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Gumbo limbo center

We are pleased to announce that Gumbo Limbo Nature Center now has three resident sea turtles in our aquariums. You can see these sea turtles and all of our other resident animals during nature center hours!Morgan, a green turtle, came to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center as a patient in 2014 after sustaining a boat strike injury. After months of rehabilitation, she was deemed non-releasable due to partial paralysis in her rear flippers and issues with her buoyancy. To help Morgan swim and dive with ease, she has a weight attached to her carapace. She has lived in our Shipwreck Aquarium since 2015 and has become a beloved resident at Gumbo Limbo. Next time you're in the area be sure to stop and say hello to her!Lefty is a rare male Kemp's ridley sea turtle. An easy way to know he is male, is that his tail sticks out long past his carapace (shell). Lefty is the only Kemp's ridleys in captivity on the east coast of Florida. Lefty stranded sometime prior to 1994 missing about half his left flipper and almost all his right flipper but little is known about how he sustained those injuries. Lefty cannot swim well in deep water or catch prey on his own, so he is not eligible to be released into the wild. Lefty is a very special turtle, and he seems to be effortlessly making our Mangrove Aquarium his new home with his gentle demeanor and curious nature. Come by and say hello to Lefty/Lady McNubbins is a juvenile green sea turtle that was stranded in Melbourne Beach, Florida on October 18, 2021, missing all of her right front flipper and about half of her left front flipper most likely from a predator interaction. She has adjusted nicely to her new home in the Shipwreck Aquarium with Morgan. Lady McNubbins will be with us on a temporary basis until her forever home at the Port Canaveral Aquarium and Conservation Center is completed. Learn more about green, Kemp's ridley, and other sea turtle species here. Your browser is not supported for this experience.We recommend using Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Skip to main content Thursday, May 15 and Friday, May 16: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and all property will be CLOSED due to roof replacement.Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and all property will be OPEN.Monday - Friday, May 19-23: The Nature Center Lobby (including Gift Store and restrooms), the Butterfly Garden, and the Boardwalk (including Jacob's Outlook) will be OPEN.Regular hours. To ensure visitor safety during roof replacement, the outdoor aquariums, The Coastal Stewards Sea Turtle Hospital, and the FAU Marine Science Laboratory will be CLOSED.This 20-acre coastal preserve is a destination you don't want to miss!Gumbo Limbo Nature Center is surrounded by a rare remnant of coastal tropical hammock, located on Boca Raton's barrier island. Enjoy a walk on the boardwalk through the coastal forest. Ascend Jacob's Outlook, our 40-foot-tall observation tower, featuring an ADA accessible switchback ramp, to get a bird's-eye view of the barrier island. Take a stroll through the butterfly garden, where many species of wild butterflies can be seen year-round. Walk the Ashley Trail and relax in the authentic Chiki overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. A variety of native fish, resident sea turtles, and other marine animals reside in large outdoor marine aquariums. Florida Atlantic University has an onsite marine science laboratory with a gallery for viewing ongoing research projects. Don't miss the sea turtle hospital and the gift store operated by The Coastal Stewards. 1801 N. Ocean Blvd. Boca Raton, FL 33432(561) 544-8605Thursday, May 15 and Friday, May 16: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and all property will be CLOSED due to roof replacement.Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center and all property will be OPEN.Monday - Friday, May 19-23: The Nature Center Lobby (including Gift Store and restrooms), the Butterfly Garden, and the Boardwalk (including Jacob's Outlook) will be OPEN.regular hours. To ensure visitor safety during roof replacement, the outdoor aquariums, The Coastal Stewards Sea Turtle Hospital, and the FAU Marine Science Laboratory will be CLOSED.Nature Center & Aquariums HoursTues - Sun: 9am - 4pmMon: 12pm - 4pmNature Trail, Boardwalk, and Tower HoursMon - Sun: 7am - Sunset Leanne WelchManager561-544-8602 Gumbo Limbo Nature Center is a 20-acre remnant of the marine hardwood hammocks that were once common along South Florida's barrier islands. It's rare habitat: a mix of tropical trees, including the center's namesake gumbo limbos. But wait! There's more! Gumbo Limbo also features aquariums filled with some of the many species of fish living off our shores. It's a sea turtle rehabilitation center where injured animals can be viewed as they recover and an oceanographic research center run by Floria Atlantic University. There's a lot of stuff packed into a relatively small piece of land. Gumbo Limbo is managed through a partnership between the city of Boca Raton, the city's parks and beach district, FAU and the nonprofit Friends of Gumbo Limbo. There is no entrance fee, but donations are requested to help cover costs. History: The germ of the idea for Gumbo Limbo came in the early and mid-1970s when Boca Raton bought land on the barrier island to create Red Reef Park. A master plan for the park suggested creation of a preserve that would also serve as an environmental education center. Interested parties formed a nonprofit to raise private funds for the project and the city kicked in \$750,000 for its construction. Gumbo Limbo opened in 1984. What You'll See: The marine hardwood hammock and adjacent mangroves are the heart of Gumbo Limbo. A boardwalk meanders through the forest on the south end of the property and natural surface trails through the north end, including the butterfly garden. Species spotted include: lancewood, false mastic, paradise tree, pigeon plum and sea grape abound, as does gumbo limbo, of course. There's wild lime and shiny-leaved wild coffee in the understory, mixed with muscadine and greenbriar. You might spot rouge plant and papaya in light gaps. Amenities: Gumbo butterfly garden and walking trails to the Intracoastal Waterway. There is ample parking. Note: the boardwalk, butterfly garden and walking trails are open to sundown seven days a week. The nature center, aquariums and restrooms close at 4 p.m. daily. Opening time varies; check the website for details. Nearby: Spanish River Park is several miles to the north along A1A; farther north are Atlantic Dunes Park and the Delray Municipal Beach. Red Reef Park, South Inlet Park and Deerfield Island Park in Deerfield Beach lie to the south. Links: The Institute for Regional Conservation's inventory for Gumbo Limbo and Red Reef Park is here. The Great Florida Birding Trail link is here. Cover Photo: An eastern gray squirrel forages through Gumbo Limbo's marine hammock. Share – copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt – remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution – You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, an indication of whether you made any changes and indicate if you republished the material. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike – If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions – You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourceoed material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex" - news - newspapers - books - scholar - JSTOR (December 2023) (Learn how and when to remove this message) Nature center in Boca Raton, FloridaGumbo Limbo Environmental ComplexTrail through the hammockEstablished1984LocationRed Reef Park1801 N. Ocean Blvd.Boca Raton, FloridaCoordinates26°21′59″N 80°04′14″W﻿ / ﻿26.366336°N 80.070434°W﻿ / 26.366336; -80.070434TypeNature centerWebsiteOfficial Website The Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex, commonly known as the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, is a nature center operated by the city of Boca Raton, Florida, in conjunction with the Gumbo Limbo Coastal Stewards (Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, Inc.) and the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District, and located at 1801 N. Ocean Blvd. in Boca Raton. Gumbo Limbo sits on twenty acres of protected barrier island, the area between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. It is on land which is part of the beachfront-to-intracoastal Red Reef Park, though Gumbo Limbo does not have land directly on the beach (though it does have Intracoastal Waterway frontage). Its name comes from a popular name of the Bursera simaruba tree species, which is abundant in the park.[citation needed] The center includes an indoor museum with exhibits, small aquariums, and a gift shop, plus more major outdoor facilities including several large aquariums featuring ecosystems for fish, turtles, and other sea life, a boardwalk trail through the adjacent woods, and a garden designed for observing butterflies. Events organized by the center include observations of sea turtles during their nesting season. Volunteers from the local community significantly assist in the operation of this center and its events. The site was first described in 1870, when it was known as Boca Raton Hammock. Its northern terminus was bounded by coastal strand, a "flat" that bore clumps of sea oats, cocoplum, and sea grape. Behind the strand an overgrown crest or "ridge" paralleled the coast, its primary element being saw palmetto. Both hammock and ridge were bordered on the west by a freshwater marsh. Filled with tall sawgrass and marked by numerous meanders, the marsh, which joined Lake Boca Raton and Lake Worth, was known as the "Spanish River" sometime after 1895, when the Florida East Coast Railway arrived and the Intracoastal Waterway was dredged. During the Florida land boom of the 1920s the Boca Raton Inlet, formerly unnavigable, was opened, resulting in saltwater intrusion. At this time the Hillsboro Canal was completed as well, draining the Everglades. As a result mangroves displaced freshwater vegetation by the 1940s.[1] Gumbo Limbo is best known for its involvement with protecting the area's sea turtles. The beaches of South Florida serve as a nesting habitat for the loggerhead, green, and leatherback sea turtles. Unfortunately, every species of sea turtle alive today is either classified as a threatened or endangered species. Gumbo Limbo works together with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to protect the area's sea turtles. Since the 1980s, the Boca Raton Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center has a Marine Conservationist and Marine Turtle Specialists that monitor, record, and study the sea turtle activity on the five miles of Boca Raton's city beach. This group also deals with reports of dead or injured turtles from the Boynton Beach Inlet to the Boca Raton/Deerfield Beach border. For over three decades, Gumbo Limbo's sea turtle conservation team has come to the aid of sick and injured sea turtles in the Boca Raton area. In 2010 through the joint efforts of the City and Friend of Gumbo Limbo, Gumbo Limbo opened up a rehabilitation facility to treat the turtles on campus. The goal of the rehabilitation program is to treat the turtles until they are able to survive in the wild. The rehabilitation center is one of only six Florida sea turtle rehabilitation centers to accept turtles with Fibropapillomatosis. Fibropapillomatosis (FP) is related to strains of the herpes virus. There is a correlation between warm polluted waters and cases of FP. A majority of Gumbo Limbo's turtles with FP come from lagoons and bays close to densely populated areas. The runoff into the water is filled with fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, and other pollutants resulting in very poor water quality. FP usually manifests itself as benign tumors resembling cauliflower. Tumors located on the flippers can impede with the turtle's ability to swim, and tumors on the eyes and mouth can impact the ability to find and eat food. The tumors are removed surgically at Gumbo Limbo. The Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex is also home to a research facility for Florida Atlantic University's Department of Biological Sciences. Research has focused on sea turtle behavior, shark sensory perception and effects of salt levels on seagrasses.[2] Visitors are able to view the facility and chat with the researchers. " Multiple sources: Austin, Coleman-Marois & Richardson 1977, pp. 331–5 Austin 1978, p. 4 Pierce 1970, p. 72 " Florida Atlantic University Research Gallery | Gumbo Limbo Nature Center". Austin, Daniel F.; Coleman-Marois, Katherine; Richardson, Donald R. (Fall 1977). "Vegetation of southeast Florida—II-V". *Florida Scientist*. 40 (4). Florida Academy of Sciences, Inc.: 331–361. JSTOR 24320068. Retrieved October 30, 2024. — (March 1978). "Spanish River". Broward Legacy. 2 (1–2). Broward County Historical Commission: 2–5. Pierce, Charles W. (1970). Churl, Donald W. (ed.). *Pioneer Life in Southeast Florida*. Miami: University of Miami Press. ISBN 0-87024-163-X. Wikimedia Commons has media related to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center. Official Website Florida Conservation FAU at Gumbo Limbo Retrieved from " Més izmantojam síkafálus un datus tálak minétajoms nolikos.nodrošinātu un uzturētu Google pakalpojums;izsekotu darbības pārtraukumiem un aizsargātu lietotājus pret nevēlamu saturu, krāpšanu un laupnātāju izmantošanu;mērtu mērķauditorijas iesaist un vietņu statistiku ar mērķi izprast, kā mūsu pakalpojumi tiek izmantoti, un uzlabot šo pakalpojumu kvalitāti.Ja izvēlēšities opciju "Piekrist visiem", mēs arī izmantosim síkafálus un datus, lai izstrādātu un uzlabotu jaunus pakalpojumus;rádítu reklāmas un novērtētu to efektivitāti;rádítu personalizētu saturu (atkarībā no jūsu iestatījumiem)rádítu personalizētas reklāmas (atkarībā no jūsu iestatījumiem).Ja izvēlēšities opciju "Noraidít visus", mēs neizmantosim síkafálus minétajiem papildu mērķiem.Nepersonalizētu saturu ietekmē tādí faktori kā saturs, ko tobríd skatát, aktivajá mēklēšanas sesijá veiktás darbības un jūsu atrašanās vieta. Nepersonalizētas reklāmas ietekmē saturs, ko tobríd skatát, un jūsu atrašanās vieta. Personalizēts saturs un reklāmas var iekļaut arī atbilstošakus rezultātus, ieteikumus un pielāgotas reklāmas, kas atlasítas atbilstoši iepriekš šajá purlūká veiktajám darbībám, piemēram, iepriekšējiem Google meklēšanas vaicājumiem. Ja nepieciešams, mēs arī izmantojam síkafálus un datus, lai pielāgotu lietošanas iespējas atbilstoši vecumam.Lai skatítu papildinformáciju, tostarp informáciju par konfidencialitātes iestatíjumu pārvádību, atlasiet pogu Papildu opcíjas. Varat arī jebkurá laiká apmeklēt vietni g.co/privacytools. Gumbo Limbo Nature Center4.6#2 of 110 things to do in Boca RatonWhat is Travellers' Choice?Tripadvisor gives a Travellers' Choice award to accommodations,attractions and restaurants that consistently earn great reviews from travellers and are ranked within the top 10% of properties on Tripadvisor.About This 20-acre coastal preserve is a destination you don't want to miss! Gumbo Limbo Nature Center is surrounded by a rare remnant of tropical hardwood hammock, located on a barrier island. Enjoy a walk on our boardwalk which travels 1/3 mile through the coastal forest. Ascend Jacob's Outlook, our 40-foot-tall observations tower, featuring an ADA accessible switchback ramp, to get a bird's-eye view of Boca Raton's barrier island. Take a stroll through the butterfly garden, where many species of wild butterflies can be seen year-round. Walk the Ashley Trail and relax in the authentic Chiki overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. A variety of native fish and other marine animals reside in large outdoor marine aquariums. Florida Atlantic University has an onsite marine biology laboratory with a gallery for viewing research projects. Don't miss the sea turtle rehabilitation center and the gift store, operated by The Coastal Stewards.Meets animal welfare guidelinesClosed nowSuggest edits to improve what we show.Improve this listingAbout This 20-acre coastal preserve is a destination you don't want to miss! Gumbo Limbo Nature Center is surrounded by a rare remnant of tropical hardwood hammock, located on a barrier island. Enjoy a walk on our boardwalk which travels 1/3 mile through the coastal forest. Ascend Jacob's Outlook, our 40-foot-tall observations tower, featuring an ADA accessible switchback ramp, to get a bird's-eye view of Boca Raton's barrier island. Take a stroll through the butterfly garden, where many species of wild butterflies can be seen year-round. Walk the Ashley Trail and relax in the authentic Chiki overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. A variety of native fish and other marine animals reside in large outdoor marine aquariums. 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There is a large, well stocked gift shop and clean toilet facilities in several locations. The boardwalks are well maintained with benches built in throughout leading to a 40 foot tall, wheelchair accessible tower overlooking a local coastal hammock situated on this Boca Raton's barrier island. There is a trail behind the tower leading to the edge of a lake, however the view is completely obscured by bushes and trees.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature CenterPatrick MNewark, Delaware1,321 contributionsGumbo Limbo is a nice little nature center. We spent a couple hours there exploring the raised paths and going to the tome of the observation tower. There are plenty of hands-on learning tools for the kids as well. There is a section that demonstrates the ecosystem of the ocean as well as the intercoastal. Many large tanks with local fish species and also a turtle rehabilitation center. If you are looking for a relaxing few hours to enjoy nature and maybe even learn a few things I would recommend this activity. It is free to get in, but donations are appreciated.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature CenterI have been going to Gumbo Limbo for 16+ years and it never disappoints. The baby sea turtles are adorable. The guides are generous in sharing their encyclopedic knowledge of marine biology. Every time my nieces and nephews come for a visit, one of my favorite activities is taking them to Gumbo Limbo. The butterfly garden is beautiful in addition to having the opportunity to view the FAU lab. The educational exhibits are excellent. This is one of Boca's and South Florida's best attractions by far.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature CenterSaltLife70Nestled in an obtrusive area where you are more likely to pass by. This Nature Center is worth going to. The Staff is very friendly and welcoming. It is great for the Kids to see the Turtles and Barracudas as well as all the different types of fishes. Best of all: "It's Free". All they ask is for a donation. So take a loved one and Go!.... Flying Solo - Go! It is worth the drive as well as the walk.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature CenterGreat visit. We took the 45 minute walk with Hal. We learned so much about the plants, waterways, and animals in the area. The climb to the top of Jacob's tower at the end gave us great views of both the intercoastal and ocean. Stayed for about 1 1/2 hours. Wonderful stop in Boca Raton.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature Center268fredericklQuebec City, Canada82 contributionsWe took the short walk to start, and at the top of the tower we have a nice view of the river. The pools allowed us to see turtles and fish. However, the butterfly section did not allow us to see any. Probably a time of year when they are abundant. All in all, a nice free activity to do!This review is the subjective opinion of a Tripadvisor member and not of Tripadvisor LLC. Tripadvisor performs checks on reviews as part of our industry-leading trust & safety standards. Read our transparency report to learn more.Patrick MNewark, DE1,321 contributionsGumbo Limbo is a nice little nature center. We spent a couple hours there exploring the raised paths and going to the tome of the observation tower. There are plenty of hands-on learning tools for the kids as well. There is a section that demonstrates the ecosystem of the ocean as well as the intercoastal. Many large tanks with local fish species and also a turtle rehabilitation center. If you are looking for a relaxing few hours to enjoy nature and maybe even learn a few things I would recommend this activity. It is free to get in, but donations are appreciated.Review of: Gumbo Limbo Nature CenterI have been going to Gumbo Limbo for 16+ years and it never disappoints. 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Tripadvisor performs checks on reviews as part of our industry-leading trust & safety standards. Read our transparency report to learn more.Matias ConchaCusco, Peru12 contributionsHighly recommended to go with childrenGumbo limbo nature center is a popular choice for travelers to Boca raton. FloridaExcellent attention from guides and volunteers. Free admission with voluntary donation.This review is the subjective opinion of a Tripadvisor member and not of Tripadvisor LLC. Tripadvisor performs checks on reviews as part of our industry-leading trust & safety standards. Read our transparency report to learn more.Susan KBrigdwewater, NJ7 contributionsIt was amazing experience. Staff was very friendly and informative. Their knowledge on the turtles was fabulous. Seeing the turtles up close was terrific for my kids.This review is the subjective opinion of a Tripadvisor member and not of Tripadvisor LLC. Tripadvisor performs checks on reviews as part of our industry-leading trust & safety standards. Read our transparency report to learn more.TSK0031Keokuk, IA28 contributionsWhat a neat experience for both kids and adults! So much to see and experience!! Spiders, turtles, fish, seahorses, butterflies. A beautiful experience!!This review is the subjective opinion of a Tripadvisor member and not of Tripadvisor LLC. Tripadvisor performs checks on reviews as part of our industry-leading trust & safety standards. Read our transparency report to learn more.SaltLife70Site Unseen unless you "Hit the Pause Button"Nestled in an obtrusive area where you are more likely to pass by. This Nature Center is worth going to. The Staff is very friendly and welcoming. It is great for the Kids to see the Turtles and Barracudas as well as all the different types of fishes. Best of all: "It's Free". All they ask is for a donation. So take a loved one and Go!.... Flying Solo - Go! 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We're so interested in the aquariums and the turtles! And butterflies? Inside? Outside? Thanks. We are mostly outdoors. Aquariums and turtles are outdoors but under cover. Butterflies are wild and found in an open garden.Cual es el costo del paseFrancois Bes gratuito pero es aconsejable dejar algo para ayudar la fundacion Gumbo LimboMary CatherineLighthouse Point, FloridaSorry for the delay - free as supported by the city but definitely in need of donations.Roberto QQual o valor do ingresso adulto ?Gloria HThere isn't a charge to get into Gumbo Limbo. I think they release a five dollar donation per person for admission.Is the boardwalk open in April 2019? I think I saw something about some renovations. Thanks in advance.Hi, sorry for the delayed response. The majority of the boardwalk is still under construction. You can walk for a short distance starting from the nature center.AmigaWhen is the next baby turtle release?Our evening sea turtle hatchling releases will begin in July. Reservations will open in May. You can learn more on our website. Look under the Programs & Events menu for the Turtle Walks and Hatchling Release tab.Elza Maria MCostaria de saber o horário para visitar esta atração e quanto tempo leva esta visita???Nature Center & Aquariums: Monday-Saturday 9 AM-4 PM; Sunday 12 PM-4 PM Nature Trails: Monday-Sunday 7 AM-Dusk Most people spend around 2 hours here, but it can be more or less depending on your interest.Elza Maria MQual o melhor horário e quanto tempo levar para conhecer esta atração??How much time do people usually spend at the park? We are planning to come with 2 kids - 4 and 2.RhondaG121With on,yadults, we spent about 2 1/2 hour.HannSeaAre there places where guests can have lunch? Gloria HThey do not have any places to purchase food on premise. You would have to drive someplace to get lunch.Showing results 1-10 of 24Revenue impacts the experiences featured on this page, learn more.*Likely to sell out: Based on Viator's booking data and information from the provider from the past 30 days, it seems likely this experience will sell out through Viator, a Tripadvisor company. Is this your Tripadvisor listing?Own or manage this property? Claim your listing for free to respond to reviews, update your profile and much more.Claim your listing I take all my visitors to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center to introduce them to our local coastal flora and sea-life. There is no entrance fee and free parking, although donations are appreciated. Numerous tanks housing injured rescued turtles, assorted aquariums with an amazing array of fish and a huge lab where turtles are hatched and then released amazes everyone. There is a large, well stocked gift shop and clean toilet facilities in several locations. 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