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STORY IDEA:

SEE SEMINOLE IN A DAY

Seminole County is only a 15 minute drive northeast from Orlando, Florida and offers a relaxing change from the hustle and bustle of the traditional Orlando attractions. We invite you to come and experience the real Florida. From laid back historical journeys, exciting hands-on explorations, fine dining and fabulous shopping, Seminole County truly offers something for everyone.

Wekiva River Adventure.

Begin your day at the Wekiva Marina with a canoe trip on the Wekiva River. Paddle downstream and enjoy this scenic pristine tributary of the historic St. Johns River. The entire trail has been designated by the State of Florida as a State Canoe Trail as well as "Scenic and Wild." You will be delighted to see an abundance of birds, animals and fish as you glide quietly downstream. Canoe trip lasts approximately 2 hours.

Directions: Take I-4 to exit 94 (State Road 434). Go west on State Road 434 and turn right onto Wekiva Springs Road. Turn right onto Miami Springs Road. The Wekiva Marina can be reached at 407-862-1500.

Central Florida Zoological Park

After your canoeing experience it's time get WILD at the Central Florida Zoological Park. You will come face to face with wild animals from around the world in just a few hours! Journey through a Florida swamp. Look for eagles, large cats, monkeys and endangered elephants. See snakes and lizards of all kinds. There are colorful mandrills, fearsome crocodiles, prickly porcupines, tropical birds and much more!

And now visit the one-of-a-kind ZOOM Air Adventures! This treetop zipline adventure will have you viewing nature from an animal's perspective. What's more, this unique ride did not effect the environment in any way when it was built.

Directions: Take I-4 to exit 104 (Highway 17-92). Go right to first light. Turn left and go to the next light. Turn right onto 17-92, along Lake Monroe and entrance to zoo. The Central Florida Zoological Park can be reached at 407-323-4450.

Rose Cottage Tea Room

It's time for lunch! One of the most delectable restaurants in Historic Sanford awaits your arrival. The Rose Cottage Tea Room is truly a unique dining experience. This beautiful European style tea room is a great spot for sharing company and friendship in a cozy old-fashioned atmosphere. You can enjoy a scrumptious casual gourmet lunch with choices ranging from quiches and salads to sandwiches and desserts. Allow 1 hour for lunch. The Rose Cottage Tea Room can be reached at 407-323-9448.

*Directions: Take I-4 to exit 101C (State Road 46). Head east on State Road 46 until you reach Historic Sanford (you will cross Hwy. 17-92). When you reach Historic Downtown Sanford, turn right onto Park Avenue. Continue on Park Avenue for about 2.5 miles. The Rose Cottage Tea Room will be on the left, at the corner of Park Avenue and 13th Street. (1301 Park Avenue). Price range for Rose Cottage Tea Room is moderate.**

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Historic Sanford

After lunch take a leisurely stroll through Historic Sanford. There are plenty of antique and curiosity shops to keep you looking for an entire afternoon. You can also take a walking tour of Sanford's two historic districts.

Gator Ventures and Black Hammock

After your leisurely stroll through Sanford it is time to pick up the pace with an airboat ride on beautiful Lake Jesup with Gator Ventures and enjoy real Florida cuisine at the Black Hammock Restaurant & Marina. Don't forget the camera! Lake Jesup just happens to have one of the highest populations of alligators in the southeastern United States. Along with the alligators, you will see beautiful foliage, eagles, osprey and many other types of wildlife in their natural habitat. After the airboat ride you will enjoy casual Florida dining at its best. The Black Hammock menu boasts many favorites including alligator tail, catfish, salads and chicken dishes. And, don't forget to check out the live alligator exhibit.

Directions: Take I-4 to exit 94 (S.R. 434). Go east on 434 to DeLeon Street. Turn left on Howard Avenue. Take Howard Avenue to Black Hammock Road. Follow the signs to Black Hammock.

*Gator Ventures Airboat Rides are on the shore of the lake behind the restaurant. Airboat Rides begin at \$20. Black Hammock is moderately priced.**

**Prices are subject to change.*

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