

100 Things to Do

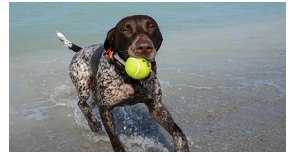
in Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources



Sarasota County
CENTENNIAL
1921 • 2021



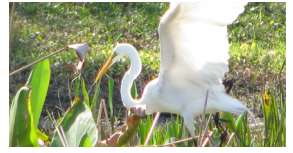
1. Travel back in time by listening to the music of tribute bands at **Venice Community Center**.
2. Enjoy a colorful sunset at **Ted Sperling Park at South Lido Beach**.
3. Stay the night at **Turtle Beach Campground**.
4. Kayak the mangrove tunnels at **South Lido Nature Park**.
5. Visit **Brohard Beach Paw Park**, the only designated dog beach in Sarasota County.
6. Build a sandcastle at **Caspersen Beach Park**.
7. Visit **Nokomis Beach**, the oldest public beach in Sarasota County.
8. Hunt for shark's teeth at **Venice Beach**.
9. Watch for dolphins at **North Jetty Park**.
10. Have dinner at **Snook Haven**.
11. Explore the nature center at **Shamrock Park**.
12. Sharpen your target skills at the **Knight Trail Park** shooting range.
13. Find Florida Cracker cattle at **Urfer Family Park** on the small working cattle ranch.
14. Step back in time walking the trails at **Phillippi Estate Park** and around the **Edson Keith Mansion**.
15. Have a birthday party at **Rothenbach Park**.
16. Let the dogs play off-leash at **17th Street Dog Park**.
17. Register for camp at **Colonial Oaks Park**.
18. Play a baseball game at **Twin Lakes Park**.
19. Get excited about **The Legacy Trail** extension.
20. Have a baby or bridal shower at **Longwood Park**.
21. Take on a tennis match at **Woodmere Park**.
22. Tour the historic circus train cars at **Venice Train Depot and Rollins W. Coakley Railroad Park**.
23. Race at the country's oldest continuously running BMX track at **Youth Athletic Complex**.
24. Hike, bike or bring your horse to the 24,565-acre **T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve**.
25. Climb to the tallest point in Sarasota County at **Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility**.
26. Search for gopher tortoise burrows at **Scherer Thaxton Preserve**.
27. Learn about Florida's plants and animals at **Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center**.
28. Relax under the grand pavilion at **Maxine Barritt Park**.
29. Take a leisurely hike to the lake view at **Red Bug Slough Preserve**.
30. Hike along the majestic Myakka River at the **Jelks Preserve**.
31. Plant vegetables at the community garden at **Culverhouse Nature Park**.
32. Play sand volleyball at **Bee Ridge Park**.
33. Seek out the elusive Florida scrub-jay at **Manasota Scrub Preserve**.
34. Discover **Bay Street Park**, a tucked away family park in the small community of Osprey.
35. Watch the Stickney Point Bridge open and close from **Christopher Wheeler Park**.
36. Try a new sport at **Englewood Sports Complex**.
37. Join the Boys and Girls Club after school program or camp at **Newtown Estates Park**.
38. Try it all at **Nokomis Community Park**-indoor recreation, outdoor exercise equipment, playground and tennis.
39. Work out on the outdoor exercise equipment at **Fruitville Park**.
40. Take a yoga class at **Venice Beach**.
41. Visit **Siesta Beach**, the No. 1 beach in the U.S.
42. Discover the longleaf pine flatwoods of **Curry Creek Preserve**.
43. Stargaze for comets and meteor showers at **Bypass Park/Foxworthy Campus**.
44. Enjoy the majesty of **Blind Pass Beach Park** without a high-rise in sight.
45. Get the kids out to play at the accessible playgrounds at **Laurel Park**.
46. Remember the 65 missing American submarines at the **On Eternal Patrol Reef**.
47. Watch Special Olympic athletes train at the **Gene Whipp Special Olympics Center**.
48. Hike with your dog on a leash at **Sleeping Turtles Preserve North**.
49. Learn to play Pétanque, pronounced "pay-tonk," at **Lakeview Park**.
50. See who wins at a disc golf match at **Wellfield Park**.



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100 Things to Do in Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources

51. Paddleboard around the mangrove islands at **Jim Neville Marine Preserve**.
52. Watch the sunrise at **Bayfront Park Addition**.
53. Park at North Jetty Park to watch eagles in the trees at **Rattlesnake Island**.
54. Build a seashell collection from what you find at **Manasota Beach Park**.
55. Net a huge mullet from **Osprey Fishing Pier**.
56. Walk the **Pinelands Reserve** and observe the smaller wildlife that camouflage themselves.
57. Learn about a local pioneer, Fred Albee, and the Pollyanna Inn at the **Pocono Trail Preserve**.
58. Test your orienteering skills at **Deer Prairie Creek Preserve**.
59. Visit the Friends of The Legacy Trail information table, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, at the **Osprey Junction Trailhead**.
60. Boat to or walk south from Turtle Beach to **Palmer Point Park**, where Midnight Pass used to flow.
61. Bike the single-track trails at **Big Slough Preserve**.
62. Watch children develop teamwork skills at **Babe Ruth Park**.
63. Experience the peacefulness of the Wild and Scenic Myakka River at **Senator Bob Johnson's Landing**.
64. Converse with the birds along the trails at **Pinecraft Park**.
65. Take only photos and leave only footprints along the ranchland trails of **Walton Ranch**.
66. Watch airplanes come in and take off from **Buchan Airport Community Park/Kiwanis Foundation Park**.
67. Launch your boat to go deep sea fishing from **Higel Marine Park**.
68. Hoot with barred owls at **Loreto Court Bay Access**.
69. Swim along the coastline at **Chauncy Howard Park**.
70. Watch kids in a soccer game at **Narramore Sports Complex**.
71. Count how many wading birds you can find in the ponds along **Ackerman Park**.
72. Learn about archaeology at **Indian Mound Park**, which was occupied between 1,000 B.C. to 1,350 A.D.
73. Access the **Lincer Preserve** through the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve.
74. Hike the 4 miles of multi-use trails along a blackwater creek at **Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park**.
75. Reminisce at **Hopewell Memorial Park** and the Hopewell Cemetery.
76. Rollerblade around the lake at **Nathan Benderson Park**.
77. Watch a spring training game at **Ed Smith Stadium** or **CoolToday Park**.
78. Feel like an important part of the team regardless of performance at **Miss Sarasota Softball Complex**.
79. Coach all ages of soccer at **Tatum Ridge Elementary School's soccer fields**.
80. Shoot some hoops at **Glebe Park**.
81. Rent the pavilion at **Potter Park** named after Sarasota socialite Bertha Potter Palmer.
82. Play pickleball or tennis on **Pinebrook Park** courts.
83. Launch your own kayak from **Vamo Drive Park** and explore the islands of the Intracoastal Waterway.
84. Have a picnic at **Nora Patterson Bay Island Park** and watch the boats head out to Sarasota Bay.
85. During sea turtle nesting season, keep your lights out of sight at **Turtle Beach Park**.
86. Discover the loop trail of **Old Miakka Preserve**, named after the historic, rural community, Old Miakka.
87. Remember the victims and first responders of the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, at **Patriots Park**.
88. Listen to the eagles and swallow-tailed kites in the pines of **Bayonne**, a small preserve.
89. Wear your mud shoes while hiking the hydric hammocks of **Circus Hammock**.
90. Trek the hidden gem of **Myakka Islands Point** trails that lead through Florida ecosystems.
91. Bike the **Venetian Waterway Park** north to connect with The Legacy Trail into Sarasota.
92. Lay on a blanket and watch the clouds at **Venice Gardens Park**.
93. Help protect some of the last undeveloped bay shorelines in Sarasota County at **South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve**.
94. Learn about recycling at the sea turtle sculptures at **Venice and Siesta Beaches**.
95. Bring your camera and enjoy the variety of wading and nesting birds at the **Venice Area Audubon Rookery**.
96. Join a softball league at **Bypass Park/Foxworthy Campus**.
97. Relax under the huge live oak trees and have a picnic at **Red Rock Park**.
98. Watch scullers of all ages and abilities practice from **Blackburn Point Park**.
99. Connect with others in your community by volunteering at any **Sarasota County park**.
100. Support all of the parks you love by helping the **Friends of Sarasota County Parks**, a nonprofit volunteer group.



For more information, call the Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or go to scgov.net/parks.

IT STARTS IN
PARKS




Sarasota County