

History & Nature

Native Americans were the first humans to hunt and fish these barrier islands. In 1562, the French Huguenots arrived and named them the "Timucua." Over the next 200 years, the French, English and Spanish lived here. In 1735, General James Oglethorpe named the Talbot Islands in honor of Charles Baron Talbot, Lord High Chancellor of England. In 1845, Florida became the 27th state.

With five miles of beach, Little Talbot Island is a great place for observing migratory and resident shorebirds. Boardwalks cross over the swales and dunes providing access to the beach and protecting the various animals (many threatened or endangered) and numerous salt tolerant plants that live here.

Big Talbot Island's maritime hammock exhibits majestic live oaks draped in Spanish moss and an understory of saw palmetto. Coastal erosion has created the park's famous "boneyard beach," which is covered with the silvered skeletons of trees that once grew near the shoreline.

The natural communities of Fort George Island are a reminder of how humans interacted with this environment. Shells left by ancient

people created a soil that supports plants not normally found in the area.

Amelia Island and the George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier are an angler's paradise.

Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve protects 4,000 acres of uplands. Fire management is vital to the health of Pumpkin Hill's natural communities.

During the Civil War, Yellow Bluff Fort (actually a fortified camp) was home to the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, one of the most celebrated regiments of black soldiers.

Park Guidelines

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- Entry fee requirements vary. Additional user fees may apply.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. The collection, destruction or disturbance of plants, animals or park property is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted in designated areas only. Pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet and well behaved at all times.

Florida State Parks

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Recreation and Parks

Talbot Islands State Parks

12157 Heckscher Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32226
(904) 251-2320

FloridaStateParks.org

- Fishing, boating and fires are allowed in designated areas only. A Florida fishing license may be required.
- Collection of firewood and driftwood is prohibited.
- Fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- Alcoholic beverage consumption is allowed in designated areas only.
- Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. Should you need assistance to enable your participation, please contact the ranger station.



Northeast Florida

Talbot Islands State Parks

An ecological treasure, full of recreational opportunities



...the Real FloridaSM

National Gold Medal Winner
Florida State Parks - "America's First Two-Time Winner"



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