

MIAMI-DADE PARKS



NATURALIST-GUIDED

ECO ADVENTURES



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ADVENTURES

Bike Treks • Canoeing • Kayak and Snorkeling • Bird Watching

Bike Treks



Bike through pineland wilderness paths and ride through the Everglades trails taking in the panoramic scenery of the famous River of Grass. Cycle Key Biscayne and the neighboring Bear Cut Preserve and learn the rich history of this breathtaking barrier island. Take an “Agro” bike tour of historic country roads in the unique Redland farming community; past avocado, mango and papaya groves and stop at a local fruit stand to get a taste.



Everglades Pineland Bike & Hike

Experience the serene beauty of the Everglades from the seat of a bicycle, then hop off and hike through biologically rich pinelands at Long Pine Key. Our trained naturalist-guides offer an itinerary that includes some close encounters with wildlife, a chance to stop and learn about wildflowers, and other highlights of this seven-mile bike route. This trip includes a stop at the Ernest Coe Visitor Center and lunch at Pine Glades Lake.

SEASON November – April

DURATION ½ Day

RATING Moderate (Ages 9 years and older)

Redland Historic Bike Trek

Ride through the historic Redland Agricultural district; a productive farming community where tomato and strawberry U-pick fields, tree and ornamental plant nurseries, and even fish farms shape the region’s rural character. Stopovers include historic homesteader sites and a visit to Knaus Berry Farm and the unique sub-tropical gardens of the Fruit & Spice Park. Trek begins and ends at Castellow Hammock Park.

SEASON November – May

DURATION ½ Day (12-miles)

RATING Easy (Ages 9 years and older)

Key Biscayne Heritage Bike Trek

Just a short trip across the causeway from Miami is the tropical island paradise of Key Biscayne, known for its spectacular views, natural beauty, rich history, and abundant wildlife. On this twelve-mile naturalist-guided bike trek you’ll visit places once occupied by Tequesta Indians, pirates and wreckers; plus a stop at the historic Cape Florida Light House. Trip leaves from the Crandon Park Visitor and Nature Center.

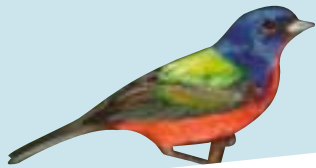
SEASON Year-round

DURATION 3 hours (12-miles)

RATING Easy - Moderate (Ages 12 years and older)



Birdwatching



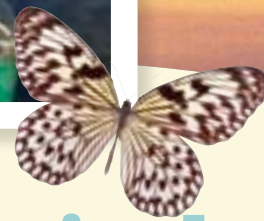
South Florida is a birder's paradise with year-round bird sighting opportunities. More than 470 species of birds can be found here including rare sought after species like the Mangrove Cuckoo, Everglades Snail Kite, neo-tropical migrants and a wealth of wading birds. Five of the 11 South Florida Birding trails in Miami-Dade County are found in Miami Dade County Parks. These are: Greynolds Park, A.D. Barnes Park, Matheson Hammock Park, The Deering Estate at Cutler and Castellow Hammock Park.

Knowledgeable naturalist-guides with birding expertise will arrange a quality experience for you at these parks as well as the Crandon Bear Cut Preserve, adjacent to Crandon Park on

Key Biscayne.

Let us know your particular interests and we will design a tour that maximizes your birding experience.





Get a **body, mind** **and spirit workout**

Miami-Dade Parks EcoAdventures offers a wide variety of exciting naturalist-guided excursions for nature lovers and sports enthusiasts that combine adventure, recreation, natural history and the opportunity to reflect on and reconnect with our natural environment. Discover South Florida's natural treasures as you kayak, snorkel,

bike or hike in this remarkable subtropical environment. Journey through magnificent mangroves teeming with the sights and sounds of native wildlife. Explore the flora and fauna of the Everglades Pineland or trek through the Big Cypress Natural Preserve and marvel at 700 year old Cypress trees.





About EcoAdventures

EcoAdventures is operated by the Miami-Dade County Park & Recreation Department. Our naturalist-guides are recreation specialists with extensive knowledge of the environment. The Parks Department provides transportation and necessary equipment, including bikes, canoes, kayaks, and snorkeling gear.

Excursions are conducted under the guidelines of “Leave No Trace,” a wilderness conservation ethic dedicated to teach ways of reducing visitors’ impact on natural areas and enhance visitors’ experience.



EcoAdventures Canoe and Boating Adventures

Paddle through the same waterways once used by the Tequesta Indians, Spanish Explorers and even pirates. Feast your eyes on the beauty of the mangroves and the wildlife that inhabits them. Fill your senses with the glorious gifts of nature and get a low-impact upper body workout while you're at it.



Historic Oleta River Canoe Trek

Step back in time as you explore this historic natural river and the surrounding tropical hardwood hammock in East Greynolds Park. Relive the river's historic past with park naturalist-guides and explore this haven inhabited by wading birds, herons, white ibis, osprey, fish and the endangered West Indian Manatee.

SEASON Year-round
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Key Biscayne Canoe Trek

The perfect combination of adventure and natural history awaits you on this exploration of Biscayne Bay. Naturalist-guides will share interesting historical facts and folklore of the early Spanish explorers as you experience close encounters with the variety of friendly marine creatures and wading birds that inhabit the mangrove fringes of this barrier island. Trip leaves from the Crandon Park Marina.

SEASON Year-round
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Chicken Key Canoe Trek

Get a dose of history, nature and adventure as you paddle off to Biscayne Bay's Chicken Key from the historical Charles Deering Estate at Cutler; an archaeological, historical and architectural preserve listed in the National Register of

Historic Places. Experience the beauty of this mangrove-vegetated island; an important habitat for a variety of wading birds, such as the Double-crested Cormorants, Brown Pelican and White-crowned Pigeons.

SEASON Year-round
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate (Ages 9 years and older)

Matheson Bayshore Canoe Trek

Explore an estuarine ecosystem bordered by mangroves as you paddle Biscayne Bay on this relaxing yet invigorating trek. Feast on nature's eye candy; the resident wildlife including Brown Pelicans, Osprey, Great Blue Herons, Nurse Sharks, and Sting Rays. Trip leaves from the Matheson Hammock Park Marina.

SEASON Year-round
DURATION 2 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Everglades Canoe Trek

Paddle along the edge of Everglades National Park and view the variety of birds, wildflowers reptiles, amphibians, fish and extraordinary wetland vegetation that the famed "River of Grass" has to offer.

SEASON Year-round
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Key Biscayne Island Boat Cruise

Enjoy breathtaking views of Biscayne Bay, and the sights and sounds of a mangrove island teeming with wildlife. Our naturalist-guides will point out the many historical and world famous landmarks along the way including Stiltsville, the unique community that hovers above water and the historic Cape Florida Lighthouse – the oldest building in South Florida.

SEASON Year-round
(Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Key Biscayne Sunset Boat Cruise

Take the late afternoon Island Boat Tour and prepare yourself and your camera for a spectacular view as the sun sets over Biscayne Bay.

SEASON Year-round (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Key Biscayne Snorkel & Island Boat Cruise

You'll enjoy the Island Boat Cruise and then get a chance to jump in and cool off in the waters of Biscayne Bay and snorkel the nearby shallow reefs.

SEASON April - October (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

EcoAdventures Kayak and Snorkel



Sea Kayak And Snorkel Adventure

You'll hardly believe you're only minutes away from the hustle and bustle of the concrete jungle as you kayak on the waters of Biscayne Bay and Crandon Park's Bear Cut Marine Preserve. Then, don your snorkel gear and hover over 1500 year-old fossilized rock reefs formed by petrified black mangrove. Catch a glimpse of colorful tropical fish, cushion stars, upside-down jellyfish and other friendly creatures.

All equipment is provided. Trip leaves from the Crandon Park Visitors and Nature Center.

SEASON April – September (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate
– A Good Trip for Beginners



Led by knowledgeable and experienced naturalist-guides, these excursions combine an introduction to the history and natural ecology of Biscayne Bay with the benefits of an energizing low-impact workout. Adventures take place at Crandon Park's Bear Cut Marine Preserve or the beautiful surrounding waters of Pelican Harbor Marina in North Miami-Dade County.

Key Biscayne Kayak Adventure

Glide along the eastern shore of Key Biscayne's clear shallow ocean waters past the beautiful mangroves and discover a treasure-trove of magnificent wildlife. Observe a variety of beautiful wading birds and watch for that dolphin swimming alongside your kayak.

All equipment is provided. Trip leaves from the Crandon Park Visitors and Nature Center.

SEASON October – April (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate
– A Good Trip for Beginners

Sunset Or Moonlight Kayak Adventure

Paddle over the peaceful waters off Key Biscayne and watch the glorious sunset or experience the full moon over Miami from the seat of your kayak. Invigorating and inspiring.

SEASON Year-round (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate

Pelican Harbor Kayak Adventure

Experience an urban kayaking adventure on North Biscayne Bay. Discover the amazing marine creatures that surround artificial reefs and sea-grass flats. Paddle over to Pelican Island, a nature preserve and bird sanctuary, just 400 yards offshore. Trip leaves from the Pelican Harbor Marina.

SEASON Year-round (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate
– A Good Trip for Beginners

Oleta River Kayak Adventure

Head out from the Greynolds Park boathouse and explore this "vestige of wilderness in a matrix of urbanization." Behold a host of beautiful wading birds and the occasional glimpse of a manatee.

SEASON Year-round (Pending weather conditions)
DURATION 3 hours
RATING Easy to Moderate



Reserve Today

305-365-3018

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

E-mail: ecoadventures@miamidade.gov

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Key Biscayne, Florida
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Customized Private and Group Tours



We can customize your nature adventure for groups of six or more.

RESERVATIONS

Tours are limited to small groups and reservations must be made in advance. Reservations are confirmed with a credit card (MasterCard, Visa, or American Express.)

All tours are subject to cancellation due to inclement weather and reservation minimums.

Call 305.755.7848 (v/tdd) to request materials in accessible format, a sign-language interpreter (seven days in advance) and for information on access for persons with disabilities.

