History and Nature

Indigenous people gathered shellfish from the St. Johns River more than 2,000 years ago. The discarded shells accumulated over the years and can be seen from the hiking trail at the southwest corner of the island.

Artifacts found on the island are displayed at the Visitor Center. Replicas of totems, carved from logs, stand in the picnic area, paying tribute to the history of the island.

The island has also been a pioneer homestead, a boat yard, a center for commercial fishing and a cattle ranch.

Wildlife on or near the island is plentiful. West Indian manatees may be spotted during the winter months. Wading birds such as great blue herons, limpkins, ibis, and egrets can be seen foraging in the shallows along the shore. Ospreys can be seen soaring overhead searching for a fish or carrying their catch to the tree tops.



Florida State Parks

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

Hontoon Island State Park

2309 River Ridge Road Deland, FL 32720 (386) 736-5309

FloridaStateParks.org

Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year. The park's ferry operates daily from 8:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset. Donations are accepted.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a hand-held leash no longer than six feet and well behaved at all times.
- Fishing and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida freshwater fishing license is required.
- Become a volunteer and/or join the Hontoon Island Foundation Citizen Support Organization. Inquire at the ranger station or call: (386)736-5309
- For camping and cabin reservations, call 1(800) 326-3521 or go to Reserve.Floridastateparks.org
- For information about the youth camp, contact the ranger station
- Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. for assistance, contact the ranger station.

Large Print Alternate format available upon request at any Florida state park.





Hontoon Island State Park

Island Getaway along the St. Johns River



...the Real Florida

National Gold Medal Winner

Florida State Parks - "America's First Four-Time Winner"

Real Fun in ... the Real Florida

Accessible by private boat or the park provided ferry, Hontoon Island State Park offers a quiet retreat on the St. Johns River in Volusia County.

Explore the park on a bicycle or hike the 3-mile round trip self-guided trail that begins at the Ranger Station and follows the Hontoon Dead River to the large shell mound at the southwest corner of the island.

Go on an adventure around the island by canoe or kayak. Either may be rented at the Island Store, which also sells camping items, souvenirs, drinks and ice cream.

Bring a picnic lunch. A playground with swings will keep the children entertained. Picnic tables and cooking grills are available. One pavilion with a large grill is available, first come- first served. Largemouth bass, bluegills and speckled perch are good catches along the banks of the St. Johns River.

Campers enjoy the primitive campground with 12 tent sites in the shady hammock. Each site features a picnic table, ground grill and water.

Boat slips are available for overnight boat camping.

There are six rustic cabins for rent. Each one room cabin has bunk beds, a ceiling fan, overhead lighting and one electrical outlet. Each cabin has a screened porch with table and chairs. Picnic tables and ground grills are outside. A community bath house is available to all overnight visitors. Bring your own linens.

A youth camp is available for scouts and other organized groups up to 35 people.

