

# SADDLE CREEK NATURE TRAIL

## SADDLE CREEK II (TENEROC)

3716 Morgan Combee Road, Lakeland, FL 33801

Trail Entrance GPS Coordinates: N 28° 03.856 W 081° 52.889

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

**From I-4 Tampa** approximately 28 miles to SR546 east via Exit 28 toward US 92 Lakeland for 5.9 miles. Continue onto US 92 east (Memorial Blvd.) for 2.6 miles and turn left onto Saddle Creek Park Road. Follow Saddle Creek Park Road past the Polk County Parks and Recreation Maintenance Office about 500 yards.

**From I-4 Orlando** travel 44 miles to SR 33 south, Exit 38. Turn left onto SR 33 south for 1.6 miles and then a slight left onto SR 659 (Combee Road / CR 33A) for 3.2 miles. Turn left onto Saddle Creek Road (.7 miles), then right onto Fish Hatchery (.7 miles), then left onto Morgan Combee Road past the Polk County Parks and Recreation Maintenance Office about 500 yards.



**The Saddle Creek Nature Trail** is 1.2 miles in length. Since it dead-ends and does not loop, the full hike is more like 2.4 miles. The trail is very broad, well maintained and an easy trek which will take approximately one hour to complete. An informational kiosk marks the entrance access to Saddle Creek II (Teneroc).

**Things to See** Limpkins, large spotted waders standing about 28 inches tall are found in Saddle Creek's open freshwater marshes and along the shorelines. Often heard at dawn, at night and on cloudy days, the limpkin's cry is a piercing, banshee wail. Other animals that inhabit the park include alligators, turtles, snakes, aquatic reptiles, amphibians and many species of fish and insects as well as a variety of mammals including deer, otters, raccoons and foxes.

ATTRIBUTES: 

**SADDLE CREEK NATURE TRAIL CACHE COORDINATES: N 28° 03.130 W 081° 52.949**  
**SADDLE CREEK II (Teneroc) CACHE COORDINATES: N 28° 04.248 W 081° 52.738**

**FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:** **Saddle Creek Nature Trail** - Head south down the trail past the Observation Tower. You will pass three benches along the trail. Look for the vehicle turnaround area on the north side of the trail, just past the third bench. Turn into the turnaround and look behind the first large tree on the east side. **Saddle Creek II** - From the trailhead follow the blue/orange blaze trail until the trail intersection. Follow the trail to the west (clockwise) and cross two footbridges. At the "Strenuous/Easy" trail signs you can follow the white blazed trail to an observation tower with scenic views. After visiting the observation tower backtrack to the "Strenuous/Easy" trail sign. You can take either trail, they will merge back into one trail after a short distance. A short distance past the merge the trail will intersect with the orange/blue blazed trail. Follow the orange blaze trail across the Saddle Creek footbridge. At the "Loop" and "Teneroc" trail signs follow the trail to the west (left) and look for the large oak covered in moss on the south side of the trail, about half way between the "Loop" and "Teneroc" trail signs and the first orange/blue blaze pine tree. The geocache is at the base of the oak tree.



TREK TEN TRAILS 2010