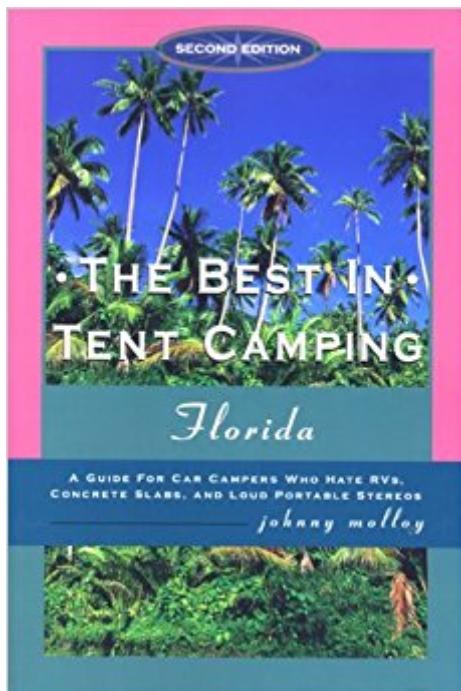


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# The Best In Tent Camping: Florida, 2nd: A Guide To Campers Who Hate RVs, Concrete Slabs, And Loud Portable Stereos



## **Synopsis**

Camping is one of life's great pleasures, and Florida has plenty to offer those who need a quick getaway. But how to find the best from the more than 1,000 choices in the state? The campgrounds in the fourth edition of this popular guide were chosen based on three criteria: they had to be accessible by car but not overrun by RVs; boast great scenery; and be as close to a wilderness experience as possible. Ranging from forest to swamp to coast, these sites are rated by a five-star system for beauty, noise, privacy, security, spaciousness, and cleanliness. Each profile provides essential details on facilities, reservations, fees, and restrictions, as well as an accurate, easy-to-read map. For native Floridians or out-of-state vacationers, this exhaustively researched guide makes it easy to find and enjoy the best tent-camping experiences in the state. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Molloy has obviously done his homework and writes knowingly about some of the best campgrounds in the state, from the Panhandle to the Everglades. Entries include directions and other information that should prove useful to families planning a camping vacation." --The Tampa Tribune-Times "Take the guess work out of finding your perfect site!" --Captiva Current --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you subscribe to the opinion that televisions, Japanese lanterns, and electric guitars are not

essential camping equipment, The Best in Tent Camping: Florida should be your constant companion. From rocky coastlines to sagebrush deserts, camping in Florida has never been better. The Best in Tent Camping: Florida is a guidebook for tent campers who like quiet, scenic, and serene campsites. It's the perfect resource if you blanch at the thought of pitching a tent on a concrete slab, trying to sleep through the blare of another camper's boom box, or waking up to find your tent surrounded by a convoy of RVs. The Best in Tent Camping: Florida will guide you to the quietest, most beautiful, most secure, and best managed campgrounds in the state. Painstakingly selected from hundreds of campgrounds in the Sunshine State, each campsite is rated for: beauty, noise, privacy, security, spaciousness, and cleanliness. Each campground profile provides essential details on facilities, reservations, fees, and restrictions, as well as an accurate, easy-to-read map-making the campground a snap to locate.

As a native Floridian who has lived as far south as the FL Keys and as far north as the Pan Handle, I turned critical eye on Johnny Molloy's "The Best in Tent Camping: Florida". I was delighted to see included some of my favorite destinations as well as places other locals have long prized as remnants of the "real Florida". As an experienced kayak camper I particularly appreciated Mr. Molloy's inclusion of information on paddling opportunities. He has provided new information on put-in destinations as well as coaxed me into my many new trail hiking experiences. I find this book accurate in its assessments and helpful in its suggestions. When in Florida, keep your sunscreen, fishing pole and copy of "The Best in Tent Camping: Florida" close at hand. Thanks Johnny for teaching a local few new tricks!

I'm just starting to get into car camping as it's something that I've wanted to do for years. The book is well laid out and covers a good number of campsites. The detail on each site is very helpful with appropriate insights. I'm soon off to one of the recommended parks and will get a good idea how accurate it all is. I'll update this review once I'm back. Nevertheless, it's a fun book to help one along with one's research.

I am a native Floridian and have been camping all of my life. Malloy included campgrounds I had never even heard of before! I appreciate his writing style - after reading I can get a "feel" for the characteristics of each campground. This is not a book geared for RVers - rare to find - and he does a nice job of noting what properties are conducive to tent campers having their "closer to nature" experience without being drowned out, and dwarfed, by noisy RVs. Some of the parks are a little

rugged - no electricity - but he notes that at the beginning of each park description. I usually camp in the middle of summer and have reached a stage in life that I need my fan at night - so this would matter to me. If you are more minimalist, you will find plenty of quaint parks that will satisfy. I am very glad I purchased this book. I have used it for planning 3-week long treks across Florida - twice.

Buy it with the O2 Tent Fan! Ha ha...This was the most accurate and useful book we bought and successfully camped in the hottest weather right on the best beaches in the Florida Keys. The pros and cons are clear and honest and true. My only criticism was that Bahia Honda was over-rated and crowded. We much preferred Long Key here we had privacy between sites while being right on the beach feet from the water. We had the sea to ourselves, woke to morning rainbows, swam with turtles and seahorses on white sand beaches. We might not have done as well without this book.

Good, solid, informative guide, but definitely do some research on your own as there are numerous excellent and sometimes empty campgrounds that are not included. Hopefully the author will include more in the next edition. One note: the campsites at Chassahowitzka River Campground that were given a glowing review are actually awful! On most you must dig your own pit if you want to cook/make a fire, most sites are very small, located directly on the main road, are full of litter, and have almost zero privacy. There are no bathrooms in the tents-only area so you must hike over to the RV section to do your business, and you must have a security code just to enter them! We were very disappointed. Try the nearby Withlacoochee State Forest for large, well-kept and uncrowded sites if you happen to be in the beautiful Crystal River, Homossassa area.

The Best in Tent Camping provides a resource that my digital tools could not -- a quick access tool to throw in the car when a need to adventure arrives. The author does a good job describing the campsites, amenities and surrounding areas and for the places we have visited, my family agrees with the author's comments. For each campground, pictures and maps are included to quickly see where to camp, plan an activity or even find the facilities when nature calls :). Thanks Johnny Molloy for an indispensable resource!

I use this book as a companion to "Florida State Parks" by Michal Strutin. The State Parks book has very good basic information about all the State parks but this book has the details about size, privacy, view, etc. that is nice to know about each campground. Unfortunately it does not cover all of the State parks. Most of the campgrounds are State parks but a few are State forests and National

forests. I didn't find any private campgrounds listed. The information is a little dated, particularly with regard to electric and water. Our experience is that the several State Park campgrounds we have camped in have water and electric in all sites now. This means there is more intermingling of RVs and tents, but the areas described as tenting areas in this book still hold pretty true even though there will be an occasional RV.

The Best in Tent Camping series is the best if you are looking for accurate information on nature friendly campsites.

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