



**Manatee Park – Lee County**  
**Website:** [www.leegov.com/parks/parks/manateepark](http://www.leegov.com/parks/parks/manateepark)  
**Where:** 10901 Palm Beach Blvd. (SR-80), Fort Myers, FL 33905.  
**When:** 8 am to Sunset, 7 days.  
**Get There:** I-75 Exit 141 - SR-80.  
**Admission:** Free.

**What:** Waterfront park 1 mile E of I-75. Up-close views of non-captive manatees in season (mid-Dec-Mar). Manatees come in search of warm water in winter when temp in Gulf of Mexico is below 68° F (20° C). Warm water in Manatee Park comes from the Florida Power and Light power plant across the street.  
**Also:** Public kayak launch and rental.

**A few miles east on SR-80 you can also visit:**  
**Roosters Farm Stand:** Local veggies. Alligator meat!  
**Caloosahatchee Regional Park:** [www.leegov.com/parks/parks/crp](http://www.leegov.com/parks/parks/crp) Hiking. Mountain biking. Kayaking.  
**Alva Country Diner:** Lunch & dinner.



**Manatees:** Large, aquatic, herbivorous mammals.  
**Size:** Around 13 feet long (can be up to 15 feet).  
**Weight:** Around 1,300 pounds (can be up to 3,900 pounds).



*Calf with Mother (Internet Photo)*

**Range:** Shallow, coastal areas and rivers. Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Amazon, W. Africa.  
**Main causes of death:** Human-related issues – starvation due to habitat destruction and collision with human objects.



*Propeller Scars (Paul Photo)*



**Manatee at Manatee Park**



**Three Manatees - Manatee Park, Fort Myers**



**Manatee Park is convenient day trip from Naples. My recommendation for best manatee place (4 hours from Naples) is Homosassa Springs State Park.**



**Southern Live Oak Tree at Manatee Park  
Low-hanging, Wide-spread Branches**



**Resurrection Fern**

**Spanish Moss**

**Manatee Park - Strangler Fig**



**Caloosahatchee Regional Park.  
19130 North River Road, Alva, FL.  
[www.leegov.com/parks/parks/crp](http://www.leegov.com/parks/parks/crp)  
768 acres.**



**20 miles of hiking and mountain bike trails.  
Camping.  
Kayaking.**

**Caloosahatchee Regional Park  
Lee County**



**Roosters  
15550 SR-80, Alva, FL  
Farmer's market featuring local fruits, vegetables, honey, jams, jellies and...**



