

## City of Tallahassee and Leon County Real Florida Guide

**Note**: Numbers correspond with those on map, addresses can be used in a GPS or smartphone to navigate the city.

The Tallahassee area caters to a number of interest, having state and local parks, museums, and many diverse recreational and educational locations, the capital city aims to please all. Tallahassee area lodging, camping, and bed and breakfast information is available through <u>Visit Tallahassee</u>. Each day of this guide is divided by theme but can be changed and rearranged to meet different needs.

## Day One, Visit State or Local Parks and Trails

Tallahassee offers a number of diverse parks for visitors with facilities at each location. Choose from the following parks for either one or multiple days in the capital city. For more detailed information on area parks and trails, explore the <u>Visit Tallahassee</u> website and <u>trailahassee.com</u>.

- Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park (1) First planted in 1923, this masterpiece of floral architecture features biking, hiking, and equestrian trails, brick walkways along scenic and well maintained garden paths, canoeing, picnic areas,
  - swimming, fishing, and other festivals throughout the year. Self-guided tour maps are available at the park entrance, with some guided tours offered during peak blooming season on Saturdays and Sundays, depending on staff availability. Address: 3540 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32309. Phone: (850) 487-4556.
- Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park (2) With over 670 acres available for soccer and





baseball, wildlife viewing, hiking, biking, and horse-back riding, this park has extensive opportunities for outdoor enthusiast. Located adjacent to Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park, Lake Jackson, and off of one of Meridian Rd., one of Leon County's Canopy Roads, this park offers the ability to escape from Tallahassee's urban setting and get into the great outdoors of the Florida Panhandle. The park is home to the Red Hills International Horse Trails, an Olympic qualify-

ing equestrian event. Park address: 4000 N. Meridian Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32308. Phone: (850) 891-3866.

- Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park (3) Located just off of N. Monroe, this state park holds what is known as the Southeastern Ceremonial Complex. The park encompasses four earthen temple mounds, with two available for viewing by the public. The largest mound is 278 feet by 312 feet at the base and approximately 36 feet in height. The village at the base of these mounds was a cultural, religious and population center in 1100-1200 AD. Trails located within the park offer hiking opportunities through remnants of Florida's Territorial Period and early statehood (1825-1860) when the land was part of a large plantation owned by Colonel Robert Butler. Address: 3600 Indian Mounds Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32303. Phone: (850) 922-6007.
- Cascades Park and Capital City Amphitheatre (4) Tallahassee's newest park and community amphitheater has a number of different opportunities to relax, play, or exercise. Miles of trail lie within the exterior and interior of the park for walking or biking, with beautiful natural features that make for an enjoyable outdoor experience in an urban setting. The Imagination Fountain also offers an opportunity to cool down with shaded seating supporting picnicking when warmer temperatures are often present in summer afternoons. Be sure to check out the Korean War Me-



morial when visiting the different sites throughout the park. Park address: 1001 S. Gadsden St., Tallahassee, FL 32301.

- Miccosukee Greenway (5) The Miccosukee Greenway is a linear park running one of Leon County's <u>Canopy Roads</u>. This greenway hosts mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians on its 45-acre upland hickory-oak-pine forest stand. The greenway has limited locations for potable water and some benches, so come prepared for a day on the trail! Tallahassee, FL 32308. Phone: 850-606-1470. Trailhead entrances are 5948 Miccosukee Rd., 4500 Miccosukee Rd., 4996 Crump Rd., and 2105 Fleischmann Rd.
- Tom Brown Park (6) One of the largest parks in the capitol city has many different exciting features and opportunities for recreation. Whether you want to bike, hike, kayak or canoe, play disc golf, use one of the many sports fields, dog parks, or other facilities, be sure to prepare for a full day of fun. Tom Brown is known for its extensive and well maintained bike trails that range in difficulty from easy to expert, especially the Cadillac and Magnolia Trail. These trails also connect to the Lafayette Heritage Trail Park, which offers even more opportunities for hiking and biking (4900 Heritage Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32311). The Lafayette Heritage Trail Park also connects to the Lafayette Passage Paddling Trail, a good recreational opportunity to fish for Bass and some Bream or just paddle on Piney Z or Lafayette



Lake. Boat launch for this paddling trail is located at Lafayette Heritage Trail Park. Address for Tom Brown Park: 330 Easterwood Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32311. Phone: (850) 891-FUNN (3866).

Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad
 State Trail (7) - The 20.5 mile Tallahassee-St.
 Marks Historic Railroad State Trail runs from the capital city to the coastal community of St. Marks.
 This leisurely cruise on a paved, off road path



crosses many different parks within Leon and Wakulla County until you reach the southern terminus of the trail in the city of St. Marks. The Trail also connects to the Munson and Twilight Mountain Bike Trails, this trail network of 21 miles is frequented by riders of all skill types. For more opportunities to visit areas south of Tallahassee, visit the Wakulla State Park Itinerary. Main state trailhead address: 4778 Woodville Highway Tallahassee, FL 32305. Phone: (850) 922-6007.



## Day Two, Tallahassee Museums and Historical Sites

• <u>The Tallahassee Museum</u> (8) —The Tallahassee Museum is one of city's best locations to learn about wildlife in the panhandle while engaging in many other non-traditional city activities. The museum houses hundreds of various animals in



a protected and spacious environment, while offering plenty of room to walk around at ground level, on boardwalks, and above ground on the Tree to Tree zip line tour. The museum is often home to panthers, bears, reptiles, and other species that normally must be searched for, or can no longer be found in the natural environment. The museum also conducts conservation research and host numerous activities

throughout the year. Check the museums website for hours and tour information. Address: 3945 Museum Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32310. Phone: (850) 575-8684

Mission San Luis de Apalachee (9) – Commonly referred to as "Mission San Luis", the only reconstructed Spanish mission in Florida, brings visitors back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. This village served a number of purposes during its establishment,



with staff often are re-enacting the Spaniard life through ongoing exhibits, maintenance of the area, and other scripted re-enactments. The Mission is a designated National Historic Landmark and has recently undergone significant renovations to expand the learning opportunities at the site. Please note the locations operating days and hours, Tuesday to Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Address: 2100 W. Tennessee St., Tallahassee, FL. Phone: (850) 245-6406.

- Museum of Florida History (10) The Museum of Florida History offers a number of permanent and temporary exhibits on location, which also sits adjacent to the Florida World War II Memorial. Museum exhibits consist of wartime memorials, models of the state's popular ships, and Florida history from 1513
  - to 1821. The museum also houses artifacts from the native inhabitants. Educational tours and opportunities are available by request, within the museum's limited operating hours. Address: 500 S. Bronough Tallahassee, FL 32399. Phone: (850) 245-6400.
- Knott House Museum (11) Known as "the House that Rhymes," the Knott House Museum is a cultural and historical house located in Downtown Tallahassee, near the Florida Capitol. The museum has served as a Union Headquarters during the Civil War, and as a home to America's first African American Physician, Dr. George Betton, Supreme Court justices, and other dignitaries. Please check the museum website for guided tour information, and while admission is free, donations are accepted. Address: 301 E. Park Ave. Tallahassee, FL 32301. Phone: (850) 922-2459.
- John G. Riley Museum of African American History and Culture (12) The Riley House and Museum sits between Meridian and Jefferson Streets. According to its website, "The Riley historic home represents the thriving black neighborhood, known as Smokey Hollow, which once existed in what is just east of downtown Tallahassee." The museum serves a place of preservation for the panhandle's Native, African American, and European History, and helps preserve other historical



places throughout the state. The museum's programs enshrine the educational and social contributions that African Americans have made to Florida's History. Address: 419 E. Jefferson St., Tallahassee, FL 32301. Phone: (850) 681-7881).

- Goodwood Museum (13) The Goodwood Museum and Gardens is a historical home constructed in the 1830s by Hardy Croom, a botanist from North Carolina. The architecture of the home reflects some of the earliest of the antebellum style homes, with some of the state's first fresco ceilings. The gardens at the museum have been restored to their original layout and presentation, while the house itself features fine furniture and art pieces from the last inhabitants of the home. Flowers bloom throughout most of the year, excluding the hottest of summer months, which varies depending on climate patterns. Address: 1600 Miccosukee Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32308. Phone: (850) 877-4202.
- Bradley's Country Store (14) Standing as it did in 1927, Bradley's Country
  Store is home to some of the best smoked sausage found throughout the entire
  southeast. The store has been listed on the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>



since 1984 and boast "rustic simplicity and dedication to quality that was the keystone of the operation Grandma Mary Bradley began in 1910, when she sold sausage from her own kitchen". Bradley's is located down Centerville Rd., another one of Tallahassee's Canopy Roads. Address: 10655 Centerville Road Tallahassee, FL 32309.

Phone: (850) 893-4742

## **Day Three – Learn about Florida's Government**

• The Governor's Mansion (15) – The "People's House" houses the First Family of Florida, and has housed 13 first families. Before the original mansion was built,



many governors found themselves staying at hotels and boarding rooms. The Governor's House architecture style is Greek Revival, and is the second mansion to be built in honor of the position. Guided tours are available throughout the year, with limited availability at select times. A Legislative Commission has been put in Florida Law to ensure that the grounds and structures are maintained in a way consistent with the original character of the Mansion. The property recently received a "green makeover" to utilize renewable energy resources for the Mansion facilities. Address: 700 N. Adams St, Tallahassee, FL \$2303. Phone: (850) 922-4991 or 717-9345

- Florida Historic Capitol Museum (16) Restored to 1902, when all three branches of government occupied the statehouse, the Historic Capitol Museum offers self-guided or accompanied tours and virtual tours. Located in Florida's third Capitol building, construction was complete in 1845 and it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Prior to construction of this Greek Revival building Territorial Florida's statehouse was a log cabin. The Historic Capitol houses exhibits and multimedia documenting Florida's political history and the Florida Legislative Research Library. Architectural highlights include the elaborate art glass dome, red and white striped awnings, and a representation of the Florida State Seal over the entry columns. While admission is free, donations are accepted. Address: 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100. Phone: (850)-487-1902.
- Florida State Capitol (17)— Located next to the Historic Capitol Museum is the current Florida State Capitol Building, which served as a marvel of its time as it connected three House, Senate, and Knott Office Buildings to the main tower where the House and Senate Chambers reside. Self-guided and accompanied tours are available in the building, but during the months of legislative session, typically March and April, reservations should be made well in advance. Special tours of the House and Senate can be made by your representative. When in the capitol, visit the 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor Capitol Gallery to get a 360° view of the city and Florida themed



art exhibits. To see what's currently on view, check the <u>exhibition calendar</u>. The Florida Welcome Center is located on the West Plaza level in the Capitol. Address: 400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL. 32399-1100. Phone (850) 488-6167.

• Florida Supreme Court (18) – Overseeing the entire Court System for the state, the Florida Supreme Court serves as a place of learning about how the legislative and executive levels of government interact with the judicial branch. A number of different art pieces are housed within the court building, with tours and educational workshops also available by scheduling an appointment. Address: 500 S. Duval St., Tallahassee, FL 32399. Phone (850) 414-8950



