

History & Nature

Native Americans of the St. Johns and earlier cultures traveled and fished what is now known as the Harris Chain of Lakes for thousands of years before settlers appeared in the mid 1800s. The land that is now the park was used for farming and citrus through the 1930s until the state purchased 383 acres in 1946. In 1961, after the state bought additional upland properties and the City of Fruitland Park donated four acres, work began on a campground and boat ramp. Opening in 1968, the park continues to be a popular boating and camping destination. The park's oldest inhabitant is the mammoth Live Oak which stands near the park entrance. The tree is documented as Florida's second largest and is most likely more than 250 years old. The park's featured attraction is the Dead River Marsh, which connects the boat dock to Lake Griffin.

The Dead River Marsh is a bountiful environment that is home to snowy egrets, limpkins, anhingas, herons and hawks. Purple gallinules, coots and kingfishers share the marsh with alligators, otters, rabbits, raccoons, and turkeys. Largemouth bass, bluegill, speckled perch (crappie) and catfish are abundant within the park.



Florida State Parks

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks

Lake Griffin State Park

3089 US Highway 441-27
Fruitland Park, FL 34731
(352) 360-6760

FloridaStateParks.org

Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8:00 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is required. Additional user fees may apply.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. Collection, destruction or disturbance is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only, must be kept on a hand-held leash no longer than 6 feet and be well behaved at all times.
- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Swimming is not permitted in the park.
- Hunting is prohibited in Florida's state parks.
- To volunteer with us, inquire at the ranger station.
- For camping information, CALL 800-326-3521 or visit reserve.floridastateparks.org.
- Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station.

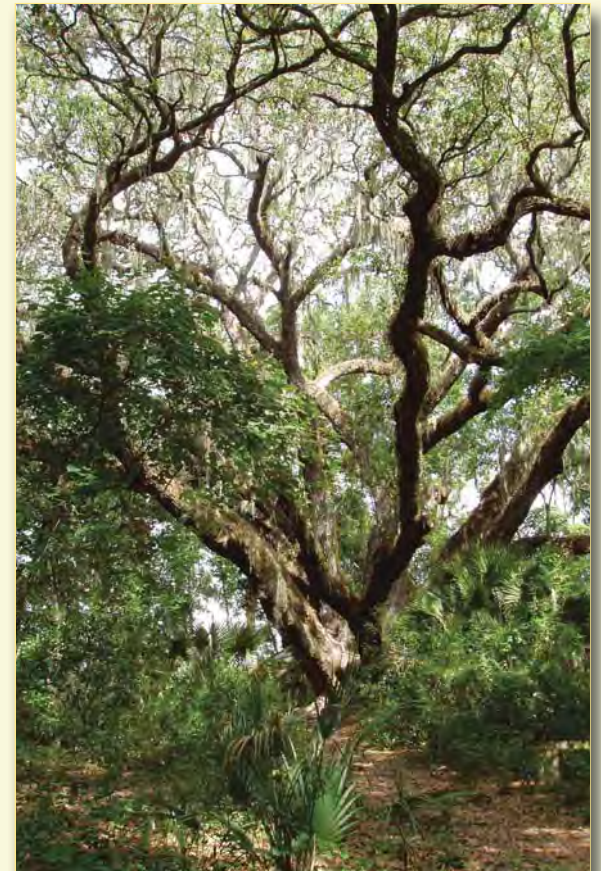
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available upon
request at any
Florida state park.



Lake Griffin State Park

Timeless beauty reflecting the Florida that was



...the Real FloridaSM



National Gold Medal Winner

Florida State Parks - "America's First Four-Time Winner"

Real Fun in ...the Real FloridaSM

Welcome to Lake Griffin State Park. Whether you're admiring the **mammoth Live Oak** at the park's entrance, watching squirrels scamper in the picnic area or glimpsing a great blue heron at the dock, you can relax and enjoy a shady respite from the busy working world here.

A **boat ramp and dock** are located at the head of a 1,000-foot canal leading to **Dead River**, which empties into **Lake Griffin** after approximately one mile. All water within the park is designated an *Outstanding Florida Water*. **Canoe and kayak rentals** are available in the park. The canal, marsh and lake offer a beautiful place to observe wildlife. **Fishing** for largemouth bass, bluegill and speckled perch ("crappie") are plentiful for anglers. A large **picnic area** with tables and grills is nestled among large live oaks near the parking area. This area is accessible to all visitors. A picnic **shelter** is available for rent. A **playground** is located in the picnic area.

A one-half mile long **nature trail** traverses a portion of the basin swamp and leads the user to the Mammoth Live Oak tree near the park entrance.

The park has 40 **campsites**, including seven pull-through sites. All sites have water and electricity, ten have 50-amp electric service, and seven have sewer hook-ups. Showers, restrooms and laundry facilities are in the center of the campground. All facilities are accessible to all visitors.



Directions

Located in Fruitland Park on the east side of 3089 US Highway 441-27, three miles north of Leesburg, Florida, south of County Road 466A West.



GPS COORDINATES:

Park Entrance
N 28° 41.470 W -081° 54.200

