The Great American Hatchery Road Trip!





There's nothing like cruising down the interstate, a fresh summer breeze blowing through the windows, the stereo blasting, and the ancitipation of adventures ahead! The hardest part? Picking a destination! Don't worry, we've got you covered.

The National Fish Hatchery System has been improving recreational fishing and restoring aquatic species since 1872, so what better way to explore these cool sites than by starting with ones over 100 years old! Fish hatcheries have something for everyone in your group, so buckle those seatbelts and let's hit the road!



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Orangeburg produces seven million fish, frogs, and mussels a year! Their species include a variety of fish like redbreast, bluegills, lake sturgeon, American shad, striped bass, and channel catfish and other critters like gopher frogs and the Carolina heelsplitter mussel. Orangeburg is a 250-acre, warm-water facility established in 1911.

Listen to Thomas Rhett's advice and spend "More Time Fishin'" as you pull up to Orangeburg's 100-acre reservoir!

DETOUR

Part of the Orangeburg hatchery property includes a 100-acre reservoir for non-motorized boating and fishing! Common catches are largemouth bass, bowfin, bluegill sunfish, and channel catfish.

Get your steps in with a walk on the trail that wraps around the fish production pond to the main reservoir. There's even an observation deck at the back of the reservoir!

Animal lovers should also take advantage of the hatchery trail, specifically the observation deck. Lots of critters love to hang out around the fish production ponds, so you might spy great blue herons, snowy egret, wood storks, and ALLIGATORS!

Orangeburg was originally established in 1911 to produce warm-water fish for stocking in lakes and ponds. Nowadays they have a much broader mission that includes protecting and restoring declining populations of a variety of aquatic critters!

Fun for kids: have them pick out their favorite fish in the Orangeburg aquarium, paying close attention to colors, patterns, and shapes. When you get home, see if they can recreate the fish out of modeling clay and some washable paint!

> Next \mathcal{E} xit: \longrightarrow More Hatchery Fun!

MAP LEGEND

WELCOME TO

Carolina

AHEAD

The AnglerThe ExplorerThe Animal LoverThe Animal LoverThe HistorianThe Artist

If you like be-dazzled stuff, you might love The Button Museum! A whole hanger full of objects that have been be-buttoned. The Button Museum, located in Bishopville, South Carolina, is the product of one man's insomnia and a whole lot of button gluing! Maybe you'll find some inspiration and return home to produce your very own button fish!

Before you hit the road, be sure to check the hatchery's web page for additional activities and call ahead to check opening status.

OTHER HATCHERIES IN THE SOUTHEAST SERIES

- Mammoth Spring National Fish Hatchery Arkansas
- → Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery Georgia
- → Erwin National Fish Hatchery Tennessee
- White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery West Virginia