



Don't miss some of the best freshwater fishing in Sebring, FL. Our Lake Istokpoga is the top Florida lake for trophy bass and was voted one of the best lakes for 10+ pound bass in the Southeast by Bassmasters.

Travel at your pace in Sebring, the off-the-beaten path, affordable Florida destination you won't want to miss! Located just 60 miles south of Disney World, Sebring offers unique attractions and activities that let you *choose your own speed* during your vacation.

VISIT SEBRING!

501 S. Commerce Ave., Ste 3, Sebring, FL 33870
VisitSebring.com



LAKES & FISHING GUIDE



Photo courtesy of VISITFLORIDA



VisitSebring.com



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WELCOME TO A WATER LOVER'S PARADISE!

An angler, boater, and water-lover's paradise awaits you in Sebring and the surrounding areas located in South Central Florida.

With more than 100 nearby lakes, Sebring offers some of the best lakes and creeks for fishing, water skiing, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, scuba diving, and recreation that allows you to enjoy

the beauty and serenity many people have come to appreciate in this area. *(For more information about outdoor recreation on land, please request a copy of our Nature Brochure.)*

Sebring, and the surrounding cities of Avon Park, Lake Placid and Lorida, is centrally located in the heart of Florida just 60 minutes south of Disney World and no more than a few hours from most of Florida's major cities. Great fishing and easy access is readily available during the spring, summer, fall, and winter. Every facility imaginable is available for your use.

Fishing guide services, information hotlines, public boat launches, parking areas, fishing piers, marinas, boat rentals, fish-cleaning stations, campsites, motels, restaurants, bait and tackle shops, and more are available to help make your fishing trip memorable!





PUBLIC ACCESS

The County's Parks & Natural Resources Department maintains more than 40 public boat ramps. In addition, each city (Avon Park, Lake Placid, Lorida, and Sebring) also maintains public facilities to access and enjoy our refreshing waters.

SPOTLIGHT ON SOME AREA LAKES...

Lake Denton is a 66-acre freshwater lake that is known for its clarity and visibility. Located between Avon Park and Sebring, Lake Denton's maximum depth is 51 feet. The lake has a public boat ramp and parking area.

At nearly 28,000 acres, **Lake Istokpoga** is the fifth largest lake in Florida. Anglers from all over the state and nation come to the area to fish at this lake, which features four public and several private launch ramps. Lake Istokpoga is ranked as one of the best bass lakes in the Southeast by Bassmasters, and it is #1 in the state for 10+ pound bass.

Lake Jackson is the centerpiece of Sebring. At approximately 25 feet at its deepest, most of the lake is just 9-16 feet deep. The water is clear and the shores are sandy. The lake has one boat ramp at Veterans Beach on the lake's west side. The city of Sebring maintains four public swimming beaches at Veterans Beach, City Pier Beach, Crescent Beach, and Hidden Beach. Leisure boating, water sports, skiing, and fishing are popular activities on the lake, and a public fishing dock is located at the City Pier Beach.

Lake Placid's **Lake June-in-Winter** is the county's second largest lake at 3,504 acres. It is the largest of the ridge lakes, and is frequented by boaters, swimmers, and fishing anglers. More than 800 acres on the west shore of the lake is preserved area known as Lake June-in-Winter Scrub Park, which offers unique opportunities to explore rare habitat. Bishop Park (located on the northeast portion of the lake) and Lake June Park are large public recreational areas with boat launches, public swimming, and picnic facilities.

Lake Tulane is located in the southern part of Avon Park and is a fairly deep lake with a public boat ramp on the west side. Though small at 89 acres, this lake has been estimated to be more than 50,000 years old, making it older than any other documented lake in North America. It is a prime example of a Ridge-type lake and is one of the clearest in the county with visibility extending down to 30 feet below the water's surface.



FISHING

Fishing is one of the most popular pastimes on many of our area waterbodies with great fishing year round and with peak times from November to April. The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) manages sustainable fisheries on many of our lakes and has done habitat enhancement projects on several, including Little Red Water, Josephine, and Istokpoga. Our lakes include populations of both regulated and non-regulated species.

COMMON REGULATED GAME FISH

- Largemouth Bass
- Black Crappie (Speckled Perch)
- Bluegill
- Warmouth
- Redear Perch (Shellcracker)

COMMON NON-REGULATED GAME FISH

- Catfish
- Tilapia
- Gar/Pickerel
- Shad (bait fish)
- Shiners (bait fish)



LARGEMOUTH BASS

A freshwater game fish in the sunfish family, which are also known as black bass, are known for the excitement of their fight. They are structure-oriented fish, so the best places to fish for them are around cover, such as cattails, bull rush, and pads. Bass prefer a vertical presentation of bait and can be found in any lake with cover. They tend to prefer 'small creature' bait, such as crayfish imitation, 10" plastic worms, wild shiners, and top water baits. Bass are typically sport fish, which means they are caught then released while still alive. The bag limit for catching and keeping largemouth bass is five per person per day, only one of which may be 16 inches or longer in total length. There is no minimum length limit for largemouth bass.



CRAPPIE

A deep body with nearly symmetrical dorsal and anal fins, and a speckled pattern on the body and fins identify the black crappie. Unlike most other panfish, crappies spend much of their time offshore feeding on small fish in lakes or in large, slow-moving clear water rivers. Crappie can be found in open water as they prefer deep parts of lakes, and they school together so you can often drift or troll over them. They nest from February to April, and the nests are fanned by males over gravel or muddy bottoms in depths of 3-8 feet, with big fish nesting in deeper water. Primary food items are crustaceans, aquatic insects, and small fishes. They are a cool-weather favorite and excellent table fare that are common throughout Florida. Suggested fishing methods include drifting Missouri minnows or grass shrimp below a float with a #4 hook and small split shot. The bag limit is 25 per person per day. The Florida State Record is 3.83 pounds.



BLUEGILL/SHELLCRACKER

"Bream" is a local term throughout the southeast that includes a variety of deep-bodied panfish belonging to the sunfish family. A good eating fish that is great to fish for year round, the bluegill responds well to worms and crickets, as well as grass shrimp (not available for purchase). Use ultralight rods/cane poles. They start spawning in February/March. FWC fish sampling on Lake Istokpoga has shown good numbers of 8+ inch bluegill and redear sunfish. Anglers can concentrate their efforts from April-June around inshore and offshore cattail and bulrush stands. The thicker vegetation is difficult to fish but usually holds good numbers of large bream. In other months, productive areas to fish for bream include Big Island, Grassy Island, Bumble Bee Island, around various sandy bars, and along the edges of eelgrass. Anglers prefer crickets for bluegill and live worms for shellcracker. Fly fishing anglers can experience great action with small popping bugs. Bag limit is 50 per person per day.



WARMOUTH

Has a stout, deep body similar to other panfish. A red eye and large mouth are conspicuous field marks. Three or four dark stripes radiating back from the eye across the cheek and gill cover like war paint confirm the identity. Warmouths inhabit swamps, marshes, shallow lakes, slow-moving streams, and canals with soft, muddy bottoms. They stay around aquatic vegetation, stumps, snags, and under the banks of streams and ponds. They have more tolerance for muddy water than most species. Warmouths are solitary nesters that prefer to nest adjacent to a submerged object. Nests are found over a wide range of water depths. They often spawn more than once a year, usually between April and August. Crayfish, shrimp, insects, and small fishes make up the bulk of their diet. Most feeding is done in the morning, as it appears to sleep at night. State Record: 2.44 pounds. Any of the same baits or lures that work well for bluegill and redear sunfish will catch warmouth.



FISHING LICENSE

Florida residents and visitors need a Florida Freshwater Fishing License unless they are a member of one of the “exempted” groups of people listed below. A fishing license is required to be on you when you attempt to take fish. If you cast your line and catch nothing, catch and release, or catch and keep and you are not a member of one of the groups listed below, you need a license. An annual **freshwater fishing license is \$17.**

YOU **DO NOT** NEED A FISHING LICENSE IF:

- You are a child under 16 years of age.
- You are a Florida resident age 65 or older possessing proof of age and residency (a valid Florida Drivers License or Florida ID Card meets this requirement) or possessing an optional Resident Senior Citizen Hunting and Fishing Certificate.
- You are a Florida resident certified as totally and permanently disabled and you possess a Florida Resident Disabled Person Hunting and Fishing License.
- You are a resident who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, you are not stationed in this state, and you are home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders.

A fishing license is normally required and can be obtained at many local department and sporting goods stores, as well as the Highlands County Tax Collector's office, located at 600 S. Commerce Avenue in Sebring. We welcome you and wish you happy fishing while you are here.

KEEP GAME FISH INTACT:

Black bass, striped bass, white bass (or their hybrids), peacock bass, black crappie, and panfish (for black crappie and panfish, only in waters where minimum-length or slot-size limits for these fish apply) may not be filleted, neither their heads nor tail fins may be removed, all until the angler has completed fishing for the day.



TROPHYCATCH

TrophyCatch is an incentive-based conservation program designed for anglers who catch and release 8+ pound largemouth bass in Florida.

TrophyCatch lets you participate in one of the Florida Wildlife Commission's most innovative citizen-science conservation programs and **earn great rewards** like Bass Pro Shops gift cards! Take a scale and camera along fishing so you're ready to catch, document, and release largemouth bass eight pounds or greater!

Goals are:

- Collect valid information through citizen-science about trophy bass to help the FWC better enhance, conserve, and promote trophy bass fishing
- Encourage catch-and-release of the biggest, oldest, and most valuable bass
- Excite anglers about Florida freshwater fishing, encouraging them to purchase licenses and fish more, resulting in benefits to anglers, fishing-related businesses, local communities, and the fisheries by having more support and funding for conservation
- Share information about fishing opportunities and destinations to make fishing more enjoyable

Anglers are encouraged to follow catch-and-release guidelines for these big bass and to document the catch through a photograph of the entire bass on a scale with the weight clearly legible. See RULES and PRIZES for details.

Don't qualify for TrophyCatch?

Angler recognition is provided for memorable catches of 33 different species of freshwater fishes in Florida through Big Catch, and features Specialist, Master, and Elite Angler challenges. See more at BigCatchFlorida.com.



Visit TrophyCatchFlorida.com
and register for a chance to win a
PHOENIX BASS BOAT!
(Retail value \$40,000)

LAKE & LAUNCH MAP



LAKES CHART



LAKE NAME	LOCATION	SIZE (AC)	LAKE TYPE	BOAT RAMP	PARK	MAX DEPTH (FT)
ADELAIDE	AP	96	RIDGE	YES	NO	16
AMY	LP	.06	RIDGE	NO	NO	
ANGELO	AP	40	RIDGE	NO	NO	
ANN	LP	1.7	RIDGE	NO	NO	
ANNIE	LP	88	RIDGE	NO	NO	
ANOKA	AP	44	RIDGE	NO	NO	
APTHORPE	LP	219	MUCK	YES	NO	33
AUGUST	LP	52	RIDGE	YES	NO	
BASKET	S	62	RIDGE	NO	NO	
BETTY	LP	8.4	RIDGE	NO	NO	
BLUE	LP	16	RIDGE	NO	YES	32
BLUE	S	35	MUCK	NO	NO	
BRENTWOOD	AP	57	RIDGE	NO	NO	
BRINKLEY	LP	3	MUCK	NO	NO	
BONNET	AP	263	MUCK	YES (\$)	NO	10
BONNY BLUM POND	S	170	LOW-LAND	NO	NO	
BUCK	LP	10	RIDGE	NO	NO	
BYRD	AP	53	RIDGE	NO	NO	
CARRIE	LP	65	MUCK	YES	NO	13
CHARLOTTE	S	194	MUCK	NO	NO	22
CHILTON	AP	26	RIDGE	NO	NO	22
CHRISTY (W)	S	25	MUCK	NO	NO	
CLAY	LP	367	RIDGE	YES (2)	YES	29
COUNTERFEIT	AP	18	RIDGE	NO	NO	
COY POND	LP	14	RIDGE	NO	NO	
CRYSTAL	LP	9	RIDGE	NO	NO	

LEGEND

- AP = AVON PARK
- LP = LAKE PLACID
- AP/AFR = AVON PARK AIR FORCE RANGE
- S = SEBRING
- L = LORIDA

DAMON	AP	282	RIDGE	YES	NO	15
DEBRA	LP	1.3	RIDGE	NO	NO	
DEER	AP	26	RIDGE	NO	NO	
DENTON	AP/S	66	RIDGE	YES	NO	51
DIANE	LP	13	MUCK	NO	NO	
DINNER	S	379	RIDGE	YES	NO	31
DUCK	AP	2.7	RIDGE	NO	NO	
EAGLE POND	AP	2.7	MUCK	NO	NO	
EDILIA (E)	S	23	MUCK	NO	NO	
FOX	AP	22	RIDGE	NO	NO	
FRANCIS	LP	539	RIDGE	YES	YES	19
GLENADA	AP/S	177	MUCK	YES	YES	
GLORIA	LP	6.6	RIDGE	NO	NO	
GRANADA	S	21	MUCK	NO	NO	
GRASSY	LP	514	RIDGE	NO	NO	
GRASSY POND	AP	121	MUCK	NO	NO	
HARRY	LP	14	RIDGE	NO	NO	
HELEN	LP	7	RIDGE	NO	NO	
HENRY	LP	64	RIDGE	NO	YES	
HILL	LP	70	MUCK	NO	NO	19
HUCKLEBERRY	S	114	MUCK	NO	NO	
HUNTLEY	LP	680	RIDGE	YES (2)	NO	17
ISIS	AP	48	RIDGE	NO	NO	
ISTOKPOGA	S/L/LP	27,692	LOW-LAND	YES (4)	YES	8
JACKSON	S	3,412	RIDGE	YES	YES	26
JANICE	LP	0.6	RIDGE	NO	NO	
JOE	AP	17	RIDGE	NO	NO	
JOSEPHINE	S	1,236	MUCK	YES (3)	NO	7



LAKE NAME	LOCATION	SIZE (AC)	LAKE TYPE	BOAT RAMP	PARK	MAX DEPTH (FT)
JUNE-IN-WINTER	LP	3,504	RIDGE	YES (2)	YES	40
KATHY	LP	0.6	RIDGE	NO	NO	
KEY LAKE	S	13	MUCK	NO	NO	
LAURA	LP	0.8	RIDGE	NO	NO	
LEILA	AP	165	MUCK	YES	NO	26
LETTA	AP	478	MUCK	YES	NO	
LILLIAN	AP	30	RIDGE	NO	NO	41
LITTLE BONNET	AP	74	MUCK	YES	NO	
LITTLE LAKE JACKSON	S	125	RIDGE	NO	NO	30
LITTLE LAKE LOST	AP/AFR	7	MUCK	NO	NO	
LITTLE RED WATER	AP	329	MUCK	YES	NO	
LITTLE RED WATER	LP	21	MUCK	NO	NO	
LOST	LP	6	RIDGE	NO	NO	
LOTELA	AP	802	RIDGE	YES (2)	NO	
LOUISE	LP	1	RIDGE	NO	NO	
LUCAS	S	10	MUCK	NO	NO	
LYNN	S	19	RIDGE	NO	NO	
LYNN (SUN N LAKES)	LP	2	RIDGE	NO	NO	
MARIE	LP	1	RIDGE	NO	NO	
MARY JANE	S	11	MUCK	NO	NO	
McCOY	LP	53	RIDGE	NO	NO	61
MIRROR	LP	99	RIDGE	NO	NO	41
MUD LAKE	AP	33	MUCK	NO	NO	
NANCY	LP	3	RIDGE	NO	NO	
NELLIE (CENTER)	LP	51	RIDGE	NO	NO	
NELLIE (E)	LP	36	RIDGE	NO	NO	
NELLIE (W)	LP	26	RIDGE	NO	NO	
OLIVIA	AP	86	RIDGE	YES	NO	41

PANSY (TINA)	AP	9	RIDGE	NO	NO	
PEARL	LP	65	RIDGE	NO	NO	47
PENDARVIS	LP	3	RIDGE	NO	NO	
PERSIMMON	LP	44	MUCK	YES	NO	11
PIONEER	AP	93	RIDGE	YES	NO	30
PLACID	LP	3,320	RIDGE	YES (2)	YES	57
PYTHIAS	AP	276	RIDGE	NO	NO	
RACHAEL (SCHUMACHER)	S	9	MUCK	NO	NO	
RACHARD (LACHARD)	LP	18	MUCK	NO	NO	46
RED BEACH	S	335	MUCK	YES	YES	17
RED WATER	LP	66	MUCK	NO	NO	16
REGENCY (LEON)	S	34	MUCK	NO	NO	
RITA	LP	0.6	RIDGE	NO	NO	
RUTH (SUN N LAKES)	LP	1.2	RIDGE	NO	NO	
RUTH	S	72	MUCK	NO	NO	
SADDLEBAGS	LP	27	RIDGE	NO	NO	27
SEBRING	S	468	MUCK	YES	NO	17
SIMMONS	LP	28	RIDGE	NO	NO	
SIRENA	LP	58	RIDGE	NO	NO	58
SILVER	AP	28	MUCK	NO	NO	
SUBMARINE	AP/AFR	12	MUCK	NO	NO	
SUE	LP	1.5	RIDGE	NO	NO	
SYLVAN	LP	1.1	MUCK	NO	NO	
TARA	S	10	MUCK	NO	NO	
TINA	LP	2.7	RIDGE	NO	NO	
TROUT	AP/ POLK CO.	143	RIDGE	NO	NO	
TULANE	AP	89	RIDGE	YES	NO	70
VERONA	AP	35	RIDGE	YES	YES	65
VIOLA	AP	73	RIDGE	YES	NO	
WOLF	S	122	MUCK	YES	NO	



RESOURCES & INFO

BAIT & TACKLE

Central Florida Yamaha, Inc.

730 US 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-6669 / [Boats.net](#)

Charley Bait Shop

137 Brown Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 699-6506

Fishbone Tackle

730 US 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(855) 822-5531

GS Outdoors

5621 US Hwy 27 N.,
Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 257-5078 or
(863) 446-2870
[Facebook.com/GSoutdoorsllc](#)

Lorida Bait & Tackle

1731 US 89, Lorida, FL 33857
(863) 655-1010

Performance Marine Bait & Tackle Store

1130 Hwy 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-2814

LOCAL FISHING GUIDES

Don Hatcher

(863) 214-1740
[DonHatcherFishing.com](#)

Remo Beaver

(863) 202-6957

Ken Karoll

(863) 447-1973

Dave Miller

(941) 915-9073
[TheBassTamer.com](#)

John Wood

(863) 412-9095



FISHING RESORTS, FISH CAMPS, AND LAKEFRONT ACCOMMODATIONS

Camp Florida RV Resort

100 Shoreline Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 699-1991 / CampFlaResort.com



Lake Blue Resort

735 S. Lakeview Road
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-3371
LakeBlueResort.com



Catfish Home Rentals on Lake June

225 Catfish Creek Road
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(561) 775-5882

Lake Glenada RV & Mobile Home Park

2525 US Hwy 27 S., Avon Park, FL 33825
(863) 453-7007 / HappyRVCamping.com

Lake Grassy Inn

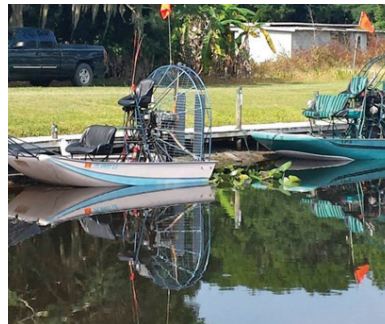
1865 US Hwy 27 S., Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-9200 / LakeGrassyInn.com

Cypress Isle RV Park & Marina

2 Cypress Isle Lane, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-5241

Harder Hall Resort Club

124 Lake Drive Boulevard, Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 385-5005 / HarderHall.com



Lake Istokpoga Marina

88 Knox Lane
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 699-9585



Henderson's Fish Camp

35 Henderson Road
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-2101
HendersonsFishCamp.com

Lake June Resort

300 Lake June Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-3546 / LakeJuneResort.com

Lake Placid Camp & Conference Center

2665 Placid View Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-2197 / LPCCC.net

Inn on the Lakes

3101 Golfview Road, Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 471-9400 / InnOnTheLakes.com

Lakeside Cottages

740 S. Lakeview Rd., Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-2214 / LakePlacidCottages.com

Lakeshore Resort

121 Sunset Terrace, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-2135 / LakeshoreResortRentals.com

Mossy Cove Fish Camp

3 Mossy Cove Drive, Lorida, FL 33857
(863) 655-0119 / MossyCove.com

Neibert's Fishing Resort

4971 US-98, Sebring, FL 33876
(863) 655-1416

Pratt's Resort on Lake June

786 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 699-1223 / OnLakeJune.com

Trails End Fishing Resort

4232 Trails End Road, Lorida, FL 33857
(863) 655-0134 / TrailsEndFishingResort.com



ADDITIONAL RECREATION INFORMATION

AIRBOAT RIDES

Airboat Wildlife Adventures

4971 US Hwy 98, Sebring, FL 33876

(863) 655-4737 / AirBoatWildlifeAdventures.com



BULLFROG AIRBOAT TOURS

155 Marina RV Drive

Lake Placid, FL 33852

(863) 634-6878

FROG GIGGING

Capt. Lee at Lake Istokpoga Marina

88 Knox Lane, Lake Placid, FL 33852

(863) 699-9585



GATOR HUNTS

Okeechobee Outfitters

5260 Bluff Hammock Road

Lorida, FL 33857

(863) 655-2454

Guided-Hunting.com

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT RENTAL

GS Outdoors / (863) 257-5078 or (863) 446-2870

5621 US Hwy 27 N., Sebring, FL 33870

[Facebook.com/GSoutdoorsllc](https://www.facebook.com/GSoutdoorsllc)

Offering rentals of fishing rods, coolers, paddle boards, and kayaks





CONTACT INFORMATION

Highlands County Sheriff

(863) 402-7200

Avon Park Police

(863) 453-6622

Lake Placid Police

(863) 699-3757

Sebring Police

(863) 471-5108

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Law Enforcement (Game Warden)

(888) 404-3922

(863) 648-3203

Highlands County Parks & Natural Resources

(863) 402-6812

Main Switchboard (863) 402-6500

Highlands County Lakes Association

(863) 465-7855

University of Florida LAKEWATCH Program

(800) 525-3928