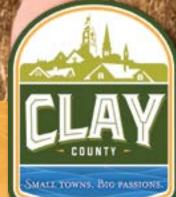


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WELCOME TO CLAY COUNTY

As Chair of the Clay County Board of Commissioners, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you. Clay County, Florida, is a place with small towns and big passions located southwest of Jacksonville with the entire eastern border nestled along the banks of the scenic St. Johns River. Within the county's 644 square miles, you will discover natural beauty, rich history, and a vast array of natural and agricultural resources minutes away from lively business environments.



Founded in 1858, our County has developed into a diverse mixture of suburban and rural areas, resulting in a vivid panorama of productive, modern living, top-rated schools, a well-trained skilled workforce, bustling retail centers, and economic vitality. Clay County is a haven for those who love nature and the outdoors and home to some of the region's best golf courses, public parks, and walking and bicycling trails. If you add in the enjoyment of boating, fishing, canoeing, or kayaking on our miles of navigable waterways, you can see why people love Clay County.

While you're in Clay County, we invite you to explore the many experiences we have in our small towns. You can visit a historical marker citing the 1716 Fort San Fransisco de Pupo, our Civil War sties, or the multiple locations used in World War II, like Lee Field, Reynolds Industrial Park, and Camp Blanding. You can explore more than 93,000 acres of parks 35 miles of trails, and 39 square miles of waterways. You're sure to find some great picture spots. Head to one of our many small businesses to shop, grab a coffee from local roasters, and enjoy unique entrees and favorites served at our locally owned eateries. Our retailers feature locally made products, repurposed vintage ware, antiques, and specialty gifts.

If you run out of time on this trip, please come back to enjoy the uniqueness of the place I call home. I hope you enjoy your time here and look forward to seeing you explore the small towns and big passions Clay County has to offer throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Betsy Condon

Betsy Condon, Chair • Clay County Board of Commissioners <u>P.O. Box 1366 • 477 Houston Street • Green Cove Springs</u>, FL 32043 • (904) 529-5807



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THE COVER



Pumpkins and Littles at Amazing Grace Crop Maze



DIRECTOR Kimberly Morgan

Kimberly.Morgan@claycountygov.com

PUBLISHER Farris Robinson Farris@claytodayonline.com

ADVERTISING SALES Sheri Lhotak sheri@claytodayonline.com

Jill McLeod Jill@claytodayonline.com

Angelica Byrd Angelica@claytodayonline.com

CREATIVE SERVICES Sheila Holcombe sheila@claytodayonline.com

Michele McNeill michele@claytodayonline.com

Lisa Murphy lisa@claytodayonline.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITER Carrie McLaren

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Every effort is made to avoid errors, misspellings and omissions. If, however, an error comes to your attention, please accept our sincere apologies and notify us. Thank you.

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- st Graduation rate is 95% for the District's seven traditional high schools.
- ★ School Resource Officer at every school and increased security measures to keep students and staff safe.
- Named 2022 Academically High Performing School District by the Florida Department of Education.
- 検 CCDS offers 34+ Career and Technical Education programs.
- 検 Ranked 5th Best School District in Florida by Niche in 2023.
- Expanded School Choice Options including Montessori and Pre-AICE programs.
- ★ All students have digital access through Chromebooks and Wi-Fi at every school.
- 🔆 All high schools have accelerated programs.
- 🔶 Opened 43rd school, Spring Park Elementary in August 2023.
- Fleming Island Elementary recognized as a 2022-2023 Purple Star of Distinction school for supporting our military families.

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Psalm 77: 13-14 (Extract from God Calling)

Remember this beautiful earth on which you are was once only a thought of Divine Mind. Think how from your thought one corner of it could grow and become a Garden of the Lord, a Bethany-Home for your Master, a place to which I have a right to bring My friends, My needy ones, for talk and rest with Me.

Blu-By-U is an 8 acre Agritourism Farm with about 4000 U-Pick Blueberry bushes, 10 different varieties, all in large Containers on nicely maintained grass rows with plenty of room for picking and family fun. We are in a peaceful country setting so all you hear are birds, bees, wind, and laughter but not far from the City. Our goal and mission is to Celebrate Creation in the amazing process of getting Sweet Fruit from Sticks and Dirt. Our Hydroponics field has about 2000 Strawberry plants on Towers for easy picking and room for many more fruits and vegetables as we expand this area. We schedule Picking times on our website blubyujax.com so your experience on our farm will be free from lines and crowds. We supply the Buckets which hold about 5 pounds and berries are just \$6 per pound. Opening Day and Events will be posted on our Facebook page 'BluByUjax' and Thank You to all of our followers and volunteers as we work hard all year for our 6 week picking season which begins in Late April through the end of May. For any additional questions email us at blybyujax@gmail.com or call/txt 904-525-5032.

Our Country store has many locally produced products like Honey, Jams, Baked Goods, and Hot Sauce. We are a member of Fresh from Florida and Florida Blueberry Growers Association and help promote Pop Fusion which has some of the best Fresh Fruit popsicles I have ever tasted. We have a shaded Picnic area where you can bring your own food and various Food trucks during our picking season. Your kids will be amazingly entertained by our Sandbox and our farm is Dog friendly. Drinks Water, Snacks, Clean Restrooms, Access Ramp, and of course A/C are available in our Country Store built in the late 1800s. We accept Cash, Card, PayPal, and will be evaluating additional payment applications. Our stocked pond has fishing poles and worms available for catch and release fishing. Our petting Zoo is called 'Two by Two' is free but we do have a bucket to help support their eating habits. It has Miniature Donkeys, Alpacas, Goats, Chickens, and Ducks. We are a Harvest Host site and provide single night, self-contained RV camping for Harvest Host members. Next door to the farm is a White Tailed deer farm and the Barn-Dominion is a nice 900 square foot Cypress walled studio available via Airbnb.

Our 2400 Square foot Pole Barn located by the pond can be used for picnicking, corn hole, pickle ball, and events such as Dances, Family Reunions, Company Parties, Cook Outs, and more at reasonable rates. The outdoor movie theatre has a 30 foot screen and a stage for performers just bring your own chair or blanket. A large grass area can be used for Volleyball, Kickball, and other sports activities. Nearby activities include Kayaking down the North Prong of Black Creek, Baldwin Bike Trail, Equestrian Center which has paved bike trails, and Jennings Forrest which has many hiking trails and beautiful tributaries of Black Creek spanning 20,000 acres.





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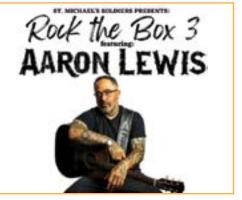
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2023 Fall/Winter Events

This Fall and Winter, there's plenty of opportunities for family fun on the calendar! From fall festivals to rodeos, there is something for everyone this season.





Rock The Box 3 With Aaron Lewis

Amazing Grace Crop Maze

Here's a look at upcoming events in Clay County, Florida –

Pick up a souvenir or shop for the week's groceries at the **Orange Park Farmer's Market** held the first and third Sunday from September to June at Orange Park Town Hall. With over 100 vendors featured each week, visitors can find homegrown items like fresh produce and honey, along with arts and crafts, live music and plenty of options for a bite to eat too.

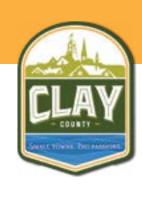
Get ready for great eats as the **Jax Taco Fest** makes its way to the Clay County Fairgrounds on September 16-17, 2023. Experience an action-packed day filled with a variety of tacos, margaritas, delicious churros, guacamole, live entertainment, a kid zone and other taco themed activities!

The Loomis Brother's Circus comes to Clay County Fairgrounds on September 29, 2023. Experience a show that features animals, acrobats, motorcycle daredevils and plenty of clowns too. Don't miss Rolla Bolla showing off their balancing skills with props, chairs and more. Unicycle acrobats, the Globe of Death featuring motorcycling stunts and the Loomis Bros. Band round out the entertaining circus. Amazing Grace Family Farms comes alive on Fridays and Saturdays in October with their annual fall festival and corn maze. Returning to the vast property, between Middleburg and Keystone Heights on SR 21, south of Highway 16, the farm makes the perfect spot for photos while little ones enjoy outdoor activities. Known to be one of Clay County's most popular Fall attractions, the entire family can take advantage of fun on this family-owned farm.

St. Michael's Soldiers presents **Rock the Box 3**, a free night of music for our heroes on October 7 at the Thrasher-Horne Center. This year's show is sure to be another hit with Aaron Lewis scheduled as the headline artist. A maximum of 2 free tickets are available for troops and veterans, hospital/ front line workers, first responders, teachers and linemen. Must submit ticket request and receive tickets for entry. Free tickets will not be available at the show.

The **Fall Harvest Festival** takes place on October 7 at the Clay County Fairgrounds. With free admission, families and visitors can enjoy local vendors, great eats from local food trucks and live music.

The Town of Penney Farms welcomes visitors to take a trip to bygone days at the **Old-Fashioned Farm Day** on October 13, 2023. Enjoy exhibits of antique farm equipment, tools, early crafts along with antique and classic cars on display.







Mainstage at Thrasher-Horne Center- Clay County, FL

Off R Rocker- Bulls, Barrels & BBQ



Food Truck Fridays at Spring Park-Green Cove Springs, FL



The Island Theatre- Clay County, FL Orange Park Community Theater-



Clay County, FL



Town of Orange Park Fall Festival

Grab a bite to eat at local food trucks, play carnival games with prizes all in the shade of our beautiful Live Oak trees, Magnolia trees and Crepe Myrtles.

The Bulls, Barrels & BBQ event returns to the Clay County Fairgrounds on October 14th and 15th. Experience a night of country fun with live music, professional bull riders and highspeed barrel racers from the Off R Rocker and the Elite Bull riders Association.

Enjoy nights along the riverfront at Food Truck Friday at Spring Park in Green Cove Springs featuring live music and local eats from around Northeast Florida. Held the second Friday of each month March to November from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., bring a blanket or a lawn chair and enjoy the views overlooking the St. Johns River.

Orange Park's 41st Annual Fall Festival takes place October 21-22 at the Orange Park Town Hall. What started with twelve vendors and a few musicians has blossomed into a festival featuring over 200 vendors and two stages packed with live music. Festival-goers can shop for unique gifts,

handmade guilts, locally made pottery and more. Food vendors include a variety of items including barbecue to fresh baked goods, seafood and local honey. In the Kids Zone, little ones can enjoy face painting, inflatables and games. Admission and parking are free! This event is ranked as a Top 20 event by the Southeast Tourism Society.

At the Orange Park Community Theatre, make plans to see the mystery Mouse Trap by Agatha Christie October 6-22, 2023. And stay tuned for an exciting lineup in 2024 with A Gentlemen's Guide to Love & Murder and also Bugsy Malone: The Musical.

For a fun night at the theater, don't miss The Island Theater's lineup of shows taking place this Fall/Winter with favorites like Disney's Newsies - The Broadway Musical from October 6-15, 2023 and the spooky Night of the Living Dead October 20-29 – perfect for Halloween. Then November 10-19, don't miss the classic Romeo & Juliet and for the holiday season - It's A Wonderful Life December 14-23.

CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE FALL/WINTER 2023 • 13

2023 Fall/Winter Events

On November 11, don't miss sampling some of the area's best chili and the **Moosehaven Chili Cookoff** with hundreds of teams competing to take home the trophy. In addition to the tastings, enjoy live music, arts/crafts vendors and a kid zone for the little ones.

Experience a bit of culture at the **Puerto Rican Expo** on November 18 at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Explore outdoor children's educational and interactive activities, folkloric dances, live entertainment and a food court filled with Latin American flavors. This year's event will focus on the history and flavors of coffee, cocoa and chocolate!

The **River City Hunter Jumper Association** welcomes visitors to one of their three events this fall/winter at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Choose from September 15-17, October 20-22 or November 17-19 to see competitors and their horses in action. From competitive events to showing the horses and a Halloween Horse show in October, these are great events for horse lovers.

This fall, take in a show at the **Spotlight Events Center** in Fleming Island with live performances that include dinner! September 28 through October 14 don't miss seeing *Everything's Coming Up Carol: A Tribute Show* where The Carol Burnett Show comes to life on stage. The Center's Spotlight Kids take the stage October 14-21 for the *Spotlight Kids: Skele-Tones Halloween Spectacular.* Experience magic and mystery at the *Halloween Monster Bash* October 19 through October 28. Then, the classic *Willy Wonka: The Musical* is performed by the Spotlight Kids November 24 through December 23. For the holiday season *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn: The Broadway Musical* takes center stage November 24 through December 30. Enjoy a night out with live music at the **Thrasher-Horne Center** on the campus of St. Johns River State College. Country stars Aaron Tippin, Sammy Kershaw and Collin Raye team up for their Roots & Boots tour on September 15, then the Plain White T's come to Clay County on September 23. With over 30 million records sold, Billy Ocean takes the stage on October 25. Then, on November 3 the band Warrant makes their way to Orange Park. Now in their fifth decade, Three Dog Night brings their legendary hits to town on December 1.

Vintage Market Days returns to the Clay County Fairgrounds on December 1-3 with vintage-inspired merchandise, repurposed finds, jewelry, clothing and more available for purchase. This three-day, juried event prides itself on vendors offering a variety of goods of high quality and originality. Known as an indoor/outdoor market, Vintage Market Days is a popular event with both locals and visitors offering shopping that can't be found anywhere else.

There's plenty of excitement taking place at the Clay County Fairgrounds this fall with the return of the **Cowboy Mounted Shooting competition** taking place December 29-31. Known to be one of the fastest growing and most exciting equestrian sports in America, cowboy mounted shooting combines elements of a Wild West Show exhibition shooting along with the skills of barrel racing, pole bending and reigning while using two .45 caliber single action revolvers loaded with black powder blanks.

For the most up to date event information, please visit ExploreClay.com and take a look at the event calendar. Or follow us on social media, @ClayCountyFLTourism (Facebook) or @ExploreClay (Instagram).



Moosehaven's Chili Cookoff 14•EXPLORECLAY.COM



Vintage Market Days- Winter Market Cowboy Mounted Shooting







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Escape The Cold-Winter Activities

By Carrie McLaren

Winter weather got you down? Wanting to spend more time outdoors, but the chilly temperatures are keeping you inside? Plan yourself a visit to Clay County, Florida and soak up some Florida sunshine as you breathe in the outdoors.

Here's a look at some popular activities to experience this winter during your time in Clay County -

Let's Play Golf!

Interested in playing golf this winter? Choose from one of Clay County's four, pristine golf courses. In Green Cove Springs, test your skills at the <u>Magnolia Point Golf Club</u> among the pine and magnolia trees. Set within a 1,000-acre community, wildlife is frequently seen on the course, making it a unique playing field for golfers. The <u>Fleming Island Golf</u> <u>Course</u> comes in at 6,700 yards with a par of 71. Surrounded by water and carefully-place sand bunkers, the front nine challenges golfers to play their best game while the back nine features a quiet course among the trees and wildlife.

Unique to Fleming Island Golf Club is the **Top of the Tee** – home to ten covered hitting bays equipped with Toptracer Technology. Each bay has its own seating area, paired with a nearby bar and televisions making this venue perfect for groups. Golfers can choose from different games including closest to the pin, longest drive competitions, points games and more. The lighted driving range also allows for players to practice even after the sun goes down.

In Clay County's Oakleaf neighborhood, <u>Eagle Landing Golf</u> <u>Course</u> features a 7,037-yard, par 72 course surrounded with Southern pine and palmetto trees. With six tees, ranging from juniors to championship, this course progresses in difficulty as the game finds its way the 18th green.

Best known for their island practice green, the <u>Eagle</u> <u>Harbor Golf Course</u> in Fleming Island features an 18-hole course surrounding the Eagle Harbor community of homes. Designed by award-winning course architect Clyde B. Johnston, golfers can enjoy rolling Bermuda grass fairways with plenty of water hazards to make the course a bit more challenging.

Go for a Bike Ride

Whether you are into biking nature trails, the open road or racing against fellow competitors, Clay County offers a variety of options for those interested in exploring the area on two wheels in the wintertime.

One of Clay County's most popular biking spots is the <u>Black</u> <u>Creek Park and Trail</u>. Adjacent to Highway 17, this 8-mile paved path connects bikers and walkers to points between Orange Park, Fleming Island and Green Cove Springs. Black Creek Park serves as a starting/ending location with parking, a covered pavilion and restrooms. The park also serves as the starting point for the mountain bike course that runs two miles through the park. Existing trailheads are at Black Creek Park, <u>Thunderbolt Park</u> and <u>Camp Chowenwaw County Park</u>.

In Keystone Heights, cyclists can join in on the <u>Palatka-to-Lake-Butler State Bike Trail</u>. This 47-mile trail connects west of U.S. 17 in Palatka to State Road 238 in Lake Butler, as it runs along the former Norfolk-Southern Railroad right-of-way through Putnam, Clay, Bradford, and Union counties. This cycling path was deemed part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System in 2007 and purchased with Preservation 2000 funds through the Florida Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program.

Look for Manatees

Manatees, also known as sea cows for their grazing habits, can often be tough to find in their natural habitats. Often found in salt, brackish and fresh water, manatees are slowmoving mammals that spend their days eating and sleeping.

Manatees cannot tolerate cold water temperatures for extended periods of time. They look for warmer waters when the water temperatures drop below 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Between November and March, manatees tend to migrate toward natural springs and waters near power plant discharge canals – both known to be places with warm water temperatures.

In Clay County, areas known for manatee sightings include the vegetation along Black Creek, Doctors Lake near private docks, Governor's Creek in Green Cove Springs and the mighty St. Johns River.

So, pack your warm weather clothes and get ready to visit Clay County – home to beautiful golf courses, hiking and biking trails, peaceful waterways, and small towns. We invite you to experience a side of Clay County that allows you to enjoy the Florida sunshine this winter.

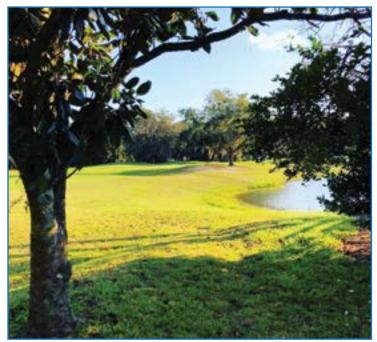
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in Clay



Eagle Harbor Golf Club- Fleming Island, FL



Magnolia Point Golf Club- Green Cove Springs, FL



Eagle Landing Golf Club- Oakleaf, FL



Manatee in Spring Park- Green Cove Springs, FL



Mountain Biking on Black Creek Trail-Fleming Island, FL



Top Of The Tee- Fleming Island, FL CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE FALL/WINTER 2023 • 17

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PADL-Experience Clay County's Waterways

Outdoor enthusiasts, get ready to explore the waterways of Black Creek, the St. Johns River and beyond with a paddleboard sharing experience located in Clay County. If you don't own a paddleboard or maybe you're traveling and couldn't bring yours from home, or maybe you want to try something new – this new experience is for you!

Similar to bike share programs, PADL allows boarders to locate a nearby station, rent and unlock a paddle board directly from a smartphone. All safety gear is included with the rental of the board. When the board and gear are returned to the station, riders can find a summary of their trip available in the mobile app.

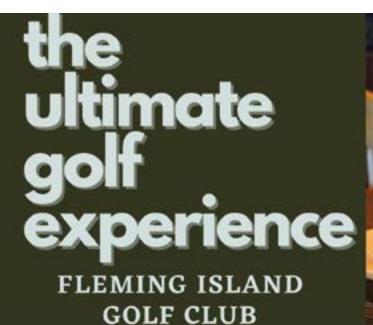
PADL locations can be found in several areas around in Clay County. Camp Chowenwaw, located on Black Creek in Green Cove Springs is the perfect destination for your first launch. Located conveniently near the kayak launch, boarders can enjoy easy access from sunrise to sunset. Other PADL locations in Clay County include, Doctors Lake Park in Fleming Island and the Main Street Boat Ramp in Middleburg.

Whether you choose to do a bit of boarding and yoga or go on a fishing adventure in the nearby St. Johns River, PADL allows you to choose your own adventure with their easily accessible boards.

To learn more about PADL and get started on your own paddling adventure, download the PADL mobile app for iOS and Android at <u>https://www.padl.co</u>.











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CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE FALL/WINTER 2023 • 23

By Carrie McLaren

Spend time outdoors in Clay County exploring the 35 miles of trails throughout a variety of local and state parks, conservation areas and Florida trailways. As home to three sites along the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail, there's no shortage of wildlife sightings right here in Clay County.

Here's a look at where you can sleep under the stars and explore the trails of Clay County -

Black Creek Park and Trail

As home to one of Clay County's most popular trails, <u>Black</u> <u>Creek Park and Trail</u> covers just over 71 acres with a variety of ecosystems including pine flatwoods and wetlands. The eightmile paved pedestrian and bicycle trail can be accessed from the parking lot and runs north along U.S. Highway 17. The park's Black Creek Mountain Bike Trail system features three different trails of differing degrees each with their own elevation changes, tree roots and turns. Each trail begins and ends at the parking lot and are completely shaded, perfect for even the novice bikers. The Creek View trail is 2.5 miles long and has breathtaking views of Black Creek. The 9 Lives trail and Palmetto's Revenge Trail both stretch for about one mile. Each of the trails were designed and maintained by the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association in Jacksonville (SORBA).

Camp Chowenwaw

Dating back to 1933, Green Cove Springs' <u>Camp Chowenwaw</u> <u>County Park</u> was once Florida's first Girl Scout Camp. Today, the public park offers 150 acres, a swimming pool and numerous trails for exploring and pristine conditions for overnight camping. From one of the many onsite cabins to a night in one of the eight treehouses, families can sleep under the stars at this historic campground.

Go for a hike on the Jungle Trail and make your way to the observation deck overlooking Black Creek. Explore the new Pawpaw Nature Center to learn about the animals and habitats that call Clay County home. At the nearby pollinator garden, visitors can learn how to attract and support butterflies and other pollinators at home.

Mike Roess Gold Head State Park

Known as one of Florida's First State Parks, <u>Mike Roess Gold</u> <u>Head Branch State Park</u> in Keystone Heights is home to 2,000 acres with 5.44 miles of trails along the Florida National Scenic Trail.

Go fishing or go for a swim in Little Lake Johnson. If you'd like to explore the area by water, canoe rentals are available. As a full-facility campground with 73 camp sites, overnight accommodations are available for RVs, tents and historic cabin rentals.

Jennings State Forest

At nearly 24,000 acres, Jennings State Forest, located just

outside of the Middleburg and Oakleaf neighborhoods, is home to 15 different biological communities including sandhill, slope forest, flatwoods, seepage slope, dome swamp, blackwater stream and seepage stream.

The forest is open daily during daylight hours for visitors interested in hiking, biking, canoeing and horseback riding throughout the area. There are three hiking trails ranging from 1.7 miles to 5-mile loops taking visitors along waterways and primitive areas in the forest. Overnight camping and primitive campsites are available at the Hammock Campground.

Bayard Conservation Area

Located just south of Green Cove Springs, the <u>Bayard</u> <u>Conservation Area</u> features 10,371 acres of conservation land with seven miles of beautiful views along the St. Johns River. A variety of wildlife calls the area home including gopher tortoise, bald eagle, little blue heron, deer and turkey. Hikers can enjoy 15 miles of trails inside the John P. Hall Nature Preserve located within the conservation area. Climb the observation tower for wildlife viewing and views of the nearby St. Johns River. Two campsites within the preserve are available for overnight stays. Along with exploring the hiking trails, choose from equestrian trails, bank fishing, bird watching and primitive launch sites for canoes and kayaking.

Get ready to create your own camping and hiking adventures when you visit Clay County. Explore the natural wonders that call the area home and take advantage of the outdoor opportunities during your stay. From RV camping to sleeping under the stars, learn more about planning your next camping adventures in Clay County at <u>www.ExploreClay.com</u>.





Bayard Conservation Area, St. Johns River-Clay County, FL



Black Creek Park and Trail- Clay County, FL



Pioneer Trail at Jennings State Forest- Clay County, FL



Camp Chowenwaw- Clay County, FL



Canoe at Lake Johnson in Gold Head State Park -Keystone Heights, FL

CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE FALL/WINTER 2023 • 25



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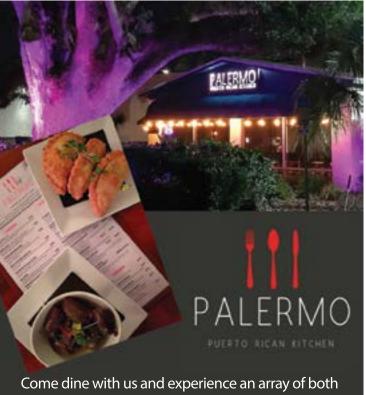
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Cheers to Clay County

By Carrie McLaren

Cheers to You, Cheers to Me!

Whether you are celebrating your sports team, catching up with friends or having a fun night out, Clay County is home to great brewers making local spirits, craft beer and serving plenty of unique, Florida flavors.

Here's a look at some of our area's makers and hot spots for grabbing an adult beverage in Clay County -

Local Makers in Clay County

For a taste of locally brewed beer from Clay County, look no further than <u>Pinglehead Brewing Company</u>. From their home base at <u>Brewer's Pizza</u> in Orange Park, Pinglehead prides themselves on making 'beer with attitude' filled with flavor and top ingredients.

The brewery's popular Magnolia Springs, a German Pilsner recently took home the award for second place in the state in the Euro and International Beer category at the Best Florida Beer Professional Championship. This crisp beer features a dry to medium finish with the traditional German hop bitterness and is a favorite among local beer enthusiasts.

At <u>Cultured Collective Brewery & Taproom</u>, all beers are made on site ranging from IPAs to Hard Seltzer. This unique location is home to a rotating menu of food trucks. No matter what you are craving, you can find it here.

For those looking for a stiff drink, stop by <u>Black Creek</u> <u>Distilleries</u> in Middleburg for a tour and have a lemon drop made with their own creation – Pop's Block & Tackle White Rum. Other spirits made on site include their Black Creek Gold Rum matured on Charred French Oak and their popular 90% proof, Apple Shine.

Barley & Pie Brewing Company is set to open its first location in Fleming Island in 2024. Co-founded by Clay

County resident Philip Maple, former brew master of Jacksonville's Wicked Barley Brewing Company, this will be Fleming Island's first craft brewery. The brewery will be home to 20 taps and also feature a full liquor bar. In addition to drinks, Barley and Pie will serve food as it is set to be North Florida's first sourdough neo-Neapolitan pizzeria.

Where to Enjoy a Cold Beverage in Clay County

New to Fleming Island, the popular <u>Corks & Barrels</u> welcomes guests to enjoy a drink from their carefully curated cocktails list with a variety of wines, cocktails and spirits. Choose one of their own drink creations, like the Maple Rosemary Sour featuring Maker's Mark bourbon, lemon, maple syrup and rosemary or relax with friends over a bottle or glass of wine from the extensive wine list. For a bite to eat, create your own charcuterie board with meats and cheeses served tapas-style for your group. With a variety of cheeses choose from popular favorites like Dubliner Cheddar and Bourbon Maple Goat Cheese. Corks & Barrels hosts special events too, be sure to ask about their wine tastings and whiskey tastings.

And when the sun goes down, make your way to the <u>Sunset</u> <u>Tiki Bar</u> overlooking Doctors Lake at the <u>Doctors Lake</u> <u>Marina</u>. Enjoy your favorite drink and the breeze from the water as you watch the sun go down. Live musicians and a rotating variety of food trucks are featured daily.



Brewer's Pizza- Orange Park, FL 28 • EXPLORECLAY.COM



Red's Wine Bar-Green Cove Springs, FL



Barley and Pie- Fleming Island, FL



Rum Racks at Black Creek Distilleries - Middleburg FL



Beverage Selection at Cultured Collective -Orange Park, FL

In addition to a wide variety of pizza options, <u>V Pizza and Tap</u> <u>Garden</u> in Fleming Island features a large selection of local beers on tap, including seltzers, sours and stouts. With live music three nights a week, trivia night and a musical bingo night, this hot spot also hosts a Tap Takeover every Thursday evening featuring a regional brewery's most popular selections.

Wine lovers, don't miss making your way to Walnut Street in Green Cove Springs to visit <u>Red's Wine Bar</u>. Enjoy shareable plates like kettle chips, flatbreads, pretzels and more, grab a



Charcuterie Board and Bar at Corks and Barrels -Clay County, FL

glass of wine and relax in this cozy, friendly spot. And if wine isn't your thing, don't worry, Red's also has a large variety of craft beers available too. Popular nights like ladies' night, bingo, trivia night and live music on the weekends make this a popular spot with the Green Cove Springs locals.

Ready to Explore More of Clay County?

Ready to learn more about places in Clay County to enjoy a local craft beer or relax with a glass of wine? Visit <u>ExploreClay's list of restaurants and nightlife</u> spots located around the area. And please, drink responsibly.

CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE SPRING/SUMMER 2023 • 29

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Unique Places in Clay County

By Carrie McLaren

There's no shortage of unique people and places when it comes to life in Clay County. From a space shuttle fuel tank (yes, really!), a fresh spring that's actually a community pool and more – there's plenty to explore in Northeast Florida.

Let's take a look at some of the more unique places you can discover during your visit. What's your favorite, unique place to explore in Clay County?

Club Continental – A Luxurious Playground

Located in Orange Park, the <u>Club Continental</u> was once known as the Palmolive Estate (yes, like the soap). In the 1880's, B.J. Johnson, owner of the Palmolive Soap Company, was looking to escape the harsh winters of Wisconsin and brought his family to Orange Park for the winter months.

Their first home, known today as The Winterbourne, now hosts weddings and private events. The family built then built a home next door and named it Mira Rio, now known as today's Club Continental. The home was host to many, riverfront parties throughout the 1920's ranging from social events, equestrian meets, yacht parties and more. In 1966, Mira Rio became a private, member club and renamed to <u>Club Continental</u>. The property is expanded to include seven tennis courts, three swimming pools, and twenty-two guest rooms.

Home to a Space Shuttle Fuel Tank

A replica of a space shuttle fuel tank is probably the last thing you'd expect to see along the St. Johns River in Clay County, but it's true! Located at the Reynolds Industrial Park, the fuel tank is actually a replica fuel tank that was used for structure and stress testing between 1977 and 1980 at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Upon the closure of the space shuttle program, NASA moved the replica fuel tank to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and began selling items in 2013 with the nowclosed Wings of Dreams Aviation Museum in nearby Starke purchasing this relic. When the business realized the added costs of transporting the fuel tank from Reynolds Park to its museum, approximately 50 miles away, they parked the item at its current location in 2013. The nearby <u>Military Museum</u> <u>of North Florida</u> now owns the relic and is in early talks to move the item to museum property soon.

An interesting and surprising piece of NASA and space shuttle history located in Clay County, the fuel tank is accessible to visitors interested in seeing it up close. It certainly makes for an interesting story – and pictures too.



NASA Shuttle Fuel Tank-Green Cove Springs, FL



The Club Continental-Orange Park, FL



Winterbourne Inn-Orange Park, FL



Spring Park Pool and Spring- Green Cove Springs, FL

Enjoy Swimming in Spring Water in Green Cove Springs While it may appear that the community pool located at <u>Spring Park</u> in Downtown Green Cove Springs, is just 'another pool', however that couldn't be farther from the truth.

The 135,000-gallon pool is actually spring-fed with the spring water flowing into the west side of the municipal swimming pool and exiting to continue the trek to the nearby St. John's River. The water surges up from below at a rate of 1,346 gallons per minute and at a constant temperature of 77 degrees.

Surrounding the poll and spring area is a new, two-story building a new two-story pavilion with new bathrooms and a concession area on the first floor. A splash pad, new walkways and wheelchair accessible ramps, and new railing along with signage can be found around the spring. Since its completion in 2017, the pool has become the City's top attraction for visitors—serving as a centerpiece for City and City-sponsored events.

Penney Farms – Unique Settlers and History

In 1922, as owner of the Golden Rule Stores around the country, now known as JC Penney, James Cash Penney purchased 120,000 acres of unincorporated land with the hopes of creating experimental farming community and a utopian village. He brought homesteaders from all walks of life and provided them with 40 acres of land per family and offered training and equipment to farm on their own. After being successful for two years, they would own the land.

In addition to purchasing the land, J.C. Penney also founded the Memorial Home for ministers and missionaries with low incomes to retire there and prosper. Memorial Home was a tribute to his minister father, wherein a community formed around itself with the incoming settlers. In 1927, the unincorporated Long Branch City was renamed Penney Farms and chartered in honor of James Cash Penney.

Today, the town of Penney Farms is home to a population of nearly 900, of which over 500 are residents of Penney Retirement Community. The town's retirement community is unique in that it is one of the oldest in the country to feature continuing care from independent homes and apartments to nursing care for differing needs. The community prides itself on being the 'most giving zip code' in America with their charitable contributions to the community.

To learn more about this unique community, don't miss the <u>Explore Clay blog telling the story of Penney Farms</u>.

Ready to plan your visit to explore the unique places found in Clay County? Learn more about accommodations, activities, restaurants and more at <u>www.ExploreClay.com</u>.



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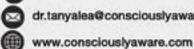
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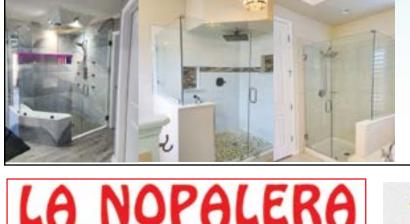
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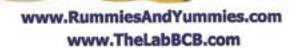
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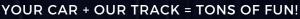


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904-276-5159 Buffalo Wild Wings 904-215-4969 Captain D's 904-272-5000 Chili's Grill & Bar 904-264-6907 Checkers 904-375-0687 China 1 904-272-8880 The Club Continental	Orange Park, FL 32073 1940 Wells Rd Orange Park, FL 32073 318 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1664 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32065 934 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 868 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 2143 Astor Street	American Varied Varied American Chinese			Dra	nge		rk ~ ~ ~	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
904-276-5159 Buffalo Wild Wings 904-215-4969 Captain D's 904-272-5000 Chili's Grill & Bar 904-264-6907 Checkers 904-375-0687 China 1 904-272-8880 The Club Continental 904-264-6070 Cracker Barrel	Orange Park, FL 32073 1940 Wells Rd Orange Park, FL 32073 318 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1664 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32065 934 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 868 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 2143 Astor Street Orange Park, FL 32073 4272 Eldridge Loop	American Varied Varied American Chinese Varied			Dra	nge		rk ~ ~ ~	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
904-276-5159 Buffalo Wild Wings 904-215-4969 Captain D's 904-272-5000 Chili's Grill & Bar 904-264-6907 Checkers 904-375-0687 China 1 904-272-8880 The Club Continental 904-264-6070 Cracker Barrel 904-264-2292 Crafty Crab	Orange Park, FL 32073 1940 Wells Rd Orange Park, FL 32073 318 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1664 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32065 934 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 868 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 2143 Astor Street Orange Park, FL 32073 4272 Eldridge Loop Orange Park, FL 32073	American Varied Varied American Chinese Varied Family			Dra	nge		rk ~ ~ ~	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
904-276-5159 Buffalo Wild Wings 904-215-4969 Captain D's 904-272-5000 Chili's Grill & Bar 904-264-6907 Checkers 904-375-0687 China 1 904-272-8880 The Club Continental 904-264-6070 Cracker Barrel 904-264-2292 Crafty Crab 904-579-3913 Dunya Fresh Halai Food	Orange Park, FL 32073 1940 Wells Rd Orange Park, FL 32073 318 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1664 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32065 934 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 868 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 2143 Astor Street Orange Park, FL 32073 4272 Eldridge Loop Orange Park, FL 32073 950 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 319 Blanding Blvd	American Varied Varied American Chinese Varied Family Seafood			Dra	nge		rk ~ ~ ~	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	

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EXPL®RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS

El Agave Aul 904-644-8264 922 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 Mexican

904-044-0204	Orange Park, FL 52005										
EL PEGAO BEL PEGAO	ellent service, delicit est Spanish—oops! — PUERT —food I've had since I moved NYC 5 years ago!"	O RIČAN!		0				2177	Kin Suit		
Escobar's Mexican Restaurant 904-375-8051	104 College Dr., Suite 8 Orange Park, FL 32065	Mexican		~	~		~				
Famous Sandwiches & Subs 904-579-3151	862 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065	Sandwiches	~	~	~				•	~	
Five Star Pizza 904-276-4445	1045 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065	Italian		~	~				~	~	
Foo Wong Garden 904-278-0806	1206 Park Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Chinese		~	~	~				~	
Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers (904) 375-1370	386 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073	American		~	~					~	
Golden Corral 904-272-0755	582 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~					~	~
Grumpy's 904-215-1956	834 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied	~	~					~	~	~
G's Slow Smoked BBQ 904-406-0524	1282 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32065	BBQ		~	~					~	
The Hilltop Club 904-272-5959	2030 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied			~		~	~		~	~
Holey Moley Bagel Shop 904-592-7039	179 College Dr Orange Park, FL 32065	American	~	~						~	
Hooter's of Orange Park 904-215-5858	1740 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~	•		~	•	~	~
Hot Wok 904-298-8080	12151 Loch Rane Blvd., #5 Orange Park, FL 32073	Chinese		~	~				~	~	
IHop 904-272-0690 904-655-8294	315 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied	~	~	~					~	
Irie Diner Caribbean Restaurant 904-375-9467	1177 Park Ave Orange Park, FL 32073	Caribbean		~	~					~	
King Kabob 904-215-8228	562 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Mediterranean	~	~	~				~	~	
Kyodai Sushi Rock Japan Steakhouse 904-215-8228	1861 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Japanese		~	~		~				
La Nopalera 904-276-2776	1930 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Mexican		~	~		~		~	~	

EXPL@RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS



LEADERBOARD ARCADE **PIZZERIA**

1760 Wells Road, Orange Park 32073

Little Caesars Pizza 904-276-2075

Luca's Italian Restaurant 904-375-9191

The Lunch Box Deli 904-579-4918

661 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1339 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065 1890 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32065

Italian Varied

SPLACE

Italian

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ACKEVS **NEW ORLEANS STYLE COOKING** (904) 458-4246 📀 868 BLANDING BLVD ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA 32065

MUNCHIES www.mackeysmunchies.com	Follow us on: 🛉 🖻 🙆	Love V The Mackey's		FRIED	OKF	A			//	11	L.
Manila Thai 904-579-4507	1540 Wells Rd., Ste 11 Orange Park, FL 32073	Filipino/Thai		~	~	~				~	
Metro Diner 904-375-8548	2034 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied	~	~	~	•			~	~	
Midori Sushi & Grill 904-272-8813	2151 Lock Range Blvd. #5 Orange Park, FL 32073	Japanese cuisine		~	~	•			~	~	
Miller's Orange Park Ale House 904-278-4600	1756 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~	•	~		~	~	
Moe's Southwest Grill 904-637-2299	1910 Wells Rd. (OP Mall) Orange Park, FL 32073	Mexican		~	~					~	
Nicole's on the River 904-251-9977	1101 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	American	~	~						~	
No Manches Way 04-478-1769	174 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Mexican		~	~		~	~	~	~	
No. 1 China 904-272-6860	305 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065	Chinese		~	~					~	
OP Fish House & Oyster Bar 904-579-3931	636 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Seafood		~	~	•		~	~	~	~
Orange Buffet 904-276-7886	475 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Chinese		~	~						~
Panda Express (904) 272-3417	901 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065	Chinese	~	~	~				~	~	
Palermo Puerto Rican Restaurant (904) 269-6935	556 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Puerto Rican		~	~	•		~	~	~	
Salsa's 904-579-3579	1635 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Mexican		~	~		~		~	~	
Shrimp Shack 904-276-7425	646 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Seafood		~	~				~	~	

EXPL®RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS

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Sonic Drive In 904-276-3686	908 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32065	Fast Food	~	~	~				~	~	~
Sonny's Bar-B-Q 904-272-4606	1976 Kingsley Ave. Orange Park, FL 32073	Bar-B-Que		~	~	•				~	•
Sorbello's Sicilian Restaurant 904-269-30	195 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Italian		~	~	•			~	~	
Steak 'N Shake 904-264-2649	1681 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~					~	
Tai Basil 904-282-6880	1075 Oakleaf Plantation Pkwy. Orange Park, FL 32065	Chinese/Thai		~	~				~	~	
Texas Roadhouse 904-213-1000	550 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~		~			~	~
T.G.I. Fridays 904-215-7030	1910 Wells Rd. (OP Mall) Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~		~			~	
Thai Cafe 904-541-0204	1177 Park Ave, Suite 4 Orange Park, FL 32073	Thai		~	~	•				~	
Thai Garden & Sushi Restaurant 904-272-8434	10 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Thai		~	~	•				~	
Tom & Betty's 904-272-8434	2134 Park Ave Orange Park, FL 32073	American		~	~	•	~	~	~	~	
Top Pot BBQ 904-580-8888	1780 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073	American		~	~		~				
Tropical Smoothie 904-644-7353	266 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073	Healthy	~	~	~				~	~	
										~	
Tunis 904-458-73534462	290 Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073	Varied		~	~					v	
		Varied	O Va	30 (Pran alei	Coll ige ntin) 37	Par asi	k talia	anb	istr		om
		\mathcal{N}	O Va	30 (Pran alei	Coll ige ntin	Par asi	k talia	anb	istr		om
904-458-73534462	Orange Park, FL 32073	$\widehat{\mathcal{N}}$	O Va	30 (pran alei 904)	Coll ige ntin) 37	Par asi	k talia	anb)	istr	0.0	om
904-458-73534462 View of the set of the se	Orange Park, FL 32073	Caribbean	O Va	30 (pran alei 904)	Coll ige ntin) 37	Par asi	k talia	anb)	istr	0.00	om
904-458-73534462 View of the set of the se	Orange Park, FL 32073	Caribbean	O Va	30 (pran alei 904)	Coll ige ntin) 37	Par asi	k talia	anb)	istr	0.00	om v
904-458-73534462 With the second state of the	Orange Park, FL 32073 Orange Park, FL 32073 195-3A Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073 390 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073	Caribbean Varied	O Va	30 (rran aler 904) v	Coll ige ntin) 37	Par asi	k talia	anb)	istr	0.cc	
904-458-73534462 View of Constant of Con	Orange Park, FL 32073 Orange Park, FL 32073 195-3A Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073 390 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1765 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003 1831 Golden Eagle Way Ste. 23	Caribbean Varied Bar-B-Que	0 vv (9	30 (pram aler 904) v	Coll ige ntin) 37 v	Par asi	k talia	anb)	istr	0.cc	
904-458-73534462 904-458-73534462 Fummy Caribbean 904-541-4811 Zaxby's 904-298-2728 FLEMING ISLAND Bono's BBQ Eagle Harbor 904-269-8870 Brew-Bakers Café & Co 904-602-5355 Brick Oven Pizzeria & Gastropub	Orange Park, FL 32073 Orange Park, FL 32073 195-3A Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073 390 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1765 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003 1831 Golden Eagle Way Ste. 23 Fleming Island, FL 32003 1811 Town Center Blvd.	Caribbean Varied Bar-B-Que Varied	0 vv (9	30 (pran aler 904) v v	Collinge Intim) 37 V V	Par asi	k talia 91(anb)	istr	0.cc	
904-458-73534462 With the second sec	Orange Park, FL 32073 Orange Park, FL 32073 195-3A Blanding Blvd Orange Park, FL 32073 390 Blanding Blvd. Orange Park, FL 32073 1765 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003 1831 Golden Eagle Way Ste. 23 Fleming Island, FL 32003 1811 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003 1811 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003 1811 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003	Caribbean Varied Bar-B-Que Varied Italian	0 vv (9	30 (pran aler 904) v v	Collingentin) 37 v v	Par asi	k talii 91(anb) v		0.cc	

EXPL®RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS

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Dick's Wings & Grill 904-375-2559	1803 East-West Pkwy Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~		2	~		~	
Five Guys 904-592-4896	C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Burgers		~	~					~	
Hibernia Cafe 904-269-1440	8.5 Mi. S. of I-295 on US 17 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Lunch/Sun.Brunch	~	~		~			~	~	
Hop Shing 904-637-0088	5000 Hwy 17, South Fleming Island, FL 32003	Chinese		~	~				~	~	
Hot Wok 904-278-4088	1615-155 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Chinese		~	~				~	~	
Hurricane Grill & Wings 904-644-7315	1810-1 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~		~	~		~	
IHop 904-215-9564	1825 East – West Pkwy Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied	~	~	~					~	
Just A Pinch Cafe 904-651-0705	1615 C.R. 220 Ste. 180, 32003 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Southern/Hawaiian	~	~						~	
La Nopalera 904-215-2223	1571 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Mexican		~	~		~			~	
Lanna Thai 904-215-2223	1605 C.R. 220 #180 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Thai		~	~	~				~	
Longhorn Steakhouse 904-375-9191	1605 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~						
The Loop 904-375-9293	1605 East West Pkwy, Ste 110 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Pizza/Varied		~	~	~				~	
Maple Street Biscuit Company 904-375-2219	1960 East West Parkway, Ste. 103 Fleming Island, FL 32003	American	~	~						~	
Margaritas 904-579-3801	3535 US HW. 17 Ste. 8 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Mexican		~	~		~	~	~	~	
Mellow Mushroom Pizza (904) 241-5600	1800 Town Center Blvd Fleming Island, FL 32003	Italian		~	~	~				~	
Moe's Southwest Grill 904-637-0080	1544 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Mexican		~	~					~	
Mojo Smokehouse 904-272-9464	2349 Village Fleming Island, FL 32003	Bar-B-Que		~	~		~				~
Mr. Chubby's Wings 904-272-9464	2349 Village Square Parkway #101 Fleming Island, FL 32003	American/Sports Bar		~	~		~	~		~	
New York Pizza 904-375-0500	1811 Golden Eagle Pkwy. Fleming Island, FL 32003	Italian		~	~		~			~	
O'Charleys 904-264-2673	1609 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~					~	
Panera Bread 904-215-9056	1510 Country Rd 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~				~	~	
Pepper's Cocina Mexicana 904-579-3488	1560 Business Center Drive, Ste. 25 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Mexican		~	~	~			~	~	
Roberto's Bistro 904-602-5200	1810 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003	Italian			~		~			~	•
Ruby Tuesday 904-269-6900	1521 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~		~			~	
Saigon Wok 904-375-0083	1810 Town Center Blvd. Fleming Island, FL 32003	Chinese/ Oriental		~	~						

EXPL®RE CLAY COUNT RESTAURANTS

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Santioni's 904-264-1311	3535-15 Highway 17 Fleming Island, FL 32003	American		~	~		~	~	~	~	
Sushiya 904-215-7988	1615-150 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Japanese		~	~					~	
Sweet Frog 904-215-1300	1581-100 C.R. 220 E Fleming Island, FL 32003	Yogurt		~	~						
Talon's Restaurant 904-269-9300	2217 Eagle Harbor Pkwy Fleming Island, FL 32003	American	~	~	~		~	~		~	~
Tijuana Flats 904-264-1766	C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Mexico		~	~	~				~	
Tropical Smoothie 904-375-0959	5000 U.S. Highway 17 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Healthy	~	~	~					~	
V Pizza 904-579-4530	4477 US Highway 17 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Pizza/Italian		~	~	~				~	
Whitey's Fish Camp 904-269-4198	2032 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied	~	~	~		~	~	~	~	~
Your Pie 904-375-9771	1545 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Pizza		~	~	~				~	~
Zaxby's 904-269-2911	1525 C.R. 220 Fleming Island, FL 32003	Varied		~	~					~	
GREEN COVE SPRIN	GS/ LAKE ASBURY										
Around The Corner Diner 904-284-1992	14 Magnolia Ave. N Green Cove Springs, FL 32043	American		~	~					~	
China Wok 904-529-8668	1305 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043	Chinese		~	~					~	
Crystal Dining Room at Magnolia Point Golf Club 904-269-9276	3670 Clubhouse Dr. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043	American	~		~		~			~	
D'Fontana 904-529-5515	324 Ferris Street Green Cove Springs, FL 32043	Italian		~	~	~				~	
	2808 Henley Re	d. , Greei	n C	ov	e S	Spi	rin	gs	1	000	
 atoms (904) 282-1564 								E	EST	OZO OF <mark>CL</mark>	AY
SPORTS GRII	DALTONSSPOR	RTSGRIL	L.(0	Μ		•			lyonine son	

The Deli (Inside Shell Gas Station) 904-529-7070

Hardee's of Green Cove Springs 904-529-9437

La Casita 904-529-9985

Master Wok 904-406-4266

Pan Asian Cuisine Sushi Bar & Grill 904-529-5153

Pizza Hut 904-284-2244 410 S. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 1323 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 20 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 2851 Henley Rd. Lake Asbury, FL 32003 1305 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 1367 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

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Deli		~	~				~	
Fast Food	~	~	~				~	
Mexican		~	~				~	
Chinese		~	~				~	
Chinese		~	~				~	
Italian		~	~				~	

EXPL®RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS

Present Tense Coffee and Books 904-687-8958 The Pub at Magnolia Point Golf Club 904-269-9276 Red's Wine Bar 904-955-0196 Rodger That Wings And Things 904-284-4728 The Shiek 904-531-5095 Spring Park Coffee 904-531-9624 Sweet Sensations 904-529-8554 Woody's Bar B Q 904-284-1014	2851 Henley Road #103 Lake Asbury, 32043 3670 Clubhouse Drive Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 414 Walnut St Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 232 Walnut St Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 422 S. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 328 Ferris St. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 618 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 25 N. Orange Ave. Green Cove Springs, FL 32043 3540 Hwy 17 Green Cove Springs, FL 3204	Coffeehouse Varied Varied Varied Mediterranean Varied Varied Varied Bar-B-Que	> > > > > > > >	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>		v				5 5 5
MIDDLEBURG	, <u>,</u>										
4 Tree BBQ	1948 Henley Rd.	Bar-B-Que		r	~					~	
904-214-3041 Black Creek Café	Middleburg, FL 32068 2696 Blanding Blvd.	Varied	~	~						~	
904-282-7373 Bono's BBQ	Middleburg, FL 32068 2640 Blanding Blvd., Ste 211	Bar-B-Que		~	~					~	
904-282-4288 Capio's Cafe	Middleburg, FL 32068 2710 Blanding Blvd.	American	~	~						~	~
904-413-7776	Middleburg, FL 32068	American									
China Café 904-282-9988	1545 Brannan Field Rd. Middleburg, FL 32065	Chinese		~	~					~	
China Wok 904-291-6988	2640 Blanding Blvd. Middleburg, FL 32068	Chinese		~	~					~	
Culver's of Middleburg 1767 Blanding Blvd Middleburg, FL 32068 (904) 203-2071	dreeds.		_			HAN		BES	A C E	AY	NER
First Wok 904-272-7738	2574 C.R. 220 Middleburg, FL 32068	Chinese		r	~					~	
G's Slow Smoked BBQ 904-406-0524	1282 Blanding Blvd. Middleburg, FL 32068	Bar-B-Que		~	r				~	~	
Gerald's Country Cafe 904-406-9491	2216 S. Mimosa Ave. Middleburg, FL 32068	American	r	~						~	
Grumpy's	1805 Blanding Blvd., Ste 205	Varied	~	~					~	~	v
904-215-1956 Hardee's of Middleburg 904-282-1889	Middleburg, FL 32068 2730 Hwy 21 Middleburg, FL 32068	Drive In	r	~	~					~	

EXPL®RE CLAY COUNTY RESTAURANTS

Huddlehouse 904-291-3850 Royal Moose Coffee Company 904-406-9523 Salsa's 904-375-0494 Stone E Cabin 904-282-6700 Tony's Pizza 904-406-5646 Tropical Smoothie 904-282-8777 Yama Sushi & Bento 904-375-9777	4094 C.R. 218 West Middleburg, FL 32068 2441 Blanding Blvd Middleburg, FL 32068 2574 County Rd 220 Middleburg, FL 32068 4430 C.R. 218 West Middleburg, FL 32003 2219 CR 220 Middleburg, FL 32003 1782 Blanding Blvd. Middleburg, FL 32068 2569 C.R. 220 Middleburg, FL 32068	Varied Coffeehouse Mexican Bar-B-Que Pizza Healthy Japanese	v v v		> > > > > > >	v	v	v	2 2 2 2		
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS Brooklyn Boys	205 NE Commercial Circle	Italian		V	V					V	
352-478-8140 Cedar River Seafood 352-478-8210	Keystone Heights, FL 32656 7414 State Rd 21 Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Seafood		r	~	~				~	~
China Chef 352-473-6333	125 East Walker Dr. Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Chinese		~	~					~	
Clyde's Cozy Corner Café 352-478-8358	130 SE Nightengale Street Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Varied	r	~						~	
Fire Power Coffee 352-478-8174	322 SE State Road 100, Ste. D Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Coffeehouse	~	~						~	
Hardee's of Keystone Heights 352-473-7745	7401 State Rd. 21 Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Drive In	~	~	~					~	
Johnny's Bar-B-Q 352-473-4445	7411 State Rd. 21 Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Bar-B-Que		~	~					~	
McHenry's Irish Sports Pub 352-473-3000	323 NE Commercial Circle Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Varied		~	~		~			~	
Orange Blossoms 352-473-9873	7154 SE CR Keystone Heights, FL 32656	Varied	~	~			~			~	~
OAKLEAF						1					
Akaya Grill & Sushi 904-291-9388	1075 Oakleaf Plantation Pkwy, Ste 106 Orange Park, FL 32065	Asian		~	~		~			~	
Thai Basil 904-282-6880	1075 Oakleaf Plantation Pkwy #305, Orange Park, FL 32065	Chinese/Thai		~	~				~	~	
The Landing Bar & Grill 904-291-5600	3989 Eagle Landing Pkwy Orange Park, FL 32065	American	~	~	~	~	~			~	
Tough Guys Cookies and Sweets 904-476-7812	518 Hollyberry Ln, Ste 104 Orange Park, FL 32065	Cookies/Ice Cream		~	v					~	~



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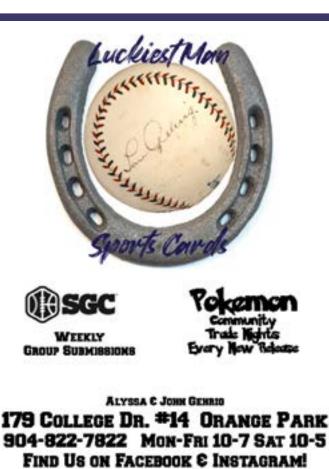
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904-269-6347 915 Walnut Street • Green Cove Springs

CLAY COUNTY SHRINE CLUB

904-226-6518 2471 Russell Rd • Green Cove Springs

CLAY THEATRE 904-710-0911 • www.ClayTheatre.com 326 Walnut Street • Green Cove Springs

CLUB CONTINENTAL 904-264-6070 • www.clubcontinental.com 2143 Astor Street • Orange Park

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904-269-9300 • www.eagleharborgc.com 2217 Eagle Harbor Parkway • Fleming Island

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904-215-8900 • spotlighteventscenter.com 1815 E. West Pkwy • Orange Park

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904-278-6140 jacksonvilleorangeparksuites.hamptoninn.com 141 Park Ave • Orange Park

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Staying in Clay County

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Treat yourself to a stay at one of Clay County's **vacation rentals** with water views or just a convenient location. For a resort-like atmosphere, try the **River Suites at Club Continental**, it was once the Palmolive Estate. **Azaleana Manor**, a brand new luxurious boutique hotel is a 10,000 square foot mansion featuring 6 rooms, lots of amenities, four acres of land to explore and stunning St. Johns River views.

For a full-service stay, the **Courtyard by Marriott Jacksonville Orange Park, Hilton Garden Inn Orange Park and the Holiday Inn & Suites Orange Park - Wells Rd.** offer guests an affordable stay near restaurants, shopping and more.

If you want to know what the Hampton Inn of the future looks like, stay at the **Hampton Inn Middleburg.**

The Days Inn by Wyndham Orange Park/Jacksonville, the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Jacksonville Orange Park, Hampton Inn & Suites Jacksonville/Orange Park and the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Fleming Island offer easy access to Interstate 295 and connecting roadways.

For an extended stay in our area, the Stay Suites of America - Orange Park, InTown Suites of Orange Park, and Zen Living Suites offer weekly and monthly rates along with amenities for a longer stay in Clay County.

Traveling by RV or interesting camping? Explore the possibilities at Camp Blanding Recreation – James E. Johnson Memorial RV Park, Camp Chowenwaw, Goldhead State Park, Clay County Fairgrounds and Whitey's Fish Camp.

Accomodations

Astoria Hotel

335 Eldridge Ave., Orange Park • 904-458-4299 www.magnusonhotels.com/hotel/ astoriahotelsuitesorangepark

Azaleana Manor

12 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park • 904-375-8389 azaleanamanor.com

Courtyard by Marriott Jacksonville/ Orange Park

610 Wells Rd., Orange Park • 904-854-1500 www.marriott.com/jaxco **Full-service dining • Pool**

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4280 Eldridge Loop, Orange Park • 904-244-4444 www.daysop.com **Comp Breakfast • Pool**

Fairfield Inn Orange Park

450 Eldridge Ave., Orange Park • 904-278-7442 www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/jaxop-fairfield-inn-andsuites-jacksonville-orange-park

Comp Breakfast • Pool

Hampton Inn Jacksonville/Orange Park

141 Park Ave., Orange Park • 904-278-6140 HamptonInnOrangePark.guestreservations.com **Comp Breakfast • Pool**

Hampton Inn Middleburg

1735 Jeremiah Street, Middleburg • 904-406-6424 www.hilton.com/en/hotels/jaxmbhx-hamp- ton-suites-middleburg

Comp Breakfast • Pool

Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville/ Orange Park

145 Park Ave., Orange Park • 904-458-1577 ext.571 www.jacksonvilleorangepark.hgi.com **Full-service dining • Pool**

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1815 E. West Parkway, Fleming Island • 904-215-8900 www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/ fleming-is- land

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442 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park • 904-272-7299 www.intownsuites.com/extended-stay-locations/florida orange-park/south-5

Penney Retirement Community

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River Suites at Club Continental

2143 Astor St., Orange Park • 904-264-6070 https://clubcontinental.com **Comp Breakfast**

Stay Suites of America / Avior Hospitality LLC

1656 Wells Rd., Orange Park • 904-264-4616 www.staysuitesamerica.com **Pet Friendly**

Camping/Cabins/RV Parks

Camp Blanding Recreation - James E. Johnson Memorial RV Park

Starke • 904-682-3104 www.militarycampgrounds.us/florida/campblanding-rv-park

Camp Chowenwaw

1517 Ball Rd, Green Cove Springs • 904-529-8058 www.claycountygov.com/departments/parks-andrecreation/camp-chowenwaw-park

Fairgrounds RV Park

2497 State Road 16, Green Cove Springs 904-284-1615 www.claycountyfair.org/p/other/278

Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park

6239 State Road 21, Keystone Heights • 352- 473-4701 www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/mike-roessgold-head-branch-state- park

Whitey's Fish Camp RV Park

2032 County Road 220, Fleming Island • 904-269-4198 www.whiteysfishcamp.com/rv_park.php



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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Circa 1847) 3925 Main Street

This building is one of the oldest Methodist churches in continuous use in Florida. It is a frame vernacular Church built of Hand-wrought lumber and nails. Mr. George Branning later donated the bell which was forged in New York and shipped by steamboat. One early use of the bell was to toll the death of his son, Robert Branning, who died in 1861 at 20 years of age.

THE HOUSES OF HISTORIC MIDDLEBURG









THE BARDIN HOME (Circa 1888) 3881 Main Street

This is Middleburg's only example of Italian architec ture. This style is more common in other areas of the country that in the South. There is a central cupola which is a small structure built on to the house. It is often used as a lookout and for air supple ventilation. Mr. Henry Bardin's house has two wide porches across the front of the hoe. It also has Victorian style gingerbread trim. The Bardins used to have square dances there many Saturday nights.

THE STEWART HOME

(Circa 1890-1911) 3895 Main Stree This is Middleburg's only example of center gable frame vernacular architecture. It is a white two-story home with a porch. It has a front facing gable wall dormer window. The home was built by George Chalker. As Mr. Chalker had a home on wharf Street, he rented this house to Mr. and Mrs. G.P, Stewart. The Stewarts moved from the Gin House Landing area where they had a turpentine mill.

THE GEORGE **CHALKER HOME**

(Circa Late 1800's) 2160 Wharf Street This white two-story home sits on a large area of land. It is Colonial Revival architecture which features a flat roofed porch with a railing above which is supported by square columns. There is a dormer window on the roof on the front of the house. A vine-covered retaining wall fronts the home on Wharf Street. The Chalker family was related to many families in Middleburg. It is presently under-going renovation and restoration.

THE GEORGE **HASKELL HOME**

(Circa Late 1800's) 3894 Main Street This frame vernacular home was built by Mr. Haskell as a replica of his home in Salem Mass. He was stationed with the Union troops during the Civil War in the area. He was attached to the Paymaster Corps. He later acquired 500 acres of land. The house is three stories and has been remodeled and kept in good condition. It is white with a decorative eagle on it.

THE BARTHLOW HOME (Circa 1800's) 3884 Main Street

This is a frame vernacular home, which is a typical wood frame home of the period. It is a small home with a tin roof and green metal awnings over the porch. Homes during this period were built with fireplaces for heat as is this one This home has a metal fence. Some of the other homes have wooden, brick, metal or stone fences in front of their homes. Some do not have fences. This home remains in the Barthlow family to this day.

LONG HOUSE (Circa 1890) 3858 Main Street

This home was purchased by Edward Long for his parents in 1896. It was an example of the open side gamble frame vernacular style. This building features drop siding exterior wall fabric and an exterior field stone chimney stack.





OLD MASONIC LODGE

(Circa Late 1800-1889) 3893 Main Street This building was moved to its present site from where the present Masonic Lodge is now. It is often called "the old lodge," It has an open side gable frame vernacular building built in the federal-period style. It has a one bay gable roof entrance porch on the east side. This yellow painted two-story building is balanced or symmetrical in appearance. It is beside the Clark-Chalker house.

THE FROSARD BUDINGTON HOME (Circa 1910) 3916 Main Street

This is Historic Middleburg's only example of Queen Anne architecture. It is unusual in that it is a single story with a rounded corner on the veranda porch. The rounded columns are called ionic. The interesting shape of the left-hand gable window when facing the front of the house is called Palladian. In 1927, Mr. and Mrs. F. Budington gave a deed to the Middleburg United Methodist Church which later added the Budington Educational Building. This home is now owned by Mrs. Pat Mueller.

THE BUDINGTON HOME

(Circa Late 1800's) Originally at 3913 Main Street

This is a white two-story house with a wide L-shaped porch which extends out to an area which can be used now as a carport. The shutters on this home are functional. This frame vernacular home is thought to have been moved to its present sit by rolling it on logs from across the street where the F. Budington home is now. This home is simpler in appearance on the outside than the Frosard Budington house across the street. This house has been relocated to the Main Street Park.

DR. G.E. ADAMS & **DR. STONE HOME**

(Circa Early 1900's) 2145 Wharf Street This building is a small frame vernacular home. It has decorative wooden trim on it. There is wooden "gingerbread" trim at the top of the porch columns. The porch with railing is on the left side of the house when facing the front. This building served as a Doctor's office and home in 1914. Later. the house became a private residence.

THE CLARK-CHALKER HOUSE

(Circa 1835) 3891 Main Street This is the oldest building in Middleburg. It is a white two-story columned house with a white picket fence. This open side gable frame vernacular home was built for Capt. Matthew Clark and his staff. They were with the U.S. 2nd Dragoons stationed at Ft Heilman. During the Second Seminole Indian war, the house was headquarters for General Winfield Scott. Martha Ann Chalker later occupied the house for 82 years until her death in 1936.

THE HADDEN HOME

(Circa 1912) 3887 Main Street This is a colonial revival home with a balanced front called a symmetrical façade. This is a two-story home with round columns. It has a tin roof like several of the historic homes in the historic district. An interesting aspect of this home is that the decoration above the front door was originally made from an old bed headboard. This is called a decorative entrance Pediment









Caffeinated in Clay County

By Carrie McLaren

The best way to get to the heart of a community? Spend time with the locals at a neighborhood coffee shop. Meet the residents and enjoy a cup of locally, brewed coffee or try a house made pastry while listening to live music – whatever your needs, support local businesses during your time in Clay County and let us help you find the perfect cup of joe.

Here's a look at some of Clay County's top coffee shops –

7 Brew Coffee www.7brew.com

Coming soon to Clay is the Arkansas-based, 7 Brew Coffee. With its double-drive through service, get ready to choose from coffee, infused energy drinks, Italian sodas, smoothies and tea. Their unique coffee is a blend of beans sourced from Ethiopia, Colombia and Brazil. As the company rapidly expands with new stores throughout Florida, this Clay County location will be one of the first locations in Northeast Florida. Stay tuned for news and opening dates details!

Basketique Custom Theme Baskets & Gifts & Over the Second Cup Tea Room 727 Kingsley Avenue, Orange Park (904) 264-8844 www.basketique-gifts.com

With the elegance of Europe and the charm of an English cottage, enjoy tea time at Basketique Custom Theme Baskets & Gifts Over the Second Cup Tea Room in Orange Park.

Make new friends or reminisce over a pot of tea, try a variety of tea sandwiches and condiments and treat yourself to chocolate and desserts. The folks at Over the Second Cup Tea Room believe tea time is a ceremonial occasion with servings taking place with crystal servings, linens and fine China.

Perfect for small groups or individuals, owner Patricia Sessions is a certified tea sommelier and is available to help you find the perfect tea for your needs and preferences. Enjoy a step back in time with a fresh pot of tea while you are in Clay County.

Black Rifle Coffee Company 1619 County Road 220, Fleming Island www.blackriflecoffee.com

Coming soon to Clay County, the Black Rifle Coffee Company plans to open its first coffee shop in the Northeast Florida area with the addition of a Fleming Island location. This Veteran-founded coffee company gives back to veterans, law enforcement and first responders with every purchase made. Founded in 2014, the company's mission is to serve coffee and culture to people who love America. With their weapon-themed coffee brews, coffee fans can choose from favorites like the Freedom Roast, the light roast Gunship, the Silencer Smooth light roast and more. Be on the lookout for the store opening in 2023.

Ellianos Coffee

301 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park (904) 541-4983



7 Brews Coffee- Clay County, FL (Coming Soon)



Black Rifle Coffee Co.- Clay County, Ellianos Coffee- Clay County, FL FL (Coming Soon)

www.ellianos.com

"Italian quality at America's Pace" is the motto of Ellianos, and that's exactly what you can expect. With drive through windows on both sides of the building, you can experience high quality espresso beverages, latte freezers, smoothies, coffee and breakfast sandwiches in a flash! Pick some up today or grab a bag of whole, ground and toddy grind beans to make at home.

FirePower Coffee Roasters

322 SE State Road 100, suite D, Kevstone Heights (352) 478-8174 www.firepower.coffee

Experience freshly roasted whole beans and ground specialty coffees with the knowledgeable team at FirePower Coffee Roasters in Keystone Heights.



Firepower Coffee- Clay County, FL





The Lab, Orange Park-Coffee and cupcake

Truly a family business, the Beck family welcomes you to enjoy a selection of brewed coffees from the daily, rotating menu featuring coffees from around the world.

Interested in taking coffee home as a souvenir? Choose from their selection of whole or roasted beans packaged in both convenience packs and larger sizes.

While you're enjoying time in the shop, you may be able to see some of the roasting process, ask questions and learn about the process and enjoy the bold flavors of aroma making their way through the shop. As you make your way through the retail shop, check out the education slides and information scrolling through the monitors to learn about the processes and coffees available for your enjoyment.

Together, owners William and Carol Beck hold over ten certifications in coffee and tea educational programs and food safety. They have each completed additional course work related to coffee processing and preparation, making them 'go to' experts when it comes to the brewing process and finding the perfect cup of coffee.

Tea drinkers, also be sure to speak with Carol – she's a certified tea sommelier! Sample specialty and organic teas from Two Leaves and a Bud right in the shop and choose from a variety of sizes of packages to enjoy tea-time at home. Carol can help you select teas based on your preferences.

The Lab Bakery & Coffee Bar

1580 Wells Road Unit 7 & 8, Orange Park



Present Tense Coffee and Books-Clay County, FL

(904) 375-1416 www.TheLabBCB.com

New to the coffee scene in Clay County, The Lab Bakery & Coffee Bar in Orange Park welcomes visitors to enjoy a bite to eat and a cup of Northeast Florida's own Martin Coffee.

This family-owned coffee spot features a rotating menu of desserts to pair with your cup of coffee. Enjoy your drink with one of their homemade treats, made from family recipes like a slice of Red Velvet cake with cream cheese frosting,topped with raspberry drizzle and white chocolate chips. Other favorites include German chocolate cupcakes and cookies and don't forget to add some of their homemade whipped cream to your coffee.

For those looking for a place to work remotely, stop in and get caught up on emails at The Lab, where you can enjoy a welcoming environment, tasty treats and free Wi-fi too.

Present Tense Coffee and Books

2851 Henley Road, Suite #103, Green Cove Springs (904) 315-9518 <u>www.facebook.com/PresentTenseCof-feeAndBooks</u>

At Present Tense Coffee and Books, you can enjoy a classic combination any day of the week with homemade artisan coffee and new and used books. Since opening in the summer of 2019, they display their love of artistic detail with their 9-minute roasted coffee beans that are aged for 30 days before being ground.

Other delicious concoctions include



Royal Moose Coffee Co.-Clay County, FL

their signature drink the PLN, a black tea and lavender beverage that's perfect for cozying up with a good read or tackling the day. While you're there, be sure to pick up a delicious cinnamon roll, vegan banana muffin or a homemade scone.

Interested in a read? Present Tense offers an amazing selection of books from various national and local authors as well as a great trade-in deal. Be sure to check in for their weekly events, including dollar bin book days, book club meetings, child's story time and more.

Perfect for a quiet, relaxing cup or for getting things done, Present Tense is a true local gem with a delicious assortment of hand-crafted drinks to satisfy any craving. Drink like a local and enjoy a good read today.

Royal Moose Coffee Company 2441 Blanding Boulevard, Middleburg (904) 406-0661

www.royalmoosecoffeeco.net

The newest place for coffee in Middleburg is the Royal Moose Coffee Company – you'll know you're there when you see the moose statue welcoming you outside the building!

Enjoy breakfast all day with cinnamon rolls, muffins, croissants sandwiches paired with fresh coffee and specialty drinks. From traditional cappuccinos to chai lattes or their signature Moose Mocha made with chocolate, caramel and whipped cream or just sit back with a hot cup of coffee – Royal Moose Coffee Company welcomes you to enjoy your favorites amidst their friendly community.

Continued on next page

Join Us for a Cup of Coffee

Along with being Clay County residents, these small business owners are passionate for coffee and supporting our community.

Whether you're a coffee lover, interested in local eats or hoping to connect with the residents of Clay County, we hope you enjoy exploring our small towns filled with big passions... and great coffee too.





Scooter's Coffee- Clay County, FL

Scooter's Coffee 151 Park Avenue, Orange Park (904) 375-9968 www.scooterscoffee.com

Enjoy Scooter's Coffee without even having to get out of the car as this coffee shop is drive-thru only! New to Orange Park in 2022, Scooter's Coffee is quickly becoming a hit with locals serving up specialty espresso drinks, single-origin coffee, fruit smoothies and even Red Bull infusions. Known for their fast drive-thru and freshly, baked from scratch pastries, Scooter's signature drink is the Caramelicious[®]. Be sure to use the Scooter's Coffee mobile app to receive perks and earn free drinks too!

Spring Park Coffee

328 Ferris Street, Green Cove Springs (904) 531-9391 www.springparkcoffee.com

As a nod to the days of the turn of the century, the cozy Spring Park Coffee in Green Cove Springs is a short walk from Spring Park along the St. Johns River. This locally-owned shop features freshly roasted coffee from their sister company, Brass Tacks Coffee Co.

Since opening in 2011, this friendly coffee shop also features bagels and breakfast sandwiches – including their popular breakfast biscuits, made inhouse each day. In the afternoon and evening, pair your coffee with a fresh cookie or pastry.

Choose from specialty drinks like their version of Butterbeer, made with espresso, toffee nut, caramel and butterscotch, a peppermint mocha or sip on a classic hot cocoa while catching up with friends. And be sure to check out the 'Name of the Day' board outside the shop, if your first name is there – you'll receive free coffee!



Spring Park Coffee- Clay County, FL

As a great souvenir of your time in Clay County, take home a 32oz. growler of Double Strength Cold Brew coffee – blended by the knowledgeable team at Brass Tacks Coffee Co. and Spring Park Coffee.

Snuggle up on one of the shop's cozy couches with a book from the book swap area, enjoy live music on the first Friday of every month or grab a board game and challenge your family – whatever you decide, Spring Park Coffee welcomes visitors to relax and indulge.

The Tea Room

7433 State Road 21, Keystone Heights (352) 535-8510 www.thelearningwheel.us/tea-room/

New to Keystone Heights, The Tea Room is open by appointment only for guests to take advantage of an afternoon of tea with friends and family. Offering an extensive list of teas and a variety of finger sandwiches, sweet treats and desserts, The Tea room is a welcome addition to locals and visitors in Keystone Heights.

High Tea events include a sampling of three teas from around the world featuring both sweet and savory variety's. Food menus can be customized depending on the group with items to choose from including cucumber sandwiches on white bread, chicken salad baked on fresh-bread rosemary bread, mixed fruit drizzled with jalapeno honey and more. Etiquette classes are also available by appointment.

The Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café

2023 Park Avenue, Orange Park (904) 541-4938 www.theurbanbeancoffeehouse.com

Locally-owned and operated in the heart of Orange Park, The Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café is a popular favorite



The Tea Room- Clay County, FL

with residents throughout the day. Featuring specialty and hand brewed coffees, organic teas, a menu featuring all-day breakfast items, salads and signature deli sandwiches, don't miss trying one of their gourmet donuts baked in-house daily.

From the pine tables, coffee bar and window seats made from the same 130-foot tree to the use of local and organic supplies as much as possible, owners DuWayne and Pam Hegal pride themselves on creating a sense of neighborhood with their customers.

When night falls at The Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café, choose from a selection of wines and local, craft beer with your meal. And there's no shortage of live entertainment with Open Mic nights and a monthly Art Buzz event featuring local artists, vendors and live music.

Pull up a seat and enjoy a neighborhood scene filled with passion – and great coffee.



Urban Bean Coffee & Donuts

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CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE FALL/WINTER 2023 • 71

Green Cove Springs Historic Walking Tour

Spring Park - The Spring tapers down with clear visibility to a depth of 31 feet up from which flows 78 degree mineral water filling the pool at 1300 gallons per minute for chemical free swimming in the summer. In the late 1800's many came to partake of the medicinal waters and some even stayed. Today the park includes the pool, the spring, playground, cooking pavilion, numerous gazebos, picnic tables, a stream, fishing pier and boat slips with water and electricity on the St. Johns River.

2 215 Spring Street - City Hall is seen west of the park. It was completed in 2004 on the site of the Qui Si Sana Hotel which faced the spring (c. 1907 meaning "Here is Health"). The architectural features of City Hall have similarities of the Qui Si Sana. Prior to the Qui Si Sana, the same site was occupied by the Clarendon Hotel (1870 – 1900). Guests of the Clarendon had exclusive use of the spring.

3 103 S. Magnolia Avenue – This frame vernacular style is characteristic of one of the most popular building styles in this region during the late 1800's. This building was used as a cottage for the Clarendon Hotel as well as the residence of Dr. Joseph Applegate who prescribed and dispensed the "medicinal" spring water to his wealthy northern clientele. It is in current use as the River Park Inn Bed and Breakfast.

4 219 Spring Street – Built in 1887, this home was, for many years, in the family of Judge Rivers. Notice the design pressed into the metal roof and the wonderful wrap around porch.

5 Footbridge – Across Spring Run connecting the North and South sides of the park, this bridge was built in 1988 by a Hungarian immigrant and Vietnam War Army veteran, Antal Molnar and his son Antal Jr. Note the replica of the old city seal in the center of the intricate iron work.

⁶ Spring Run is the stream from the outflow of the springfed chemical-free community pool. "Friends of the Park" were responsible for the large riverfront gazebo built in 1984 and still used regularly today for weddings and other events. Cross the bridge and take the sidewalk along St Johns Avenue.

14 North St. Johns Avenue – Built circa 1897 and known as the home of Captain C. E. Garner of the Independent Line Steamers that operated the May Garner riverboat between here and Jacksonville in the early 1900's, this home has been lovingly restored in the Italian Renaissance style by its current owners.

⁸ 15 N. St. Johns Avenue – the winter residence of the Carl Schultz family of NY; it was later known as the Hallock Hotel.

218 Palmer Street - The original home of Dustin Page is still maintained as a private residence.

115 St. Johns – Built in the Italian Renaissance style as his family's first residence, W. M. Hoyt, a Chicago grocery chain magnate was one of many wealthy northerners who invested in real estate in Green Cove Springs in the late 19th century. It later became known as the Riverview Hotel.

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200 N. St. Johns – Having the means to do so, W. M. Hoyt later built this house designed by architect, Mellon Greeley, in 1917 for his family in the Mediterranean Revival style with features such as the stucco exterior and tile roof. The building has now been converted to condominiums.

400 St. Johns Avenue – St. Mary's Episcopal Church, built in 1979, continues to serve an active parish today. It is built in Carpenter Gothic Style. Note the small doors beneath each window. They are more often used for ventilation but they would provide escape in case of fire. On the same property notice the Fellowship Hall. It was originally one of 5 army chapels at Camp Blanding built in the early 1940's and later relocated to this site for the church.

405 St. Johns Avenue – The rectory for St. Mary's Episcopal Church, circa 1906, was erected with funds from the Morton Fox Memorial Fund, according to the historical marker on the left eve of the house.

208 Park Street – One of three still existing homes in town originally built for members of the Borden family of condensed milk fame.

15 502 North Magnolia Avenue – Called "Villa Cottage", this home was built in 1880 by John C. Borden, son of the inventor of condensed milk. The tower on the right was used for judging the horse races which occurred on Magnolia Avenue. It was later used as the first home of the Women's Club better known as the Village Improvement Association (VIA).

300 Gum Street – First Presbyterian Church, circa 1892, is a detailed carpenter gothic style church. Designs on the hand forged hinges as well as the shapes and colors of the windows have special meanings. The Friendship Hall was completed as an addition in 1995.

17 303 North Magnolia Avenue – Circa 1884, Queen Anne style, rumors have circulated for many years about the ghosts in residence!

18 312 Center Street – This beautifully restored 1890's residence was most recently an art studio.

19 326 Walnut Street – Green Cove Springs got its own Art Deco style theater in the mid 1930's. The owner in 1936, R. C. Wilson, relocated the business from 420 Walnut Street where it was known as the Palace Opera House and Motion Picture Show. In 1939 a license permit was issued for the Clay Theater to Frank Bryant. Today it is the Clay Theatre, An Event Venue.

400 Block of Walnut Street - Walnut Street developed early as the main street for business in town because it led to the town's general landing at the east end where the fishing pier is now located. In 1882 there was a barbershop, a cobbler, several grocery stores, 2 churches, a bakery, a photography shop and several hotels on Walnut Street. 17 North Palmetto Avenue – Built in 1915, this is the most significant social building in Green Cove Springs. This land was donated to the VIA for the building in 1885 by Penelope Borden, of condensed milk fame. It is Spanish Colonial Revival style, designed by architect Mellon Greeley. A Florida Heritage Site, it still serves the community as the Village Improvement Association.

22 509 Walnut Street - is preserved as the home-place of Ma and Pa Gustafson of Gustafson Milk fame.

23 604 Walnut Street – (Council on Aging) Grady Smith bought the Coca Cola Operation from E. E. Geiger and moved it to this location which was built in 1946. At the time of the plant closure in 1971, 1,160 cases of the 6.5 ounce bottles were produced in an 8 hour day compared to 12,000 cans of canned coke per hour in the Jacksonville plant. Since the 1970's the building has a center for Clay County seniors.

615 Walnut Street – First Baptist Church was constituted in 1889 and this church was constructed 1916. The stainedglass windows were imported from Germany prior to WWI.

25 700 Walnut Street. Built in 1890, this residence is the best example of the Queen Anne style in town. Note the intricate stick and spindle work on the porches and gable ends.

26 707 Walnut Street – Saved from demolition in 2005 when the county purchased the property next to the Council on Aging for parking, this building, circa 1890, was moved diagonally across the street. It was formerly the home of Senator Slater Smith.

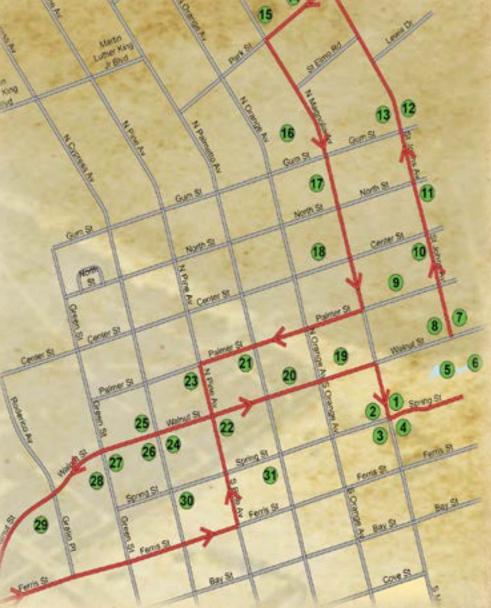
27 715 Walnut Street – Originally a residence, this 1909 frame vernacular has been restored and used over the years for a number of commercial purposes.

28 23 S. Green Street & Walnut – Now home to the Clay County School Board, the H. D. Long Building was a WPA Project in 1937 designed by architect, Roy A. Benjamin. It served as Clay High School for many years.

29 915 Walnut Street – The Historic Triangle Complex includes the restored Italian Renaissance style courthouse, circa 1890, which has been restored for the use of Family and Teen Court. The Annex on the left houses the Clay County Historical Museum. The museum also houses a fine railroad collection, train station and caboose. On the north end of the triangle is the 1894 Jail. The jailer's quarters have been restored to house the Clay County Archives and Sheriff's Museum.

627 Spring Street Circa - Typical construction from the late 1800's this home has a regular rectangular floor plan and a balloon frame structural system with two stories and a steep roof to accommodate a sizeable attic. Note the porches here. Porches were a common feature and decoration often included ornamental woodwork, brackets, patterned shingles, turned porch columns and exposed rafter ends under the eaves. The original balcony porch here has interesting, upturned detail on the upper rail.

501 Spring Street - Thought to have been built about 1845, the architecture is Frame Vernacular with elements of 2nd Empire with mansard roof and shingle siding. Known for years as the Jensen house where a local eye doctor practiced his craft, the building was renovated in 1993 for commercial use as a funeral home. The chapel was added in 1997.



Local Dining in Clay County

Bv Carrie McLaren

To fully immerse yourself in a community, the best place to go is the local restaurants. Eat where the locals eat, meet the owners that live in the community and taste the cuisine of what locals enjoy. In Clay County, our locally owned and operated restaurants are ready to welcome you with open doors.

From fresh, local seafood to award-winning barbecue and plenty of international flavors, there's no shortage of great, local restaurants in Clay County. This September is Restaurant Month, so get out and visit an old favorite or try something new – you never know, it could become your new favorite!

Here's a look at the dining scene in Clay County -

G's Slow Smoked BBQ in Orange Park, features great side dishes and award-winning barbecue. In Keystone Heights, Johnny's Bar-B-Q & Catering is locally-owned and operated family business with a variety of combo plates and a large menu of items right off of the smoker.

For fresh seafood, don't miss the popular Whitey's Fish Camp, a local favorite since 1963. Set along Swimming Pen Creek, you can even arrive by boat! The OP Fish House & Oyster Bar on Kingsley Avenue offers a variety of seafood specials, including oyster night and a popular Sunday brunch. Other popular seafood spots include Corky Bell's in Fleming Island and the fast-casual Shrimp Shack Seafood Kitchen in Orange Park.

For a bit of a diner feel, treat yourself to Grumpy's Restaurant in Orange Park – home to creative waffles and Southern diner breakfast dishes, perfect for starting the day. At The Metro Diner, enjoy your breakfast in the morning or have it for dinner along with a large lineup of sandwiches and be sure to check out the daily chalkboard specials. At Sweet Sensations in Green Cove Springs, enjoy fresh, made to order soups, sandwiches and salads and don't skip out on their

homemade desserts.

At the Just a Pinch Café in Fleming Island, choose from authentic Hawaiian dishes and Southern cuisine - open for breakfast and lunch. And yes, they also serve Spam! In Middleburg, the family-owned and operated Capio's Café is open for breakfast and lunch serving Southern favorites and unique omelets like the corned beef hash omelet.

And don't forget the coffee! Stop in for a treat and a fresh cup of your favorite creation at Spring Park Coffee in Green Cove Springs. Enjoy breakfast and lunch with your coffee at Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café in Orange Park. At The Lab Bakery & Coffee Bar, this family-owned hot spot features a rotating menu of desserts and drinks to pair with your cup of coffee. New to Keystone Heights, The Tea Room is open by appointment only for guests to take advantage of an afternoon of tea with friends and family. Offerings include an extensive list of teas and a variety of finger sandwiches, sweet treats and desserts. Also in Keystone Heights, experience freshly roasted whole beans and ground specialty coffees with the knowledgeable team at FirePower Coffee Roasters.



Roasting Meat at G's Smoked BBQ - Coconut Syrup-Just a Pinch **Orange Park**, FL 74 • EXPLORECLAY.COM

Dinner Plate at Irie Dinner



Cookie Jars Display at Sweet Sensations - Green Cove Springs, FL



Fruity Pebble Waffle at Grumpy's -Orange Park, FL



Craft Brews at Cultured Collective Brewing Co.- Clay County, FL



Fire Power Coffee - Keystone Heights, FL



Seafood Dish at Palermo Puerto Rican Kitchen - Orange Park, FL



Brewer's Pizza and Pinglehead Brewing Co. - Orange Park, FL

In the mood for international cuisine? You've come to the right place! For a taste of the Caribbean, visit the locally-owned <u>Irie Diner</u> in Orange Park and enjoy the national dish of Jamaica - Ackee and Salt fish along with other traditional Caribbean dishes including Guyana curry goat, Grenada brown stew chicken and Jamaican-style oxtails. At <u>Palermo Puerto Rican Kitchen</u>, try their signature dish "El Bohio" featuring slow roasted pork served with pigeon pea rice and homemade pork pastel. Take a trip down to New Orleans with the Cajun cuisine of <u>Mackey's Munchies</u> in Orange Park. Popular dishes include shrimp po-boys, jambalaya with chicken and turkey sausage, gumbo, etouffee and don't forget to order beignets for dessert. At <u>Akaya Sushi Grill</u> in Oakleaf experience Japanese sushi and hibachi.

For a special night out, <u>The Hilltop Club & Restaurant</u> offers diners a romantic setting with an old-world atmosphere. Members and hotel guests staying at the <u>Club Continental</u> can enjoy private dining with waterfront views of the St. Johns River.

There's also no shortage of ice cream in Clay County. Don't miss visiting the <u>Dreamette Ice Cream</u> in Middleburg, an

old-fashioned soft-serve ice cream shop where its cash only – just like the old days. At <u>Maggie D's Ice Cream Shop</u>, choose from a variety of changing flavors and housemade ice cream sandwiches. <u>Whit's Frozen Custard of Orange Park</u> is home to a 'flavor of the day' and a large assortment of toppings along with to-go pints.

When it comes to late-night eats and spirits, stop by <u>V Pizza</u> and the Tap Garden for creative pizzas, wood-fired roasted chicken wings and a large variety of craft beers. In Orange Park, <u>Cultured Collective Brewing Company</u>, known for their variety of sours on tap, is also home to local food trucks. You can sample a pint or two of local craft beer at <u>Brewer's Pizza</u>, home to the award-winning <u>Pinglehead Brewing Company</u>. At the <u>Leaderboard Arcade & Pizzeria</u>, join the fun for weekly trivia nights and arcade tournaments while you enjoy pizza, wings and a variety of craft beers.

There's plenty more places to discover during your time in the area. So, we hope you are hungry, get out and enjoy great eats found only here in Clay County!

CLAY COUNTY VISITORS GUIDE SPRING/SUMMER 2023 • 75

Shopping in Clay County

By Carrie McLaren

Whether you are a fashionista or a bargain hunter, Clay County welcomes shoppers to take advantage of the diverse shopping options in the area.

Here's a look at some of Clay County's makers, shops and local, hot spots where you can shop 'till you drop -

Shop Big and Small

With 120 stores, the <u>Orange Park Mall</u> offers stylish fashions, home goods and more for those that enjoy indoor shopping. Anchored with retailers such as Dillard's, Belk and JCPenney, this county landmark also serves as home to local events and a variety of dining options. The mall is also home to the <u>AMC Orange Park 24 Theatre</u> featuring 24 wall-to-wall screens with digital Sony sound and new releases.

If you're in the mood for 'going local', stop by <u>The Key to Glam Boutique</u> in Orange Park to shop for the perfect vacation outfit. With women's clothes, jewelry, children's clothes and household décor, you'll find plenty of fashionable outfits. At the <u>One Swanky</u> <u>Chic Boutique</u> in Middleburg, you'll find farmhouse style clothing ranging from fun graphic tees, flashy flip flops and plenty of dress options for a night out on the town.

Bargain hunters don't want to miss a visit to <u>Lux Upscale Resale</u> in Fleming Island. Here you can shop designer fashions and hot prices for women's



Orange Park Mall- Clay County, FL

and men's clothing. Nearby, the BoldSoul Boutique features trendy fashions, jewelry and inspirational gifts where every purchase gives back to the community of Pestel, Haiti. At the Sweet Hydrangea Boutique and Maker's Market in Lake Asbury, shoppers can browse the artisan market created by a collective of Clay County makers. From handmade soaps and lotions to premium plants, succulents and personalized sawmill wood creations, the shop is also home to a DIY Studio with hands-on classes and events. Speaking of creating, you can create your own custom shirts, cups and more at Miss Priss Gifts in Middleburg. Choose a shirt, hat, vinyl sticker or accessory and work with their team to create your own design. While you're there, shop for a variety of clothes and goods perfect for souvenirs and gifts.

Local Bites and Eats

For those shopping for a bite of flavor, Clay County is home to many 'makers' showcasing their passion for local goods. At <u>Yum – A Southern Market</u> on College Drive, shoppers are greeted with local baked goods, home décor



The Key to Glam Boutique-Clay County, FL

and gifts and their signature item – pepper jelly. With twelve different flavors ranging from seasonal favorites Bourbon Peach Habanero pepper jelly and Blackberry Jalapeno to the popular Garlic pepper jelly and more – all varieties are small batch, handmade and packaged right inside the store.

Founded in 2011, <u>Spring Park Coffee</u> in Green Cove Springs quickly became a favorite within the community for serving residents freshly roasted coffees from its sister company, Brass Tacks Roasters. This local team prides itself on providing high quality coffee along with partnering with other coffee shops to provide goods too. From their breakfast blend to the Ethiopian Yirgacheffe Grain Pro with hints of honey and lemon, come in and pick up some coffee to take home with you as a souvenir.

If you've got a chocolate craving, stop by <u>Peterbrooke Chocolatier</u> with locations in both Oakleaf Town Center and in Fleming Island. Sample a bite of their signature chocolate popcorn and put together a variety of take-home



Custom Tumblers at Miss Priss Gifts-Clay County, FL



Peterbrooke- English Toffee

treats like chocolate-covered pretzels, potato chips, strawberries and many, many more delicacies.

Home Décor and More

For deals on furniture and home décor. don't miss visiting the Junque in the Trunk shop in Fleming Island. With new inventory coming into the shop daily, every visit is a new experience. At Annabelle's Interiors, Inc. in Orange Park, shop from a variety of Lampe Berger lamps and fragrance oils, candle warmers, furniture and gourmet gifts. For your interior design needs, schedule a consultation with Annabelle herself! If you're an antique shopper, the popular Now & Then Antique Mall on College Drive welcomes visitors to take a walk-through time to shop unique items such as antiques, furniture and collectibles.



Brand Name Purse Display at Lux Upscale Resale- Fleming Island FL

Shop the Latest Fashions

Get ready to try on the latest fashions at the <u>House of Dazzle Boutique</u> in Orange Park. With two showrooms featuring accessories, high-end dresses, nightlife fashions and more, you are sure to leave the store dazzling. On Walnut Street in Green Cove Springs, stop in at <u>5th & Paisley</u> to check out the latest in women's fashions and pick yourself out a gift while you are there too!

Over in Fleming Island, the <u>Rustic Rose</u> <u>Boutique</u> has something for everyone with men's, women's clothing along with plus sizes, jewelry and even shoes – your one-stop shop! Don't miss their home goods section – you might find the perfect souvenir to take home with you. A short drive away on County Road 220, the <u>Chocolate Shoe Boutique</u> is



Christmas at Chocolate Shoe Boutique-Clay County, FL

the place to shop for rompers, jumpers and they've got plenty of gameday apparel for football season too. Also, in Fleming Island, the <u>Willow & Wren</u> <u>Children's Boutique</u> offers a variety of baby gifts and clothes, toddler outfits, toys and books too.

Explore Western and Boho styles at the Sass n' Spurs Boutique, located inside the Vintage 1 Furniture and Décor. Here you'll find plenty of the latest styles for the rodeo, helping around the farm or just a night out on the town.

So, get ready to shop until you drop in Clay County – home to plenty of fashionable finds, local favorites and furniture hot spots to add a touch of Northeast Florida to your home. We invite you to experience a side of our area that allows your passion for shopping to thrive.



Inside Rustic Rose Boutique-Clay County, FL



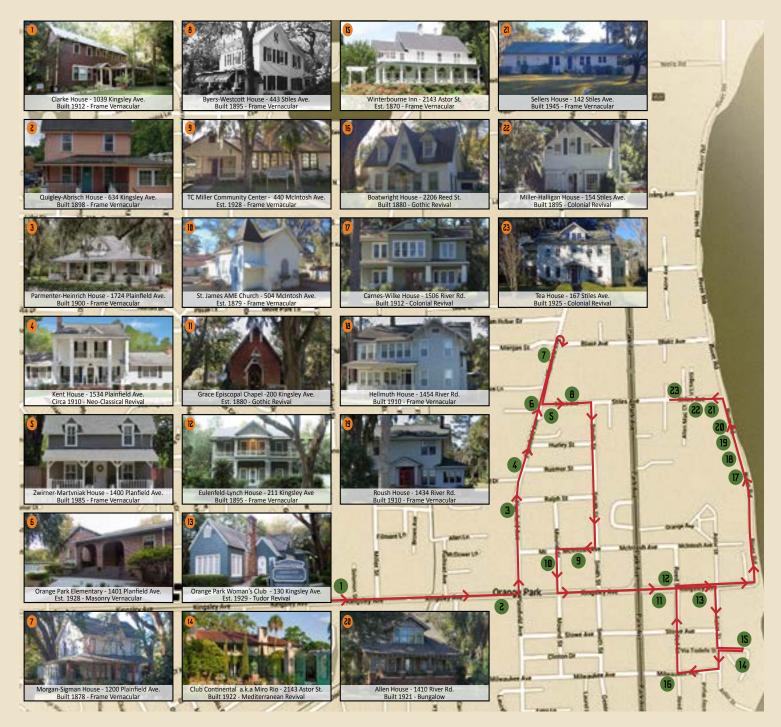
Christmas at Junque in the Trunk-Clay County, FL



Yum, A Southern Market- Clay County, FL

TOWN OF ORANGE PARK HISTORIC DRIVING TOUR

The Town of Orange Park was founded in 1877 by the Florida Winter Home and Improvement Company. The property was subdivided into building lots and small farm tracts, and the present street system was laid out which included Kingsley Avenue, River Road and Plainfield Avenue. Enjoy a glimpse of the past on this historic driving tour. Please remember most locations are private residences and should be viewed from the street. To learn more about this history of the Town, visit ophistory.org.



The Keystone Heights Hertitage Commission presents:

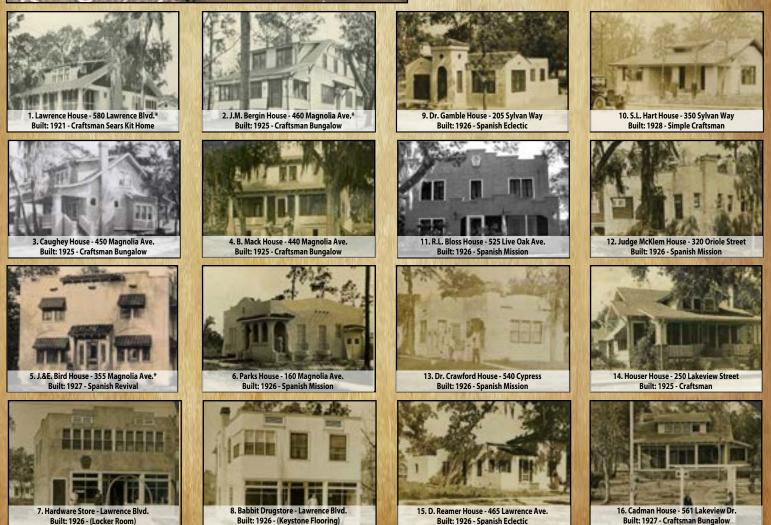
Walking Tour of Historical Homes

Keystone Heights was established in 1923 by the Lawrence Developing Company. Its owner, J. J. Lawrence, was from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The town was to be a vacation spot and health benefits from recreational opportunities, climate and clean water were highly emphasized in sales brochures. Key-stone Heights was on the Chatauqua RR Circuit. Citrus and pecan trees were also touted as good investment possibilities. Frank Walrath, a cousin, was head of sales for the development company.



The town was laid out in 1923 by an unrelated C. Ray Lawrence, also from Pennsylvania, who was a retired civil engineer. Streets and alleys as planned then, exist today.

Keystone's earliest homes, including that of J. J. Lawrence, are thought to be mail order catalogue homes. Some evidence exists in the form of handwritten labels and model numbers on framing. The homes in this tour are from the first building period (1921-1929). Initial development stopped when the stock market fell.





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