

Exploring Florida

Small Towns & Roadside Attractions

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100 year old Silver Springs is still going strong. The Nave UDT SEAL museum in Ft. Pierce and Sebring's Sea Service Museum.

Visiting Your Own Backyard

We've lived in Florida for decades and from the beginning have been drawn to the beaches, the incredible Florida Keys and have spent more time at Disney World than we probably should have. As our kids were growing up we explored South Florida's zoo, aquariums and children's museums and of course back to Disney World more than a few times. We made it to Busch Gardens, Sea World and before it closed Cyprus Gardens.

Now the kids are grown and we have more time to travel and explore and we've been seeing the world. In the last couple of years we've



added a new goal. It was partly to fill in the spaces between those overseas trips but it's also growing into a mission.

We're exploring Florida's small museums and roadside attractions. Back before there were the mega-attractions, Florida filled in the tourist's time traveling to the beaches with stops at places like Citrus Tower, Cyprus Gardens, Alligator World and Old St. Augustine. Those places are disappearing, being unable to compete or are simply too far off the interstates that feed the metropolitan areas.

Here you'll find a sample of some of our recent finds and if you'll check back we'll be adding new ones every month or

two (*Joining us by subscribing would be a great idea*). If you live here, take some time and explore your state and if your visiting and you have some spare time, take a peak at old Florida. We aren't unique in having these gems



and if you look around your own back yard we'll bet you have more than a few worth an hour or two of your time.

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The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a voluntary public work relief program that operated from 1933 to 1942 in the United States for unemployed, unmarried men. For young men ages 18–25. Highlands Hammock State Park is home to the state of Florida's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Museum. The park is one of eight original parks built by the CCC near Sebring Florida.



The CCC Museum at Highland Hammock



There are a number of small zoos, gator farms

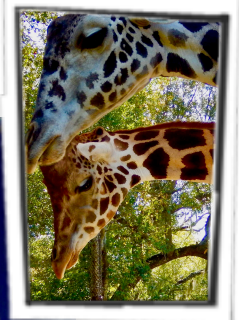
and wildlife attractions in Florida. Sanford and West Palm Beach are home to some good

regional zoos and Orlando and St. Augustine have good alligator attractions and don't overlook Miami's Jungle Island.

Ocala boasts Ft. King, an important outpost in the Seminole Wars, with a reconstruction and museum.

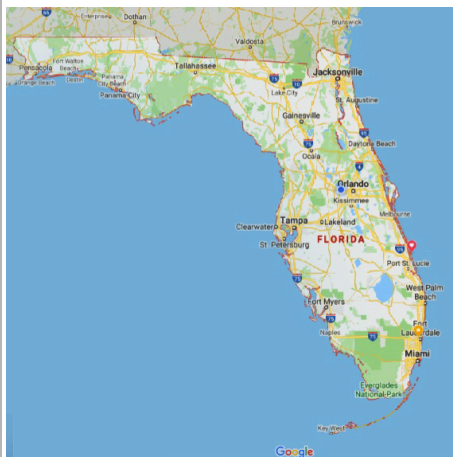


The Air Museum off I-4 between Orlando and Tampa



The Railroad Museum in Winter Garden

Just north of Disney World is Winter Garden, home to Florida's Railroad Museum, fun for railroad fans and children of all ages.



Ft King in Ocala



UDT-SEAL Museum Ft. Pierce