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TREK 10 TRAILS

Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve 2025-6

The Mackay Estate was built by Alexander Mackay, a Scottish entrepreneur and investor who bought the property on Lake Rochelle in 1915 and began construction of the Mackay family estate which he called "La Rochelle." The estate's 8,000-square foot residence is an outstanding example of Craftsman style architecture, with sleeping porches and large porch columns, open interior spaces and a staircase in the main room. A walled arbor with arched openings is located west of the residence and a sunken garden with a fountain is on the east. A beautiful Gazebo has been added with a breathtaking view of the lake. The property is owned and maintained by the City of Lake Alfred.

TRAIL ENTRANCE:

945 Mackay Blvd.
Lake Alfred 33850

PARKING COORDINATES:

N 28° 04.6133 W 81° 42.9866

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From Lakeland follow US 92 about 12 miles to the intersection of US92 and US17. Continue north to Lake Alfred and turn right on Mackay Boulevard. Follow this road to the second set of black gates on the right and turn right, parking is inside gates on the right.



THINGS TO SEE:

See the historic mansion and grounds including the walled arbor and sunken gardens. The lakeside trail offers lots of shade and views of Lake Rochelle. Rare native plant communities on site include cutthroat seeps and sandhills.

PUBLIC ACCESS:

The property is open to the public from dawn to dusk. The historic MacKay family home is open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The property includes a series of trails.

FIND THE CACHE WITHOUT GPS:

From the parking area, look for the kiosk and trail markers by the restroom building. Follow the signs for the yellow trail. The trail passes through an open area, then continues. At the fork turn right towards the lake and at the next trail intersection turn left. Once the trail makes a sharp left, a bench is nestled on the right in the curve. Look towards the clump of trees east of the bench.

Return or continue to follow the looped trail. **(HIKE: 1.2 miles)**



TREK TEN CACHE COORDINATES:

N 28° 04.620 W 081° 42.993