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On Florida’s Treasure Coast, the adventure is less about finding a chest of gold than the treasure that is Florida’s natural beauty. Go World Travel is reader-supported and may earn a commission from purchases made through links in this piece. Escape the tourist frenzy of the sprawling Miami/Ft. Lauderdale/West Palm metroplex to discover an untouched jewel on Florida’s Treasure Coast just 30 minutes north of Palm Beach on the Atlantic Ocean. While the treasure isn’t truly a jewel, it rewards you with pristine beaches, deep sea fishing, Key West-style restaurants, and Stuart’s fun downtown for eating and shopping, all while enjoying the subtropical climate of the area. Grab a sun hat and get ready to unearth the gems of this coastal playground. Our highlights tour begins in Hobe Sound and continues north to Port Salerno and Stuart. Lace up your shoes and explore over 25 miles of trails winding through pine flatwoods, cypress swamps, and coastal sandhills including the 8.79-mile Ocean to Lake multi-use trail. Embark on a serene kayak or canoe journey along the Loxahatchee River. Glide through mangrove tunnels, spot otters sunning themselves on the banks, and listen to the birds sing. Spend a peaceful afternoon fishing in one of the park’s freshwater lakes or along the Loxahatchee River to catch bass, catfish, and crappie. After a 10-minute hike, reach the lookout tower at the summit of Hobe Mountain and be rewarded with a breathtaking panoramic view of the Atlantic Ocean and Jupiter Inlet. It’s 86 feet above sea level, making it the highest natural point — makeshift landfill mountains excluded – in South Florida. Winter and spring are ideal times to visit the park for long bike rides and hikes because the excellent paved path often lacks significant shade. Take plenty of sunscreen and wear a hat in the summer. At the Kimbell Environmental Education and Research Center learn about the “Wild Man of the Loxahatchee,” a real person known as Trapper Nelson. Arriving in the 1930s, Nelson became well known for wrestling alligators, befriending snakes, and navigating the swamps. His charm and showmanship drew crowds to a zoo he built with exotic animals. As civilization encroached, Nelson retreated into the shadows, his story becoming shrouded in mystery and his death in 1968 a whispered enigma. Keep an eye on him (or his ghost) when traveling through the park. The Loxahatchee Queen pontoon boat takes visitors on a 90-minute tour of the river with a stop at the restored 1930s camp of Trapper Nelson and further north from the Education Center along the river. Glamping is the newest experience offered to visitors at Jonathan Dickinson State Park with deluxe safari tents that are 400 square feet and include king-sized or queen-sized beds and at least one set of bunk beds, making it a family adventure.