

BEST OF THE TREASURE COAST

BEST MUSEUM 2018

A.E. BACKUS MUSEUM AND GALLERY

500 N Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce
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www.backusmuseum.com

A visit to a museum in Fort Pierce dedicated to a legendary Florida landscape artist offers an oasis in a busy world and a chance to soak up the natural beauty featured in the works of A.E. "Bean" Backus, a Florida Hall of Fame painter who lived near, and drew inspiration from, the Indian River Lagoon all his life. The recently renovated museum, expanded by 2,000 square feet to nearly double its size, is a cultural anchor in historical downtown Fort Pierce. The museum also hosts the state's only permanent multimedia exhibition of works by the Florida Highwaymen, who were mentored by Backus, and changing exhibitions of works from artists of national and international acclaim. A new gallery running the length of the building is devoted to Backus's stirring scenes of Florida as he saw and loved it. Outside, visitors can explore the mural plaza's large murals by Florida artists on the east and north walls. A new coral path surrounding the plaza holds an invitation for families to find more than 30 clues in a scavenger hunt.



WHAT READERS SAY

“This is a wonderful place to celebrate the arts and culture of the Treasure Coast! Bean Backus used his art to inspire an appreciation for the natural beauty and history of natural Florida. His way of helping and caring about others fostered the original Florida Highwaymen, and that sense of community here feels different than most places and still speaks today. The changing and permanent displays are always a delight.”

“The new addition and renovations make the Backus a fabulous place to visit.”



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