

STA5 BIRD-WATCHING TRIPS (South Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail Site)  
<http://floridabirdingtrail.com/>

Florida's Top 5 Birding Spots:  
<http://www.visitflorida.com/en-us/articles/2013/insider--outdoors---nature/top-birding-spots-mims.html>

Through a partnership with Hendry-Glades Audubon, the South Florida Water Management District will offer to the public escorted birding trips to Stormwater Treatment Area 5 (STA-5) located at the east end of Deer Fence Road located 27 miles south of Clewiston in eastern Hendry County.

Trips are limited to 60 participants. Registration required. Participants meet at STA5 gate at 8:30 a.m. To sign up for a trip send an e-mail to Margaret England, at [sta5birding@embarqmail.com](mailto:sta5birding@embarqmail.com) with your name and contact information including an emergency cell number for the tour day, the date you want to go, and the number in your party. You may also leave a message at (863) 674-0695 or (863) 517-0202.

Please consider carpooling during this trip in order to limit the number of cars driving on the STA5 levee. Bring the completed liability release from, water, snacks, and lunch. Walkie-Talkies are suggested. The closest gas stations are located at Big Cypress Indian Reservation, Clewiston, Montura, or LaBelle.

Donations are accepted by Hendry-Glades Audubon in order to help defray expenses to provide this program.

Dates 2015:

Feb. 14, 15, 16 ("Great Backyard Bird Count Weekend")

Feb. 28

March 13,14,15, 16 (Registration through Big "O" Birding Festival) [www.bigobirdingfestival.com](http://www.bigobirdingfestival.com)

March 28, April 11, April 25, May 9

June 13, July 11, August 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

2016

Jan. 2 "Christmas Bird Count".

**Organized Van Trips:**

**Friday Van Trips:** Clewiston Museum ( Educational Program plus visit to STA5 limit 10 participants)

Contact the Clewiston Museum Tour rates are \$25.00 per person with groups up to 12 persons.

Reservations Required. Email Butch Wilson for tour schedules at

[clewistonmuseum@embarqmail.com](mailto:clewistonmuseum@embarqmail.com) or contact him at 863- 983-2870. Go to

<http://clewistonmuseum.org/> to learn about the Clewiston Museum and its programs. (additional information below)

**Personal Walking/Bicycling Visits :**

Friday, Saturday, Monday Year Round (Closed for Sunday Hunts) :

Daylight Hours: Park in Public Access Parking Area at east end of Deer Fence Road,

(Cross the bridge, continue east of the tower to parking area where the kiosk and toilets are located.

Sunday (Non Hunt Days) from 2nd week in February to Mid September (1 Sunday hunt) then October to Mid November (Non Hunt Days)

Daylight Hours: Park in Public Access Parking Area at east end of Deer Fence Road,

(Cross the bridge, continue east of the tower to parking area where the kiosk and toilets are located

Hendry-Glades Audubon Society Website: <http://www.hendrygladesaudubon.org>

### **Lake Okeechobee Birding Opportunity:**

**An airboat trip from Martin's Marina, Clewiston will get you to some of the best birding spots in Lake Okeechobee. <http://www.rolandmartinmarina.com/>**

Lodging and Restaurants:

Hendry County Tourism: Visit Hendry County <http://www.visithendrycounty.com/> Clewiston Chamber of Commerce: Hotels and Restaurants <http://www.clewiston.org/>

**Check online Booking sites for additional discount offers.**

Closest Lodging is cabins at the Big Cypress RV Park <http://www.bigcypressrvresort.com/> \$75-\$140 per night. 30290 Josie Billie Hwy, PMB 1002 Clewiston, FL 33440 (800)437-4102 or (863)983-1330

**Audubon Special Rate Best Western in Clewiston** includes Free Continental breakfast at 5:30 a.m. Best Western in Clewiston is offering special Audubon room rates with breakfast 5:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. You will need to say that you are participating in an Audubon event to get discount. The "Season Special Rates" May 1 –December 31 \$55.99 plus tax and January 1–April 30 \$99.99 plus tax per room. Call: 863-983-3400 Manager Vivian Perez Mention for Special Rates. Confirm price when making reservation.

**The Clewiston Museum offers the "Historical Eco-Tour" on Fridays only**, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Price includes the Historical Eco-Tour, plus a visit to the Clewiston Museum.

Travel in a 15 passenger van with Clewiston Museum curator, Butch Wilson, from Clewiston to STA5, while he relates the local Glades history and agriculture. Visit South Florida Water Management District's STA5 "The Biding Oasis of South Florida", followed by a trip to the Ah-tah-tik-ki Museum on Big Cypress Indian Reservation and Swamp Water Café for a casual "Lunch on your Own".

The tour ends (2:30 p.m.) with a visit to the Clewiston Museum. Your museum tour will include Fossil exhibits, Native American and Heritage displays as well as historical video programs that are presented in our theater. Tour rates are \$25.00 per person with groups up to 12 persons. Reservations Required. Email Butch Wilson for tour schedules at [clewistonmuseum@embarqmail.com](mailto:clewistonmuseum@embarqmail.com) or contact him at 863- 983-2870. Go to <http://clewistonmuseum.org/> to learn about the Clewiston Museum and its programs.