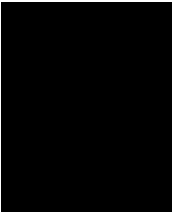


Paddling Events

Small Watercraft Outings

Join the fun with Brazoria County Parks Department and learn about canoes and kayaks. From basic watercraft safety and skills to short trips on local waterways, this is a good fit for family activity and learning. Canoes and kayaks are provided or you can bring your own. Outings are on the second Saturday of each month. Advance registration with the Brazoria County Parks Department is required to receive the outing location. 979-864-1541.

Migration Celebration



Don't let the name fool you. This annual event at the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge has become a family nature festival. Kayaking is always on the program. Naturalists lead kayakers through a forested creek with some prairie in hopes of spotting some of the diverse wildlife that live in the refuge. Kayaks, paddles and vests provided. Migration Celebration is always in April. Visit the website for date and detailed information. 866-403-5829 www.migrationcelebration.org

Getting Your Gear

Rent kayaks at Breaker Sports and Beach Front RV Resort in Surfside Beach or from the Freeport Marina. Don't forget drinking water, sunscreen, insect repellent and protective foot gear.



PLACES TO STAY

Hotels/Motels

America's Best Value Inn (979) 265-3301
Baymont Inn & Suites (979) 388-0055
Best Western Plus (979) 529-2025
Breeze Motel (979) 233-5323
Candlewood Suites (979) 297-0011
Clarion Inn (979) 297-1161
Comfort Suites (979) 297-5545
Courtyard by Marriott (979) 297-7300
Hampton Inn & Suites (979) 265-3200
Holiday Inn Express Suites (979) 266-8746
La Quinta Inn (979) 265-7461
Staybridge Suites (979) 285-9775
TownePlace by Marriott (979) 388-9300
Ocean Village Hotel (979) 239-1073
Quality Inn (979) 265-5252
Super 8 (979) 297-3031
Texas Inn & Suites (979) 266-7774
Motel 6 Clute (979) 265-4764
Surfside Motel (979) 233-4585
Motel 6 Freeport (979) 239-1602

Beach House Rentals

Beach Front Properties (713) 995-6111
Beach Resort Services (979) 233-4900
Bluewater Resort Rentals (979) 233-1812
Beach House Associates (979) 239-1073
Coastal Sisters (713) 204-8054
Corona Del Mar (979) 871-3058
Windy Escape Rentals (979) 248-8257



Life's Better Outside

Paddling offers a new perspective on the world. Get in the water to experience a closer view of wildlife and scenery, drop a fishing line or just relax. State laws require you have a life vest and whistle or some other sound signaling device on your craft.



Paddling Trails

CLUTE • LAKE JACKSON

FREEPORT • QUINTANA

SURFSIDE BEACH



979-285-2501

www.visitbrazosport.com



Paddling Hot Spots

Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge

Salt Lake, Nicks Lake, and Lost Lake are perfect for paddling on this 43,000-acre refuge. Find geese, ducks and sandhill cranes or fish for speckled trout or red drum. Salt Lake has a ramp just for kayaks and canoes.

Christmas Bay Paddling Trail

This pristine bay has extensive oyster reefs and salt marsh ideal for fishing or bird watching. It is very shallow and most paddlers can comfortably stand in its waters in most areas. If you wadefish wear ray-proof wading boots or shuffle your feet to avoid a stingray strike. The trail length is 19.1 miles and there is a 3.8-mile route and a 10.3-mile route. Launch sites are along Bluewater Highway between Surfside Beach and San Luis Pass.

Old Brazos River

Launch from RiverPlace at Freeport Municipal Park or from the Freeport Community House. Don't go under the bridge, there is too much boat traffic that way for paddling.

Oyster Creek

Access this treasure from Dunbar Park in Lake Jackson. View majestic moss-hung oak trees among the many residential homes along the creek.

San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

Launch at the Cedar Lake Creek Fishing Area and look for a variety of birds including snow geese and roseate spoonbills and other wildlife like alligators and turtles. Fish for black drum, flounder, red drum and croaker.

Stephen F. Austin Trail (Brazos River)

The trail unfolds over one of the most incredible ecological systems in our region, where the historic Brazos River winds through the dense, wet Columbia Bottomlands. This lush world of towering trees, palmetto thickets and flowering plants supports a multitude of wildlife species and provides a critically important stopover habitat for migrating birds. The entire 35-mile trail is segmented into four separate trails:

Sugar Mill Stretch

Explore this 6.9 mile section from County Road 849 near Brazoria to FM 2004 outside of Lake Jackson.

Gulf Prairie Run

Enjoy this 9.8 mile segment from FM 2004 to Highway 288 in Freeport, across the street from the Freeport Municipal Park and Police Station.

Old Settlement Passage

Discover this 10.4 mile section Highway 35 in East Columbia to County Road 849 near Brazoria.

Columbia Bottomland Waterway

Travel this 8.3 mile section from the Brazos River County Park in Angleton to Highway 35 in East Columbia.

Buffalo Camp Bayou

This flatwater is easily accessible from Wilderness Park in Lake Jackson. Look for migratory birds and wildlife like deer and rabbits on the banks.

Fishing Piers & Jetties

Quintana Beach County Park
979-233-1461
Surfside Jetty
979-233-1531



BOAT RAMPS

Intracoastal Waterway

Surfside Beach, Thunder Road, Behind City Hall, Boat Slip, Parking
Blue Water Highway, CR 257J, Swan Lake, Shell Ramp and Parking, Boat Slip
Blue Water Highway, CR 257S, Shell Ramp and Parking
Blue Water Highway, San Luis Pass, Boat Slip, Lighted, Parking
Blue Water Highway, Drum Bay, San Luis Beach, Shell Ramp, Limited Parking
FM 1495, Quintana/Freeport, Parking
FM 2918, San Bernard River to Intracoastal, Large Parking Lot

Brazos River

FM 2004, Lake Jackson, Boat Slip, Parking
Freeport RiverPlace, Shell Ramp, Parking
Freeport Community House, Boat Slip, Parking
Brazos River Levee Road, CR 242A, Freeport, Parking
SH 288, Freeport Across Police Station Shell Ramp, Limited Parking

Oyster Creek

Stratton Ridge Road, North of CR 226, Shell Ramp, Limited Parking
Levee Rd, Oyster Creek, CR 891, Shell Ramp, Limited Parking

San Bernard River

FM 2918, Large Parking Lot
FM 2611, Boat Slip, Parking
FM 521, Parking

Bastrop Bayou

CR 227, Demi-John, Limited Parking
FM 2004, Limited Parking
Buffalo Camp Bayou
Hwy. 332, Wilderness Park, Limestone Ramp, Shallow Boats Only