the coast. Final destination was the Lanark Inn, a grand hotel boasting a casino, dining, a dance pavilion on the beach, a swimming pool constructed around a sulfur spring, and 2 large bathhouses for ladies and gentlemen, respectively.

The historic Sopchoppy Depot is the only remaining depot still standing in Florida on the G F & A. It was beautifully restored in 2010 and now serves as a museum with historical exhibits and a collection of old photographs, memorabilia and recovered artifacts.

Family-Friendly Historical Sites



Historic Old Wakulla County Courthouse

Open: Monday-Friday, 9am-noon, 1-4 pm.

Location: 23 High Dr | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone** (850) 926-1848

The stately Historic Courthouse which stands proud in the heart of Wakulla County, Florida is much more than just a historically significant structure. Woven together with the strong threads of its communities, its traditions and customs, and its people, the courthouse stands in magnificent tribute to the heritage of its citizens past and present. The earliest of the Wakulla courthouses was destroyed by arson with a kerosene lantern. The second courthouse, still standing, was sturdily constructed of heart pine cypress and completed in 1894. The 3-story structure has a steeply pitched roof with four intersecting gables. A weathervane carved of tight grain heart pine in the shape of a mullet, a commercial fish important to the history of Wakulla, graces the top of the prominent cupola with distinction.

To make room for construction of a new courthouse in 1948, the Historic Courthouse has moved a block away by painstakingly pulling the solid building by hand-wrench on wooden rollers across laid timbers. The structure was used for a time as the public library. By 1996, when the Chamber of Commerce took over occupancy, the old building had fallen into sad disrepair. Through tremendous citizen support driven by the vision to restore the courthouse to its former glory, renovations were begun. The building was moved a short distance a second time to the location where you see it today. With blood, sweat, and tears, the first two floors of the building have been lovingly returned back to historically correct splendor, complete with a custom set of replicated gas light fixtures and replacement of all the windows with mouth-blown glass imported from Germany.

The Historic Old Wakulla County Courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, one of only three existing wooden courthouses in Florida.

Family-Friendly Historical Sites



Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park

Open: 8 a.m. until sundown, year round

Location: 465 Wakulla Park Drive | Wakulla Springs, FL 32327

Phone: (850) 561-7276 | **Website:** <http://www.floridastateparks.org/wakullasprings>

Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park sits atop a wondrous maze of underground caverns and is among the world's largest and deepest fresh-water springs. The 6,000-acre park overflows with wildlife that can be seen daily on the 45 - 55-minute riverboat ride through the protected corridor of the Wakulla River. It is a nature photographer's delight. The historic Wakulla Springs Lodge, built by financier Edward Ball in 1937, still welcomes guests for lodging with a full-service dining room, soda fountain, gift shop, and bathhouse with seasonal concessions. A lovely beach for swimmers edges the spring basin and an observation/diving tower overlooks the mainspring. Ask about "Old Joe", picnic pavilions, and grills. Children will enjoy the playground. Nature trails are at their best in fall, winter, and spring. Wakulla Springs State Park and Lodge is listed on the Natural Register of Historic Places and is designated as a National Natural Landmark.

Park Entrance

\$6 per vehicle with between 2 - 8 people.

\$4 per vehicle with a single occupant.

\$2 per extra vehicle occupant

\$2 per pedestrian or bicyclist

Glass Bottom or Riverboat Tours

\$8 (13 years old and up)

\$5 (3 - 12 years old)

Free (under 3 years old)

Rivers and Beaches to Catch Some Sun



No trip to the Florida panhandle is complete without spending some time by the water. Wakulla County is home to a variety of beaches, rivers, and lakes where you can dip in just a toe or swim until your heart's content. Beautiful rivers wind through the towns and natural areas of the county. Our proximity to the majestic Gulf of Mexico of course means that white sand beaches and marsh lands are an important part of the ecosystem.

Wakulla River

The crystal clear waters of the 10 miles long Wakulla River rise from Wakulla Spring and is one of the few exclusively spring-fed rivers in this part of Florida. As a Florida Designated Paddling Trail, the river is highly revered by paddlers, who come to travel the cypress tree-lined banks of the clear spring water for a glimpse of the abundant Wakulla River wildlife. Eagles and osprey soar overhead while the turtles and alligators sun on the logs and bank. Mullet leap out of the water ahead as a manatee slowly grazes beneath you and a great blue heron fishes along the bank, a photographers paradise. Only 6 miles of the river are navigable, the northern 4-mile section is protected by Wakulla Springs State Park. Fishing is popular in the brackish water where the Wakulla River merges with the St. Marks River at the mouth of Apalachee Bay.

Shell Point Beach

This residential beach popular for sailing sports and volleyball is located on the northern edge of Apalachee Bay accessed via Spring Creek Highway from Coastal Highway 98. Shell Point Beach is a nature lover's delight for dolphin watching and observation of other coastal wildlife and features some of the most beautiful sunsets in Wakulla County. Birdwatching is especially remarkable and an active bald eagle nest is located nearby on Live Oak Island. The beach is maintained by the county and offers a large covered pavilion, several smaller gazebos with picnic tables, restrooms and outdoor shower. Playground equipment and a beach volleyball court are also available. Sidewalks are plentiful for riding bicycles or strolling along the beach. Whether you enjoy windsurfing, sailing, boating, fishing, kayaking, beachcombing, nature watching, photography, bicycling, hiking, picnicking, or just kicking back to enjoy the views, the community at Shell Point welcomes you to come to experience their little nugget of quiet paradise.

Rivers and Beaches to Catch Some Sun



Mashes Sands Beach

This secluded beach and simple county park are located at the eastern end of Mashes Sands Road where Coastal Highway 98 intersects Ochlockonee Bay Bridge. The quiet shores overlook the wide mouth of the Ochlockonee River as it empties into the bay. The shallow waters are ideal for beachcombers and young children. Intriguing patterns created in the muddy flats at low tide will appeal to nature photographers and nature lovers will enjoy the wilderness of this beach. Look for animal tracks left in the soft sand; admire stately wading birds; be amused by little sandpipers as they skitter along the shore. In the tall branches of the surrounding pine and oak, nest larger birds of prey. Tidal marsh pools tucked away in the dunes invite curious exploration. Park facilities include restrooms, a fishing pier, and boat ramp. Enjoy Mashes Sands during the day for swimming, sunbathing, beachcombing, picnicking, wildlife watching, nature photography, kayaking, boating, and fishing. Stay for the late afternoon gulf breezes and sunsets – a perfect way to end your day in Wakulla!

St. Marks River

The St. Marks River originates in cypress swamps 35 miles to the north and once it reappears from its short half mile underground journey at the geological formation of Natural Bridge, it too becomes fed by a first magnitude spring. The pristine river passes over a stretch of rocks forming rapids especially visible when water levels are low. The St. Marks River is classified as an Outstanding Florida Water and overflows with a wealth of wildlife – birds of prey, wading birds, alligators, turtles, manatees, otters, mullet, bass, and bream. The river laden with rich history flows past several historic sites including the Fort San Marcos de Apalache and the waterfront community of St. Marks, possibly the oldest existing river town in North America.

Where to Eat: Ochlockonee Bay



Angelo and Son's Seafood Restaurant

Location: 5 Mashas Sands Rd | Ochlockonee Bay, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-5168

Website: www.angeloandsonseafoodrestaurant.com

A Wakulla County tradition since 1945, family owned and operated Angelo and Son's Seafood Restaurant continues to serve the area fresh seafood while patrons overlook the very water that the seafood comes from. The famous waterfront building has moved, been renovated and even rebuilt after Hurricane Denis in 2005, but Angelo's continues to be one of the Wakulla County's most well-known restaurants. They specialize in seafood favorites like fish, shrimp, oysters, scallops and crab claws cooked fried, grilled, blackened or broiled, but as well as steaks, pasta and oysters on the half-shell. The ambiance and the view, however, is second-to-none as Angelos' diners overlook beautiful Ochlockonee Bay, which is known for producing some of the most picturesque sunsets anywhere in Wakulla County.

Specials/signature dishes: Angelo's famous stuffed shrimp, grouper, flounder or red snapper; crab or shrimp Au Gratin; homemade desserts, including key lime, coconut cream, peanut butter, chocolate cake, and Greek cake.

Tropical Trader Shrimp Company

Location: 91 Coastal Highway | Ochlockonee Bay, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-3474

The Tropical Trader Shrimp Company is one of the newest additions to the Wakulla County seafood scene. Opened for two years, they're currently the only restaurant and retail seafood market in Wakulla County where patrons can order off the menu or select from an array of fresh seafood in the retail market to have cooked on site. The Tropical Trader Shrimp Company, which has its own fleet of boats and catches most of its fresh seafood locally, has indoor and outdoor seating and a raw bar for oyster lovers. They also offer several homemade salad dressings, smoked seafood dips and entrees like bacon-wrapped shrimp that are available for purchase for dining in or to-go.

Specials/signature dishes: Low country boil, featuring snow crab, blue crab, shrimp, oysters, crawfish, potatoes, and corn; homemade shrimp and grits; brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.

Where to Eat: Pancea



Posey's Steamroom & Oyster Bar

Location: 1506 Coastal Highway | Panacea, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-5243

Family owned and operated since 1986, the last name "Posey" is synonymous in Wakulla County with three words: Great, Fresh, and Seafood. Posey's Steamroom & Oyster Bar, which is located just inside the Panacea city limits, is much more than a place for some of the area's freshest raw oysters and steamed seafood.

They offer flounder, grouper, shrimp, crab claws, scallops, and mullet cooked any way you like -- fried, broiled, blackened or grilled -- and they'll even whip up your fresh catch from that day's fishing excursion if you bring it in.

Coastal Restaurant

Location: 1305 Coastal Hwy | Panacea, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-2933

The family-owned Coastal Restaurant was Panacea's first-ever restaurant to open in 1954 and has seen customers come and go over the years, but one thing has always stayed the same: their all-you-can-eat seafood specials. Choose from shrimp, scallops, mullet, clams or catfish -- the Coastal will fill you up. They even offer all-you-can-eat specials on fried chicken and chicken tenders, in addition to a variety of sandwiches and country-style dinners.

Signature dishes/specials: The Coastal also makes a huge selection of homemade pies, including peanut butter, coconut, chocolate chip, and key lime.

Where to Eat: Crawfordville



The Kast Net

Location: 892 Woodville Hwy | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone:** (850) 421-1255

Small and unassuming in its Wakulla Station location, the locally owned and operated Kast Net has become a mainstay on the local Wakulla County restaurant scene with some of the area's most original recipes around. From their homemade southwest egg rolls to sweet bourbon chicken to their chocolate lasagna, the Kast Net has developed quite the following. They also specialize in putting their own twist on Wakulla County seafood, including pan-seared grouper, shrimp alfredo pasta and stuffed grouper with crab meat, and people drive from miles around to sample delectable's in their homemade dessert case. The Kast Net also offers pre-made entrees that are available to take-and-bake.

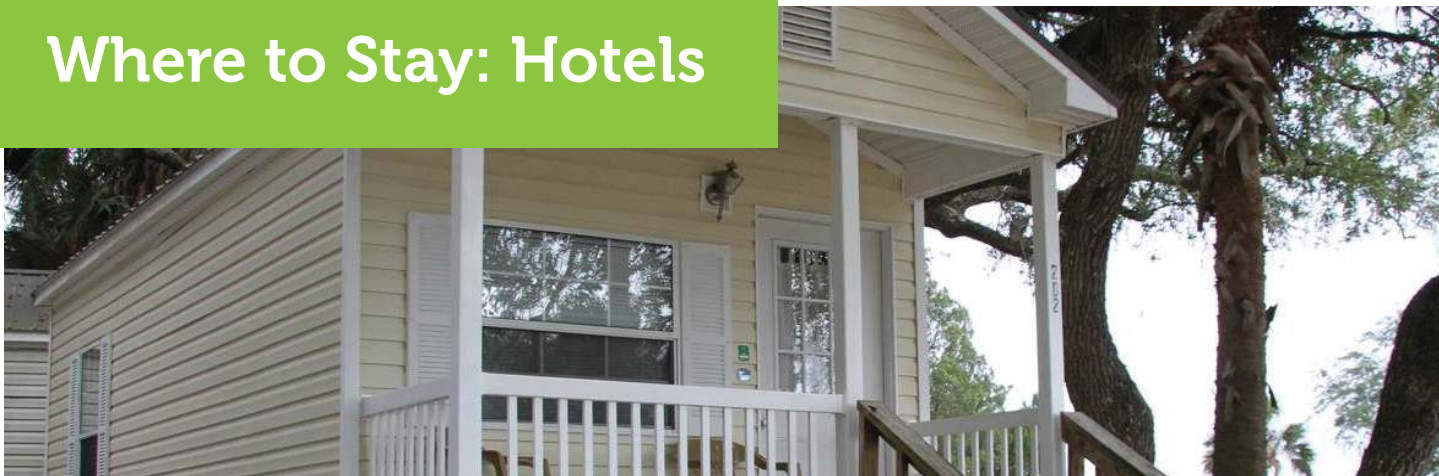
Signature dishes/specials: The Kast Net has full catering and a mobile food truck; breakfast served in the summers.

Hutton's Seafood

Location: 3096 Coastal Hwy | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone:** (850) 570-1004

Huttons Seafood may be a food truck in style, but it's been in its same location since 2007 serving only fresh, locally caught made-to-order seafood. Family owned and operated, Hutton's has become known for its fried soft-shell crab, and it also carries a wide range of grouper, shrimp, scallops, flounder, oyster, and boneless catfish dishes and baskets. Huttons also sells homemade BBQ ribs and pulled pork. as well as chicken wings, hamburgers, and hot dogs.

Where to Stay: Hotels



Packing up the family for a summer vacation is one of the great pleasures of life. When your summer travels bring you to Wakulla County, you'll find interesting adventures around every corner. There's far too much to experience in one day, which is why you should explore the many different types of accommodations at a variety of price points located throughout the area, and extend your stay with us.

Shell Island Fish Camp and Motel

Location: 1440 Shell Island Rd | St. Marks, FL 32355 | **Phone:** (850) 925-6226

Website: <http://shellislandfishcamp.com/>

Overlooking the Wakulla River in St. Marks, Shell Island Fish Camp and Motel has been family owned and operated since 1962 and is the only lodging accommodation in Wakulla County that caters to fishermen and boaters. Located on a well-marked, easy-to-run channel of the Wakulla River, Shell Island can handle large or small groups, families, companies and tour groups, as well as accommodating RVs. They feature three types of lodging: a 24-room motel, four 2-bedroom cabins with full kitchens and 5 one-room cabins, all of which have daily maid service. Other amenities include a covered pavilion with picnic tables and free use of the boat ramp. The motel is also adjacent to Shell Island Marina, which is a full-service marina. Shell Island is convenient to many of the area's attractions, such as the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, Wakulla Springs State Park and Fort San Marcos de Apalache.

Best Western Wakulla Inn & Suites

This eco-friendly lodge is located on Coastal Highway and sits just a few miles from nearly all of Wakulla County's waterways, beaches, and attractions. The Best Western's amenities include a spacious open-air courtyard and gazebo, swimming pool, fitness facility and a 40-person capacity meeting room and business center, which is complete with two Internet-ready community computers for guests to use. The Best Western Plus Wakulla also offer free Internet wi-fi and flat-screen televisions in every room, and all guests are treated to a full, hot complimentary breakfast seven days a week.

Location: 3292 Coastal Highway 98 | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone:** 850-926-3737

Website: www.wakullainn.com

Where to Stay: Hotels



Wakulla Springs Lodge

Locations: 550 Wakulla Park Dr. | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone:** (850) 421-2000

Website: www.wakullaspringslodge.com

In keeping with the Lodge's peaceful and intimate setting, Wakulla Springs' 27 rooms have no televisions and feature scenic views of the spring or the park. The Lodge, which has an extensive gift shop downstairs that's complete with a hot and cold deli, also has a full-service restaurant with breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Free Internet wi-fi is available for all rooms, each of which has private baths, and the Lodge is home to a conference and meeting area that's large enough to accommodate up to 125 people. Wakulla Springs Lodge is a Florida Certified Green Hotel with loads of outdoor amenities, such as picnic tables and community grills, hiking trails, a designated swimming area in crystal clear water and glass-bottom and riverboat tours.

While enjoying your stay at the Lodge, be sure to check out our Trivia Night Thursdays at 7 p.m.

The Magnuson Inn at Wildwood

Location: 3896 Coastal Highway | Crawfordville, FL 32327

Phone: 800) 878-1546 or (850) 926-4455 | **Website:** www.innatwildwood.com

Located on Coastal Highway and convenient to all of Wakulla County's waterways, beaches and attractions, the Inn at Wildwood also have a fitness center, pool and tennis court. Wildwood also has two large meeting and banquet rooms that can accommodate up to 200 people and an outdoor wedding area. They also offer free Internet wi-fi connections in every room, as well as Internet-ready community computer in the lobby, and provide guests with a free complimentary breakfast seven days of the week.

Where to Stay: Campgrounds



Holiday Park and Campground

Location: 14 Coastal Hwy | Ochlocknee Bay, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-5757

Website: www.holidaycampground.com

There's always a beautiful view from any of the 75 full-facility campsites at Holiday Park and Campground, which is located on the shores of Ochlocknee Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The amenities are plentiful, too, with Internet wi-fi service, cable hookups, a saline swimming pool, recreation room, waterfront pavilion, pier, beach and swimming area, horseshoe pits, beach volleyball course, and a playground. The park also has a large bathroom and shower facility, as well as laundry service and a store that sells bait, tackle, RV supplies, clothing and souvenirs. Holiday Campground is conveniently located near Mashas Sands State Park and sits just a block from several great area restaurants, including Angelo and Sons Seafood and Big Daddy's Pizza.

Panacea RV Park

Location: 1089 Coastal Hwy | Panacea, FL 32346 | **Phone:** (850) 984-5883

Website: www.panacearvpark.com

Panacea RV Park, which is tucked just off Coastal Highway on the outskirts of the Panacea fishing village, is about as quiet a campground as one will find. Located on the edge of the Apalachicola National Forest, the shady park is just a short walk from Rock Landing and the Gulf of Mexico. It offers 37 RV and tent sites with full electricity and water hook-ups, bathrooms and showers, a laundry facility, a picnic area, and a recreation room. Cable, Internet wi-fi and sewer is included in the stay, and boats, canoes, and kayaks are available for rent nearby.

Where to Stay: Campgrounds



Newport Park

Location: 8046 Coastal Hwy | Crawfordville, FL 32327 | **Phone:** (850) 925-4530

Conveniently located on the banks of the St. Marks River, Newport Park is small but cozy, offering five full RV hook-ups and 20 primitive campsites off scenic Coastal Highway. There are full bathrooms, a playground for the kids and several community grills for cookouts. Newport is also a fishermen's dream since the campground is adjacent to the Newport Bridge boat ramp and allows full access to the St. Marks River, which conveniently connects to the Wakulla River or the Gulf of Mexico. At the end of your fishing excursion, Newport Park has a large boat-cleaning and fish-cleaning area, complete with running water. Newport Park is also a block from Ouzt's Too Oyster Bar and Grille and directly across the street from the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, which offers a wild range of amenities like hiking, biking, fishing, wildlife and bird watching and a chance to tour the Historic St. Marks Lighthouse.

Ochlockonee River State Park

Website: www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/ochlockonee-river-state-park

Reservations: www.reserveamerica.com or (800) 326-3521

Location: 429 State Park Rd. | Sopchoppy, FL 32358 | **Phone:** 850-926-2771

Ochlockonee River State Park has it all -- and there's never a bad time to go. The 543-acre attraction caters to every kind of visitor and outdoor activity with full-facility waterfront campsites -- complete with picnic areas, bathrooms and showers -- as well as hiking and biking trails, wildlife watching, swimming areas in the cool, crystal Ochlockonee River and even a large boat ramp for those utilizing the park's outlet to freshwater and saltwater fishing excursions. The park also has a designated youth group camping area and calm, backwater freshwater trails for kayaking and canoeing.

Where to Stay: Vacation Rentals



Ochlockonee Bay Realty

Location: 146 Coastal Highway | Panacea, FL 32346 | **Phone:** 850) 984-0001 or (850) 926-9260

Website: www.alligatorpointbeachrentals.com

Ochlockonee Bay Realty is pleased to offer a wide variety of vacation rentals. It also offers gulf-front beach home rentals, bayfront vacation rentals, and riverfront vacation rentals. These fine vacation homes can be rented on a weekend, weekly or monthly basis in a beautiful outdoors atmosphere that offers sunny Florida beaches, great fishing, hiking, hunting, sailing, bicycling and much more.

Sopchoppy River House

Location: Sopchoppy, FL 32358 | **Phone:** 920-535-0242

Website: www.sopchoppyriverhouse.com

Located on Florida's Nature Coast... fresh seafood at your fingertips, white sand beaches & relaxing ocean breezes. An area suited to the active nature lover. Biking, kayaking, fishing, birding, hiking & relaxing are all things that can be done without ever driving away from the Sopchoppy River House. Our vacation rental sits along 377ft of your very own secluded piece of the lazy Sopchoppy River. Drop in a line and pull in some dinner or spend a little time relaxing on our floating raft. Your getaway week takes place on 2 private wooded acres in the heart of the Apalachicola National Forest. Coming in by plane... we are about an hour drive from the Tallahassee International Airport.



Explore our Interactive Map!