

































HOME

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Megatrends Defining Travel in 2018, presented by Skift

March 2018

Learn about Megatrends Defining Travel in 2018 during this VISIT FLORIDA analyst conference call hosted by Skift. Every year, Skift's research team gathers to discuss the big-picture themes emerging in travel. This 2018 Megatrends report represents their largest annual editorial effort to date. Join us as we explore the top 5 megatrends that may relate to your brand,

Restricted to Marketing Partners.

Cyber Security Trends and Best Practices for 2018

February 2018

Cyber security refers to the prevention methods used to protect information from being stolen, compromised or attacked. During this webinar, you will learn: Why cyber security matters to your business; About costs associated with security breaches; Tips to improve your security immediately; How to manage risks associated with cyber security and social media.

Florida Vacation Auction: Benefits of Participation

February 2018

Fiorida Vacation Auction is on online consumer auction where individuals bid on and purchase great Florida travel packages. During this webinar you will learn how to participate as a travel provider and how participation could grow your exposure and business. Hear details on the benefits you can expect to receive and learn how participation could grow your online presence and marketing efforts, with no out of pocket expense.

U.S. Experiential Traveler Trends 2018, presented by Skift

January 2018

Join VISIT FLORIDA for an analyst conference call hosted by Skift. During the presentation, Skift discussed findings from the U.S. Experiential Traveler Trends 2018 report and presented detailed research into the mindset of the modern traveler. Experiential travel is more than just the hot new term; it's the thinking and behavior of current consumer travel wants. Learn about the mindset of the experiential traveler.

Restricted to Marketing Partners.

How-to Video: Manage Web Listings



Partner-to-Partner Specials

Take advantage of special offers and discounts from VISIT FLORIDA Partners







- Don't resist technology as "inauthentic"
- Digital research and planning are an enjoyable part of the full visitor experience
- Websites and Video are more useful than ever, and video should be "front and center"





Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway











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River of Lakes Heritage Corridor

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River of Lakes Heritage Corridor

1,006 views • 3 years ago

http://rolhc.org

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The ACE Family

SUBSCRIBE



5-Minute Crafts

SUBSCRIBE



Inside Edition

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Popular uploads PLAY ALL



Central Florida Zoo & **Botanical Gardens**



Sanford Art Walk 2.3K views • 3 years ago



DeBary Hall 1.9K views • 3 years ago



Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge



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Lucas and Marcus

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St. Johns River Eco Tours



Athens Theatre



DeLand House



SkyDive DeLand



DeBary Hall



Reptile Discovery Center



Lyonia Preserve









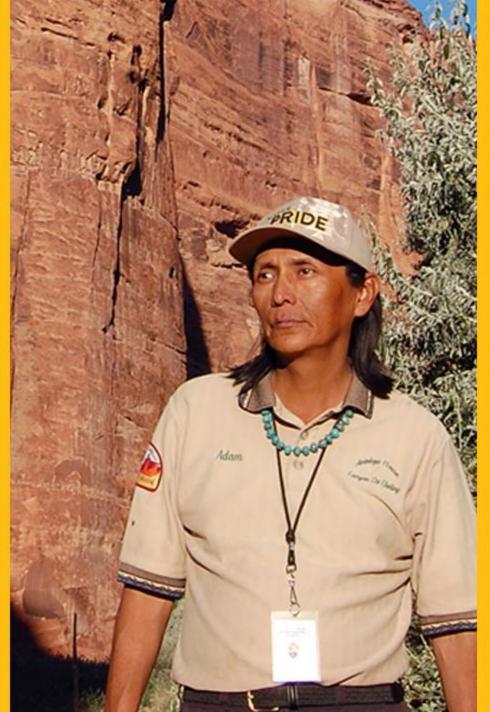


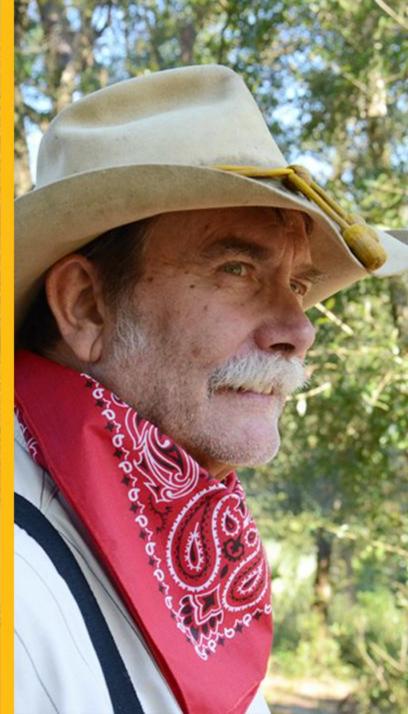
FOUNDING THE FLORIDA TRAIL













ASK A BLACK BEAR



ASK A BLACK BEAR



Riding Into Bear Country

by Tom Rose

When I heard that the portion of State Road 40 that runs East from Silver Springs, through The Ocala National Forest to Ormond Beach, FL had been officially designated *The Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway* I knew that there would have to be a ride.

Read More...



Exploring the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway

By Chris Kincaid

I am frequently asked, "What is there to do around here?"... While Florida often brings visions of white beaches and blue ocean water, central Florida offers vast forest lands, and extensive freshwater rivers, lakes and wetland areas. It's difficult to pick a favorite, but here are a few suggestions. Read More...





RIDING INTO BEAR COUNTRY



Tom Rose



Tom Rose is a freelance journalist specializing in outdoor, adventure and motor sports stories. His work has appeared in Rider Magazine, Florida Wildlife, Outdoor Adventures, Motorcycle Classics and many other national and regional publications.

RIDING INTO BEAR COUNTRY

66 High on the mountain tell me what you see
Bear tracks bear tracks lookin' back at me
Better get your rifle boy before it's too late
Cause the bear's got a little pig and headed through the gate
He's big around the middle and he's broad across the rump
Runnin' ninety miles an hour takin' thirty feet a jump
Ain't never been caught he ain't never been treed
And some folks say he looks a lot like me

TRACKING THE BLACK BEAR



Cathy Connolly



Cathy Speidel Connolly works for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in the Bear Management Program. She started out in the Bear Response program in 2001 and in 2009 was hired by FWC Bear Management.

TRACKING THE BLACK BEAR

Where are you most likely to see a Black Bear in Florida? The Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway runs right through the middle of the Ocala National Forest. The Ocala National Forest is home to more bears than any other area in the state of Florida. The Forest has approximately 1200 bears living in and around it. I have been fortunate with my job to encounter a great number of bears over the years. There is no reason why you shouldn't be able to find where the bears are.



Many of the Forest roads cut off of SR19 and SR40. They are dirt roads and are easy to access. The roads are identifiable by a brown sign with numbers. The best times to travel these roads are very early in the morning and just before dark. The bears are most active during these times. However, in the fall when they are eating constantly to store up for the cooler days ahead, you can spot them at all times of the day and night.





Among my Tribe in Sanford

by Cherie Dacko

Stroll the sidewalks any time during the day or night in historic downtown Sanford, Florida, and you are likely to cross paths with a nationally known artist. Filmmakers, sculptors, musicians, photographers, folk artists, writers and painters are all drawn to this waterfront community for its live-and-let-live vibe...

READ MORE



Lost in War and Time

by Larry French

The headlands and tributaries of the River of Lakes Heritage Corridor are stuffed with historical treasures just waiting rediscovery. Over time, the overall appearance of the landscape has changed as forests have matured, been removed, or begun anew...

READ MORE





EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

Our Byways in the top navigation of the site reveals links to all scenic byways in Florida, sorted by region.

You can also find a byway by location visually and navigate to a byway page by selecting the map at the right. This will open a larger map.

Each byway page has more information and an interactive map with directions to gateway locations on each byway.

We encourage you to use the byway mans to start or plan your trip via



FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAYS PROGRAM
Real Places. Real Stories.

EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

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EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

EXF

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PANHANDLE REGION

Scenic Highway 30A

Big Bend Scenic Highway

Pensacola Scenic Bluffs

NORTHERN REGION

A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway

Old Florida Heritage Highway

William Bartram Scenic & Historic Highway

J.C. Penney Memorial Scenic Highway

Heritage Crossroads: Miles of History

A1A Ocean Islands Trail

CENTRAL REGION

Bradenton Beach Scenic Highway

Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway

Florida Black Bear National Scenic Byway

Green Mountain Scenic Byway

Indian River Lagoon National Scenic Byway

Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail

Palma Sola Scenic Highway

River of Lakes Heritage Corridor

Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway

Suncoast Scenic Parkway

The Ridge Scenic Highway

SOUTHERN REGION

Martin Grade Scenic Highway

Indian River Lagoon - Treasure Coast

Broward County A1A Scenic Highway

Florida Keys Scenic Highway

Lemon Bay/Myakka Trail Scenic Highway

Tamiami Trail - Windows to the Gulf Coast

EXPLORE THE COLLECTION

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FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAYS & BYWAYS

Often times Florida Scenic Highways will be referred to as "byways" or "highways." On this site, those terms are interchangeable. We use the word "byway" more often, because it brings to mind the road less traveled, and full of stories. Please see the Florida Scenic Highways Program Overview for more info about what makes a Florida Scenic Highway (or byway).







RECENT POSTS / VIEW ALL POSTS



A1A Scenic & Historic Coastal Byway Recognizes their Volunteers of the Year



Remembering Pilaklikaha

On April 10, 2018, Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway and the Sumter Historical Society celebrated the dedication of the official state historic marker for

BYWAY EVENTS



Thunder On Cocoa Beach

May 16 - May 20

Westgate Cocoa Beach Pier



Florida Jam

May 19 @ 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Sunset Cove Amphitheater



SummerFest Grape Stomp

June 8 @ 10:00 am - June 10 @ 5:00 pm

Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards

View More...

QUICK LINKS

- Scenic Highways Overview
- Photo & Video Galleries
- Byway Buzz
- Contact Us
- Media Kit
- Site Map

Select Language •

TWITTER FEED

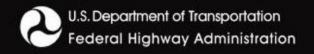


FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAYS IS A PROGRAM OF FDOT

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FDOT



The Ridge Scenic Highway

Byway Length: 39 Miles

Designated: February 16, 2005

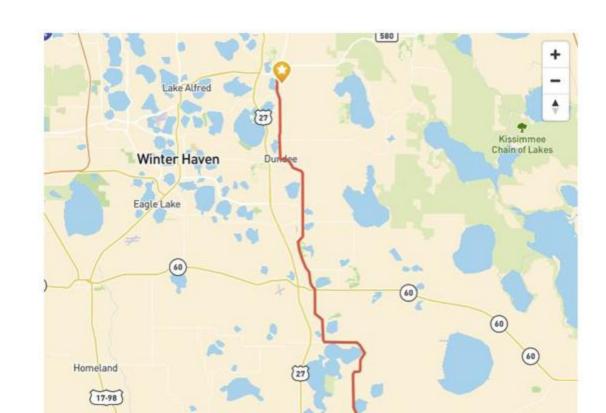
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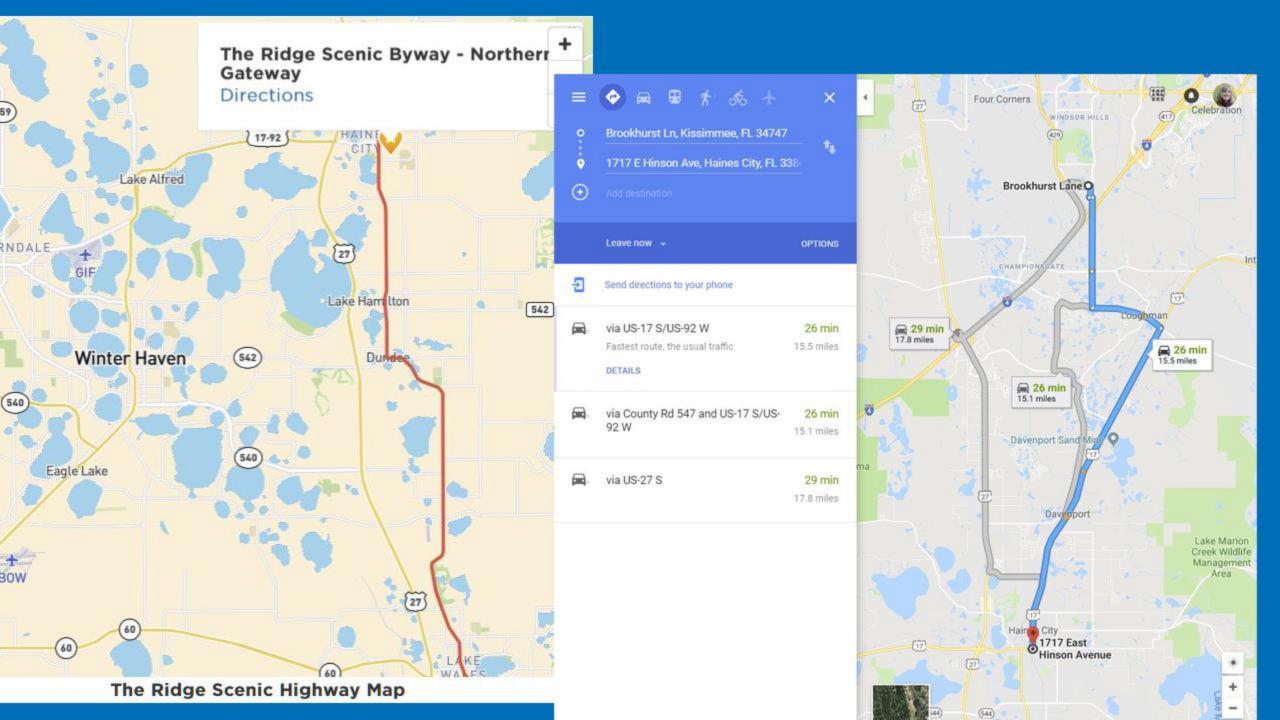
OVERVIEW

Located in Polk County in the center of the state, **The Ridge Scenic Byway** along US 17 extends 38.7 miles along the Lake Wales Ridge, from its intersection with US 27 south of Frostproof to Haines City and its intersection with US 17/92.

Winding along the Lake Wales Ridge, SR 17 provides scenic vistas and access to lakes, natural areas, citrus agricultural fields and unique Florida attractions. A trip along **The Ridge Scenic Byway** will provide you with a taste of what Florida was like in the early 1900s.

Enjoy the sight of the historic communities and rural agricultural areas for which Central Florida is famous. Winding along the Lake Wales Ridge, the byway offers scenic vistas and access to lakes, natural areas, citrus agricultural fields, and many other unique Florida attractions. The byway corridor flows through the historic







Printable Byway Maps

These maps are available on each individual byway page. We gathered them here for quick use.

PANHANDLE REGION

- Scenic Highway 30A
- Big Bend Scenic Highway
- Pensacola Scenic Bluffs

NORTHERN REGION

- A1A Scenic Historic Coastal Byway
- Old Florida Heritage Highway
- William Bartram Scenic Historic Highway
- J.C. Penney Memorial Scenic Highway
- Heritage Crossroads: Miles of History
- A1A Ocean Islands Trail

CENTRAL REGION

- Bradenton Beach Scenic Highway
- Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway

FDOT



Photo & Video Galleries

FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAYS OVERVIEW VIDEOS





PANHANDLE REGION









STEPHANIE FRASER GALLERY















Big Bend Scenic Highway Photo Gallery



VISIT FLORIDA GALLERY

In 2015, Visit Florida featured a series of articles about our Florida Scenic Highways. A different photographer took photos of each byway as part of this project, giving us a wonderful window on each byway. Big Bend Scenic Highway was photographed by Colin Hackley. All images are copyrighted by Colin Hackley and Visit Florida, and cannot be used for any other purpose than this gallery.







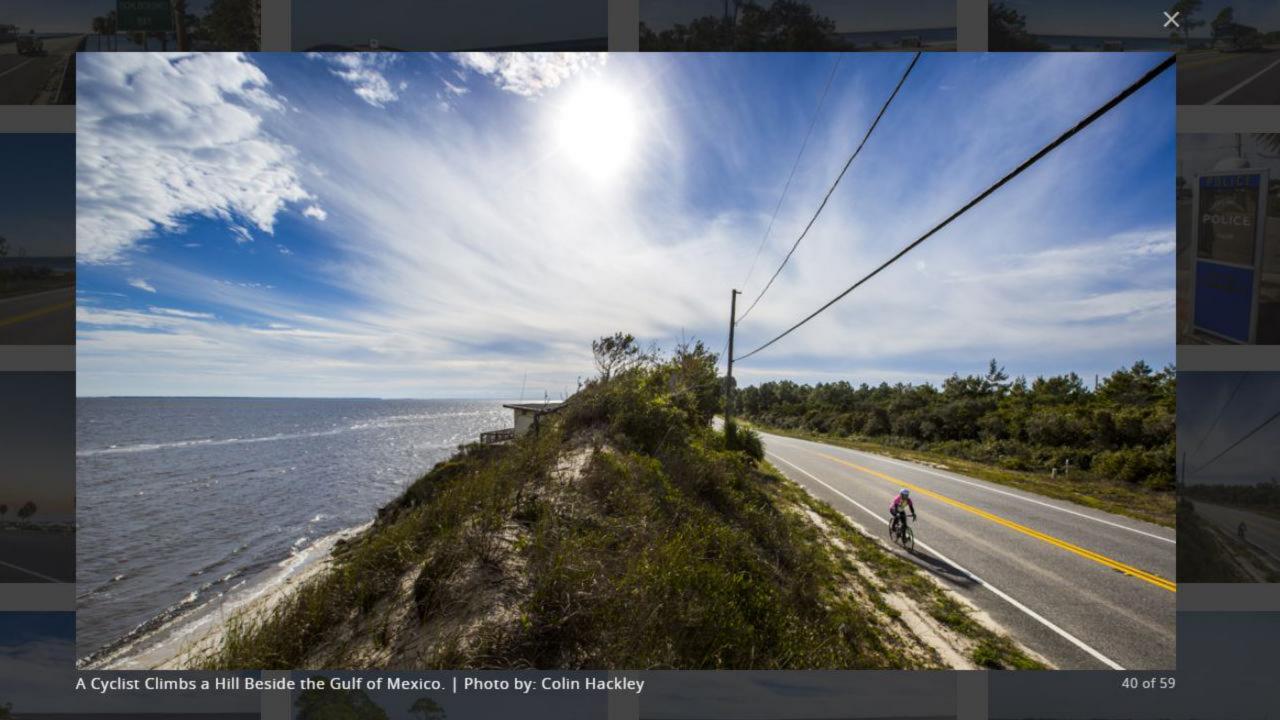
















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Boca Grande Causeway at the South end of the Scenic Highway | Photo by: Luis Santana



Florida Scenic
Highways Program
@FloridaScenicHighways

Home





Learn More 🖍



Lemon Bay/Myakka Trail Scenic Highway was designated on this date in 2008 - Happy Birthday!

http://ow.ly/Zx1B30j6t18... See More





Lemon Bay/Myakka Trail Scenic Byway
Designation: April 9, 2008



Florida Scenic Highways Program

Published by Hootsuite [?] · May 7 at 9:05pm · ❸

Florida Jam 20405 Amphitheater Cir, Boca Raton, FL 33428 May 19th 4-11 pm http://ow.ly/KdqL30jRjfo #FLScenic

#RealFL ... See More



Highlighted Event along Broward County A1A Scenic Highway

Florida Jam Music Festival May 19, 4-11 pm



Real Places. Real Stories ...



Florida Scenic Highways Program shared a post. Published by Stephanie Liskey [?] · Yesterday at 3:12pm · @

Tips on dealing with a pesky adversary of FL tourists and fun-lovers

GENERAL STORE

30A

Yesterday at 11:09am · 🚱

THEY'RE BAAAAAACK!!!! ...and here's what you can do about it: 30A.com/yellow-flies



llow Flies - 30A

year again in Florida... yellow flies gs with a very painful bite have here during the summer to annoy...

Listen, I want to tell you about the prettiest mile in Florida. Seriously, you can trust me on this, because I'm a trained observer. But don't go blabbing it to everybody, because it's still one o...

FLORIDAVELOCIPEDE.WORDPRESS.COM



* Interested









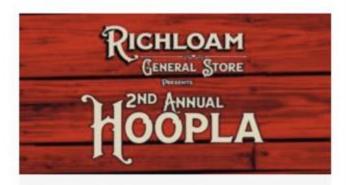
Upcoming Events

« Previous Events » Next Events »

Thunder On Cocoa Beach

May 16 - May 20

River of Lakes Heritage Corridor • Dates May 16, 2018 - May 20, 2018 (Recurring daily) • Time Various times each day of event. • Admission \$20 - \$60 •...



Richloam General Store 2nd Annual Hoopla

June 23 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway Join us
for our 2nd Annual Hoopla where we will
be unveiling our Historic Marker. We will
also have Guest Speaker Matt Caldwell,
live music by...



Florida Jam



SummerFest Grape Stomp

June 8 @ 10:00 am - June 10 @ 5:00 pm
Green Mountain Scenic Byway Kick off
your summer of fun with our
SUMMERFEST GRAPE STOMP
celebration! Bring the family and do the
purple foot dance with the ever popular
grape...









Tour Highlights

All designated Florida Scenic Highways have beauty, and we invite you to explore the full collection if possible. Tourism is an important element of the program and each byway offers a unique byway story just waiting for exploration!

The byway organizations listed here are a great place to start for a traveler new to the **Florida Scenic Highways** collection because they have the most information available about tourism. Other byways may be a little more off the beaten path, but all are unique and regionally significant.

J.C. PENNEY MEMORIAL SCENIC HIGHWAY



These images give some idea of what it's like

- Byway Website: jcpenneyscenichighway.or
- > Byway Tour Information: Tour Brochure
- Learn More about J.C. Penney Memorial Sc

OLD FLORIDA HERITAGE HIGHWAY



The first image on the left is a Great Egret at Payne's Prairie, second is the Wood & Swink US Post Office in Evinston, third is bicycle riders at Mosswood Farm Store.

- > Byway Website: scenicus441.com
- > Byway Tour Information: Online Tour Itineraries
- > Byway Video: Creating Respect for People and Place
- > Learn More about Old Florida Heritage Highway





Associated Florida Resources

Here is a list of some of the most helpful general references apart from this site for the lover of Florida Byways. To dig deeper, visit each individual byway page on this site for highlighted county, nature and tourism links applicable to each byway.

TOURISM



VISIT FLORIDA: www.visitflorida.com

Your one stop shop for all things Florida ... places to go, things to do, culture, fishing, food, golf, parks, trails, vacations.



Florida Green Guide Association: www.FloridaGreenGuide.org

Florida Green Guide Association (FGGA) provides experienced Guides to help you plan your adventure. Their guides offer a vast array of cultural heritage and nature based experiences including: hiking, birding, beach walking, camping, fishing, kayaking, wildflower viewing, fresh water spring and creek tours and even nature based art and photography.

ON THE ROAD



America's Byways on the Federal Highway Administration Site: www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways

America's Byways is the umbrella term we use for the collection of 150 distinct and diverse roads designated by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. America's Byways include the National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads. America's Byways are gateways to adventures where no two experiences are the same.



FDOT Traveler Links

Florida Scenic Highways is a program of the Florida Department of Transportation. Here are some helpful links provided by FDOT to help the Florida visitor or resident with travel in Florida.

MAIN FDOT TRAVELER PAGE

Here is the quick link to many of the Florida Department of Transportation's most useful links. For a full listing of all quicklinks on the FDOT site, visit this link. Other links on this page are highlights selected for the Florida Scenic Byway traveler.

Main Reference Page for Travelers & Commuters

FLORIDA TRAVEL GUIDES

Our affiliate Visit Florida has many great specific travel guides that will complement many byway excursions.

http://www.visitflorida.com/en-us/travel-guides.html

FDOT AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM

The Department understands our duty to provide accessibility for users of our services, programs and facilities, including those who have disabilities. FDOT's ADA/Accessibility Program is managed by the statewide ADA Coordinator in Tallahassee and implemented by District ADA coordinators and project managers throughout the seven FDOT Districts and the Florida Turnpike Enterprise. The goal of the FDOT ADA/Accessibility Program is to be the most accessible state highway system in the country.

http://www.fdot.gov/designsupport/ADA/default.shtm

ROAD RANGERS SERVICE PATROL

For Road Ranger assistance dial *347 (FHP)

The Road Ranger Mission is to provide free highway assistance services during incidents to reduce delay and improve safety for the motoring public and responders. Since the program's inception in the year 2000, the Road Rangers have made over 4.3 million service assists with more





Find rest areas along Florida roadways.

http://www.fdot.gov/agencyresources/maps/facilities/

FLORIDA HIGHWAY MILEAGE CALCULATOR

Calculate the mileage from city to city in Florida.

http://fdotewp1.dot.state.fl.us/CityToCityMileage/viewera.aspx

TURNPIKE TOLL CALCULATOR APP

http://www.floridasturnpike.com/

FDOT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Contacts and information for planning for severe weather and other emergencies in FLorida.

http://www.fdot.gov/EmergencyManagement/

SUNPASS VISITOR TIPS

https://www.sunpass.com/index

NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER

Quick information and updates about the latest storms brewing near Florida.

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/

FLORIDA MISSING ENGDANGERED PERSONS INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE

The Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) is the central repository of information regarding missing endangered persons in Florida. MEPIC assists law enforcement agencies and Florida's citizens in finding missing persons by providing analytical services and engaging the public in the search.

http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/MCICSearch/

FLORIDA 511 ALERTS

Check for traffic and contruction issues, including live roadway views.

FLORIDA AIRPORTS

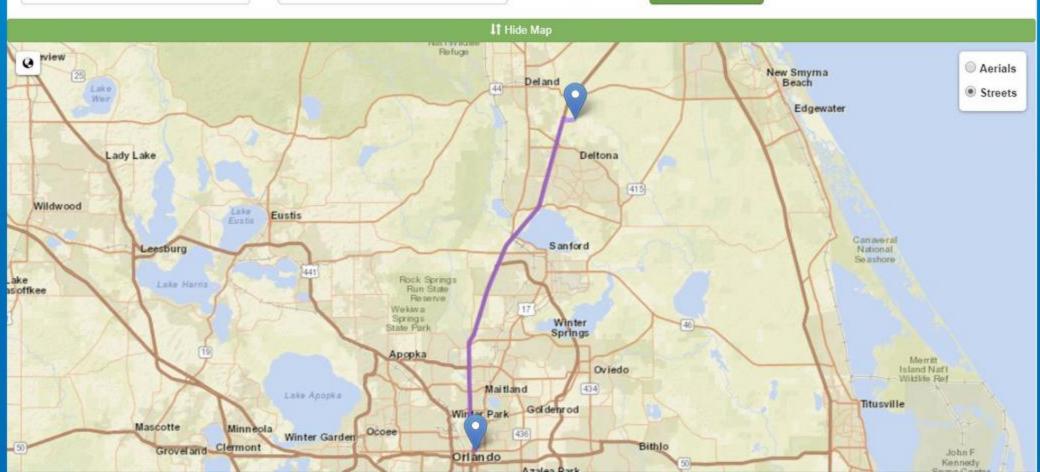
Search for airports by county.

Florida Department of TRANSPORTATION

Home About FDOT Contact Us Offices Maps & Data Performance Projects

FDOT Official Highway Mileage Viewer









Trip Cost: \$0.00

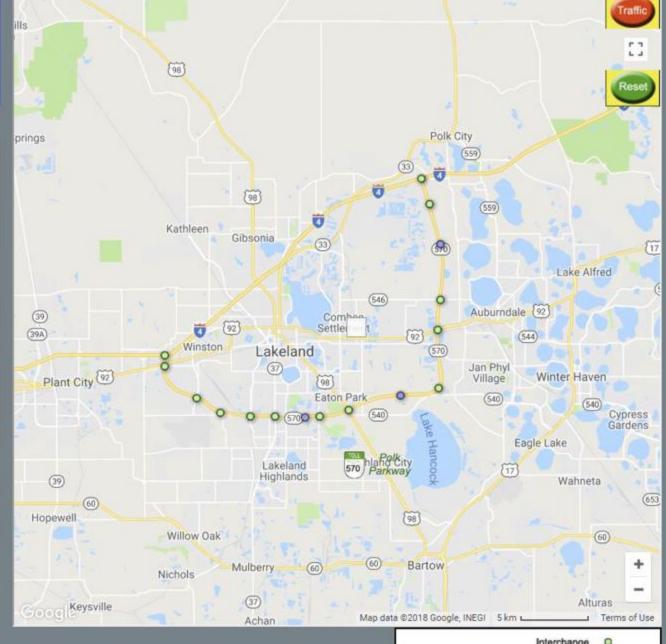
▶ Payment Options

End Point:

- ▶ Toll Violation Info
- ▶ Construction Info
- ▶ Toll Calculator Instructions



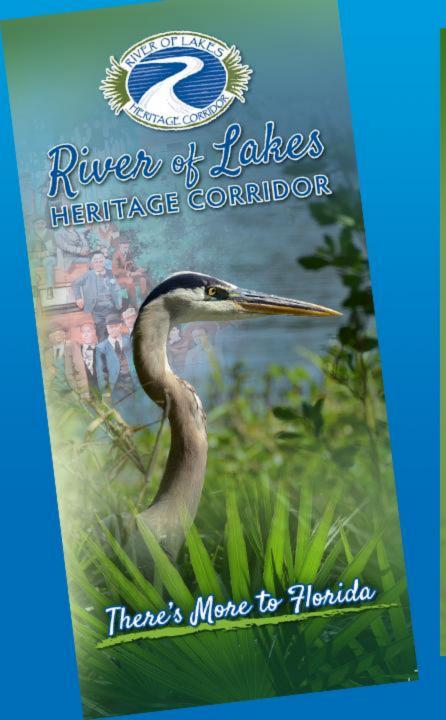
Supported Browsers IE10 or newer. Firefox and Chrome



Toll rates effective as of October 29, 2017

Please note that the toll values shown in this application are the same as the toll rates displayed at each respective toll collection location on the Tumpike system, which are shown via roadway signs and toll tickets. In the unlikely event that there

Map Legend Mainline Toll Point
Service Plaza



Food Storage Order

It is illegal to feed bears or to intentionally leave food out in an attempt to attract them.

Bears are in a constant search for food, therefore they are often drawn to the scents of our food. Human foods are unhealthy for bears; and they quickly become dependent on an easy food source. As they become more comfortable eating human food, they become at ease with humans, thus leading to bear-human conflicts which endanger bears and people.

You may not possess, store or leave any food, refuse or any bear attractant unless it is:

- Properly stored in a bear-resistant container
- Suspended at least 10 feet clear of the ground and 4 feet horizontally from any other pole or tree adjacent to the supporting tree
- Stored in a closed motor vehicle with a hard top
- You may not bury or burn any food or bear attractant - use bear-resistant receptacles or take it with you.

Bears are attracted to:

) food

-) game meat
-) beverages
- > carcass part
-) cooking grease
- toothpaste
- bird seed
-) toiletries
- > livestock feed

soap

garbage

Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway Mission Statement

"Our mission is to enhance, encourage, and promote the preservation and protection of the outstanding natural, ecological, cultural and historical resources of the Black Bear Scenic Byway for its residents, inhabitants, visitors and future generations."



For questions or to report problems related to the Florida Black Bear, please contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission office:

FWC Northeast Region | 1239 S.W. 10th St. Ocala, Florida 34471-0323 | 352,732,1225

On nights/weekends, call Wildlife Alert: 888.404.3922

For questions on the food storage order or the Ocala National Forest, please contact:

Lake George Ranger District: 352.625.2520 or Seminole Ranger District: 352.669.3153





www.floridablackbearscenicbyway.org

Respecting & Coexisting with Bears on the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway

Bear Country

Ursus americanus floridanus

