

The Everglades

POP 78,000 / 305,736,239

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Best Places to Eat

- Havana Cafe (p155)
- Robert is Here (p157)
- Joanie's Blue Crab Café (p152)
- Schnebly Redland's Winery (p156)
- Camellia Street Grill (p155)
- Oyster House (p155)

Best Places to Sleep

- Ivey House Bed & Breakfast (p154)
- Everglades International Hostel (p157)
- Outdoor Resorts of Chokoloskee (p154)
- Flamingo Campground (p161)
- Swamp Cottage (p152)

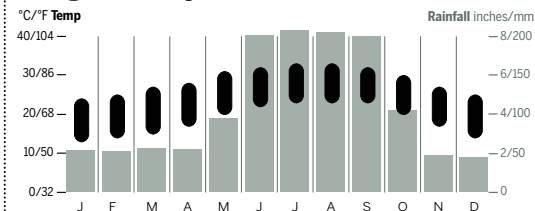
Why Go?

There is no wilderness in America quite like the Everglades. Called the 'River of Grass' by Native American inhabitants, this is not just a wetland, or a swamp, or a lake, or a river, or a prairie, or a grassland – it is all of the above, twisted together into a series of soft horizons, long vistas, sunsets that stretch across your entire field of vision and the toothy grins of a healthy population of dinosaur-era reptiles.

When you watch anhinga flexing their wings before breaking into a corkscrew dive, or the slow, rhythmic flap of a great blue heron gliding over its domain, or the shimmer of sunlight on miles of untrammied saw grass as it sets behind hunkering cypress domes, you'll get a glimpse of this park's quiet majesty. In a nation where natural beauty is measured by its capacity for drama, the Everglades subtly, contentedly flows on.

When to Go

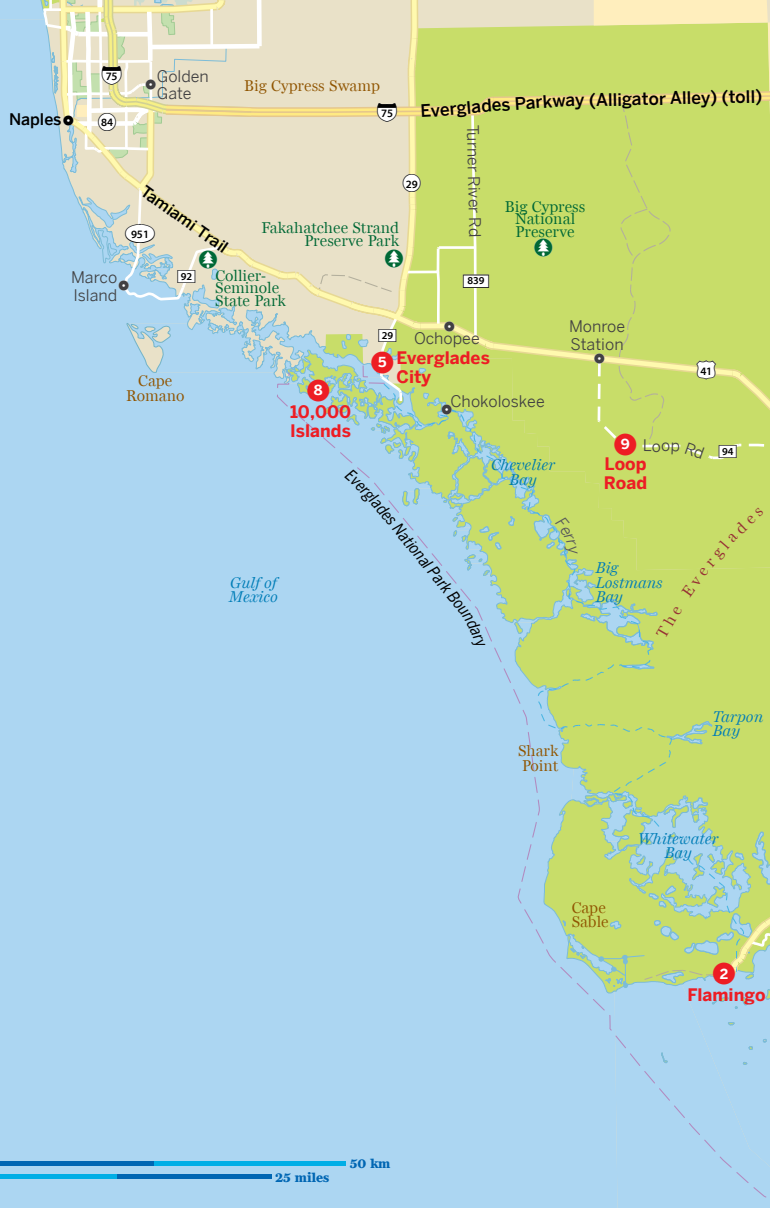
Everglades City



Dec–Mar Dry season: top wildlife viewing along watercourses, but some kayaking will be difficult.

Apr–Jun Although the weather gets pretty hot, there's a good mix of water and wildlife.

Jul–Nov Lots of heat, lots of bugs and (except in October and November) chances of hurricanes.



The Everglades Highlights

- 1 Spotting alligators by day or night, and watching nesting water birds on the **Anhinga Trail** (p159)
- 2 Hiring a canoe or kayak from **Fleming** (p160) at the

marina and paddling through scenic mangrove-lined waterways.

- 3 Watching the sun set over the ingress road from the roof

of your car at **Pa-hay-okee Overlook** (p160)

- 4 Walking into the muck at **Slough slog** (p147) amid orchids, birds and towering cypress trees.