

# Chassahowitzka River

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Launch Site Address	Type & Amenities	Places Close By	Gazetteer
Chassahowitzka River Park	boat ramp store with water, toilets & other items	Chassahowitzka River	Pg 77, C1

## Directions

This river is about 15 miles North of the Weeki Wachee River in Hernando County.  
From Tampa, take Veterans Tollway (Rt 589) North to Brooksville where the tollway ends. It is 60 miles from Tampa and tolls run almost \$5. The Tollway ends on US 98, take a left. After about 5 miles your reach US 19. Cross US 19 (straight ahead on to Rt 480) and for about 1.7 miles follow the Chassahowitzka River Campground signs to the launch site. It cost \$2.12 to park your car.

## Sights to See

The river is fed from many underground springs. The water is extremely clear and about 70 degrees (great for cooling off in the summer). Unfortunately the river bottom is dark, making it difficult to see the fish. The scenery along the river is terrific - a great place for photos. Some of the animals we saw include alligators, otter, cormorants, osprey, and herons.

## Suggested Trips

- 1. Exploring Flughs-** The streams from many springs which feed the river are called "flughs". The major attraction in this area is exploring many of these flughs. Some of these flughs are difficult to find. Therefore it is more productive to go with some who knows the river. As you paddle towards many of the spring heads, you will experience "old Florida" as it must have been when Desoto first crossed this area. The natural forms and designs of the trees and plants along with the mirror images on the still water, make for striking pictures.
- 2. Weeki Wachi Springs-** It is possible to paddle from the Chassahowitzka River, out into the Gulf to the Weeki Wachi Springs. However, that the trip is over 20 miles.

# Crystal River

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## Directions

Crystal River is about 15 miles North of the Homosassa Springs.  
From Tampa, take Veterans Tollway (Rt 589) North to Brooksville where the tollway ends. It is 60 miles from Tampa and tolls run almost \$5. The Tollway ends on US 98, take a left. After about 5 miles your reach US 19. Take a right on US 19 and go about 25 miles. Take a left at  
  
(Directions are not yet completed)

<b>Sights to See</b>
<b>Suggested Trips</b>

## Homosassa Springs

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Launch Site Address	Type & Amenities	Places Close By	Gazetteer
Mcrae's Landing Homosassa	Concrete boat launch Water & toilets at launch		Pg 77, C1

<b>Directions</b>
<p>Homosassa Springs is about 15 miles North of the Chassahowitzka River.</p> <p>From Tampa, take Veterans Tollway (Rt 589) North to Brooksville where the tollway ends. It is 60 miles from Tampa and tolls run almost \$5. The Tollway ends on US 98, take a left. After about 5 miles your reach US 19. Take a right on US 19 and go about 12 miles. Take a left at Yulee Dr (Rt 490) and follow the road to the stop sign. Take a left and follow the road to the end, which is Mcrae's Landing.</p>
<b>Sights to See</b>
There are birds (egrets, heron, osprey) to see. However, this area is famous for it's manatees.
<b>Suggested Trips</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Go North</b> (up river) - Head past Monkey Island (where monkeys actually reside) several miles to the area where most of the mantees huddle.</li> <li><b>Go South</b>(down river) - Head toward the Gulf and you can follow a canoe trail through sawgrass and small islands. Some of the banks are covered with lovely old trees.</li> </ol>

## Withlacoochee River

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<b>Directions</b>
<b>Sights to See</b>
<b>Suggested Trips</b>