

# Jefferson County

**Driving Distance: 82 Miles**

*From crystal-clear waters of the Wacissa River to pecan groves, and green hills to Victorian homes, an opera house, and Lake Miccosukee*



## **A (22M) Aucilla River, Aucilla Wildlife Management Area, Wacissa River and Park**

Heading west on US 98, cross the Aucilla River from Taylor into Jefferson County, and continue through the Aucilla Wildlife Management Area. Turn north (R) onto SR 59 to Wacissa Springs Rd. Turn east (R), past "Dead End" signs to a parking lot at the headwaters of the beautiful Wacissa River.

- Excellent launch-site for canoes and kayaks.
- Crystal-clear water with several springs to explore.
- Wildlife viewing, birdwatching, swimming.



## **B (22M) Historic Monticello, Jefferson County Court House, Antebellum Homes, Opera House, Gardens**

Return west on Wacissa Springs Rd. (SR 59) to the town of Wacissa. Turn north (R) at CR 259 to Waukeenah, cross US 27, pass over Interstate 10, and turn north (L) onto US 19 toward Monticello.

- Scenic drive past pecan groves and farms.

- Rolling green hills, tree farms, longhorn cattle.



Continue into Historic Monticello. The Jefferson County Courthouse, modeled after Jefferson's Monticello in Virginia, provides a dramatic focal point and town center. For a "Tour of Homes," turn right at the Courthouse on Washington St., continue a few blocks to Railroad St., turn left on Railroad one block to Dogwood. Turn right on Dogwood, continue until it becomes a magnificent moss-draped canopy road. Although the road is unpaved, this section is beautiful! Turn left for one block to Pearl St., and left on Pearl to Jefferson St. Turn right on Jefferson to High St., right on High to Waukeenah St., left on Waukeenah to Madison St. Turn left on Madison, cross Jefferson St. to Olive St., left on Olive to High St., then left on High back to Jefferson St. Turn right on Jefferson to the Courthouse. The Perkins Opera House will be in front, to the right of the Courthouse. Turn west (R) on SR 90 toward Tallahassee.

- 1890 Opera House, on National Register of Historic Places, ornate performance hall on second floor.

- Tour of homes features 19th-century frame Vernacular, Victorian, and Classical Revival homes and buildings, some dating from 1830s.

## **C (38M) Scenic Fred Mahan Drive, Lake Miccosukee, Letchworth Mound State Archeological Site**

SR 90 (Fred Mahan Dr.) is a landscaped corridor lined with over 40,000 pyracantha, arborvitae, crepe myrtle, ligustrum, and palms planted in the 1920s and 1930s by Mahan's Monticello Nursery Company, then the second largest pecan and ornamental shrubbery concern in the southeast.

- Lake Miccosukee, a beautiful cypress-lined lake with boardwalk by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- Letchworth Mound State Archeological Site, on left after lake, is worth a visit.

Continue on SR 90 to SR 59, turn south (L), crossing under Interstate 10 and past US 27, back through Wacissa, to US 98.

Turn west (R) on US 98 to Wakulla County.

