

EXPLORE NATURE!

Discover the unexpected treasures of the Upper Texas Coast.

The Upper Texas Gulf Coast is a natural treasure that's been a well-kept secret for far too long. Often overshadowed by industrial development, this coastal region is a critical stopover on the central flyway for neotropical migratory birds and boasts a rich diversity of habitats that are unique within the United States. From beaches and bays to marshes, forests, and prairies, you'll find endless opportunities to camp, kayak, fish, and explore. The location and varied habitats also make this region home to a large colonial water bird population and five sea turtle species, as well as the second most abundant estuary in the nation. Located at the crossroads of important north-south and east-west transition zones, the biological diversity of the Upper Texas Gulf Coast is truly remarkable. Come discover the ecological abundance and experience this unique region for yourself!



Explore
LONE STAR
COASTAL

JEFFERSON COUNTY

- A** Big Thicket National Preserve
- B** Cattail Marsh Scenic Wetlands
» [Trail Map Link](#)
- C** Sea Rim State Park
- D** McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge

GALVESTON COUNTY

- A** Houston Audubon Smith Oaks Sanctuary, High Island
- B** Houston Audubon Horseshoe Marsh Bird Sanctuary
» [Trail Map Link](#)
- C** Galveston Island State Park
- D** Artist Boat Kayak Adventure

Marvel in the magic and diversity of this region's wetlands. On the Upper Texas Coast you'll find both saltwater and brackish tidal wetlands between the land and sea, as well as freshwater wetlands in prairies and forests.



Want a *fun* and *free* way to get out on the water and maybe even spot dolphins?! The ferry runs regularly between Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island.



BRAZORIA COUNTY

- A** Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge
- B** Sea Center Texas
- C** Hanson Riverside Park & Beal Unit
- D** San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge

MATAGORDA COUNTY

- A** Matagorda County Birding Nature Center
- B** Matagorda Bay Nature Park