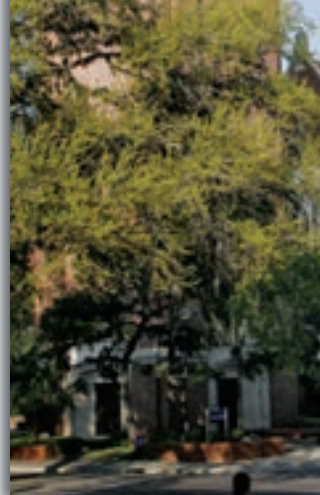


Visit

GAINESVILLE

Where Nature and Culture Meet





COUNTRY INN & SUITES-GAINESVILLE

All New Upgrades to Our Property:

- New bedding which features a luxury duvet, choice of pillows (feather or synthetic) and extremely comfortable Serta bedding.
- Hotel is located at the Archer exit which is the predominant location for all the hotels. Adjacent to Cracker Barrel and lots of name brand restaurants are within a mile from the hotel.
- All rooms equipped with micro/fridge, electronic safe and high-speed Internet (wired and wireless) with 24-hour tech support.
- We are highly ranked by Tripadvisor.com, satisfaction scores on third-party booking websites like Hotels.com, Expedia.com and Travelocity.com are extremely high. We are very highly rated by our guests.
- We are the only hotel in Gainesville with indoor heated pool and spa.
- Large suites with a separate bedroom and living area.
- All rooms have new LCD 32" flat screen televisions and pay-per-view movies.
- All new look to our Fitness Center with top-of-the-line Nordictrack, new fitness equipment and rubber flooring.
- New menus daily served on new chinaware and silverware.



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1714 SW 34th St. | Gainesville, FL 32607
 P: 352.371.3600 | Groups & Meetings: 352.384.3412
www.uf.hilton.com



GAINESVILLE SPORTS COMMISSION

The city of Gainesville and Alachua County is known for its small-town atmosphere and family-friendly environment.

It's conveniently located in North Central Florida. Gainesville not only has great year-round weather, but exciting amenities like downtown shopping and dining, museums, performing arts and many natural springs and rivers. It is a place with new and improved softball, soccer, baseball, and swimming facilities in a community where "nature, culture and sports meet." Gainesville continues to be home for championship teams including recent NCAA titles. The Gainesville Sports Commission has been hosting major events since 1988. We offer participants a chance to compete and play where past championships have been held and where present world-class athletes practice, play and win every day.

Need a Hotel? Check out our preferred hotels: www.gainesvillesportscommission.com/preferred-hotels



300 E. University Ave. | Suite 100 | Gainesville, FL 32601

P: 352.338.9300

www.gainesvillesportscommission.com

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LODGING & EVENTS

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Sweetwater Branch Inn Features:

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Toll Free: 800.595.7760



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Front Cover: Ichetucknee River, Hippodrome State Theatre in Downtown Gainesville, Shark Jaws at the Florida Museum of Natural History, A slice of deep dish at Satchel's pizza. Inside Cover: Fresh strawberries and jam at the Union Street Farmers Market, Cyclists in a local race, the Century Tower on campus at UF, the Wall of Wings at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Downtown Newberry, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens.



Visit
GAINESVILLE
where nature and culture meet

30 E. University Ave.

Gainesville, FL 32601

Toll Free: 866.778.5002

Local: 352.374.5231

Fax: 352.338.3213

www.visitgainesville.com

Photography courtesy of The Harn Museum, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Dance Alive National Ballet, Easton-Newberry Sports Complex and Gainesville Raceway.



Welcome to GAINESVILLE



*Gainesville and
Alachua County*

We like to say that Gainesville is where nature and culture meet.

Here, you'll find one-of-a-kind outdoor adventures alongside world-class museums and premiere performances. Our numerous crystal-clear freshwater springs are known throughout the world, as are our championship University of Florida Gator athletic teams.

In Gainesville and Alachua County, you can spend the day exploring a top-ranked collection of Asian, African and contemporary art or hunting for treasures in Micanopy's antique stores, then

spend the night sampling our area's storied musical heritage. You can plug into the vitality of a college-town, then retire to a Victorian home in downtown Gainesville's bed and breakfast district – by horse-drawn carriage, perhaps? – to immerse yourself in Southern history. Don't miss out on the culinary scene, where the bounty of North Florida's farms meets the kitchens of some of the region's most creative chefs.

Read on to discover your perfect Gainesville getaway.



A large photograph of three turtles resting on a weathered log. One turtle is in the foreground, facing left, with its head and front legs visible. Another turtle is behind it, and a third is further back on the right. The background is a blurred green body of water.

NATURE

Encounter Something Wild

Whether you prefer pedaling or paddling, hiking or cave diving, you'll find it in the Gainesville area, from the lush acres of Kanapaha Botanical Gardens to the savannah of Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park.

For kayaking, swimming, snorkeling and tubing in crystal-clear water, head to Ichetucknee Springs State Park, with its 3.5-mile tubing run down an unspoiled river. At O'Leno State Park, hikers cross a suspension bridge over the Santa Fe River built by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Cyclists can tackle the trails of San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park, with 2,000 acres for horseback riding, off-road bicycling and hiking, or the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail, which winds 16 miles through Paynes Prairie.

Animal lovers won't want to miss the Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo and the Butterfly Rainforest at the Florida Museum of Natural History, as well as Alachua's Mill Creek Farm, where retired horses live out their days in carrot-crunching peace.

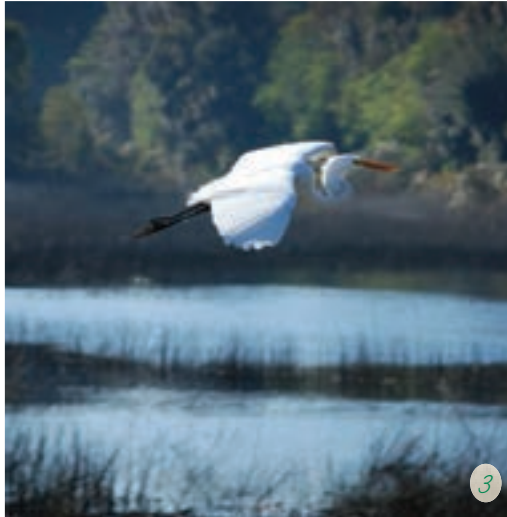




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1. Swimming in the crystal clear waters of nearby springs. 2. Two residents of the Retirement Home for Horses at Mill Creek Farm. 3. A great egret flies over Paynes Prairie. 4. Tubing the Ichetucknee River. 5. Enjoying the Butterfly Rainforest at the Florida Museum of Natural History. 6. Beautiful trails at San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park. 7. The Alachua Sink at Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park.

CULTURE

Keeping The Arts Alive

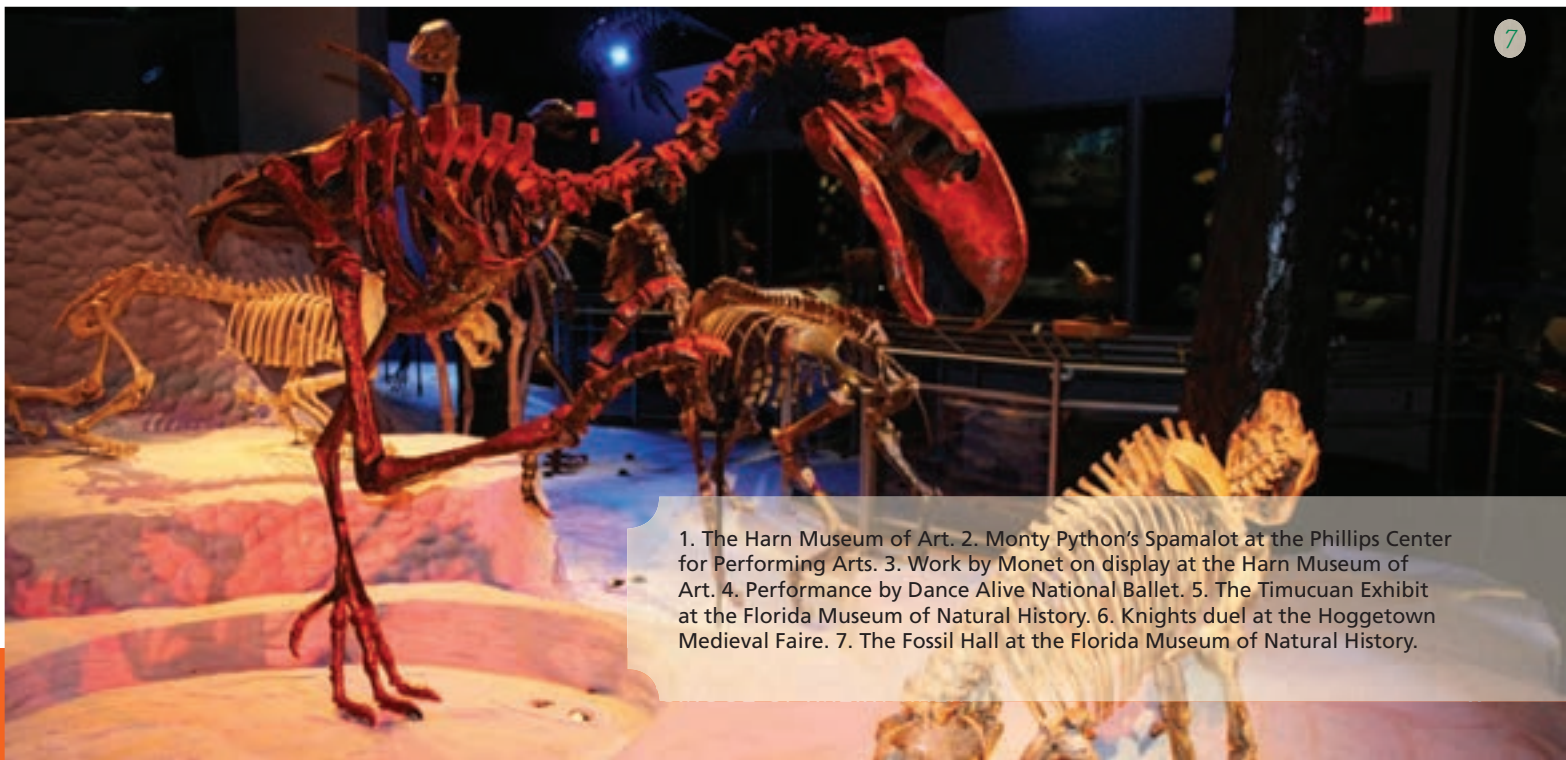
20 With professional theater and dance companies and a world-class art museum, Gainesville is an oasis for visual and performing arts.

To get a feel for Gainesville's thriving arts scene, visit downtown Gainesville's Art Walk on the last Friday of each month. Meet artists in their studios and galleries, watch art demonstrations and enjoy live music on the self-guided tour. Also downtown is the historic Hippodrome Theatre, where professional actors and directors stage dramas, musicals and comedies. Festivals abound, from plein air paint-outs to open-air

art shows and a Free Fridays concert series from April to mid November.

On the University of Florida campus, the Cultural Plaza offers three can't-miss destinations. The Harn Museum of Art is home to significant African and contemporary collections as well as a new Asian wing. Stop by the Harn's Camellia Court Café before heading next door to the Florida Museum of Natural History and its Butterfly Rainforest, a tropical garden with hundreds of free-flying butterflies. The third gem in the Cultural Plaza's crown is the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, which hosts touring acts and world premieres.





1. The Harn Museum of Art. 2. Monty Python's Spamalot at the Phillips Center for Performing Arts. 3. Work by Monet on display at the Harn Museum of Art. 4. Performance by Dance Alive National Ballet. 5. The Timucuan Exhibit at the Florida Museum of Natural History. 6. Knights duel at the Hoggetown Medieval Faire. 7. The Fossil Hall at the Florida Museum of Natural History.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

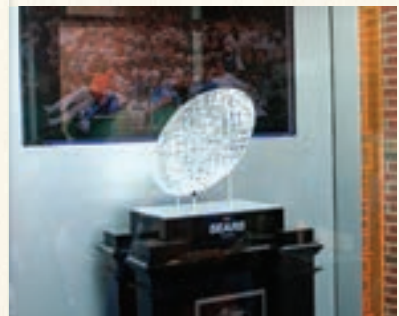
Rich History, Exceptional Academics & Athletic Champions

Sports fans won't want to miss a pilgrimage to Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, home of the Florida Gators football team.

Running the stadium steps is a time-honored workout here, but "The Swamp" also offers a glimpse of Gator glory at the Heavener Football Complex, where three NCAA National Championship trophies and three Heisman trophies are on display.

Of course, Gator athletics extend beyond the gridiron, with basketball, baseball, soccer and a dozen more intercollegiate sports filling the stands.

The historic Collegiate Gothic-style campus boasts plenty of attractions beyond sports: From a world-class art museum and three galleries to several performing-arts venues and a natural-history museum – even a hotel – no visit to Gainesville is complete without a stop at the University of Florida.





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1. University of Florida mascot, Albert. 2. An aerial view of the Century Tower on campus at UF. 3. 'My Fair Lady' at the Phillips Center for Performing Arts. 4. Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. 5. Statues of UF's three Heisman trophy winners at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. 6. Tim Tebow during his years as a Florida Gator. 7. Aerial view of the Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, also known as 'The Swamp'.



ATTRACTIONS

Explore the Past or Discover a New Adventure

Where will your Alachua County adventure take you?

You might find yourself in a tropical garden filled with free-flying butterflies at the Florida Museum of Natural History, or amid the thundering crowd at a University of Florida football game.

You could visit ocelots and lemurs at the Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo, follow a path through waterfalls and ferns to the heart of Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park, or cycle the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail.

Perhaps you'll venture north to explore the freshwater springs, one of the world's largest concentrations of "big bubblers," pumping millions of gallons of crystal-clear water into the area's rivers every day. Visitors come for snorkeling, paddling, swimming, hiking and spotting wildlife.

Maybe you prefer the high-octane thrills of drag racing at Gainesville Raceway, or a dose of culture with a docent-led tour of the Harn Museum of Art. Whatever your passion, the nature and culture of Gainesville and Alachua County await.





1. Olympic Archer Brady Ellison at the Easton-Newberry Sports Complex's Gator Cup. 2. Fresh produce at the Union Square Farmers Market in Downtown Gainesville. 3. Blacksmiths hard at work at Dudley Farm Historic State Park. 4. Visitors enjoy a race at the Autoplus Raceway in Gainesville. 5. Minstrels entertain the crowd at the annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire. 6. Aerial view of the Downtown Festival and Art Show. 7. Downtown Micanopy.



Attractions



Have cell phone tours at their location.
Visit www.gainesvillecelltours.com for more info.

Autoplus Raceway

11211 N. County Rd. 225, Gainesville
(352) 377-0046, www.autoplusraceway.com

Motorsports enthusiasts can enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of drag racing on the world-renowned 1/4 mile drag strip. Host of the annual Gatornationals drag races.

Bivens Arm Nature Park

3650 S. Main St., Gainesville
(352) 334-5067, www.cityofgainesville.org

Newly rebuilt boardwalks and overlooks, new hiking trails, new playground equipment, and other upgraded amenities now await visitors to one of Gainesville's oldest nature parks. The forests and wetlands in this park provide an important buffer between urban Gainesville and the extensive natural areas of Paynes Prairie, and a convenient getaway to enjoy the peace and quiet of natural North Florida.

Butterfly Rainforest

UF Cultural Plaza SW 34th St. & Hull Rd., Gainesville
(352) 846-2000, www.flmnh.ufl.edu/butterflies/

Enjoy hundreds of exotic butterflies in a rainforest setting and watch as they flutter around, stopping only to feed and land on flowers. This is a one-of-a-kind attraction that you won't soon forget!

Canterbury Equestrian Showplace

23100 W. Newberry Rd., Newberry
(352) 472-6758, www.canterburyshowplace.com

A beautiful horse show facility dedicated to bringing quality equine events to Alachua County. A large covered arena seats 2,000 with 26 stalls, five outdoor rings, a cross country course, clubhouse, restroom and shower.

Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park

4732 Millhopper Rd., Gainesville
(352) 955-2008, www.floridastateparks.org/devilsmillhopper/

Devil's Millhopper is a National Natural Landmark where a bowl-shaped sinkhole 120 feet deep leads to a miniature rainforest that thrives even in dry summers. Enjoy picnicking and learning about this sinkhole through interpretive displays.

Dogwood Park & Daycare

5505 SW Archer Rd., Gainesville
(352) 335-1919, www.dogwoodpark.com

This 15-acre, completely fenced canine paradise includes two filtered and alligator-free swimming ponds, shady areas, large fields and a sand hill for digging. Pet services include Doggie Daycare, overnight boarding, training classes and grooming.



Dudley Farm State Park

18730 W. Newberry Rd., Newberry
(352) 472-1142, www.floridastateparks.org/dudleyfarm/

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this authentic working farm demonstrates the evolution of Florida farming from the 1850s to the mid-1940s through three generations. Enjoy the visitor center, picnic area and nature trail.

Florida Museum of Natural History

UF Cultural Plaza SW 34th St. & Hull Rd., Gainesville
(352) 846-2000, www.flmnh.ufl.edu

The Florida Museum is the state's official Natural History Museum, where you can witness a South Florida Calusa Indian welcoming ceremony, experience a life-size limestone cave and see a mastodon from the last Ice Age.

Greathouse Butterfly Farm

20329 NE State Rd. 26, Earleton
(352) 475-2088, www.butterflyfarm.com

Greathouse Butterfly Farm is a family farm located on an old pecan grove near Gainesville where you can visit, learn more about butterflies and watch live butterfly releases. The farm produces 45+ species of Florida native butterflies and supplies butterflies to exhibitors all over North America.

The Harn Museum of Art
UF Cultural Plaza SW 34th St. & Hull Rd., Gainesville
(352) 392-9826, www.harn.ufl.edu

The Samuel P. Harn Museum, opened in 1990, is dedicated to promoting the power of the arts to inspire and educate people and enrich their lives. More than 8,000 works are presented in the museum's various collections, which include photography and Asian, African, modern and contemporary art.

Hawthorne Historical Museum and Cultural Center
7225 SE 221st St., Hawthorne
(352) 481-4491, www.hawthorneflorida.org/museum.htm

The Hawthorne Historical Museum is on historic Johnson Street, on the south end of town close to where Johnson joins U.S. Hwy. 301. Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

High Springs Community Theater
130 NE 1st Ave., High Springs
(386) 454-3525, www.highspringscommunitytheater.com

High Springs Community Theater is a private, nonprofit corporation dedicated to staging high-quality family entertainment through amateur theater productions using the donated talents of residents of High Springs and surrounding communities. HSCT produces five main stage productions each year, and a Summer Youth Theater Program.

The Hippodrome Theatre
25 SE Second Pl., Gainesville
(352) 375-4477, www.thehipp.org

Open for more than 30 years, the Hippodrome Theatre is North Central Florida's premier performing arts organization. Located in the heart of Gainesville's historic downtown, the Hippodrome offers eight live Mainstage productions each year, including comedies, musicals and holiday favorites.



Situated halfway between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean in North Central Florida, Gainesville is convenient from both Interstate 75 and US Highway 441. Gainesville is 96 miles from Orlando, 118 miles from Tampa, 298 miles from Miami and 88 miles from the Georgia border.

The Gainesville Regional Airport (flygainesville.com) provides nonstop service by American Eagle from Miami, Delta Connection from Atlanta, US Airways Express from Charlotte and Silver Airways/United Airlines from Tampa and Orlando.

Gainesville is also served by Megabus, Greyhound and Red Coach bus lines.



Attractions

Historic Haile Homestead

8500 SW Archer Rd., Gainesville

(352) 336-9096, www.hailehomestead.org

The Historic Haile Homestead is unique for its “Talking Walls.” The Haile family and friends wrote on the walls of the home—which helps tell the history of their house. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

4700 SW 58th Dr., Gainesville

(352) 372-4981, www.kanapaha.org

Sixty-two-acre Kanapaha Botanical Gardens is Florida’s most diverse botanical garden. Its 24 major gardens include the state’s largest Bamboo Garden, a Vinery, Palm Hammock, Water Gardens, Rock Garden, Rose Garden and the largest Herb Garden in the Southeast.

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

18700 County Rd. 325, Cross Creek

(352) 466-3672

www.floridastateparks.org/marjoriekinnanrawlings

Visitors to this Florida homestead can walk back in time to 1930s farm life. See Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings’ cracker-style home and farm, where she lived for 25 years and wrote her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel “The Yearling.” The site is a National Historic Landmark.

Matheson Museum

513 E. University Ave., Gainesville

(352) 378-2280, www.mathesonmuseum.org

Uncover Alachua County’s rich heritage at the Matheson Museum, which includes an exhibition hall with library and archives, the 1867 Matheson House, the Tison Tool Museum and Sweetwater Park native plant garden. Public programs and events throughout the year offer ways to discover the past in the heart of downtown Gainesville!

Micanopy Historical Society Museum

607 NE 1st Ave., Micanopy

(352) 466-3200, www.afn.org/~micanopy

The Micanopy Museum, located in the 1896 Thrasher Warehouse, invites you to explore life in old Florida—from Timucuan Indians to the arrival of the Spanish, William Bartram’s descriptions of native flora and fauna, settlement in the early 1800s, the Seminole Wars, Civil War and town development to the present.

WILDLIFE SPOTTING





While Gainesville is known for the University of Florida Gators, you can also see their real-life counterparts in the area. (Just be sure to maintain a respectful distance and never feed them.)

A favorite spot to see gators is the La Chua Trail at Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, where you’ll also find sandhill cranes in the winter months. Lucky visitors may also catch a glimpse of the wild horses and bison that roam the 22,000-acre park.

Birders flock to local stops along the Great Florida Birding Trail, including Chapman’s Pond near Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. Wrap up a day of bird watching with a stop at the bat house on the University of Florida campus, where thousands of mosquito-eating bats emerge each night at dusk.



 **Morningside Nature Center and Living History Farm**
3540 E. University Ave., Gainesville
(352) 334-3326, www.cityofgainesvilleparks.org
Gainesville's premier nature park, where more than six miles of trails wind through sandhill, flatwoods, cypress domes and areas where native vegetation is being restored. Morningside boasts a spectacular wildflower display and opportunity to see a diverse array of wildlife. At the Living History Farm, visitors can observe daily life in 1870 as staff in period attire interprets bygone days through chores and activities.

 **O'Leno State Park**
410 SE O'Leno Park Rd., High Springs
(386) 454-1853, www.floridastateparks.org/oleno
As the Santa Fe River courses through the park, it disappears underground and re-emerges more than three miles away. Built in the 1930s, the park's suspension bridge still spans the river. Enjoy picnicking, fishing, canoeing, bicycling and hiking.

 **Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park**
100 Savannah Blvd., Micanopy
(352) 466-3397, www.floridastateparks.org/paynesprairie
Paynes Prairie Preserve is a National Natural Landmark that provides habitat for alligators, bison, wild horses and more than 270 species of birds. An observation tower provides a panoramic view. Enjoy hiking, horseback riding and bicycling on eight trails. Camping is available.

Poe Springs Park
2800 NW 182nd Ave., High Springs
(352) 454-1992
Poe Springs Park contains 202 acres of scenic park property and its own spring. The park contains a playground for children, a softball field, two volleyball courts, five covered pavilions and its own lodge for weddings, birthdays and reunions.



HARN MUSEUM OF ART

Art Museum of the Gator Nation

Visit the Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida's Cultural Plaza and browse eleven galleries featuring ceramics, paintings, sculptures, prints and photographs. The museum's collection consists of more than 9,000 works of art focusing on African, Asian, modern and contemporary art and photography. Enjoy tours every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Admission to the museum is free. For a delicious lunch, visit the Camellia Court Café located on the lower level of the museum.

3259 Hull Rd. Gainesville, FL 32611
352.392.9826
www.harn.ufl.edu





Attractions

Retirement Home for Horses at Mill Creek Farm

Located off of County Rd. 235A, Alachua

(386) 462-1001, www.millcreekfarm.org

A 265-acre farm that provides lifetime care to horses seized by law enforcement; those rescued by the SPCA or Humane Societies; horses retired from government service such as police patrol, state or federal parks; horses used by handicapped riding programs; and circus horses. Enjoy your visit with these peaceful creatures and don't forget your admission: 2 carrots.

San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park

12720 NW 109 Ln., Alachua

(386) 462-7905,

www.floridastateparks.org/sanfelascohammock

This preserve has one of the few remaining mature forests in Florida. The park offers outdoor adventure to hikers, off-road bicyclists, horseback riders and nature lovers.

Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo

3000 NW 83rd St., Gainesville

(352) 395-5601, www.sfcollge.edu/zoo

The Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo is situated on 10 forested acres and houses 250 individual animals from 70 species, including white-handed gibbons, red-ruffed lemurs, ocelots, bald eagles, Galapagos tortoises, African grey parrots and Matschie's tree kangaroo.

Santa Fe College Kika Silva Pla Planetarium

3000 NW 83rd St., Gainesville

(352) 395-5225, www.sfcollge.edu/planetarium

Since 2006, the Kika Silva Pla Planetarium has been dedicated to enriching the learning environment of Santa Fe College students and the community. It employs the latest educationally innovative technology in a unique immersive learning environment for Santa Fe and University of Florida students and the public of North Central Florida.


The Historic Thomas Center and Galleries


302 NE 6th Ave., Gainesville


(352) 334-5067, www.gvlculturalaffairs.org


Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the building is a beautifully restored Mediterranean Revival-style hotel. Stroll through the lovely gardens and view the art in the two galleries. You can experience the past through the 1920s-period rooms and local history exhibits. Listen to the interesting history of the property and the Thomas Family with a free cell phone tour.



 Gatorade was invented at the University of Florida – hence the name.

 Gainesville's downtown plaza is named for Bo Diddley, who lived in the area. (Growing up, Tom Petty also called Gainesville home.)

 The Florida Museum of Natural History is home to the world's leading center for the study of butterflies and moths.

 The historic Thomas Center, now a gallery and museum, was once a winter resort for luminaries such as Robert Frost.

Local Performance Venues:

The Acrosstown Repertory Theatre
619 S. Main St., Gainesville (Inside the Baird Center)
www.acrosstown.org

Constans Theatre
Gale Lemerand Dr. and Museum Rd., Gainesville
(352) 392-1653, www.arts.ufl.edu/welcome/td/

The Gainesville Community Playhouse
4039 NW 16th Ave., Gainesville
(352) 376-4949, www.gcplayhouse.org

Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
UF Cultural Plaza SW 34th St. & Hull Rd., Gainesville
(352) 392-2787, www.performingarts.ufl.edu/venues/phillips-center

Stephen C. O'Connell Center
Gale Lemerand Dr. & W. University Ave., Gainesville
(352) 392-5500, www.oconnellcenter.ufl.edu

University Auditorium
Corner of Union Rd. and Newell Dr., Gainesville
(352) 392-2346, www.performingarts.ufl.edu/venues



The advertisement features a vibrant green background with a large, stylized purple butterfly logo on the left. The text "Florida Museum of Natural History's" is in a purple serif font, and "Butterfly Rainforest" is in a large, elegant purple script font. Below the title, a black and white butterfly is shown on the left, and a blue and orange butterfly is on the right. In the center, text reads: "Explore a tropical oasis of flowers and waterfalls with hundreds of living butterflies from around the world...". At the bottom, contact information is provided: "3215 Hull Rd. | Gainesville, FL 32611", "P: 352.846.2000", and "www.flmnh.ufl.edu/butterflies". The Florida Museum of Natural History logo and the University of Florida logo are also present.

Florida Museum of Natural History's
Butterfly Rainforest

Explore a tropical oasis of flowers
and waterfalls with hundreds
of living butterflies
from around the world...

3215 Hull Rd. | Gainesville, FL 32611
P: 352.846.2000
www.flmnh.ufl.edu/butterflies

FLORIDA MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY®

UF | UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



SMALL TOWNS

Old Floridian Charm Meets Modern Luxury

CROSS CREEK & MICANOPY

7 The small towns surrounding Gainesville offer a glimpse of Old Florida, starting with the 1930s homestead of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of “The Yearling.” The Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park in Cross Creek preserves her home and farm, even her typewriter. From October to July, visitors can join a tour led by a docent in period costume to step into the past and learn about Rawlings’ life.

South of Gainesville in sleepy Micanopy, antique shops and boutiques beckon, while Blue Highway Pizzeria and The Pearl Country Store draws a crowd from miles around.

NEWBERRY, ALACHUA & HIGH SPRINGS

21 West of Gainesville, you’ll find Newberry, home to an Olympic archery training center – the Easton-Newberry Sports Complex – as well as legendary eats at Newberry’s Backyard Barbecue. Farther north, you’ll find the neighboring towns of Alachua and High Springs, gateway to the crystal-clear springs that draw visitors for swimming, snorkeling, boating and exploring. Highlights include the historic Grady House Bed and Breakfast, dining at The Great Outdoors – a restored 1895 opera house – and browsing the downtown shops.

In Alachua, explore historic Main Street, conquer the mountain bike and horseback trails of San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park or visit the Retirement Home for Horses at Mill Creek Farm.



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1. Paddling the Santa Fe River. 2. The Great Outdoors Restaurant in downtown High Springs. 3. Newberry's Backyard BBQ in downtown Newberry. 4. A record shop in downtown Gainesville. 5. Downtown Alachua. 6. The kitchen at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park in Cross Creek. 7. Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings home in Cross Creek.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January-March

HOGGETOWNE MEDIEVAL FAIRE

This annual Renaissance fair at the Alachua County Fairgrounds comes alive with knights, gypsies, jugglers, strolling minstrels, fair maidens and many more characters in this enchanted event that is open to all. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

DUDLEY FARM PLOW DAYS

In olden times when sugar cane was harvested, it was a big event. Travel back to those days of yore at the Dudley Farm Historical Park, where history comes alive. Return to Dudley Farm in the Fall for the Cane Boil. www.floridastateparks.org/dudleyfarm

LUCAS OIL DRAG RACING SERIES

Watch to see how fast these machines tear down the quarter mile! www.autoplusraceway.com

GATORNATIONALS

Fulfill your need for speed at the Gatornationals every spring! The event has had such notable occasions as the first 260-mph Top Fuel and Funny Car runs in 1984 and the first 270-mph and 300-mph Top Fuel passé in 1986 and 1992, respectively, all on the quarter-mile. www.autoplusraceway.com

SPRING PROMENADE IN THE NORTHEAST HISTORIC DISTRICT

Tour Gainesville's first historic district and learn about the architecture and stories behind some of the oldest homes in town. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

CINEMA VERDE ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL

This 10-day festival seeks to raise consciousness about environmental issues, educate people and mobilize support for solving environmental and social problems. It features educational films and workshops, art shows, an environmental festival and eco-tours. www.verdefest.org

KANAPAHA BOTANICAL GARDENS SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL

The region's premier horticultural event, this weekend affair features more than 200 booths offering plants, landscape displays, educational materials, arts and crafts, and food. www.kanapaha.org



April-June

HIGH SPRINGS PIONEER DAYS

Come to High Springs the fourth weekend in April as the town celebrates its rich farming heritage with contests, food, children's activities, vendors, rides and games for all ages. www.highsprings.com

MORNINGSIDE NATURE CENTER 'GO NATIVE' PLANT SALE

Visit Morningside Nature Center for a look at native plants and inspiration to start your own garden. www.cityofgainesville.org

ORANGE AND BLUE DEBUT

Take a bite out of Gator football at the annual Orange and Blue Game held every spring, where you can see the University of Florida Gators face off against each other in The Swamp. www.gatorzone.com

SANTA FE SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL

Voted the 'Best Arts & Crafts Festival in Florida,' come meet hundreds of the nation's finest artists and enjoy hands-on crafts, entertainment, food and more. www.springartsfestival.com

FARM AND FOREST FESTIVAL AT MORNINGSIDE NATURE CENTER

Step back in time to the mid-1800s with period music, crafts, reenactments and plenty of food. www.cityofgainesville.org

FREE FRIDAYS CONCERT SERIES

Each Friday from May to mid November, sit back and listen to the sounds of local and regional bands as they play on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza in Downtown Gainesville. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org



WINDSOR ZUCCHINI FESTIVAL

When spring has sprung and the zucchinis start spreading on the ground, you know it's time for the annual celebration of this delicious veggie with numerous booths featuring arts, crafts and food. www.afn.org/~windsor/page2.html

SPRING MOONLIGHT WALK

Enjoy a candlelit stroll through Kanapaha Botanical Gardens and remember to bring your picnic basket, blanket and snacks. www.kanapaha.org

NEWBERRY WATERMELON FESTIVAL

If you love watermelon, this is the place to be! With fun contests, beauty pageants, and free watermelon, there's no place sweeter in the county! www.newberrywatermelonfestival.com

July-September

FREE FRIDAYS CONCERT SERIES

Each Friday from May to mid November, sit back and listen to the sounds of local and regional bands as they play on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza in Downtown Gainesville. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

ART FESTIVAL AT THORNEBROOK

This two-day festival of juried fine art exhibits brings wonderful artists in from around the world for colorful displays that are as pleasing to the soul as they are to the eyes. www.thornebrookart.org

October-December

FREE FRIDAYS CONCERT SERIES

Each Friday from May to mid November, sit back and listen to the sounds of local and regional bands as they play on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza in Downtown Gainesville. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY BUTTERFLYFEST

Beauty surrounds you as the Florida Museum of Natural History celebrates all things butterfly with crafts, activities, workshops and presentations on preserving these beautiful creatures. www.flmnh.ufl.edu/butterflyfest

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HOMECOMING PARADE

Show your support for the home team—or the unfortunate visitor—when you come see the best homecoming parade in the country featuring floats, bands and so much more. www.gatorgrowl.org

GATOR GROWL

Known as the largest student-run pep rally in the world, the Gator Growl takes place in 'The Swamp' on the University of Florida campus. This penultimate homecoming event features top entertainers and has been known to attract Oscar winners and former U.S. presidents! www.gatorgrowl.org

DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL & ART SHOW

Featured in the American Bus Association's 2009 Top 100 Events, this festival showcases 250 of the nation's finest artists, three stages for live music and the perfect place to begin your holiday shopping. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

CANE BOIL & FIDDLE FEST

Each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, venture out to Morningside Nature Center to take a look back in time at a real cane boil. The event also features a fiddle contest—fun for the whole family! www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

HOMESTEAD HOLIDAYS AT THE HISTORIC HAILE HOMESTEAD

Stroll through the 1856 plantation home decked out in an array of traditional greenery and Victorian finery. Docents in Victorian costume! Enjoy live holiday music and sip some hot cider as you browse a selection of home-baked goodies and special holiday ornaments. www.hailehomestead.org

DOWNTOWN COUNTDOWN NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Ring in the New Year in Gainesville's vibrant downtown with plenty of live music on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza. www.gvltculturalaffairs.org

Mark your calendars...



ACCOMMODATIONS

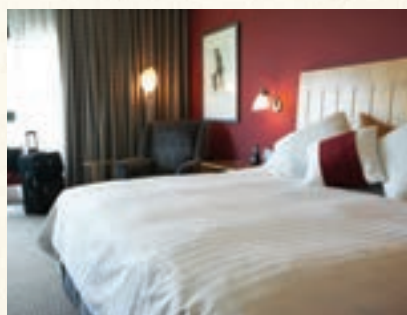
Your Home Away From Home in Gainesville

From the restored Victorian inns of Gainesville's bed-and-breakfast district to state-of-the-art conference centers, Alachua County has accommodations to suit every visitor.

Start your day with a cup of locally roasted coffee on the wraparound porch of a Queen Anne Victorian, spend an afternoon poolside amid lush landscaping, or stay right in the heart of downtown: The choice is yours.

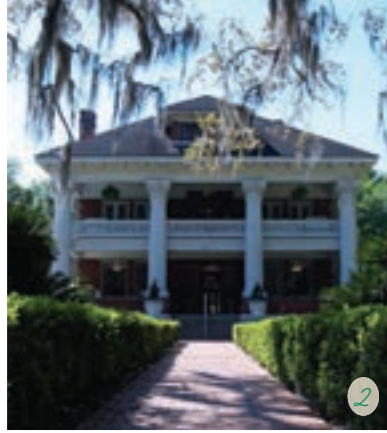
Gainesville's Historic Southeast Bed and Breakfast District offers four inns – all historic homes – set amid period streetlamps on quiet, shady avenues. This charming district is located just a short walk (or horse-drawn carriage ride) from downtown restaurants, nightlife and shopping.

Throughout Alachua County, you'll find full-service hotels, vacation rentals, campgrounds and budget-friendly motels, along with historic inns in the small towns surrounding Gainesville.





1



2



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7

1.The Grady House Bed and Breakfast in High Springs. 2. Welcoming front porch at The Herlong Mansion. 3. The Laurel Oak Inn. 4. The Camellia Rose Inn. 5. Kitchenette in room at the Residence Inn. 6. Magnolia Plantation Bed & Breakfast Inn & Cottages. 7. The Sweet Water Branch Inn, Bed and Breakfast Gainesville.

WHERE *to stay*

PHONE

ROOMS

FITNESS CENTER

FREE WI-FI

INTERIOR
CORRIDORS

MEETING/
EVENT SPACE

PET FRIENDLY

POOL

FULL SERVICE

BEST WESTERN PLUS GATEWAY GRAND 4200 NW 97th Blvd., Gainesville www.gatewaygrand.com	352.331.3336	152	•	•	•	•	•	•
HILTON UF CONFERENCE CENTER 1714 SW 34th St., Gainesville www.uf.hilton.com	352.371.3600	248	•		•	•	•	•
HOLIDAY INN - UNIVERSITY CENTER 1250 W. University Ave., Gainesville www.theuniversityhotel.com	352.376.1661	167	•	•	•	•		•
PARAMOUNT PLAZA 2900 SW 13th St., Gainesville www.paramountplaza.com	352.377.4000	195	•	•	•	•		•

SELECT SERVICE

BAYMONT INN & SUITES 6901 NW 4th Blvd., Gainesville www.baymontinns.com	352.332.8292	131	•	•	•		•	•
COMFORT INN UNIVERSITY 3440 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.gainesvillecomfort.com	352.264.1771	83	•	•	•	•	•	•
COUNTRY INN & SUITES 4015 SW 43rd St., Gainesville www.countryinns.com/gainesvillefl	352.375.1550	90	•	•	•	•		•
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT 3700 SW 42nd St., Gainesville www.courtyardgainesville.com	352.335.9100	81	•	•	•	•		•
EXTENDED STAY AMERICA 3600 NW 42nd St., Gainesville www.extendedstayamerica.com	352.375.0073	120		•	•		•	
HAMPTON INN GAINESVILLE 4225 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.Gainesville.hamptoninn.com	352.371.4171	100	•	•	•	•		•
HAMPTON INN & SUITES GAINESVILLE DOWNTOWN 101 SE 1st Ave., Gainesville www.hamptoninnandsuitesgainesville.com	352.240.9300	124	•	•	•	•		•
HILTON GARDEN INN 4075 SW 33rd Pl., Gainesville www.gainesville.hgi.com	352.338.1466	104	•	•	•	•		•
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 3905 SW 43rd St., Gainesville www.ichotels.com	352.376.0004	115	•	•	•	•	•	•
HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON 3333 SW 42nd St., Gainesville www.gainesville.homewoodsuites.com	352.335.3133	103	•	•	•	•	•	•
LA QUINTA INN 920 NW 69th Terr., Gainesville www.lq.com	352.332.6466	134	•	•		•	•	•
QUALITY INN ALACHUA 15960 U.S. Hwy 441 NW, Alachua www.qualityinn.com	386.462.2244	100					•	•
QUALITY INN GAINESVILLE 3455 SW Williston Rd., Gainesville www.qualityinn.com	352.378.2405	50	•	•		•	•	•
QUALITY INN UNIVERSITY 2435 SW 13th St., Gainesville www.qualityinn.com	352.373.6500	60		•			•	•
RED ROOF INN 3500 SW 42nd St., Gainesville www.redroof.com	352.336.3311	129		•	•		•	•
REITZ UNION HOTEL 655 Reitz Union Dr., Gainesville www.union.ufl.edu/hotel	352.392.2151	36		•	•	•		

WHERE *to stay*

PHONE

ROOMS

FITNESS CENTER

FREE WI-FI

INTERIOR
CORRIDORS

MEETING/
EVENT SPACE

PET FRIENDLY

POOL

SELECT SERVICE

ECONOMY

RESIDENCE INN GAINESVILLE I-75 3275 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.marriott.com/gnvgi	352.264.0000	118	•	•	•	•	•	•
SLEEP INN & SUITES 4110 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.sleepinn.com	352.376.4145	74	•	•	•	•		•
SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT 4155 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.marriott.com	352.376.8873	126	•	•	•	•	•	•
SUPER 8 MOTEL 4202 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.super8gainesville.com	352.378.3888	60		•	•		•	•
THE LODGE AT GAINESVILLE 3726 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.lodgeatgainesville.com	352.375.2400	208	•	•	•	•		•
VALUE PLACE 5505 SW 41st Blvd., Gainesville www.valueplace.com	352.672.6008	124			•			
WALDO INN & SUITES 17230 U.S. Hwy. 301 NE, Waldo www.waldoinnandsuites.net	352.468.2500	51	•	•			•	•
AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN 1900 SW 13th St., Gainesville www.abvifl.com	352.372.1880	89		•		•		•
AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN-ALACHUA 16100 U.S. Hwy. 441 NW, Alachua www.americasbestvalueinn.com	386.462.3251	57		•		•	•	•
BAMBI MOTEL 2119 SW 13th St., Gainesville	352.376.2622	34		•				•
BUDGET INN 4401 SW 13th St., Gainesville budgetinn Gainesville fl.com	352.371.3811	36		•				
CADILLAC MOTEL 405 NW Santa Fe Blvd., High Springs www.highspringscadillacmotel.com	386.454.1701	28		•				
CLASSIC INN 14925 U.S. Hwy. 301 NE, Waldo	352.468.1211	20					•	
DAYS INN I-75 7516 W. Newberry Rd. www.daysinn.com/hotel/05310	352.332.3033	80		•			•	•
DAYS INN UNIVERSITY 1901 SW 13th St. www.daysinn.com	352.376.2222	100						
ECONO LODGE ALACHUA 15920 HW US Hwy 441, Alachua www.econolodge.com	386.462.2414	50	•	•			•	
ECONO LODGE UNIVERSITY 2649 SW 13th St., Gainesville www.econolodge.com	352.373.7816	53		•			•	•
ECONO LODGE WEST 700 NW 75th St., Gainesville www.econolodge.com	352.332.2346	53		•			•	•

WHERE *to stay*

	PHONE	ROOMS	FITNESS CENTER	FREE WI-FI	INTERIOR CORRIDORS	MEETING/ EVENT SPACE	PET FRIENDLY	POOL
ECONOMY	FLORIDA MOTEL 2603 SW 13th St., Gainesville	352.376.3742	20				•	
	GAINESVILLE LODGE 413 W. University Ave., Gainesville www.gainesvillegelodgefl.net	352.376.1224	38	•				•
	HIGH SPRINGS COUNTRY INN 520 NW Santa Fe Blvd., High Springs www.highspringscountryinn.com/	386.454.1565	19	•				
	HOWARD JOHNSON EXPRESS 3820 SW 13th St., Gainesville www.hojo.com	352.371.2500	39	•				•
	KNIGHTS INN 2820 NW 13th St., Gainesville www.knightsinn.com	352.376.1211	72	•	•	•	•	•
	MICANOPY INN 17110 SE CR 234, Micanopy	352.466.3163	60	•			•	•
	MOTEL 6 4000 SW 40th Blvd., Gainesville www.motel6.com	352.373.1604	121				•	•
	MOTEL ABC 2000 SW 13th St., Gainesville	352.372.3654	40	•			•	
	RANCH MOTEL & CAMPGROUND 8010 U.S. Hwy. 301 SE, Hawthorne	352.481.3851	10					
	RODEWAY INN 3459 SW Williston Rd., Gainesville www.rodewayinn.com	352.378.9240	37	•	•	•	•	•
	SCOTTISH INN SOUTH 4041 SW 13th St., Gainesville	352.376.4423	31	•				•
BED & BREAKFAST	TRAVELERS INN 3103 NW 13th St., Gainesville www.travelersinnngville.com	352.372.4319	43	•			•	•
	CAMELLIA ROSE INN 205 SE 7th St., Gainesville www.camelliaroseinn.com	352.395.7673	6	•	•		cottage only	
	GRADY HOUSE HISTORIC BED & BREAKFAST 420 NW 1st Ave., High Springs www.gradyhouse.com	386.454.2206	6	•	•			
	HERLONG MANSION 402 NE Chokolka Blvd., Micanopy www.herlong.com	352.466.3322	8	•	•	•	•	
	THE LAUREL OAK INN 221 SE 7th St., Gainesville www.laureloakinn.com	352.373.4535	5	•	•			
	MAGNOLIA PLANTATION BED & BREAKFAST INN 309 SE 7th St., Gainesville www.magnoliabnb.com	352.375.6653	6	•	•		•	
	THE RUSTIC INN 15529 NW SR 45, High Springs www.rusticinn.net	386.454.1223	6					•
	SWEETWATER BRANCH INN 625 E. University Ave., Gainesville www.sweetwaterinn.com	352.373.6760	18	•	•	•	•	•

WHERE *to stay*

CAMPGROUNDS		PHONE	CAMPSITES	FULL HOOKUPS	FREE WI-FI	POOL
	HIGH SPRINGS CAMPGROUND 24004 NW Old Bellamy Rd., High Springs www.highspringscampground.com	386.454.1688	50	45	•	•
	LOCHLOOSA HARBOR RV PARK 15008 SE US Hwy 301, Hawthorne www.lochloosaharbor.com	352.481.2114	35	35		
	PAYNES PRAIRIE STATE PARK 100 Savannah Blvd., Micanopy www.floridastateparks.org/paynesprairie	352.466.3397	45	31		
	TRAVELER'S CAMPGROUND 17701 April Blvd., Alachua www.travelerscampground.com	386.462.2505	147	105	•	•
	TWIN LAKES FISH CAMP 17105 South County Rd., 325, Cross Creek www.twinlakesfishcamp.com	352.466.3194	25	20	•	



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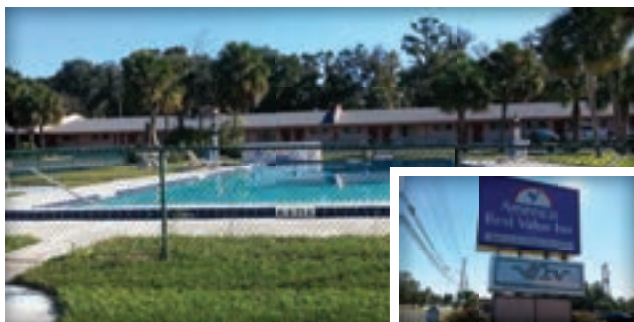
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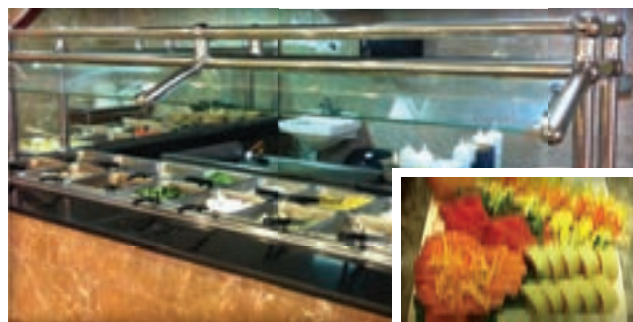
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Things To Do and See

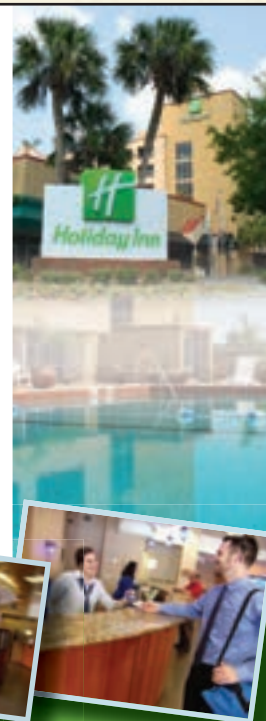
Our hotel is conveniently located directly across from the main entrance of the University of Florida plus, we are near the following attractions and places of interest:

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- Downtown Gainesville
- The Oaks Mall
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Spring and fall conference grants offer funding for corporate, association, non-profit, public or privately funded events.

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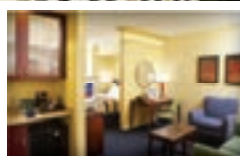
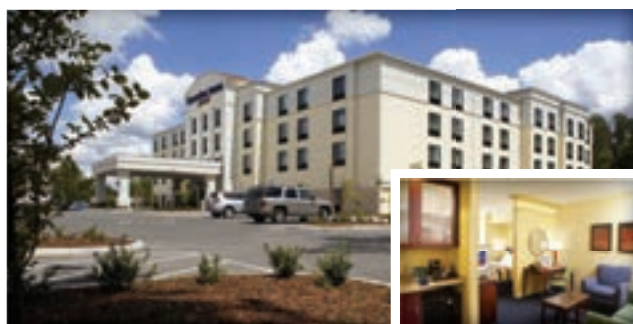
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SPRINGHILL SUITES-GAINESVILLE

The finest all-suite hotel in Gainesville

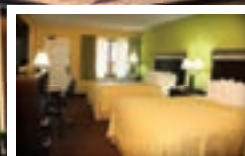
Located off of I-75, SpringHill Suites is ideal for travel to Shands and UF. All suites offer separate sleeping, working and living areas, featuring a pantry, mini-fridge & microwave, comfort bedding, free hot breakfast, parking and free WiFi. Experience a breath of fresh air at SpringHill Suites by Marriott Gainesville.



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From Culinary Sweets To Take-Home Treats

From Southern classics to ethnic cuisine, Gainesville's dining options are as diverse as its population. Locally-grown food and independent restaurants are the hallmarks of the culinary scene, from chic streetside cafes like Emiliano's Cafe' to the quirky charm of Satchel's Pizza or the handcrafted ice cream of Sweet Dreams.

Craft beer abounds, from Alligator Brewing Co., a "nano-brewery" on tap at Tall Paul's Brew House, to the tasting room at Swamp Head Brewery, which offers weekly tours. Look for Swamp Head brews on

tap at dozens of bars and restaurants around town or try Gainesville's newest brewery, First Magnitude. Farmers' markets across the county tempt visitors with handmade soaps, jewelry and clothing along with jellies, breads, salsas and more, often served up with a side of live entertainment.

Shoppers can also stroll the tree-lined Thornebrook Village in northwest Gainesville, Tioga Town Center and Haile Village Center west of town, or the hip Union Street Station in the heart of downtown.





1. Chef Bert Gill at Blue Gill Quality Foods. 2. Fresh carrots at a local farmers market. 3. Glass beads made by a local artisan. 4. Breakfast at a historic bed and breakfast. 5. Enjoy your slice of pizza in the Van at Satchel's. 6. A scoop of homemade ice cream at Sweet Dreams. 7. Great outdoors Restaurant Patio in High Springs.



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- Sunday, noon-5pm.



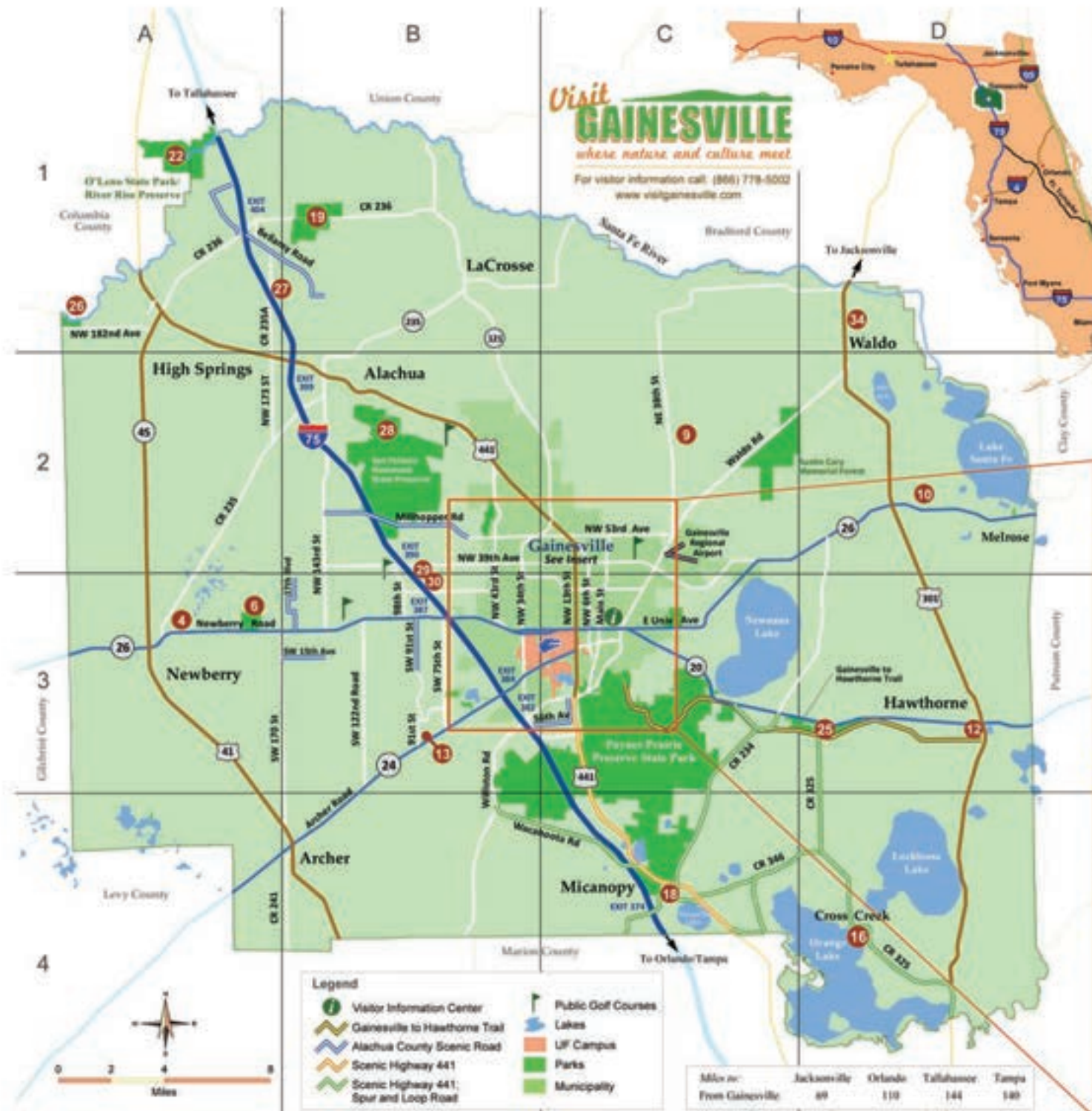
201 SE 2nd Place | Opposite the Hippodrome
Gainesville, Florida 32601
352.378.1383 | www.artisansguildgallery.com

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Attractions

1. Alfred A. Ring Tennis Pavillion
2. Bat House
3. Baughman Meditation Center
4. Butterfly Rainforest
5. Century Tower
6. Florida Field at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium
7. Florida Museum of Natural History
8. Gator Band Shell
9. McKethan Baseball Stadium
10. Percy Beard Track Field
11. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
12. Reitz Union
13. Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art
14. Shands Hospital
15. Stephen C. O'Connell Center
16. University Auditorium
17. University Golf Course Clubhouse
18. University Historic District
19. University Hotel & Conference Center
20. University Music Building
21. University President's Residence
22. University Gallery
23. Wilmont Gardens





ALACHUA COUNTY, FL

Attractions

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| C-3 | 1. Biven's Arm Park <i>Gainesville</i> | B-1 | 19. Mill Creek Preserve |
| C-3 | 2. Boulware Springs Park <i>Gainesville</i> | C-3 | 20. Morningside Nature Center <i>Gainesville</i> |
| B-3 | 3. Butterfly Rainforest <i>Gainesville</i> | B-3 | 21. Oaks Mall <i>Gainesville</i> |
| A-3 | 4. Canterbury Equestrian Showplace | A-1 | 22. O'Leno State Park |
| B-2 | 5. Devil's Millhopper <i>Gainesville</i> | C-3 | 23. Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park |
| A-3 | 6. Dudley Farm State Park | B-3 | 24. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts |
| B-3 | 7. FL Museum of Natural History <i>Gainesville</i> | D-3 | 25. Phifer Flatwoods Preserve |
| B-3 | 8. Gainesville Community Playhouse <i>Gainesville</i> | A-1 | 26. Poe Springs Park |
| C-2 | 9. Autoplus Raceway at Gainesville | A-1 | 27. Retirement Home for Horses |
| D-2 | 10. Greathouse Butterfly Farm | B-2 | 28. San Felasco Hammock |
| B-3 | 11. Harn Museum of Art <i>Gainesville</i> | B-3 | 29. Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo <i>Gainesville</i> |
| D-3 | 12. Hawthorne Museum and Cultural Center | B-3 | 30. Santa Fe College Planetarium <i>Gainesville</i> |
| B-3 | 13. Historic Haile Homestead | C-3 | 31. Sweetwater Preserve <i>Gainesville</i> |
| C-3 | 14. Hippodrome State Theatre <i>Gainesville</i> | C-3 | 32. The Thomas Center <i>Gainesville</i> |
| B-3 | 15. Kanapaha Botanical Gardens <i>Gainesville</i> | B-3 | 33. Veteran's Memorial Park <i>Gainesville</i> |
| D-4 | 16. Marjorie K. Rawlings State Park | D-1 | 34. Waldo Farmer's and Flea Market |
| C-3 | 17. Matheson Museum <i>Gainesville</i> | B-3 | 35. Westside Park <i>Gainesville</i> |
| C-4 | 18. Micanopy Historical Society Museum | B-3 | 36. Chapan's Pond Nature Trails <i>Gainesville</i> |

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