HISTORY AND NATURE

The park contains over 1,800 acres of natural Florida with many features such as sinks, streams, springs, limestone outcroppings and the rivers. The park has an abundance of plant and animal species including gopher tortoise, fox, deer, song birds, wildflowers and diverse native forests. The protected Gulf Sturgeon and other fishes and reptiles are abundant in the river.

Early use by Native Americans dates back some 12,000 years. While under Spanish control, the passage of De Soto's party occurred in 1540. During 1818 Andrew Jackson lead American forces through this area searching for Indian strongholds, believed responsible for raiding settlers.

Vestiges of history in the park show how important the Suwannee River was to Florida history. One can find an earthworks mound built during the Civil War to defend the railroad crossing that supplied confederate troops. The Battle of Olustee in February 1864 turned back Union forces heading west to destroy this bridge. The town of Columbus, established in 1841, was also located here. This town once prospered from river steamboat traffic carrying passengers and freight. The Columbus Cemetery, one of the state's oldest, and old stagecoach road, a major 1800s route of travel from Pensacola to Jacksonville, can still be visited in the park's sandhills. Steamboats, railroads, timber, sawmills and cotton made the area reach its "golden period" from 1867 to 1900. Initial acquisition of the park took place in 1936 and was formally opened in 1951.



SUWANNEE RIVER STATE PARK

3631 201st Path Live Oak, FL 32060 386-362-2746

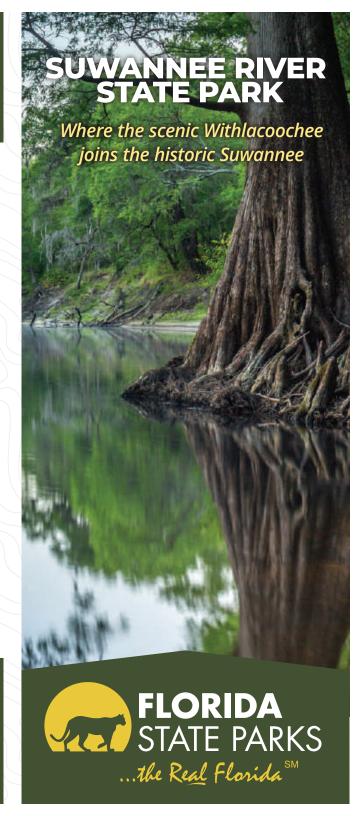
PARK GUIDELINES

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is required.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. Collection, destruction or disturbance is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a handheld leash no longer than six feet and well-behaved at all times.
- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- To become a volunteer, please inquire at the ranger station.
- For information about the North Florida Springs Alliance visit NorthFloridaSpringsAlliance.org.
- For camping information, contact Reserve
- America at 800-326-3521 or visit ReserveAmerica.com
- Florida state parks are committed to providing all visitors equal access to all facilities and programs. If you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station.

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EXPERIENCES AND AMENITIES

Welcome to Suwannee River State Park, where the scenic Withlacoochee River joins the historic and world-renowned Suwannee River. A rustic overlook provides a panoramic view of the rivers and surrounding wooded uplands.

Located on the **Suwannee River Wilderness Trail**, visitors can enjoy a lazy day paddling trip or a multiday adventure. They can take scenic photographs or relax on beautiful white sand river banks. A **boat ramp** is available for various watercrafts. Special services are also available from local outfitters to meet specific needs. Visitors can enjoy **fishing** the river for their favorite catch.

The park has **30 campsites** for both tent and RV camping. Each site has a picnic table, grill, clothesline, 50 amp service, water and sewer hook-up. Accessible **showers** are centrally located. Firewood is available on-site. Two **youth camps** with **restrooms** and **showers** are available for large groups. The day-use picnic area has tables, grills, two **picnic shelters** and a shady **playground** is located nearby.

Five full service **cabins**, which sleep 6, include a dishwasher, fireplace and large screened porch. Please note that pets are not allowed in the cabins. Interpretive labels explain various park plants and animals for those who take the self-guided tour.



Suwannee River State Park

