



Manatee Park – Lee County
Website: 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 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.



Propeller Scars (Paul Photo)

Main causes of death: Human-related issues – starvation due to habitat destruction and collision with human objects.



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**



Manatee Park - Strangler Fig



**Caloosahatchee Regional Park.
19130 North River Road, Alva, FL.
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...**



