

## History & Nature

The sands of this site are always shifting. Historic maps reveal the altered shapes of the islands over time. The islands' salt-tolerant vegetation preserves the appearance of the Southwest Florida coast before much of it was changed by development.

Beach dunes covered with sea oats slope to the gulf waters. Behind the dunes, seagrape trees often grow in dense thickets. Easily recognized by their large, round leaves, the trees offer a bounty of edible fruit in winter.

Other island plants include bay cedar, Spanish bayonet, gray nicker, coin vine, golden creeper and seaside goldenrod. Mangrove trees are abundant on the bay side of the park.

A variety of shorebirds and wading birds, ospreys and brown pelicans are common at the park. Magnificent frigatebirds fly overhead in summer and bald eagles occasionally soar above the park.



### Florida State Parks

Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Recreation and Parks

#### Stump Pass State Park

900 Gulf Blvd., Englewood, FL 34223  
PO Box 1150, Boca Grande, FL 33921  
(941) 964-0375

[FloridaStateParks.org](http://FloridaStateParks.org)

### Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is required. Additional user fees may apply.
- The collection, destruction or disturbance of plants, animals or park property is prohibited.
- Collecting of live shells is prohibited. This includes sand dollars and starfish.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only, not on the beach. Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet and well behaved at all times.
- Fishing, boating, swimming and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- Alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed in designated areas only.
- Become a volunteer. Inquire at the ranger station.
- To join the Barrier Island Parks Society, Inc., call (941) 964-0060.
- 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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request at any  
Florida state park.



**FLORIDA**  
State Parks  
*...the Real Florida*<sup>SM</sup>

Created on 11/14



## Stump Pass Beach State Park

*Seashells by the seashore*



*...the Real Florida*<sup>SM</sup>



**National Gold Medal Winner**

Florida State Parks - "America's First Three-Time Winner!"

## Real Fun in ...the Real Florida™

Stump Pass Beach State Park consists of the southernmost mile of Manasota Key, Peterson Island, Whidden Key and the protected channels between them. A mile of beach provides visitors with opportunities for **shelling, swimming, bird-watching, snorkeling, fishing** and **sunbathing**.

The warm gulf waters invite visitors to swim and snorkel year-round. Shell seekers walking the beach may also find sharks' teeth and skeletal fragments from ancient geologic times among the shells.

**Fishing** is popular in the adjacent waters and on the nearby submerged grass flats. Game fish include flounder, snook, trout, redfish, snapper, whiting, sheepshead and tarpon. Anglers may want to try their luck fishing from the shore.

The protected waters of the bay are ideal for small **boat cruising, kayaking, sailing** and **water skiing**. Ranger-led turtle walks and beach nature walks are available in the winter.

A **hiking** trail meanders from the parking area to the southern end of the park.

Six covered tables, one located near the restroom facility and the other five located along the **hiking trail**, provide ideal **picnic** settings. A **pavilion** is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Outdoor showers are available for rinsing off after a day at the park.

Let's Go  outside

