



The Great Calusa Blueway - Estero Bay



THE GREAT CALUSA BLUEWAY



Estimated mile marks



Advanced paddlers No trail markers



Trail marker GPS coordinates



Channels Major boating channels



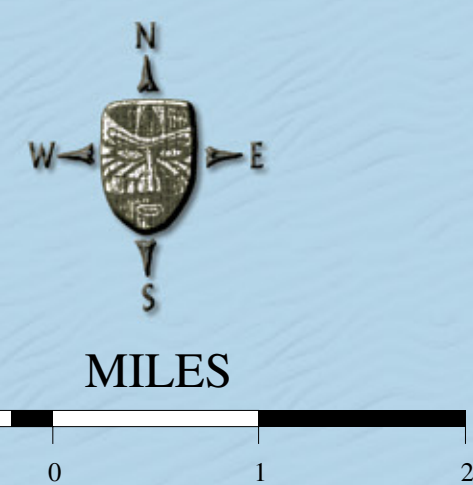
Trail markers Selected markers shown

Accessible Public Land
County sites
State sites

Wading Bird Feeding & Loafing Areas
At low and medium tides, these areas are the main formations of oyster beds in Estero Bay, providing habitat for all species of shellfish feeders, probers and fish foragers.

TRAIL MARKER NOTE
Please note that trail markers are not numbered sequentially due to forks in the trail

NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL USE
For local navigation charts, see those listed below:
NOAA Charts:
#11426 Charlotte Harbor - Estero Bay
#11427 ICW from Estero to Boca Grande
Waterproof Charts:
#15F Fish Dive Sites-Marco to Tampa
#20 ICW Fort Myers to Stewart
#21 ICW Fort Myers to Tampa
#25 Cape Romano to Boca Grande
#121F Sanibel to Venice



Highlights & Access Points

- 1 SAN CARLOS BAY - BUNCHE BEACH PRESERVE**
GPS: N26 28 34 W81 58 02
This Lee County property offers varied ecosystems including sandy beaches, salt flats and mangroves. The 730-acre site offers excellent opportunities for observation of shorebirds. Kayak / SUP rentals and guided trips available through concessionaire Kayak Excursions, 239-297-7011. 239-533-7444.
- 2 BOWDITCH POINT REGIONAL PRESERVE**
GPS: N26 27 48 W81 57 58
An unspoiled 17-acre Lee County recreation area with sandy beaches on both the bay and the gulf, and a boardwalk to the beach. Grills, changing facilities and outdoor showers are available. Named for the famous navigator, Nathaniel Bowditch. Kayak / SUP rentals and guided trips available through concessionaire Calusa Ghost Tours at Bowditch Park, 239-938-5342. 239-533-7444.
- 3 HOLIDAY ADVENTURE TOURS & BOAT RENTAL AT PINK SHELL RESORT & MARINA**
GPS: N26 27 38 W81 57 51
Kayak / SUP rentals, parking (fee) and beachside restaurants. 239-463-8661.
- 4 SAN CARLOS RV PARK & ISLAND RESORT**
GPS: N26 28 05 W81 56 54
Camp or stay in rentals in family-owned and operated resort surrounded by the bay. Tenters welcome. Stay along the water's edge and for paddling, fishing and birding. Launch sites for guests of campground only. 239-466-3133 or 800-525-7275.
- 5 SALTY SAM'S MARINA**
GPS: N26 27 28 W81 56 36
In addition to kayak rentals, this marina offers boat/paddle craft launching (fee), parking (fee), food, restaurant, and powerboat rentals. 239-463-7333.
- 6 MATANZAS PASS PRESERVE**
GPS: N26 27 05 W81 56 11
A 60-acre preserve where visitors can explore a maritime oak hammock and mangrove forest via two miles of boardwalk; boardwalk includes paddle craft landing. Historic cottage on site. 239-533-7444.
- 7 THE MOUND HOUSE**
GPS: N26 26 46 W81 55 39
The oldest home on Fort Myers Beach sits atop a Calusa shell mound that dates back 2,000 years. Facility is open for launching Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Grounds open sunrise-sunset daily. Guided kayak tours occasionally offered. 239-765-0865.
- 8 FISH TALE MARINA**
GPS: N26 24 47 W81 53 52
Kayak rentals, classes and guided tours available through Crazy Woman Kayaks, 239-220-0525. 239-463-3600.
- 9 LOVERS KEY STATE PARK & TACKLE OUTFITTERS**
GPS: N26 23 29 W81 50 23
Gulf to bay state park offers a variety of amenities. Three launch sites within park, which has three entrances; admission fee. 239-463-4588. Kayak and canoe rentals and guided tours available through Nature Recreation Management of Lee County. 239-765-7788.
- 10 DOG BEACH**
GPS: N26 22 49 W81 51 44
Dogs run free in this beach setting on protected water. Launch byside across from Dog Beach. 239-533-7444.
- 11 BIG HICKORY ISLAND AREA LANCHES**
GPS: N26 22 0 W81 51 24
Squaw Creek
GPS: N26 22 34 W81 51 37
Big Hickory Island West
GPS: N26 22 49 W81 51 42 W
Kayak Beach
Primitive launches with free parking and access to barrier island beach of Big Hickory. Landmark is the Bonita Springs water tower. 239-533-7444.
- 12 BOW TIE ISLAND**
GPS: N26 22 35 W81 51 13
Blueway Marker 8 is near this primitive site for tent camping, picnicking and landing. Practice Leave No Trace principles. 239-533-7444.
- 13 MOUND KEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL STATE PARK**
GPS: N26 25 12 W81 51 43
This man-made island, consisting of large shell middens rising as high as 31 feet, is one of the foremost preserved sites within the Calusa domain. Mound Key is believed to be the capital of the Calusa when the Spanish arrived in Florida and the location of the first Jesuit mission in the Spanish New World. Accessible only by boat; canoe and kayak landings are located at trail heads on the northwest and southeast portions of the island. 239-992-0311.
- 14 ESTERO RIVER SCRUB**
GPS: N26 26 21 W81 50 24
Part of Estero Bay Preserve State Park, this site features six miles of hiking, mountain biking and running trails through 1,260 acres of scrub habitat. These scrub ridges are historic dune systems providing habitat for gopher tortoises and other plants and animals that tolerate dry conditions. Paddlecraft landing only. 239-992-0311.
- 15 KORESHAN STATE HISTORIC SITE**
GPS: N26 26 11 W81 49 10
One of Florida's most unusual riverside parks features the remains of a utopian pioneer settlement founded in 1894 by Dr. Cyrus Teed. The group was based on a religious illumination that led the Koreshans to believe that the earth was a hollow sphere with life existing on the interior surface. Canoe rentals are available. Entrance fee. 239-992-0311.
- 16 ESTERO RIVER CANOE & TACKLE OUTFITTERS**
GPS: N26 26 06 W81 48 38
Canoe / kayak / SUP rentals with kayak fishing information available. 239-992-4050.
- 17 HICKORY BAIT & TACKLE AT WEEKS LANDING**
GPS: N26 23 60 W81 50 25
One of the oldest marina sites on Estero Bay. Launch fee includes all day parking. Ramp for powerboats; separate launch for kayakers. Kayak rentals, bait, tackle and pontoon boat "ferry" service to fishing spots for kayakers. 239-498-0090.
- 18 BIG HICKORY FISHING NOOK & MARINA**
GPS: N26 21 31 W81 51 26
Offers kayak and boat rentals, parking and restaurant. Paddle craft launch available nearby. 239-992-3945.
- 19 IMPERIAL RIVER PRESERVE**
GPS: N26 20 10 W81 50 15
A 39-acre Lee County Conservation 20/20 preserve ringed by mangroves with great bird watching. No facilities. 239-533-7275.
- 20 RIVER PARK**
GPS: N26 20 14 W81 48 29
This site has green space, boardwalks through mangroves and floating docks. Within walking distance of places to purchase lunch, provisions. 239-992-2556.
- 21 IMPERIAL RIVER BOAT RAMP**
GPS: N26 20 19 W81 48 17
A Lee County Parks & Recreation facility. Canoe and kayak launch separate from boat ramp. 239-533-7444.
- 22 RIVERSIDE PARK**
GPS: N26 20 30 W81 46 46
Spacious riverfront park with frequent art shows and festivals. Grounds showcase historic Lile's Hotel and Imperial River Cottages. Kayak rentals and tours available through concessionaire Calusa Ghost Tours at Riverside Park, 239-938-5342. 239-949-6262.

- Boat Launch
- Restrooms
- Paddle Craft Launch
- Lodging
- Parking (not always free)
- Hiking
- Restaurant or Concession
- Biking
- Phone
- Camping
- Picnic Facilities
- Historic Site

A COMPLETE LIST OF GUIDES AND OUTFITTERS CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.CALUSABLUEWAY.COM

Great Florida Birding Trail
www.floridabirdingtrail.com

Florida Greenways & Trails
www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/guide/

