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St. Augustine's *Alligator Farm*

The St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park began in the late nineteenth century as a small exhibition of Florida reptiles and became a quintessential Florida attraction. Today it functions as a modern zoo serving the public and the scientific community with educational shows and exhibits, important research and worldwide conservation efforts.

In the late nineteenth century, George Reddington and Felix Fire began collecting alligators on Anastasia Island; they founded the St. Augustine Alligator Farm at South Beach in 1893. By 1910, the Alligator Farm became an established Florida attraction thanks to advertisements placed by the South Beach Railway Company.

The Alligator Farm flourished for more than two decades at its original location. The owners of the Alligator Farm had already begun to explore their options for relocating the attraction before the 1920 storm struck. They selected a ten-acre tract of land two miles north of the South Beach location, closer to the St. Augustine hotels, but still on Anastasia Island. Since 1989, The American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) has extended accreditation to the St. Augustine Alligator Farm.

The Land of Crocodiles opened in 1993, featuring all known species of the world's living crocodylians, the only such facility in the world to do so.

After more than a century, the Alligator Farm thrills and educates guests on a daily basis. We're proud of our successful past, and look forward to an exciting future as a privately owned, specialized zoo. [<http://www.alligatorfarm.com/history.html>]

