



BEST RV ROAD TRIPS IN NORTH AMERICA

**INCLUDES DETAILED TRIP PLANS FOR NORTH
AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR RV ROUTES**

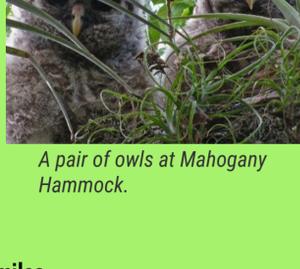


NATIONAL RV OWNER'S ASSOC.

Nowhere in all of America does water so define a place as it does in the magnificent Florida Everglades, a "river of grass" so shallow and slow moving that it provides proof positive: still waters don't always run deep.

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Highlights & Facts For The Ideal Experience



A pair of owls at Mahogany Hammock.

- Trip Length:** Roughly 50 miles
- Best Time To Go:** Winter and spring, when wildlife watching is best.
- What To Watch Out For:** Most waters are unsafe for swimming. Beware of sudden weather changes. For protection against the sun, wear sunglasses sunscreen, and a hat; for mosquitoes, carry insect repellent.
- Must See Nearby Attractions:**
 - 1** Biscayne National Park(headquarters at Homestead)

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Traveler's Notes



Everglades National Park

- Everglades National Park offers wonderful camping opportunities in both the frontcountry and the backcountry. While camping is available year-round, persons visiting during the wet season (June through November) should be aware of potentially difficult and uncomfortable conditions. Visitors should also be well-prepared as camping equipment is not available for rent or purchase in the park.
- You can take a short walk on the Anhinga Trail to spot abundant wildlife—turtles, herons and alligators! Climb atop Shark Valley's 65-foot observation tower for a bird's eye view of the glades. Glide over Florida Bay by tour boat or kayak for a chance to glimpse a crocodile, manatee, or dolphin. Watch as the sun sets over Flamingo, the southernmost point in mainland Florida.
- The winter dry season, which lasts from December to April, is the best time for wildlife viewing in the park. Weather conditions are generally pleasant during the winter and standing water levels are low, causing wildlife to congregate at central water locations.

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What To See Along the Way



- Everglades National Park
- Main Visitor Center
- Royal Palm Visitor Center
- Pa-hay-okee Overlook
- Mahogany Hammock
- West Lake
- Flamingo

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Facts & More Information To Plan Your Trip!



Pa-hayokee Overlook Trail

- Everglades National Park:** Protects an unparalleled landscape that provides important habitat for numerous rare and endangered species like the manatee, American crocodile, and the elusive Florida panther.
- Main Visitor Center:** The park's entrance is located 12 miles southwest of Homestead on Rte. 9336. Through a cluster of stately West Indian mahogany trees, you can glimpse the gabled roof of the main visitor center.
- Royal Palm Visitor Center:** As you head west toward the Royal Palm visitor center (located off a spur road leading south), you may encounter sunbathing sea turtles, great egrets, and hordes of butterflies.
- Pa-hay-okee Overlook:** When the waters are high and the air is still, the shimmering saw grass looks as if it's growing from glass. The tranquil glades then become like an aquatic mirror, with clusters of green extending above and below the surface.
- Mahogany Hammock:** Although the hurricanes of 2005 tore the roof off the forest and sent a jumbled wreck of fallen trees and root balls across the forest floor, this hammock still feels like a jungle. Since it's a boardwalk loop, there's no risk of getting lost, so enjoy the immersion and watch closely for wildlife.
- West Lake:** At West Lake, the Mangrove Trail loops through a forest that has seen its share of hurricane-related damage, from salty mud flats deposited by Hurricane Donna to the storm surges of 2005 from Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. Yet this walk still leads you through a shady tunnel, showcasing the protector of Florida's coastline, the mighty mangrove.
- Flamingo:** The southernmost headquarters of Everglades National Park, this town – named for the pink long-legged birds that once frequented the area but now are rarely seen.

Ready, set, go!