

CENTRAL WEST FLORIDA

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Located in a popular park just east of Brandon, *Edward Medard Reservoir* draws a large number of anglers seeking largemouth bass, black crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish and catfish. The reservoir offers cover and habitat for various fish species.

Sunshine bass are regularly stocked in the reservoir, and largemouth bass are found in the winter and spring near its shoreline grasses. These fish are aggressive and will strike a number of shad-imitating lures that mimic their natural food.

The *Little Manatee River* at Little Manatee River State Park in Wimauma, is another good fishing spot. Anglers can fish from the banks for bass, bream and catfish.

CITRUS COUNTY

Encompassing 19,100 acres, the *Tsala Apopka Chain* has heavily

vegetated marshes, as well as three open-water pools. Fishing enthusiasts can hook bluegill, redear sunfish, crappie, catfish and largemouth bass in *Tsala Apopka Lake*. Fishing for bass with a weightless worm and twitching the bait as it is reeled helps encourage strikes from the fish.

PINELLAS COUNTY

Largemouth bass are common in *Lake Tarpon* and may average two to four pounds. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission biologists rank this lake as one of Florida's top 10 bass lakes. Redear sunfish can also be caught here throughout the year.

Successful anglers fish in the shoreline vegetation or in grass beds six to eight feet deep. Black crappie are caught in *Lake Tarpon* during cooler weather. Bluegill can be caught along the vegetated

shorelines using grass shrimp and crickets.

PASCO & HERNANDO COUNTIES

Pasco County's *Moon Lake* is a 100-acre fish management area with bass and bluegill fishing. The lake is located southeast of New Port Richey.

The *Withlacoochee River* flows through Central West, Central and North Central Florida. It is filled with largemouth bass, catfish and panfish. Fishing early or late in the day with light tackle and line will be the best approach for anglers.

Hernando County's *Weeki Wachee River* has ample quantities of spotted sunfish and largemouth bass. In winter, gray snapper can be found in the spring heads.



Courtesy of Pasco County Tourism Development Council



Boating & Fishing in National Parks & Refuges

Park	Phone	Camping	Fishing	Boating/ Canoeing	Boat Ramp
Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge	352-563-2088		✓	✓	✓
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge	352-563-2088			✓	
Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge	727-893-2627		✓		

Boating & Fishing in State Parks

Park	Phone	Camping	Freshwater Fishing	Saltwater Fishing	Boating/ Canoeing	Boat Ramp
Alafia River State Park	813-672-5120	✓	✓			
Anclote Key Preserve State Park	727-469-5942	✓		✓	✓	
Caladesi Island State Park	727-469-5918			✓	✓	
Crystal River Preserve State Park	352-563-0450			✓	✓	
Egmont Key State Park	727-893-2627			✓	✓	
Fort Cooper State Park	352-726-0315		✓		✓	
Hillsborough River State Park	813-987-6771	✓	✓		✓	
Honeymoon Island State Park	727-469-5942			✓	✓	
Skyway Fishing Pier State Park	727-865-0668			✓		

Freshwater Fishing Piers

County	Water Body	Location	Barrier Free	Rest Rooms	Fish Attractor
Citrus	Tsala Apopka Lake	Inverness Pool	✓		
Hernando	Withlacoochee River	Nobleton			
Hillsborough	Al Lopez Park Pond	Al Lopez Park	✓	✓	✓
Hillsborough	Hillsborough River	Hillsborough River State Park		✓	
Hillsborough	Hillsborough River	John B. Sergeant Park		✓	
Hillsborough	Hillsborough River	Lowry Park	✓	✓	✓
Hillsborough	Hillsborough River	Morris Bridge Road Park		✓	
Hillsborough	Hillsborough River	Trout Creek Park		✓	
Hillsborough	Medard Reservoir	Edward Medard Park	✓	✓	✓
Pasco	Crews Lake	San Antonio		✓	
Pasco	Middle Lake	Growers Corner	✓		✓
Pasco	Withlacoochee River	Dade City		✓	
Pinellas	Lake Maggiore	St. Petersburg Park		✓	
Pinellas	Lake Tarpon	Palm Harbor, Chestnut Park	✓	✓	

CRYSTAL RIVER

Crystal River flows into the sparkling waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Snook may be found easily on warm days in the Gulf of Mexico, feeding primarily on minnows, baitfish and crabs. They also are caught along seawalls, bridges and docks. On cold days, anglers fish ledges near shore, as well as deep holes to catch snook that often gather together in warm areas.



Courtesy of Woody Conner

Redfish can be found near docks and oyster bars, while trout can be found near the grass flats. Live shrimp, spoons and jigs are effective baits for redfish and trout.

HOMOSASSA

Tarpon are caught on the inshore flats in the *Homosassa River*. Effective baits for catching this sportfish include mullet, pinfish, crab, shrimp, jigs and flies.



Courtesy of Mark Gore

Central West Florida Marinas

County	Marina	Phone	Water Body	Restaurant	Lodging	Accepts Transients	Fuel	Mechanical Repairs	Store	Fishing Guides	Boat Charters	Overnight Dockage
Citrus	Pete's Pier, Inc.	352-795-3302	Crystal River			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Citrus	Port Hotel & Marina Dive Center	352-795-7234	Main King Spring	✓	✓		✓		✓			✓
Citrus	Twin Rivers Marina	352-795-3552	Salt River			✓		✓		✓		✓
Citrus	Chassahowitzka River Lodge	352-382-2081	Chassahowitzka River	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓
Citrus	Homosassa Riverside Resort	352-628-2474	Homosassa River	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Citrus	Magic Manatee Marina	352-628-7334	Homosassa River				✓	✓			✓	✓
Citrus	Riverhaven Marina	352-628-5545	Homosassa River			✓	✓	✓	✓			
Citrus	Van Der Valk Tradewinds, Inc.	352-628-2214	Homosassa River			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Hernando	Gulfstar Marine, Inc.	352-596-5079	Gulf of Mexico				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Hernando	Snapper Marina	352-596-2952	Snapper Canal			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Hernando	Sterling Marina	352-596-4010	Snapper 2 Canal			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hernando	Gulf Coast Marina	352-596-1212	Gulf of Mexico					✓	✓			
Hernando	Weeki Wachee Marina	352-596-2852	Weeki Wachee River				✓	✓	✓			
Hillsborough	Inter-Bay Moorings, Inc.	813-677-2739	Alafia River			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillsborough	Bahia Beach Island Resort	813-645-3291	Tampa Bay	✓	✓	✓						✓
Hillsborough	Little Harbor Marina	813-645-2411	Tampa Bay	✓	✓						✓	✓
Hillsborough	Shell Point Marina	813-645-1313	Little Manatee River	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillsborough	Imperial Yacht Basin	813-832-2628	Gulf of Mexico	✓			✓	✓	✓			
Hillsborough	Jean Street Shipyard	813-239-2526	Hillsborough River			✓		✓	✓			✓
Hillsborough	Rick's on the River	813-251-0369	Hillsborough River	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓
Hillsborough	Tampa Bayside Marina	813-831-5757	Tampa Bay	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Pasco	Anclote Village Marina	727-937-9737	Anclote River	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Pasco	Port Hudson Marina	727-869-1840	Gulf of Mexico	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Pasco	Searanch Marina	727-862-6995	Gulf of Mexico					✓				
Pasco	Skeleton Key Marina & Yacht Sales, Inc.	727-868-3411	Gulf of Mexico			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Pasco	American Marina	727-842-4065	Coffee River				✓	✓	✓			✓
Pasco	Sunset Landing Marina	727-849-5092	Pithlachascotee River				✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pinellas	Barefoot Bay Resort & Marina	727-447-3316	Intracoastal Waterway		✓	✓					✓	✓
Pinellas	City of Clearwater Municipal Marina	727-462-6954	Clearwater Harbor	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	Clearwater Bay Marina	727-443-3207	Intracoastal Waterway			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Pinellas	Marker 1 Marina	727-733-9324	St. Joseph's Sound	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	Pirate's Cove Marina	727-733-1102	Gulf of Mexico				✓	✓				
Pinellas	Gulfport Municipal Marina	727-893-1071	Boca Ciega Bay & Intracoastal Waterway				✓		✓	✓		✓
Pinellas	Indian Springs Marina, Inc.	727-595-2956	Intracoastal Waterway				✓	✓		✓		
Pinellas	Largo Intercoastal Marine	727-595-3592	Intercoastal			✓	✓	✓				✓
Pinellas	ABC Marina of Madeira Beach	727-393-2090	Boca Ciega Bay									✓
Pinellas	Hubbard's Marina	727-392-0167	John's Pass, Gulf of Mexico	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Pinellas	Bay Grove Landings	813-925-0400	Tampa Bay	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pinellas	Home Port Marina	727-784-1443	Gulf of Mexico	✓			✓	✓	✓			
Pinellas	Island Harbor Marina	727-784-3014	Gulf of Mexico					✓				
Pinellas	Ozona Shores Marina	727-784-1690	St. Joseph's Sound						✓	✓	✓	
Pinellas	Palm Harbor Resort	727-785-340	Sutherland Bayou		✓				✓	✓	✓	
Pinellas	Pat's Landing Marina, Inc.	727-784-0143	St. Joseph's Sound				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	Blind Pass Marina	727-360-4281	St. Pete Beach & Intracoastal Waterway	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	Pass-A-Grille Marina	727-360-0100	Intracoastal Waterway & Pass-A-Grille Channel	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Pinellas	Bay Pines Marina	727-392-4922	Boca Ciega Bay				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pinellas	Gandy Bridge Marina	727-576-5117	Master's Bayou	✓			✓	✓				
Pinellas	Great American Marine	727-343-6520	Boca Ciega Bay			✓		✓				✓
Pinellas	Harborage Marina	727-821-6347	Tampa Bay	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Pinellas	Huber Yacht Harbor	727-867-2117	Tampa Bay				✓	✓	✓			
Pinellas	Lighthouse Point Marina	727-384-3625	Boca Ciega Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Pinellas	Mariner's Cove Marina	727-321-579	Boca Ciega Bay				✓					
Pinellas	Maximo Marina, Inc.	727-867-1102	Boca Ciega Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	O'Neill's Marina	727-867-2585	Tampa Bay			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Pinellas	Pasadena Marina	727-343-4500	Intracoastal Waterway									✓
Pinellas	St. Petersburg Municipal Marina	727-893-7329	Tampa Bay				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Pinellas	Anclote Harbors Marina	727-934-7616	Anclote River			✓	✓	✓				✓
Pinellas	Anclote Isles Marina	727-939-0100	Anclote River			✓						✓
Pinellas	Belle Harbor Yacht & Marina	727-943-8489	Anclote River			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Pinellas	Port Tarpon Marina	727-937-2200	Anclote River	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Pinellas	Tierra Verde Resort Marina	727-866-1487	Tierra Verde Grande Canal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pinellas	John's Pass Marina, Inc.	727-360-6907	Intracoastal Waterway	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Courtesy of Woody Gore

NEW PORT RICHEY

Redfish dominate the saltwater flats near *New Port Richey* and can be found year-round in shallow water. Shrimp, spoons and jigs attract redfish. Snook are active in this area during spring and early summer, taking baits of pinfish, sardines and crab. Seatrout are abundant among the grassy flats and potholes.

Spanish mackerel are usually found along Florida's Gulf Coast beaches through late fall. Cobia are also found in the saltwater flats of *New Port Richey*, often around channel markers and the edges of sand bars. Cobia will bite shrimp, crab and live eel.

CLEARWATER/TAMPA

Anglers fishing in the *Clearwater* and *Tampa* areas in late summer and early fall will find Spanish mackerel along the Gulf Coast beaches. Amberjack and tarpon also are caught in the Gulf of

Mexico waters. All of these species feed on minnows, pinfish and shrimp.

TAMPA BAY

In the *Tampa Bay* area, snook can be taken with cigar minnows. Redfish and trout are found on the flats off piers and around bridges using baits of live shrimp and gold spoons. Fishing enthusiasts can also reel in black drum using fiddler crabs or shrimp as bait.

REEFS/BAY WATERS

During the hottest parts of the summer, grouper and mangrove snapper may be difficult to find because they migrate to deeper waters. These two species, along with amberjack, are typically caught at depths of more than 100 feet near reefs when water temperature is high. Cobia can be found near the bay waters and channel markers using baits of live pinfish, shrimp and crab.

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