

Black History in Daytona Beach

Daytona Beach offers visitors a rich and meaningful journey through Black history, where culture, resilience, and progress are reflected in historic neighborhoods, landmark sites, and nationally recognized attractions. These sites provide an inspiring way to connect with Daytona Beach's past while celebrating its enduring cultural legacy.

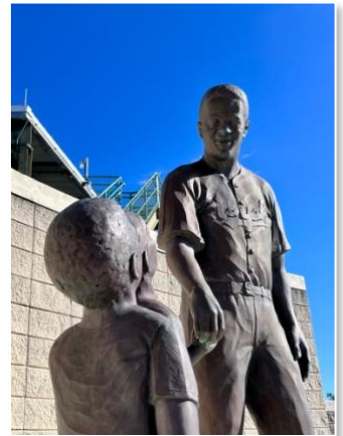
Jackie Robinson Ballpark & Statue

Relive history in this minor league baseball park where ground-breaking African-American baseball player Jackie Robinson played in the first integrated Major League Baseball spring training game in 1946. Jackie Robinson Ballpark features a statue of Robinson, historical markers and is home to the Daytona Tortugas, a Cincinnati Reds-affiliated minor league team.

The facility is the oldest operating ballpark in Minor League Baseball, having opened on June 4, 1914. The ballpark, which is designated as a National Commemorative Site and part of the African American Civil Rights Network, is undergoing a modernization that is expected to be completed in early 2026.

Key features of the project include:

- A 30,000-square-foot, multi-story player development facility
- Home and away clubhouses
- Indoor batting cages and fitness areas
- Upgraded dugouts and accessible parking
- New team stores, offices, club seating and infrastructure improvements



Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Home & Gravesite

640 Dr Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

<https://www.cookman.edu/mmbhome/index.html>

The Mary McLeod Bethune Home & Gravesite is on the National Historic Landmark and is the former home of civil rights leader, educator and founder of Bethune-Cookman University, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. Filled with fascinating artifacts and photos of famous visitors and U.S. presidents, the facility, which is situated on the scenic grounds of Bethune-Cookman University, offers guided tours.



Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Statues

Visitors can honor Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune at two statues located in Daytona Beach area. At the Riverfront Esplanade, a gathering space and botanical garden located in downtown Daytona Beach, is a 13-foot tall bronze statue of Dr. Bethune that is a replica of the marble version that is on display in National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol building. Another statue is located at the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Performing Arts Center located on the campus of Bethune-Cookman University.



Howard Thurman Home

614 Whitehall Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

<https://www.howardthurmanhome.com/historic-home.html>

The historic Howard Thurman Home is the childhood home of one of the most influential theologians of the 20th century. A native son of Daytona Beach, Dr. Howard Thurman went on to become an important author and religious thinker and one of the most influential early voices shaping the nonviolent philosophy of the Modern Civil Rights Movement in America.



Freemanville Historic Site

3431 Ridgewood Avenue, Port Orange, FL 32119

Freemanville, the site of the first African-American community in Volusia County, is recognized with a state historic marker. This historical community was settled by freed slaves after the Civil War in 1867 and is part of the Black Heritage Trail.



For more information on travel itineraries in Daytona Beach, reach out to the Daytona Beach Area CVB's Karen DiGiacomo, Tour and Travel Sales Manager, kdigiacomo@daytonabeach.com, 386-255-0415, ext. 133.

