

# Free LOCAL AREA Guide

## Orange County, FL



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Orange County

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# Local Area Events

## JANUARY

- ▶ Annual Camellia Show - Winter Park
- ▶ Annual Unity Heritage Festival - Winter Park
- ▶ BBQ Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr - Winter Garden
- ▶ Cruz-N-Car Show - (3rd Sat)- Winter Garden
- ▶ Festival of the Arts - (Thru Feb) -Orlando
- ▶ Fridays on the Plaza - Year Round (Fridays) - Winter Garden
- ▶ Get Down Downtown - Year Round - Maitland
- ▶ Maitland Farmers Market -(Sundays) - Year Round
- ▶ Maitland PD Family Fun Day
- ▶ Martin Luther King Jr Celebration - Orlando
- ▶ Park Ave 5K - Winter Park
- ▶ Rock The Universe - Orlando
- ▶ Three Kings Celebrations - Orlando
- ▶ Wesleys Annual Virtual Walk - Winter Garden
- ▶ Winter Garden Farmers Market - Year Round

## FEBRUARY

- ▶ Blues & BBQ - Winter Garden
- ▶ Food & Wine Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Inva 5K- Winter Park
- ▶ Magic 5K, 1 Mile & Kids Run - Orlando
- ▶ Mardi Gras Celebrations - Orlando
- ▶ Resonate Festival - Winter Park
- ▶ Senior Prom 55+ - Winter Park
- ▶ Seven Seas Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Silver Spurs Rodeo - Orlando
- ▶ Take Over the Trails Day - Winter Garden
- ▶ Valentines Day Celebrations - Orlando
- ▶ Winter Garden Music Festival

## MARCH

- ▶ Annual Celtic Festival - Winter Garden
- ▶ Apopka Fair
- ▶ Community Garage Sales - Winter Park
- ▶ Evening at the Pops - Winter Garden
- ▶ Florida Strawberry Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Flower & Garden Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Mad Soul Music & Art Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Orlando Philharmonic Spring Pops - Winter Park
- ▶ St. Paddies Day Winter Garden Community Pickleball Fest
- ▶ St. Patricks Day Parade - Winter Park
- ▶ Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival

## APRIL

- ▶ Apopka Art & Foliage Festival
- ▶ Bike to Work Day - Orlando
- ▶ Chalkin' it Up Sidewalk Art Contest - Winter Garden
- ▶ Cruz-n-Car Show - 3rd Saturday - Winter Garden
- ▶ Dog Fest - Winter Park
- ▶ Easter on the Avenue - Winter Park
- ▶ Maitland Jazz & Blues Festival
- ▶ Run for the Trees Jeanette Genius McKean Memorial 5K - Winter Park
- ▶ Spring Fever in the Garden - Winter Garden
- ▶ Winter Park Paint Out

## MAY

- ▶ Apopkas Emancipation Day
- ▶ Central Florida Railroad Museum Community Day - Winter Garden
- ▶ Community Clean Up Day - Maitland
- ▶ Memorial Day Celebration - Apopka & Winter Garden

## MAY (CONTD)

- ▶ Mothers Day Events - Orlando & Area Wide
- ▶ Shop, Dine & Stroll - Winter Garden
- ▶ Spring Clean up - Winter Park
- ▶ The Orlando Fringe
- ▶ Winter Park Wine & Jazz Experience

## JUNE

- ▶ Arts After Dark Market - Orlando
- ▶ Cruz-n-Car Show- #rd Saturday - Winter Garden
- ▶ Fathers Day Events - Orlando & Area Wide
- ▶ Juneteenth Celebrations - Area Wide
- ▶ Puerto Rican Day Parade & Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Top Choice Fine Arts Annual Awards Show - Winter Garden

## JULY

- ▶ 4th of July Fireworks & Celebrations - Orlando
- ▶ 4th of July Party in the Park - Winter Garden
- ▶ All American Kids Parade - Winter Garden
- ▶ Annual 4th of July Celebrations - Winter Park
- ▶ AstroFest - Orlando
- ▶ Back toSchool Bash - Orlando
- ▶ City of Apopka's 5th of July Celebrations
- ▶ City of Orland Parks & Rec City Celebration
- ▶ Christmas In July - Orlando
- ▶ Falun Dafa Event - Orlando
- ▶ Fireworks at the Fountain - Orlando
- ▶ Hot Freaks - Orlando
- ▶ Ice Cream Social - Winter Park
- ▶ Moofest Weekend - Orlando
- ▶ Orlando BalVinar Kid\$ Bi\$ Childrens
- ▶ Business Fair - Orlando
- ▶ Party in the Park & Fireworks - Winter Garden
- ▶ Tacos & Tequila Event - Orlando
- ▶ Viva Peru Fest - Orlando

## AUGUST

- ▶ Back to School Bash - Winter Garden
- ▶ BLK Joy Festival - Orlando
- ▶ DT Sidewalk Sales - Winter Garden
- ▶ International Food on Wheels Festival - Orlando
- ▶ Lake Nona Triathlon - Orlando
- ▶ Magical Dining Month - Orlando
- ▶ Monster Jam - Orlando
- ▶ Orlando Philharmonic Strings Serenade
- ▶ SWERV Block Party & Car Show - Orlando

## SEPTEMBER

- ▶ 911 Memorial Ceremony - Orlando
- ▶ Annual Labor Day 5K
- ▶ Blue Bamboo Jazz Festival - Winter Park
- ▶ Cruz-n-Car Show - Winter Garden
- ▶ Fall Community Expo - Maitland
- ▶ Halloween Horror Nights - Thru October - Orlando
- ▶ Hispanic Heritage Celebrations - Orlando
- ▶ Howl-O-Scream - Thru October - Orlando
- ▶ Lake Clean up Days - Orlando
- ▶ NatureFest at Oakland Nature Preserve - Winter Garden
- ▶ PCOS Awareness 5K Run - Orlando
- ▶ Sparkle & Shine 5K - Winter Park
- ▶ Sustainability & EV Car Show - Orlando

## OCTOBER

- ▶ Blossom Girl Community Clean Up - Orlando
- ▶ Crooked Can - Oktoberfest - Winter Garden
- ▶ Downtown Merchants host Trick or Treat Event - Winter Garden
- ▶ Fall Family Festival - Apopka
- ▶ Get Hooked Family Fishing Event - Winter Park
- ▶ Halloween Fest - Winter Garden
- ▶ Halloween in the Park - Apopka

## OCTOBER (CONTD)

- ▶ Halloween Spooktacular - Orlando
- ▶ Halloween Trunk Fest - Winter Park
- ▶ National Night Out Community Event - Winter Garden
- ▶ Saturday Sounds - Free Concerts - Thru May - Apopka
- ▶ Winter Garden Halloween Experience
- ▶ Winter Park Autumn Art Festival
- ▶ Winter Park Pumpkin Party
- ▶ Winter Park Rummage Sales
- ▶ Winter Park Trick or Treating
- ▶ ZORA Festival - Orlando

## NOVEMBER

- ▶ Apopka Tree Lighting
- ▶ Challenge 22 Annual Ruck Walk - Winter Garden
- ▶ City of Winter Garden Craft Affair
- ▶ Donut Dash 5k Walk/Run - Winter Garden
- ▶ Fall Clean Up - Winter Park
- ▶ FusionFest - Orlando
- ▶ Health & Harvest Festival - Winter Garden
- ▶ Jingle Eve - Orlando
- ▶ Maitland Rotary Festival
- ▶ Small Business Saturday - Area Wide
- ▶ Thanksgiving Events - Area Wide
- ▶ Veterans Day Ceremonies - Apopka & Winter Park
- ▶ Veterans Day Parade - Orlando

## DECEMBER

- ▶ A Merry Winter Garden Light Show
- ▶ Annual Winter Garden Christmas Golf Cart Parade
- ▶ Annual Winter Park Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting
- ▶ Apopka Christmas Parade
- ▶ Chanukah Celebrations & Menorah Lighting - Winter Garden
- ▶ Chanukah on the Park - Winter Park
- ▶ Christmas Eve Celebration - Winter Park
- ▶ Christmas Parade - Winter Garden
- ▶ Helping Others Holiday Open House - Winter Park
- ▶ Holiday POPS Free Concert - Apopka
- ▶ Horse Drawn Carriage Tours - Winter Gaden
- ▶ Light Up Hannibal Square - Winter Park
- ▶ Light Up Winter Garden
- ▶ Merry Tuba Christmas - Winter Park
- ▶ NYE Party - Orlando & Winter Park
- ▶ Rotary Club of Winter Park Holiday Boat Parade
- ▶ Santa Shift Open House - Winter Park

*\* Events are subject to change*

Administrative Services.....	407-836-7396
Airport.....	407-825-2001
Animal Services.....	407-836-3111
Board of County Commissioners.....	407-836-7350
Carrer Source Central FL.....	800-757-4598
Child Support.....	407-836-2059
Clerk of Courts.....	407-836-2000
Communications.....	407-836-7370
Community & Family Services.....	407-836-7658
Comptroller	Records.....407-836-5115
	Administration.....407-836-5690
Corrections.....	407-836-3560
County Attorney.....	407-836-7320
County Mayor.....	407-836-7370
Economic Trade & Tourism Development.....	407-836-7370
Elections Supervisor.....	407-836-2070
Emergency.....	911
Emergency Management.....	407-836-9140
Fire Rescue.....	407-836-2600
FDEP/FIDept.ofEnvironmentalProtection.....	850-245-2118
Jail / Inmate Services.....	407-836-3400
Judiciary.....	407-836-2050
Library.....	407-835-7323
License Services.....	407-434-0312
Medical Examiner.....	407-836-9400
Parks & Recreation.....	407-836-6200
Planning,Environmental & Development Services.....	407-836-5312
Public Works.....	407-836-7900
Sheriff Non Emergency.....	407-836-4357
Records.....	407-254-7280
UF/IFAS Extension.....	407-254-9200
Utilities.....	407-254-9900
Veterans Services.....	407-836-8990
Water, Garbage & Recycling.....	407-836-5515
Zoning.....	407-836-3111



In 1821, the transfer of Florida to the United States led Governor Andrew Jackson to establish two counties: Escambia, situated west of the Suwannee River, and St. Johns, located to the east. Twenty-three years later, the area south of St. Johns County was organized into Mosquito County, with Enterprise designated as its county seat. This vast county encompassed a significant portion of central Florida. When Florida gained statehood in 1845, Mosquito County was renamed Orange County, a nod to the citrus fruit that dominated the local agricultural industry. By the early 1970s, Orange County's citrus production had reached its peak, with approximately 80,000 acres dedicated to orange cultivation. The lush, dark-green foliage of orange trees and the sweet fragrance of blooming orange blossoms characterized the county's landscape. As of the 2020 census, Orange County, situated in Central Florida, boasts a population of 1,429,908, with Orlando serving as its county seat.

<b>Cities</b>	<b>Census-Designated Places</b>	Lake Hart - 1,052	Union Park - 10,452
Apopka - 54,873	Alfaya - 92,452	Lake Mary Jane - 1,790	University - 31,084
Bay Lake - 29	Azalea Park - 12,556	Lockhart - 14,058	Wedgfield - 8,017
Belle Isle - 7,032	Bay Hill - 4,884	Meadow Woods - 43,790	Williamsburg - 7,908
Edgewood - 2,685	Bithlo - 8,268	Oak Ridge - 25,062	Zellwood - 2,758
Lake Buena Vista - 24	Christmas - 2,439	Orio Vista - 6,806	
Maitland - 19,543	Clarcona - 2,990	Paradise Heights - 1,260	
Ocoee - 47,295	Conway - 13,467	Pine Castle - 11,122	
Orlando - County Seat - 2,509,831	Dr. Phillips - 12,328	Pine Hills - 66,111	
Winter Garden - 46,964	Four Corners - 56,381	Rio Pinar - 5,409	
Winter Park - 29,795	Fairview Shores - 10,239	Sky Lake - 7,226	
	Golden Rod - 12,039	South Apopka - 6,803	
<b>Towns</b>	Gotha - 2,217	Southchase - 16,276	
Eatonville - 2,349	Holden Heights - 3,679	Taft - 2,221	
Oakland - 3,516	Horizon West - 58,101	Tangelo Park - 2,459	
Windermere - 3,030	Hunter's Creek - 14,321	Tangerine - 3,237	
	Lake Butler - 18,851	Tildenville - 475	

*\*Populations are approximate.*

## Alafaya

Tucked away in the heart of Orange County, Florida, lies the charming community of Alafaya, a place steeped in history and rich in natural beauty. Founded in the early 19th century, the area was initially inhabited by the Seminole Native American tribe, who were drawn to the region's abundant wildlife and fertile soil. The name "Alafaya" is derived from the Creek word "Alafia," meaning "river of the sink," which refers to the nearby Alafia River, a winding waterway that played a vital role in the region's early development. Today, Alafaya is a thriving suburban community, boasting a population of 92,452.

## Apopka

Apopka, Florida, a city nestled in the heart of Orange County, boasts a rich history dating back to the early 19th century. Founded in 1857, the area was initially inhabited by the Seminole Indians, who were drawn to the region's lush natural surroundings and abundant wildlife. The city's name, "Apopka," is derived from the Seminole word "Ahapopka," meaning "potato-eating place," a nod to the staple crop of the indigenous people. As the city grew, so did its population, which was largely comprised of settlers from the North and freed slaves from the South. Today, Apopka has a population of 54,873.

## Ocoee

In the 1850s, a malaria outbreak prompted Dr. J.D. Starke to relocate a group of afflicted slaves to a pristine lake surrounded by open pine woods, where they could access clean water and mitigate the spread of the disease. The makeshift camp they built on the lake's north side served as a daily commute hub for working the nearby Lake Apopka fields and a safe haven for rest at night. As the camp evolved into a thriving village, it adopted the name Starke Lake, that still identifies the lake today. Following the American Civil War, the village experienced significant growth as Confederate veterans and their families settled in the area, including Captain Bluford Sims and General William Temple Withers, who wintered there. On October 5, 1883, Captain Sims received a 74-acre land grant west of Starke Lake, now part of downtown Ocoee. Two years later, Captain Sims and the original settlers successfully petitioned to have the town formally platted and renamed Ocoee, inspired by the Tennessee river of his childhood. The name Ocoee, derived from the Cherokee word "uwagahi" meaning "apricot vine place," also influenced the city's choice of flower. As of the 2020 US Census, Ocoee's population has grown to 47,295.

- Other Unincorporated Communities**
- Andover Lakes
  - Chinatown
  - Fairvilla
  - Killarney
  - Plymouth
  - Reedy Creek Improvement District
  - Vineland

## Orlando

In central Florida, a region that would eventually become Orlando, a Seminole reservation was established in 1823 through the Treaty of Moultrie Creek. However, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 led to the forced relocation of the Seminole to Oklahoma, sparking the Second Seminole War. In response, the Armed Occupation Act of 1842 encouraged white settlers to move into the area. The first of these settlers, Aaron Jernigan from Georgia, arrived in 1843 and settled near Lake Holden. The following year, Mosquito County was renamed Orange County, with its county seat later relocated to Mellonville, near Sanford. As the interior of the county began to attract settlers by 1856, the need for a more central courthouse became apparent. In 1857, the town of Orlando was founded, featuring a courthouse square surrounded by four streets. The young town struggled during the Union blockade, but the Reconstruction Era brought rapid growth, leading to Orlando's incorporation in 1875 with a population of 85 residents. The town briefly revoked its charter in 1879 but was reincorporated soon after. Orlando officially became a city in 1885. During the period between the Spanish-American War and World War I, Orlando developed into a popular resort destination. The 1920s saw a surge in housing development, fueled by the Florida Land Boom, which caused land prices to skyrocket. Dozens of neighborhoods were built near downtown during this time. However, the boom came to an end with the devastating hurricanes of the late 1920s and the onset of the Great Depression. Today, Orlando is a thriving city and the county seat of Orange County, Florida, with a population of 2,509,831, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

## Winter Garden

In 1880, the construction of a South Florida Railroad track between Orlando and Sanford sparked development in the area, with the rail line passing just west of Osceola. Around the same time, Loring Chase, seeking to recover from a lung disease, relocated to Orange County from Chicago. During his travels, he stumbled upon a picturesque cluster of lakes east of the railbed, which caught his attention. Teaming up with Oliver E. Chapman, a wealthy investor from New England, they acquired a substantial tract of land for \$13,000 on July 4, 1881. Their vision was to create the town of Winter Park, which they carefully planned and designed over the next four years. The town's infrastructure took shape, with streets, a town hall, and a store being built, as well as the planting of orange trees. To maintain a cohesive aesthetic, they established strict architectural and stylistic guidelines for all buildings. The result was a meticulously planned city, evident in its grid-like street pattern. To attract residents, the founders aggressively marketed Winter Park to northerners seeking a warm winter retreat. During this period, the Winter Park Post Office was established, and the railroad built a depot, accessible from Osceola via a dirt road. As of the 2020 census, the population of Winter Park had grown to 29,795.

## Health Benefits of the Outdoors



**Spending time in nature offers numerous benefits for physical, mental, and emotional well-being.**

**Stress Reduction:** Nature has a calming effect on the mind and body, helping to reduce stress levels. The peaceful surroundings, fresh air, and natural beauty can lower cortisol levels, decrease heart rate, and promote relaxation.

**Improved Mental Health:** Being in nature is associated with improved mood and mental health. Studies have shown that spending time outdoors can reduce symptoms of anxiety, depression, and other mental health disorders. Nature provides a sense of tranquility and perspective, which can help alleviate negative thoughts and emotions.

**Increased Physical Activity:** Nature encourages physical activity, whether it's hiking, biking, walking, or simply exploring outdoor spaces. Engaging in outdoor activities promotes exercise, which is essential for maintaining physical health and fitness. Additionally, being in nature often involves exposure to sunlight, which helps the body produce vitamin D and supports overall well-being.

**Enhanced Creativity & Cognitive Function:** Nature stimulates creativity and cognitive function. Research suggests that spending time in natural environments can improve problem-solving skills, boost creativity, and enhance concentration and focus. Nature provides a rich sensory experience that activates different parts of the brain, fostering cognitive development and innovation.

**Connection with the Environment:** Spending time in nature fosters a deeper connection with the environment and promotes environmental stewardship. When people experience the beauty and wonder of nature firsthand, they are more likely to develop a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural world. This connection can lead to greater awareness of environmental issues and a desire to protect and preserve natural habitats for future generations.

**Overall, being in nature offers a multitude of benefits for both physical and mental well-being, making it essential for maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.**

# AREA TRAILS

**Orange County might be known for its theme parks, but there are some great hiking spots where you can enjoy nature and get away from the hustle and bustle. Here are some of the best hiking areas in the area:**

#### **WEKIWA SPRINGS STATE PARK:**

Offers a range of trails through lush forests and along the Wekiwa River. Popular trails include the Red Trail and the Black Trail, both of which provide scenic views and opportunities to see local wildlife. The park is also known for its clear springs and opportunities for swimming and canoeing.

#### **TIBET-BUTLER NATURE PRESERVE:**

This 440-acre preserve has a network of trails that meander through hardwood swamps, pine flatwoods, and upland hardwood forests. The Pine Forest Trail and Swamp Trail offer good opportunities for birdwatching and enjoying a variety of Florida ecosystems.

#### **LAKE LOUISA STATE PARK:**

The park offers several trails including the Hickory Ridge Trail, which provides scenic views of Lake Louisa and the surrounding landscape. The park is also known for its diverse wildlife and beautiful lake views.

#### **LITTLE BIG ECON STATE FOREST:**

This forest features trails like the Econ River Trail, which runs alongside the Econlockhatchee River and offers opportunities for wildlife viewing and scenic river views. The trails vary in difficulty, providing options for both casual walkers and more serious hikers.

#### **SEMINOLE-WEKIVA TRAIL:**

A multi-use trail that's great for hiking, biking, and jogging. It runs through a variety of landscapes, including woods and wetlands, and provides access to several smaller trails and parks along the way.

#### **HONTOON ISLAND STATE PARK:**

Offers trails through natural Florida landscapes, including the Hontoon Island Trail. You'll find a mix of hardwood swamps and upland forests. The island is also known for its tranquility and wildlife.

#### **BLACK BEAR WILDERNESS AREA:**

The Black Bear Trail is a 7.1-mile loop that takes you through a variety of habitats including swamps and upland hardwood forests. It's known for its wildlife, including black bears, deer, and a variety of bird species.

#### **JOHN CHESTNUT SR. PARK:**

This park features the Birding Trail and West Loop Trail, which wind through various natural areas including swamps and pinelands. The park is also popular for its scenic views of Lake Tarpon.

***These trails and parks offer a great way to experience the natural beauty of Central Florida and enjoy a day of hiking and outdoor activity.***



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## COUNTY PARKS

### Arcadia Acres Park

7768 Lady Frances WY | Orlando |  
(407) 254-9030

### Barber Park

3701 Gatlin Ave. | Orlando | (407) 254-6860

### Barnett Park/Barnett Gym

4801 W Colonial Dr. | Orlando | (407) 836-6248

### Beeman Park

2301 Lake Sue Dr. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Bentonshire Park

7327 Bentonshire Ave. | Windermere |  
(407) 836-6200

### Big Oak Park

531 Kenmore Cr. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Blanchard Park

2451 N Dean Rd. | Union Park | (407) 254-9030

### Bomberos Field Park

11485 Moss Park Rd. | Orlando | (407) 254-6840

### Capehart Park

715 Capehart Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9160

### Cheney Heights Park

9305 Mavis St. | Orlando | (407) 254-9180

### Clarcona Horse Park / Clarcona Outpost

3535 Damon Rd. | Apopka | (407) 254-9010

### Corporal Patrick Deans Park

16351 Timber Springs Blvd. | Orlando |  
(407) 254-9180

### Crystal Lake Park

1731 E Crystal Lake Ave. | Orlando |  
(407) 836-6200

### Cypress Grove Park

290 Holden Ave. | Orlando | (407) 254-6770

### Donnybrook Park

9109 Donnybrook Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9180

### Downey Park

10107 Flowers Ave. | Orlando | (407) 254-9180

### Eagles Roost

10525 Clapp Simms Duda Rd. | Orlando |  
(407) 836-1400

### East Orange District Park

22023 E Colonial Dr. | Christmas |  
(407) 254-6830

### East Orange Neighborhood Park

12080 E Colonial Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9180

### East Tangerine Park

6061 Terrell Rd. | Mt. Dora | (407) 254-1982

### Fort Christmas Historical Park

1300 Fort Christmas Rd. | Christmas |  
(407) 254-9310

### George Bailey Park

11974 Roberson Rd. | Winter Garden |  
(407) 254-9086

### Gotha Park

10013 Park Ridge Gotha Rd. | Windermere |  
(407) 836-6200

### Honolulu Park - 8200 Honolulu Dr. | Orlando |

(407) 836-6200

### Horizon West Regional Park

Hamlin Groves Trail at Mann Rd. | Winter Garden  
| (407) 254-1940

### Hourglass Park

1800 Carlton Dr. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Independence Park

5849 New Independence Pkwy. | Winter Garden  
| (407) 254-1940

### Interlaken Park

93 Interlaken Rd. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Ivey Lane Park

291 Silverton St. | Orlando | (407) 246-4457

### Kaley Square Park

2106 S Westmoreland Dr. | Orlando |  
(407) 836-6200

### Kelly Park/Rock Springs

400 E Kelly Park Rd. | Apopka | (407) 254-1902

### Lake Lawne Park

1320 Lawne Blvd. | Orlando | (407) 836-6248

### Lake Pearl Park

1700 Twin Lake Dr. | Gotha | (407) 836-6200

### Lakeside Village Park

10820 Village Lake Rd. | Windermere |  
(407) 254-1940

### Lester Mandell Park

3500 Central FL Pkwy. | Orlando |  
(407) 254-1920

### Little Econ Greenway

2451 N Dean Rd. | Orlando | (407) 254-9030

### Long Branch

710 S County Rd. 13 | Orlando | (407) 836-1400

### Magnolia Park

2929 S Binion Rd. | Apopka | (407) 254-9046

### Millennium Park

5101 Santa Rosa Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9325

### Moss Park

12901 Moss Park Rd. | Orlando | (407) 254-6840

### Orlo Vista Park

1 N Powers Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9050

### Padgett Park

5811 Padgett Cr. | Santa Rosa | (407) 836-6200

### Park Manor Neighborhood Park

1533 Park Manor Dr. | Orlando | (407) 254-9180

### R. D. Keene Park

10900 Chase Rd. | Windermere | (407) 254-1940

### Riverside Acres

8636 Garnet Ave. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Rolling Hills Park

4950 N Pine Hills Rd. | Orlando | (407) 254-9250

### Roosevelt Martin Park

210 Bayshore Dr. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Roosevelt Nichols Park

1601 Hermit Smith Rd. | Apopka |  
(407) 254-9046

### Rose Place Park

8200 Old Winter Garden Rd. | Orlando |  
(407) 254-9050

### South Lake Mann Park

4302 Raleigh St. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Summerlake Park

15570 Porter Rd. | Winter Garden |  
(407) 836-6200

### Summerport Neighborhood Park

14491 Bridgewater Crossings Blvd. |  
Windermere | (407) 254-9086

### Taborfield Park

9025 Taborfield Rd. | Orlando | (407) 254-1940

### Taft Ball Field

1140 5th Ave. | Orlando | (407) 254-1920

### Taft Neighborhood Park

124 Cypress St. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Tildenville Park

202 Shongi Ave. | Winter Garden |  
(407) 254-9245

### Tom Staley Historical Park

211 E Third St. | Apopka | (407) 533-4732

### Trimble Park

5802 Trimble Park Rd. | Mt. Dora |  
(407) 254-1982

### Vogt-Meloon Park

814 W Oak Ridge Rd. | Orlando | (407) 836-6200

### Warren Park

3406 Warren Park Rd. | Orlando |  
(407) 254-6860

### Watermark Park

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### **West Orange Trail**

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Vineland Rd. | Orlando | (407) 533-4732

### **West Orange Trail**

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Winter Garden | (407) 533-4732

## **West Orange Trail**

Killarney Station -17914 State Road 438 |  
Winter Garden | (407) 533-4732

## **West Orange Trail**

Winter Garden Station -455 E Plant St. |  
Winter Garden | (407) 533-4732

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### **Deputy Scott Pine Community Park**

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(407) 254-9086

### **Dr. P. Phillips Community Park**

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### **Lake Ellenor Community Park**

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### **Tangelo Community Park**

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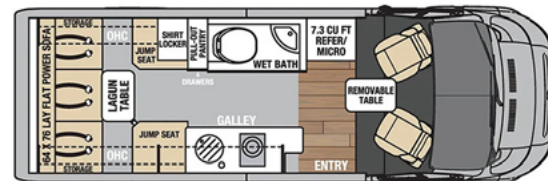
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# Top Freshwater Fishing Locations

Florida is renowned for its abundance of freshwater fishing opportunities, with numerous lakes, rivers, and streams teeming with a wide variety of fish species. Here are some of the top freshwater fishing locations in Florida:

**1. Lake Okeechobee:** The largest freshwater lake in the state. Anglers can target largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, & catfish.

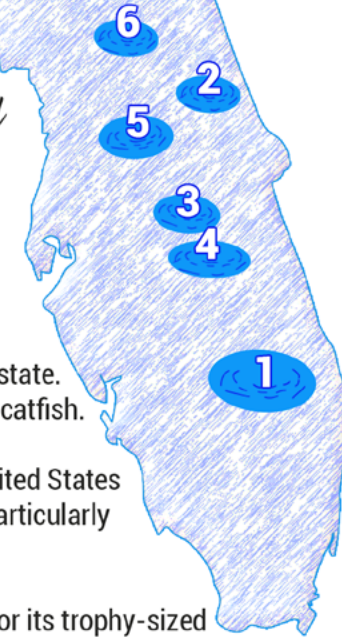
**2. St. Johns River:** One of the few major rivers in the United States that flows north. It's a prime location for bass fishing, particularly in the upper stretches.

**3. Lake Tohopekaliga (Lake Toho):** The lake is famous for its trophy-sized largemouth bass. It's a popular destination for bass anglers seeking the thrill of catching big fish.

**4. The Kissimmee Chain of Lakes:** Comprising several interconnected lakes, the Kissimmee Chain offers diverse fishing experiences. Anglers can target bass, crappie, bluegill, and more in these interconnected waters.

**5. The Harris Chain of Lakes:** Consists of several lakes interconnected by canals. It's known for its bass fishing, with Lake Harris being one of the most popular spots for anglers.

**6. Rodman Reservoir:** Created by the damming of the Ocklawaha River, Rodman Reservoir is known for its trophy bass fishing. Anglers come here seeking the chance to catch monster-sized bass in a picturesque setting.





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*Myakka Elephant Ranch is a non profit conservation education center focused on global elephant conservation. The nonprofit was founded in 2019 by Lou Barreda after he returned from Africa and saw the need for conservation of the species. All donations aid in supporting the elephants on the ranch as well as conservation projects all over the world.*

*As a conservation center, we believe that education combined with personal experience is the key to finding and creating lasting efforts to preserve these beloved threatened species. Through understanding, and the sharing of knowledge and information we believe that we can make a big difference!*



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# BUTTERED-UP Steak



Simple meal with a Gourmet Feel

## INGREDIENTS

2 steaks (ribeye or sirloin are good choices)

Salt and pepper

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 cloves garlic, minced

Fresh herbs (optional)

## INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Take the steaks out of the refrigerator and let them come to room temperature for about 30 minutes. This helps the steak cook more evenly.

**2** Preheat your oven to 400°F.

**3** Season the steaks generously with salt and pepper on both sides.

**4** Heat a large skillet over high heat until very hot. Add the steaks and cook for about 2-3 minutes per side, until nicely browned.

**5** Remove the steaks from the skillet and place them on a baking sheet.

**6** In the same skillet, add the butter and garlic. Cook for about 30 seconds, stirring constantly, until the garlic is fragrant.

**7** Pour the garlic butter over the steaks on the baking sheet.

**8** Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 5-7 minutes for medium-rare doneness, or longer if you prefer your steak more well-done.

**9** Remove the steaks from the oven and let them rest for a few minutes before slicing.

**10** Serve the steak with any remaining butter from the baking sheet and fresh herbs if desired.



## BARBECUE DO'S:

- use proper barbecue equipment and tools, such as a grill, tongs, and spatulas.
- preheat your grill before placing any food on it.
- marinate your meat before cooking to enhance the flavor.
- keep a close eye on your food while grilling to prevent overcooking or burning.
- use a meat thermometer to ensure that your meat is cooked to the correct internal temperature.
- let your meat rest for a few minutes before slicing or serving to allow the juices to redistribute.
- keep your grill and utensils clean to prevent any foodborne illness.

## BARBECUE DON'TS:

- use lighter fluid to start your grill. Instead, use a chimney starter or electric starter.
- overcrowd your grill. Leave enough space between the pieces of meat to ensure even cooking.
- use a fork to flip your meat. Piercing the meat can cause it to lose its juices and become dry.
- baste your meat with sugary sauces too early in the cooking process, as it can burn and create a bitter taste.
- leave cooked meat out in the sun for too long, as it can spoil quickly.
- assume that meat is fully cooked by its color. Always use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature.
- leave your grill unattended while it's still hot. Always make sure to properly cool it down before leaving it.



Enjoy your delicious  
buttered-up steak!

PREP: 35 MIN • TOTAL: 50 MIN



# Keep Your Pets Safe

## HERE ARE A FEW KEY POINTS TO BE AWARE OF:

- 1. Leashing:** Always keep pets on a leash, especially near water bodies, to prevent them from wandering too close to potential alligator habitats.
- 2. Supervision:** Supervise your pets when they're outside. This is crucial during dawn and dusk, as alligators are more active during these times.
- 3. Avoid Water:** Keep pets away from lakes, ponds, and marshy areas where alligators might be lurking. Even small bodies of water can pose risks.
- 4. Training:** Ensure your pets have good recall and respond well to commands. This can help you quickly call them back if they venture too close to danger.
- 5. Feeding and Food Storage:** Do not feed alligators or leave pet food outside, as this can attract wildlife and increase the likelihood of encounters with alligators.



# HURRICANE SAFETY

## Top Five Tips



### 1. STAY INFORMED

### 2. SECURE YOUR HOME

### 3. FOLLOW EVACUATION ORDERS & GUIDELINES

### 4. EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

### 5. EVACUATION PLANNING

If authorities issue evacuation orders, follow them promptly. Delaying evacuation can put your life and the lives of emergency responders at risk. They have the most up-to-date information on the storm and can provide guidance on the safest course of action. Remember that each hurricane is unique, so it's essential to stay informed and adapt your plans accordingly. Preparedness and early action are key to minimizing risks and ensuring the safety of yourself and your loved ones during a hurricane.

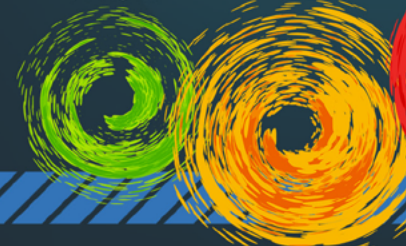
CAT 5  
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# So, You have decided to get a pet... NOW WHAT??

**Commitment and Time:** Owning a pet is a long-term commitment. Before bringing a pet home, consider your lifestyle and ensure you have enough time to spend with your pet. Dogs, cats, and many other animals require attention, exercise, and mental stimulation.

**Choose the Right Pet for Your Lifestyle:** Different pets have varying needs, temperaments, and activity levels. Research and select a pet that fits well with your lifestyle, living situation, and family dynamics. Whether you choose a dog, cat, bird, fish, or any other animal, make sure you can provide for its specific needs.

**Proper Nutrition:** Feed your pet a balanced and nutritious diet suitable for their species and age. Consult with a veterinarian to determine the best food options for your pet's health and well-being.

**Regular Exercise:** Most pets need regular physical activity to stay healthy and happy. Engage in playtime and exercise with your pet daily, as it helps prevent obesity and provides mental stimulation.

**Routine Veterinary Care:** Schedule regular check-ups with a veterinarian to monitor your pet's health, get necessary vaccinations, and address any concerns. Early detection of health issues can often lead to better outcomes.

**Spaying/Neutering:** Consider spaying or neutering your pet if you don't plan on breeding. This helps control the pet population and can have health benefits for your pet.

**Training and Socialization:** Properly train your pet to follow basic commands and have good manners. Socialize them with other animals and people from a young age to prevent behavioral issues later on.

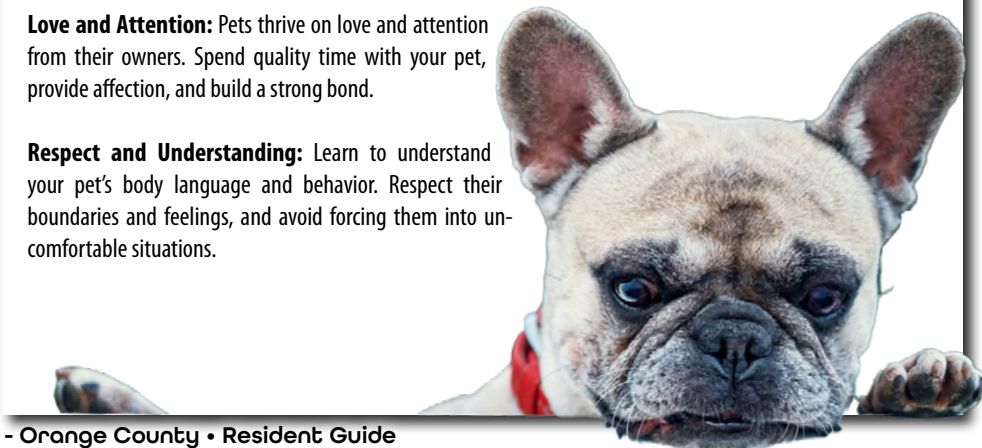
**Provide a Safe Environment:** Ensure that your home and yard are safe for your pet. Remove hazards, keep toxic substances out of reach, and provide appropriate shelter from extreme weather conditions.

**Grooming:** Regular grooming is essential for most pets. Brush their fur, trim nails, and clean their ears as needed to keep them comfortable and healthy.

**Identification and Microchipping:** Keep identification tags with your current contact information on your pet's collar. Consider microchipping your pet as an extra measure to ensure they can be identified if lost.

**Love and Attention:** Pets thrive on love and attention from their owners. Spend quality time with your pet, provide affection, and build a strong bond.

**Respect and Understanding:** Learn to understand your pet's body language and behavior. Respect their boundaries and feelings, and avoid forcing them into uncomfortable situations.



**Patience and Forgiveness:** Pets, especially young ones, can be mischievous or have accidents. Be patient with them during the training process and forgive any mistakes they make along the way.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Have a plan in place for emergencies, including natural disasters. Know how to evacuate with your pet safely if needed.

**If you have just rescued / adopted a new fur baby, please it is important to remember the 3-3-3 RULE:**  
**3 Days:**

In the first 3 days being in its new home, they will be feeling overwhelmed, scared & unsure of what is going on. They may also be uncomfortable being "themselves", and may not want to eat or drink. They may want to "shut down" or hide under a bed or in a crate, and they will test boundaries.

**3 Weeks:**

At this point, they may be a lot more comfortable & settling in. Learning a new routine can be overwhelming, so please be patient. By now they may have figured out the new environment & accepted that this may be their FURever home. Their personality traits will start to show, as well as any behavior issue that may be present.

**3 Months:**

For most fur babies, 3 months is enough time to finally be comfortable and begin to build trust and a true bond. A sense of security may be present & a set routine will help this process.

Please know that this is not the rule with every rescued or adopted pet, as some may need 6 months to a year to adjust & adapt, depending on MANY factors. Age of animal, what type of an environment did they come from?

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