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## Go Fish in Pasco County

Itching to go fishing? Pasco County has plenty of opportunities to do just that. With more than 20 miles of shoreline and numerous lakes and rivers, fishing is a popular pastime for both beginner and experienced anglers.

“Pasco County offers excellent fishing,” says Captain Ed Peters of Rum Runner Charters. “We have great weather here as well as a variety of fish including kingfish, blue marlin, amberjack and grouper. In fact, this is one of the best areas for ‘grouper digging’ or ‘bottom fishing.’”

Deep-sea fishing charter companies, such as **Miss Virginia Deep Sea Fishing**, handle all of the details of your fishing excursion. Tackle, bait and licensing are all included with the ride out to sea. Spend the day fishing the flats with **Florida Backwater Adventures** for numerous types of fish, while sitting back and enjoying the sunshine on these adventures.

**Devil’s Rock Yard**, with its rocky minefield guarding the approach to Fillman Bayou, is a favorite fishing spot for locals. **Aripeka**, a historic fishing village on the Gulf of Mexico, also attracts fishing enthusiasts from all over the county. For a fishing adventure around Aripeka call **Barefoot Bandit Fishing Charters**.

Ten miles northwest of **Anclote Park** sits a fisherman’s dream. This water is home to Spanish mackerel, snook, tarpon, cobia and trout and you can find them with **Big Fish Adventures**.

## Fishing of the Beach

### Robert K. Rees Memorial Park

**Robert K. Rees Memorial Park** in New Port Richey is a port for surf casters to find a hook up. It is on Green Key Road, a few blocks north of Main Street. The Park is an isthmus sticking fairly far into the gulf and is surrounded by grass flats. Speckled trout and pompano are

found here for most of the year. A live shrimp under a popping cork with a #6 hook should produce lots of fish.

Pine Island has offered many anglers luck with Trout and Reds as well as an occasional Mangrove Snapper.

### **Anclote Gulf Park**

**Anclote Gulf Park** is classified as a Natural Resource Park consisting of 31 acres. There is a beautiful Fishing Pier right next to the Progress Energy Power Plant and you can launch your canoe and head out to the Gulf.

### **Anclote Key**

Enjoy the blue-green Gulf waters that lap gently along the sandy beaches of the four islands that make up **Anclote Key Preserve State Park** - Anclote Key, North Anclote Bar, South Anclote Bar and Three Rooker Island. Located three miles off the coast of Tarpon Springs, Anclote Key Preserve State Park is accessible only by private boat or ferry service. Fishing on or around the Key produces, snook, redfish, speckled trout, Spanish mackerel, tarpon, cobia and sharks.

## **Freshwater**



Fritz Friebel's 20 lb. 2 oz. bass was well documented but never officially certified. It was caught in 1923 in Big Fish Lake in Pasco County, and was included in a "Field and Stream" article the next year. Photo courtesy FWC

### **Crews Lake**

This 700 acre lake is known for good bass and panfish angling. Access to the lake is located in the park off of Shady Hill Road, where one can use the boat ramp or fishing pier.

Boat and pier access is available at the park located off Shady Hill Rd., six miles east of Port Richey and two miles north of SR 52. This 700-acre lake has good bass and panfish angling.

Specializing in Largemouth Bass, Bluegill and Black Crappie.

### **Middle Lake Park**

This is considered a mini-park and consists of 3.71 acres of property. This park is owned by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission but our staff keeps it maintained.

There is access to 200 acres of a freshwater lake with a fishing pier, canoe launch and a boat ramp that will accommodate up to 16' boats.

A boat ramp facility about 5 miles west of Dade City with bank fishing access is located near I-75 and US Hwy. 41 off Townsend House Rd., one mile south of Dan Brown Rd. Good bass, bluegill, and crappie fishing.

Middle Lake, Pasco County: open to fishing. Watercraft shall be operated at idle speed only. Swimming, taking of fish or wildlife with firearms, & camping or open fires at the boat launch site are prohibited.

Panfish bag limit: 20

Bluegill & redear sunfish less than 8 inches in total length must be released immediately.

Crappie bag limit: 10

Crappie less than 10 inches in total length must be released immediately.

### **Moon Lake**

Just over 6 miles S.E. of New Port Richey on C.R. 587, this 100 acre lake boasts good bass and bluegill fishing. Bank fishing is not allowed, but a public Ramp is located within the park for boaters.

### **Withlacoochee River**

To the east of Dade City, at the end of River Road, one can access this regions piece of the river via a fishing pier and canoe launch. Heavy vegetation sometimes hampers navigation, but the bass, panfish and catfish fishing and the rivers beauty make it worth the hassle.

A fishing pier and canoe launch are provided to this scenic river at a park located at the end of River Road, east of Dade City. Aquatic

plants frequently interfere with navigation. Bass, panfish and catfish are abundant.

### **Banjo Lake**

Banjo Lake can be found on the Lutz USGS quad topo map. Banjo Lake is a lake in Pasco County in the state of Florida. The latitude and longitude coordinates for this lake are 28.2195, -82.4409 and the altitude is 72 feet (22 meters).

### **Bayou Lake**

Bayou Lake can be found on the San Antonio USGS quad topo map.

### **Black Lake**

Black Lake can be found on the Odessa USGS quad topo map.

### **Hawk Lake**

Hawk Lake can be found on the Zephyrhills USGS quad topo [map](#).

### **Indian Lake**

Indian Lake can be found on the Lacoochee USGS quad topo map.

### **Lake Pasadena**

Lake Pasadena can be found on the Dade City USGS quad topo map.

### **Pasco County Boat Ramps**

1. Anclote Gulf Park Fishing Pier - Located at 2305 Baillies Bluff Road in Holiday Florida, the 23 acre Anclote Gulf Park offers a Fishing Pier, Picnic Area & Shelters, Playground and Restrooms.
2. Anclote River Park Boat Ramp - Located at 1119 Baillies Bluff Road in Holiday Florida the 29.4 acre Anclote River Park offers a Boat Ramp, Fishing Access, Picnic Area & Shelters, Playground, Restrooms, Beach and Volleyball.
3. Brasher Park Boat Landing - Located at 4951 Koons Road in Port Richey Florida, Brasher Park features a non-motorized boat landing, swimming, wireless internet, playground, picnic tables, fishing, restrooms, and is wheelchair accessible.
4. Crews Lake Wilderness Park Boat Ramp & Fishing Pier - Located at 16739 Crews Lake Drive in Shady Hills Florida, the 113 acre Crews Lake Wilderness Park offers a Boat Ramp & Canoe Access, Fishing Pier, Bike Trail, Tent Camping, Nature & Interpretive Trails, Picnic Area & Shelters, Playground, Restrooms, and Volleyball.
5. Nicks Park Boat Ramp - Located at 7929 Bayview Street in Port Richey Florida, Nicks Park features a boat ramp, boat dock, fishing, picnic tables, BBQ grills, parking and restrooms.
6. Moon Lake Boat Ramp - Moon Lake Boat Ramp is a one lane ramp with a paved parking lot capable of accommodating 10

vehicles.

To reach Moon Lake Boat Ramp from the intersection of CR587 and SR52 east of Bayonet Point travel south on CR587 for 3 miles to Buena Vista Avenue. Turn left onto Buena Vista Avenue and continue 0.6 miles to Lake Drive and turn right. Travel 0.6 miles to Moon Lake Park and turn right, follow road to ramp.

7. Port Richey Waterfront Park Fishing Pier - Located at 8119 Old Post Road in Port Richey Florida, Waterfront Park features a fishing pier, bike trail, walking trail, playground, wireless internet, picnic tables, BBQ grills, restrooms, and is wheelchair accessible.
8. R. H. Pless Park Boat Ramp - R. H. Pless Park Boat Ramp is a one lane ramp with an unimproved parking lot capable of accommodating 35 vehicles.  
To reach R. H. Pless Park Boat Ramp from the intersection of I75 and CR41 west of Dade City travel north on SR 41 for 1.9 miles to Dan Brown Road. Turn left and go 0.7 mile to Townsend House Road. Turn left and go 0.4 mile to Middle Lake Park entrance. Turn left into park and follow park road to ramp.
9. Robert J. Strickland Memorial Park Boat Ramp - Located at 6345 Clark Street in Hudson Florida, the 6 acre Robert J. Strickland Memorial Park offers a Boat Ramp, Boardwalk, Fishing Access, Picnic Shelters, Restrooms and a Beach.
10. Robert K. Rees Memorial Park Canoe Access - Located at 4835 Green Key Road in New Port Richey Florida, the 45 acre Robert K. Rees Memorial Park offers a Canoe Access, Fishing Access, Picnic Area & Shelters, Playground, Restrooms, Boardwalk and a Beach.
11. Sims Park Boat Ramp - Located at 5443 Main St, New Port Richey, FL 34652, features trailer parking for about 30 vehicles and a riverside park with picnic tables.
12. Withlacoochee River Park Fishing Pier & Canoe Access - Located at 12449 Withlacoochee Blvd. in Dade City Florida, the 408 acre Withlacoochee River Park offers a Fishing Pier, Canoe Access, Tent Camping, Nature & Interpretive Trails, Picnic Area & Shelters, Playground and Restrooms.

With numerous fishing spots, bait shops, private tours, guides and charters, Pasco County is nearly irresistible to anglers of all ages. For more information, go to [www.visitpasco.net](http://www.visitpasco.net), or contact the Tourism Office at 1-800-842-1873 or [tourism@pascocountyfl.net](mailto:tourism@pascocountyfl.net).

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