History & Nature

Bordered by both the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway, North Peninsula State Park offers visitors the opportunity to experience a diverse number of natural communities. Coastline, beach dunes, coastal scrub, maritime hammock and salt marsh all offer a vast array of natural encounters.

The natural communities found within the park grant visitors the opportunity to view a number of rare and protected wildlife. At night, during the months of May through early September, marine turtles including the loggerhead, green and occasionally the rare leatherback sea turtle, journey to the shores of North Peninsula State Park to nest.

In the months of December through April, the endangered right whale migrates to the coasts of Florida and Georgia to birth their calves. The majestic right whales can often be seen within 10 miles of the coast during this very special time.

A wide array of bird life can be observed throughout the year at North Peninsula State Park. The marsh habitat provides a great opportunity to view a variety of wading birds. The endangered Florida scrub jay has been known to reside here in the past.

In addition to the amazing wildlife sightings, North Peninsula State Park is also home to a large assortment of native plants. While hiking on the Coastal Strand Trail visitors can expect to see a canopy of cabbage palm, live oak and red bay trees, as well as large open expanses of saw palmettos and a number of native ferns, grasses and wildflowers. During the spring and early summer months, the borders of State Road A1A are painted with vivid color by the profusion of blooming wildflowers. Florida State Parks Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Recreation and Parks

> North Peninsula State Park 40 Highbridge Road Ormond by the Sea, Florida 32176 (386) 517-2086

FloridaStateParks.org

Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sundown, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is not 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 leash no longer than six feet and well behaved at all times. You must clean up after your pet. Pets are not permitted on the beach.
- Fishing, boating and swimming are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Become a volunteer. Inquire by calling (386) 517-2086.
- Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station. A beach wheelchair is available upon request.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.

Large
PrintAlternate format
available upon
request at any
Florida state park.

FLORIDA State Parks

the Real Florida

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North Peninsula State Park

Unspoiled Atlantic Beach



... the Real Florida



National Gold Medal Winner Florida State Parks - "America's First Three-Time Winner"

Real Fun in ... the Real Florida

With with almost three glorious miles of unspoiled beach and 557 acres of diverse terrain, North Peninsula State Park is a wonderful way to experience ... the Real Florida⁵⁴⁴.

Bask in the sunshine along the sandy shore and enjoy the sweeping coastal winds while **picnicking** or take a **swim** in the refreshing waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Those looking for a bit more of a challenge can stand along the tide's edge and try their hand at **surf fishing**, or grab their **surf board** and take to the waves.

Nature enthusiasts will rejoice at the **wildlife viewing** opportunities available within the park's boundaries. Whether **cycling** along the Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail or **hiking** the two-mile Coastal Strand Trail, visitors will have the opportunity to see a number of rare and protected species, such as the gopher tortoise or the Eastern indigo snake. As a part of the Great Florida Birding Trail, **birders** will delight in spotting the many native and migratory species seen in this park.

Smith Creek Landing offers access to the Intracoastal Waterway, where visitors can **crab or fish** along its shady banks. It is also a perfect spot for those looking for a beautiful place to picnic and rest. A bicycle maintenance station has all the tools necessary to perform bike repairs for cyclists.

In the 1930s and 1940s, dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway impacted valuable marsh along the historic Smith Creek. Since 2009, about 100 acres of spoil site from those dredging activities were restored to natural tidal marsh conditions. This salt marsh restoration area now provides valuable habitat for fish, aquatic plants and birdlife.

