

## Conservancy of Southwest Florida- Rookery Bay Sunset Roost Cruise (Saturday)

Date: **Saturday**, January 14, 2012

Focus: **Birding** – This field trip will focus on the identification and biology of birds. Please bring binoculars and a bird field guide (if you have one).

Field Trip Description: Cast off for some great birding and cruise Rookery Bay on the Conservancy's Good Fortune pontoon boat. Join us for a beautiful sunset cruise in search of nesting Bald Eagle and Osprey, terns, gulls, shorebirds and waders. Dusk brings thousands of Fish Crows, Brown Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, herons, ibis and other wading birds in to roost on a few mangrove islands in Rookery Bay. This is a true southwest Florida treat and a very popular outing.

Minimum Group Size: 6  
Maximum Group Size: 45

Time Begin: 4:00 pm  
Time End: 6:00 pm



Cruises begin 2 hours before sunset and are just over 2 hours in duration.

Where to Meet: Meet at **3:45 pm** at **The Good Fortune Parking Lot** near the end of Shell Island Road. The maximum speed is 25 MPH – drive slowly, watch for wildlife and allow extra driving time. **Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before the beginning of the trip.**

Directions to Meeting Place: From the intersection of US 41 (Tamiami Trail) and SR 951 (Collier Blvd.) - Travel south on SR 951 towards Marco Island. Continue through the traffic light (Manatee Road) and past the Prime Outlet shopping center on the left. After approx 2 miles, turn **RIGHT** onto Shell Island Road. The speed limit is 15 to 25 mph, please allow for extra travel time and be careful to watch for wildlife. Travel 2.5 miles along this road (go past the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Field Office) until you arrive at the Good Fortune parking area on your right, just before the Rookery Bay Field Station.



Map:



Trip Leader: Conservancy of Southwest Florida Naturalist

Field Trip Cost: \$40

Registration: Online through Rookery Bay

What to Bring: Jacket, hat, gloves, binoculars, camera, water, insect repellent, bird field guide.

What to Wear: Winter evening gusts coming off of Rookery Bay can be quite chilly and blustery so please dress warmly for the weather. Gloves and hats are recommended.

Web: <http://www.conservancy.org/>  
<http://www.rookerybay.org/>

Revised: 10/12/2011

