

Directions to our farm, The Equi-Center

The Equi-Center
9791 NW 160th Street
Reddick, FL 32686
Phones (352) 591-4735 (352) 591-6025

The farm is halfway between the cities of Ocala and Gainesville, Florida. Ocala is just south of the farm and Gainesville is to the north.

Directions to the Equi-Center from Ocala

1. Take 1-75 North to Exit 354 (Hwy 27).
2. At Exit 354 turn left (North West) on to Hwy 27. Travel NW 3.4 miles to the intersection of Hwy 27 and CR 225A. There is a traffic light at this intersection.
3. Turn right onto CR 225A. Take CR 225A to its end (9.7 miles). CR 225A ends at an intersection with CR 329.
4. Turn left (North West) onto CR 329. Travel 2.4 miles on CR 329 until it meets NW 160th Street. Just before you reach the intersection, you will see a training race track on your left. You make a left turn on to NW 160th Street.
5. Travel .5 miles west on NW 160th street to our farm. The farm is on your right.

Directions to the Equi-Center from Gainesville

1. Take 1-75 South to Exit 368 Turn right (west) on to CR 318. Take the first left off of 318. This road is CR 225.
2. Stay on CR 225 until the stop sign. This is CR 316.
3. At this stop sign, turn right on CR 316. Watch your speed; you will be traveling through a residential neighborhood. Travel on CR 316 until the next stop sign (under 1 mile).
4. This stop sign is the intersection of CR 316 and CR 329. Turn right on CR 329.
5. Travel a few miles on CR 329 until it meets NW 160th Street. Just before you reach the intersection, you will see a training racetrack on your left. You make a left turn on to NW 160th Street.
6. Travel .5 miles west on NW 160th street to our farm. The farm is on your right.

If you are coming from the West (Williston, Morriston), give us a call for the easiest route. Likewise, if you are coming from the East, give us a call and we can help you identify the quickest route.

General Location & Transportation Weather & Clothing

Our farm, The Equi-Center is out in the country, between the cities of Ocala and Gainesville. To assist with your travel plans, we have provided information on both Ocala and Gainesville.

By Car

Ocala is served by Interstate 75, which runs from Atlanta, Georgia to Tampa and Miami, Florida. Driving within the state: **Orlando** is 1 1/2 hours South, **Tampa** is 1 1/2 hours Southwest, **Gainesville** is 45 minutes North, **Jacksonville** is 2 hours Northeast, **Miami** is 5 hours South.

Airplane

Here is a list of international airports, served by the major carriers, which are within driving distance of our site. You will get the best rates using these airports:

Orlando International	1½ hours South of Ocala
Tampa International	1½ hours Southwest of Ocala
Jacksonville International	2½ hours Northeast of Ocala

The Jacksonville airport is small and has easy access. Orlando airport is large and busy, but it is very well organized.

The closest regional airport is in Gainesville, FL, which is approximately a 45-minute drive north of Ocala. The airport is small and convenient, but all flights into and out of Gainesville, must come through Atlanta GA. It is served by commuter airlines. This trip can be expensive and time consuming. Previous students have reported frequent delays in Atlanta

Rental cars are available at all airports.

Weather & Clothing

We have a casual, comfortable learning environment. Our lectures are held in an air conditioned/heated classroom. The hands on work with horses will be held outdoors at various farms.

Clothing to bring for working with the horses would include long pants and protective footwear (leather boots are preferable). Shorts are OK in the summer time as summer weather in North Central Florida is hot and humid. We experience temperatures in the 90's.

Fall, Winter and Spring weather in North Central Florida is usually mild. However, mornings can be cool (40's). Warming up to the 60's or 70's by late morning. During the winter and spring, the wind can be chilly if you are working outside. If you attend our program during the fall, winter or spring, bring some warm clothes for mornings, late afternoons and evenings. Don't forget your raincoat!

Accommodations

Students have a variety of options to consider when planning their stay. There are many hotels with different features and price ranges. Our suggestions reflect hotels with easy access to the highway, restaurants and supermarkets.

Based on the feedback we have received from previous students, the best places to stay are the hotels that offer weekly rates.

Ocala

There are multiple hotels in Ocala, located just off I-75 on exits 350(old exit 68), 352(old exit 69) and 354(old exit 70). Staying at any of these hotels would put you within 15-20 miles south of our center. Exit 350(old exit 68), SR200, is also known as "College Road" and has the greatest number of restaurants. For your convenience, a list of hotels is enclosed. Ocala also has a number of campgrounds. We have provided the name and telephone number of one of the closest campgrounds.

Gainesville

There are also multiple hotels in Gainesville, located just off I-75 on exit 384(old exit 75). Staying at any of these hotels would put you 20 miles north of our center. Exit 384(old exit 75) also has many restaurants, retail and supermarkets. The University of Florida is located in Gainesville. Gainesville hosts a variety of cultural events year round.

During our busy fall/winter season, hotel reservations should be made as early as possible. Ocala fills up with horse show people and when the University of Florida schedules events, hotel space disappears rapidly!

Ocala Accommodations

High Season in Ocala, when the hotel rates are most expensive, is January through April. Rates are generally lower May through December. All rates are subject to change, so please contact the hotel to verify your rate. For more hotel options, remember to check online at Orbitz.com or Travelocity.com

On A Budget

Days Inn Ocala West

(352) 629-0091 ♦ 3620 W Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala ♦ I-75 Exit 352
Clean Affordable Rooms - Rooms \$52 per night

J's Place

Janette Engleman is a local horsewoman, ESM graduate and a friend of Don & Lisa. She rents out rooms in her home to ESM students. Her home is not far from our farm. (352) 351-0452

Travel Trailers & Camping

Ocala North RV Park Campground

(352) 591-1723 ♦ 16905 NW Hwy 225, Reddick ♦ I-75 Exit 368(Old 72 SR 318)
RV Hookup \$29 per night ♦ \$170 per week

Grand Lake RV Resort

(352) 591-3474 ♦ 4555 W Highway 318, Orange Lake ♦ I-75 Exit 368 (old 72 SR 318)
RV Hookup \$34 per night ♦ One bedroom cabins \$450 per week

Have Fun - Stay On A Farm - In Style

Vicky' Place

Vicky Kamp is a local horsewoman, ESM graduate and a friend of Don & Lisa. She has a lovely, private and fully equipped 2 bedroom house available for rent. Her home is not far from our farm. (352) 528-0351

Hotels Offering Weekly Rates

LaQuinta Inns

(352) 861-1137 or 1-800-531-5900 ♦ 3530 SW 36th Ave, Ocala ♦ I-75 Exit 350(Old exit 68 SR 200)
January thru April \$90 per night, Weekly \$80 per night
April thru December \$70 per night, Weekly \$50 per night
Small Pets OK (Please do not bring your pet to class!)

Best Western

(352) 237-4848 ♦ 3701 SW 38th Ave, Ocala ♦ I-75 Exit 350 (old exit 68 SR 200)
January thru April \$81 per night
April thru December \$71 per night, Weekly \$65 per night

Other Hotels

Ramada Inn

(352) 732-3131 ♦ 3810 NW Blitchton Rd, Ocala ♦ I-75 Exit 354 (old exit 70 Hwy 27)
January thru April \$125 per night, April thru December \$99 per night

Hampton Inn

(352) 854-3200 ♦ 3434 SW College Road, Ocala ♦ I-75 Exit 350 (old exit 68 SR 200) \$81.00 per night

Ocala Amenities

Restaurants

The largest concentration of restaurants in Ocala is located on SR 200, also called College Road. SR 200 is located at I-75, exit 350 (old exit 68)

Three of our picks are

Chilli's, (352) 237-6611 ♦ 3501 SW 36th Ave (Just off College Road)

Amrit Indian Palace (352) 873-8500 ♦ 2635 SW College Road

Ayuttaya Thai restaurant in the K-mart shopping plaza on SW College Road

If you want an espresso or a latte, there is a Barnes and Noble Bookstore and Café in the Lowes shopping plaza on College Road.

Grocery Stores

Publix – Exit 350(old exit 68), on College Road. About 1 mile East of I-75

Publix – Exit 354(old exit 70) on Hwy 27 (also called Blitchton Road) About 1 ½ miles West of I-75

Winn Dixie – Exit 350 (old exit70) on Hwy 27 (also called Blitchton Road) About 1 mile West of I-75

Retail

The Paddock Park Mall is located on College Road. About 1 ½ miles East of I-75

Super-Walmart, just East of the Paddock Park Mall. Address: 2600 SW 19th Ave Rd, Ocala (352) 237-7155

Tack Stores

There are a variety of tack stores in and around Ocala. Our local favorite is the Winning Edge tack store on Hwy 27.

Gainesville Accommodations

Gainesville rates go up and down based on local happenings. All rates are subject to change, so please contact the hotel to verify your rate.

Most of these hotels are located directly off I-75, Exits 382(old exit 74) & 384(old exit 75). Most of these hotels are approximately 20 miles north of our center.

Hotels Offering Weekly Rates

Extended Stay America

(352) 375-0073 ♦ I-75 Exit 384(old exit 75)

Single person, \$265 for the week. Double occupancy \$315 per week

Stove, refrigerator, microwave, coffee pot, pots & pans, place setting for 2

Bring your own paper towels! No Pool

Comfort Inns

(352) 264-1771 ♦ I-75 Exit 384(old exit 75)

Weekly rate is \$51 per night. Pets ok, but please don't bring your pet to class!

Ramada Limited

(352) 373-0392 ♦ I-75 Exit 384(old exit 75)

Weekly rate \$336. Pets ok, but please don't bring your pet to class!

Red Roof Inn

(352) 336-3311 ♦ I-75 Exit 384 (old exit 75)

Weekly rate approximately \$270. Yes Pool. Pets ok, but please don't bring your pet to class!

Baymont Inn

(352) 376-0004 ♦ I-75 Exit 384(old exit 75)

Weekly rate \$363. Pets ok, but please don't bring your pet to class!

Other Hotels

Travelodge

(352) 335-6355 ♦ I-75 Exit 382(old exit 74)

\$ 40 per night

Scottish Inn

(352) 376-4423 ♦4041 SW 13th Street, Gainesville ♦ Access via I-75 Exit 374(old exit 73)

\$35 per night, \$174 per week.

Classic Inn

(352) 3820 SW 13th Street, Gainesville ♦ Access via I-75 Exit 374 (old exit 73)

\$42 per night

Gainesville Amenities

Restaurants

There is a large concentration of restaurants on Archer Road, which is I-75 exit 384(old exit75). These restaurants are east of I-75.

Some of our favorites are:

Chilli's – Southwestern type food.

Falafel King – Middle Eastern food. Located in the Butler Plaza

McAllister's Deli – Located in the Butler Plaza

On the Border – Mexican

Grocery Stores

Publix – I-75, Exit 384(old exit 75) in the Butler Plaza

Albertsons – I-75, Exit 384(old exit 75) (Almost open 24 hours)

Winn Dixie – I-75, Exit 384(old exit 75)

Retail

The Oaks Mall is located east of I-75, Exit 387(old exit 76), Newberry Road.

Border's Café and Book, and Music store – east of I-75, Exit 387(old exit 76), Newberry Road