

Cedar Key International Rally March 12 – 17, 2022

Venue: Cedar Key is a place where time stands still and allows you to enjoy the unique qualities of a coastal environment. Cedar Key is a quiet island community nestled among many tiny keys on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Long admired for its natural beauty and abundant supply of seafood, it is a tranquil village, rich with the almost forgotten history of old Florida. It sits three miles out into the Gulf of Mexico with only one road crossing over the salt marshes and channels on four small, low bridges.

Cedar Key is a haven for artists, writers and “adventure” tourists, who find the unspoiled environment their inspiration. The island provides a place for excellent fishing, bird watching, nature trails, kayaking and coastal guided tours. Federally protected sanctuaries, the Cedar Keys form a chain of barrier islands ideally suited to a vast range of migratory and shore birds, including the elusive white pelican, roseate spoonbill and bald eagle. The variety of natural habitats, from salt marshes to Indian shell mounds, makes this truly a nature lover’s paradise. The small town feeling is absolute – transportation is by car, but the road is shared with bicycles and golf-carts. Drivers and pedestrians wave to locals and visitors alike greeting each other with a warm welcome to our island

Accommodations; There are many lodging options such as condos, motels and elegant B and B’s as well as a primitive campground managed by the County about 15 minutes outside of town. In the past we have stayed at Old Fennimore Mill Condos and at the Cedar Cove Hotel, with both quite satisfactory. Boats can be pulled up on the sandy shore for the night with the caution that when the tide goes out the sand/mud bottom is exposed and it may be 50’ to a floatable water level. Bring one or two anchors so you can moor in deeper water and walk ashore in front of the condos. A large boat roller is very helpful. I do recommend a VHF if you have one and a paddle or two. Some of our boats will have motors.

Some of us will stay at the **farawayinn.com** which has a great sunset view over the water. The shore is a little rocky at low tide but high tide provides access to a lovely sand beach. There is boat parking at the municipal lot adjacent to the boat ramps. 24 hours of boat parking with mast up or down is \$16. I will get one of the waterside units at Faraway so it can be a base for sunset gatherings and the grilling nights. It is a small town so a short ride or walk to everywhere.

Cost and Boats: We will all chip in for the cost of grilling supplies and the side dishes. Plan to supply some snacks for all to share for the sunset gatherings. BYOB. There is a small but well stocked store close to all lodging. Local clams and oysters are abundant. There are usually enough boats with three sailors in each. Not everyone will want to sail every day since kayaking, birding, sun bathing and fishing may be of more interest.

See the following link for pictures from Feb 2021 Cedar Key Rally.

http://wayfarer-canada.org/nostalgia/events/event.nostalgia_M-Z/Rally.reports/2021CedarKey/21Cedar.Key.Rally_index.html

Links to local websites: <https://www.visitflorida.com/places-to-go/north-central/cedar-key/>

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g34126-Activities-Cedar_Key_Florida.html

Let me know if you are interested in attending so I can list you and provide updates. Pass this on to other possible attendees Happy Wayfaring, jheffernan@nc.rr.com



Locals out for a ride!



Waiting for explorers to return from the interior.