



Trail Distances

Please note trail mile markers increase as trails move south or west.



0.4 mi Alligator Marsh	0.3 mi Eagle Loop
0.7 mi Armadillo Trail	0.2 mi East Cabin Connector
1.1 mi Beach Mouse Bypass	1.5 mi Gopher Tortoise Trail
0.4 mi Bear Creek Trail	3.0 mi Gulf Oak Ridge
0.7 mi Bobcat Branch	0.6 mi Lake Crossing
0.1 mi Bobcat Bypass	0.3 mi Lake Shelby Overlook
0.1 mi Campground Connector	2.2 mi Lakeview Trail
2.2 mi Campground Trail	0.1 mi Middle Lake Overlook
1.0 mi Canal Trail	1.6 mi Rattlesnake Ridge
2.7 mi Catman Trail	2.1 mi Rosemary Dunes
1.1 mi Cotton Bayou	0.5 mi Sawgrass Trail
2.1 mi Coyote Crossing	0.8 mi Twin Bridges
0.8 mi Cross Park Trail	0.2 mi West Cabin Connector
0.2 mi Eagle Connector	0.1 mi Woodside Connector

1C Park Headquarters



2C Learning Campus and Woodside Restaurant



3C The Refuge



3E Lake Shelby Picnic Area



3F Fishing & Education Pier



3E Lodge & Beachside Restaurants



6D Campground & Nature Center



5E Interpretive Center & Beach Pavilion



10B Forest Pavilion & Butterfly Garden



TRAIL ETIQUETTE

- » Non-motorized vehicle use only.
- » Absolutely **NO** fires or smoking—wildfires may result!
- » Pets must remain on a leash at all times.
- » **CAUTION**—alligators, snakes, and other wildlife in area. Remember to give all wildlife right-of-way.
- » Keep to the right. Pass on the left after announcing.
- » 10 mph Speed Limit — **NO** "road training" allowed on the trail — it is not designed for high-speed road biking.
- » No Littering.
- » Please dispose of litter or dog refuse in provided bins.
- » **DAYLIGHT HOURS ONLY** — **NO** Camping Allowed.
- » **NO** fishing from trail bridges. Fishing is allowed in designated areas only.
- » **YIELD TO EMERGENCY AND OFFICIAL VEHICLES.**
- » **REMEMBER** — Vehicles may approach from behind you.

Our Trails

ALLIGATOR MARSH

Take a hike on this primitive trail to truly experience the park's wetlands.

ARMADILLO TRAIL

Veer off the beaten path and take the scenic route along this primitive trail near Middle Lake.

BEACH MOUSE BYPASS

Beach Mouse Bypass, an elevated boardwalk with stunning views, connects the Beach Pavilion and Interpretive Center with the green side of the park via pedestrian bridge.

BEAR CREEK TRAIL

This trail, repaved using recycled asphalt, connects the Campground with the park's northern amenities via Gopher Tortoise Trail.

BOBCAT BRANCH

This primitive trail along the Campground's western edge provides scenic views of wetlands and wooded areas.

CAMPGROUND TRAIL

This paved and elevated trail follows the northern border of the park's campground and is the perfect place to spot the park's most exotic creature—the Snowbird.

Destinations and Amenities

BEACH PAVILION

Snacks, shade, bathrooms, water, and parking.

BEACHSIDE RESTAURANTS

Enjoy a casual meal downstairs among the dunes at Food Craft or head upstairs to Perch for incredible beach views.

FIRST AID

First Aid stations are located at the Park HQ, Nature Center, Campground Check-In, The Lodge, The Refuge, Picnic Area, and the Orange Beach Municipal Complex.

FOREST PAVILION

Located on Catman Trail, the screened pavilion features a boulder park, butterfly garden, restrooms, water fountain, and bike repair station.

CANAL TRAIL

Canal Trail's accessible pier overlooking Lake Shelby is the perfect place to cast your line or watch the sunset.

CATMAN TRAIL

This trail is home to amenities like the screened Forest Pavilion, Butterfly Garden, and Boulder Park.

COTTON BAYOU

This paved trail brings you closer to other trails and activities such as the Boulder Park, Butterfly Garden, and Rosemary Dunes.

COYOTE CROSSING

With its connection to Gulf Shores, avid trail enthusiasts can explore the neighboring town by bike or foot.

CROSS PARK TRAIL

Experience diverse habitats as you move from historical dunes to a forested ridge. Enjoy the wind as it blows across the wetlands at the wooden boxes.

EAGLE LOOP

A walk along this primitive trail reveals old forests and, season permitting, nesting bald eagles.

EAST CABIN CONNECTOR

This trail connects cottage guests to the park's northern amenities via Coyote Crossing.

GOPHER TORTOISE TRAIL

The keystone of our trail system, Gopher Tortoise Trail creates a safe, car-free connection between the beach and the park's northern amenities.

GULF OAK RIDGE

Ancient mossy oaks and beautiful vistas alongside a diverse amount of native wildlife make this trail the perfect place to walk and relax.

LAKE CROSSING

This elevated boardwalk connects the Campground to the Picnic Area and all the fun and adventure of Lake Shelby.

LAKE SHELBY OVERLOOK TRAIL

Take a detour off Gopher Tortoise Trail down this path to the accessible pier where you can spot alligators.

LAKEVIEW OVERLOOK

This accessible pier located on the northern edge of Lake Shelby is a great place for a quiet moment of fishing or nature watching.

LAKEVIEW TRAIL

Follow the trail along Lake Shelby's western shore for stunning views of wetlands. Stop and mingle with local anglers at a favorite fishing spot found on the trail.

LAKE PIERS

Three piers on Lake Shelby, one overlook on Middle Lake, and a mini-pier on Little Lake provide great places to get close to wildlife.

NATURE CENTER

Meet some of the native creatures that call Gulf State Park home. Weekly programs and guided tours offer unique learning opportunities for kids of all ages.

PAUSE PLACES

Three wooden structures are scattered throughout the park for your enjoyment. Each one will give you a different perspective on the park's natural wonder.

MIDDLE LAKE OVERLOOK

This scenic overlook is accessed via Armadillo Trail and offers views of Middle Lake in the Campground.

RATTLESNAKE RIDGE

Gopher tortoises, armadillos, and woodpeckers—don't let the rattlesnake name fool you. There's plenty of other wildlife to be seen along this trail.

ROSEMARY DUNES

This trail offers a scenic experience full of pine trees, native rosemary, wild flowers, and an opportunity to spot alligators.

SAWGRASS TRAIL

Beautiful live oaks provide this trail with plenty of shade.

TWIN BRIDGES

The journey along this trail carries you into the heart of the park's wooded areas where countless species of native plants and wildlife can be spotted.

WEST CABIN CONNECTOR

This trail connects cabin guests to the park's trail network via Lakeview Trail.

WOODSIDE CONNECTOR

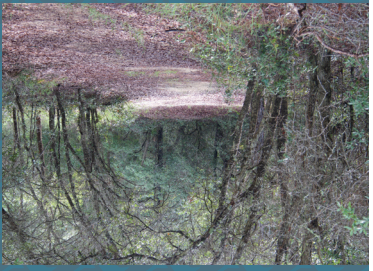
This trail provides a connection to the park's wooded areas via Lakeview Trail and Coyote Crossing.



There are many rare and endangered species found in the park, including white-topped pitcher plants, gopher tortoises, and bald eagles. The park is also home to many reptile species with two excellent viewing locations for American alligators. When exploring the trails, please practice Leave No Trace principles so that everyone can enjoy this special place.

FROM WETLANDS and WOODLANDS to BEACHES and FRESHWATER LAKES, EXPLORING GULF STATE PARK'S NINE DISTINCT ECOSYSTEMS IS A NON-STOP ADVENTURE.

There are nearly 28 miles of trails, crossing through nine ecosystems, in Gulf State Park. Each ecosystem contains a diversity of flora and fauna, making the trails ideal for nature enthusiasts.



With interpretive signs, exhibits, and multiple places to pause and relax, the park's trails are ideal for enjoying the stunning natural beauty of Alabama's Gulf Coast. It's accessible to all levels of physical ability, so park your car and leave it behind for an unforgettable adventure.



TRAIL ETIQUETTE

To enhance the enjoyment of all trail users, please keep the following trail etiquette in mind:

- » Non-motorized vehicle use only.
- » Absolutely **NO** fires or smoking—wildfires may result!
- » Pets must remain on a leash at all times.
- » **CAUTION**—alligators, snakes, and other wildlife in area. Remember to give all wildlife right-of-way.
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YIELD TO EMERGENCY AND OFFICIAL VEHICLES

REMEMBER— Vehicles may approach from behind you.

PARK HEADQUARTERS: 251-948-7275
FOR EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911

TRAIL PARTNERS



ALABAMA'S
GULF STATE PARK
mygulfstatepark.com
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Gulf State Park • 20115 State Highway 135 • Gulf Shores, Alabama 36542

Trail Map

ALABAMA'S
GULF STATE PARK

