Day One: Travel west on SR 24 to Cedar Key in Levy County, Florida. This beautiful island is located in the Gulf of Mexico, just west of Gainesville, Florida. Come prepared to be immersed in the local culture of a working waterfront for oystermen and clam farmers. Wander 2nd Street, rich in history and architecture, circa 1850’s. Today, there is a booming business of raising clams and oysters just off shore. There are many “Farm to Table” restaurants serving delectable and savory dishes. Take an educational and fun clam tour with Scale Key Clam Tours from the dock in Cedar Key, call 352-221-2555. Many restaurants on the island feature local clams, oysters, crabs and amazing World Champion Clam Chowder at Tony’s Seafood Restaurant.

Day Two: Travel north along US 19-98 and south CR 349 to the laid-back coastal community of Suwannee in Dixie County, Florida. Fishermen still rely on the Gulf of Mexico to provide them with an abundance of clams, oysters, blue and stone crabs. Be sure to enjoy lunch or dinner at the Salt Creek Shellfish Company Restaurant. Take a nature boat tour or paddling excursion with Suwannee Guides & Outfitters 352-542-8331.

Day Three: Continue north on US 19-98 then CR 51 to the coastal fishing community of Steinhatchee in Taylor County, Florida. This working waterfront of crab traps and shrimp boats creates a picturesque landscape of river and Gulf convergence. Celebrate with a shellfish lunch or dinner, at Fiddler’s Restaurant along Riverside Drive or a beautiful sunset on the deck of Roy’s Restaurant. There are numerous fishing charters available for harvesting scallops during the summer. Here you will find another ‘quiet side’ of Florida.

Day Four: Rounding the corner of the Big Bend along the Gulf of Mexico, visit Monticello and Wacissa in Jefferson County, Florida where amazing rivers and springs grace the woodlands. Take time to paddle in the Aucilla and Wacissa Rivers, making your way to the Gulf, or spend your day riding the many bike trails looking for birds and wildlife. Stop by the Brick House Eatery for a special treat of Southern Hospitality.

Plan your trip today! Experience Florida’s largest shellfish trail. Learn where to EAT and BUY Big Bend Shellfish, how to learn more about aquaculture and location of accommodations. Call to receive a FREE Big Bend Shellfish Trail Map 877-387-5673