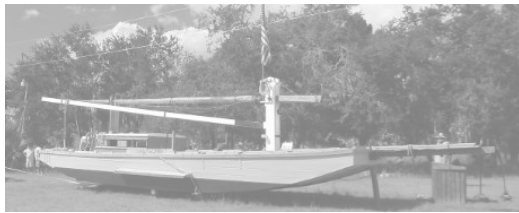


Congratulations on completing your mission and learning a little about manatees and the history of Crystal River, Florida!

If you are enjoying the hunt, there are a few more Manatees to find located a little further from the historic district.



One is located north of town near “The Spirit”, a reproduction by the Crystal River Boat Builders of a skow, used in transporting goods during the



You can find another one in a community park named for a lifelong resident of Crystal River. He was recognized in 1983 for his civic work and focus on the youth, with the dedication of this neighborhood park in his name.



*Special Thanks  
to the  
Crystal River Centennial  
Committee, Crystal River  
City Council, Citrus  
County Historical Society,  
and the dedicated business  
owners in historic  
downtown  
Crystal River.*



What did you learn about the City of Crystal River that you didn't know before the manatee mission?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## MANATEE MISSION

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to find all **10 mounted manatees** (plus a bonus of 2 more) located throughout the historic downtown area of Crystal River, Florida. Searching for them is a great way to exercise, learn about the manatees and the history of Crystal River. Along the way, enjoy shopping, local arts and artists, great food and meet the wonderful people of this friendly historic town in the heart of the nature coast.

Color each circle as you find the manatee– you don't have to go in order!





West Indian Manatees travel by water between the Caribbean and Florida as far north as North Carolina and as far west as Texas. People traveled to Crystal River in the early 1900s by this method, which was discontinued in the 1960s. Look for the Manatee waiting to board!



Manatees gather in groups (either called a herd or an aggregate) to keep warm and share large food supplies, such as eel grass. People like to gather at this historic home, which is now the center of a whole village. This Manatee is ready to shop.



Manatees are fully aquatic marine mammals, sharing the seas with other creatures such as the octopus. You can find one of the Manatees sharing space with a giant octopus, which resides on the old Crystal River Bank, which opened in 1954.



Manatees are herbivores, meaning they eat only plants. Save Crystal River, a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring the pristine waters of Crystal River, is helping the eel grass growth, which is one of the foods manatees enjoy. Find the Manatee where people in the 1920s would find their foods at this historic grocery store, owned by the Sparkman's.



Manatees travel to the warm waters of Crystal River beginning around November until April, when some of them return to the Gulf of Mexico. Long ago, this building served as the City Hall, Police Station, Jail and Firehouse. Now visitors desiring to learn about Crystal River can visit this museum anytime of the year. The Manatee will be happy to accept your donations.



There are three different species of manatee, also called sea cows. They can live in both salt and fresh water. They love shallow, warm water. Children love to splash in the warm waters here, too. People don't want to drink salt water, which is why you see these towers in almost every place people live! This building was built in 1923 and is now an historic landmark. Do you see



Manatees can swim up to 20 miles per hour in short bursts but their general speed is usually more like 3-5 miles per hour. The next place to find a Manatee would be at the entrance to a place where people like to take a walk along the Riverfront.



Manatees prefer shallow, slow-moving warm waters which is why they congregate in rivers, estuaries, canals, saltwater bays and coastal areas. Sometimes they swim close to beaches. Crystal River boasts one beach which has long been a favorite of residents and visitors alike. Look for the pavilion to spy the Manatee.



Surprisingly, the manatee was once a prized and hunted source of food for the Native Americans living in the area. The last place to find a Manatee is a few blocks off the main street and was once a clubhouse for winter residents from the Michigan area. They adopted the name "Seminole Club".



Manatees are as heavy as a grand piano, weighing somewhere between 800 and 1200 pounds when grown. They weigh about 66 pounds when they are born. Their closest relative is the elephant. No animals are kept at this park, but you are sure to sight the human variety fishing, picnicking, and kayaking. Bands from all around love to perform here as well. The manatee takes center stage at this location!



## CONGRATULATIONS!

If you have found all 10 manatees, you are a great detective!

*If you want to search for more, look on the back to find two additional manatees- a little outside the historic district.*