

## CLEWISTON TOUR MARCH 6-7, 2026

We will be staying Friday night at the Hampton Inn, 305 West Sugarland Highway. There is a block of 12 rooms reserved under the name of Sugar Express Tour for \$189 per room with breakfast included. The rooms are either a king or two queens. Regular rates for that time of year are \$250+. If you are at all inclined to participate, call 863 301-5403 and make a reservation now under the tour name. The rate will only be held until February 6<sup>th</sup> so do this now. Your credit card will not be charged until you check in. Come in an A or modern.

### FRIDAY

Start the day about 10:30 at the Clewiston Historical Museum where you will see remains of creatures that walked or swam along Rt 80 millions of years ago. Gold and treasure from South America were discovered in the Glades. There is a display of Native American and Clewiston history. During WWII, the Royal Air Force trained nearby. US Sugar sponsors a video of their industry.

By noon we will be at lunch at the Tiki Hut in the Roland Martin Marina.

At 2 PM we will be hosted by Scott Ogle from US Sugar for a tour at the restoration shop for the US Sugar Steam Locomotive No 148. This is a 4-6-2 working steam engine built in 1920 and used by the Florida East Coast Railway. It traveled the “Overseas Highway” to Key West until the great hurricane destroyed what Flagler had built. US Sugar has restored this engine (literally a huge job) and put it back into service. It will not be fired up but we will see it as well as the new addition they just built to the shop.

Hotel check in for the night and we will have pizza or something delivered.

### SATURDAY

After breakfast we will drive to the River Forest Yachting Center just west of the Ortona Locks on the Caloosahatchee River. (25 miles) This facility has indoor and outdoor storage, and a covered service/maintenance area for boats weighing up to 82 tons! We will have free admission to the South Central Florida Boat & Outdoor Show hosted by Joe Charles and his staff. See displays of airboats to yachts both in and out of the water, classic and antique cars (Us) and even helicopters. Two food courts and steel drum entertainment are on sight.

Between 2-3 PM the rubber will hit the road for the trip home.