

Lake Okeechobee Travelogue

Friday, 30 December 2005

Trip Route

I275 South - Speed limit 65mph
75 South - Speed limit 70mph
RT 70 east - Speed limit varied at different junctions

See the map below.

The Roads & Scenery

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We left in the afternoon around 1:30 PM EDT For the most part, the interstate roads were... interstate roads. The main scenery from I275 S to 70E was mostly coastal. On 70E, there were mostly cattle ranches, farms and rural homes. We did make a point to stop periodically to stretch and regain our bearings. We arrived in the evening. We were obviously in no hurry to get there. If we had driven straight in an auto, the trip would have taken us approximately 3.5 hours.

Eats & Entertainment

We started our night at RJ Gator's, where they had great service, food and ambience. I recommend the Gator bites! They melt in your mouth. Also, the Grouper sandwich and the Mahi-Mahi sandwich (small portion) were among our recommendations as well. You can find RJ Gator's in Okeechobee on the map below:

We listened to a duet band sing the hits of the 70s & 80s at the "Good Spirits" bar. After the musical entertainment, we rode out to the darkest part of Okeechobee to star gaze. I was happy to find Orion's belt was still in the same place. Orion's belt was surrounded with millions of stars that we could not see in the city or in densely populated areas. The next morning, we ate at the Golden Corral, where they have a vast assortment of breakfast foods and cuisine buffet style. You can have your eggs made anyway you want while you wait. The cost is reasonable and is worth the price for all you can eat.

The Area and Activities

The next day we rode down to the beach area of Lake Okeechobee. We posed our bikes and ourselves for a few pictures. Fishing is a big attraction at the "Big Lake". We tried find something interesting to do over at the Brighton reservation, but the only thing we found was one small casino. We were told that this particular tribe doesn't have any traditional attractions like some of the other tribes in Florida. So much for researching my roots there. On a our way out, we stopped at Gatorama where you will find great tropical wildlife and one of the largest gator farms in Florida. You can view the pictures of Gator World here .

The Ride Back

The route we rode back on was as follows: - 441 South - West on on rt. 78 - North on rt 27 (Gatorama) - Wes
back to 75N & 275N

The Weather

The weather was great on the way there. Warm, sunny, and dry temperatures during the days and cool around 60 F at night with some fog and high dew points. The next day, the temperatures went up to the low 80s, which made it a little less comfortable while riding for my husband but I enjoyed the warmth just the same.