



# WELLEN PARK WELCOME CENTER

A TRUE SENSE OF **PLACE.**

A STORY TOLD THROUGH **THE SENSES.**

INVITING. AUTHENTIC. NOSTALGIC. ORIGINAL.

# A Welcoming Invite

Wellen Park ambassadors greet guests at a miniature vintage Piaggio Apé, an iconic three-wheeled Italian truck that replaces a traditional registration desk. Surrounded by flowers, it embodies the relaxed, easy spirit of the community.



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# Bringing the Outdoors In

A gravity-defying vertical electric bicycle display introduces Wellen Park's extensive trail and pathway network. It speaks to those eager to explore the awaiting natural wonders and adventures along the community's 18 miles of existing trails and complements the focus on wellness, fitness and time outdoors. The trail system will eventually span an additional 25 miles, including a 2.8-mile path encircling Downtown Wellen's Grand Lake, where bike, kayak and paddleboard rentals are available through onsite Kind Vibes Outfitters.





# Embracing Art and Inspiration

A neighboring floor-to-ceiling art installation takes a unique approach to the community site map, detailing Wellen Park's topography and proximity to the Myakka River, a designated Wild and Scenic River, with different hues of preserved moss.

Also nearby is the Welcome Center's mobile cart, which serves as an art pop-up to highlight local artists. Appropriately named "Inspire," the cart features a rotating display of local artists' work through a partnership with the North Port Art Center, which visitors can explore and also purchase. Exciting and ever changing, the pop-up experiences demonstrate the importance of the arts in connecting the community in meaningful ways.





# Heritage and Legacies

The land and nature are at the essence of the Wellen Park story. In homage to Wellen Park's Heritage Tree Program, a monumental relocation of 26 heritage live oaks in Downtown Wellen, Sarasota artist Alexis Fraser (aka Lipstick Lex) created "Heartfelt Connections," a large-scale commissioned work featuring a tree comprised entirely of lipstick kisses. The 8-by-10-foot piece represents love, joy, positivity and the empowerment of doing right by the trees. It's a popular spot for residents and visitors to engage, take photos and truly connect.



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# Information and Innovation

With technology playing a key role in the Wellen Park lifestyle, visitors can explore the community, its neighborhoods and homes as well as regional amenities, entertainment options and attractions via video walls, interactive digital displays and touchscreen maps. The traditional 3D topographical table with its mini homes, buildings and people akin to a model railroad display is updated for the digital age. Flat-top presentation screens provide up to 10 different touch points, giving visitors the opportunity to view side-by-side comparisons for neighborhood and floor plan options to start their homebuying journey.





# Local Flavor

Barrel & Bean cafe, a connected coffee, wine bar and craft beer café, serves up small plates, live entertainment and sunset views from its popular patio and options for indoor or alfresco dining. Locally owned, the café offers an intimate setting, a creatively inspired menu, local 3 Bridges craft beer and a rotating wine list. The outdoor space is partially shaded by an innovative weather-responsive electric pergola.



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# Hometown Connections

A large-scale 3D license plate wall provides a place for people to reflect upon their original hometowns and their new home base in Wellen Park. The concept of belonging and community is an essential part of what makes Wellen Park home to so many people from so many different places. The assemblage artwork was created by Barry Thorne in collaboration with his wife, Clare Harvey, both of whom are local artists who also teach at the North Port Art Center. These small pieces of colorful aluminum connect Wellen Park residents to their former hometowns and smile-inducing, feel-good memories.







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