

FINDING OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

West Galveston is a birder's paradise with thousands of birds stopping by on their annual migration in addition to the multitude of year-round residents. Be sure to take advantage of these West End birding hot spots during your stay:

Sportsman Road – Off of “S” Road, and just past 8 Mile Road, this marsh area features clapper rails, tricolored herons, American oystercatchers, and more!



Settegast Road – Take a drive through the undeveloped ranch land off of Steward Road that provides spring habitat for whimbrels, long-billed curlews, and American golden-plovers.

Lafittes Cove Nature Preserve – Located on the eastern edge of the subdivision, this is an ideal resting place for migrant land birds like warblers, tanagers, and orioles during their Gulf crossings each year. www.LaffitesCoveNatureSociety.org

3 Trees – Site of a historic battle between privateer Jean Lafitte and the Karankawa Indians, this spot, located near the entrance to Lafittes Cove, offers a chance to see many members of the ever-changing population of birds that call Galveston home.

Galveston Island State Park – Join the Friends of GISP on Sunday mornings for a guided walking tour of the beach and bay sides of the park with a chance to view hundreds of birds including white-tailed kites, caracaras, ospreys, ibis, and plenty more! www.fogisp.org

Dos Vacas Muertas – Located on a dirt road at the far eastern edge of Sea Isle, this 6-acre sanctuary created by the late George Clayton includes a pond and stands of salt cedars for traveling flycatchers, warblers, vireos, and more!

San Luis Pass – One of the most productive areas in Texas for migrating and nesting birds; view terns, herons, Wilson's plovers, and, if you're lucky, the endangered piping plover – just to name a few!



Pick up a detailed map of the West End featuring these birding hotspots at the Sand 'N Sea office or check out Trails 2 Go at www.barzmedia.com/tours/iframe/2413 for detailed information on each site.