**Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to identify points of interest for photographers. The document does not attempt to create an itenerary nor address logistical issues.

***Trip Profile***

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| Topic | Details |
| Trip Name | ***The Audubon’s Sanctuary at High Island*** |
| Short Description | This is good for birding and fantastic in April (Smith Oaks Sanctuary) |
| Website | https://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/high-island/visitor.html  <https://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/high-island/rookery.html> |
| Contributor/email | Sam Lucas SamHoustonLucas@aol.com |
| Travel Time | From Dallas, plan on 5.5 hours of drive time  From Houston, plan on 2.0 hours |
| Date trip taken | 2021 |
| Points of Interest | Birds – Many waterfowl type birds and migrating birds |
| Address for Mapping Software | 2205 Old Mexico Rd, High Island, TX 77623 |
| Restrictions / Safety Issues | No hunting. This is a remote rural area. |
| Entry Fee | Day patch is $8.00. Patch for full year of access is $30.00. |
| Lodging Notes | There is one motel in High Island. Winnie and Galveston are nearby. |
| Dining Notes | Very limited. |
| Best shooting time of day | Early morning and sunset. |
| Primary GPS Coordinate | This is optional |

**Special notes**

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| ID | Note |
| 1 | Mosquitoes are always a problem. You definitely need repellant. |
| 2 | This site is owned by the Houston Audubon Society. Explore their web site for a full description of the site. Some rules and policies are in Appendix A (below) |
| 3 | There are hundreds of alligators. Be very careful. |
| 4 | There are multiple areas to explore. |

**Overview**

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| The four sanctuaries at High Island (Boy Scout Woods, Smith Oaks, Eubanks Woods, and Gast Red Bay) are open 365 days a year, dawn to dusk. At Smith Oaks the gate at Old Mexico Rd is open dawn to dusk March 15-May 15 and on weekends in the fall: September 15-October 15. The Winnie Street entrance at Smith Oaks is open 365 days a year, dawn to dusk. |
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***Stop 1 – Smith Oaks***

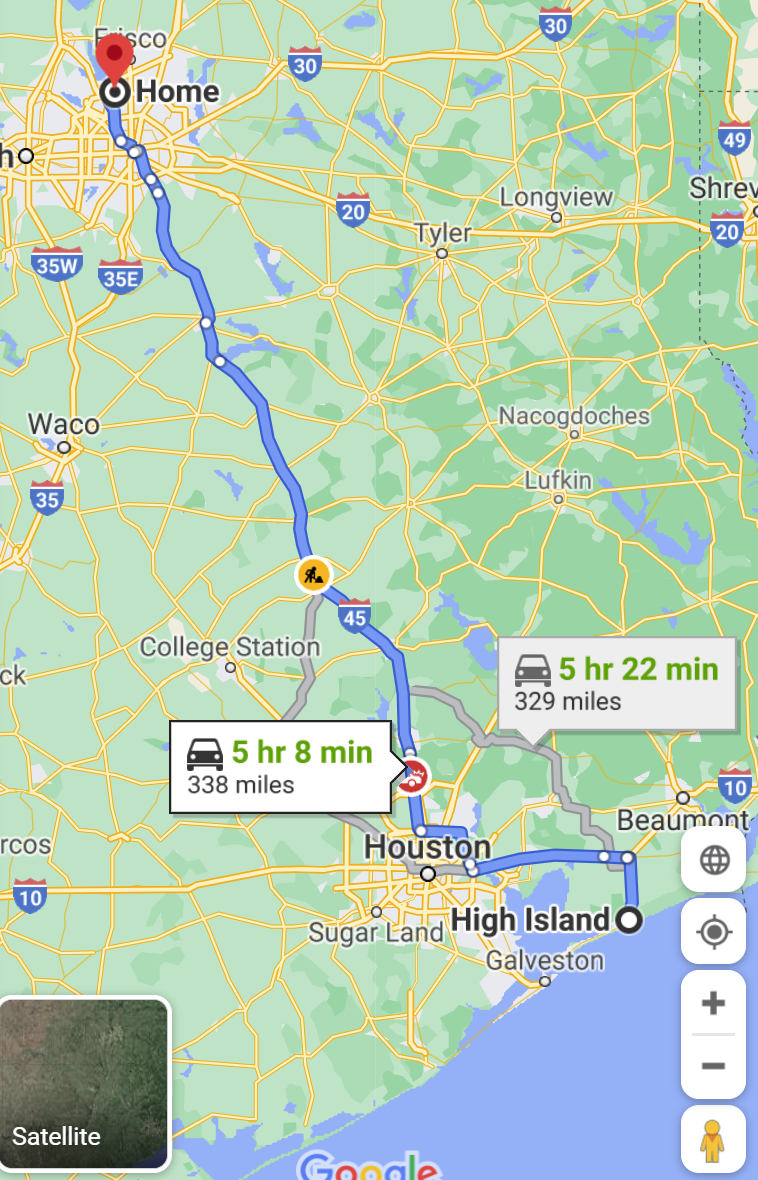
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| Normally, this island is barren and of little interest. However, in April it ‘blossoms’ as a rookery for many water fowl. |
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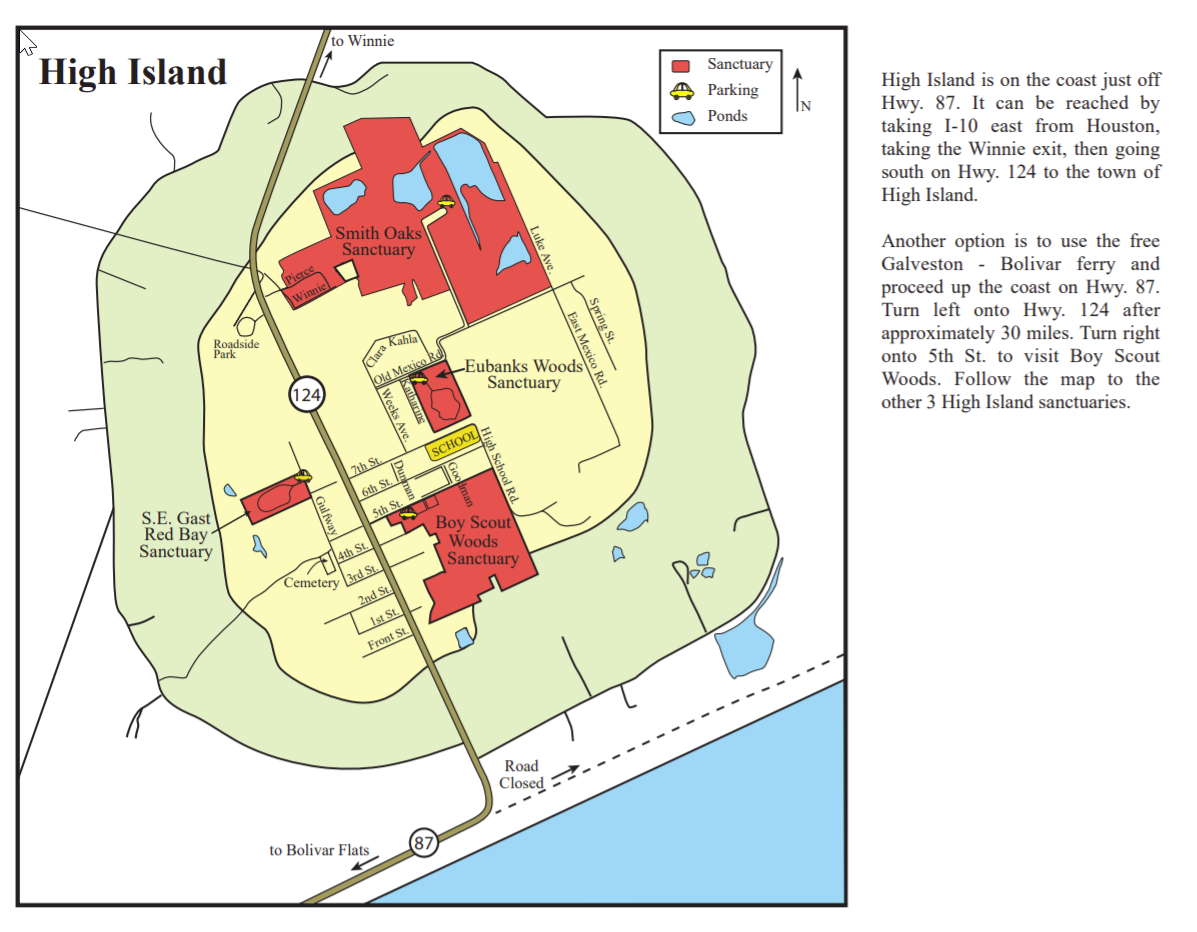
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| A picture containing outdoor, tree, sky, plant  Description automatically generated |
| A picture containing outdoor, grass, plant, tree  Description automatically generated |
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Appendix A – Policies and rules

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|  | The following were copies from the web site. |
|  | POLICIES Because this is a wildlife sanctuary, we ask you to observe the following rules.   * **Respect all wildlife. You are the visitor. This is their home.** * **Respect the peace and be considerate of other sanctuary visitors.** * **No harming or collecting or introduction of plants or animals.** * **Leave no waste.** * **Stay on marked trails. Walking only. No bicycles.** * **Do not obstruct trails.**   Please be considerate of other visitors. Do not block trails with tripods, chairs, ladders, baggage, etc.   * **No drone photography.** * **Use of laser pointers is prohibited at all Houston Audubon sanctuaries.**   No pishing or use of playback devices unless special permission is obtained.   * **Firearms are not permitted on the grounds.** * **No smoking or alcohol consumption.** * **No dogs or other domestic animals.**   Contact Pete Deichmann, Sanctuaries Manager, at [pdeichmann@houstonaudubon.org](mailto:pdeichmann@houstonaudubon.org) with any questions. |
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Appendix A – Maps





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