


# Birding Hotspots

## St. Johns County, Florida



### Fort Mose Historic State Park

<p>Description:</p>  <p><b>NOTE:</b> The area behind the visitor's center is temporarily closed for fort reconstruction. Completion ~end of 2024</p>	<p>Fort Mose Historic State Park is a 40-acre waterfront historic site. It is situated along the intracoastal waterway and includes salt marsh and maritime oak hammock. Located along the eastern coastal flyway it has been designated an <a href="#">Important Bird Area</a> by National Audubon. Leading out across the estuary, it spans over a tidal creek to an island topped with cedars and oaks. An observation deck on the south boardwalk showcases the panorama across the marshes towards Vilano Beach.</p> <p>For those interested in the history of the park, the interactive museum tells the complete story of the first legally sanctioned free African settlement in what would become the United States.</p>
Address:	15 Fort Mose Trail St. Augustine FL 32084
Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail:	Yes. <a href="https://floridabirdingtrail.com/trail/trail-sections/east-section/fort-mose-historic-state-park/">https://floridabirdingtrail.com/trail/trail-sections/east-section/fort-mose-historic-state-park/</a>
Phone Number:	904-823-2232
Fee:	None for the grounds, \$2 per adult to visit the museum
Hours of Operation:	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 365 days a year
Handicap Accessibility:	Two wheelchair accessible boardwalks, one manual wheelchair available during Visitor Center operating hours.
Website:	<a href="https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/fort-mose-historic-state-park">https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/fort-mose-historic-state-park</a>
Facilities Available:	Visitor center with museum and rest rooms, picnic areas, an observation deck, boardwalks, and kayak launch.
Types of Habitat:	Salt marsh and maritime oak hammock
Other Information:	Guided bird walks offered by the SRJA
Level of Difficulty:	Easy with sidewalks, level open ground, short trails and boardwalks
Species:	eBird has listed 187 species over the past 10 years. You might find several Wood Storks perched in the trees over the parking lot with Great and Snowy egrets. Look for Rosette Spoonbills in the marshes with Ibis and Little Blue Herons. And you can find the regulars Chickadees, Titmice, Brown Thrashers and Bluebirds. There is also a Red-tailed Hawk nest in the hammock. In the winter you can find Hooded Mergansers, Blue-winged Teals, Belted Kingfishers, Sapsuckers, Ruby-crown Kinglets, and Marsh and Sedge Wrens. Look for Bald Eagles that are nesting nearby. In summer there are Great Bue Herons nesting in the pines. Check the Spanish Moss for the Northern Parulas and Yellow-throated Warblers. It is also a migrant trap during migrations. Over 20 warblers have been listed including Blackpolls, Redstarts, Ovenbirds, Cape May and Prairie.
Checklist:	eBird: <a href="https://ebird.org/hotspot/L801807">https://ebird.org/hotspot/L801807</a>