

## Osprey Trail

2.3 mile loop — 1.5 hours

The Osprey Trail is the premier trail in the park, aptly named for the dozens of Osprey nests along its length. This shaded loop starts heading north from the picnic area for 1.1 miles to the tip of the peninsula, looping back on a parallel trail for 1.2 miles, arriving behind the picnic area restrooms. There are several shortcut connectors. The west segment is more prone to rainstorm flooding, and bicycling is not recommended on that segment due to areas of sugar sand.

One section of the trail is closed during eagle mating & nesting season from October to May (see map) to avoid human traffic near the established nest. There is an eagle viewing area when the trail is closed.

The trail meanders through a barrier island slash pine forest typical of old coastal Florida. Many butterflies, wildflowers and native plants can be seen. It is also ideal for birding the 300 species that visit the park, especially during spring and autumn migrations. Great Horned Owls usually nest in winter and are easily spotted. Watch for one of the estimated 300 Gopher Tortoises.

You are strongly advised to stay on the trail. Poison ivy is prevalent, and rattlesnakes are common. Mosquitoes are abundant in late summer and autumn. There are no facilities on the trail. Consider bringing water, insect repellent, binoculars, and a camera. Dogs on a 6' handheld leash are welcome.

## South Beach Trails approx. 1.2 miles — 45 minutes

There are several options on these trails. Our recommended route provides the most diverse experience. Depart down the boardwalk from the South Beach Café to the main beach, then south to Hurricane Pass. Continue by following Pet Beach east along the pass until you reach the 0.4 mile inland trail returning to parking. Expect to find shells, ghost crabs, gopher tortoise burrows, and beach vegetation like silver buttonwood, sea grapes, inkberry and prickly pear cactus. Pet beach is popular for dogs and fishermen.

## North Beach Trek

5 mile roundtrip — 2.5 hours

To enjoy solitude and completely natural surroundings, hike the North Beach. To maximize the experience, plan your trip around low tide. It's 2.5 miles one-way to the island's north tip, and 2.5 miles back.

Start your journey from the northern parking lot. The first 1/4 mile is a little rocky but don't be discouraged! Soon the beach becomes smooth and wide. The rocks are what remains of dredging by a developer in the 1960's before becoming a protected area.

The beach gently curves so that the end is never really in sight. At the north tip, there is a protected area for nesting birds. From here you'll see Three Rooker Island to the north and the mainland to the east. Try to spot the lighthouse further north on Anclote Key.

Shelling is popular especially after winter storms. Dolphin spotting is common. Birds are abundant, including pelicans, terns, skimmers, plovers, sandpipers, gulls, oystercatchers, and turnstones. You may see fenced-off sea turtle nests from May to October. The seabreeze ensures comfortable hiking during summer while the surf can reach 90 degrees F. Be sure to shuffle your feet in the shallows to avoid stingrays.

To prepare for this trek, use sunscreen and carry water, especially in summer. Insect repellent is not necessary. Keep an eye on the weather. A cell phone is recommended. Sorry, no bicycling or dogs on this trail.

## Nature Center Trail

¼ mile loop — 15 minutes

If your time is limited, consider a brief hike on this easy trail which begins and ends behind the Nature Center.

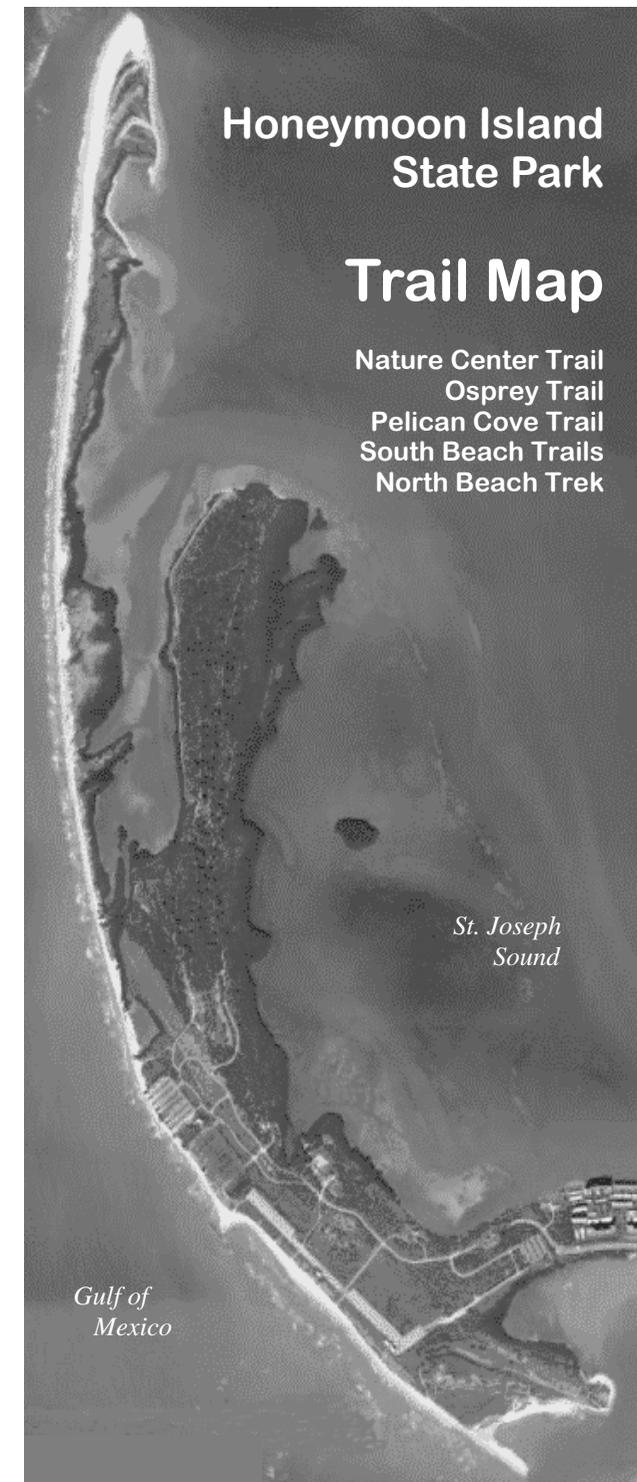
Here you will see Sabal "Cabbage" Palms, old Southern Red Cedar trees, Sea Grapes, and a few young slash pines. Wildflowers and native plants are fun to identify. The trail takes you alongside a healthy mangrove outcropping near the seawall overlooking St. Joseph Sound. At the seawall, observe a variety of seabirds and shorebirds, especially on the oyster beds in the distance at low tide. Watch for Osprey diving for fish, and the occasional shark, dolphin or manatee in the quiet waters.

This area of the park was filled with dredged material by a developer in the 1960's before becoming protected. Despite this, observe the resilience of Florida plants and animals as they take back the land.

If you plan on spending time on this trail, apply sunscreen. During late summer and early autumn, insect repellent is recommended. Dogs are welcome on a 6' hand-held leash. If you have questions, stop in the Nature Center where there is always someone to help.

## Pelican Cove Trail — ¾ mi

This sandy trail follows a bygone beach in a secluded area of the park. It is only reachable from the Osprey Trail. The northern portion is particularly scenic with open water views of many birds, and an occasional dolphin or manatee. Butterflies and fiddler crabs are common. Much of the trail is lined with mangroves. Be sure to apply sunscreen and carry water as there is no shade on this trail.



## Honeymoon Island State Park

### Trail Map

Nature Center Trail  
Osprey Trail  
Pelican Cove Trail  
South Beach Trails  
North Beach Trek

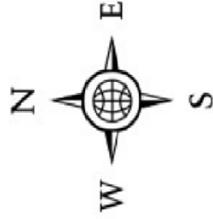
St. Joseph Sound

Gulf of Mexico

# Honeymoon Island State Park

## Dunedin, Florida, USA

Continues to North Point



- Paved Road
- Pelican Cove Trail
- Nature Center Trail
- South Beach Trails
- North Beach Trek
- Osprey Trail  
\* Mile markers along trail edge  
\* Indicates trail section closed from October to May during eagle mating/nesting season
- Trail Connector
- Restrooms
- Trailhead
- Picnic Area
- Playground
- Observation Deck
- Parking



Pelican Cove

1 mi Eagle Nest  
0.9 mi  
0.8 mi  
0.7 mi  
0.6 mi  
0.5 mi  
0.4 mi  
0.3 mi  
0.2 mi  
0.1 mi  
1.1 mi to north tip

Twin Palms (0.75 mi)

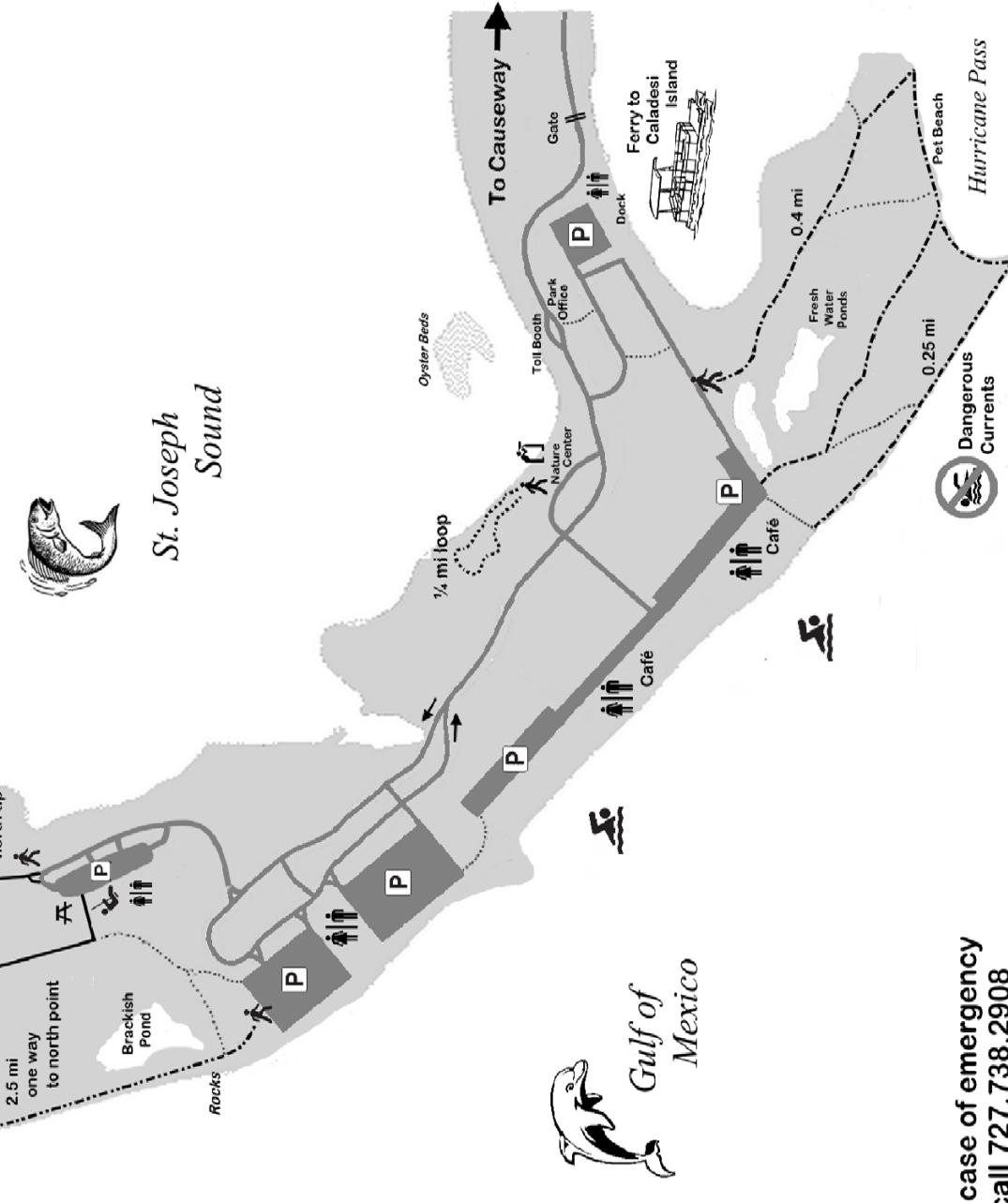


St. Joseph Sound

Grassy Key

Brackish Pond

Rocks



Gulf of Mexico

In case of emergency call 727.738.2908