

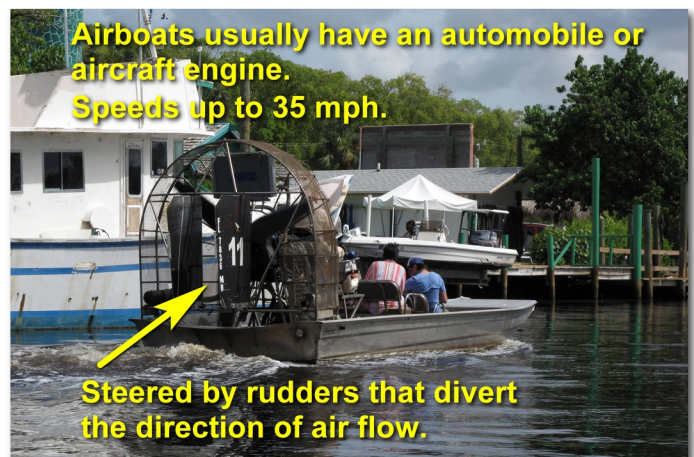
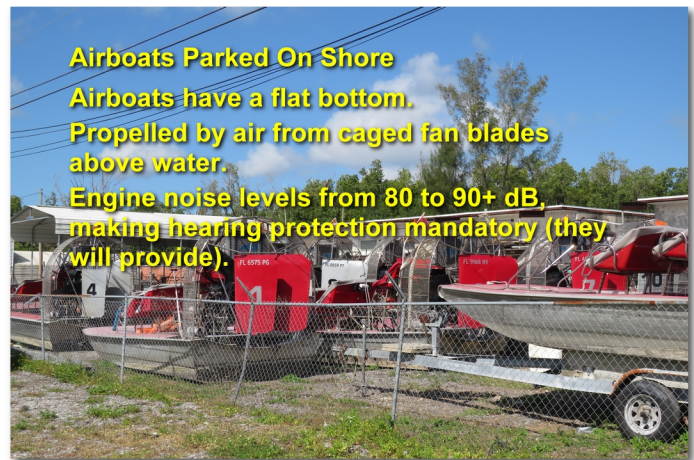


**Airboat Tours.**  
**There are several out of Everglades City.**

- Basic tour one hour.
- Approx: Adult \$40. Kids 4-12 \$25.
- Show Up or (for some) book on-line.
- Boats hold around 6 people + captain.
- Ear protection is provided.
- Do not feed the alligators.
- Do not put your hands in the water.

**Some airboat tours out of Everglades City go through grasslands.**  
**Other airboat tours go through mangrove swamps.**

**Both are beautiful.**  
**You can see wildlife (birds, alligators, etc.) on both.**



# Guess who invented the first airboat?

Dr. Alexander Graham Bell with his aircraft engine test boat/airboat, the Ugly Duckling, 1905.



12,164 Airboats Registered in Florida, 1,025 of them commercial (2017).



## Airboat Tour from Everglades City



Leaving E.C. pelicans will sometimes jump onto the front of your boat.



## Airboat Tour from Everglades City



## Airboat Tour - Mangrove Jungle



## Going Through a Mangrove "Tunnel"



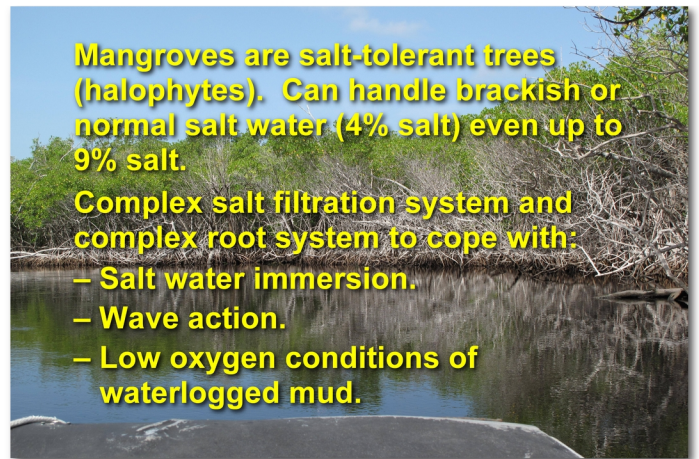
## Airboat Tour - Mangrove Jungle

Dense underwater root system prevents soil erosion.





**Alligator in a Mangrove Jungle**



**Mangroves are salt-tolerant trees (halophytes). Can handle brackish or normal salt water (4% salt) even up to 9% salt.**

**Complex salt filtration system and complex root system to cope with:**

- Salt water immersion.**
- Wave action.**
- Low oxygen conditions of waterlogged mud.**



**Estimated 1.25 million alligators in Florida. 5 million in USA overall.**



**Boat captain pulled up his own personal crab trap to show us Blue Crabs.**



**Wild Hogs. Invasive. Brought by Spaniards 1500s. Several million remain in Florida.**



**On this tour, wild raccoons come out to meet the airboat for a snack.**

**There Are Also Airboat Tour Operators Based Along the Tamiami Trail (US-41). These will likely be more grasslands, and less mangrove swamp, tours.**

**Some examples (map next slide):**

- Corey Billie's (closest to Naples).**
- Capt Mitch's.**
- Jungle Erv's.**
- Wooten's.**

## Examples of Airboat Tours on Tamiami Trail (US-41)

