Day 1

Starting out driving East from Cedar Key on State Road 24, turn left onto County Road 347 for about two miles then turn left onto County Road 326 (SW 78th Place). Shell Mound Campground will be on your right providing 20 scenic campsites with water/power hookups and 10 primitive campsites. Restrooms & shower facilities, boat ramp, fish cleaning area, playground, volleyball, and basketball areas for recreation are available to campers. This Levy County Campground is located right on the Gulf of Mexico and is a prime spot to camp and fish this beautiful area of Florida. Information: (352) 221-4466 or (352) 486-5127.

Don’t miss discovering Shell Mound Archeological Site, (part of the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge); just continue traveling on this 2 lane County Road 326 (CR 326) to the gulf and you will find Shell Mound. Before pottery, before the great pyramids in Egypt this area was inhabited by the Eastern Woodland Native American Indian culture for over 1,000 years some 3,200 years ago. This area is perfect for hiking and kayaking, so bring your canoe or kayak to discover the shallow waters and the many barrier islands. For National Wildlife Ranger led programs call (352) 493-0238 and tell them how you learned about this intriguing part of Levy County, Florida on the American Road Magazine website. It is a must see!

Head back East on CR 326 and turn left onto CR 347 for several miles then turn left on CR 345 and continue traveling to the City of Chiefland. Take time to explore the Nature Coast State Trail, a beautiful 10 foot wide greenway rails to trail system. Just a short 12 mile bike ride North will take you to the old trestle bridge for an awesome panoramic view while crossing the historic Suwannee River.

While you are in town head north on Highway US 19 the charming Dakotah Winery at 14365 NW Hwy 19-Chiefland, FL for a wine tasting and stroll through their amazing gift shop and don’t forget to visit the duck pond with Wood Ducks and Koi fish. It is a wonderful place to stretch your legs and learn about wine making in Florida. [http://www.dakotahwinery.com/main/](http://www.dakotahwinery.com/main/) Closed on Sunday.

Where To Stay

RV Campgrounds: Breezy Acres, Chiefland Flea Market RV Park or Manatee Springs State Park. or stay at Suwannee Valley Best Western, Days Inn, or Manatee Springs Motel
Wake up to a good old Southern breakfast at **Bett’s Big T Restaurant** located at 12351 NW Hwy US 19 in Chiefland. After resting your bellies and having that last cup of coffee gather up your crew and head south on US 19 to CR 320, turn right, road will terminate at **Manatee Springs State Park** entrance.

This beautiful crystal clear first magnitude spring is open year round and offers a scenic boardwalk to the historic Suwannee River. In winter, West Indian manatees swim upriver to the warmer waters of the springs. Bring your camera and binoculars for spotting native and migratory birds. Popular for snorkeling and scuba diving, the headwaters of the spring are also a great spot for swimming. Canoe and kayaks can be rented May through September. Children enjoy the playground in the picnic area. Hiking and bicycling are available on the north end trail system. The full-facility campground is surrounded by red oak woods. [http://www.floridastateparks.org/manateesprings/default.cfm](http://www.floridastateparks.org/manateesprings/default.cfm)

**Address:** 11650 N.W. 115th Street-Chiefland, Florida 32626  (352) 493-6072

### Where To Eat

- **Deke’s Steak House:** 6650 NW 140 Street Chiefland (352) 493-7722
- **Bar-B-Q Bills,** 1901 N. Young Blvd. Chiefland, FL (352) 493-4444
- **BubbaQue’s Bar-B-Q:** 1306 N Young Blvd Chiefland (352) 493-4BBQ
- **Yum-Yum Shoppe:** Delicious ice cream and homemade waffle cones: 313 South Main Street Chiefland (352) 490-9523

After a pleasant lunch and ice cream dessert take a short drive outside of town (approximately 5 miles) to **Levy County Quilt Museum**, the only registered quilt museum in the state of Florida. Located between Chiefland and Bronson (on Alternate 27) the museum offers a chance to view local quilters at work and appreciate the centuries-old tradition of quilting. Bring back memories of when mother and grandma made those beautiful quilts and you are going to see some of the best quilts in the state. Festivals and shows provide a chance to purchase these hand-made masterpieces. Visitors are welcome at the museum. Open Tuesday-Saturday 10 AM-3PM, Closed Sunday and Monday. Address is 11050 NW 10th Ave, Chiefland, Florida. (352) 493-2801

Come back and visit us at [www.AmericanRoadMagazine.com](http://www.AmericanRoadMagazine.com) for other wonderful places in LEVY COUNTY, or take a look by visiting our website at [www.VisitLevy.com](http://www.VisitLevy.com). We can’t wait to see you when you come visit!

**You now have a brief overview of a few places to visit in LEVY COUNTY, but remember, there are many other exciting places to discover in this county. Come visit, you’ll be glad you did. Thank you for visiting!**