



Visitor's Guide

WAKULLA SPRINGS

The crystal clear water comes bubbling up from an incredible depth of 185 feet at amazing average rate of 250 million gallons per day. The first magnitude Wakulla Springs is one of the largest and deepest freshwater springs in the world.

WAKULLA SPRINGS HAS OVER
250,000 VISITORS A YEAR

Explore the Wonders of Wakulla



FUNDED IN PART BY
VISITFLORIDA

Enjoy the beauty of
natural
WAKULLA COUNTY

Welcome Center address
1493 Coastal Highway
Panacea, FL 32326
Phone: 850-984-3966
www.visitwakulla.com

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Visit Wakulla

Soak in the beauty of
Wakulla!

With seven communities, Wakulla County is located south of Tallahassee, Florida. An ideal place for vacation-goers with its large areas of forests, beaches and several water-bodies, Wakulla County has lots to offer. The area has a long history that dates back to Spanish conquests, former Presidents, a Native American uprising, as well as a battle for liberty. There are several delicious spots to dine, especially for those who love to include fish and beef in their meals. Visit and explore the adventures of Wakulla County!

Crawfordville is the county seat of Wakulla County and its history can be traced to the riverside town of Port Leon that is located on the eastern side of St. Marks River. The Crawfordville community is now the center of government and business activity in Wakulla County. Visitors to the place are greeted with exemplary antique shops, gift shops, restaurants, and other one-of-a-kind businesses that are being run for generations.

Ochlockonee Bay is the ideal spot for boating and fishing enthusiasts. The area features a fishing pier and dozens of boat ramps. In addition, nature lovers may be able to feast their eyes on a majestic bald eagle, varied wading birds and if the time is right, perhaps even a vivid pink Roseate Spoonbill. Just wish to lie back? Then come here, where you can get a perfect view of freshwater meeting saltwater at Apalachee Bay.

Spring Creek will surely transport you decades back in time, in which fishermen and oystermen use the traditional methods to venture out for their hunt. That's because the present Spring Creek is the same! If you want to see the "real Florida", you have to visit this place in Wakulla County, which is nestled among sprawling live oak trees dripping with Spanish moss and dotted with sabal palms.

Panacea is a coastal area steeped in rich maritime history shaped by generations of proud families who still work the water in the time-honored traditions of boatbuilding, shrimping, crabbing, and fishing. Visitors can relish fresh seafood sourced directly from sea or at restaurants that are operated by friendly locals who know how to do Florida seafood right.

Shell Point provides ideal conditions for those who love to greet the wind! Sailors and windsurfers alike are drawn to these shores because of the perfect sea breezes. The choice of activities here are plenty; windsurfing, sailing, boating, fishing, kayaking, beachcombing, nature watching, photography, bicycling, hiking, picnicking or just kicking back to enjoy the views!

Sopchoppy is a cozy old Florida community on the southwest edge of Wakulla County. The community is located on the east side of the scintillating Sopchoppy River, one of Florida's blackwater streams. The best access and views of the Sopchoppy River can be found at the lovely city park, which also offers RV and full camping facilities and wide ranged visitor amenities.



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- St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & Lighthouse
- Tallahassee to St Marks Historic Railroad Trail
- Wakulla Springs & The Lodge at Wakulla Springs
 - Fort San Marcos de Apalache
 - Gulf Specimen Aquarium

History, Arts, Culture & Attractions





Fort San Marcos de Apalache

Its history dates back to 1528 when Spanish explorer Panfilo de Narvaez arrived in search of gold. The first structure of this Fort was built in 1679, with wood painted to make it look like a stone. Fort San Marcos had been conquered several times over the centuries including the Spanish, the English, independent Creek nation of Indians, and finally by the United States.



St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge & Lighthouse

It has guided recreational, military and merchant vessels from around the world to the mouth of the St. Marks River for over 150 years. It is located on the north side of Apalachee Bay on the east side of the entrance to the St. Marks River. The St. Marks Lighthouse is the only lighthouse in Florida with wooden stairs.



Wakulla Springs & The Lodge at Wakulla Springs

The crystal clear Wakulla Springs is one of the longest and deepest freshwater springs in the world. Visitors at a rate of 250,000 per year come from all over the globe to marvel at this astonishing wonder. The Lodge at Wakulla Springs is North Florida's castle, facing Wakulla Springs. Nature, luxury, history, and comfort—all can be found at the Lodge at Wakulla Springs.



Tallahassee to St Marks Historic Railroad Trail

It was built in early 1836 for transporting valuable cotton crops from the Red Hills Region to ports on the St. Marks River. Currently, this attractive trail passes underneath towering stands of longleaf pine as it runs through part of the Apalachicola National Forest.



Gulf Specimen Aquarium

Get an up-close view of local marine life at this friendly non-profit aquarium that boasts the largest array of touch tanks in the continental United States. Open touch tanks are filled with a diversity of crabs, sea urchins, starfish and sea cucumbers. Glass aquariums house a collection of seahorses, octopuses and jellyfish.





Rivers & Beaches

Wakulla County is
B l e s s e d
with many of them.

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Rivers



WAKULLA RIVER

The crystal clear waters of the 10-mile-long Wakulla River rise from Wakulla Springs and are one of the few exclusively spring-fed rivers in this part of Florida.



OCHLOCKONEE RIVER

The Ochlockonee River is home to many threatened species of fish, wildlife and plants, such as the orange azalea, the wood stork and the Atlantic sturgeon. By day, the landings along the river keep busy as boats of all kinds come and go carrying passengers to fish, or to ski.



ST. MARKS RIVER

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.



SOPCHOPPY RIVER

This mystic river of 47 miles is believed to originate somewhere deep in the wetlands of the Apalachicola National Forest. Small trickling streams seep from the deep earthen banks of the Sopchoppy River.

Beaches



MASHES SANDS

This secluded beach and its shallow waters are ideal for beachcombers as well as young children. The intriguing patterns on the sand will appeal to nature photographers and nature lovers will enjoy the wilderness of this beach.



SHELL POINT BEACH

Located on the northern edge of Apalachee Bay, Shell Point Beach is a residential beach popular for sailing sports and volleyball. It offers a large covered pavilion, several smaller gazebos with picnic tables, restrooms and outdoor shower.



WAKULLA BEACH

This small saltwater beach located at the end of Wakulla Beach Road off Coastal Highway 98, is not your typical white sand. It has no bars, no gas stations and not even a bait shop. The Wakulla Beach is most suitable for activities such as canoeing, kayaking, hiking, shore fishing, and bird watching.

A man wearing a red shirt, blue cap, and a life vest is sitting in a black kayak on a body of water. He is holding a fishing rod and reeling in a line. The background shows a dense area of reeds or marsh grasses. The water is calm, reflecting the surrounding vegetation. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Bring out the natural sports man
in you either by spending time in the woods of waters of Wakulla County.

Hunting &
Fishing

There is no shortage of picturesque locations to take advantage of the wealth of freshwater and saltwater fisheries. But it helps to know how to navigate Wakulla County's tricky waterways, as well as where fish are plentiful. You can find game as small as squirrel and doves to as big as wild hogs, deer, and alligators. Hunting types allowed in Wakulla County are conventional gun, archery and primitive weapons. There are guided fishing agencies that focus exclusively on inshore fishing, targeting redfish, speckled trout, stripers and bass, and they offer half- and full-day charters with fish-cleaning service available upon request.



St. Marks

St. Marks Refuge Ramp at Lighthouse, 1255 Lighthouse Rd
St. Marks

Shields Marina, 95 Riverside Dr.
St. Marks

Crawfordville

Shell Point Ramp, 1549 Shellpoint Rd, Crawfordville

Wakulla River Lower Bridge Ramp, Hwy 98 Coastal Highway
Crawfordville

Newport

Newport Ramp, 8046 Coastal Highway
Newport

Sopchoppy

Mack Lake Landing, Mack Lake Rd
Sopchoppy

Panacea

Mashes Sands Ramp, 801 Mashes Sands Rd
Panacea

Bottoms Boat Ramp, Bottoms Road
Panacea

Levy Bay Boat Ramp, 424 Levy Bay Road
Panacea

Rock Landing Ramp, 99 Rock Landing St.
Panacea

Kayaking and Canoeing





One of the best ways to explore our many rivers, streams, creeks and coastline is up close and personal in a kayak, canoe or paddleboard. Local outfitters can provide you all the equipment and gear you need and friendly guides to show you the way. From the saltwater to fresh water, the water bodies in Wakulla County are anglers' paradise. There are even a lot of paddling trails over here, suitable for enthusiastic nightcampers.





BIKING & HIKING

Love to roam freely down roads? Far from the city-life and chaos? Then Wakulla County is the right place for you!



Love to roam freely down roads? Far from the city-life and chaos? Then Wakulla County is the right place for you! From nature trails, rail-trails, historic trails, to extended hiking trails. Choose a short leisurely stroll, a scenic bicycle ride, a day hike, or a challenging “swamp stomp” deep into the remote wilderness.



Ochlockonee Bike Trail

A beautiful ride that runs through a small remote coastal community and alongside wild marshes, tidal creeks and wide open sky. It can be accessed from the trailhead in Mashas Sands Park located 6 miles south of Panacea at the end of SR 372. The Ochlockonee Bike Trail has Picnic facilities, restrooms, as well as parking spaces.



Capital City to the Sea Trails

This is an under-development route that plans to connect various regions of Leon County, Wakulla County, as well as Franklin, Gadsden and Jefferson Counties in the future. These trails are meant to facilitate the easy transportation of citizens, by means other than motorized vehicles. It is the perfect route for you to go cycling, hiking or simply walking.



Tallahassee St. Marks Railroad Trail

With a distance of nearly twenty one miles from Florida's capital city to the coastal community of St. Marks, this historic railroad corridor was used to carry cotton from the plantation belt to the coast for shipment to textile mills. In fact, the Tallahassee St. Marks Railroad Trail provides apt conditions for running, walking, bicycling and skating.



BIRD & WILDLIFE WATCHING

With vast acres of undeveloped lands and protected wildlife sanctuaries, our natural areas support an abundance of wildlife.



With vast acres of undeveloped lands and protected wildlife sanctuaries, our natural areas support an abundance of wildlife. This includes verified counts of over 300 species of migratory and nesting birds, 52 species of mammals such as the West Indian manatee and Florida black bear, 40 species of amphibians, and 65 species of reptiles.

T-n-T Hide-a-way, Inc



Located on the picturesque Wakulla River on Hwy. 98, T-n-T Hide-a-way has been providing everything needed to make your river or coastal paddling expedition a success for nearly four decades

Shell Point Beach Park



This small county park is an enjoyable stop for a picnic lunch and to look for birds.

Ochlockonee River State Park



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.

Restaurants



Angelo and Son's Seafood Restaurant

(850) 984-5168

www.angeloandsonseafoodrestaurant.com

Bay Leaf Market

(850) 926-9355

www.bayleafmarket.com

Big Daddy's Pizza

(850) 984-3663

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Big-Daddys-Pizza

BW's Grill

(850) 745-6257

www.bws-grill.com

Coastal Restaurant

(850) 984-2933

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Coastal-Restaurant

Cuban Mojos Café

(850) 926-5406

www.facebook.com/cubanmojocafe

El Jalisco

(850) 926-4329

www.eljalisco.com

Grand China Buffet

(850) 926-2088

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Grand-China-Buffet

Hamaknockers BBQ

(850) 926-4737

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Hamaknockers-BBQ



Hutton's Seafood

(850) 570-1004

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Huttons-Seafood

Karen's Kitchen and Bakery

(850) 745-6289

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Karens-Kitchen-and-Bakery

Mad Anthony's Waterfront Grille

(850) 713-0020

www.madanthonysgrille.com

Myra Jean's Restaurant

(850) 926-7530

www.myrajeansrestaurant.com

New Ming Tree Garden

(850) 926-9888

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/New-Ming-Tree-Garden

Ouzt's Too Oyster Bar

(850) 925-6448

www.ouztstoo.com

Panhandle Pizza

(850) 745-8797

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Panhandle-Pizza

Posey's Steamroom & Oyster Bar

(850) 984-5243

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Poseys-Steamroom-and-Oyster-Bar

Riverside Cafe on the River

(850) 925-5668

www.riversidebay.com



Savannah's Country Buffet

(850) 681-3663

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Savannahs-Country-Buffet

The Seineyard

(850)-926-9191

www.theseineyard.com/about

Sopchoppy Pizza Company

(850) 962-1155

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Sopchoppy-Pizza-Company

Spring Creek Restaurant

(850) 926-3751

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Spring-Creek-Restaurant

Steven's Seafood & Chicken Restaurant

(850) 984-5178

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Stevens-Seafood-and-Chicken-Restaurant

The Family Coastal

850-926-2242

www.familycoastalrestaurant.com

The Kast Net

(850) 421-1255

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/The-Kast-Net

Tropical Trader Shrimp Company

(850) 984-3474

www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants/Tropical-Trader-Shrimp-Company

Wakulla Springs Lodge

(850) 421-2000

www.wakullaspringslodge.com

*More restaurants can be found at www.visitwakulla.com/Restaurants



Accommodations



Best Western Wakulla Inn & Suites

(850) 926-3737

www.bestwestern.com

Holiday Park and Campground

(850) 984-5757

www.holidaycampground.com

Myron B Hodge City Park Campground

(850) 962-5486

www.visitwakulla.com/Accommodations/Myron-B-Hodge-City-Park-Campground

Newport Park

(850) 925-4530

www.visitwakulla.com/Accommodations/Newport-Park

Ochlockonee Bay Realty

(850) 926-9260

www.realestatecrawfordville.com

Ochlockonee River State Park

(850) 962-2771

www.floridastateparks.org/park/ochlockonee-river

Panacea RV Park

(850) 984-5883

www.panacearvpark.com

Shell Island Fish Camp and Motel

(850) 925-6226

www.shellislandfishcamp.com

Sopchoppy River House

920-535-0242

www.dorcrosinn.com/cm/FLRiverHouse.aspx

Sweet Magnolia Inn Bed & Breakfast

(850) 925-7670

www.sweetmagnoliainnbandb.com

The Magnuson Inn at Wildwood

(850) 926-4455

www.magnusonhotels.com/hotel/magnuson-hotel-wildwood-inn

Wakulla Springs Lodge

(850) 421-2000

www.wakullaspringslodge.com



A landmark of Wakulla springs, which has an extensive gift shop downstairs that's complete with a hot and cold deli, and also has a full-service restaurant.





Festivals & Events

From Worm Gruntin' to Blue Crabs to Christmas in Panacea, Wakulla County celebrates its holidays and other annual traditions like no other place on earth. With nearly 40 festivals each year, there's something for everyone -- every month!

St. Marks Wildlife Refuge Heritage and Outdoor Festival

Knapfest Stone Age and Primitive Arts Festival

Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin Festival:

Wakulla Wildlife Festival

Stephen C Smith Memorial Regatta

Rock the Dock Fishing Tournament

Panacea Blue Crab Festival

Sharks & Chablis

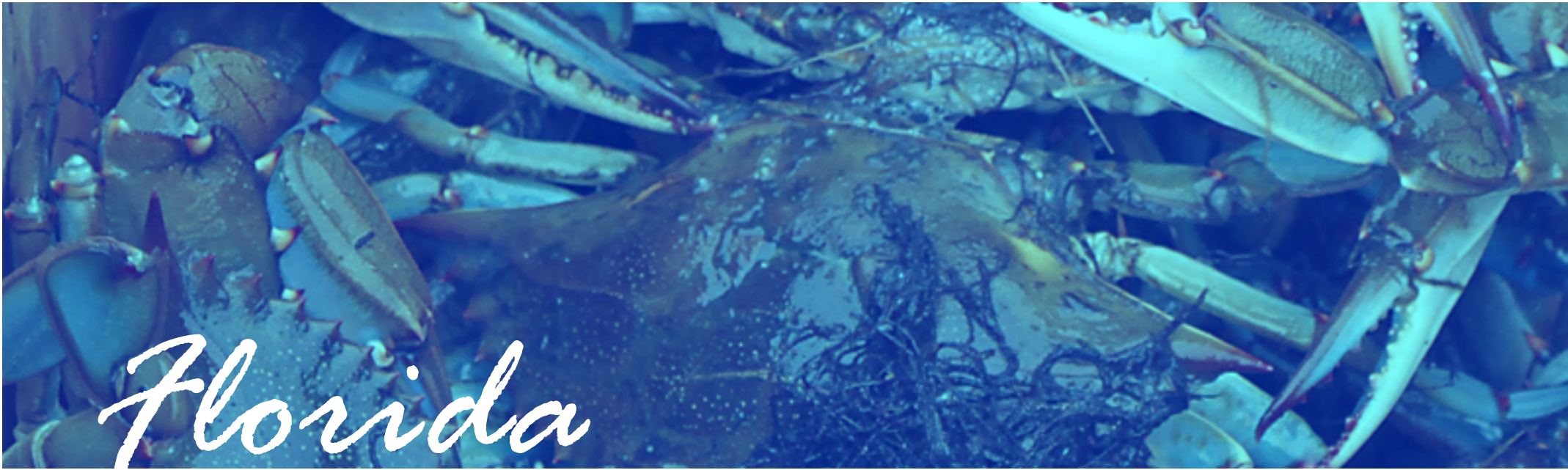
Sopchoppy 4th of July Celebrations

St. Marks Stone Crab Festival

Monarch Butterfly Festival

Wings & Wheels Fly In Festival





Florida
Seafood Markets
Florida
Seafood Markets

Lighthouse Seafood Market

(850) 925-6221

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Lighthouse-Seafood-Market

Lynn Brother's Seafood

(850) 925-6083

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Lynn-Brothers-Seafood

Mineral Springs By the Sea

(850) 984-2248

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Mineral-Springs-By-the-Sea

My Way Seafood

(850) 984-0164

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/My-Way-Seafood

Nichols & Son's Seafood Market

(850) 962-2800

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Nichols-and-Sons-Seafood-Market

Sanders & Son's Crab

(850) 962-9091

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Sanders-and-Sons-Crab

Tropical Trader Shrimp Company

(850) 984-3474

www.visitwakulla.com/Fresh-Seafood-Market/Tropical-Trader-Shrimp-Company





Visit Wakulla
The Natural Place to Be



Hope you return soon
Wakulla County
always welcomes you!

For any other query, you can visit www.visitwakulla.com or
contact the Welcome center at the following address:

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Pancea, FL- 32326
Phone: 850-984-3966