

Taylor County

Driving Distance: 81 Miles

From the Steinhatchee to the Aucilla Rivers, the Big Bend is full of scallops, saltwater fish, and shorebirds for your viewing and salt-water recreational pleasure



A (25M) Steinhatchee River, Big Bend Wildlife Management Area-Hagen's Cove, Big Bend Paddling Trail, Coastal Beaches

Going north on CR 361 from Dixie County, cross the Steinhatchee River into Taylor County.

- *Steinhatchee is a picturesque fishing & scalloping town.*
- *Community Park on 3rd Ave. & 11th St. has picnic area, fishing pier, water view.*

Continue north on CR 361 to sign for Big Bend Wildlife Management Area-Hagen's Cove.

Turn west (L) for panoramic views of pine islands, natural beaches, and shallow bays of the Gulf.



- *Mud flats host large numbers of shorebirds.*
- *Observation tower, picnic pavilions, fishing, scalloping.*
- *Canoe access to Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail, located on the Gulf between the St. Marks Lighthouse and the Suwannee River.*

Return to CR 361 north. Try Keaton, Dekle, and Adams Beaches for boat ramps, fishing, scalloping, and bird-watching.

B (15M) Forest Capital Museum State Park, Cracker Homestead

Continue from Adams Beach on CR 361 to US 19, turn north (L) to Perry and the Forest Capital Museum State Park, which chronicles the forest industry from the 1800s to today. 13-acre park with Cracker Homestead interpretive site.

- *Depicts 314 Florida trees, with exhibits on turpentine production, timber products, and harvesting techniques.*
- *Features a "talking tree" and life-size habitats of a cypress swamp and hardwood hammock.*

C (41M) Hickory Mound Impoundment, Econfina River State Park, Aucilla River at Nutall Rise

Continue north on US 19 to US 27/98. Turn west (L) on US 98, to sign for Hickory Mound Impoundment (Cow Creek Grade). Turn south (L) on limerock road, which can be rough, but well worth the trip! Get brochure/map at check station and proceed to the Impoundment.

- *Largest uninterrupted Cabbage Palm grove in the United States provides backdrop for dike road around brackish impoundment on the Gulf, dotted by pine hammocks.*
- *Picnic areas, viewing platform, information kiosk, boat ramp, birdwatching, wildlife viewing, fishing, scalloping, crabbing.*

Continue around the impoundment and turn east (R) at Swartz Tram through the pine hammock until you return to Cow Creek Grade. Turn north (L) on Cow Creek Grade to US 98. Continue west (L) on US 98 to CR 14. Turn south (L) to the Econfina River State Park at the end of the road.

- *Boating, camping, canoeing, horseback riding, fishing, hiking, swimming.*
- *Birdwatching, wildlife viewing.*

Return westward on US 98. To view the scenic Aucilla River at Nutall Rise (an official archeological site), turn right just before the Aucilla River Bridge.

Return to US 98 and turn west (R) into Jefferson County.

