



A Magical Getaway Awaits, Just Steps from *Disney Springs*®

Enjoy a Sprinkle of Disney Magic when you stay at Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace and Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista with early entry to Disney Theme Parks and complimentary transportation.



MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

& Magical Amenities

Dive into a tropical paradise just steps away from *Disney Springs*® at Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace! Experience ultimate relaxation and family fun with our zero-entry lazy river, kids splash zone, exciting arcade, and private poolside cabanas. Enjoy delightful meals at our six on-site dining options, offering something for every palate, along with spacious and comfortable guest rooms and suites. And don't forget the sprinkle of Disney magic with exclusive perks like:

- 30-Minute Early Entry Into Walt Disney World® Theme Parks Every Day
- Hourly Shuttle Transportation for the Four Disney Theme Parks
- Select Guest Rooms Feature Premium Views of Disney Springs[®] and Nightly EPCOT[®] Fireworks
- Steps Away from Disney Springs[®] via Pedestrian Skybridge



BOOK NOW







A Magical Getaway, STEPS FROM DISNEY SPRINGS®

Enjoy a relaxing retreat at Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista, directly connected to *Disney Springs®* via Pedestrian Skybridge. Recharge in spacious and modern guest rooms and discover memorable amenities including two heated pools, an on-site arcade, and a 24-hour fitness center. Explore six unique dining options, from the exciting on-site Benihana's Steakhouse and Sushi to the convenient grab-and-go market. Also, as an Official *Walt Disney World®* Hotel, guests have access to exclusive Disney benefits, including:

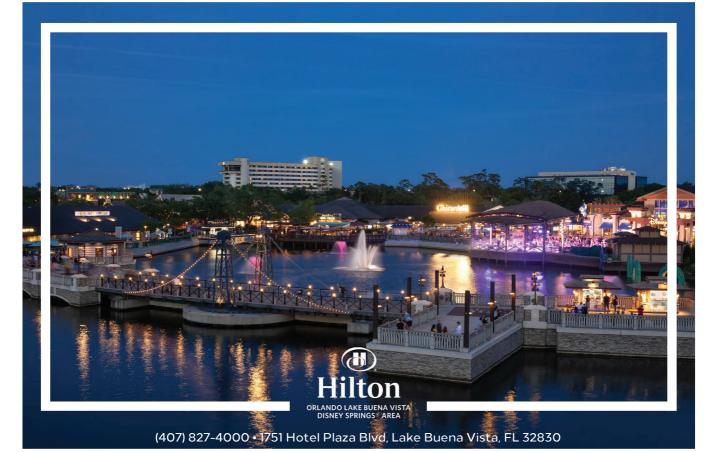
- 30-Minute Early Entry Into Walt Disney World® Theme Parks
- Hourly Shuttle Transportation for the Four Disney Theme Parks
- Select Guest Rooms Feature Premium Views of Disney Springs[®]
- Directly Connected to Disney Springs[®] via Pedestrian Skybridge



BOOK NOW









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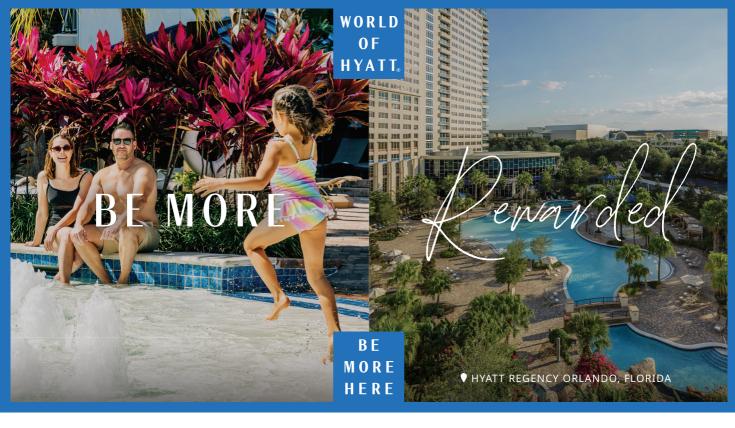
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Allianz Travel Insurance can give you more confidence when planning your AAA vacation. With more covered reasons for up to 100% cancellation reimbursement, plus emergency medical benefits and 24/7 assistance for travel mishaps, you can spend less time putting off your dreams and more time living them.

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Stay just minutes from all the major theme parks when you book at the family-friendly Hyatt Regency Orlando. Not too far away is Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort with a shuttle to the theme parks as well as a sparkling lagoon-style pool with private cabanas and an award winning golf course. Looking for a full kitchen and room to spread out? Nothing is more convenient than at Hyatt House across from Universal Orlando Resort™.

When you're staying at the right Central Florida hotel, you really can't go wrong.

Book the AAA rate and save up to 10%. Plus, World of Hyatt members can earn points for qualifying nights.

LEARN MORE

Central Florida



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AAA.com/tripcanvas **AAA.com/traveltips** AAA.com/roadservice AAA.com/autorepair AAA.com/office **AAA TripTik® Travel Planner**

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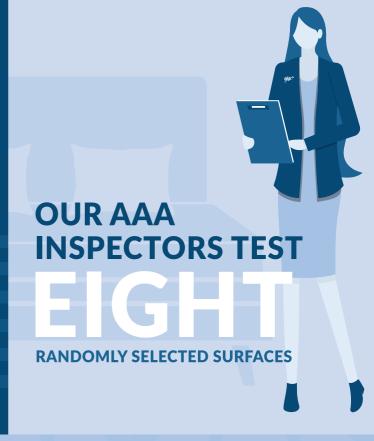






TESTED SURFACES

GUEST ROOM DOOR HANDLES, LIGHT SWITCHES, TV REMOTE, THERMOSTAT CONTROL, DESK SURFACE, BATHROOM VANITIES, FAUCET HANDLES AND TOILET FLUSH.





DIAMOND PROGRAM





ROAD Central Florida TRIPS

Though the region's theme parks claim their fair share of the attention, Central Florida contains more characters than just the costumed kind. Instead, an increasing amount of visitors are choosing to learn about the interesting people, historic places and scenic vistas that make up the Sunshine State—simply by staying off the well-traveled highways.

















01 ORLANDO TO COCOA BEACH, FL

69.0 miles: 1 hour, 19 minutes Suburban sprawl melts away as you head east through a natural landscape of pine trees and scrub palmetto.

02 **COCOA BEACH** TO DAYTONA BEACH, FL

108.0 miles: 2 hours, 48 minutes Just north of Cocoa Beach is the Kennedy Space Center, a must-see stop and the final home of the Space Shuttle Atlantis.

03 **DAYTONA BEACH** TO ST. AUGUSTINE, FL

54.9 miles: 1 hour, 39 minutes St. Augustine is the oldest city in the state—the country, in fact. Founded in 1565 by the Spanish, it's full of small museums and kitschy sights.

04 TAMPA TO LAKE WALES, FL

76.6 miles: 2 hours, 0 minutes Downtown Tampa, Ybor City and Channelside make for a fun evening interlude with theaters, bars and game centers vying for attention.

05 LAKE WALES TO CLERMONT, FL

69.3 miles: 1 hour, 43 minutes

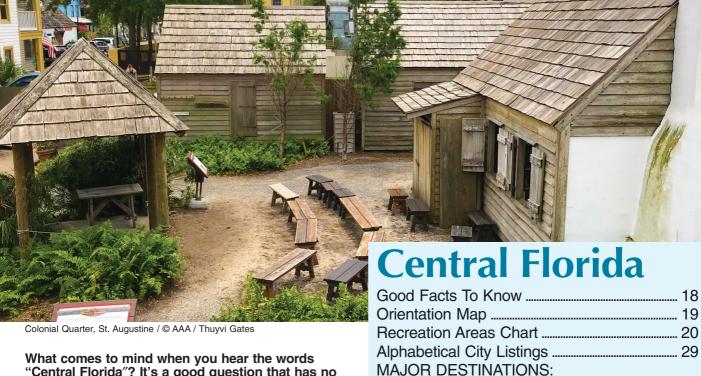
You can see acres of orange groves from Iron Mountain, one of the highest points in the state, as well as from the comfort of your own vehicle.

06 **CLERMONT** TO DAYTONA BEACH, FL

84.1 miles: 2 hours, 11 minutes

Continue your journey to the "World's Most Famous Beach," aka Daytona Beach, by way of the back roads.

For a complete list of itineraries and details



"Central Florida"? It's a good question that has no easy answer. This swath of the Sunshine State conjures up so many different images that you'd be challenged to sum it all up in 25 words or less.

From a historical perspective there's St. Augustine, earning a place in school history books due to the fact that it's the oldest European settlement in the United States. The site was claimed by Spanish explorers in 1565 for its strategic advantage—encircled by waterways on three sides, it was a prime spot to establish Spain's military headquarters in North America.

Jacksonville could be considered the working son in a family of Florida playboys. It's the largest deepwater port in the South, a financial center, a corporate headquarters and is home to multiple military facilities. Tampa is an equally hard-working sibling; today this former pirate stronghold and cigar-rolling center is a major player in everything from heavy industry to major league sports.

For many, Central Florida is synonymous with a mouse who answers to Mickey and a man by the name of Walt. Prior to Magic Kingdom® Park's 1971 opening Orlando was a sedate little city situated amid orange groves and sparkling blue lakes. But in the mid-1960s "Uncle Walt" paid a series of hush-hush visits to survey undeveloped swamplands in southwestern Orange County. The opening of Mr. Disney's

Orlando 182 Tampa 304 park was an unprecedented success, transforming "O-Town" into one of the most popular tourist destina-

Jacksonville92

There are plenty of nice beaches in this part of the state. Sarasota has the breezy look of a quintessential resort community—the Gulf of Mexico's turquoise waters, brilliant white sand and gracefully arching palms, not to mention gleaming condo towers and that Spanish-inspired, distinctively Floridian architectural motif of stucco and red tile. Beach getaways like Anna Maria, Pass-a-Grille and Caladesi Island State Park are the perfect solution to the delightful dilemma of how to spend that hard-earned 3-day weekend.

Days at the Beach

tions in the world.

Over on the Atlantic side you've got Vero Beach, Melbourne Beach and Cocoa Beach, just to name a few. The Intracoastal Waterway, a network of interconnected inlets, bays, estuaries and saltwater rivers that runs along the entire east coast of Florida, provides an exceptionally scenic backdrop. It's the setting for a

laid-back lifestyle where fishing, boating, sunning and kicking back at casual beachside restaurants are all high on the list of life's priorities.

At Daytona Beach sand not only gets between your toes; it gets between your tire treads. Although the speed limit for beach driving is a mere 10 miles per hour, land speed records were set here during the early days of the automobile. At nearby Canaveral National Seashore the sand is reserved for marine life like barnacles, mollusks and ghost crabs as well as people; 24 miles of uninterrupted shoreline constitute the longest stretch of undeveloped public beach on Florida's east coast.

Central Florida rules when it comes to family vacations. Every website and glossy travel brochure worth its promotional salt touts this region's many lures, chief among them benevolent winter weather and a plethora of sightseeing attractions.

Theme Park Nirvana

In the 4 decades following the Magic Kingdom® Park's opening, theme parks have sprouted in Orlando like mushrooms after a heavy rain. In addition to the Walt Disney World® Resort, which encompasses four theme parks, the area is home to SeaWorld Orlando and the Universal Orlando Resort. And that's just the tip of the entertainment iceberg; water parks, dinner shows, championship golf and heavy-duty shopping are a few other ways to spend your time. From Space Mountain to Shamu to The Wizarding World of Harry Potter's Hogsmeade and Diagon Alley (ride the Hogwarts Express train from one to the other), Orlando's got it covered when it comes to family fun.

But it's certainly not the only option. Nearby Kennedy Space Center appeals not only to budding astronauts but to anyone who's ever gazed up at the night sky and pondered the mysteries it holds. Throw on your orange sweatshirt and cheer on the Florida Gators at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Wander among the miniature versions of New York City and Washington, D.C. at LEGOLAND Florida Resort in Winter Haven. Head to Busch Gardens Tampa Bay and scream to your heart's content on coasters like the floorless SheiKra. Or gaze at works by a master Spanish surrealist at St. Petersburg's The Dalí Museum.

Then there are the old standbys that have been welcoming visitors for generations. Silver Springs State Park (formerly Florida's Silver Springs), near Ocala, offers such simple pleasures as a ride in a

glass-bottomed boat, cruising past riverbanks lined with bald cypresses and inhabited by alligators, turtles and herons—a more primeval Florida that existed long before the arrival of mouse ears and space shuttles. In St. Augustine, where Juan Ponce de León first set foot more than 500 years ago, hang out at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, a massive fort built 1672-95. In Tarpon Springs, you can learn all about sponge diving, explore the local Greek culture and sample delicacies like flaming cheese. Opa!

Watch fish-tailed mermaids do their underwater thing in Weeki Wachee Springs' cool, crystal-clear spring waters. Gasp in astonishment as 8-foot-long reptiles jump clear out of the water to snatch raw chicken from an outstretched hand at Gatorland. Purchase bottled water from the Fountain of Youth, a dried puffer fish or a pink plastic yard flamingo to take back home. Central Florida is truly a place that has its kitsch in sync.

Tampa / © iStockphoto.com / Sean Pavone



GOOD FACTS TO KNOW

ABOUT THE STATE

POPULATION: 21.538.187.

AREA: 65,758 square miles; ranks 22nd.

CAPITAL: Tallahassee.

HIGHEST POINT: 345 ft., Walton County. **LOWEST POINT:** Sea level, Atlantic Ocean. TIME ZONE(S): Eastern/Central. DST.

GAMBLING

MINIMUM AGE FOR GAMBLING: 18 for pari-mutuel betting; 21 for casino gambling.

REGULATIONS

TEEN DRIVING LAWS: There are no passenger restrictions. A driver age 15 with a learner's permit may only drive during daylight hours accompanied by a licensed adult age 21 or older. Driving is not permitted 11 p.m.-6 a.m. for age 16 and 1 a.m.-5 a.m. for age 17, unless accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least age 21 in the front seat. The minimum age for an unrestricted driver's license is 18. For more information about Florida driver's license regulations phone (850) 617-2000.

SEAT BELT/CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS: Seat belts are required for driver and front-seat passengers. Seat belt is required for children ages 6-17. Children age 3 and under must be in a carrier or integrated child seat. Children ages 4-5 must be in a carrier, integrated child seat or booster seat. AAA recommends seat belts/child restraints for driver and all passengers.

CELLPHONE RESTRICTIONS: Text messaging is prohibited for all drivers. Handheld cell phone use is prohibited in school and construction zones where workers are present.

HELMETS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS: Required for riders under 21. Persons 21 and over may ride without helmets only if they can show proof they are covered by a medical insurance policy.

RADAR DETECTORS: Permitted. Prohibited for commercial vehicles.

MOVE OVER LAW: Driver is required to slow down and vacate the lane nearest stopped police, fire and rescue vehicles using audible or flashing signals. Law also requires drivers to move over for stationary sanitation vehicles, utility service vehicles, tow trucks, road and bridge maintenance vehicles, and construction vehicles.

FIREARMS LAWS: Vary by state and/or county. Contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, P.O. Box 6687, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6687; phone (850) 245-5691.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: All motorists who drive trucks or pull trailers must stop at road guard agricultural inspection stations. Recreational vehicles and private passenger vehicles without trailers are not required to stop at these stations.

Permanently disabled persons with "handicapped" license plates from any state receive special parking privileges in Florida.

HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAYS: New Year's Day, Jan. 1 ● Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. (3rd Mon.) • Memorial Day, May (4th Mon.) Independence Day, July 4 ● Labor Day, Sept. (1st Mon.) Veterans Day, Nov. 11

 Thanksgiving, Nov. (4th Thurs.), and

 following Fri. • Christmas, Dec. 25.

MONEY

TAXES: Florida's statewide sales tax is 6 percent, with counties allowed to impose additional levies. There is a tax on accommodations and meals, and counties have the option to add a tourist impact tax and a tourist development tax of varying levels.

VISITOR INFORMATION

INFORMATION CENTERS: State welcome centers can be found just south of the Florida/Georgia border off I-75 near Jennings ● near the Florida/Alabama border off I-10, 16 miles west of Pensacola • south of the Florida/Georgia border off I-95 near Yulee ● and in Tallahassee at the Florida State Capitol.

SPECIAL NOTE: Lovebugs are very sticky insects that swarm during the day in April, May, September and October, clogging car radiators, smearing windshields and corroding a car's finish.

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR VISITORS:

Visit Florida Inc.

101 N. Monroe St., Suite 900

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 488-5607 (Main Office)

(850) 488-6167 (Florida Capitol Welcome Center)

(888) 735-2872 (Information specialist)

NATIONAL FOREST INFORMATION:

National Forests in Florida 325 John Knox Rd., Suite F-210 Tallahassee, FL 32303-4160

(850) 523-8500 / (877) 444-6777 (Reservations)

FISHING AND HUNTING REGULATIONS:

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 620 S. Meridian St.

Tallahassee. FL 32399-1600

(850) 488-4676 (Main Office)

(888) 347-4356 (fishing licenses)

RECREATION INFORMATION:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Mail Station 49 Tallahassee. FL 32399-3000 (850) 245-3029



Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



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PET FRIENDLY
BICYCLE TRAILS
SKIN/SCUBA
VISITOR CENTER
LODGE/CABINS
FOOD SERVICE

NATIONAL FORESTS (See place listings.)													
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Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.



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VISITOR CENTER BICYCLE TRAILS LODGE/CABINS **FOOD SERVICE HIKING TRAILS BOAT RENTAL** PET FRIENDLY SKIN/SCUBA **BOAT RAMP PICNICKING** SWIMMING CAMPING BOATING FISHING

STAT	Έ							
Anastasia 1,643 acres at St. Augustine Beach off SR A1A at 300 Anastasia Park Rd. Historic. Beachcombing, bird-watching, surfing, windsurfing; amphitheater, beach, playground.								
Blue Spring 2,643 acres 2 mi. w. of Orange City off US 17/92 on W. French Ave. Historic. Bird-watching, scuba diving, snorkeling; boat tours, canoe and kayak rental, river cruises.								
Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic 152 acres 3 mi. w. on CR 100, 3 mi. s.e. on CR 2001 (Old Kings Rd.) to 3501 S. Old Kings Rd. Historic. Canoeing, kayaking; canoe rental, interpretive center, museum, ruins.								
Caladesi Island 2,470 acres in the Gulf of Mexico w. of Dunedin. Accessible only by boat or ferry. Birdwatching, boat camping, kayaking; beach, marina, playground.								
Colt Creek 5,067 acres 4 mi. n. of US 98 on CR 471. Bird-watching, camping (primitive), canoeing, kayaking; horse trails.								
Crystal River Preserve 30,000 acres 2 mi. n. of Crystal River on US 19. Educational programs. Exhibits. Canoeing and kayaking, wildlife viewing; boat tour, interpretive trails.								
De Leon Springs 625 acres 1 mi. w. of De Leon Springs off US 17. Historic. Bird-watching, boat tours, scuba diving, snorkeling; canoe, kayak and paddleboat rentals.								



kayak rentals.

Recreation Areas Chart			10							S		ER	(O	
Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.	٦	KING	HIKING TRAILS	ភ្ន	RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	(5	ING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	CUBA	VISITOR CENTER	ODGE/CABINS	SERVICE
Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT F	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FR	BICYCL	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR	LODGE	FOOD 8
Egmont Key 400 acres at the mouth of Tampa Bay, s.w. of Fort DeSoto Beach. Accessible only by boat or ferry. Historic. Interpretive exhibits. Beachcombing, bird-watching, snorkeling, wildlife viewing; beach, lighthouse.														
Fanning Springs 198 acres on US 19/98 on the e. bank of the Suwannee River in Fanning Springs. Canoeing, kayaking, scuba diving, snorkeling; primitive camping.														
Faver-Dykes 1,465 acres 15 mi. s. of St. Augustine off US 1. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, wildlife viewing; playground.														
Fort Clinch 1,361 acres 2 mi. e. of Fernandina Beach on SR A1A/Atlantic Ave. on n. end of Amelia Island. Historic. Beachcombing, bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, surfing; beach, garden, guided tours, museum, playground.														
Fort Cooper 753 acres 2 mi. s. of Inverness off US 41. Historic. Bird-watching, boating (rental canoes; water level permitting), camping (primitive), wildlife viewing; recreation hall. Call ahead to confirm boating and swimming conditions; phone (352) 726-0315.														
Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area 133 acres .5 mi. s. of Flagler Beach at SR A1A/S. Ocean Shore Blvd. Beachcombing, bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, surfing; beach, bicycle, canoe and														



guided Segway tours.

Recreation Areas Chart Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.	DN .	KING	HIKING TRAILS	ŊĊ	RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	ឫ	IING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	CUBA	VISITOR CENTER	ODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FF	BICYCI	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITO	LODGE	FOOD
Highlands Hammock 9,251 acres 3.5 mi. w. of US 27 on CR 634. Scenic. Bird-watching; amphitheater, boardwalk, equestrian camping, guided tours, horse trails, museum, playground, rental bicycles and kayaks.														
Hillsborough River 3,383 acres 6 mi. s. of Zephyrhills off US 301. Canoeing, kayaking; bicycle and canoe rentals, guided tours, living-history program, playground, swimming pool (seasonal).														
Honeymoon Island 2,810 acres 3 mi. n. of Dunedin on SR 586, w. of US 19A. Beachcombing, birdwatching, canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling, surfing; beach, playground.														
Hontoon Island 1,654 acres 6 mi. w. of DeLand off SR 44. Camping (primitive, tent and boat); boat slip and canoe rentals, cabins (rustic); museum, playground.														
Ichetucknee Springs 2,356 acres off US 27 .5 mi. e. of Hildreth. Scenic. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, scuba diving (seasonal), snorkeling, tubing, wildlife viewing; boardwalk, playground.														
Lake Griffin 620 acres 1 mi. e. of Fruitland Park off US 27. Amphitheater, boat tours, canoe and kayak rental, playground.														
Lake Kissimmee 5,933 acres 8 mi. e. of Lake Wales via SR 60, 5 mi. n. on Boy Scout Rd., then 5 mi. e. on Camp Mack Rd. following signs. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking; equestrian camping, horse trails, livinghistory program, observation tower, playground,														



and canoe rentals, playground.

Shaded columns be services ar	Areas Chart low indicate available nd activities. s of places to camp	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	T RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
	m/campgrounds	CAN	PICI	HK	BOA	BOA	BOA	FISH	SWI	PET	BIC	SKII	VISI	ГОБ	FOC
Lake Louisa 4,407 acres Lake Nellie Rd. Canoeing, trian camping, horse trails	kayaking; cabins, eques-														
Lake Manatee 548 acres 64. Bird-watching, canoeir	15 mi. e. of Bradenton on SR ng, kayaking; playground.														
Little Manatee River 2,41 off US 301. Camping (prin noeing, kayaking; amphith playground.															
Little Talbot Island 1,766 sonville on SR A1A. Beac canoeing, kayaking, surfin tours, pier, playground.	hcombing, bird-watching,														
SR 320. Bird-watching, ca	cres 6 mi. w. of Chiefland on noeing, kayaking, scuba and kayak rental (seasonal),														
of Keystone Heights on SI (canoes and kayaks only; camping (primitive); bicycl	e and canoe rental, horse he availability of recreational														
Myakka River 37,000 acre SR 72. Bird-watching, can tram tours, bicycle rentals	oeing, kayaking; airboat and														
O'Leno 6,700 acres 6 mi. Historic. Bird-watching, ca															



beach, marina, museum, playground,

Red	creation Areas Chart			10							S		EB	(O	ш
Shaded	d columns below indicate available services and activities.	5 D	KING	HIKING TRAILS	ភ្ន	RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	G	ING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	CUBA	VISITOR CENTER	ODGE/CABINS	SERVICE
P	Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FR	BICYCL	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITO	LODGE	FOOD 8
41. Bird-wa	erer 1,383 acres 2 mi. s. of Osprey on US atching, canoeing, kayaking, inline skating, snorkeling; beach, guided tours, playground.														
Green at 8	eek Historic 400 acres .5 mi. e. of Bowling 88 Lake Branch Rd. Historic. Bird-watching, kayaking; guided walks, interpretive center, I.														
Micanopy of motors only	airie Preserve 21,000 acres 1 mi. n. of on US 441. Bird-watching, boating (electric y), canoeing, kayaking; equestrian camping, wildlife observation tower.														
Berlin to C 10 mi. e. to area. Bird- king, wildlif	dill Creek 4,000 acres 4 mi. n. on New edar Point Rd. via I-95 in Jacksonville, then to Pumpkin Hill Rd., and 1 mi. n. to parking watching, canoeing, horseback riding, kayafe viewing; canoe launch, horse trails, internibits, threatened and endangered wildlife.														
on US 41.	prings 1,083 acres 3 mi. n. of Dunnellon Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, snorkel; amphitheater, canoe and kayak rentals, aterfalls.														
of I-95 off ing, kayaki	ian River Preserve 22,705 acres 1.8 mi. e. SR 512 in Fellsmere. Bird-watching, canoeng, wildlife viewing; equestrian and primitive guided tours, horse trails.														
SR A1A. B	Inlet 917 acres 15 mi. n. of Vero Beach on Beachcombing, bird-watching, canoeing, scuba diving, snorkeling, stargazing, surfing;														



piers; guided tours, museum, playground.

Recreation Areas Chart Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities. Find thousands of places to camp	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	AT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR CENTER	ODGE/CABINS	OD SERVICE
at AAA.com/campgrounds	CAI	PIC	H	BO,	BO	BO,	FIS	SW	PE	BIC	SKI	VIS	LOI	FOOD
Suwannee River 1,928 acres 13 mi. w. of Live Oak of US 90. Historic. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking; playground.	n													
Tomoka 1,610 acres 3 mi. n. of Ormond Beach. Museum. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking; canoe rent als, playground.	-													
Washington Oaks Gardens 425 acres at 6400 Oceanshore Blvd. Interpretive center. Bird-watching; beach, garden, playground.														
Wekiwa Springs 7,725 acres off Wekiwa Springs Road at 1800 Wekiwa Cir. in Apopka. Bird-watching, equestrian camping, snorkeling; canoe and kayak rentals, horse trails, playground.														
Ol	HER													
Avon Park Air Force Range 106,000 acres off CR 6 at 29 S. Boulevard in Avon Park. Open ThursMon. Note: Photo ID is required. Bird-watching, hunting.	4													
Edward Medard Regional 1,284 acres off Turkey Creed Rd. at 6140 Edward Medard Pkwy. in Plant City. Bird-watching, disc golf, inline skating, volleybal beach, boardwalk, canoe and kayak rental, fishing pier, horse trails, observation tower, playground.	;													
E.G. Simmons Regional 258 acres on Tampa Bay, 1 mi. w. of US 41 at 2401 19th Ave. N.W. in Ruskin. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, volleyball; canoe and kayak rentals, fishing pier.														
Fort De Soto 1,136 acres off I-275 exit 17 to 3500 S. Pinellas Bayway. Historic. Beach, dog park, fishing piers: guided tours, museum, playground.														



Bird-watching; horse trails.

Recreation Areas Chart Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities. Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds	CAMPING	PICNICKING	HIKING TRAILS	BOATING	BOAT RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	FISHING	SWIMMING	PET FRIENDLY	BICYCLE TRAILS	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR CENTER	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
Gemini Springs 212 acres including along Mullet Lake at 37 Dirksen Dr. Camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, dog park.														
Ginnie Springs 200 acres 7 mi. w. of High Springs off CR 340 at N.E. 60th Ave. Canoeing, kayaking, river tubing, scuba diving, snorkeling, volleyball; canoes and kayak rentals, playground.														
Green Springs Park 31 acres at 994 Enterprise Osteen Rd. in Enterprise. Natural and paved trails, bike trails, overlooks, picnicking, playground.														
Kathryn Abbey Hanna 446 acres next to Mayport Naval Station off SR A1A in Jacksonville Beach. Ca- noeing, horseback riding, kayaking, shelling, surfing; beach, horse rentals, shuffleboard, splash park.														
Kelly Park and Rock Springs 245 acres 6 mi. n. of Apopka on SR 435. Canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling, tubing; playground, volleyball court.														
Lithia Springs Regional 160 acres 7.2 mi. s. of Brandon off Lithia Pinecrest Rd. at 3932 Lithia Springs Rd. Volleyball; canoe and kayak rental; playground.														
Maximo 70 acres in St. Petersburg at 34th St. and Pinellas Point Dr. S. Disc golf; beach, observation tower, playground.														
Poe Springs 202 acres 3 mi. w. of High Springs on CR 340 at 28800 N.W. 182nd Ave. Canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling; playground, soccer and softball fields, volleyball court.														
Rodman Reservoir 9,000 acres 10 mi. s.w. of Palatka off SR 19 access roads on the Ocklawaha River.														



Recreation Areas Chart	CAMPING		(0							LS		EB	S	ш	
Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.		NG	KING	TRAILS	JQ.	RAMP	RENTAL	G	BNI	IENDLY	E TRAI	CUBA	R CENT	:/CABINS	SERVICE
Find thousands of places to camp at AAA.com/campgrounds		PICNICKIN	HIKING	BOATING	BOAT	BOAT		SWIMMING	PET FRIEND	BICYCLE	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR	LODGE/	FOOD (
Upper Tampa Bay Regional 596 acres off SR 580 at 8001 Double Branch Rd. in Tampa. Boardwalk, canoe and kayak rental, fishing pier, nature center, playground.															
Weedon Island Preserve 3,190 acres 1 mi. e. of St. Petersburg on 83rd Ave. (Patica Rd.) off 4th St. N., then 1 mi. n.e. on San Martin Blvd., following signs to entrance on Weedon Dr. NE. Education center. Exhibits. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking; boardwalk, canoe and kayak rental and launches, guided tours, observation tower, paddling trails.															



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ALTAMONTE SPRINGS

- Hotels p. 29
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

This lively Orlando suburb abounds with opportunities for shopping and outdoor recreation. Altamonte Mall (451 E. Altamonte Dr.) has been a mainstay for some 40 years and features Barnes & Noble, Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's, Sears and more than 100 specialty stores. Adjectives Market (1200 E. Altamonte Dr.) holds a treasure trove of antique curiosities for every taste from Victorian to midcentury modern.

For outdoor fun, try Sanlando Park (401 W. Highland St.). With 25 lighted tennis courts, racquetball courts, basketball courts, a beach volleyball court, four wallyball courts, and a link to Seminole Wekiva Trail's 60 miles of trails, it's a sports lover's paradise; phone (407) 665-2100.

Red, Hot & Boom, a huge Independence Day celebration, is held every July 3 at Cranes Roost Park (274 Cranes Roost Blvd.). More than 100,000 revelers pack the park for music by live bands topped off with a spectacular fireworks display. The beautifully landscaped park includes a 1-mile path around a lake populated with ducks and turtles, as well as an amphitheater with stadium seating.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES ORLANDO NORTH/ALTAMONTE

BOOK NOW 407/331-0220





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 161 Douglas Ave 32714. Facility: 128 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry.



















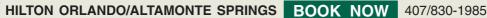
















AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 350 S Northlake Blvd 32701. Facility: 309 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, exercise room.

























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO ALTAMONTE

BOOK NOW SPRINGS/MAITLAND

321/316-3111



SUITES®-MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 151 Douglas Ave 32714. Facility: 117 efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.























AMELIA ISLAND

- Hotels p. 30 Restaurants p. 34
- Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93

Thirteen miles of Appalachian quartz beaches and towering sand dunes distinguish Amelia Island, a picturesque island off the northeast tip of Florida's Atlantic coast. Formerly a haven for smugglers in the mid-19th century, the island became the site of Florida's first cross-state railroad and, consequently, the state's first resort. The many Victorian buildings in Fernandina Beach, the island's only city (see place listing p. 81), remain a testament to the era.

Henry Flagler's Florida East Coast Railway soon lured tourists farther south in search of new playgrounds, locking the island in its Victorian atmosphere. With its bed and breakfast inns, quaint shops and galleries within walking distance of the Atlantic Ocean, Amelia Island encapsulates the charm of a Victorian seaport village. Visitors find relief from the modern world in the island's relaxed pace and such recreational pursuits as golf, swimming and horseback riding.

At the southern end of the island is American Beach. one of the country's last predominately African American beaches. The town of American Beach was founded in the 1930s, an era during which many beaches were closed to African Americans.

Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach/Yulee Chamber of Commerce: 961687 Gateway Blvd., Suite 101-G, Amelia Island, FL 32034. Phone: (904) 261-3248.

AMELIA RIVER CRUISES & CHARTERS departs from Fernandina Harbor Marina, 1 N. Front St. Historical narrative and sightings of wildlife are highlights of cruises along the Amelia River and Cumberland Sound. The 2-hour Cumberland Island Tour features views of Cumberland Island National Seashore. The 90-minute Beach Creek Tour offers views of saltwater marshes and the ruins of Carnegie's Dungeness Mansion. An Adult Twilight BYOB Cruise, a Shrimping Eco Tour and a Family-Friendly Sunset Tour also are available seasonally.

Food and beverages are allowed on all cruises. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (904) 261-9972.

GT 🕌

AMELIA HOTEL AT THE BEACH

BOOK NOW

904/206-5200

APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 1997 S Fletcher Ave 32034.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT AMELIA ISLAND BOOK NOW 904/261-1919



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2700 Atlantic Ave 32034.



ELIZABETH POINTE LODGE BOOK NOW 904/277-4851



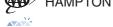
Boutique Bed & Breakfast. Address: 98 S Fletcher Ave 32034. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The Nantucket-style home features a wrap-around porch, a cozy fireplace and nautical-themed décor. Each room features a unique style. The evening wine reception and beachfront location are highlights. 25 units, some cottages. 2-4 stories, interior/ exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Activities: beach on-site. Guest Services: valet laundry. CAVE /SOME |







Historic Bed & Breakfast. Address: 227 S 7th St 32034.



HAMPTON INN AMELIA ISLAND AT FERNANDINA BEACH BOOK NOW 904/321-1111



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2549 Sadler Rd 32034.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES-AMELIA ISLAND HISTORIC HARBOR

NOW 904/491-4911 FRONT



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 19 S 2nd St 32034.

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON FERNANDINA BEACH AMELIA **ISLAND BOOK NOW** 904/679-6777



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2246 Sadler Rd 32034.



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.



OMNI AMELIA ISLAND RESORT BOOK NOW 904/261-6161



Resort Hotel. Address: 39 Beach Lagoon Rd 32034. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Secluded, wooded grounds envelop the expansive waterfront property with restaurants, shops and a spa. Every room has an ocean view and private balcony. The resort amenities are seemingly endless. 402 units, some kitchens. 8 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 9 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, par 3 golf, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: area transportation. (See ad p. 33.)































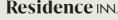






RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-AMELIA ISLAND BOOK NOW 904/277-2440





Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 2301 Sadler Rd 32034. Facility: 133 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.

































THE RITZ-CARLTON, AMELIA ISLAND BOOK NOW 904/277-1100







AAA Benefit: Special member savings plus Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

THE RITZ CARLTON

Oceanfront. Facility: Wispy oaks, tropical surroundings and Southern elegance define the setting at this island gem. Room balconies overlook a pristine coast of white sand and manicured gardens. 446 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, also, Salt, see separate listing, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





















Resort Hotel. Address: 4750 Amelia Island Pkwy 32034. Location:















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SEASIDE AMELIA INN BOOK NOW 904/206-5300

APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN Boutique Hotel. Address: 2900 Atlantic Ave 32034.

SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT AMELIA ISLAND BOOK NOW 904/491-1221



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2700-2 Atlantic Ave 32034.

WHERE TO EAT

SALT 904/277-1100



American Fine Dining. Expert Advice: Beautiful ocean views are easily captured through the many windows in the stylish restaurant that offers a relaxed ambience with elegant appeal. The culinary team focuses on creative, savory cuisine which includes artfully presented dishes based on seasonally available ingredients. The beverage selection is extensive and reasonably priced with over 300 wines. A seafood centric tasting menu is available. Features: full bar. Reservations: required. Address: 4750 Amelia Island Pkwy 32034. Parking: valet only.

APOPKA

- Hotels p. 35
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Like many settlements in central Florida, Apopka's growth can be traced to the emergence of the citrus industry; development stalled, however, after citrus groves were all but destroyed by a series of devastating freezes in the late 1800s. The Museum of the Apopkans, 122 E. 5th St., chronicles historical events and the lives of early settlers through a variety of exhibit topics; phone (407) 703-1707.

KELLY PARK AND ROCK SPRINGS are 6 mi. n. on SR 435 to 400 E. Kelly Park Rd. Rock Springs, a half-mile east of the park entrance, discharges 26,000 gallons of clear, 68-degree Fahrenheit water per minute into a spring that is popular for tubing and swimming; farther down the run, the temperature warms up to approximately 72 degrees Fahrenheit. Shelters, bathhouses, tube rentals (outside park), and hiking trails are available. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Note: Due to high-volume visitation in summer months. the park may fill to capacity early in the day. Visitors are not admitted after capacity is reached. Phone: (407) 254-1902 or (407) 836-6200. 🔊 🔀

WEKIWA SPRINGS STATE PARK is off Wekiwa Springs Road at 1800 Wekiwa Cir. The main spring of this 7,725acre park sends more than 42 million gallons of water daily into the Wekiva River. Swimming is permitted in the main spring pool which maintains a constant temperature between 68 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

Canoe, kayak and paddleboat rentals are available. Other features include 13 miles of trails for hiking and biking, camping facilities, picnic pavilions, a horseshoe pit, a playground, a volleyball court and a nature center with exhibits. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (407) 884-2009 or (850) 245-2157.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES ORLANDO-APOPKA BOOK NOW 407/880-7861

INSPECTED @ CLEAN®

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 321 Lake Cortez 32703.

HILTON GARDEN INN APOPKA CITY CENTER BOOK NOW 407/703-4493

HREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN® AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 580 E Main St 32703.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORLANDO-APOPKA **BOOK NOW** 407/880-7868

Hotel. Address: 238 S Line Dr 32703.

ATLANTIC BEACH

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotels p. 35
 Restaurants p. 36

Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93

BEST WESTERN MAYPORT INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 904/435-3500



Hotel. Address: 2389 Mayport Rd 32233. Facility: 60 units. 2 stories, interior corridors.

Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





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ONE OCEAN RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 904/249-7402



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: One Ocean Blvd 32233. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Elegant rooms provide a pleasant stay with a luxurious vibe that includes robes for some pampering. During downtime head out to the pool area for some relaxation. On-site meeting space is available. 193 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: Azurea, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























WHERE TO EAT



AZUREA 904/249-7402



International Fine Dining. Address: One Ocean Blvd 32233.

AUBURNDALE

Hotels p. 36



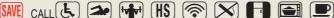
BEST WESTERN AUBURNDALE INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 863/551-3400



APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN























BRADENTON

• Hotels p. 37

The scenic Manatee River and proximity to Gulf beaches attract visitors to Bradenton (BRAY-den-ton), on Florida's west coast. The Bradenton Riverwalk connects to a number of attractions and amenities, including a marina, splash park and amphitheater. The nearby ArtCenter Manatee, 209 Ninth St. W., displays works of local artists.

Classes, demonstrations and workshops are offered yearround; phone (941) 746-2862.

Pirate City, 1701 27th St. E., is the Pittsburgh Pirates' minor league and spring training facility. The major league team trains here in February, while the Pirates' minorleaguers play here March through May. The Gulf Coast League plays here June through August, and the Florida Instructional League plays September through October. Visitors can watch the Pirates prepare for the regular



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

season as they battle other major league teams in March at LECOM Park (formerly McKechnie Field), 1611 9th St. W. Phone (941) 747-3031.

From January to late April the world-renowned Herrmann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions from Austria are trained at Colonel Herrmanns' Ranch, 32755 Singletary Rd., in nearby Myakka City. Visitors are welcome Thursday through Saturday at the training sessions; phone (941) 322-1501.

Bradenton Area Convention & Visitors Bureau: One Haben Blvd., Palmetto, FL 34221. Phone: (941) 729-9177.

Shopping: This waterfront destination offers a variety of shopping experiences. In addition to traditional stores and markets, Bradenton features a thriving arts community.

Art and décor are what to buy at the Village of the Arts (1017 12th Ave. W.)—one of the largest live-work districts for artists in the area. Merchants run everything from galleries to shops with classes, souvenirs and wellness services. Phone (941) 747-8056.

One of the best places to go is dog-friendly Bradenton Farmers Market, open 9-2 each Saturday, October through May. In addition to vendors, there are live performances and chef-led cooking demonstrations at this tree-lined area on Old Main Street, which connects to the 1.5-mile Bradenton Riverwalk and features local restaurants and plenty of fun things to do. Every third Saturday is Mainly Art, an event with local art, crafts and live music; it's held perpendicular to the farmers market on Fourth Avenue West. For more information, phone Realize Bradenton at (941) 621-6471.

Open since 1981, the Red Barn Flea Market (1707 First Street E.) features a 145,000-square-foot indoor flea market, open-air farmers market and food court with plenty of places to eat on the cheap. There are 600 stalls containing everything from antiques to fresh produce and goods like local hot sauce. Phone (941) 747-2595.

Less than 8 miles away in Ellenton (see place listing p. 81), the Ellenton Prime Outlets (5461 Factory Shops Blvd., accessible from I-75) is where to shop for deals from major brands. Among the 130 shops are Nike Factory Stores and Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th. Phone the shopping center at (941) 723-1150.

DE SOTO NATIONAL MEMORIAL—see place listing p. 77.

THE BISHOP MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND NATURE, 201 10th St. W., is said to be the largest natural and cultural history museum on Florida's Gulf Coast. The museum interprets the region from the Pleistocene to the present.

The first floor features the Montague Tallant collection, fossil evidence of Florida's earliest animal inhabitants and archaeological material representing Paleo-Indian, archaic and pre-contact cultures. Exhibitions on the second floor feature local maritime history and regional biodiversity.

The Planetarium at The Bishop uses advanced digital projection systems to present astronomy programs in a dome theater. The Parker Manatee Rehabilitation Habitat, part of Florida's manatee rehabilitation network, is home to manatees under rehabilitation. Time: Allow 1 hour. 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (941) 746-4131.

FAMILY HERITAGE HOUSE MUSEUM, 5840 26th St. W. on the State College of Florida Bradenton campus, features exhibits tracing the African American experience and has a large collection of reference material, including photographs, books, articles, artifacts and memorabilia. Topics of interest include the Underground Railroad and Florida communities. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (941) 752-5319.

BEST WESTERN PLUS BRADENTON HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 941/757-5555



Hotel. Address: 648 67th St Cir E 34208. Facility: 60 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























COMPASS BY MARGARITAVILLE, ANNA MARIA SOUND

BOOK NOW 941/741-9700



Boutique Hotel. Address: 12324 Manatee Ave W 34209. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Located directly on the water, this hotel offers a variety of room types decorated in a modern, coastal style. All rooms feature plush bedding, while deluxe rooms & suites have balconies with a view. 123 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

























COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON-BRADENTON/LAKEWOOD

BOOK NOW 941/363-4000





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5610 Manor Hill Ln 34203. Facility: 79 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: coin laundry.

























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT BRADENTON/SARASOTA

RIVERFRONT

BOOK NOW

941/747-3727



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 100 Riverfront Dr W 34205.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT SARASOTA-UNIVERSITY PARK

BOOK NOW 941/360-2626



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 8305 Tourist Center Dr 34201.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES BRADENTON DOWNTOWN HISTORIC

BOOK NOW 941/746-9400



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Historic Hotel. Address: 309 10th St W 34205.





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HAMPTON INN & SUITES SARASOTA-UNIVERSITY PARK

BOOK NOW 941/355-8619



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 8565 Cooper Creek Blvd 34201.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES BRADENTON WEST

BOOK NOW

941/795-4633

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 4450 47th St W 34210.

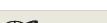


HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS INN & SUITES BRADENTON EAST-LAKEWOOD

BOOK NOW 941/755-0055



Hotel. Address: 5464 Lena Rd 34211.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON LAKEWOOD RANCH BOOK NOW 941/355-0200





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6015 Exchange Way 34202. Facility: 108 efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: some shared. Pool:

heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























HYATT PLACE SARASOTA/LAKEWOOD RANCH

BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 6021 Exchange Way 34202. Facility: 122 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT BRADENTON

DOWNTOWN/RIVERFRONT **BOOK NOW** 941/226-2200



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 102 12th St W 34205.

BRANDON

- Hotels p. 41
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS TAMPA BRANDON **BOOK NOW** 813/643-3800

Hotel. Address: 510 Grand Regency Blvd 33510.

BROOKSVILLE

HREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

• Hotels p. 41

Scenic riverbanks, brackish creeks, cypress ponds, hardwood hammocks and shallow bays accent the rolling terrain surrounding Brooksville. The founding of Brooksville predates the Civil War, and many of its residential streets are lined with Victorian antebellum homes. Murals on downtown buildings depict historic events.

Winding through Lake Townsen Regional Park, 28011 Lake Lindsey Rd., and the nearby countryside are miles of hiking, biking and horseback riding trails, including those of nearby Withlacoochee State Forest; phone (352) 754-4031.

Florida's Adventure Coast Visitor & Information Center: 31085 Cortez Blvd., Brooksville, FL 34602. Phone: (352) 754-4405 or (800) 601-4580.

Self-guiding tours: Brochures for a self-guiding walking or driving tour of the historic district are available from the visitor & information center.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT BROOKSVILLE SUNCOAST

PKWY. **BOOK NOW** 352/306-3150



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 14082 Cortez Blvd 34613.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES BROOKSVILLE WEST BOOK NOW 352/597-4540

Hotel. Address: 14112 Cortez Blvd 34613.

BUSHNELL

Rural Bushnell, where the Withlacoochee River flows through a cypress swamp as a small stream, features small lakes once fished by Native Americans and Spanish explorers. Most are still popular with anglers today, as is Lake Panasoffkee, to the north. Withlacoochee State Forest, which covers 113,000 acres in three units, is west of town; phone (352) 754-6896.

Florida National Veterans Cemetery, off I-75 exit 309 off SR 476B at 6502 S.W. 102nd Ave., is among America's largest; phone (352) 793-7740. On SR 471 in nearby Webster shoppers enjoy Monday events at the Sumter County Farmers Market, one of the largest flea markets in the country and oldest in Florida; phone (352) 793-2021.

DADE BATTLEFIELD HISTORIC STATE PARK, off 1-75 exit 314, e. on CR 48, 1.5 mi. s. on US 301, then 1 mi. w. to 7200 CR 603, commemorates the massacre of Maj. Francis L. Dade and his troops, who were ambushed by Seminole Indians the morning of Dec. 28, 1835; the incident helped spark the Second Seminole War. Highlights include reproductions of the log barricade used in the battle and monuments honoring Dade and his men. A visitor center has exhibits and artifacts, and an interpretive trail marks the military road and battlefield. Some of the site has been returned to the natural habitat that would have existed in the 19th century.

Events and children's activities are available; phone for schedule. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 793-4781 or (850) 245-2157.

CANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE

Canaveral National Seashore lies north of the Kennedy Space Center (see place listing p. 113). This 57,000-acre unit of the National Park Service encompasses 24 miles of unspoiled barrier beaches, shallow lagoons and dunes. Alligators, turtles, manatees and a variety of birds are among the abundant wildlife.

Swimming, boating, surf fishing and ranger-led activities can be enjoyed at Playalinda Beach at the southern tip of the seashore and at Apollo Beach at the area's northern end. The Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge adjoins the national seashore. The Apollo Visitor Center at 7611 S. Atlantic Ave. in New Smyrna Beach is open daily 9-5; phone (386) 428-3384.

The seashore is open daily 6 a.m.-8 p.m., late Apr.-late Oct.; 6-6, rest of year. Admission \$20 (per private vehicle); \$15 (per motorcycle); \$10 (per person arriving on foot or by bicycle). An annual pass is \$40. For further information, phone (321) 267-1110. For a recorded rocket launch schedule, phone (321) 867-4636. See Recreation Areas Chart.

CAPE CANAVERAL

• Hotels p. 42

EXPLORATION TOWER AT PORT CANAVERAL is at 670 Dave Nisbet Dr. The modern, white Exploration Tower at Port Canaveral towers over the port and features interactive maritime and historical exhibits, displays about the space program and an observation tower on the seventh floor with a grand view of the port and surrounding area; you can watch cruise ships go out to sea. Phone: (321) 394-3408 or (321) 394-3405.



COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON-PORT CANAVERAL

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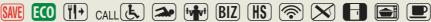
Hotel. Address: 9009 Astronaut Blvd 32920. Facility: 150 units, some two bedrooms. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























HAMPTON INN & SUITES CAPE CANAVERAL CRUISE PORT BOOK NOW



Hampton)

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Hotel, Address: 9004 Astronaut Blvd 32920. Facility: 116 units. 6 stories. interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise

room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























HOLIDAY INN CLUB VACATIONS CAPE CANAVERAL BEACH

RESORT

BOOK NOW 321/799-4900



Resort Hotel. Address: 1000 Shorewood Dr 32920.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON CAPE CANAVERAL CRUISE PORT BOOK NOW

321/784-0025



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Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 9004 Astronaut Blvd 32920. Facility: 108 efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























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HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON CAPE CANAVERAL-COCOA

BEACH

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BY HILTON

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Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 9000 Astronaut Blvd 32920. Facility: 153 efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CAPE CANAVERAL COCOA

BEACH

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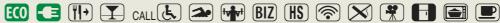
Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 8959 Astronaut Blvd 32920. Facility: 150 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT CAPE CANAVERAL COCOA

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MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 655 W Central Blvd 32920. Facility: 151 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT CAPE CANAVERAL COCOA

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SUITES®-MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 605 W Central Blvd 32920. Facility: 158 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 6 stories,

interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































CEDAR KEY

Due to its location among a group of small barrier islands off the Gulf Coast of Florida, Cedar Key was a strategic point from which blockade runners exported cotton and lumber and imported food and supplies for the Confederacy during the Civil War. Following the war, lumbering and then fishing and shipbuilding formed the town's economic base. An 1896 hurricane leveled the original town.

Now sustained by tourism and the seafood industry, which includes clam farming, oystering, fishing and crabbing, Cedar Key is home to many artists. Its surrounding area is popular with bird-watchers.

Cedar Key Area Chamber of Commerce: 450 Second St., Cedar Key, FL 32625. Phone: (352) 543-5600.

Self-quiding tours: The Cedar Key Historical Society Museum offers brochures with tours of the historic district.

CELEBRATION

- Hotels p. 46
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Celebration is an upscale master-planned community conceptualized and built by the Disney Company, which began construction on the development in 1996. Reminiscent of New England, this small, well-manicured town is about 10 miles from the Walt Disney World® Resort and comes complete with parks, a community pool, a golf course and playgrounds. Within a 5-minute walk of most residents, downtown's Town Center is home to delightful mom-and-pop shops and restaurants. The palm-tree lined Celebration Boulevard features a movie theater, a high school and businesses housed inside Art Deco-style buildings, many designed by famous architects, including a post office designed by Michael Graves.

In keeping with its family-oriented atmosphere, Celebration goes all out when it comes to celebrating annual events, which include car shows throughout the year, late April's Great American Pie Festival and Art & Wine Stroll, A Sci-Fi 4th of July, Oktoberfest in mid-October, the World Food Championships in early November and, from late November though late December, Now Snowing, a Christmas event where simulated snow drifts from the sky.

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SAVE [fyi] Boutique Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 700 Bloom St 34747. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Located in a small community next to a peaceful lake, the hotel has a West Indies aura blended with a soft tropical theme. Rooms feature calming décor and upscale furnishings; some have lake views. 115 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, trails, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Autograph Collection Hotels.



MELIÁ ORLANDO CELEBRATION BOOK NOW 407/964-7000



Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 225 Celebration Pl 34747. Facility: 284 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 47.)



































CHAMPIONSGATE

- Hotels p. 46
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

OMNI ORLANDO RESORT AT CHAMPIONSGATE BOOK NOW 407/390-6664



Resort Hotel. Address: 1500 Masters Blvd 33896. Facility: The traditional guest rooms have an elegant appeal and feature comfortable easy chairs. Many rooms have great views of the scenic grounds. The luxurious villas create a perfect, full-amenity getaway. 900 units. 16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 8 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, par 3 golf, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, playground, game room, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 48.)













































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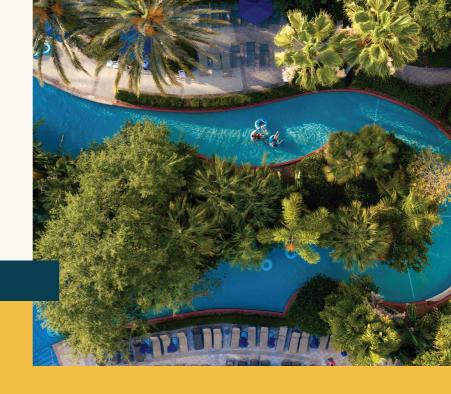


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CHRISTMAS

• Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Every yuletide the town of Christmas receives thousands of pieces of mail, which are stamped with the Christmas postmark and sent on their way. Three miles south on Taylor Creek Road is the headquarters of the Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area. The area's 30,701 acres of woodlands and wetlands along the St. Johns River offer hiking, bicycling and horseback riding trails, fishing, nature study and primitive camping; phone (407) 568-5893.

AIRBOAT RIDES AT MIDWAY is at 28501 E. Colonial Dr. (SR 50). Airboat rides on the St. Johns River provide views of native wildlife and marsh swamp vegetation. Sightings might include alligators, otters, eagles and a variety of bird species. Elevated seating and voice-activated headsets enhance the experience. Reptile and exotic bird exhibits are on the premises. **Phone:** (407) 568-6790.

FORT CHRISTMAS HISTORICAL PARK is 2 mi. n. of SR 50 on CR 420 (Fort Christmas Rd.). The park contains ten restored pioneer houses and a replica of a fort begun Dec. 25, 1837, during the Second Seminole Indian War. Two blockhouses contain exhibits about the Seminole Indian Wars and area pioneers. Phone: (407) 254-9312.

CLEARWATER

- Hotels p. 50
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

A resort city and popular retirement community on the Pinellas Peninsula, Clearwater overlooks the Gulf of Mexico.

Broadway and comedy shows, orchestral and jazz pop performances, ballet, opera and children's theater are staged throughout the year at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Richard B. Baumgardner Center for the Performing Arts, 1111 McMullen Booth Rd.; phone (727) 791-7400.

Aficionados of performing arts won't want to miss the Clearwater Jazz Holiday. The 4-day festival, held the third weekend in October at downtown Coachman Park, features performers of national and international acclaim; phone (727) 461-5200.

The Philadelphia Phillies hold spring training and play exhibition games from late February to late March at

Bright House Field; their Class A affiliates, the Clearwater Threshers, train at Bright House Field and play April through August; phone (727) 467-4457.

Clearwater and the beach communities have two trolley systems for visitors. Operated by PSTA, Suncoast Beach Trolley travels Gulf Boulevard north to Clearwater's Sand Key and south to St. Pete Beach Mon.-Thurs. and Sun.; phone (727) 540-1900. The Jolley Trolley covers Clearwater and Clearwater Beach, and includes Dunedin, Palm Harbor and Tarpon Springs on weekends; phone (727) 445-1900.

Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce: 600 Cleveland St., Suite 200, Clearwater, FL 33755. Phone: (727) 461-0011.

Visit St. Petersburg/Clearwater: 8200 Bryan Dairy Rd. #200, Seminole, FL 33777. **Phone:** (727) 464-7200 or (877) 352-3224.

Shopping: The Westfield Countryside Mall, 27001 US 19 N., lures adolescent mall rats with an ice-skating rink and such stores as American Eagle Outfitters, Buckle, Forever 21 and Hot Topic, while anchors Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's and Sears accommodate visiting fashionistas.

Serious bargain hunters navigate a trinkets-, crafts- and furniture-crammed maze at the 49er Flea Market, 10525 49th St. N. This collector's paradise features indoor vendors on weekends, but it's best to shop 'til you drop on Sundays, when outdoor booths augment the usual stockpile of secondhand treasures.

CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM, 249 Windward Passage, is a rescue, rehabilitation and release facility specializing in dolphins, otters and sea turtles. Marine exhibits, a theater, underwater viewing tanks, daily ecocruises and animal care presentations are offered. The facility is home to Winter, a tailless dolphin able to swim freely with the help of a prosthetic tail. Winter's Dolphin Tale Adventure, 300 Cleveland St., features scenes and props used in "Dolphin Tale," a movie starring Winter. A behind-the-scenes tour focuses on efforts to rescue, rehabilitate and release marine animals. A complimentary shuttle provides transportation between the two facilities in spring and summer; phone ahead to confirm schedule.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (727) 441-1790. **GT**

CLEARWATER SEGWAY TOURS, 630 S. Gulfview Blvd., near Captain Bligh's Mini Golf, offers 2-hour narrated sightseeing tours from beachside to the Clearwater Memorial Causeway and downtown on two-wheeled Segway transportation devices. **Phone:** (727) 314-8224. GT



COMFORT SUITES CLEARWATER BAY BOOK NOW 727/489-5000







AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1941 Edgewater Dr 33755. Facility: 50 units, some two bedrooms. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ST. PETERSBURG CLEARWATER

BOOK NOW 727/572-8484

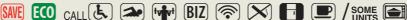


COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3131 Executive Dr 33762. Facility: 149 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























BAYSIDE

BOOK NOW 727/724-6223



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3070 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd 33759.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ST.

PETERSBURG/CLEARWATER

BOOK NOW 727/572-4400



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3211 Executive Dr 33762.





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THE HIATUS CLEARWATER BEACH, CURIO COLLECTION BY

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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 385 S Gulfview Blvd 33767. Facility: After a day at the beach guests will love relaxing at the rooftop pool where food and drinks are offered. Some rooms feature balconies with great ocean views of the gulf. 88 units, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

















THE KAROL HOTEL, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO HOTEL BOOK NOW



TRIBUTE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott P O R T F O L I O Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2675 Ulmerton Rd 33762. Facility: The luxury, boutique-style hotel features upscale, spacious rooms with inviting decor, a large, well-equipped fitness center and a small pool area overlooking a body of water. 123 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry. SAVE























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 727/562-5400



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 940 Court St 33756.



SONESTA SIMPLY SUITES CLEARWATER BOOK NOW

727/573-3344



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 13231 49th St N 33762. Facility: 104 units, some efficiencies. 3 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.



























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA CLEARWATER

BOOK NOW 727/712-3100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 21090 US 19 Hwy 33765.

CLEARWATER BEACH

- Hotels p. 53
 Restaurants p. 58
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Clearwater Beach is connected with the mainland by the Clearwater Memorial Causeway, a landscaped, 2-mile drive. The broad, white-sand beach attracts both residents and visitors. Beach Walk, a winding, half-mile-long brick pedestrian promenade paralleling South Gulfview Boulevard in the area of Pier 60, provides beachgoers with unobstructed views. Cabanas and beach umbrella rentals provide shade depending on the weather.

The Clearwater Marina harbors a large sport-fishing fleet of deep-sea charter boats and a variety of sightseeing cruise boats. The Tropics Boat Tours' Dolphin Exploration Tour offers an opportunity to view dolphins and feed seabirds on a 2-hour excursion (dolphin sighting is guaranteed or next trip is free); for schedule and fare information, phone (727) 442-7433.

Nightlife

While enjoying an early evening stroll on the Beach Walk, you're apt to find yourself immersed in the goings-on of Sunsets at Pier 60. Snap a few shots of the resplendent coast at sundown while conversing with local artisans along the beach umbrella-festooned walkway. You'll also encounter bold street entertainers posing for photos with gaggles of giggling teenyboppers, as well as solo perfomers, break-dancers and a juggling firebreather. Two playgrounds and a variety of carnival-style amusements edge the bustling pier, with young children sliding, bouncing and swinging into the night. The daily event begins 2 hours before dusk and ends 2 hours after dusk (weather permitting).

For dinner and drinks, head to Frenchy's Rockaway Grill, about .5 miles north of Pier 60 at 7 Rockaway St. This beachfront oasis is popular with locals and visitors, so arrive early to snag a table overlooking the Gulf of Mexico; phone (727) 446-4844. Next door at the Palm Pavilion Beachside Grill & Bar, operating since 1926, patrons relish seafood, steak and tropical drinks, cheer televised touchdowns and home runs and enjoy live music outside on the wraparound deck; phone (727) 446-2642.

Shephard's Beach Resort, 601-619 S. Gulfview Blvd., (727) 442-5107, offers two bass-thumping party spots for sand and surf lovers. Although uninhibited spring breakers certainly stir up the scene, live reggae and rock bands harmonizing with the stunning surroundings make this seaside retreat appealing year-round. Wade through a sea of bikinis and boardshorts at the Tiki Beach Bar & Grill, which stays packed with piña colada-sipping locals and visiting undergrads from mid-afternoon to after dark. Well-groomed twentysomethings let loose Friday through Sunday evenings at The Wave, a two-story nightclub swathed in chrome and metallic hues.

CALYPSO QUEEN CRUISES departs from Clearwater Marina at 25 Causeway Blvd. The captain gives a historical narration during 1.5-hour afternoon and 2.5-hour evening sightseeing cruises along Clearwater Harbor and the Intracoastal Waterway. The open top deck provides opportunities for viewing seabirds and marine life. A buffet meal is available.

Note: Passengers must get a parking permit at the cruises' kiosk to get the \$6 parking rate, which allows passengers to park 11-6 or 5 p.m.-1 a.m. **Phone:** (727) 461-3113. **GT TI**

SEA SCREAMER departs from slip 15 at Clearwater Marina. Narrated, 1-hour speedboat rides begin with a slow cruise out of Clearwater Harbor. The boat accelerates as it enters the Gulf of Mexico, providing an exhilarating trip accompanied by dolphins. **Time:** Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (727) 447-7200, or (888) 238-9020 for reservations. GT



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/441-4443





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 395 Coronado Dr 33767. Facility: 144 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.























CLEARWATER BEACH MARRIOTT RESORT ON SAND KEY

BOOK NOW

727/596-1100





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 1201 Gulf Blvd 33767. Location: Oceanfront. MARRIOTT Facility: Set right on the waterway, the property offers rooms with stunning views. Each has a living room and a wet bar. A blue-and-gold macaw

named Lisa greets guests in the the lobby. 220 units. 10 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



THREE DIAMOND





























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH MARINA BOOK NOW

727/442-4770



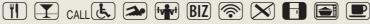


Hotel. Address: 455 E Shore Dr 33767. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 139 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/298-2600





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 650 Bay Esplanade 33767.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/451-1111





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 635 S Gulfview Blvd 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 91 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee).

Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















HILTON CLEARWATER BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW

727/461-3222





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 400 Mandalay Ave 33767. **Location:** Oceanfront. Facility: Nestled along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico; the hotel's public areas boast a South Beach-like décor. Most rooms have a private balcony

with either Gulf or city views. 418 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

































HYATT REGENCY CLEARWATER BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 727/373-1234







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel, Address: 301 S Gulfview Blvd 33767, Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The upscale property is located just across the street from the Gulf of Mexico, and the rooftop pool deck is a popular spot that offers great views of the beach and gorgeous sunsets. 287 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



JW MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW

727/677-6000



JW MARRIOTT

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 691 S Gulfview Blvd 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Relax on the cozy beach, enjoy an oceanside yoga class or treat yourself at their Peruvian inspired restaurant. Guests will surely enjoy the live music featured on the weekends. 193 units, some two and three bedrooms. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, bicycles, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 56.)































OPAL SANDS RESORT BOOK NOW 727/450-0380

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 430 S Gulfview Blvd 33767.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/218-1088



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 309-1 Coronado Dr 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 140 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



THREE DIAMOND **INSPECTED** CLEAN















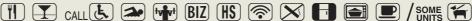














SANDPEARL RESORT BOOK NOW 727/441-2425

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Hotel. Address: 500 Mandalay Ave 33767.

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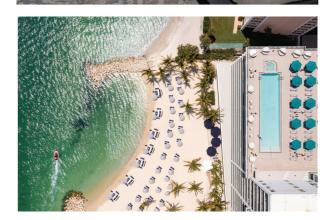




THE ELEVATED Beachfront Hideaway

Situated at the south point of one of American's top-rated beaches, JW Clearwater Beach is the perfect space to clear your head and find adventure. Explore the gulf coast with endless water-based activities or a beach-front fitness class. Drop by our JW Kid's Club to let your little ones grow and learn. There's a world of fun and luxury in this natural playground.

BOOK NOW



SHEPHARD'S BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 727/442-5107



Hotel, Address: 619 S Gulfview Blvd 33767, Location: Oceanfront, Facility: 140 units. some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 2-6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: nightclub, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































SHERATON SAND KEY RESORT BOOK NOW 727/595-1611



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Resort Hotel. Address: 1160 Gulf Blvd 33767.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/218-1090



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 309-2 Coronado Dr 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 115 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room, Guest Services; valet and coin laundry.































THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

WINTER THE DOLPHIN'S BEACH CLUB, AN ASCEND HOTEL

COLLECTION

BOOK NOW 727/442-7171



AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 655 S Gulfview Blvd 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 91 units. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: beach on-site. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























WYNDHAM GRAND CLEARWATER BEACH BOOK NOW 727/281-9500



Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 100 Coronado Dr 33767. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The modern hotel, pool with a cascading water feature, and fantastic views of the Gulf of Mexico create a memorable experience. Rooms have a upscale vibe, and the on-site restaurant is a plus. 343 units, some three bedrooms and kitchens. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, also, Ocean Hai, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry. (See ad p. 59.)

































WHERE TO EAT



CARETTA ON THE GULF 727/441-2425



Continental Fine Dining. Address: 500 Mandalay Ave 33767.



OCEAN HAI 727/281-9500



Asian Fusion Fine Dining. Address: 100 Coronado Dr 33767.



SEA-GUINI

727/450-6236



Italian Fine Dining. **Address:** 430 S Gulfview Blvd 33767.

CLERMONT

- Hotels p. 60
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Clermont founder A.F. Wrotnoski named this town of wide, shady streets and rolling hills after his French birthplace. Lake Louisa State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), 7 miles southeast of Clermont on Lake Nellie Road, is one of 13 in a chain of lakes connected by the Palatlakaha River.

South Lake Chamber of Commerce: 620 W. Montrose St., Clermont, FL 34711. **Phone:** (352) 394-4191.

PRESIDENTS HALL OF FAME, just n. of SR 50 at 123 US 27N, features changing exhibits of memorabilia related to U.S. presidents and their first ladies. Among displays are campaign and inaugural artifacts, first ladies' evening gowns, replicas of china place settings and miniature re-creations of White House rooms. Video presentations include a tour of the White House and presidential biographies.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (352) 394-2836. **GT**



100 Coronado Drive. Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

(727) 281-9500

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FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT-CLERMONT BOOK NOW 352/394-6585



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1750 Hunt Trace Blvd 34711.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES CLERMONT BOOK NOW 352/536-6600



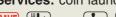
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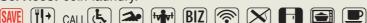
SAVE Hotel. Address: 2200 E SR 50 34711.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CLERMONT SE - WEST ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/239-8315



Hotel. Address: 105 Summer Bay Blvd 34714. Facility: 155 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: tennis, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

















INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON, CLERMONT, FL BOOK NOW 352/227-2900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[SAVE] Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1450 Champions Way 34711.

SUMMER BAY ORLANDO BY EXPLORIA RESORTS BOOK NOW 352/242-1100

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 17805 US Hwy 192 34714.

COCOA

• Hotels p. 61

Cocoa's first families arrived at this site along the Indian River in 1860, and the town was platted beginning in 1882. Although there are differing accounts of the name's origin, records show that Cocoa was selected in the 1880s when the town's original name, Indian River City, was deemed by postal authorities to be too long for a postmark.

Throughout its early history, Cocoa experienced periodic growth spurts interrupted by such reversals as a catastrophic fire, a freeze that damaged the area's citrus crops and the Great Depression. The town's prospects improved considerably in the latter half of the 20th century thanks to its proximity to the Kennedy Space Center (see place listing p. 113).

Cocoa also offers fun things to do. Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse, circa 1924, first featured silent movies before the transition to "talkies." Currently, the theater hosts musicals— honing its "Broadway on Brevard" distinction— as well as educational programming, at 300 Brevard Ave., in downtown Cocoa Village; phone (321) 636-5050.

The Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science, 2201 Michigan Ave., offers local history exhibits as well as a hands-on display of Ice Age mammals and fossils; phone (321) 632-1830. The museum's grounds include a 22-acre nature preserve with trails.

Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce—Cocoa: 400 Fortenberry Rd., Merritt Island, FL 32952. Phone: (321) 459-2200.

MOL MOL

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES COCOA

Hotel. Address: 301 Tucker Ln 32926.

BOOK NOW

321/635-9975

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED

CLEAN®

COCOA BEACH

• Hotels p. 62

Long a popular spot with locals, Cocoa Beach also is known for its location at the heart of the Space Coast. Cocoa Beach Pier extends 800 feet into the Atlantic, affording opportunities for fishing, surfing, dining and dancing.

Florida's Space Coast Office of Tourism—Cocoa Beach: 430 Brevard Ave., Suite 150, Cocoa, FL 32922. Phone: (321) 433-4470 or (877) 572-3224.

Shopping: When in Cocoa Beach, a stop at Ron Jon Surf Shop, 4151 N. Atlantic Ave., is definitely a requirement. From bikinis, beach toys and boards to sandals, sunscreen and tiki décor, this multilevel megastore of surf holds everything you need for the beach and the beach lifestyle. Even non-surfers won't feel out of place here, and no one should leave without picking up the ultimate Cocoa Beach souvenir: a Ron Jon T-shirt. Phone (321) 799-8888.

How about a saber cat fossil or a dinosaur egg as a souvenir? While a shop that specializes in dinosaur paraphernalia isn't the first thing you'd expect to find by the beach, The Dinosaur Store, 250 W. Cocoa Beach Cswy., is a happy surprise (unless you have ornithoscelidaphobia, i.e., a fear of dinosaurs). Dig into the assortment of dinosaur-related merchandise, which includes everything from fossils and shark-tooth necklaces to toy triceratops and museum-quality pieces; phone (321) 783-7300.

Nightlife: After a long, hot day in the sun, nothing quenches a thirst like an ice-cold mug of suds. There's plenty of beer to be had in Cocoa Beach, and what better place to get one than an air-conditioned Irish pub? Paddy Cassidy's Irish Pub, 2009 N. Atlantic Ave., and Nolan's Irish Pub, 204 W. Cocoa Beach Cswy., are both laid-back establishments with inviting Irish interiors and welcoming bartenders; phone (321) 783-0810 or (321) 783-8499, respectively.

Local favorite Cocoa Beach Brewing Company, 150 N. Atlantic Ave., is a nanobrewery that sits inside what could be your neighbor's house, except for the glowing neon sign in the window that says "OPEN." Join the off-duty rocket scientists who frequent the place and sip one of the pub's homemade brews in the living room, kitchen or backyard patio; phone (321) 613-2941.

If a dark jazz club featuring talented local performers is what you have in mind, Heidi's Jazz Club, 7 N. Orlando Ave., fits the bill perfectly; phone (321) 783-4559. Get set for guffaws, chuckles and belly laughs at Gregory's Upstairs Comedy Club, 900 N. Atlantic Ave. Nationally known comics take the stage every Thursday through Saturday at 9 p.m. and patrons can indulge in a full or bar menu; phone (321) 799-2557.

Step out of the hot sand and amble along the Cocoa Beach Pier until you reach the Rikki Tiki Tavern at the very end. Order a hurricane (not the real kind) or just name your poison, then kick back and enjoy the salty air, ocean breezes and tiki bar ambience; phone (321) 783-7549.

BEACHSIDE HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 321/783-2221



Hotel. Address: 3901 N Atlantic Ave 32931.

BEST WESTERN COCOA BEACH HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 321/783-7621



Hotel. Address: 5600 N Atlantic Ave 32931. Facility: 229 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 2-7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT COCOA BEACH/CAPE

CANAVERAL

BOOK NOW 321/784-4800



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3435 N Atlantic Ave 32931. Facility: 156 units. 4-7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

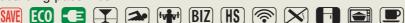




























DAYS INN COCOA BEACH/PORT CANAVERAL BOOK NOW 321/784-2550



Motel. Address: 5500 N Atlantic Ave 32931. Facility: 102 units, some efficiencies. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities. Guest Services: coin laundry.























INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Resort Hotel, Address: 300 Barlow Ave 32931.





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 4001 N Atlantic Ave 32931.

HAMPTON INN COCOA BEACH/CAPE CANAVERAL BOOK NOW 321/799-4099



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Hampton)

> Hotel. Address: 3425 N Atlantic Ave 32931. Facility: 150 units. 8 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm.

Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



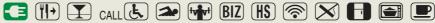
INSPECTED @ CLEAN





























HILTON COCOA BEACH OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 321/799-0003





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 1550 N Atlantic Ave 32931. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This busy hotel offers renovated rooms with upscale bedding and plenty of space to move around. Many of the rooms feature ocean views,

but lack balconies, 296 units, 7 stories, interior corridors, Parking; on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.





























AAA.com/campgrounds—For overnights under the stars

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES COCOA BEACH

BOOK NOW

321/868-2525

Hotel. Address: 5575 N Atlantic Ave 32931.

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

LA QUINTA INN COCOA BEACH-PORT CANAVERAL BOOK NOW 321/783-2252



Motel, Address: 1275 N Atlantic Ave 32931, Facility: 127 units, 2 stories (no elevator). exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Guest Services: coin

CALL (L) (2) (R)











APPROVED INSPECTED 🕝 CLEAN

THE RESORT ON COCOA BEACH BOOK NOW

321/783-4000

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Condominium. Address: 1600 N Atlantic Ave 32931.

CRYSTAL RIVER

Hotels p. 64

Crystal River denotes both a town and the river that runs through it into Kings Bay. The waters accommodate anglers and scuba divers.

The Citrus County Visitors & Convention Bureau: 915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429. Phone: (352) 794-5506 or (800) 587-6667.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON CRYSTAL RIVER BOOK NOW 352/564-6464



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1103 N Suncoast Blvd 34429.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CRYSTAL RIVER BOOK NOW 352/563-1111

Hotel, Address: 1203 NE 5th St 34429.

PADDLETAIL WATERFRONT LODGE BOOK NOW 352/795-3171



Motel. Address: 614 NW Hwy 19 34428. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 100 units, some efficiencies. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, boat dock, fishing, scuba diving, snorkeling, picnic facilities. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























DADE CITY

Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

Originally settled as Fort Dade in the 1840s, the settlement's name was changed to Dade City in 1884. Historic Church Avenue, the restored Old Courthouse, antiques shops, and a lively calendar of events add to the community's quaint atmosphere.

Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce: 14112 8th St., Dade City, FL 33525. Phone: (352) 567-3769.

PIONEER FLORIDA MUSEUM AND VILLAGE is 1.5 mi. n. via US 301, then e. to 15602 Pioneer Museum Rd. Highlights include a one-room pioneer schoolhouse, the 1860s John Overstreet House, Enterprise Methodist Church, an 1896 depot with a 1913 Porter steam engine. sawmill buildings, a general store, and a moonshine still. The museum also displays early farm machinery, vintage carriages, Roseville pottery, textiles, and antique toys and dolls. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (352) 567-0262.

DAVENPORT

- Hotels p. 65
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Off I-4, the community serves as a convenient gateway to Lake Buena Vista and Walt Disney World® Resort. The mixed-use Posner Park, 1300 Posner Blvd., contains Cinépolis Polk Co. IMAX theater and a handful of chain retailers like JC Penney, Kay Jewelers and Target.

Visit Central Florida Information Center: 101 Adventure Ct., Davenport, FL 33837. Phone: (863) 420-2586 or (800) 828-7655.



HAMPTON INN DAVENPORT MAINGATE SOUTH BOOK NOW 863/420-9898



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Hotel. Address: 44117 US 27 33897.

HOLIDAY INN CLUB VACATIONS ORLANDO BREEZE RESORT

BOOK NOW

863/420-3838

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 100 Orlando Breeze Cir 33897.

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO SOUTH DAVENPORT BOOK NOW 689/215-4300



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 164 Thrive Rd 33896.

DAYTONA BEACH

• Hotels p. 69

Daytona Beach has been a popular family vacation destination for more than a century. But it was more speedway than beach in the early days of the automobile. Between 1903 and 1935 some 15 speed records were set on the beach racecourse by Barney Oldfield, Sir Henry Segrave and Sir Malcolm Campbell. The racing tradition continues at Daytona International Speedway (see attraction listing p. 68).

During the day cars may be driven on designated sections of the 23 miles of the hard-packed sand. For safety, beach driving should be done during a low or outgoing tide and never in the water, however shallow. The speed limit on the beach is 10 miles per hour. Drivers should heed all signs, including those indicating conservation areas, where vehicles are prohibited. Overnight parking or camping on the beach is not permitted. Pets are not permitted; this law is strictly enforced.

The beach is not open to motor vehicles between Seabreeze and International Speedway boulevards; south of Emelia Avenue in Daytona Beach Shores to Beach Street in Ponce Inlet; at Lighthouse Point Park in Ponce Inlet; between Millsap Avenue and Andy Romano Park; or north of Granada Boulevard in Ormond Beach. A daily beach access toll of \$10 per vehicle; tollbooths are at each approach. For beach information phone (386) 239-7873.

A wide promenade along the ocean is the center of an amusement area anchored on the south by the Daytona Beach Pier. The Daytona Beach Bandshell at the north end of the promenade is the setting for concerts and events, and an entertainment complex provides dining and shopping options.

A scenic portion of SR A1A extends along the ocean from Ormond Beach north to Fernandina Beach, a distance of 110 miles.

Ocean lovers enjoy sailing, surfing and riding personal watercraft; the Halifax River is a favorite for scenic boat tours as well as boating, fishing, kayaking and sailboarding.

Mary McLeod Bethune founded Bethune-Cookman University for the training of African American women in 1904; it later became an accredited coed college. The campus, off International Speedway Boulevard, includes Bethune's home and gravesite, early buildings and the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Performing Arts Center.

Daytona Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau: 126 E. Orange Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32114. Phone: (386) 255-0415 or (800) 854-1234.

Shopping: T-shirts, swimsuits, surfboards and...leather jackets? Yes, the amount and variety of shopping options impress in Daytona Beach, which welcomes beachgoers, bikers, deal seekers and window shoppers alike. Most of the well-known retailers are located by International Speedway Boulevard and LPGA Boulevard, while you'll find the most boutiques, souvenirs and biker gear around Beach Street, Main Street and beachside along Atlantic Avenue (SR A1A). Flea markets, an outlet mall and bargain shops are scattered between I-95 and Beach Street.

If you're here for NASCAR, you can't miss The Pit Shop, 1801 W. International Speedway Blvd., at Daytona International Speedway (see attraction listing), one of the city's most well-known destinations. Stock car fans can buy merchandise featuring their favorite drivers on apparel, mugs and towels. Don't have room in your suitcase for all the die-cast miniature cars? They also ship.

Facing the grandstands on the track is One Daytona, at 1 Daytona Blvd., which attracts visitors not only for convenience but also for its range of shops, local restaurants and entertainment. Things to see include Victory Circle and stores featuring popular brands such as Bass Pro Shops, Guitar Center, IT'SUGAR and Sunglass World.

A number of other large shopping centers present apparel, décor and gifts from national brands. Tomoka Town Center, 1401 Cornerstone Blvd., is the city's latest retail complex with Burlington Stores, Ross Dress for Less, Hobby Lobby and a 15,000-square-foot Barnes & Noble, which includes a book theater, kids section and seating areas; phone (386) 281-4960. Volusia Mall, 1700 W. International Speedway Blvd., offers anchors Dillard's and JC-Penney as well as over 50 other services and stores, including PacSun and Victoria's Secret; phone (386) 253-6783.

Tanger Outlets Daytona Beach, 1100 Cornerstone Blvd., offers deals on designer brands. Among the 60 outlet stores are Carter's Babies and Kids, J. Crew, Nike Factory Store and Under Armour. Phone (386) 843-7459.

The Daytona Beach Downtown Farmers Market, off Magnolia Avenue and adjacent to Jackie Robinson Ballpark at City Island, runs 7 to 1 each Saturday morning. Bring your pet—it's pet-friendly—to keep you company as you shop for fresh produce, desserts and artisanal goods. Phone (386) 671-3272.

Riverfront Shops of Daytona Beach, a collection of retailers between Bay Street and Orange Avenue, is the place to admire antiques and objets d'art. Ask the proprietors of Arlequin Antiques, 122 S. Beach St., about their collection of Art Deco jewelry and European antiques; phone (386) 252-6531. Browse the stacks (and greet the resident feline) at Abraxas Books, 256 S. Beach St., where there is everything from secondhand paperbacks to rare books; phone (386) 307-6478. For a fun thing for couples to do, visit Angell & Phelps Chocolate Factory (see attraction listing p. 68) to go on a free tour and shop for sweets (the chocolate is made on-site) at 154 S. Beach St. The fudge and chocolate-covered potato chips are what to buy; phone (386) 252-6531.

Across town—and open Friday through Sunday—is the well-known Daytona Flea & Farmers Market, adjacent to I-95 and US 92 at 1425 Tomoka Farms Rd. With a majority of the registered 650 vendors inside or under a roof, the market's a great place to go if it's raining or you're looking for indoor things to do this weekend. There's everything from collectibles to souvenirs. If you didn't already pack something to nibble on at the beach, check out the available produce, snacks and refreshments. Phone (386) 253-3330.

Beachwear and souvenir shops line North Atlantic Avenue (SR A1A). Open since 1989, Maui Nix Surf Shop might be Daytona's most guintessential place to go for swimsuits, hats and surfing accessories. If you're missing anything for your day at the beach, you'll find it at one of the retailer's three locations: in the Ocean Walk Shoppes. at 250 N. Atlantic Ave.; inside Volusia Mall, at 1700 W. International Speedway Blvd.; or the original site at 635 N. Atlantic Ave.; phone (386) 253-1234. Sand Box Beachwear, another longtime beach shop at 1340 S. Atlantic Ave., also provides bathing suits and beach gear; phone (386) 252-6676.

Nestled among the bars and nightclubs along Seabreeze Boulevard is the legendary Sussman's (303 Seabeeze Blvd.), which has been offering fashion expertise since 1929. This is where to buy cocktail dresses, sportswear and high-end accessories; phone (386) 212-9614.

Be sure to check out a large collection of the latest albums as well as classic vinyl records at Atlantic Sounds, 138 W. International Blvd. In business since 1982, the independent record store is part shop and part community gathering space. Phone (386) 258-1420.

If you're a motorcyclist looking for where to go in Daytona Beach, you'll want to head toward Main Street at the junction of Halifax and Ocean avenues. In addition to the legendary biker bars in Daytona Beach, there is a mix of shops ranging from leather goods to motorcycle parts. One of the best known might be Hot Leathers, 801 Main St., which sells leather belts, jackets and tank tops yearround; phone (386) 238-1048. During Bike Week and Biketoberfest, score some Daytona Beach souvenirs at pop-up stores along Main Street and North Atlantic Avenue.

Nightlife: Ready to turn your day at the beach into a night on the town? Daytona Beach has a lot to offer, and you might be surprised to learn that there are more than just beachside bars where you can walk in wearing little more than flip-flops and cutoffs. There are beachside bars aplenty, but you'll also find pubs, clubs, discos and other venues offering a selection of music from rock to reggae, blues to jazz, and country to classical. No matter what your musical taste is, you're sure to find a spot in Daytona Beach to satisfy it and keep the beach party spirit going well into the night.

If your idea of beach music is the Beach Boys, pay no attention to this paragraph. However, if Led Zeppelin and AC/DC cover bands are more your style, then join the party at one of the many biker bars that call Main Street home. Daytona is world-renowned for its annual celebration of motorcycles; bikers gather in March for Bike Week and in October for Biketoberfest. Main Street is where they rally for raucous partying both night and day. Sandwiched between the Halifax River and the Atlantic Ocean, the area could be considered biker heaven; bars are tucked in among shops selling leather attire, motorcycles and bike parts. The Bank & Blues Club, 701 Main St., hosts live blues and rock bands in a 1920s bank and has the original brick walls and stained glass; the vault now keeps the beer and wine safe. Across the street from a cemetery, Boot Hill Saloon, 310 Main St., is quasilegendary among the biker set; its slogan is "You're better off here than across the street." Be careful, though; the live rock music is loud enough to wake the dead. Memorabilia covers every surface, and bras hang from the ceiling; it's a tradition for women to leave one behind. For more ice-cold brews, deafening rock music and good times, check out Dirty Harry's, 705 Main St.; Froggy's Saloon, 800 Main St.; and Full Moon Saloon, 700 Main St.

68 DAYTONA BEACH, FL

For those who like to dance more than they like to rock, there's plenty of room on the huge dance floor at Razzle's, 611 Seabreeze Blvd., along with 11 bars, pool tables, an upscale dress code and décor, and the Ultra Lounge, featuring VIP booths and bottle service. DJs spin techno, house, trance and hip-hop.

You'll pick up more mellow vibes at oceanfront watering holes. A favorite of locals and out-of-towners alike, The Ocean Deck Restaurant and Beach Club, 127 S. Ocean Ave., faces the Atlantic and is decked out in sea shanty décor with colorful marlins hanging from the ceiling and restrooms marked Gulls and Buoys. Sip a margarita and sway to live reggae music on the outdoor deck on sultry summer evenings.

Every town has at least one Irish pub, and Daytona Beach is no different. Tir Na Nog Irish Pub, 612 E. International Speedway Blvd., draws local artists, whose works hang on the wall, and local musicians, whom you can listen to nightly. Jovial bartenders will happily draw you a pint from the extensive beer list, as befits any Irish pub worth its shamrocks.

The restored Daytona Beach Bandshell, built in the 1930s by the Works Progress Administration, presents live music ranging from country, classical, blues and big band to rock, jazz and even military bands. Concerts are offered Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., May through September. Friday concerts are \$3; Saturday concerts are free and conclude with fireworks. Bring the kids, a picnic basket (no alcohol is allowed) and some folding chairs (chair rentals are available on site) for an old-fashioned, hand-clapping good time. The band shell is on the beach near Ocean Walk Shoppes, 250 N. Atlantic Ave., between Ora and Earl streets.

Daytona Beach is the last place you might expect to find live classical music, but orchestras from all over the world perform in this beachside town, thanks to the Daytona Beach Symphony Society. Its chief venue is the Peabody Auditorium, 600 Auditorium Blvd., which has played host to the Boston Pops, the Czech Philharmonic and Itzhak Perlman; the season runs November through February.

ANGELL & PHELPS CHOCOLATE FACTORY TOUR, just s. of US 92 (International Speedway Blvd.) at 154 S. Beach St., offers tours of a working factory where visitors can watch handmade chocolates being created. Samples are given at the end of the tour. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (386) 252-6531 or (800) 969-2634.

DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY is 1 mi. e. of I-95 exit 261 at 1801 W. International Speedway Blvd. NASCAR founder Bill France opened the tri-oval racetrack

in 1959 with the inaugural Daytona 500 race. Every February the Daytona 500 thrills racing fans and is the culmination of Speedweeks, a series of sports- and stock-car races and test runs held throughout January and February. With at least eight major race weekends each year, the speedway's busy calendar includes the Rolex 24 At Daytona in late January, motorcycle events during Bike Week in March, Coke Zero 400 Powered By Coca-Cola in July, Fall Cycle Scene in October, and the Ferrari World Finals and karting events in December.

Daytona International Speedway features a 2.5-mile superspeedway and a 3.56-mile infield road course. When races are not scheduled, the 500-acre complex is used for vehicle testing and development, automobile-related shows and events, and the Richard Petty Driving Experience. The 30-minute Speedway Tour includes the infield, Gatorade Victory Lane, the start/finish line and Pit Road.

The 90-minute All-Access Tour includes everything from the 30-minute tour and adds entrance into the driver's meeting room and garages as well as an inside look at the renovated stadium. The 3-hour VIP Tour includes everything from the All-Access Tour plus a visit to the Archives and Research Center where guests can view photographs, trophies, memorabilia, a re-creation of Bill France Sr.'s office from the 1960s and Marvin Panch's 1961 DAYTONA 500 champion car. Entrance for grandstand viewing is through the ticket office lobby.

Phone: (800) 748-7467 for race information and tickets or TTY (386) 681-6700. **GT**

HALIFAX HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM is 2 blks. s. of US 92 at 252 S. Beach St. Housed in the restored 1910 Merchants Bank building, the museum's displays of artifacts detail local history. Of special interest are Native American artifacts, a scale model of the 1938 boardwalk, a racing exhibit and the War Room. Grandma's Attic is an exhibit of vintage toys, children's clothing and memorabilia dating to the early 1900s. A 20-minute film covers 130,000 years of area history, from prehistoric times to the present.

Guided tours are available by appointment. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (386) 255-6976. **GT**

MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES (MOAS) is at 352 S. Nova Rd. On a 90-acre nature preserve, this Smithsonian Institution affiliate museum features a wide range of permanent and changing exhibits. Included are African, early American, European, Chinese and Cuban fine art and furniture; and a 13-foot-tall skeleton of a giant ground sloth. The museum also includes an environmental complex, nature trails, Charles and Linda Williams Children's Museum

and the Lowell and Nancy Lohman Family Planetarium. Pieces once in storage, including European and American furniture, are showcased in the glass-fronted Helen B. Roberson Visible Storage Building.

The Root Family Museum pays homage to Americana with original railroad artifacts, two midcentury railcars, race cars, teddy bears, quilts and a large collection of Coca-Cola memorabilia. The Cici and Hyatt Brown Museum of Art displays 400 pieces from its permanent collection of more than 2,600 oil and watercolor paintings depicting historic Florida and has six galleries with changing exhibits.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (386) 255-0285 or (866) 439-4769. TI

BEST WESTERN PLUS DAYTONA INN SEABREEZE

OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 386/255-5491



Hotel. Address: 730 N Atlantic Ave 32118. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 97 units, some efficiencies. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room.























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-DAYTONA BEACH SPEEDWAY/AIRPORT BOOK NOW 386/255-3388



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1605 Richard Petty Blvd 32114. Facility: 122 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





































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THE DAYTONA, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW

386/323-9777



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 1870 Victory Cir 32114. Facility: In ONE DAYTONA and across from the Daytona International Speedway, the hotel features a captivating racing theme. Oversize rooms are upscale with a streamlined design. The fitness center is expansive. 144 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2

restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.































DAYTONA GRANDE OCEANFRONT RESORT BOOK NOW

386/271-7979



Hotel. Address: 422 N Atlantic Ave 32118.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT DAYTONA BEACH

SPEEDWAY/AIRPORT BOOK NOW 386/254-4700



Fairfield AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1820 Checkered Flag Blvd 32114. Location: 1.7 mi from airport. Facility: 105 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON DAYTONA BEACH/BEACHFRONT

BOOK NOW

386/944-2570



Hampton)

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1024 N Atlantic Ave 32118. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 91 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site,

exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























HAMPTON INN DAYTONA BEACH SPEEDWAY-AIRPORT BOOK NOW



386/257-4030





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1715 W International Speedway Blvd 32114. Facility: 122 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor.

Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























HARD ROCK HOTEL DAYTONA BEACH BOOK NOW 386/947-7300



Hotel, Address: 918 N Atlantic Ave 32118, Location: Oceanfront, Facility: This music lover's paradise has a unique, themed décor. The well-designed rooms are inviting and spacious. Spoil yourself with a luxurious spa treatment or enjoy a workout in the large fitness center. 200 units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, game room, lawn sports, exercise room, in-room exercise equipment, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



































HILTON DAYTONA BEACH OCEANFRONT RESORT BOOK NOW

386/254-8200





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel, Address: 100 N Atlantic Ave 32118, Location: Oceanfront. Across from the Convention Center. Facility: The warm aura and light décor in rooms lend way to a tropical vibe. Cozy, comfortable bedding and

scenic views are what to expect when retiring at the end of the day. 744 units. 11-16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 7 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





































HILTON GARDEN INN DAYTONA BEACH-AIRPORT BOOK NOW 386/944-4000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 189 Midway Ave 32114. Facility: 115 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































HILTON GARDEN INN DAYTONA BEACH OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 386/265-0511



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2560 N Atlantic Ave 32118.



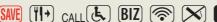
QUALITY INN DAYTONA SPEEDWAY BOOK NOW

386/255-3661



Motel. Address: 2250 W International Speedway Blvd 32114. Location: Opposite Daytona International Speedway. Facility: 64 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest Services: coin laundry.



















RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-DAYTONA BEACH SPEEDWAY/AIRPORT BOOK NOW 386/252-3949



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1725 Richard Petty Blvd 32114. Facility: 122 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Condominium. Address: 300 N Atlantic Ave 32118.

DAYTONA BEACH SHORES

• Hotels p. 73

Four miles south of Daytona Beach and 60 miles northeast of Orlando, this beach town is on a barrier island that lies between the Atlantic Ocean and part of the Intracoastal Waterway. Family entertainment reigns supreme

here, with putt-putt golf courses, plenty of parks and, of course, the beach and the Atlantic Ocean, perfect for fishing, sailing and other water sports. Music fans, take note: Gregg and Duane Allman spent their teenage years in Daytona Beach Shores.

BEST WESTERN AKU TIKI INN BOOK NOW 386/252-9631



Hotel. Address: 2225 S Atlantic Ave 32118. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 132 units, some efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room, Guest Services; valet and coin laundry.





DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT DAYTONA BEACH OCEANFRONT **BOOK NOW** 386/366-8515



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2505 S Atlantic Ave 32118.

BOOK NOW 386/767-8533 HAMPTON INN DAYTONA SHORES-OCEANFRONT



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3135 S Atlantic Ave 32118.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OCEANFRONT DAYTONA BEACH

SHORES **BOOK NOW** 386/767-1711

Hotel. Address: 3301 S Atlantic Ave 32118.

Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

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RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-DAYTONA BEACH OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 386/944-2000

 $[\mathbf{fyi}]$ Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last

Designation: Three Diamond. **Address:** 3209 S Atlantic Ave 32118.





Boutique Motel. Address: 2237 S Atlantic Ave 32118. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Lush landscaping, hand-painted murals and the Atlantic Ocean as a backdrop makes this one of the more novel properties around. Room types vary, including a few value rooms, and offers a pleasant stay. 38 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 1-2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, picnic facilities. Guest Services: coin laundry. (See ad p. 75.)

















DEBARY

Hotels p. 74

HAMPTON INN DEBARY/DELTONA/ORANGE CITY BOOK NOW 386/668-5758





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 308 Sunrise Blvd 32713.

DELAND

• Hotels p. 76

With its rolling hills and towering pine trees, the area so allured New York baking-soda tycoon Henry A. DeLand that he purchased 159.1 acres upon first glimpse in 1876. DeLand refined his newly established community by donating land for a road; seeding lovely magnolia, oak and orange trees; and founding a college, which he christened DeLand Academy.

DeLand's involvement in the lucrative orange-growing industry backfired when a bitter mid-1880s freeze left him financially unable to support the university. He sought help from renowned hat maker John Stetson, for whom the school was eventually renamed. Boasting a number of early 20th-century buildings on its 175-acre campus. Stetson University, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., is a must-see for architecture and history buffs; phone (386) 822-7000.

Add some science and art to the equation by exploring the college's Gillespie Museum of Minerals, 234 E. Michigan Ave., and Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center, 139 E. Michigan Ave. The former exhibits some 15,000 rocks, gems and minerals; the latter showcases modern paintings by Oscar Bluemner as well as pieces by students, faculty and professional artists. Phone (386) 822-7330 or (386) 822-7270, respectively. Though not on the campus, Stetson Mansion (see attraction listing) offers reservation-only Christmas Spectacular Tours around the holidays at 1031 Camphor Ln.; phone (386) 873-0167.

Picturing a typical early to mid-20th-century day in "the Athens of Florida" isn't all that difficult. Scattered throughout downtown are polychromatic murals unveiling scenes from DeLand's past. These elaborate works of local artists have made the town a favorite stop along the Florida Mural Trail. Mix in a little culture with the DeLand Sculpture Walk, which features annually changing outdoor





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sculptures placed throughout downtown. Swing by Main-Street DeLand Association, 100 N. Woodland Blvd., for a mural- and sculpture-walk brochure; phone (386) 734-4371.

While browsing specialty shops, scoping out the perfect café or watering hole, or enjoying a simple stroll along Woodland Boulevard and its neighboring streets, notice how history is preserved in the Greek Revival and masonry vernacular-style buildings. If you really want to explore the past, embark on an antiquing adventure. This has the potential to be an all-day expedition on any day but Sunday, when many mom-and-pops are closed.

Catch a concert, classic flick or theatrical performance at the restored Athens Theatre, 124 N. Florida Ave.; phone (386) 736-1500 for tickets. A fine example of Italian Renaissance architecture, the Athens opened as a vaudeville house in 1922 and over the years served as a movie cinema, dinner theater, video-game room and prom-party venue.

Stimulate your brain in a different way at tree-shaded Chess Park, on the north side of W. New York Avenue. Here you can challenge your travel buddy to a game of chess on one of the built-in checkerboard tables surrounded by benches and a waterfall-backed platform.

Grab some grub and head over to Bill Dreggors Park and Freedom Playground, 230 N. Stone St., for a picnic; phone (386) 626-7280. Immerse yourself in the sights, scents and textures of the Sensory Butterfly Garden, which was designed for physically and visually impaired visitors. Also on the grounds is the DeLand Memorial Hospital Museum, with a re-created 1920s surgery room and apothecary exhibit, and the Burgess Building, with exhibits featuring vintage toys, elephant-themed collectibles,

military memorabilia, vintage electrical appliances and items highlighting the area's African American heritage. The Veterans Memorial Wall honors veterans of the World Wars and Korean War. Phone (904) 740-5800 for the De-Land Memorial Hospital Museum.

During World War II, Navy combat bomber pilots completed 3-month training assignments in DeLand. Aircraft, practice bombs and vintage photographs are among the treasures you'll find in DeLand Naval Air Station Museum and Historical Hangar, 910 Biscayne Blvd.; phone (386) 738-4149.

Rent a pontoon or fishing boat from a local outfitter and unwind in Florida's longest river, the St. Johns. If 120 miles per hour is more your pace and the sky is your limit, try free falling from a whopping 14,000 feet at Skydive De-Land, 1600 Flightline Blvd.; phone (386) 738-3539. The town, believed to have been the site of the first tandem jump in history, has experienced a huge economic boost as a result of the sport's popularity.

For more of the great outdoors, hop on the free ferry to Hontoon Island State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), 2309 River Ridge Rd., where fishing, canoeing, kayaking, camping, hiking and biking opportunities abound; phone (386) 736-5309. The Timucuan Indians, who once called the 1,650-acre island home, feasted on snails from the St. Johns' shoals. Over time the discarded shells fused together into sizable mounds like the one you'll encounter along the park's nature trail.

West Volusia Tourism Bureau: 116 W. New York Ave., Deland, FL 32720. Phone: (386) 734-0162 or (800) 749-4350.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT DELAND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW

386/943-9500



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 308 N Woodland Blvd 32720.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES DELAND

BOOK NOW 386/279-7808



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 20 Summit Oak PI 32720.

BOOK NOW 386/507-2500



Hotel. Address: 180 Fenway Dr 32724.

DE SOTO NATIONAL MEMORIAL

On the south shore of the Manatee River, 5 miles west of Bradenton on SR 64, then 2 miles north on 75th Street N.W., De Soto National Memorial commemorates the first major European exploration of what is now the southeastern United States.

The expedition began in 1539 when Hernando de Soto and about 600 Spanish soldiers landed somewhere in the Tampa Bay area. Marked by many Native American battles, the expedition covered 4,000 miles to the north and west. De Soto crossed the Mississippi River in 1541 and was buried in it when he died a year later. About half the group survived the 4-year ordeal.

The visitor center contains artifacts and exhibits explaining the expedition's effect on Native Americans. A 21minute film depicting the expedition is shown hourly. Talks and weapons demonstrations by costumed rangers are given daily mid-December to late April based on staff availability; phone ahead to confirm schedule. There also is a nature trail; guided tours are available based on staff availability and weather permitting. Popular activities include fishing, bird-watching, picnicking and boating. Allow 1 hour minimum. Grounds open daily dawn-dusk; parking lot gate closes at 5. Visitor Center open daily 9-5; closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Free. Phone (941) 792-0458.

DUNEDIN

- Hotels p. 79
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Dunedin's rejuvenated downtown—a historic district complete with a red-, white- and blue-striped barber pole and an array of charming white picket fences—recalls a simpler way of life, while quirky boutiques and hip eateries bolster the town's far-from-dullsville rep. By day, antique shops, a weekly farmers market and artist-owned galleries lure vacationing shopaholics; by night, happy hourseeking natives pack laid-back establishments that run the gamut from chic martini lounge to cozy Irish pub.

In addition, you'll find something special going on in this edgy small town every month—from arts and crafts exhibitions to ethnic fairs. Dunedin, a name closely resembling the Gaelic word from which Edinburgh is derived, celebrates its Scottish heritage with the Dunedin Highland Games and Festival in late March or early April, the Military Tattoo in early April, and the Celtic Music and Craft Beer Festival in mid-November. Other calendar highlights include the Art Harvest, a juried art show held the first weekend in November at Highlander Park, and Mardi Gras Celebration, featuring an outrageous Main Street parade in mid-February.

Along with window shoppers, twilight partyers and spirited festivalgoers, bicyclists, joggers and inline skaters wind through the downtown area on a portion of the Pinellas Trail, a 34-mile-long corridor spanning from Tarpon Springs to St. Petersburg. North of downtown at 1050 Palm Blvd., golfers work on lowering their handicap at the Dunedin Golf Club, home of the PGA 1945-62; phone (727) 733-2134. Meanwhile, from early March to early April droves of sports fanatics assemble just south of downtown at Florida Auto Exchange Stadium, 373 Douglas Ave., (727) 733-9302, to watch the Toronto Blue Jays baseball club during spring training. Throughout the summer, the Class A Florida State League Dunedin Blue Javs dazzle spectators.

Subtropical surroundings and miles of striking shoreline also bring day trippers to Dunedin, which originated as a seaport and trading center in the 1800s. Between the mainland and the islands outdoor enthusiasts can windsurf, sail catamarans and ride personal watercraft on the protected St. Joseph Sound. If you're a boater, cruise into the city marina, on the Intracoastal Waterway between the Dunedin and Clearwater causeways, then disembark for a stroll along the palm tree- and bench-studded linear park curving beside the water's edge on Edgewater Drive (US 19A).

Or, navigate your vessel to the 108-slip marina at Dunedin's most revered coastal attraction: Caladesi Island State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart). Pint-size shell collectors happily lug burgeoning collections of delicate sand dollars, freckled conchs and porcelain cowries along

78 DUNEDIN, FL

Caladesi's secluded 3-mile beach—often regarded as one of the nation's best—as playful couples splash about the turquoise-tinted surf. Traverse a 3-mile kayak trail shaded by sinuous mangrove trees during your visit, or look for signs of gopher tortoises, armadillos and raccoons on a hike through pine forests and coastal strand and maritime hammock communities.

Passenger ferries to the barrier island also are available and depart daily beginning at 10 a.m. from Honeymoon Island State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), at the west end of the Dunedin Causeway (SR 586); phone (727) 734-5263 for ferry information. Both state parks offer opportunities for bird-watching (observe such endangered species as egrets, herons, ospreys and storks), swimming (plunge into warm waters averaging 75 F) and fishing (cast your line for everything from redfish to sheepshead).

Shopping: Before hitting the antique shops and chic boutiques lining the streets of downtown Dunedin—a compact historic district radiating old Florida charm—fuel up with a wholesome breakfast shake from the Dunedin Downtown Market, held Friday and Saturday mornings from early November through May at Pioneer Park (420 Main St.). Scan the veggie- and fruit-laden tables at the farmers market, then join the packs of pedestrians pausing before well-designed storefront windows and tempting sidewalk cafés on Main Street. After lunch, sift through vintage treasures and coastal home accents on Broadway, or model crocheted silk shawls and handmade jewelry in the bungalows-turned-showrooms on Douglas Avenue. Throughout the year, bazaars and special events highlighting everything from arts and crafts to cherished collectibles boost Dunedin's retail appeal.

Nightlife: You'll have a tough time deciding where to wet your whistle in Dunedin—home to trendsetting establishments and watering holes evoking old country traditions—so keep things simple and opt for a pub crawl. Play a quick game of darts at Mike & Lisa's Cricketers British Pub & Restaurant at 2634 Bayshore Blvd. before savoring their homemade steak and kidney pie. From Cricketers, it's just a short cab ride to downtown Dunedin. Make fast friends over sudsy beverages at Flanagan's Irish Pub, 465 Main St., where draft beers—including Guinness, Smithwick's, Newcastle and Killian's—are served, and where the St. Patrick's Day street festival is launched every year. Phone (727) 736-1322 for Mike & Lisa's Cricketers British Pub & Restaurant or (727) 401-3477 for Flanagan's Irish Pub.

Just a few doors down from Flanagan's, Casa Tina, 365 Main St., emulates the aromas and vibrancy of Mexico with a delightfully unorthodox approach. Weekend-night patrons sip mojitos while watching performers from Dance & Circus Arts of Tampa Bay contort and twirl inside this colorful, folk art-adorned space; phone (727) 734-9226.

For some unadulterated local flavor, walk to Dunedin Brewery, about 2 blocks north of Main Street at 937 Douglas Ave. Ask the barkeep about the unconventional people who inspired RazzBEERy Wheat Ale, or knock back a frosty mug of Apricot Peach Ale while planning your own fantastic shoreline-inspired saga; phone (727) 736-0606.

Whether you're in the mood for gorgonzola-stuffed pork chops, a caramel appletini, or a few rounds of drag queen-hosted bingo, the Kelly's suite of dining and entertainment establishments have you covered. Natives looking to see and be seen adore this artsy Main Street strip comprising a kitschy restaurant (Kelly's, for Just About Anything!), a fabulously retro martini lounge (The Chic-a-Boom Room), and a dynamic nightclub and show bar (Blur). Kick back on the spacious patio—purring with a jumbled soundtrack of clinking glasses, candid chortles, and jazz and hip-hop beats—or wave your hands in the air like you just don't care on the mirror-fronted dance floor. Show your face the next day (unless things got a bit too wild the night before), and Kelly's friendly staff will nurse your hangover with fresh-squeezed OJ, mouthwatering flapjacks, and lots and lots of eye-opening coffee; phone (727) 736-0206 for The Chic-a-Boom Room and Blur or (727) 736-5284 for Kelly's.

Greater Dunedin Chamber of Commerce: 301 Main St., Dunedin, FL 34698. **Phone:** (727) 733-3197.

DUNEDIN FINE ART CENTER is at 1143 Michigan Blvd. Five galleries feature changing exhibits of local, regional and national artists. The David L. Mason Children's Art Museum provides interactive and hands-on experiences that make art fun for both children and their parents. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (727) 298-3322.

DUNEDIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM is at 349 Main St. The area's history from 1870s to the present is depicted through various exhibits including vintage clothing, household implements and railroad artifacts. Special programs such as 1890s baseball games and living-history reenactments also are offered. **Time:** Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (727) 736-1176.



BEST WESTERN PLUS YACHT HARBOR INN BOOK NOW 727/733-4121



Motel, Address: 150 Marina Plaza 34698, Location: Waterfront, Facility: 54 units, some two bedrooms. 2 stories, exterior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



















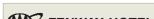












FENWAY HOTEL, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 727/683-5999



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION® Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Historic Hotel. **Address:** 453 Edgewater Dr 34698. **Location:** Waterfront. Facility: Built in 1925, the beautiful property has an

interesting history it's been a hotel with a speakeasy, the site of the first local radio station and it served as a local college. 83 units. 2-3 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























HAMPTON INN DUNEDIN

BOOK NOW 727/733-1400



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2641 Michael Pl 34698.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES CLEARWATER

NORTH/DUNEDIN BOOK NOW 727/450-1200



Hotel. Address: 975 Broadway St 34698.



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DUNNELLON

Hotels p. 80



COMFORT SUITES NEAR RAINBOW SPRINGS BOOK NOW 352/533-5234





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 20052 Brooks St 34432. Facility: 71 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























EAST PALATKA

• Hotels p. 80





Motel. Address: 119 S Hwy 17 32131. Facility: 54 units, some efficiencies. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry. SAVE (1) (1)

EATONVILLE

• Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

In 1887, the town of Eatonville was the first African American community in the United States to become incorporated. Growing up in this small bedroom community just minutes from Orlando inspired author Zora Neale Hurston in much of her work. Eatonville's beloved native daughter is best known for her novel "Their Eyes Were Watching God."

The town celebrates its most well-known resident annually with the Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities, also known as the ZORA! Festival, held in late January. The festival features entertainment by wellknown gospel, R & B, Latin, spoken word and jazz artists such as Ashford & Simpson and the Ramsey Lewis Trio. African American culture also is explored through visual art exhibitions and vendors, public forums and panel discussions.

Self-guiding tours: Brochures, outlining historic places to see on Eatonville's Heritage Trail, are available at the Zora Neale Hurston National Museum of Fine Arts.

ZORA NEALE HURSTON NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FINE ART is at 227 E. Kennedy Blvd. The museum serves as a platform for the arts and heritage experience as depicted in the literary works of writer, folklorist and anthropologist Zora Neale Hurston. Temporary exhibits showcase the work of African American artists. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (407) 647-3307.

EDGEWATER





THREE DIAMOND **INSPECTED @ CLEAN**

BEST WESTERN EDGEWATER INN BOOK NOW 386/427-7101

Hotel. Address: 1730 S Ridgewood Ave 32132. Facility: 45 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Guest Services: coin laundry.















ELLENTON • Hotels p. 81

Ellenton, a small community on the northern bank of the Manatee River, offers fine fishing opportunities, nearby white sandy beaches and a climate favorable to agricultural endeavors.

Shopping: Ellenton Prime Outlets, off I-75 exit 224 at 5461 Factory Shops Blvd., features more than 135 factory outlet stores, including Kate Spade New York, Nike Factory Store and Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th.



HAMPTON INN ELLENTON-BRADENTON BOOK NOW 941/721-4000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5810 20th Ct E 34222.

FERNANDINA BEACH

Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93

This centuries-old town on Amelia Island (see place listing p. 30) features a variety of architectural styles. The Victorian district is scattered across 50 blocks, including residential and commercial buildings and a popular shopping area. The heart of downtown is Centre Street, an eight-block pedestrian-friendly corridor leading to the Intracoastal Waterway and a marina, where shrimp boats unload the catch of the day and charter boats depart for sightseeing and fishing. On Centre Street at Second Avenue is the Palace Saloon, built in 1878 and reputedly the oldest in the state. A hand-carved, 40-foot mahogany bar

and hand-painted murals decorate the interior; phone (844) 441-2444.

Fernandina Beach is the northern terminus for a portion of scenic highway extending 105 miles south via SR A1A to Daytona Beach.

The first week in May the town celebrates the local shrimping industry and its early days under the flags of eight nations with the Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival.

Self-quiding tours: A brochure outlining a tour of the historic district is available from the Amelia Island/Fernandina Beach/Yulee Chamber of Commerce (see Amelia Island).

FORT MATANZAS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Off SR A1A 14 miles south of St. Augustine, Fort Matanzas National Monument includes the southern tip of Anastasia Island and the northern third of Rattlesnake Island. There is ferry service to the fort from which the monument took its name every hour on the half hour daily 9:30-4:30; to determine if the ferry is operating, phone (904) 471-0116. Ferry tickets are issued on a first-come, first-served basis and are required for boarding; visitors can pick one up at the visitor center. The fort can be seen from the dock on Anastasia Island.

Built of coquina 1740-42 by the Spanish, Fort Matanzas replaced temporary watch stations that had guarded the southern approach to St. Augustine since 1569. In 1564 French Huguenots established a settlement in the area, threatening the Spaniards with territorial encroachment and what the latter considered to be religious heresy.

Pedro Menéndez de Avilés was sent to remove the French and establish a colony in 1565. Following a hurricane that scattered the attacking French ships, he captured Fort Caroline, about 35 miles north of St. Augustine. Upon returning to St. Augustine, Menéndez located the shipwrecked survivors of the French fleet some 14 miles south of town, where most of them surrendered and were killed.

By the time the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine and Fort Matanzas were built, it was the English that threatened Spanish Florida. After surviving two attacks at the castillo, the Spanish constructed Fort Matanzas watchtower, at the southern approach to the city. Used briefly by the British during the American Revolution, the forts became the property of the United States in 1821. Fort Matanzas and nearly 300 acres of natural barrier island became a national monument in 1924.

A small visitor center on Anastasia Island contains exhibits pertaining to the fort's history. Swimming east of SR A1A at Matanzas Inlet is dangerous because of the currents. Grounds open daily 9-5:30. Visitor center open daily 9-5. Closed Christmas. Free. Phone (904) 471-0116.

GAINESVILLE

• Hotels p. 83

Gainesville was founded in 1853 and named for Edmund Pendleton Gaines, a U.S. Army officer who served in the War of 1812 and as a commander during the Seminole and Mexican-American Wars. Gaines' surname also provided the inspiration for the naming of the cities of Gainesville in Georgia and Texas as well as Gainesboro, Tenn.

The community has strong roots in both agriculture and education, as it is home to the headquarters of several federal and state agricultural agencies, populous Santa Fe College and the University of Florida, one of the country's largest collegiate institutions. Set on a 2,000-acre campus just off I-75, the university is renowned for its research in such fields as medicine. The campus' historic district comprises more than two dozen buildings and properties, some dating to the early 20th century. On the main campus, Century Tower, a 157-foot-tall carillon, pays homage to alumni and students who died in the World Wars. The university's athletic program also is strong; the men's basketball team earned consecutive NCAA titles in 2006-07, while its football team has claimed three national championships since 1996.

Student-guided walking tours of the campus are offered Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. and 1 or 2 p.m.; phone (352) 392-2959. A map of the campus is available at the AAA office at 1201 N.W. 13th St., or at the university's Welcome Center in the J. Wayne Reitz Union building on Museum Road.

Regional history exhibits at Matheson History Museum, 513 E. University Ave., cover such topics as the Timucuan Indians, Spanish occupation and travels of William Bartram. The museum complex also includes one of Gainesville's oldest residences (built in 1867), a botanical garden and a tool museum; phone (352) 378-2280.

The Hippodrome Theatre, 25 S.E. 2nd Pl., presents professional theater performances in a renovated 1911 federal building that once housed courtrooms, government offices and a post office. Additional offerings include a cinema series, playwright festivals and an art gallery featuring pieces crafted by local artisans. Performance schedules and ticketing information are available from the theater's box office; phone (352) 375-4477.

The Gainesville to Hawthorne State Trail, a 16-mile trail designed for bicycling, horseback riding and walking, extends from Boulware Springs, on S.E. 15th Street in Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park (see attraction listing p. 173 and Recreation Areas Chart), through Lochloosa Wildlife Management Area to the town of Hawthorne. For trail information, phone the Florida Park Service Information Center at (850) 245-2157 or (352) 466-3397.

Held rain or shine each Wednesday from 4-7 p.m., the Union Street Farmers' Market, 111 E. University Ave. at the Bo Diddley Community Plaza, provides local vendors with the opportunity to offer such goods as produce and dairy as well as baked and organic items. Art and such accessories as handmade jewelry also may be purchased.

The city caters to an abundance of its diverse community's persuasions and tastes, offering a wide range of dining experiences and nightlife options. Themed and

specialized restaurants, the latter of which entail a variety of ethnic and vegetarian eateries, are located throughout the city and its outskirts. The downtown neighborhoods are abuzz on a nightly basis, as a number of live music venues showcase local and traveling talent and an array of bars and college hangouts attract college students and citizens alike.

Visit Gainesville: 30 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601. Phone: (352) 374-5260 or (866) 778-5002.

Shopping: Among the more than 140 stores at The Oaks Mall, off I-75 exit 387 at 6419 W. Newberry Rd., are Belk, Dillard's and JCPenney.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA campus is accessed by I-75 exits 382-384; tours depart from the J. Wayne Reitz Union, just w. of ict. Museum Rd. and US 441/SR 24/S.W. Thirteenth St. The university, with an approximate enrollment of some 51,000 students, was founded in 1853. In the 2012-13 season, UF claimed eight conference crowns in such sports as men's basketball, gymnastics, women's tennis and soccer. The campus features Century Tower. one of only four carillons in the state, 10 libraries and a multipurpose arena.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (352) 392-2959. GT

Florida Museum of Natural History is at 3215 Hull Rd. in Powell Hall at the University of Florida Cultural Plaza. The Butterfly Rainforest features waterfalls, lush tropical foliage and hundreds of free-flying butterflies. Museum exhibits include a full-scale North Florida limestone cave replica and mammoth and mastodon skeletons standing more than 12 feet tall. The Florida Fossils exhibit traces 65 million years of state history. Visitors may experience a Calusa Indian welcoming ceremony. The museum also has temporary exhibits.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 846-2000.

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, 3259 Hull Rd. in the University of Florida Cultural Plaza, houses more than 9,000 works focusing on African and Asian art, modern and contemporary art and photography. On view are examples from the permanent collections as well as temporary exhibitions of loaned artwork. Five themed gardens surround the building.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 392-9826. GT II

University Gallery is at ict. S.W. 13th St. and S.W. 4th Ave. in the College of Fine Arts (Building B) at the University of Florida. The gallery showcases contemporary art with an emphasis on interdisciplinary content. Faculty and student work also is exhibited. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 273-3000.



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT GAINESVILLE DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW

352/792-1151





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 151 NW 14th St 32603. Facility: 144 units. 10 stories. interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























ALOFT GAINESVILLE UNIVERSITY AREA BOOK NOW 352/378-1100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3743 Hull Rd 32607.

BEST WESTERN GATEWAY GRAND HOTEL & CONFERENCE

BOOK NOW 352/331-3336



Hotel. Address: 4200 NW 97th Blvd 32606. Facility: 152 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, lawn sports, picnic facilities, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





SOME (





























COMFORT SUITES GAINESVILLE NEAR UNIVERSITY BOOK NOW

352/519-0000





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2603 SW 13th St 32608. Facility: 105 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





























COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON BOOK NOW

352/375-1550





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4015 SW 43rd St 32608. Facility: 90 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: coin laundry. SAVE CALL (CALL



















COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW 352/335-9100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3700 SW 42nd St 32608.

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW 352/375-2400





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 3726 SW 40th Blvd 32608. Facility: 205 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





by Hilton[™]

























DRURY INN & SUITES GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW

Hotel. Address: 4000 SW 40th Blvd 32608.

352/372-5600



BOOK NOW HAMPTON INN

352/371-4171



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4225 SW 40th Blvd 32608.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES GAINESVILLE DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW

352/240-9300





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 101 SE 1st Ave 32601. Facility: 124 units. 6 stories. interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Pool: outdoor.

Activities: exercise room.































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HILTON GARDEN INN GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW 352/338-1466



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4075 SW 33rd PI 32608. Facility: 104 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























HILTON UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CONFERENCE CENTER

GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW 352/371-3600





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1714 SW 34th St 32607. Facility: 248 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: rental car service.















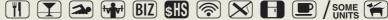
















THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES GAINESVILLE I-75

BOOK NOW

352/378-1300

Hotel. Address: 3370 SW 42nd St 32608.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON GAINESVILLE FL BOOK NOW

352/335-3133



HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3333 SW 42nd St 32608. Facility: 103 efficiencies, some two bedrooms. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

































HOM HOTEL + SUITES, TRADEMARK COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 352/376-0004



Hotel. Address: 3905 SW 43rd St 32608. Facility: 114 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























352/240-8900



Boutique Hotel. Address: 5020 SW 30th Ln 32608. Facility: Trendy décor and design elements are notable at the property. The inviting public spaces are a draw. Rooms are spacious and well designed, continuing the trendy style. The expanded gym is a plus. 140 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.



























HYATT PLACE GAINESVILLE DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 352/496-7500



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 212 SE 1st St 32601. Facility: 145 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























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If your visit to a listed property doesn't meet your expectations, tell us about it.

AAA.com/MemberFeedback

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT GAINESVILLE I-75 **BOOK NOW** 352/264-0000

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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3275 SW 40th Blvd 32608.

SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT GAINESVILLE HREE DIAMOND

INSPECTED

CLEAN

BOOK NOW 352/376-8873 AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points

when booking AAA/CAA rates! SAVE Hotel, Address: 4155 SW 40th Blvd 32608.

STAYBRIDGE SUITES GAINESVILLE I-75 BOOK NOW 352/378-1900

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3401 SW 40th Blvd 32608.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT GAINESVILLE BOOK NOW 352/415-1111

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 7451 W Newberry Rd 32605.

HEATHROW

Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Heathrow is the site of the AAA National Office. North of Orlando at I-4 and Lake Mary Boulevard, the Heathrow community includes recreational, commercial and residential areas.

HIGH SPRINGS

High Springs, once a mining and railroad town, now offers antiquing and recreational opportunities in a smalltown atmosphere. The downtown business section, representative of old Florida, features antique shops and several historic buildings.

O'Leno State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), one of the first state parks developed in Florida, is 6 miles north and offers camping, swimming, boating, fishing, nature trails, horseback riding trails, bicycle trails and a playground; phone (386) 454-1853.

Other state and privately owned parks with natural springs surround High Springs. Blue Springs Park, west off CR 340 at 7450 N.E. 60th St., features a boardwalk and offers swimming; phone (386) 454-1369. Ginnie Springs and Poe Springs Park, west off CR 340 at 28800 N.W. 182nd Ave., and Ichetucknee Springs State Park, 14 mi. n.w. to 12087 S.W. US 27, offer swimming, tubing, canoeing and underwater cave exploration (see Recreation Areas Chart).

High Springs Chamber of Commerce: 23517 N.W. 185th Rd., High Springs, FL 32643. Phone: (386) 454-3120.

HOLMES BEACH • Hotels p. 89



WATERLINE VILLAS AND MARINA BOOK NOW 941/238-6262



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Condominium. Address: 5325 Marina Dr 34217. Location: Waterfront.

Facility: This waterfront property offers elegant 2 bedroom condos with full kitchens as well as laundry facilities. In addition to on-site dining and a lovely pool area, quests have access to games and bikes. 37 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry. Affiliated with Autograph Collection Hotels.





























HOMOSASSA SPRINGS

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

ELLIE SCHILLER HOMOSASSA SPRINGS WILDLIFE STATE PARK is on US 19 at 4150 S. Suncoast Blvd., 6 mi. n. of jct. US 19/98, following signs. Source of the Homosassa River, the freshwater spring emits millions of gallons each hour at a constant temperature of 72 F. Manatees and fresh- and saltwater fish can be seen through the windows of a floating observatory. The Wildlife Walk provides views of native wildlife, including two Florida panthers, whooping cranes and Key deer. Manatee, wildlife encounters and alligator and hippo programs are presented daily. Pontoon boats and trams shuttle visitors to and from the park.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (352) 628-5343. or (352) 628-2311 for recorded information.

RIVER SAFARIS & GULF CHARTERS departs from 10823 W. Yulee Dr. Offered is a variety of pontoon boat tours and airboat rides on the Homosassa River and to the Gulf of Mexico. Seasonal manatee and scalloping trips also are available. Rental pontoons and jon boats are available. A live alligator exhibit is also on site.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 628-5222 or (800) 758-3474. GT (1)

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90 HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS — INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FL

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS

- Hotels p. 90
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183





THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Hotel. Address: 10400 CR 48 34737. Facility: Set on several lush acres, the inn features traditional-style rooms, many with great views of the grounds. The patios at restaurant outlets are popular spots to gather and enjoy the beautiful scenery. 179 units, some two and three bedrooms. 1-4 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, marina, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, bicycles, playground, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.































INDIALANTIC

Hotels p. 90

DOUBLETREE SUITES BY HILTON MELBOURNE BEACH

OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 321/723-4222









AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points

when booking AAA/CAA rates!

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 1665 N SR A1A 32903. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 208 units. 9 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

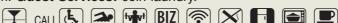




























INDIAN ROCKS BEACH

THREE DIAMOND **INSPECTED @ CLEAN**

 Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Indian Rocks Beach is a resort community near the midpoint of Sand Key, a long, narrow island in the Gulf off the

Pinellas County coast. It is accessible by SR 688 north of St. Petersburg.

Beach Welcome Center: 105 Fifth Ave., Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785. Phone: (727) 595-4575 or (800) 926-9303.

INDIAN SHORES

- Hotels p. 91
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282



BAREFOOT BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 727/593-5303

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 19417 Gulf Blvd 33785.

INVERNESS

WILD BILL'S AIRBOAT TOURS is on SR 44, 6.3 mi. e. of US 41 or 9 mi. w. of I-75. Narrated 45-minute airboat rides on the Withlacoochee River provide sightings of native wildlife, including wading birds, ospreys, eagles, deer and alligators. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 726-6060. **GT**



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Jacksonville

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Then & Now

Jacksonville embraces more than 500 neighborhoods within more than 800 square miles, an impressive expanse that makes this busy seaport the biggest city in the contiguous United States. Its size inflated by a consolidation of city and county governments in 1968, the mammoth destination also boasts the largest population in Florida.

The vicinity was home to the Mocama Indians when French Protestants known as Huguenots arrived in 1562 and founded Fort Caroline. Spanish troops from nearby St. Augustine destroyed the ill-fated Huguenot village just three years later.

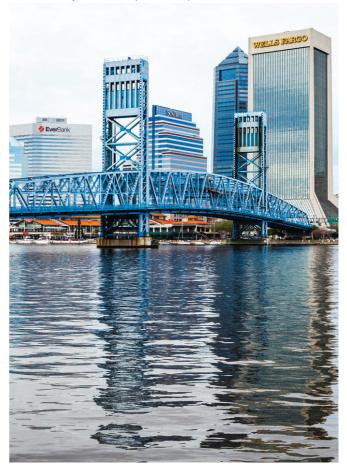
Spanish control of the area ended in 1763, when Spain traded Florida to Britain. Under British rule, The King's Road between Savannah, Georgia and St. Augustine was completed. A settlement developed where the road crossed the St. Johns River, roughly where downtown Jacksonville is today.

As a result of the 1783 Treaty of Paris, Britain returned Florida to Spain. Despite Spanish ownership, citizens of the new United States of America began settling in northern Florida. In 1819, Spain struck a deal with the U.

S., trading its interests in the Oregon Country and Florida in exchange for recognition of Spanish sovereignty over Texas. Soon after the U.S. took formal possession of the Florida Territory, Jacksonville—named after the region's first military governor, Gen. Andrew Jackson—was founded.

The town prospered as a port of entry until the Civil War, during which it was burned and abandoned several times. Though the city was resurrected as a winter resort for wealthy tourists in the 1880s, by the end of the 19th century, Jacksonville's status as a popular vacation destination had declined, partly due to yellow fever outbreaks. In 1901 tragedy visited the city again when a fire destroyed nearly the entire downtown area.

Jacksonville skyline / © iStockphoto.com / peeterv





Destination Jacksonville

This map shows cities in the Jacksonville vicinity where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants. Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



Amelia Island	30
Atlantic Beach	
Fernandina Beach	81
Jacksonville Beach	110
Orange Park	181
Ponte Vedra Beach	260
Yulee	365

FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE CITY

POP: 842,583 • **ELEV:** 20 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: The sales tax is 7 percent in Clay, Duval and Nassau counties and 6.5 percent in St. Johns County. The bed tax is 4 to 6 percent in St. Johns County and 6 percent in Duval County; the tourist development tax is 5 percent in Clay County and 4 percent in Nassau and St. Johns counties.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (904) 630-0500 FIRE (non-emergency): (904) 630-0434

TEMPERATURE: (904) 741-4311

HOSPITALS: Baptist Medical Center, (904) 202-2000 • Mayo Clinic, (904) 953-2000 • Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville, (904) 399-6111 • St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside, (904) 296-3700 • UF Health Jacksonville, (904) 244-0411.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Visit Jacksonville: 208 N. Laura St., Suite 102, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Phone: (904) 798-9111 or (800) 733-2668.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: More than a dozen major and regional carriers serve Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), which is about 13 miles north of downtown near the northern junction of I-95 and I-295.

Several taxi and limousine companies serve the airport, although the baggage claim area is served exclusively by Gator City Taxi, (904) 999-9999 or (904) 741-0008. Taxi fares to downtown average \$35.

RENTAL CARS: Hertz, at the airport, offers discounts to AAA members; phone (904) 741-2151.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: The Amtrak station is at 3570 Clifford Ln., 5 miles northwest of downtown. For arrival information phone (904) 766-5110; for reservations and information phone (800) 872-7245.

BUSES: The main Grevhound Lines Inc. bus terminal is at 10 N. Pearl St.: phone (904) 356-9976.

TAXIS: Major cab companies are Checker Yellow Cab Co., (904) 345-3333 or (904) 765-9999 • Coastal Cab, (904) 246-9999 • and Gator City Taxi, (904) 999-9999. Base fare is \$2 with a rate of \$2 per mile.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Jacksonville Transportation Authority operates a system of buses, trolleys and shuttles that serves Jacksonville and the beaches. A Baldwin Wildcat Commuter Shuttle offers weekday service to Baldwin and Macclenny. The Skyway, an automated monorail system, provides downtown transportation between the Prime Osborn Convention Center, Hemming Plaza and Rosa L. Parks Transit Station on the Northbank and San Marco and Kings Avenue Station across the river.

The fare for buses, trolleys and shuttles is \$1.50, free (ages 65+); express buses are \$2, \$1.50 (ages 60+). Unlimited one-day fare is \$4, \$1.50 (ages 60+). The Skyway is free. Discounted fares are available through the purchase of a multiday STAR card. For information phone (904) 630-3100.

BOATS: River taxi service between points along the St. Johns River is available from Jacksonville Water Taxi, departing every half-hour Tues.-Thurs. and Sun. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fri.-Sat. (also holidays) 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; phone (904) 630-2489. A daily pass is \$10; \$8 (ages 3-12 and 65+). Fare to the stadium or Downtown Loop during football games and special events is \$10 (round-trip); \$20 (unlimited all day); cash only.

But the resilient city rebounded. During the early 20th century, more than 300 silent movies were shot in the area. Naval bases built during World War II contributed to the city's further growth. Today, three Fortune 500 companies—CSX Corp., Fidelity National Financial and Fidelity National Information Service Inc.—are headquartered in this distribution hub set in the double loop of the St. Johns River, And the armed forces' presence is still

strong, with military bases, including Naval Station Mayport and the Marine Corps' Blount Island Command, contributing about \$6.1 billion annually to the local economy.

While the Jacksonville Jaguars have yet to bring home the Lombardi Trophy, the city's first professional football franchise has won two division championships and made several trips to the playoffs since joining the NFL in 1995. Gridiron fans in this rivalry-loving destination cheer on the

Continue your lesson in state history—from prehistoric times onward—at The Museum of Science & History (1025 Museum Cir.). Walk through the Florida Naturalist's Center, learn about science from one of many hands-on exhibits or stay for a show at the

Bryan-Gooding Planetarium.

See the world—or at least many animals in it—at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (370 Zoo Pkwy.). The Zoo Train meanders through themed areas such as South America and Africa featuring animals such as endangered jaguars and elephants. Garden lovers will want to reserve time to see its lush gardens before they hop back on the train to get to a Keeper Talk.

- Hang out at Tree Hill Nature Center (7152 Lone Star Rd.) for a fun learning experience. The 50-acre environmental education site includes a nature center, three ecosystems and an amphitheater. Kids especially enjoy the butterfly garden and exhibits with native animals.
- Get back to the city at pedestrian-friendly San Marco Square (Hendricks Ave. and Atlantic Blvd.) Named after St. Mark's Square in Venice, the neighborhood intersection is home to boutiques and chic Matthew's Restaurant (2107 Hendricks Ave.).

Jaguars at TIAA Bank Field, Super Bowl XXXIX venue and continuing host to such annual college games as the Florida vs. Georgia Football Classic and the Gator Bowl Classic. Nearby Ponte Vedra Beach, home to the PGA Tour, also attracts golfers with THE PLAYERS Championship in March.

But while touchdowns and eagles electrify the city, the St. Johns River remains at the heart of modern-day Jacksonville, with downtown's opposing Riverwalks attracting sightseers and natives year-round with fun things to do. The Museum of Science & History is the highlight of the 1.2-mile Southbank Riverwalk, which also shelters Friendship Fountain. Across the river, the downtown Sports and Entertainment Complex is home to TIAA Bank Field, the VvStar Veterans Memorial Arena, the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville, Daily's Place Amphitheater and Intuition Ale Works, the first brewery in the state of Florida to can its beer.

Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

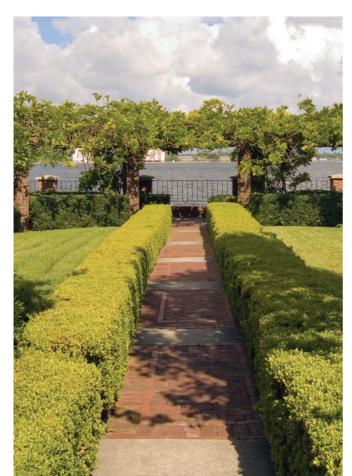
- Discover the magic of the lazily looping St. Johns River, which made Jacksonville an important port. The rare, north-flowing river is best enjoyed by boat. Take a ride on the St. Johns River Taxi to explore all the sights.
- Visit the **Riverside Arts Market** (715 Riverside Ave.), tucked under the Fuller Warren Bridge, where you can buy food and handmade gifts each Saturdayrain or shine—from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Or just walk around and observe the singers and other performers entertaining the locals. More than 100 vendors come to the weekly market, so it's a great way to see what Jacksonville has to offer.
- Learn more about Florida's founding at the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve. The oldest site, Fort Caroline National Memorial (12713 Fort Caroline Rd.), marks the ill-fated spot where French Huguenots settled in 1564. Another historical place to go, Kingsley Plantation (11676 Palmetto Ave.), tells the story of how a formerly enslaved African woman ended up running the site for her slave trader husband. Built in the late 18th century, it is Florida's oldest remaining plantation.
- Dip your toes into the Atlantic Ocean. Or just dive in! Jax has more than 22 miles of alabaster-sand beaches not far from downtown. Jax is the birthplace of the Salt Life movement and it is best enjoyed at the Beaches Town Center (0 Atlantic Blvd., Neptune Beach, FL 32266). Better yet, stay in a beachside resort and wake up to the sound of the surf lapping at the shore.





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- Satisfy your appetite for contemporary art at the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville (333 N. Laura St.). Owned by the University of North Florida, the collection includes more than 800 pieces of art created after 1960. Visitors lucky enough to come on the first Wednesday of the month should take part in



Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens / © iStockphoto.com / normawilson

- the Art Walk, a free event showcasing art in the museum and in various locations downtown.
- Shop more than 200 stores and dine at some of the nation's best restaurants at the St. Johns Town Center (4663 River City Dr.) in Jacksonville's Southside neighborhood. This outdoor shopping center has every retail and brand for every budget and taste

Jacksonville 1-day Itinerary

AAA editors suggest these activities for a great short vacation experience.

Morning

- Start the day with an adventure at the 46,000-acre Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve. Spend some time hiking, biking and canoeing, or head to Fort Caroline National Memorial (12713 Fort Caroline Rd.) to experience the historical side of the preserve. A French Huguenot settlement here in 1564 led to a bloody conflict with Spain. Kingsley Plantation (11676 Palmetto Ave.) is where a formerly enslaved African—married to a slave trader—ran a large, profitable plantation before the racial laws of the United States took effect in the former Spanish territory.
- You might see an alligator or bear at the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, but for guaranteed wildlife sightings, visit the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (370 Zoo Pkwy.). With a Wild Florida exhibit and exhibits of other animals from around the world, the Wildlife Carousel and a train, the park offers plenty of exhibits and activities to keep the whole family entertained.

Afternoon

- Hungry yet? Head toward downtown and dine at Juliette's Bistro (245 Water St.). You can get everything from syrupy sweet tea and a burger to the catch of the day.
- Explore the Riverwalk by the St. Johns River, especially on a Saturday. The Riverside Arts Market, southwest of downtown, fills the space under Fuller Warren Bridge from 10-3, and offers live music and local artisans.
- Investigate how your body—as well as the universe—can function and change at The Museum of Science & History (1025 Museum Cir.) and its Bryan-Gooding Planetarium. You can also take a walk on the aquatic side and see the permanent aquarium exhibit in addition to MOSH's resident animals at the Florida Naturalist's Center.

 The neighborhood of San Marco features some of the best restaurants in Jacksonville, so you might want to eat early if you haven't made reservations. Try **bb's restaurant + bar**, which features the utterly delicious pan Asian chop chop salad among other creative salads and sandwiches. Don't miss the specialty cake. Options may change hourly!

Evening

- Matthew's Restaurant (2107 Hendricks Ave.) is one to book ahead. Chef Matthew Medure, who established the city's premiere dining destination, offers international cuisine and award-winning wines in an intimate setting.
- The Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville (333 N Laura St.) has a collection of work from the '60s to today and hosts visiting exhibits. It extends its hours for Art Walk on the first Wednesday of the month and on Thursday evenings. During Art Walk, galleries, businesses and artists join the museum to showcase art and live music within a 15-block area.
- On Tuesday, the **Cummer Museum of Art &** Gardens (829 Riverside Ave.) extends its hours. Created as a gift from an avid art collector and gardener, the facility showcases historic gardens, including a formal English Garden designed in 1910, and an art collection of 5,000 pieces.
- To mix it up a little, head toward the eclectic **Mossfire** Grill (1537 Margaret St.) which features New American and Southwest cuisine. The local "hot spot" is named after the source of the devastating 1901 fire that burned Jacksonville: Spanish moss. On that unfortunate day, a wood stove cooking dinner sparked a fire on the platform where moss—used inside of mattresses—was drying. An estimated 2,368 buildings were burned, and most of the city had to be rebuilt.
- For those wanting to make an entire night of it, head to Five Points District (1001 Park St.) in Riverside and enjoy more than a dozen bars, restaurants and local hangouts. You'll find happy hours and a burgeoning nightlife scene.
- If you prefer a more relaxing evening, settle into a seat inside the European-style Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Jacksonville Performing Arts Center (300 Water St.) on the St. Johns River and listen to the dulcet sounds of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

Arriving

By Car

Two important interstate highways, I-95 and I-10, intersect in the Jacksonville downtown area. I-95 traverses the United States from north to south beginning in Maine and ending in Miami. It is frequently congested as it approaches downtown.

I-10 connects Jacksonville on the East Coast with Los Angeles by way of New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, Tucson and Phoenix.

I-295 loops around the city, connecting with I-95 both south and north of downtown. I-295 also intersects with I-10 directly west of the city.

A more scenic approach is SR A1A, which follows the coastline through Jacksonville. Northeast of the city, SR A1A travels through historic Fernandina Beach.

US 1 is another important route. This highway runs the length of America's east coast, from Lubec, Maine, to Key West, Fla. US 17 approaches from the west and provides vet another route into Jacksonville.



The Jacksonville Landing / © iStockphoto.com / benedek



Getting Around

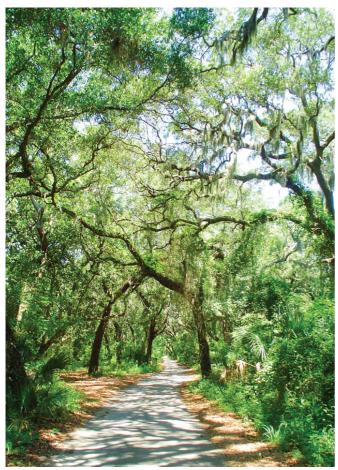
Street System

Like most newer cities, the street system of downtown Jacksonville is a simple grid. Bay Street divides the city north-south, while Main Street is the east-west divider. The destination does not adhere to a street naming convention, and thus a road's name (that is, whether it is called a street, avenue or boulevard) does not indicate its compass orientation.

The downtown speed limit is 30 mph. Traffic is most congested 7 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

Parking

Both on-street parking and several parking garages are available downtown. Parking meters require 25c per half hour (\$6 maximum per day).



Fort George Island Cultural State Park / © iStockphoto.com / Ken Badglev

Shopping

In addition to major shopping malls, the city boasts a multitude of small shopping centers and an array of antique stores and flea markets.

St. Johns Town Center, 4663 River City Dr., has 150 stores in its 1 million square feet of shopping and dining space in an open-air configuration anchored by Dillard's and Nordstrom.

The Avenues, 10300 Southside Blvd., has more than 150 stores including Belk, Dillard's, JCPenney and Sears. Orange Park Mall, 1910 Wells Rd., counts Belk, Dillard's and JCPenney among its 120 stores. Regency Square Mall, 9501 Arlington Expwy., has dozens of services and stores including Dillard's and GameStop.

San Marco, 5 miles south of downtown, and The Shoppes of Avondale, 3567 St. Johns Ave., entice with specialty boutiques, antique shops and galleries. The shops around Riverside's Five Points and on Main Street in the Springfield neighborhood have a funkier feel and offer plenty of things to see and buy.

Big Events

Jacksonville is host to exciting events throughout the year. College football fans celebrate the new year with the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl, which is played late December or early January and is one of the city's top sports events.

February brings brings the World of Nations Celebration that focuses on Jacksonville's cultural mix; the event is held in Tailgaters Parking. In March the Gate River Run attracts more than 23,000 runners for a 15-kilometer race along the city's roads and bridges.

Late Mary or early April brings the Springing the Blues, 3 days of blues music held at SeaWalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. Taking place in May in nearby Ponte Vedra Beach is THE PLAYERS Championship golf tournament, the PGA Tour's premier spring event. The Jacksonville Jazz Festival, which features concerts at various indoor and outdoor venues, is held Memorial Day weekend.

The Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament features prizes, a fish fry, seafood festival and entertainment in July.

The Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair in November offers livestock, a petting zoo, horticultural exhibits, arts and crafts, carnival rides and country entertainment.

Ring in the new year during the New Year's Eve Celebration on the riverfront in downtown Jacksonville.

Sports & Rec

Swimming is fantastic at the more than 22 miles of white sandy beaches on the intricate chain of barrier islands off the coast adjacent to Jacksonville. Just 20 miles northeast of the destination are the pristine beaches and wild natural beauty of Little Talbot Island State Park and Fort George Island Cultural State Park. The beach communities of the area—Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach and, to the south, Ponte Vedra Beach—combine surf and sand with the amenities of hotels and local restaurants.

Boating is a popular pastime in the area due to Jacksonville's access to water and things to see. The city operates more than 50 public docks, the most popular ones are at the following locations: Huguenot Memorial Park, Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, Metropolitan Park, North-Bank and SouthBank Riverwalk.

Kayaking services offer trips through the coastal salt marshes and on quiet waterways; contact Kayak Amelia/Long Island Outfitters, (904) 251-0016, or Black Creek Guides, (904) 645-7003.

Fishing can be enjoyed along the St. Johns River and Intracoastal Waterway and in the Atlantic Ocean. Speckled trout, striped bass, bluefish, redfish, flounder and whiting are a few of the fish frequently caught at Little Talbot Island State Park. Saltwater fishing and more than 60 acres of freshwater fishing lakes are available at Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park (see Recreation Areas Chart).

Golf and Florida's balmy climate go together perfectly, and Jacksonville offers more than 50 area golf courses. Courses include Bent Creek Golf Course at 10440 Tournament Ln., (904) 779-0800; Deerfield Lakes Golf Club at 54002 Deerfield Country Club Rd. in Callahan, (904) 879-1210; Fernandina Beach Golf Club at 2800 Bill Melton Rd., (904) 310-3175; Jacksonville Beach Golf Club at 605 S. Penman Rd., (904) 247-6184; and Windsor Parke Golf Club at 13823 Sutton Park Dr. N., phone (904) 223-4653.

Tennis courts can be found throughout the Jacksonville area.

Hiking Numerous hiking trails and one biking path through several distinct ecological communities are at the Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve, 12713 Fort Caroline Rd.; phone (904) 641-7155. Three self-guiding nature trails are at the University of North Florida Wildlife Sanctuary; phone (904) 620-2998. Bird-watching is a popular pastime along the hiking trails of both Big and Little Talbot islands.

Football The Jacksonville Jaguars began their first National Football League season in 1995 and came within one game of going to the Super Bowl in their second season. The team's TIAA Bank Field is at 1 Everbank Field Dr.; phone (904) 633-2000 for ticket information.

Baseball The **Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp**, play AA Southern League baseball at the **Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville**, 301 A Philip Randolph Blvd., in the sports complex; phone (904) 358-2846.

Performing Arts

The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra presents performances throughout the year including a guest artist series, an outdoor concert series and smaller group concerts. Jacksonville Performing Arts Center, 300 Water St., is a state-of-the-art performance venue overlooking the St. Johns River downtown. Its three halls include Jacoby Symphony Hall, home of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra; Moran Theater, which can accommodate large-scale concerts and Broadway touring shows; and Terry Theater, which is used for smaller performances. For more information phone (904) 354-5547 or (904) 633-6110.

The Florida State College at Jacksonville's **Artist Series** brings Broadway productions along with national and international ballet, opera and contemporary dance companies; phone (904) 442-2929 or (888) 860-2929.

Located downtown at 128 E. Forsyth St., the lavish **Florida Theatre** was built in 1927 and serves as a performing arts center; phone (904) 355-5661 for information or (904) 355-2787 for tickets.



Explore Things To Do, visit AAA.com/tripcanvas

CUMMER MUSEUM OF ART & GARDENS, 829 Riverside Ave., offers more than 5,000 objects in its permanent collection and three historic gardens along the St. Johns River built by pioneering landscape architects of the early 20th century. World-class art spanning from 2100 B.C. through the 21st century includes such masterworks as paintings by Thomas Moran, Norman Rockwell, Winslow Homer, Agnolo Gaddi and Lucas Cranach the Elder. Also of interest is a significant collection of 18th-century Meissen porcelain.

Art Connections, the museum's interactive education gallery, provides multi-sensory opportunities for visitors to look more closely at art, explore the museum's collection more deeply, and apply their own creativity by creating

100 JACKSONVILLE, FL

artwork of their own. Traveling exhibitions complement the permanent collection.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (904) 356-6857. GT (II)

FORT CAROLINE NATIONAL MEMORIAL, 13 mi. e. near jct. Monument and Fort Caroline rds., is within the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and marks the site near which French colonials established a settlement in 1564. A year later Spaniards massacred many of them at Matanzas Inlet. The memorial contains a model of the fort, interpretive trails and Ribault Monument, an obelisk commemorating the first landing at St. Johns in 1562. The visitor center has displays. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (904) 641-7155.

JACKSONVILLE ZOO AND GARDENS, 370 Zoo Pkwy., features more than 2,000 animals and 1,000 plant species from around the world on 92 acres. In addition to Great Apes of the World, Plains of East Africa and Range of the Jaguar, the park has Giraffe Overlook, an exhibit that allows visitors to feed giraffes, the Komodo Dragon exhibit,

and the Tuxedo Coast Penguin exhibit. At Stingray Bay, guests can touch and feed stingrays. Savanna Blooms, the Gardens of Trout River Plaza and the Monsoon Asia provide respite. Lorikeet birds feed from visitors' hands at Australian Adventure. Train, carousel and 4-D rides also are available. A 2.5-acre Play Park, which includes the seasonal Splash Ground, affords children the opportunity to discover, experience and explore additional exhibits and play areas.

Picnicking is permitted in designated areas outside the zoo. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (904) 757-4463. -7-

KINGSLEY PLANTATION, 11676 Palmetto Ave., is part of the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve. This 19th-century cotton plantation was operated 1813-39 by Zephaniah Kingsley. It is one of the last remaining examples of the plantation system of territorial Florida. The main house and the remains of 23 cabins where enslaved workers resided are visible. Interpretive displays reflect 19th-century life. An audio tour is available.

Phone: (904) 251-3537 or (904) 251-3626. GT

JACKSONVILLE

Hotels p. 100 • Restaurants p. 110



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 751 Skymarks Dr 32218.



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Hotel. Address: 4812 Deer Lake Dr W 32246. Facility: 137 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Amenities: safes. Pool:

heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. SAVE TE TO ME HS TO ME TO SOME TO UNITS

























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Hotel. Address: 8001 Parramore Rd 32244. Facility: 86 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















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Hotel. Address: 1180 Airport Rd 32218. Facility: 59 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

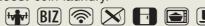
























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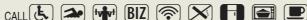




AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8277 Western Way Cir 32256. Facility: 115 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















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Hotel. Address: 14668 Duval Rd 32218. Facility: 81 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



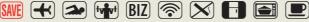




















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Hotel. Address: 4670 Lenoir Ave S 32216. Facility: 137 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry. boarding pass kiosk.































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SAVE Hotel. Address: 14402 Old St Augustine Rd 32258.





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Hotel. Address: 9815 Lantern St 32225. Facility: 100 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.























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EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 9300 Baymeadows Rd 32256. Facility: 277 units. 4-7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated indoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

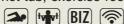






























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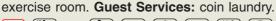
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Hotel. Address: 13950 Village Lake Cir 32258. Facility: 103 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities:





























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON I-10/WEST BOOK NOW 904/783-8277



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 548 Chaffee Point Blvd 32221.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE-DOWNTOWN-I-95 BOOK NOW 904/396-7770

 $[\mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{i}]$ Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last **Designation:** Three Diamond. Address: 1331 Prudential Dr 32207.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE I-295 E &

BAYMEADOWS BOOK NOW 904/363-7150



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 8127 Point Meadows Dr 32256.



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 4681 Lenoir Ave 32216.

HILTON GARDEN INN JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN/SOUTHBANK BOOK NOW 904/396-6111 $|\mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{i}|$ Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 1201 Kings Ave 32207.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES JACKSONVILLE SE MED CTR

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904/421-7000

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Hotel. Address: 4791 Windsor Commons Ct 32224.

 $^\prime$ HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES JACKSONVILLE W - I295 &

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THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 1120 Suemac Rd 32254.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES JACKSONVILLE/I-295

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Hotel. Address: 4675 Salisbury Rd 32256.

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Hotel. Address: 53 Jefferson Rd 32225.

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THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 13934 Village Lake Cir 32258.

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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 13475 Ranch Rd 32218.



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 600 Park St 32204.



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10715 Deerwood Park Blvd 32256.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN/SOUTHBANK

BOOK NOW

904/396-6888

 $[\mathbf{fyi}]$ Extended Stay Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 1201 Kings Ave 32207.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE-SOUTH/ST. JOHNS

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HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10434 Midtown Pkwy 32246. Facility: 119 units, some two bedrooms and efficiencies. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOTEL INDIGO JACKSONVILLE DEERWOOD PARK BOOK NOW

904/996-7199

Hotel. Address: 9840 Tapestry Park Cir 32246.



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Hotel. Address: 14565 Duval Rd 32218. Facility: 127 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.

































HYATT PLACE JACKSONVILLE ST. JOHNS TOWN CENTER BOOK NOW 904/641-7200



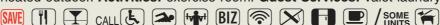
HYATT PLACE. AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 4742 Town Center Pkwy 32246. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 160 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: Some: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























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Before you go, purchase an International Driving Permit for a recognizable form of identification, even if you're not driving.









HYATT REGENCY JACKSONVILLE RIVERFRONT BOOK NOW 904/588-1234





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of REGENCY Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 225 E Coast Line Dr 32202. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 951 units. 4-19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























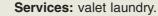






AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4670 Salisbury Rd 32256. Facility: 255 units. 9 stories. MARRIOTT interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest



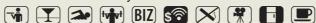






























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW

904/580-5455



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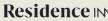
SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 357 Oak St 32259.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE - MAYO CLINIC

BOOK NOW 904/992-2040





Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4905 San Pablo Rd S 32224. Facility: 155 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE SOUTH / BARTRAM

BOOK NOW 904/440-0500



Residence IN AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 13942 Village Lake Cir 32258. Facility: 122 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE

BAYMEADOWS

BOOK NOW 904/730-9990



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 9325 Baymeadows Rd 32256.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT

JACKSONVILLE/DEERWOOD BOOK NOW 904/997-6650



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4385 Southside Blvd 32216.

BOOK NOW 904/420-7575 TRU BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE AIRPORT I-95



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1265 Airport Rd 32218.

TRU BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE ST. JOHNS TOWN CENTER BOOK NOW 904/420-4200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4640 Tropea Way 32246.

TRU BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE SOUTH MANDARIN BOOK NOW 904/292-4401







Hotel. Address: 2970 Hartley Rd 32257. Facility: 106 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





















TRU BY HILTON JACKSONVILLE WEST I 295

BOOK NOW 904/865-0050





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4142 Perimeter Industrial Pkwy W 32219. Facility: 82 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

















SAVE CALL (SOME (SOME (SOME) INITS

WHERE TO EAT



MATTHEW'S RESTAURANT 904/396-9922



International Fine Dining. Address: 2107 Hendricks Ave 32207.

JACKSONVILLE BEACH

- Hotels p. 111
- Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93

It's all about the beach in Jacksonville Beach, where salty Atlantic Ocean waters are said to offer the best surfing in the area. If folks aren't riding the waves, they're strolling on the boardwalk (aka the Sea Walk), spiking volleyballs, or just leaning back in a beach chair on the fine white sand and taking it easy. Dining, shopping and barhopping on the beachfront's 1-mile-long boardwalk (on the oceanfront between 1st Avenue North and 6th Avenue North) also attract beachgoers. Swimming, snorkeling and sailing are popular outdoor sports, as is saltwater fishing off the pier, 503 N. 1st St. A license is not required, and bait and tackle can be purchased at a concession stand;

phone (904) 241-1515. The pier is open daily 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Apr.-Nov. (6 a.m.-7 p.m., rest of year); entry fee \$4, \$1 (spectators), free (ages 0-5).

The beach also is popular with much smaller visitors: Endangered loggerhead turtles wade out of the ocean at night to lay their eggs during sea turtle nesting season May-Oct. Take care not to disturb the turtles; do not touch them, light campfires or use flashlights, cell phones or cameras with flash. It's illegal to do so and could cause the female to abandon her nest.

Break away from the sand and ocean and attempt a hole-in-one at the 18-hole Jacksonville Beach Golf Course, 605 Penman Rd. S.; phone (904) 247-6184. Or head for South Beach Park and Sunshine Playground, 2514 S. Beach Pkwy., and shoot some hoops, swing a

Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

tennis racquet, work out on the fitness trail, and let the kids go wild on the large playground; it features sections for different age groups and includes a lighthouse, a splash pad and a wooden ship complete with swinging bridge and covered slides.

Spring and summer months bring music and movies to the beach. At the SeaWalk Pavilion, 75 N. 1st St., you can attend blues, jazz, pops and classical music concerts or catch a classic flick. Phone the events hotline at (904) 247-6157, for information. Indoor productions including

dramas, comedies and musicals at Players-By-The-Sea Theatre, 106 6th St. N., will capture the attention of theater devotees; phone (904) 249-0289 for reservations.

ADVENTURE LANDING, 1944 Beach Blvd., features Shipwreck Island Water Park, with four extreme waterslides, a wave pool and a pirate play village with 12 slides. Among other amusements are go-karts, laser tag, miniature golf and batting cages. Rental lockers and cabanas are available.

Phone: (904) 246-4386.

BEST WESTERN OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 904/249-4949



INSPECTED CLEAN

Motel. Address: 305 1st St N 32250. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 51 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: beach on-site. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



















COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE BEACH

OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW 904/435-0300



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1617 1st St N 32250. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 150 units. 4-7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





































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ELEMENT BY WESTIN JACKSONVILLE BEACH BOOK NOW 904/435-2260







AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 208 Beach Blvd 32250. Facility: 80 kitchen units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON JACKSONVILLE BEACHFRONT BOOK NOW

904/435-3535



FOUR AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 11 1st St N 32250. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 80 BY SHERATON units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach

on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





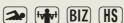


































THREE DIAMOND **INSPECTED** CLEAN fampton .

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1515 1st St N 32250. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 177 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























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HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS JACKSONVILLE BEACH BOOK NOW 904/435-3000

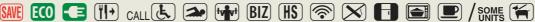


Hotel. Address: 1101 Beach Blvd 32250. Facility: 82 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT JACKSONVILLE BEACH

OCEANFRONT

BOOK NOW 904/246-6160



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 465 N First St 32250. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 156 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet and street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.











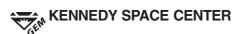












Forty-seven miles east of Orlando via the Beachline Expressway (toll) or SR 50, the John F. Kennedy Space Center (KSC) is accessible from the mainland off US 1, 6 miles across the SR 405 causeway over the Indian River. or from the beaches across the SR 520 or 528 causeways to Merritt Island, then north on SR 3 and Space Commerce Way. The center is located within the 140,000-acre Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and extends some 34 miles along the coast.

Since 1981, when Columbia flew into Earth's orbit, through July 2011, when the last shuttle was launched, Kennedy Space Center has been the launch and landing site for the space shuttle, NASA's reusable space transportation system. It is home to two launch pads, one of the world's longest runways and the nation's third-largest building, the Vehicle Assembly Building. KSC also is the only place in the world where man has launched from Earth and traveled to the moon.

Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, east of the space center, was the site of the historic Mercury and Gemini flights, including America's first suborbital space flight taken by Navy Cmdr. Alan B. Shepard Jr. on May 5, 1961, and the country's first manned orbital flight by Marine Lt. Col. John H. Glenn Jr. on Feb. 20, 1962. Cape Canaveral is now the site for unmanned rocket launches. For additional information about Kennedy Space Center, phone (866) 737-5235.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER VISITOR COMPLEX is 10 mi. e. of I-95 on Space Commerce Way. Built in 1967, the modern facility explores the past, present and future of the U.S. space program. The orbiter Atlantis, which flew the last space shuttle mission in July 2011, is at the heart of the center's Space Shuttle Atlantis exhibit. Atlantis bears the scars of its 33 missions and sits at a 43-degree angle with its cargo bay doors open, allowing spectators to walk around the massive spacecraft and gaze at almost every square inch.

114 KENNEDY SPACE CENTER — KISSIMMEE, FL

Space Shuttle *Atlantis* also features more than 60 interactive exhibits, including simulators and cinematic presentations, that explore the 30-year history of the space shuttle program; replicas of the Hubble space telescope and International Space Station modules are highlights. Guests can also become "crew members" on the Shuttle Launch Experience, vertically launching into space and orbiting earth aboard NASA's space shuttle.

The complex also features more multimedia displays and hands-on exhibits, 3-D theater, spacecraft and artifacts, face-to-face encounters with astronauts and behind-the-scenes tours. In the Rocket Garden, space equipment traces the program's development. Admission to the complex includes a behind-the-scenes bus tour of NASA's launch facilities, offering views of rocket launch pads. At the Apollo/Saturn V Center, visitors can walk beneath the 363-foot Saturn V rocket and watch footage of Neil Armstrong's history-making walk on the moon. The Firing Room Theater simulates an earth-shaking Apollo 8 rocket launch.

Question-and-answer sessions and personal stories are part of Astronaut Encounter, which brings guests face-to-face with men and women who have launched into space. The exhibit Forever Remembered showcases a section of fuselage from the shuttle *Challenger* and *Columbia's* cockpit windows, as well as personal memorabilia of the astronauts who lost their lives in these tragedies.

Special-interest programs also are available for an additional fee: Dine with an Astronaut enables visitors to share a meal with a space explorer, and Cape Canaveral Early Space Tour chronicles the space program in the early days. Heroes and Legends, featuring the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame offers simulated holograms, high-tech elements and special effects to tell the story of pioneering astronauts and the dangers of earlier missions.

Note: The Cape Canaveral Early Space Tour is available Wed.-Sun. only. Due to restricted access, each visitor must register with Visitor Complex security officers between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on the day of the tour. Register at the information center located at the main entrance. Food and free pet kennels are available. Allow 6 hours minimum to see the visitor complex and take the KSC bus tour. Arrive early to avoid crowds. **Phone:** (855) 433-4210 for ticket information. **GT**

Space Films is 11 mi. e. of I-95 on SR 405 within the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. An IMAX theater equipped with five-and-a-half-story-tall screens presents the 3-D films "Journey to Space," narrated by Sir Patrick Stewart, and "Hubble 3-D," narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio.

Phone: (855) 433-4210 for ticket information.

Space Mirror Memorial is accessible through the entrance to Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Dedicated in 1991 to American astronauts who died in the line of duty, this 60-ton black granite monument is carved with the names of 24 men and women, including the *Challenger* and *Columbia* crews. The mirrored surface reflects each name against the sky.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (877) 313-2610.

KISSIMMEE

- Hotels p. 115
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Kissimmee (Kiss-SEM-mee), is near the southern terminus of a scenic portion of Florida's Turnpike, which extends 65 miles southeast from Wildwood. It is more widely known to visitors to the central Florida region as being a near neighbor of Walt Disney World® Resort. (Located farther northeast in Orlando are Universal Orlando Resort and SeaWorld Orlando). With such a prime spot, Kissimmee attractions with interesting architectural details draw plenty of visitors. Downtown businesses also occupy structures dating from the late 1800s; landscaping and renovations preserve the town's old-time aura.

While agriculture and tourism have long dominated the business climate, recent economic development initiatives encourage advancements in plastics, engineering and electronics. The Florida Cattlemen's Association has its headquarters in town.

Kissimmee also attracts the sports-minded to Osceola County Stadium, in Osceola Heritage Park at 631 Heritage Park Way; phone (321) 697-3220 for ticket information.

Silver Spurs Arena, 1875 Silver Spur Ln. in Osceola Heritage Park, hosts the popular Silver Spurs Rodeo, concerts and major sports events. Picnic tables and boat ramps are available at Kissimmee's Lakefront Park, .25 mile southeast of US 17/92 at 201 Lakeview Dr.; phone (407) 518-2501. Near the Kissimmee park at 300 E. Monument Ave. is the Monument of States, a 40-foot-high pyramid consisting of stones from every state and 20 countries; phone (407) 847-2821.

Experience Kissimmee: 215 Celebration Pl., Suite 200, Kissimmee, FL 34747. **Phone:** (407) 742-8200 or (800) 333-5477.

Shopping: There are plenty of Kissimmee shopping centers to browse. The Loop and Loop West, 3208 N. John Young Pkwy., offer open-air shopping as well as multiple

dining and entertainment options. Old Town Kissimmee, just east of I-4 on US 192 at 5770 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., features 70 specialty shops as well as restaurants and amusement rides in a re-created turn-of-the-20th-century setting. Hundreds of classic cars cruise the streets of Old Town every Friday and Saturday night.

MEDIEVAL TIMES DINNER AND TOURNAMENT is at 4510 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy. (US 192/W. Vine St.), within a re-created 11th century castle. Presented as a celebration in Queen Maria Isabella's castle, there are festivities, combat and a four-course meal served by staff members in period attire. Spectators sit in color-coded sections coordinated to knights and overlook tournament action in the Great Ceremonial Arena. Six knights on horseback compete to become champion with jousting matches, sword-fighting and medieval games of skill.

The Hall of Arms features décor, coats of arms and weaponry reminiscent of the Middle Ages, while the Museum of Torture displays reproduction medieval torture instruments. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (407) 396-1518 or (866) 543-9637.

Medieval Life, 4510 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy. (US 192/W. Vine St.), is a permanent re-creation of a medieval village. This 8-cottage hamlet showcases medieval artifacts and costumed artisans working their trades. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 396-1518.

MUSEUM OF MILITARY HISTORY, 5210 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., offers insight into World Wars I and II as well as the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf and Civil Wars with its interactive exhibits and displays of vehicles, uniforms, historic photos, weapons and gear. An extensive library is on site. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (407) 507-3894.

OSCEOLA COUNTY WELCOME CENTER AND HIS-TORY MUSEUM. 4155 W. Vine St., offers a detailed history of Osceola County with interactive displays about its discovery by the Spanish, the lives of pioneers and cracker cowboys, early industry and early tourism. Illustrating the county's history are historic photos, tools, clothing and a hand-dug 1750 canoe. Exhibits also provide details about such area habitats as swamplands, pine flatwoods, oak hammocks and lakefront. A trailhead to the Shingle Creek Regional Trail is located on the grounds.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 396-8644.



BAREFOOT SUITES

BOOK NOW 407/507-2750



Condominium. Address: 2750 Florida Plaza Blvd 34746.



CARIBE COVE RESORT BY VACASA BOOK NOW

407/997-4444



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 9000 Treasure Trove Ln 34747.



COMFORT SUITES MAINGATE EAST AT OLD TOWN BOOK NOW 407/397-7848





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2775 Florida Plaza Blvd 34746. Facility: 198 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





















DELTA HOTELS ORLANDO CELEBRATION BOOK NOW 407/396-7000





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS MARRIOTT

DELTA Resort Hotel. Address: 2900 Parkway Blvd 34747. Facility: Rooms are traditional in style and offer adequate floor space. Some units sleep up to six people. The pool area provides a nice spot to relax. The on-site coffee shop and restaurant add convenience. 718 units. 3-8 stories, interior corridors.

Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, recreation programs, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























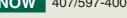




INSPECTED @ CLEAN

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA

SOUTH BOOK NOW 407/597-4000







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 4955 Kyngs Heath Rd 34746. Facility: 300 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation. (See ad p. 117.)































EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO SUNSET WALK BOOK NOW





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SUITES

EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 3151 Sunset Walk Dr 34747. Facility: 117 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























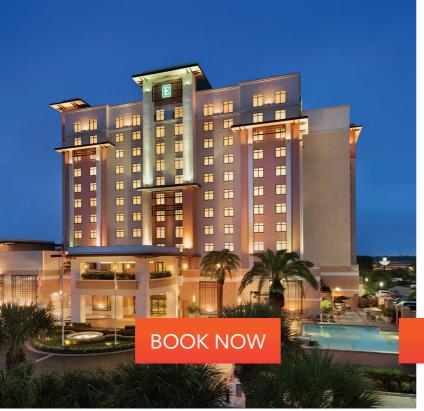
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ETTE HOTEL BOOK NOW 407/907-2568



Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 3001 Sherberth Rd 34747. Facility: The chic boutique hotel features unique décor with notable attention to detail. Feel pampered in rooms that feature indulging amenities including a mini-bar and cozy bedding. 126 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room, in-room exercise equipment, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.































FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO

KISSIMMEE/CELEBRATION BOOK NOW 407/390-1532



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 6073 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34747.

FANTASYWORLD RESORT BOOK NOW 407/396-8530



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 5005 Kyngs Heath Rd 34746. Facility: The popular resort offers spacious condos with a home-away-from-home feel. The units feature private, screened patios and kitchens with stainless-steel appliances. Recreational amenities are vast. 302 condominiums. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, playground, game room, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 119.)





































INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 3000 Maingate Ln 34747. Facility: 119 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. SAVE (I) CALL (L) (A) (BIZ (HS) (R) (X)



Lake Buena Vista South - Kissimmee, FL

FantasyWorld Resort is a family friendly vacation resort offering spacious two-bedroom vacation villas at an affordable price. Located minutes from Orlando's famous theme parks.

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GAYLORD HOTELS®

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 6000 W Osceola Pkwy 34746. Facility: Striking architecture greets guests at the eco-friendly hotel that offers top-notch service paired with impressive décor. Thematic rooms offer upscale décor and a balcony, many overlook the atrium. 1718 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 9 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, playground, game room, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area







transportation.



























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON KISSIMMEE NORTH BOOK NOW 407/997-7700



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 151 Centerview Blvd 34744.



HOLIDAY INN CLUB VACATIONS AT ORANGE LAKE RESORT BOOK NOW 407/239-0000

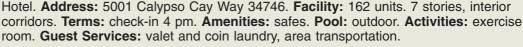
Resort Condominium. Address: 8505 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34747.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORLANDO-SOUTH LAKE BUENA

BOOK NOW 407/997-1400































HOLIDAY INN ORLANDO SW-CELEBRATION AREA BOOK NOW 407/396-4222



Hotel. Address: 5711 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34746. Facility: 444 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, playground, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























MAGIC VILLAGE VIEWS, TRADEMARK COLLECTION BY

WYNDHAM BOOK NOW 407/564-3200

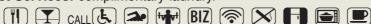


Condominium. Address: 7430 Brooklyn Dr 34747. Facility: The expansive, upscale units are well designed. Each quest room features a private bathroom, and the large kitchen and living areas with plenty of space for relaxing and spending time with companions. 125 houses. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.



























MARGARITAVILLE COTTAGES ORLANDO BY RENTYL BOOK NOW 321/888-3693



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Vacation Rental Cottage. Address: 8011 Fins Up Cir 34747. Facility: Nestled together in colorful communities in the Margaritaville Resort, the upscale cottages share the same laid-back island vibe. Units range in size, with the largest offering private pools. 345 kitchen cottage units, some two and three bedrooms. 2-3 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Some: video games. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: rental car service, area transportation.































MARGARITAVILLE COTTAGES ORLANDO - BY VSTAYS BOOK NOW 407/479-0996



Vacation Rental Cottage. Address: 8000 Fins Up Cir 34747. Facility: Nestled together in colorful communities in the Margaritaville Resort, the upscale cottages share the same laid-back island vibe. Units range in size, with the largest offering private pools. 92 kitchen cottage units, some two and three bedrooms. 3 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Some: video games. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, rental car service, area transportation.

































MARGARITAVILLE RESORT ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/479-0950



Resort Hotel. Address: 8000 Fins Up Cir 34747. Facility: Of course there are obvious nods to the Jimmy Buffet theme, but this resort offers something more with upscale accents, relaxed dining, plush furnishings and well designed rooms and bathrooms. 265 units. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, playground, lawn sports, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation. (See ad p. 123.)

































QUALITY INN HERITAGE PARK BOOK NOW 407/449-4777



Hotel. Address: 2039 E Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34744.



RED LION HOTEL LAKE BUENA VISTA SOUTH BOOK NOW 407/997-2800



Hotel. Address: 5150 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34746. Facility: 410 units, some efficiencies. 4-10 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, playground, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 124.)

































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ORLANDO

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8000 Fins Up Circle, Kissimmee, FL 34747

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REUNION RESORT & GOLF CLUB BOOK NOW 407/662-1000



Resort Condominium. Address: 7593 Gathering Dr 34747. Facility: Guest rooms are luxurious with custom furnishings, abundant space, walk-in showers and garden tubs. For a bit of fun and games, check out the pool area in the cove and visit the water park. 27 kitchen condominium units, some two bedrooms. 11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest **Services:** complimentary laundry, area transportation.

































SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA

SOUTH BOOK NOW 407/997-1300



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4991 Calypso Cay Way 34746. Facility: 150 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Activities: miniature golf, playground, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. SAVE CALL (Type BIZ (HS) (Type BIZ (HS)







Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5876 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34746. Facility: 224 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.





























WESTGATE TOWERS RESORT BOOK NOW 407/396-2500



Resort Condominium. Address: 7600 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 34747. Facility: The hotel is located just minutes from popular attractions. All rooms have either a balcony or a patio, many with a pool view. Some have a living room, a washer and dryer, and a jetted tub. 267 condominiums. 3-6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, playground, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.



























WYNDHAM ORLANDO RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER CELEBRATION

AREA BOOK NOW 407/396-1400



Hotel. Address: 3011 Maingate Ln 34747. Facility: 434 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, kids club, game room, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation.































LADY LAKE

- Hotels p. 126
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183



COMFORT SUITES THE VILLAGES BOOK NOW 352/259-6578





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1202 Avenida Central N 32159. Facility: 80 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























MICROTEL INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM LADY LAKE/THE

BOOK NOW 352/259-0184



Hotel. Address: 850 S US 27/441 32159.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT THE VILLAGES BOOK NOW 352/753-8686

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED & CLEAN®

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1141 Alonzo Ave 32159.

LAKE BUENA VISTA

- Hotels p. 132
 Restaurants p. 153
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Although claiming only a handful of fulltime residents, Lake Buena Vista is home to tens of thousands of temporary citizens—also known as tourists—on any day of the year thanks to its status as host community to the Walt Disney World® Resort. With its sprawling, meticulously planned theme parks and family-friendly hotels, Lake Buena Vista definitely lives up to its Spanish name, offering visitors "good views" that have been preserved in countless vacation photos. The name comes from the street in Burbank, Calif., where Walt Disney's animation studios have been since the early 1940s.

Celebration Welcome Center: 851 Celebration Ave., Celebration, FL 34747. Phone: (407) 566-1200.

WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORT, accessible from Florida's Tpke., US 192, Osceola Pkwy. and several exits off I-4 s. of Orlando, covers 40 square miles. The resort includes four theme parks: Magic Kingdom® Park, Epcot®, Disney's Hollywood Studios® and Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park; two water parks: more than 25 resort hotels: ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex; and Disney Springs®, a shopping and dining district with entertainment such as Drawn to Life by Cirque du Soleil.

Drawn to the area by its climate, highway access and inexpensive land, Walt Disney and his "Imagineers" began transforming acres of swamps and orange groves into a magical vacationland that opened in 1971. Magic Kingdom® Park was an instant success. Other theme parks were soon on the drawing board. Epcot[®], a celebration of technology and world cultures, opened in 1982.

Disney-MGM Studios (later Disney's Hollywood Studios®), a natural addition considering Disney's background in animation and TV and film production, followed in 1989. Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park completed the quartet in 1998.

Navigating the resort property is simple thanks to concise road signs as well as monorail, boat, bus and gondola transportation. At the theme parks, parking lot tram service helps save time, too. However, large crowds and long lines are to be expected, especially during holiday periods.

Phone: (407) 824-4321.

Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park, on Osceola Pkwy., celebrates nature and promotes conservation. At the island's center stands the 145-foot Tree of Life® with more than 300 intricate carvings of animals. Shown in a theater inside the tree, "It's Tough to be a Bug!®" is a comical 3-D, special-effects adventure inspired by the Disney•Pixar movie "A Bug's Life." In the attraction queue and on the Discovery Island® Trails there are many opportunities for up close viewing of the Tree of Life. Bridges branch off from the island into themed lands.

Pandora—The World of Avatar celebrates the magic of nature. Be sure to take an expedition through the Valley of Mo'ara, where one can walk amid floating mountains as well as encounter two attractions. On Avatar Flight of Passage, riders can fly on the back of a "mountain banshee" during a 3-D ride above a vast moon. For a more peaceful excursion, journey deep into a bioluminescent rainforest in search of the Na'vi Shaman of Songs on Na'vi River Journey.

Cross into Africa to explore Harambe, a village designed to look like a modern-day African town. Kilimanjaro Safaris® takes passengers on a bumpy ride in an open-air

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vehicle through a 100-acre savanna where antelopes. cheetahs, crocodiles, elephants, giraffes, lions, ostriches, rhinos and other animals roam freely.

Safari guides drop riders off at the Gorilla Falls Exploration Trail where animal viewing includes gorillas, hippos and exotic birds. The Wildlife Express Train transports visitors to Rafiki's Planet Watch®, an interactive, educational experience that includes Conservation Station[®], Habitat Habit! and Affection Section.

A Celebration of Festival of the Lion King, an extravagant theatrical show based on the film, is performed in Harambe Theatre.

The land of Asia features Expedition Everest[®], a highspeed train ride through the Himalayas, where the legendary yeti, also known as the abominable snowman, lurks. Then cool off during a white-water rafting adventure at Kali River Rapids®.

Beautiful Asian tigers can be seen from multiple vantage points on the Maharajah Jungle Trek®, where the pathway provides glimpses of other animals, including a Komodo dragon.

DinoLand U.S.A.® is the home of the thrill ride DINO-SAUR, which blasts back 65 million years to rescue a dinosaur from a deadly asteroid speeding toward Earth. Young kids and adults can hop on TriceraTop Spin to ride a flying dinosaur. The Boneyard® dig site is an open-air playground where children can maneuver through a maze of dinosaur skeletons and look for giant mammoth "bones." DinoLand USA is teeming with colorful new décor and festively dressed characters at Donald's Dino-Bash! You'll find more old friends than Disney's Animal Kingdom park has ever seen before—including Donald himself, Daisy, Goofy, Pluto and Launchpad McQuack. You'll even catch Chip 'n Dale in their all-new dinoinspired costumes. Phone: (407) 824-4321. TI

Disney's Blizzard Beach Water Park, 1500 W. Buena Vista Dr., is the polar opposite of other water parks; it's themed as a "melted ski resort" in the middle of Florida. Those who dare can plunge down a 120-foot drop with Summit Plummet waterslide, tackle a fast-paced tube run, take on the Teamboat Springs family raft ride or float leisurely along a creek.

For little ones, there's Tike's Peak—a special play area full of scaled-down, kid-size slides, rides and water jets. Inquire about how weather policies. **Phone:** (407) 560-9283. **TI**

Disney's Hollywood Studios®, 50 Animation Dr., has been inspired by popular films, television, music and animation. Art Deco architecture and design elements throughout the park recall old Hollywood. Guests

begin their immersion in entertainment via Hollywood Boulevard.

Catch the pulsating beat of Rock 'n' Roller Coaster® Starring Aerosmith in a twistin', turnin', loopin', high-speed limo ride that is sure to get the adrenaline jammin'. And never experience the same fear twice as you hurtle up and down on The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror™ haunted "elevator" attraction.

Take aim and ride on the interactive 4D Toy Story Mania!® attraction inspired by Disney•Pixar's "Toy Story" films, where you'll grab some 3D glasses, board a ride vehicle and zip off into a world of immersive, midway-style games hosted by popular Toy Story characters. In Toy Story Land, the Alien Swirling Saucers and the Slinky Dog Dash coaster add to the fun.

Have younger kids? Then head to an all-new Disney Junior show "Disney Junior Play and Dance!" where little ones can sing, clap and dance along with some favorite friends from Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, Doc McStuffins and more! Of course, people of all ages can enjoy watching the Broadway-style extravaganza "Beauty and the Beast Live on Stage."

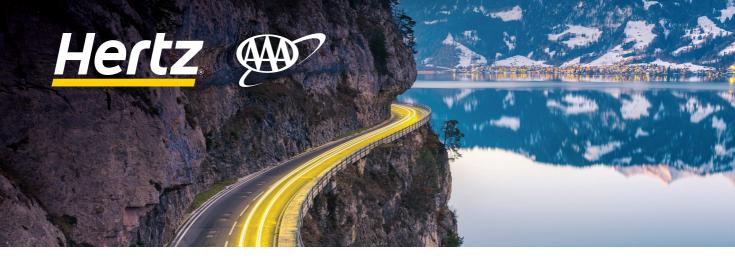
Everyone is sure to love Mickey & Minnie's Runaway Railway where you'll join the duo in an adventure through their cartoon world.

Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge boasts thrilling adventures like Millennium Falcon: Smugglers Run and Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance. Build your own lightsaber in Savi's Workshop and design a customized droid at the Droid Depot. For an out-of-this-world 3-D thrill, nothing beats Star Tours®—The Adventures Continue, featuring a constellation of interplanetary destinations and encounters with characters, such as C-3PO, R2-D2 and Darth Vader, you'll never know where the Force might take you.

Then head to the Hyperion Theater and enjoy "For the First Time in Forever: A Frozen Sing-Along Celebration" featuring Elsa and Anna, immersive storytelling, a mountain of songs from the movie and more. And finally, be dazzled by "Fantasmic!" where Sorcerer Mickey defeats some Disney Villains amid an extravaganza of lasers, lights, dancing waters and special effects.

Phone: (407) 824-4321.

Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park, 1195 E. Buena Vista Dr., re-creates a tropical paradise as imagined after "the storm of storms" blew through and left twisting slides. sandy beaches and one of the world's largest inland wave pool. Thrill-seekers can conquer Miss Adventure Falls, the family raft attraction, or Crush 'n' Gusher water coaster. Then there's the opportunity to chill out either on the beach or while one floats down a creek.



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Ketchakiddee Creek offers slides, rides and bubbling jets for the little ones. **Phone:** (407) 560-9283.

Disney Springs®, , 1486 Buena Vista Dr., is a waterfront complex offering eclectic boutiques, themed and celebrity restaurants, and live entertainment, including Drawn to Life by Cirque du Soleil and a House of Blues. Formerly known as the Downtown Disney® Area, it has evolved to encompass four neighborhoods: The Landing, a waterside district with one-of-a-kind boutique shops and wharfside eateries; Town Center, a promenade of one-of-a-kind boutiques and flagship stores; Marketplace, a hip Disney shopping experience with offerings ranging from a sophisticated art gallery to the world's largest collection of Disney merchandise; and West Side, where the air is mixed with the sound of applause for the nightly entertainment offerings.

Characters in Flight ride is a tethered balloon ride that ascends 400 feet, providing a panoramic view of Walt Disney World[®] Resort. Splitsville Luxury Lanes™ is a more than a 30-lane bowling alley; it offers live entertainment, billiard tables and diverse dining options. Retailers include Kate Spade New York, Sephora, UNIQLO and other specialty shops like M&M'S™ at Disney Springs, as well as World of Disney, which sells world-class Disney merchandise. For a sweet treat, try Ghirardelli Soda Fountain & Chocolate Shop.

Phone: (407) 934-7781.

Epcot®, 1580 Avenue of the Stars, stands for Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow. At Epcot®, high-tech fun and Disney imagination are combined with the wonder of diverse cultures in two distinct themed worlds bursting with thrills and excitement: Future World and World Showcase.

Are you ready to travel through space and time with Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind, the newest attraction located in World Discovery? If the answer is yes, this is the ride for you! This coaster rotates 360 degrees and is one of the largest fully-enclosed coasters in the world. Enjoy this intergalactic chase through the cosmos to save the galaxy with Star-Lord, Groot, Rocket and Gamora.

Design It. Floor It. On Test Track® Presented by Chevrolet®, you can design a virtual concept vehicle before boarding a special "SIM Car" and put your design through its paces. Discover how your custom concept vehicle performs on the hills, hairpin turns and straightaways of the Test Track circuit, at peak speeds of 65 mph. Afterward there are even more interactive experience to enjoy with your vehicle design. Steer over changing terrain and extreme conditions on a digital driving table, produce a TV

commercial starring your "dream ride," and immerse yourself in a Chevrolet showroom among other highlights.

Hoist the sails in Arendelle aboard an ancient Norwegian vessel as you set out into the wintry world of "Frozen!" On Frozen Ever After, you'll be whisked away to a frozen willow forest. Soon you will be rubbing shoulders with some "boulders"—aka Kristoff's family from Troll Valley—before bracing for the cold of the icy North Mountain, where Queen Elsa's enchanting palace awaits. (You might spot other "Frozen" characters as well.) When you're done, head to Royal Sommerhus where "for the first time in forever," you're invited to meet with Anna and Elsa inside a cozy summer cabin.

Strap yourselves in for Soarin' Around the World. On the airborne adventure, you'll go hang gliding above some of the breathtaking wonders of the world. Whether you're soaring above man-made marvels like the Great Wall of China, cruising over natural sights like Iguazu Falls in South America or swooping past sailboats in Australia's spectacular Sydney Harbour, this is your chance to experience the joy of hang gliding as you never have before.

World Celebration offers Journey of Water—inspired by Moana—that's scheduled to open in late 2023. You'll see gardens as well as an interactive fountain, wishing tree and a statue paying tribute to American animator and entrepreneur Walt Disney—who was a dreamer himself.

On The Seas with Nemo & Friends®, you don't need gills to dive into undersea adventure—just a "clammobile." So climb aboard and journey alongside Marlin and Dory on an exciting quest to find Nemo. Along the way, you'll meet up with Bruce the shark, ride the EAC and come face-to-fin with some real-life fish in a gigantic aquarium. It's an ocean of adventure inspired by Disney•Pixar's "Finding Nemo."

And while we're on the subject of our underwater friends, gather 'round a window to the ocean for a real-time Q-and-A session with a totally tubular turtle at the Turtle Talk with Crush experience also inspired by the film. Using his high-tech "hydrophone," Crush can communicate directly with little dudes and dudettes about literally anything that's on their minds. Righteous!

Then come have a ball inside the incredible icon of Epcot—Spaceship Earth! Narrated by actress Dame Judi Dench, this classic attraction will take you from living in the past to picturing yourself in the future. Afterward, you'll get to experience an interactive playground area where you can build, play, create, compete and explore.

Over in World Showcase, you can travel around the world without needing a passport. Here, 11 great nations offer the best of their food, music, products and culture. Journey through the poetic mountains of China, travel through France and sail down a river in Mexico. Plus, you

can shop 'til you drop, indulging in tempting Guerlain fragrances, Goebel Hummel figurines, glass etchings, antiques, trinkets, jewelry, gifts, toys and more.

At the France Pavilion, journey into the world of "Ratatouille" on Remy's Ratatouille Adventure where you'll take part of the fun in Gausteau's Paris restaurant.

The grand finale to your day? Harmonious, an inspiration of music, moving fountains, floating giant screens and special effects celebrating the worlds inspired by Disney's films.

Of course, during special times of the year, there's even more magic to discover, and it's included with your admission—like the fantastically fresh Epcot® International Festival of the Arts, where you can kick off your year with world-class cuisine, visual art and amazing live entertainment; and Epcot® International Flower & Garden Festival (early March-late May), where you can celebrate all things spring. At this incredible event, you can enjoy locally grown gardens and Disney Character topiaries, freshly picked music, garden-inspired recipes at a variety of outdoor kitchens and more.

Then come taste your way around the world in the fall during the Epcot® International Food & Wine Festival (late August to mid-November), where you'll discover more than 30 international food and beverage marketplaces, signature dining experiences with celebrated chefs, culinary demonstrations and wine seminars. There's also the live Eat to the Beat Concert Series, featuring nightly performances from popular artists.

Phone: (407) 824-4321, or (407) 939-3463 for dining reservations.

ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. 700 S. Victory Way (in Kissimmee), is a 230-acre, state-of-the-art sports venue, which hosts more than 60 sports and thousands of events for athletes of all ages and abilities. Train and compete with your team—or cheer as a spectator—in this grand sports setting where classic athletic ideals meet contemporary innovation. **Phone:** (407) 828-3267.

Magic Kingdom® Park is at 3111 World Dr.; guests can choose to take a brief ferry or monorail guests can choose to take a brief ferry or monorail ride to the main entrance from the Transportation and Ticket Center.

Delight in classic attractions (more than 40 of them), enchanting fireworks, musical parades and Disney characters across six themed lands. Fantasy becomes reality while experiencing Adventureland®, Frontierland®, Liberty Square®, Fantasyland®, Tomorrowland® and Main Street, U.S.A®, areas. Visits to the park begin on Main Street, U.S.A., representative of a typical late 19th-century boulevard complete with restaurants, shops and horse-drawn

streetcars. The Victorian boulevard leads to Cinderella Castle, a 189-foot icon. Walk through the archway to see the beautiful mosaic images depicting Cinderella's fairy

For some big-time enchantment, take a rollicking ride into the mine "where a million diamonds shine" aboard Seven Dwarfs Mine Train. Set sail on a swashbuckling voyage to a long-forgotten time and place when pirates and privateers ruled the seas on Pirates of the Caribbean®. And discover haunting surprises as you board a Doom Buggy and journey through Haunted Mansion® with your Ghost Host.

Looking for a thrill? Blast off on an indoor rocket-shaped coaster ride through the inky black of space on Space Mountain® or streak through a haunted gold-mining town aboard a runaway train on the Big Thunder Mountain Railroad® coaster.

And that's just for starters. Venture into Prince Eric's Castle and join Ariel and friends for the musical Under the Sea~Journey of the Little Mermaid attraction and become part of the "tale as old as time" during the interactive Enchanted Tales with Belle storytelling experience. Soar aboard Dumbo the Flying Elephant® before cooling off at Casey Jr. Splash 'N' Soak Station. Fly high on The Barnstormer featuring the Great Goofini. Then join your "Monster of Ceremonies" Mike Wazowski for Monsters, Inc. Laugh Floor®—a zany comedy showcase inspired by Disney•Pixar's "Monsters, Inc."

And since everyone loves a parade, the Mickey Celebration Calvalcade pop ups through out the day celebrating Disney World's 50th anniversary.

Finally, experience the grandest of finales with the newest fireworks show in the park: Disney Enchantment. Disney Enchantment will make you believe in magic. So gather around Cinderella Castle for a show with lasers, lights, fireworks and immersive projection effects.

For an extra fee, guests can attend Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party and Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party select evenings during the Halloween and Christmas seasons. Phone: (407) 824-4321.

INSIDER INFO:

Disney Tickets Parking and Pets

The entrance road leads to parking. The \$25 (\$30 for camper) fee allows standard parking at any of the four theme parks for that entire day; parking is free for registered Disney resort guests with valid resort ID. Free tram service connects the parking area with the Ticket and Transportation Center, Epcot®, Disney's Hollywood Studios® and Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park. Transportation also is available to all guest areas. Best Friends

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Pet Care Inc. full-service pet facility on Bonnett Creek Parkway provides dog and cat boarding and offers such amenities as grooming and opportunities for exercise.

Admissions

Customize your Disney vacation by selecting the ticket options that best match your budget, needs and preferences. The free Disney Genie, a digital service, serves as a travel planner for your visit. Options Lightning Lane Multi Pass and Lightning Lane Single Pass allow limited advanced bookings.

1. Choose up to 10 days.

 A base ticket is valid for one theme park per day. For each day of your ticket, you'll gain admission to one of the four Walt Disney World® Theme Parks. Essentially, the longer you visit, the less you will pay per day.

2. Add Options.

- The Park Hopper® Option allows guests to come and go as you please through multiple Theme Parks on the same day for each of your ticket.
- The Park Hopper[®] Plus Option adds Disney fun beyond just the parks. Visit more than one theme park per day, plus get a certain number of visits-based on the length of the ticket purchased—to one of the following: Disney's Blizzard Beach Water Park, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park, Disney's Oak Trail Golf Course, Disney's Fantasia Gardens Miniature Golf Course, Disney's Winter Summerland Miniature Golf Course or ESPN Wide

World of Sports Complex. Phone ahead to confirm schedules, additional fees, reservations, and weather or seasonal closures.

3. Save even more when you bundle.

All tickets and options are nontransferable and exclude activities or events separately priced. Ticket prices may change without notice. Visiting multiple Theme Parks on the same day requires The Park Hopper® or Park Hopper® Plus Options.

Florida Residents: Florida Residents can enjoy the excitement and fun at the four Walt Disney World® Resort Theme Parks with discounted Florida Resident 3-Day and 4-Day Disney Select Tickets. With a Florida Resident Disney Select Ticket, you can enjoy admission to one theme park per day. Choose from Magic Kingdom® Park, Epcot®, Disney's Hollywood Studios®, and Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park. Florida Residents are also eligible for discounts on Annual Passes as well as the Park Hopper[®] and Park Hopper[®] Plus Options.

Prices do not include tax. Tickets and Options are nontransferable, non-refundable and expire 14 days from first use. Passes are non-transferable, non-refundable and expire one year from date of issue. All Parks, attractions, and entertainment may be changed, canceled or discontinued without notice and without liability.

Select Theme Park tickets are available at participating AAA/CAA Travel offices.



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407/934-7639



Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 4600 N World Dr 32830.

BLUE TREE RESORT AT LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/238-6000



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 12007 Cypress Run Rd 32836. Facility: Located near major attractions, the property features spacious rooms that cater well to families. Each has a living room, a sofa sleeper and a patio. Not all buildings have elevator service. 275 condominiums. 3 stories, exterior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, playground, game room, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





















BOULDER RIDGE VILLAS AT DISNEY'S WILDERNESS LODGE BOOK NOW

407/934-7639

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 901 W Timberline Dr 32830.





BUENA VISTA SUITES ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/239-8588

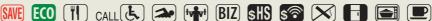


Hotel. Address: 8203 World Center Dr 32821. Facility: 279 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 134.)

































CARIBE ROYALE ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/238-8000



Hotel. Address: 8101 World Center Dr 32821. Facility: Rooms are stylish with plenty of space which includes a living area that closes off from the bedroom and bathroom. The inviting pool area features a splash pad, a waterfall and covered seating. 1337 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 4-10 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, also, The Venetian Chop House, see separate listing, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, trails, exercise room, spa, Guest Services; valet and coin laundry, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 134.)







































COPPER CREEK VILLAS AND CABINS BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Hotel, Address: 901 W Timberline Dr 32830.



AN ALL-SUITE RESORT Experience Luxury. Discover Magic.

- Newly reimagined one-bedroom suites and two-bedroom villas with full kitchen
- Waterfall pool with 75' Waterslide, Kid's Pool and Playground
- Eight diverse restaurants and bars including AAA Four Diamond The Venetian Chop House
- New Stadium Clubsm sports bar with sports simulators
- Extensive Recreational Amenities
- Complimentary Walt Disney World® Theme Park Shuttle Service
- Spa, Fitness Center and Sport Court with pickleball, Padel tennis and basketball



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136 LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT LAKE BUENA VISTA AT VISTA

CENTRE

BOOK NOW 407/239-6900



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Hotel. Address: 8501 Palm Pkwy 32836.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA IN THE MARRIOTT

BOOK NOW 407/938-9001



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8623 Vineland Ave 32821. Facility: 312 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

























CROWNE PLAZA ORLANDO - LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/239-8400



Hotel. Address: 8686 Palm Pkwy 32836. Facility: 200 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. SAVE ECO



DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA

BOOK NOW 407/387-9999



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 12490 Apopka-Vineland Rd 32836.

DISNEY'S ALL-STAR MOVIES RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel, Address: 1901 W Buena Vista Dr 32830.

DISNEY'S ALL-STAR MUSIC RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639 Resort Hotel, Address: 1801 W Buena Vista Dr 32830. THREE DIAMOND

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THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

DISNEY'S ALL-STAR SPORTS RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1701 W Buena Vista Dr 32830. THREE DIAMOND

DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM LODGE & VILLAS-JAMBO HOUSE **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639 Resort Hotel. Address: 2901 Osceola Pkwy 32830.

DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM LODGE & VILLAS-KIDANI VILLAGE **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639 Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 3701 Osceola Pkwy 32830. FOUR DIAMOND

DISNEY'S ART OF ANIMATION RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/938-7000

Hotel. Address: 1850 Century Dr 32830. THREE DIAMOND

DISNEY'S BEACH CLUB RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1800 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830. FOUR DIAMOND

DISNEY'S BEACH CLUB VILLAS **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 1800 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

138 LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL

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DISNEY'S BOARDWALK INN BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel Address: 2101 N Encot Resorts Blvd

Resort Hotel. Address: 2101 N Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

DISNEY'S BOARDWALK VILLAS BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 2101 N Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

DISNEY'S CARIBBEAN BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

THREE DIAMOND Resort Hotel. Address: 900 Cayman Way 32830.

DISNEY'S CONTEMPORARY RESORT BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 4600 N World Dr 32830.

DISNEY'S CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 1001 W Buena Vista Blvd 32830.

DISNEY'S FORT WILDERNESS RESORT & CAMPGROUND BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Vacation Rental Cabin. Address: 4510 N Fort Wilderness Tr 32830.

DISNEY'S GRAND FLORIDIAN RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 4401 Grand Floridian Way 32830.

DISNEY'S OLD KEY WEST RESORT BOOK NOW 407/934-7639

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 1510 N Cove Rd 32830.

BOOK NOW DISNEY'S POLYNESIAN VILLAGE RESORT 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1600 Seven Seas Dr 32830.

DISNEY'S POP CENTURY RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1050 Century Dr 32830. THREE DIAMOND

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DISNEY'S PORT ORLEANS RESORT-FRENCH QUARTER **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 2201 Orleans Dr 32830. THREE DIAMOND

DISNEY'S PORT ORLEANS RESORT-RIVERSIDE **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1251 Riverside Dr 32830.

DISNEY'S RIVIERA RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/939-5277

Resort Hotel. Address: 1080 Esplanade Ave 32819. FOUR DIAMOND

DISNEY'S SARATOGA SPRINGS RESORT & SPA **BOOK NOW**

Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 1960 Broadway 32830. THREE DIAMOND

DISNEY'S WILDERNESS LODGE **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 901 W Timberline Dr 32830. FOUR DIAMOND

DISNEY'S YACHT CLUB RESORT **BOOK NOW** 407/934-7639

Resort Hotel. Address: 1700 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

DOUBLETREE SUITES BY HILTON HOTEL ORLANDO IN THE WALT DISNEY WORLD

BOOK NOW 407/934-1000





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 2305 Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830. Facility: 236 units, some

two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Some: video games. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, playground, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation.































DRURY PLAZA HOTEL ORLANDO - DISNEY SPRINGS AREA

BOOK NOW

407/560-6111

Hotel, Address: 2000 Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830. THREE DIAMOND

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO-LAKE BUENA VISTA

BOOK NOW 407/239-1144

INSPECTED @ CLEAN















EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 8100 Lake St 32836. Facility: 334 units. 5-6 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities:

hot tub, cabanas, tennis, playground, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



































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FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA IN THE MARRIOTT BOOK NOW 407/938-9001



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Fairfield Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

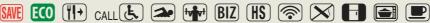
Hotel. Address: 8615 Vineland Ave 32821. Facility: 388 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























FOUR SEASONS RESORT ORLANDO AT WALT DISNEY WORLD

RESORT BOOK NOW 407/313-7777



Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 10100 Dream Tree Blvd 32836. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This luxurious resort offers rooms designed with both comfort and technology in mind. All are equipped with an iPad-based system, a Bose Bluetooth speaker and a device-charging station. 443 units. 17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, also, Capa, see separate listing, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, playground, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation.

































SOME (*)









Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 8317 Lake Bryan Beach Blvd 32821.



HAMPTON INN ORLANDO-LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/465-8150



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 8150 Palm Pkwy 32836.

HILTON GARDEN INN LAKE BUENA VISTA/ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/239-9550



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 11400 Marbella Palm Ct 32836. Facility: 137 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























HILTON ORLANDO BUENA VISTA PALACE, DISNEY SPRINGS

BOOK NOW

407/827-2727





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1900 E Buena Vista Dr 32830. Facility: 1011 units. 6-27 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: hot tub, cabanas, playground, lawn sports, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

(See ad on inside front cover.)

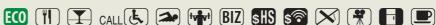
































HILTON ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA - DISNEY SPRINGS

BOOK NOW 407/827-4000



























stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.









rental car service, area transportation. (See ad on inside front cover, front cover.)

















HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORLANDO -LK BUENA VISTA

BOOK NOW 407/778-7888



Hotel. Address: 11409 Marbella Palm Ct 32836. Facility: 140 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























HOLIDAY INN ORLANDO-DISNEY SPRINGS AREA BOOK NOW 407/828-8888



Hotel. Address: 1805 Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830. Facility: 324 units. 6-14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























HOLIDAY INN RESORT ORLANDO-LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/239-4500



Hotel. Address: 13351 SR 535 32821. Facility: 496 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. recreation programs, playground, game room, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.































THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOLIDAY INN RESORT ORLANDO SUITES-WATERPARK BOOK NOW

407/387-5437

Resort Hotel. Address: 14500 Continental Gateway 32821.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON LAKE BUENA

VISTA/ORLANDO

BOOK NOW 407/239-4540



THREE DIAMOND



HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11428 Marbella Palm Ct 32836. Facility: 130 units, some two bedrooms and efficiencies. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





















HYATT REGENCY GRAND CYPRESS BOOK NOW 407/239-1234





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 1 Grand Cypress Blvd 32836. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Set on a small lake, the hotel has great views of a protected preserve and rooms with inviting design elements. Guests enjoy leisure time in pool areas enhanced with bronze statues and waterfalls. 779 units. 18 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, self-propelled boats, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



FOUR DIAMOND





























LAKE BUENA VISTA RESORT VILLAGE & SPA BOOK NOW 407/597-0214



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 8113 Resort Village Dr 32821. Facility: Located near the attractions, this condominium-style hotel is within walking distance of restaurants and shops. The luxurious, spacious units feature a kitchen, a living area and a private balcony. 496 condominiums. 8-15 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.





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ORLANDO WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT BOOK NOW 407/239-4200



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 8701 World Center Dr 32821. Facility: At the end MARRIOTT of a long, winding road, the impressive resort features cozy, inviting rooms with upscale décor. The sprawling pool area is not to be missed, especially

during the nightly laser show. 2009 units. 5-28 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 10 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, regulation golf, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, luggage security pick-up, area transportation.

































RENAISSANCE ORLANDO RESORT & SPA DISNEY SPRINGS RESORT

BOOK NOW 407/828-2828



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1905 Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830.

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA

BOOK NOW

407/465-0075



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[SAVE] [fyi] Extended Stay Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 11450 Marbella Palms Ct 32836. Facility: 210 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



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*Discount applies to Pay Later base rate only. Taxes, fees, & options are excluded. Additional terms & exclusions apply. © 2024 Hertz System, Inc. All rights reserved. CS 924009



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.



ROSEN INN LAKE BUENA VISTA ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/996-7300



Hotel. Address: 8442 Palm Pkwy 32836. Facility: 640 units. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: playground, game room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.















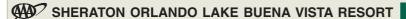












BOOK NOW 407/239-0444



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SHERATON Hotel. Address: 12205 Apopka-Vineland Rd 32836. Facility: 486 units. 6 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee). **Terms:**

check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation.



























SHERATON'S VISTANA RESORT VILLAS, LAKE BUENA

VISTA/ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/239-3100





SHERATON VACATION CLUB AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Condominium. Address: 8800 Vistana Centre Dr 32821. Facility: Set on 135 acres with convenient access to Orlando's major

attractions, the inviting complex has upscale one and two bedroom units with a full kitchen, a living and dining area, and a screened patio. 1682 condominiums. 2-5 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























SIGNIA BY HILTON ORLANDO BONNET CREEK BOOK NOW 407/597-3600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

ton Resort Hotel. Address: 14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Ln 32821. Facility: Just minutes from Disney Springs, the hotel offers impressive rooms with a contemporary style. Many have gorgeous views of the pool, golf course and Disney surroundings or a view of a nature preserve. 1009 units. 17 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 12 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, regulation golf, recreation programs, game room, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 148.)





























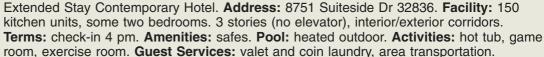






SONESTA ES SUITES ORLANDO - LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/238-0777





































SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT AT THE MARRIOTT VILLAGE LAKE BUENA

BOOK NOW 407/938-9001



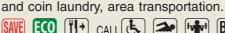




















Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!









SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott MARRIOTT

Hotel. Address: 8601 Vineland Ave 32821. Facility: 400 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet

























Experience serenity at the newly transformed Waldorf Astoria Orlando, recently voted the 9th best resort in the world by the 2024 Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards. Our luxury resort offers 171 spacious residential style suites, two serene pools with private cabanas, a world-class spa, a championship golf course, and six exceptional dining experiences. As an Official Walt Disney World® Hotel, guests enjoy exclusive early park entry and complimentary transportation to the Walt Disney World® Theme Parks. Indulge in an unforgettable escape where every moment is crafted to perfection.















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ORLANDO BONNET CREEK



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO THEME PARKS/LAKE BUENA

BOOK NOW I

407/635-8500



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8040 Palm Pkwy 32836. Facility: 180 units, some kitchens. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO THEME PARKS/LAKE BUENA

VISTA BOOK NOW

407/239-4005



SUITES®-MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8040 Palm Pkwy 32836. Facility: 155 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 6 stories, interior corridors.

Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN





























WALDORF ASTORIA ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/597-5500







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

ASTORIA® HOTELS & RESORTS

WALDORF Resort Hotel. Address: 14200 Bonnet Creek Resort Ln 32821. Facility: The spa, golf course and gorgeous pool area with cabanas and a lazy river offer plenty of opportunities for fun and relaxation. After a full day, retreat to your inviting room for a good night's rest. 502 units, some two bedrooms. 15

stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants, also, Bull & Bear Restaurant, see separate listing, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 148.)

































WALT DISNEY WORLD DOLPHIN BOOK NOW 407/934-4000







AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SHERATON Resort Hotel. Address: 1500 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830. Location:

Waterfront. Facility: The expansive hotel's iconic, rooftop dolphin statue is hard to miss. After a full day of activities, the modern rooms and comfortable bedding makes it a breeze to rest easy. 1514 units. 20 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, also, Shula's America's Steak House, Todd English's bluezoo, see separate listings, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, recreation programs, playground, game room, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Sheraton Hotels.



































WALT DISNEY WORLD SWAN RESERVE BOOK NOW 407/842-4900





AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

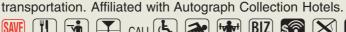
Hotel. Address: 1255 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830. Facility: The trendy hotel offers guests an intimate setting which is perfect for relaxing and socializing. Get refreshed at the lobby bar or socialize in the attractive rooftop pool area. 349 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area





























WALT DISNEY WORLD SWAN RESORT BOOK NOW 407/934-3000





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 1200 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830. Location: Waterfront. Facility: The elegant, iconic swan proudly rests atop the hotel which creates a warm welcome for guests. The comfortably designed, modern rooms are a joy to retire to at the end of a busy day. 756 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, also, Il Mulino New York Trattoria, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, playground, health club, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Westin Hotels.

































WESTGATE BLUE TREE RESORT AT LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/597-2200



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 12007 Cypress Run Rd 32836. Facility: Located near major attractions and many restaurants, the property is well designed for families and large groups. The spacious one and two-bedroom units have a living room, a kitchen and a patio. 119 condominiums, some two bedrooms. 3 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, playground, game room, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.































WORLDQUEST RESORT BOOK NOW 407/387-3800



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 8849 World Quest Blvd 32821.



WYNDHAM BONNET CREEK RESORT BOOK NOW 407/238-3500



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 9560 Via Encinas 32830. Location: Waterfront. Facility: The sprawling resort with condo-style suites offers many recreational amenities that appeal to families. Enjoy the popular lazy river, which meanders around the pool. 1149 condominiums. 4-15 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, miniature golf, recreation programs, kids club, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.





























WYNDHAM GARDEN LAKE BUENA VISTA DISNEY SPRINGS RESORT

BOOK NOW 407/842-6644



Hotel. Address: 1850B Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830. Facility: 394 units. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. **Dining:** 4 restaurants. **Pool:** outdoor, heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, game room, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 154.)





























WYNDHAM GRAND ORLANDO RESORT BONNET CREEK BOOK NOW 407/390-2300



Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 14651 Chelonia Pkwy 32821. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Guest rooms vary in layout with many offering great views of the beautifully landscaped grounds. Some deluxe suites have an area with bunk beds and a separate TV for the kids to enjoy. 400 units, some two bedrooms. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, also, deep blu Seafood Grille, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, recreation programs, game room, picnic facilities, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN































WYNDHAM LAKE BUENA VISTA DISNEY SPRINGS RESORT

BOOK NOW 407/828-4444



Resort Hotel. Address: 1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd 32830. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Enjoy the convenience of staying near Disney Springs and the theme parks. The rooms are chic, inviting and comfortable. Some have views of the Disney parks. 232 units. 19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, game room, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 154.)





























WHERE TO EAT



ARTIST POINT 407/939-3463



Regional American Casual Dining. Address: 901 W Timberline Dr 32830.



BULL & BEAR RESTAURANT 407/597-5500



New Steak Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 14200 Bonnet Creek Resort Ln 32821.



CALIFORNIA GRILL 407/934-3463



Regional American Fine Dining. Address: 4660 World Dr 32830.





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407-828-4444

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Lake Buena Vista

Disney Springs® Resort Area

For Reservations Call: 1-844-482-8444

1850B Hotel Plaza Boulevard Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

407-842-6644

#WynGardenLBV



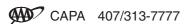


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- Scheduled daily transportation to the Walt Disney World® Theme Parks (reservations are required)
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- LakeView Restaurant breakfast buffet, Joffrey's Coffee Shop, Sundial Café, and the Oasis Restaurant & Bar located poolside



156 LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL





Basque Steak Fine Dining. Address: 10100 Dream Tree Blvd, Suite C 32836.





Seafood Fine Dining. **Expert Advice:** The open kitchen offers an opportunity to observe the chefs at work in the trendy, upscale spot where focus is placed on sustainable items procured from local farms. The staff is attentive, and the menu selections include various seafood options - including local Florida catch, and steak. Tables near the windows overlook the expansive pool area. **Features:** full bar, happy hour. **Reservations:** suggested. **Address:** 14651 Chelonia Pkwy 32821. **Parking:** on-site and valet.

D CALL





Italian Fine Dining. Address: 1200 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

JIKO-THE COOKING PLACE 407/939-3463



African Fine Dining. Address: 2901 Osceola Pkwy 32820.

OHANA 407/939-3463



Polynesian Casual Dining. Address: 1600 Seven Seas Dr 32830.

SHULA'S AMERICA'S STEAK HOUSE 407/934-1362



Steak Fine Dining. Address: 1500 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

TODD ENGLISH'S BLUEZOO 407/934-4644



Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 1500 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

TOLEDO 407/934-7639



Steak Seafood Casual Dining. Address: 1001 W Buena Vista Blvd 32830.



THE VENETIAN CHOP HOUSE 407/238-8060



Continental Fine Dining. Address: 8101 World Center Dr 32821.



VICTORIA & ALBERT'S 407/939-5277



New American Fine Dining. Expert Advice: The experience is the epitome of traditional fine dining. Nestled in the picturesque setting of Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa, the restaurant reflects the elegant style of the Victorian era. Upon obtaining a highly coveted reservation, expect to spend the evening as a pampered guest. Personalized menus reflect the ever changing expectations of the modern palate. International flavors and the finest ingredients are masterfully prepared by a team of chefs. Features: full bar. Reservations: required. Address: 4401 Grand Floridian Way 32830. Parking: on-site and valet. D CALL



YACHTSMAN STEAKHOUSE 407/934-3818



Steak Casual Dining. Address: 1700 Epcot Resorts Blvd 32830.

LAKE CITY

• Hotels p. 157

Prior to 1830, Lake City was called Alpata Telophka, or Alligator Village, by its original residents, the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Sixty miles west of Jacksonville, today Lake City also is known as "The Gateway to Florida,"

since many tourists drive through the town via I-75 and I-10 on their way to destinations further south.

Stop here for some outdoor fun: Ride a bike or hike on trails along the Suwanee River or hit the links at several local country clubs. Be inspired by football player and sportscaster Pat Summerall, who hailed from Lake City and played baseball, basketball, football and tennis at Columbia High School.



BEST WESTERN PLUS LAKE CITY BOOK NOW 386/754-5944















Hotel. Address: 350 SW Florida Gateway Dr 32024. Facility: 60 units. 3 stories, interior









COMFORT SUITES

BOOK NOW 386/755-9028





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3690 W US Hwy 90 32024. Facility: 94 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT LAKE CITY BOOK NOW 386/466-1014



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 538 SW Corporate Dr 32055.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES LAKE CITY BOOK NOW 386/487-0580



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 450 SW Florida Gateway Dr 32024.



HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES

BOOK NOW

386/754-1411



Hotel. Address: 213 SW Commerce Dr 32025.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON

BOOK NOW

386/487-9890



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 414 SW Florida Gateway Dr 32024.



TRU BY HILTON LAKE CITY BOOK NOW 386/259-6640



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 284 NW Centurion Ct 32055.



AAA Diamonds are now Inspected Clean: AAA.com/diamonds

LAKELAND Hotels p. 159

Lakeland encompasses 13 lakes that provide many opportunities for fishing, boating and water skiing. The area also offers pleasant surroundings for such sports as golf and tennis. Long known for its citrus growing and phosphate mining industries, Lakeland also boasts an infusion of high-tech and service industries into the commercial mix.

The world's largest group of buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright is on the Florida Southern College campus at 750 Frank Lloyd Wright Way. The 1938 Annie Pfeiffer Chapel was the first structure here: others were patterned after its "Child of the Sun" theme. The Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center has exhibits about Wright's work. Maps for a self-guiding tour are available at the center or outside the administration building; phone (863) 680-4597 for information on guided tours.

Hollis Garden, 702 E. Orange St., is a formal botanical garden that includes water features, a koi pond, a butterfly garden, ornamental shrubs, flowering plants and herbs; phone (863) 834-2280. Barnett Family Park, adjacent to Hollis Garden, has several play areas for children, including a water park, a labyrinth, swings and large sculptures.

During March the city is the spring-training camp for baseball's Detroit Tigers, and from April through August it is the home of the Lakeland Flying Tigers. Exhibition games are played at Publix Field at Joker Marchant Stadium; phone (863) 686-8075 or (866) 668-4437. Ice hockey games, concerts, ballet performances and trade shows are among the entertainment presented at The

Lakeland Center, 701 W. Lime St.; phone (863) 834-8111 for ticket information.

In mid-April, Lakeland is the site of the 5-day Sun 'n Fun International Fly-In & Expo, which attracts visitors and vendors from around the world. In addition to 500 commercial exhibitors, there are workshops, forums and daily air shows, and the exhibits and aircraft of the Aerospace Discovery at the Florida Air Museum (see attraction listing this page). For information, phone (863) 644-2431.

Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce: 35 Lake Morton Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801. Phone: (863) 688-8551.

Self-guiding tours: Information about tours of the downtown historic district is available from the chamber of commerce.

Shopping: Lakeland Square Mall, off I-4 exit 32 at 3800 US 98N, contains Dillard's, JCPenney and Sears. Art and antique lovers can find an eclectic choice of shops and dealers in the city's antiques district, 2 blocks north of Main Street along Kentucky Avenue and Pine Street.

AEROSPACE DISCOVERY AT THE FLORIDA AIR MU-SEUM is at 4175 Medulla Rd. at the Lakeland Linder Regional Airport. The museum houses collectible aircraft including many unusual experimental and homebuilt models. Amphibious aircraft, biplanes, sailplanes, sports planes, ultralights, simulators and a collection of aircraft engines are among the items on display. Visitors can see aeronautical memorabilia from the collection of tycoon Howard Hughes. An interactive activity area features S.T.E.M. learning stations and immersive aerospace activities. Interactive smartphone tours are available.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (863) 644-6833. GT



BEST WESTERN PLUS LAKELAND BOOK NOW 863/262-3900



Hotel. Address: 4225 New Tampa Hwy 33815. Facility: 70 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Activities: exercise room.





















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COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT LAKELAND BOOK NOW 863/802-9000



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3725 Harden Blvd 33803. Facility: 78 units. 3 stories, interior corridors.

Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















HAMPTON INN & SUITES LAKELAND-SOUTH/POLK PARKWAY

BOOK NOW

863/603-7600



Hampton)

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3630 Lakeside Village Blvd 33803. Facility: 117 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























HAMPTON INN LAKELAND

BOOK NOW 863/816-2525



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4420 N Socrum Loop Rd 33809.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES LAKELAND NORTH BOOK NOW

863/595-4500

Hotel. Address: 4500 Lakeland Park Dr 33809.

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HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON LAKELAND BOOK NOW 863/500-6869





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3610 Lakeside Village Blvd 33803. Facility: 110 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and



























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT LAKELAND BOOK NOW 863/680-2323



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3701 Harden Blvd 33803.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT LAKELAND BOOK NOW

863/413-1700



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 511 W Lime St 33815. Facility: 126 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























TRAVELODGE BY WYNDHAM LAKELAND

BOOK NOW

863/858-4481



Motel. Address: 3425 Hwy 98 N 33809.

LAKE MARY

- Hotels p. 162
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

The "City of Lakes" bustles with weekday commuters employed at thriving businesses representing high-tech, telemarketing and other concerns. This Orlando bedroom community also accommodates travelers who want to make a base within an hour's drive of east coast beaches and the theme parks. Restaurants and boutiques border Central Park (100 N. Country Club Rd.), where visitors can relish the small-town vibe at the Saturday morning farmers market and at WineART Wednesday evenings (first week of the month).





CANDLEWOOD SUITES LAKE MARY BOOK NOW 407/585-3000



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1130 Greenwood Blvd 32746.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES LAKE MARY AT COLONIAL

TOWNPARK **BOOK NOW** 407/995-9000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 850 Village Oak Ln 32746.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON LAKE MARY ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/804-2521



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[SAVE] Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 582 New Technology Blvd 32746.

ORLANDO MARRIOTT LAKE MARY BOOK NOW 407/995-1100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1501 International Pkwy 32746. Facility: 307 units. 10 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry,

area transportation. (See ad p. 163.)



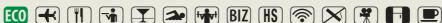




































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO LAKE MARY BOOK NOW 407/995-3400



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 825 Heathrow Park Ln 32746.



Get member rates and reservations at AAA.com/hertz



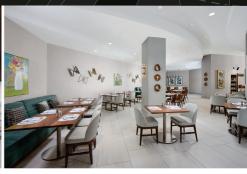
1501 International Parkway Lake Mary, FL 32746 T: 407.995.1100



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THE WESTIN LAKE MARY, ORLANDO NORTH BOOK NOW 407/531-3555





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2974 International Pkwy 32746. Facility: 253 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation.































LAKE PLACID

Hotels p. 164

Lake Stearns was renamed Lake Placid in the late 1920s by Melvil Dewey, creator of the Dewey Decimal Classification, a system for cataloging library books. A resident of Lake Placid, N.Y., Dewey wintered in Florida and was instrumental in the town's development as a resort. The town boasts dozens of murals that depict the area's history and ecology. It is also the Caladium Capital of the World.

Lake Placid is surrounded by 29 freshwater lakes that provide innumerable opportunities for fishing and boating.

Lake June-in-Winter Scrub State Park is approximately 7 miles west off US 27; phone (863) 386-6099.

Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Center: 18 N. Oak Ave., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: (863) 465-4331.

THE MURALS OF LAKE PLACID are downtown. Forty-six colorful murals (some with sound) depict the history and ecology of the town and surrounding area. The artwork adorns town buildings and other structures, including fences and trash cans. Booklets for self-guiding tours can be purchased at shops and from the chamber of commerce, 18 N. Oak Ave. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (863) 465-4331.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES LAKE PLACID

BOOK NOW

863/465-9916



Hotel. Address: 608 S Lakeview Rd 33852.

LAKE WALES

On North Wales Drive at Dr. J.A. Whiltshire Drive in Lake Wales a bizarre phenomenon occurs: Through optical illusion, cars appear to roll uphill. To experience this mystery, park your car at the bottom of the incline known as Spook Hill and release the brake.

It is said that the Spook Hill mystery stems from a Seminole legend in which Chief Cufcowellax and his tribe settled on Lake Wailes. Soon a huge bull alligator moved into the lake and regularly attacked the Native Americans. Aided by the Great Spirit, the chief stalked the beast and engaged him in a monthlong battle, after which the chief rose from the water in victory.

During the battle a small lake, now Crystal Lake, appeared next to the big one. The chief was later buried on the shores of the new lake. Some attribute the Spook Hill enigma to the alligator seeking revenge, while others speculate that Cufcowellax has returned to defend his homeland from encroachment.

Housed in a 1927 mission-style structure that served as a Catholic church for 60 years, Polk State College's Lake Wales Arts Center at 1099 SR 60 E. provides gallery and performance space for actors and artists; phone (863) 298-6883 or (863) 676-8426. Florida's Natural Grove House Visitor Center at 20160 US 27 offers displays and video presentations about the citrus industry and information about



local attractions, as well as a free glass of juice; phone (863) 679-4110.

Lake Wales Area Chamber of Commerce: 340 W. Central Ave., Lake Wales, FL 33859. Phone: (863) 676-3445.

Shopping: Art galleries, antique shops and specialty stores can be found in the downtown Lake Wales Historic District. 2 blocks east of US 27.

BOK TOWER GARDENS, 3 mi. n. off CR 17A (Burns Ave.) at 1151 Tower Blvd., consists of 250 acres with Olmsted-designed gardens, a 205-foot marble and coguina bell tower and Pinewood Estate, a Mediterranean-style mansion. One of Florida's oldest attractions, the tower and gardens were dedicated to the American people in 1929 by President Calvin Coolidge on behalf of founder Edward Bok, a Dutch immigrant. New gardens include a children's garden and a Florida wild garden and bog.

Other features include daily concerts from the 60-bell carillon, a nature observatory and Pine Ridge Nature Preserve Trail. The visitor center presents art exhibits, an orientation film and exhibits about the Bok legacy, the carillon, and endangered plants and animals found on the property.

Phone: (863) 676-1408 or (863) 734-1222.

GT (TI) FA-

LAND O' LAKES

- Hotels p. 165
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305



Hotel. Address: 16615 Crosspointe Run 34638. Facility: 107 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























LARGO

- Hotels p. 166
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Largo is bordered on three sides by water—the Gulf of Mexico circles around the west and south sides, and Tampa Bay is on the eastern border. In 1905 when it became a city, it had 291 residents and covered 1 square mile.

Tee off at Bardmoor Golf and Tennis Club, 8001 Cumberland Rd., or at East Bay Golf Club, 702 Country Club Dr.; phone (727) 392-1234 or (727) 581-3333, respectively. City-run Largo Golf Course, 12500 N. Vonn Rd., offers nine holes; phone (727) 518-3024.

Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce: 801 W. Bav Center, Suite 602, Largo, FL 33770. Phone: (727) 584-2321.

Shopping: Catch some rays while browsing clothing, jewelry and books at the Largo Mall. The open-air shopping center on the corner of Ulmerton Road (SR 688) and Seminole Boulevard is home to a cinema and more than 70 other businesses, including eateries, local boutiques, and such chain retailers as Bealls and Marshalls.

HERITAGE VILLAGE is at 11909 125th St. N. Thirty-three restored structures on the grounds of this 21-acre livinghistory museum depict life during the early days of Pinellas County. **Phone:** (727) 582-2123.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON LARGO BOOK NOW 727/501-0001





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10145 Ulmerton Rd 33771. Facility: 118 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated

outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























LEESBURG

Hotels p. 166

Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

BEST WESTERN PLUS CHAIN OF LAKES INN & SUITES

BOOK NOW |

352/460-0118



Hotel. Address: 1321 N 14th St 34748. Facility: 70 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























HAMPTON INN LEESBURG/TAVARES BOOK NOW 352/315-1053



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 9630 US Hwy 441 34788.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT LEESBURG BOOK NOW

352/314-9700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[SAVE] Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 238 Eagles Watch St 34748.

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LIVE OAK

• Hotels p. 167

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 386/362-2600

Hotel. Address: 6694 US 129 N 32060.

LONGBOAT KEY

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THREE DIAMOND

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THREE DIAMOND

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THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED
CLEAN

• Hotels p. 167

THE RESORT AT LONGBOAT KEY CLUB BOOK NOW 941/383-8821

Resort Condominium. Address: 220 Sands Point Rd 34228.

ZOTA BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 941/383-2451

Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4711 Gulf of Mexico Dr 34228.

LUTZ

- Hotels p. 167
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

HILTON GARDEN INN-TAMPA-SUNCOAST PKWY BOOK NOW 813/491-4900

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED © CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SWE Hotel. Address: 2155 Northpointe Pkwy 33558.

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT TAMPA SUNCOAST PARKWAY AT NORTHPOINTE

VILLAGE BOOK NOW 813/792-8400

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2101 NorthPointe Pkwy 33558.

168 MADEIRA BEACH — MAITLAND, FL

MADEIRA BEACH

- Hotels p. 168
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Joined to the mainland near St. Petersburg by a free causeway, Madeira Beach offers good swimming and parasailing as well as personal watercraft rentals. Boats can be chartered from several marinas for fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. Water sports of all kinds, including parasailing, are the focal point at John's Pass Village & Boardwalk, 1.3 mi. s. on Gulf Boulevard at 150 John's Pass Boardwalk.

Shopping: Tourists on the lookout for kitschy gifts and beach essentials lollygag beneath swaying palms and a deluge of rainbow-lettered banners at John's Pass Village & Boardwalk. Slurp a frozen treat while negotiating the nautically themed marketplace offering more than 100 souvenir shops, restaurants, and apparel and accessories stores. After stocking up on sarongs, surf gear and airbrushed T-shirts, lunch at one of the boardwalk's tropical dockside eateries and snap a few photos of the boaters and water sports enthusiasts jetting across the inlet.



BAREFOOT BEACH CLUB BOOK NOW 727/393-6133



Hotel. Address: 13238 Gulf Blvd 33708. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 72 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 4-6 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



















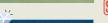
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ST. PETERSBURG CLEARWATER/MADEIRA

BOOK NOW 727/392-8088



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 601 American Legion Dr 33708. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 96 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: marina, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.







































- Hotels p. 169
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Maitland's 19th-century growth followed a pattern familiar to many central Florida towns. A pioneer fort in the Second Seminole War, the settlement prospered during the citrus-producing era and later swelled as the railroad brought an influx of climate-conscious tourists and entrepreneurs.

The Maitland Historical Museum, 221 W. Packwood Ave., highlights area history in a timeline format and features changing exhibits. The nearby Telephone Museum



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

houses an extensive collection of antique telephones and equipment and traces the growth of the family-owned Winter Park Telephone Co. through photographs, equipment and related memorabilia. For additional information phone Art & History Museums-Maitland at (407) 644-1364.

Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, 1101 Audubon Way, is an urban environmental nature center specializing in the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sick, injured and orphaned birds of prey. The center also is a permanent home to approximately 20 species of raptors that cannot be returned to the wild due to past injuries; phone (407) 644-0190.

Maitland Area Chamber of Commerce: 500 N. Maitland Ave., Suite 100, Maitland, FL 32751. Phone: (407) 644-0741.

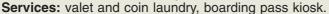
THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL RESOURCE AND EDU-CATION CENTER OF FLORIDA is 1.25 mi. e. of I-4 exit 90A at 851 N. Maitland Ave. (jct. Maitland Blvd./SR 414). The center illustrates key events of the Holocaust through chronological displays, photographs and audiovisual presentations. Six lamps and a memorial wall built of Jerusalem stone remember the 6 million Jews who died at the hands of the Nazis. Note: The center is moving to downtown Orlando in 2025; phone ahead for details. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (407) 628-0555.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO-ALTAMONTE SPRINGS/MAITLAND BOOK NOW 407/659-9100



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1750 Pembrook Dr 32810. Facility: 112 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest







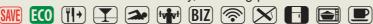




















HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON-ORLANDO NORTH/MAITLAND **BOOK NOW** 407/875-8777



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 290 Southhall Ln 32751.

SHERATON ORLANDO NORTH BOOK NOW 407/660-9000





SHERATON Hotel. Address: 600 N Lake Destiny Dr 32751. Facility: 389 units, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee).

Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: rental car service.































170 MELBOURNE, FL

MELBOURNE

Hotels p. 170

The town was named after the postmaster's Australian hometown in 1879. Economic growth came in the late 1890s with the arrival of the Florida East Coast Railway. The introduction of another innovative form of travel space flight—led to the development of high-tech and electronics industries, an additional benefit of the city's proximity to the Kennedy Space Center (see place listing p. 113).

Shopping: Melbourne Square Mall, 2 miles east of I-95 on US 192 at 1700 W. New Haven Ave., contains Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's. The downtown Historic District has specialty and antique shops.

BREVARD ZOO, .5 mi. e. of I-95 exit 191 to 8225 N. Wickham Rd., features more than 800 animals representing some 182 species in regional habitats that include Florida, South and Central America, Asia, Australia and Africa. Visitors can feed giraffes and lorikeets; a Rhino Encounter also is available. Kayak tours allow visitors to get a unique perspective of selected habitats. Treetop Trek Aerial Adventures features zip lines and obstacle challenges. Paddle boat rentals, train rides and behindthe-scenes tours are available.

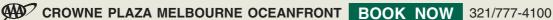
Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (321) 254-9453. GT (II)



CANDLEWOOD SUITES MELBOURNE/VIERA BOOK NOW 321/821-9009



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2930 Pineda Plaza Way 32940.





Hotel. Address: 2605 N SR A1A 32903. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 290 units. 5-8 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





























INSPECTED @ CLEAN

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT MELBOURNE/VIERA TOWN

BOOK NOW 321/425-2800



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2400 Town Center Ave 32940.

Dreaming of s'mores and starry nights?

AAA.com/campgrounds



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

HAMPTON INN MELBOURNE/VIERA BOOK NOW 321/255-6868





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 130 Sheriff Dr 32940. Facility: 88 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: coin laundry.





























HILTON MELBOURNE BOOK NOW 321/768-0200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 200 Rialto Pl 32901.



HILTON MELBOURNE BEACH OCEANFRONT BOOK NOW

321/777-5000





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3003 N SR A1A 32903. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 206 units. 7-11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot

tub, beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN





























HOLIDAY INN MELBOURNE/VIERA HOTEL & CONFERENCE

CENTER

BOOK NOW 321/255-0077





















Hotel. Address: 8298 N Wickham Rd 32940. Facility: 128 units. 5 stories, interior



















HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON MELBOURNE/VIERA BOOK NOW 321/425-3750



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 2404 Metfield Dr 32940.

HYATT PLACE MELBOURNE AIRPORT BOOK NOW 321/372-1785



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 747 Air Terminal Pkwy 32901. Facility: 143 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MELBOURNE BOOK NOW 321/723-5740



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1430 S Babcock St 32901. Facility: 133 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























MELBOURNE BEACH

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

• Hotels p. 172

PORT D'HIVER BED & BREAKFAST INN BOOK NOW 321/722-2727

Bed & Breakfast. Address: 201 Ocean Ave 32951.

SEAGLASS INN BED & BREAKFAST BOOK NOW 321/725-7558



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Bed & Breakfast. Address: 514 Ocean Ave 32951. Facility: Within steps of the Indian River waterfront, this boutique property is spread across 2 buildings. The main house, originally built in 1915, features the largest quest room on the property, 7 units, 2 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Terms: age restrictions may apply. Pool: heated

MICANOPY

The former site of a Timucuan Indian village, Micanopy (MIK-uh-no-pee) is the state's oldest inland town not on a waterway. Many antique, art and curio shops help to create an atmosphere of a small Florida village during the 19th century.

PAYNES PRAIRIE PRESERVE STATE PARK, 1 mi. n. on US 441, encompasses 21,000 acres of freshwater marsh, hammocks, pine flatwoods, swamps and ponds. More than 30 miles of trails are available, including the 16-mile Gainesville to Hawthorne State Trail (see Gainesville p. 82). Visitor center exhibits interpret the natural and cultural history of this important ecological area. A 50-foot observation tower stands near the center of the preserve and a recreation area is at Lake Wauberg. Pets on leash are allowed only in designated areas. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 466-3397 or (352) 466-4100. 🖍 🔀 呑

MOUNT DORA

Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

As you stroll the downtown streets, you may see a passerby or a shop with a T-shirt sporting the phrase "I climbed Mount Dora"-an inside joke among locals and in-the-know tourists. Mount Dora, named for its location on a plateau with a 174-foot elevation, is certainly no mountain, but it's considered pretty high in the relatively flat state of Florida.

Boutiques, antique malls and restaurants sometimes draw throngs of people to the old-fashioned downtown.

On Donnelly Street between 5th and 6th avenues stands the 1893 Queen Anne-style Donnelly House, former home of the town's first mayor and now a Masonic lodge. This grand vellow and white house features colorful stainedglass windows and a large wraparound porch. Across the street is Donnelly Park, a focal point of downtown with benches and shuffleboard and tennis courts. The park is particularly lovely during the holiday season when nearly 2 million Christmas lights adorn the trees. The lights are lit at Light Up Mount Dora in late November and continue each evening through the season.

Lake Dora, one of seven lakes comprising the Harris Chain of Lakes, draws boaters and fishers. Several parks line the waterfront. Elizabeth Evans Park at the end of Donnelly Street offers benches, picnic tables and a small covered gazebo right above the lake—a great place for viewing the water and local wildlife in the shade. It's also home to the Mount Dora Lawn Bowling Club. Spectators are permitted; phone (352) 383-2294. A boat ramp is available at nearby Grantham Point, where the highlight is a red-and-white-striped inland lighthouse.

Adjacent Palm Island Park offers grills, a small covered pavilion with tables, and a nature trail that includes a boardwalk jutting out into Lake Dora. As you stroll along you're likely to see a variety of birds and if you keep your eyes peeled on the water, you might even see a turtle or alligator. Across the street is Gilbert Park, which has a large children's playground area. Contact the parks and recreation department for more information; phone (352) 735-7183.

Mount Dora History Museum, 450 Royellou Ln., is filled with photos, memorabilia, period clothing and other items of interest to local history buffs. It is operated by the Mount Dora Historical Society; phone (352) 383-0006 for hours of operation.

174 MOUNT DORA — NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL

The city hosts a major festival nearly each month, including the Mount Dora Arts Festival in February, the Mount Dora Regatta in March or April and the Craft Fair in October. There are special events held throughout the year, too, like outdoor movies in Donnelly Park on the second Friday of each month.

The IceHouse Theatre Company performs at the 270seat Sonnentag Theatre at the IceHouse at 1100 N. Unser St.; phone (352) 383-4616 or (352) 383-3133.

Mount Dora Chamber of Commerce: 341 N. Alexander St., Mount Dora, FL 32757. Phone: (352) 383-2165.

Shopping: Downtown Mount Dora is a delightful shopping destination offering many types of items, including antiques, books, clothing, collectibles, dolls, gift items, homemade dog treats, jewelry, kitchen and bath items, scrapbook supplies, shoes and toys. The chamber of commerce, housed in the former railroad depot, offers shopping directories and maps.

Two more options for antique shopping are not far from downtown. Village Antique Mall, 405 N. Highland St., features more than 60 dealers; phone (352) 385-0257. The biggest draw to the region, though, is Renninger's Florida Twin Markets at 20651 US 441, which is open Friday through Sunday. It caters to antique and flea market fans alike. On one side is the Farmers & Flea Market, and the Antiques Center with about 200 dealers is on the other, A guitar, antique car and motorcycle swap is held the second Sunday of the month. Three-day antique fairs (Friday through Sunday) are held the third weekend of the month March through October and in December and bring additional dealers—sometimes up to 200—who set up on the grounds and in covered outdoor pavilions. The January, February and November third-weekend shows are extravaganzas, and with more than 1500 dealers on the site these 3-day shows are the ultimate destination for antique collectors. Throughout the year a variety of special events are held on the grounds, too. For more information about Renninger's phone (352) 383-8393.

NEW SMYRNA BEACH

Hotels p. 174

On this beach north of Cape Canaveral, automobiles may be driven along the stretch of firm white sand from the inlet south to 27th Avenue. Drivers should heed signs noting unsafe areas. Overnight parking or camping are not permitted on the beach. A daily driving toll of \$10 per car is charged; annual passes are available for both residents (\$25) and nonresidents (\$100). Tollbooths are at each approach.

The foundations of the Turnbull Ruins/Old Fort, built of coguina, are on N. Riverside Drive between Washington and Julia streets. These ruins, made of walls 3 feet thick, represent a local mystery—it has never been established if the foundation is the unfinished remains of a precolonial fort or the incomplete beginnings of a mansion for the Turnbull family. The remains of a large plantation's sugar mill can be seen at Sugar Mill Ruins, 600 Old Mission Rd. Built in the early 1800s, the mill was destroyed during the Second Seminole War.

The Atlantic Center for the Arts, 1414 Art Center Ave., provides studio space and facilities for resident artists and offers exhibitions and events throughout the year; phone (386) 427-6975.

New Smyrna Beach Visitors Bureau: 2238 SR 44, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168. Phone: (386) 428-1600 or (800) 541-9621.

BEST WESTERN NEW SMYRNA BEACH HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 386/426-0020



Hotel. Address: 1401 S Atlantic Ave 32169. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 101 units, some two bedrooms. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























BLACK DOLPHIN INN BOOK NOW 386/410-4868



Boutique Bed & Breakfast. Address: 916 S Riverside Dr 32168. Facility: Enjoy quiet seclusion in rooms that feature stylish décor, luxurious bed linens, jetted tubs and cozy bathrobes. The property is serenely located near the Indian River in a quaint residential area. 14 units. 3 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Activities: boat dock, fishing, bicycles, lawn sports, massage.





















HAMPTON INN NEW SMYRNA BEACH

BOOK NOW

386/898-9444





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 214 Flagler Ave 32169. Facility: 112 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT NEW SMYRNA BEACH BOOK NOW 386/427-0512



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 512 Flagler Ave 32169.

NORTH PORT

• Hotels p. 175

WARM MINERAL SPRINGS is at 12200 San Servando Ave. Touted as the possible original Fountain of Youth sought by Juan Ponce de Leon, this warm mineral spring has a constant temperature of 85 degrees Fahrenheit

year-round and produces 9 million gallons of fresh mineral water a day. Visitors can swim in the buoyant waters and are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs; lifeguards are on duty. "Mandalas for World Peace," a clay sculpture, is on display.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (941) 426-1692 Spa Services. 7



HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON NORTH PORT

BOOK NOW 941/426-4770



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5664 Tuscola Blvd 34287.

Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

176 NORTH REDINGTON BEACH — OCALA, FL

NORTH REDINGTON BEACH

- Hotels p. 176
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

DOUBLETREE BEACH RESORT BY HILTON HOTEL TAMPA BAY-NORTH REDINGTON

BEACH BOOK NOW 727/391-4000

[fyi] Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond.

Address: 17120 Gulf Blvd 33708.

OCALA

• Hotels p. 176

Ocala (oh-KAL-a) has moss-draped oaks and stately old Southern homes along many of its streets. The 1888 Ocala Bible Chapel (729 N.E. 2nd St.), formerly United Hebrews of Ocala, is said to be the second oldest standing synagogue in Florida and among the oldest in the United States, though it is no longer used as a synagogue.

The surrounding area is considered the heartland of Florida's Thoroughbred industry. It is possible to visit some of the horse farms. Particularly scenic segments of two highways approach Ocala: US 301 from Waldo and US 27 from Williston.

Ocala-Marion County Visitors & Convention Bureau: 112 N. Magnolia Ave., Ocala, FL 34475. Phone: (352) 438-2800 or (888) 356-2252.

Shopping: Paddock Mall, a half-mile east of I-75 on SR 200 to 3100 S.W. College Rd., features JCPenney and Macy's. Dillard's and Dick's Sporting Goods anchor Market Street at Heath Brook, west of I-75 on SR 200 to 4414 S.W. College Rd.

APPLETON MUSEUM OF ART, 4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd., houses European paintings, sculp-Springs Blvd., houses European paintings, sculpture and decorative arts; contemporary art; pre-Columbian artworks; West African, Islamic and Asian artworks; as well as antiquities. The Edith-Marie Appleton wing features the ARTSpace, where you can create various types of art, as well as classrooms and additional galleries. Special exhibits, lectures, live musical entertainment and films also are offered.

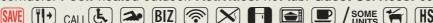
Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (352) 291-4455.

DON GARLITS' MUSEUM OF DRAG RACING is e. of I-75 exit 341 on CR 484, then s. on CR 475A. The museum traces the evolution of drag racing through a collection of more than 200 race cars and varied memorabilia. Also on the premises is the Museum of Classic Automobiles featuring many antique and classic cars. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (352) 245-8661 or (877) 271-3278.



BEST WESTERN OCALA PARK CENTRE BOOK NOW 352/237-4848

Hotel. Address: 3701 SW 38th Ave 34474. Facility: 140 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. Guest Services: coin laundry.





COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT OCALA BOOK NOW 352/237-8000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3712 SW 38th Ave 34474.



THE EQUESTRIAN HOTEL BOOK NOW 352/414-7900



Resort Hotel. Address: 8510 NW 17th Ln 34482. Facility: Unique and elegant, the property features stylish décor, on-site restaurants and attractive rooms. A large pool and a children's splash pad provide an opportunity for relaxation and entertainment. 248 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 7 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























EQUUS INN BOOK NOW

352/854-3200



Hotel. Address: 3434 SW College Rd 34474.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES OCALA BOOK NOW 352/867-0300





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3601 SW 38th Ave 34474. Facility: 101 units. 4 stories. interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























HAMPTON INN & SUITES OCALA SOUTH BOOK NOW 352/347-1600

 $|\mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{i}|$ Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond.

Address: 2075 SW Hwv 484 34473.

HILTON GARDEN INN OCALA DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW 352/581-6060



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

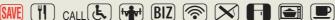
Hotel. Address: 120 E Silver Springs Blvd 34470. Facility: 107 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















HILTON OCALA BOOK NOW

352/854-1400





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3600 SW 36th Ave 34474. Facility: 196 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.























BOOK NOW





352/390-6999



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN





Hotel. Address: 3580 SW 38th Ave 34474.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OCALA, AN IHG HOTEL



THE RIDING ACADEMY HOTEL BOOK NOW 352/414-7900



Hotel. Address: 1615 NW 81st Terrace Rd 34482.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT OCALA BOOK NOW

352/500-0501



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 4100 SW 40th St 34474.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT OCALA BOOK NOW 352/619-1234



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8125 SW Highway 200 34481.

OCALA NATIONAL FOREST

Elevations in the forest range from 10 ft. to 125 ft.

In central Florida, the 383,573-acre forest contains numerous plant species of vegetation and clear lakes. springs and streams. The forest is said to have the world's largest stand of sand pine. Other predominant trees types include longleaf and slash pine, cypress and hardwood. In addition to several shorter trails, a well-traveled section of the Florida National Scenic Trail winds through the forest and is popular with hikers. Hunting is allowed by permit from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (see Good Facts To Know).

Developed recreation sites include Alexander Springs, Juniper Springs, Lake Dorr, Fore Lake, Mill Dam, Clearwater Lake, Salt Springs and Silver Glen Springs. Juniper Prairie Wilderness is home to Pat's Island, where parts of the 1946 movie "The Yearling" were filmed. Juniper Springs was constructed in 1935 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Brochures and information on forest recreational opportunities are available at Ocklawaha Visitor Center on SR 40 at 3199 N.E. CR 315, between Silver Springs and the Ocklawaha River. The center is open daily 9-4 (based on staff availability); phone (352) 236-0288.

OCOEE

- Hotels p. 179
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON OCOEE ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/385-0001



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 11405 W Colonial Dr 34761.

OKEECHOBEE

At the crossroads of SR 70, US 98 and US 441, Okeechobee serves as a center for such outdoor activities as boating, fishing, camping and airboat rides. The town also is a commercial center for cattle, which is evident in the several festivals and rodeos that take place throughout the year.

Chamber of Commerce of Okeechobee County: 55 S. Parrott Ave., Okeechobee, FL 34974. Phone: (863) 467-6246.



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

OLDSMAR

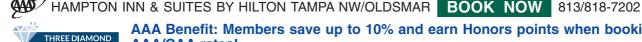
- Hotels p. 180
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4014 Tampa Rd 34677.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN®

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4017 Tampa Rd 34677.

HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA NORTHWEST/OLDSMAR BOOK NOW 813/891-9990



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4052 Tampa Rd 34677.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES TAMPA-OLDSMAR **BOOK NOW**

Hotel. Address: 3990 Tampa Rd 34677.

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT TAMPA/OLDSMAR BOOK NOW 813/818-9400



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4012 Tampa Rd 34677.

ORANGE CITY

Hotels p. 181

Orange City's early residents were the Timucuan Indians, who lived along the St. Johns River and ate the snails that inhabited the river's sandbars. The mound formed by the accumulation of centuries of snail shells later served as a foundation for the area's first permanent home, the 1872 Thursby House. Today the residence is preserved in Blue Spring State Park, a winter habitat of the endangered manatee.

BLUE SPRING STATE PARK, 2 mi. w. off US 17/92 on W. French Ave., contains a spring run that maintains a temperature of 73 degrees Fahrenheit. Manatees come here mid-November through March to escape the cooler waters of the St. Johns River. Viewing platforms, ranger interpretation programs and a video presentation introduce visitors to these gentle creatures. While visitors may not swim with or feed the manatees, swimming is allowed from mid-March to mid-November as long as manatees are not present. Campsites, interpretative river cruises and canoe and kayak rentals are available. A trailhead to the Spring-to-Spring trail is located within the park. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (386) 775-3663.



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

St. Johns River Cruises, in Blue Spring State Park at 2100 W. French Ave., offers 2-hour narrated cruises and nature tours aboard Native II along the St. Johns River.

Guided Segway and kayak tours also are available as well as rental canoes and kayaks. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (386) 775-0046. GT

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORANGE CITY

BOOK NOW 386/917-0004

Hotel. Address: 1330 Saxon Blvd 32763.

ORANGE PARK

- Hotels p. 181
- Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93



INSPECTED @ CLEAN®

HAMPTON INN & SUITES JACKSONVILLE - ORANGE PARK BOOK NOW 904/278-6140

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 141 Park Ave 32073.

HILTON GARDEN INN

BOOK NOW 904/458-1577

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 145 Park Ave 32073.

HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ORANGE PARK

BOOK NOW

904/562-7400

Hotel. Address: 620 Wells Rd 32073.



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Orlando

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More ways to look, book and save: AAA.com/tripcanvas

Then & Now

Walt Disney World® Resort shaped the young city of Orlando into one of the world's most popular leisure travel destinations. On average, nearly two-thirds of the domestic visitors head for the theme parks. But while Disney is the centerpiece of Orlando's appeal, the City Beautiful delivers more than fantasy and fast rides.

There are dozens of county and state parks in which to hike, bike or engage in water sports, and wild Florida, in all its natural splendor, is closer than you think. Nature-oriented diversions such as botanical gardens, meandering waterways and swampy wetlands with exotic wildlife were tourist draws in the early years, and still are. Since 1949, Gatorland has thrilled onlookers with dangerous stunts pitting man against reptile.

The city began as a small settlement with one cattle ranch and a trading post; by 1890 the "cow town" had become a real town, with all the trappings of 19th-century success. The postwar period ushered in the region's most

dynamic growth. Kennedy Space Center created new jobs, and the resulting economic activity spawned numerous supporting businesses, attracting a tremendous influx of new residents. With the opening of a visitors complex in 1967, KSC officially entered the tourism race, taking its first small step towards becoming a major attraction.

Central Florida's Disney story began in the mid-1960s, when visionary "Uncle Walt" Disney paid a series of hush-hush visits to the swamplands of southwest Orange County. Secretive property deals soon followed, sparking questions about the mysterious doings south of town. The answer came in 1971 when Magic Kingdom® Park became Orlando's first theme park. In the decades since then, expansions have presented Epcot®, Disney's Hollywood Studios®, Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park and two water parks. Also adding convenience are hotel accommodations, restaurants, entertainment areas and golf courses.

Bolstered by Walt Disney World® Resort's success, Orlando evolved into a theme park mecca. On the heels of

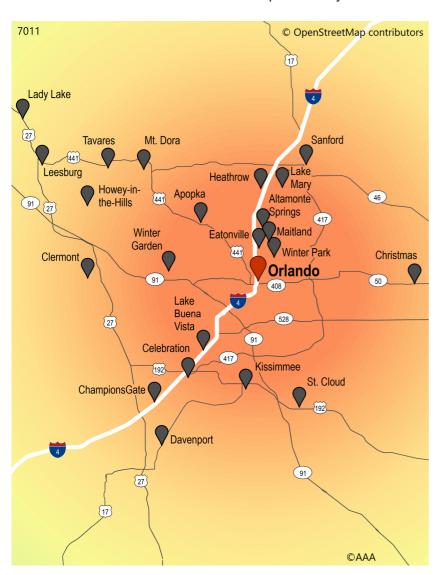
Universal Studios Florida™ / © AAA / Inspector 511





Destination Orlando

This map shows cities in the Orlando vicinity where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants. Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



Altamonte Springs	29
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FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE CITY

POP: 238,300 • **ELEV:** 111 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: In Orange County the sales tax is 6.5 percent; in Lake and Seminole counties it is 7 percent; Osceola sales tax is 7.5 percent. Orange and Osceola counties levy a 6 percent resort tax, while Seminole County imposes a 5 percent tax and Lake County 4 percent.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (321) 235-5300 ● Sheriff (407)

836-4357

FIRE (non-emergency): (407) 246-3473 TIME AND TEMPERATURE: (407) 646-3131

HOSPITALS: Dr. P. Phillips Hospital, (407) 351-8500 ● AdventHealth East Orlando, (407) 303-8110 ● AdventHealth Orlando, (407) 303-5600 ● Orlando Health Orlando Regional Medical Center, (321) 841-5111.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Orlando, Inc. (Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce): 301 E. Pine St., Orlando, FL 32801. Phone: (407) 425-1234 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

Visit Orlando: 8102 International Dr., Orlando, FL 32819. **Phone**: (407) 363-5872 or (800) 972-3304.

The bureau distributes a variety of information daily 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Christmas.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: The Orlando area is served by two airports: Orlando International Airport (MCO), at SR 436 and the Beachline Expressway, and Orlando-Sanford International Airport (SFB) in Sanford, which serves commercial and private aircraft. *See Arriving, Air Travel.*

RENTAL CARS: Orlando is served by several major rental car agencies. Arrangements should be made before you depart, especially during peak seasons. Your local AAA club can provide this service or additional information. Hertz, (407) 859-8400 or (800) 654-3080, offers discounts to AAA members.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: Amtrak provides train service to four stations in the metro area. Passenger-only trains stop at the stations at 1400 Sligh Blvd. in downtown Orlando and 148 W. Morse Blvd. in downtown Winter Park; Kissimmee's passenger station is at 111 E. Dakin Ave. The Auto Train, which runs round-trip from Lorton, Va., stops at the Sanford station at 600 S. Persimmon Ave. Phone (800) 872-7245 for both rail services.

Brightline, a high-speed passenger train, has an Orlando to Miami route. Stations include Aventura, Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton and West Palm Beach in addition to Orlando and Miami. Service to or from Orlando International Airport's South Intermodal Center is available; phone (305) 521-4800 for customer service.

BUSES: A Greyhound Lines Inc. terminal, (407) 292-3422 for customer service, (407) 292-3424 for tickets or (800) 531-5332 for Spanish-speaking persons, is off West SR 50 (Colonial Drive) at 555 N. John Young Pkwy.

TAXIS: Local taxis are metered and charge \$4.20-\$5.40 for the first mile and \$2.65 for each additional mile plus 60c for each 80 seconds of waiting time. Major cab companies are Ace Metro, (407) 855-1111 ● Diamond Cab Co., (407) 523-3333 ● Quick Cab, (407) 447-1444 ● Town & Country, (407) 828-3036 ● and Mears Taxi, (407) 422-2222.

Limousine service is available throughout most of the city; the ride from the airport to downtown Orlando or International Drive is about \$50-\$90 plus tax and a 20 percent tip but can vary depending on company and other factors.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Transportation by bus, trolley or rail is available in Orlando. *See Getting Around, Public Transportation.*

triumphs in San Diego, Calif., and Aurora, Ohio, SeaWorld creators opened a third park in Florida in 1973. Decades later, SeaWorld Orlando gained two sister parks: Discovery Cove Orlando, an interactive dolphin encounter, and Aquatica, a water park. Universal Studios Florida debuted in the summer of 1990. Within 10 years, Universal

made the leap from single theme park to Universal Orlando Resort, a multifaceted family vacation destination with hotels, restaurants and nightlife.

Those who think a trip to Orlando is all about being a kid are in for a surprise. All-inclusive spa resorts and celebrity chef-helmed restaurants attract a sophisticated clientele.

The city plays host to such exciting sports events as basketball games by the Orlando Magic, soccer games by the Orlando Pride and Orlando City Soccer Club, arena football games by the Orlando Predators, and the PGA's prestigious Arnold Palmer Invitational, which takes place at the legend's own Bay Hill Club. Orlando's cosmopolitan population also supports a milieu of cultural museums that visitors will want to add to their agendas.

Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

- Add some excitement to your vacation by traveling to Orlando, Fla. Pose for a picture between the massive alligator jaws at **Gatorland** (14501 S. Orange Blossom Tr.), and continue snapping away inside the longtime Orlando favorite. Since 1949, the attraction has provided a way to (safely) view Florida's famous reptiles. A secondary site—a collaboration with **Fun Spot America** (5700 Fun Spot Way) called Gator Spot—adds more gators to the mix, including a white one!
- Ready to travel to an out-of-this-world destination? Set a course for Kennedy Space Center, 11 mi. e. of I-95 on SR 405, for an interstellar daytrip to the Space Coast. Options include tours of launch headquarters, exhibits about space and a simulated space shuttle launch. If reliving Neil Armstrong's historic moon landing isn't enough, then plan to meet a real astronaut.
- Splash around at a thrilling water park to beat the heat. Top picks include Aquatica (5800 Water Play Way), Disney's Blizzard Beach Water Park (1500 W. Buena Vista Dr.), Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park (1195 E. Buena Vista Dr.) and Universal's Volcano Bay™ (6000 Universal Blvd.).
- There is no shortage of things for couples to do in the area. Visit postcard-worthy Lake Eola Park (195 N. Rosalind St.). A band shell, amphitheater and lighted fountain punctuate the City Beautiful's 43-acre downtown oasis, a landmark since 1888. Pedal a swan boat across the lake or plop down on a shaded bench to savor the serenity.
- See Florida animals during your trip. Observe alligators, eagles, turtles and other creatures in their native habitat by taking an airboat through wetlands and across the headwaters of the Everglades. Boggy Creek Airboat Rides (2001 E. Southport Rd.) offers a thrilling "wild Florida" encounter in Kissimmee; then head northeast on John Young Pkwy. and I-4 for a charming detour to Winter Park.
- Stroll along Winter Park's refined Park Avenue, which features designer boutiques, sidewalk cafés, cozy local restaurants, shops with high-end home décor and a centrally located park. At The Charles

- Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art (445 N. Park Ave.), bask in the aura of Louis Comfort Tiffany's stunning stained-glass creations, a renowned collection that has no equal. Lovely lakeside residences and natural tropical scenery are highlights of a narrated cruise on Winter Park's chain of lakes and canals, offered by Scenic Boat Tours (312 E. Morse Blvd.).
- Venture out to the quaint village of Mount Dora, central Florida's antiques and collectibles capital, by driving west on SR 414. This small town overlooking Lake Dora draws quite a crowd on weekends because there are so many fun things to do. Make sure you arrive early to get a good parking spot. Later, take in a play or a musical at the Sonnentag Theatre at the IceHouse (100 N. Unser St.), where you can see shows like "Bye-Bye Birdie" and "Miracle on 34th Street" performed by local thespians. Mount Dora also holds a plethora of activities throughout the year, such as art and music festivals, a sailboat regatta and craft shows.
- There are many fun things to do with friends, especially if you like adventure and the outdoors.



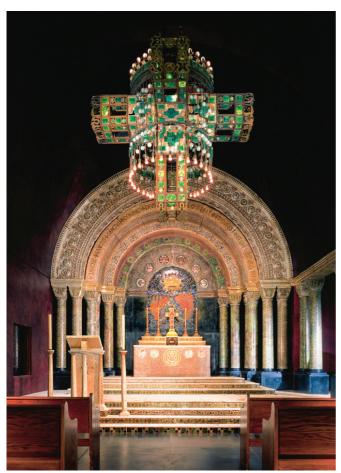
Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex / Courtesy of Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex

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Drive east on I-4 to **Blue Spring State Park** (2100 W. French Ave.), in **Orange City**, for the annual winter migration of manatees—mid-November through March—from the cool waters of the St. Johns River to the park's warm spring. Enjoy a picnic lunch and a myriad of water sports during your adventure travel experience, including snorkeling, swimming, canoeing and kayaking. Let **St. Johns River Cruises** (also at 2100 W. French Ave.) show you more of the state's longest river and its wild residents, including alligators, deer and birds. You'll never have a lack of things to do while you're here.

Orlando 1-day Itinerary

AAA editors suggest these activities for a great short vacation experience. Those staying in the area for a



The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art / Courtesy of The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art

longer visit can access a 3-day itinerary at AAA.com/TripCanvas.

Millions vacation in Orlando each year. If you're among the park-hopping majority, you've probably arrived clutching multiday tickets to ₩ Walt Disney World® Resort (3111 World Dr.), ₩ Universal Orlando Resort™ (1000 Universal Studios Plaza) or ₩ SeaWorld Orlando (7007 SeaWorld Dr.)—or all of the above. Why not set aside some time to discover greater Orlando's other assets?

Morning

- Start early in Ivanhoe Village, a historic section of Orlando along Lake Ivanhoe featuring one-of-a-kind shops and places to eat. Open since 1991, the White Wolf Café (1829 N. Orange Ave.) remains a time-honored choice for breakfast, offering gourmet coffee and gooey cinnamon rolls to name a few favorites. If you love antiques and stylish decorative items, then walk down the street to 1618 Something Different Retro and A T Furniture & Antiques.
- Orlando Loch Haven Park (777 E. Princeton St.)
 contains several cultural institutions, including The
 Mennello Museum of American Art, 900 E.
 Princeton St., and Orlando Science Center, 777 E.
 Princeton St.
- Consider spending some time outdoors, particularly when the weather is nice. The Harry P. Leu Gardens (1920 N. Forest Ave.) provides a peaceful retreat, especially when the flowers are in bloom.

Afternoon

- Drop by East End Market (3201 Corrine Dr.), a two-story building with garden beds out front. This destination, a love letter to all things local, features several independent businesses, including restaurants and shops.
- Next, you'll want to stroll down the imminently walkable Park Avenue and indulge in some window shopping. Well-known clothing retailers include Eileen Fisher and Lilly Pulitzer. Another interesting place to browse is Kathmandu (352 N. Park Ave.), which contains everything from incense to jewelry.
- The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art (445 N. Park Ave.), which holds the largest collection of art by Louis Comfort Tiffany and his associates. One of the most impressive works in the collection is the 1893 Tiffany Chapel.

Evening

■ Are you ready to experience nightlife at an Orlando theme park? Head toward Universal CityWalk[™]



(6000 Universal Blvd.), where you can have an eventful night out. Interesting evening spots include **The Cowfish Sushi Burger Bar**, an unconventional restaurant where you can pair a burger with sushi ("burgushi," anyone?), and **Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville** (both at 6000 Universal Blvd.).

- Another option is ICON Park (8375 International Dr.);
 The Wheel catches the eye after sunset when it's aglow. Then walk to one of the other attractions, such as Madame Tussauds Orlando Wax Attraction or SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium, which are open late.
- Lake Buena Vista also provides magical choices for shopping, dining and nightlife, especially if you are staying at ₩Walt Disney World® Resort. Catch a set at the House of Blues (1478 E. Buena Vista Dr.) in Disney Springs™ (1486 Buena Vista Dr.). Make reservations in advance for restaurants such as Morimoto Asia, 1600 E. Buena Vista Dr., known for its Peking duck. Afterward, plan to strike Splitsville Luxury Lanes, 1494 E. Buena Vista Dr., and end the night with a win.

Top Picks for Kids Under 13

- Disney parks offer loads of fun things to do for all ages! Talk to your AAA travel agent about how to save money with cheap airline flights and travel packages. At the Magic Kingdom Park (3111 World Dr.) in Lake Buena Vista, kids soar into the sky on Dumbo the Flying Elephant, spin their teacup in the Mad Tea Party and scream as loud as they want on the Seven Dwarfs Mine Train.
- At Winter Haven's LEGOLAND Florida Resort (One LEGOLAND Way), kids will feel like Gulliver as they travel through cities like San Francisco, New York City and Las Vegas in Miniland USA, made from countless of LEGO bricks. Activities and shows include roller coasters; DUPLO Village, a toddler play area; and a water-skiing stunt show.
- When you're tired of being on your feet all day, there are plenty of relaxing and interesting things to do in Orlando. Venture outside the theme parks to feed the swans or ride paddleboat likenesses in downtown Orlando's centerpiece, Lake Eola Park (195 N. Rosalind St.), where locals stroll and relax. This photogenic beauty has a landscaped walkway, shade trees, a lighted fountain and an amphitheater.

Teens

- Experience the movies as never before at Universal Studios Florida™ (1000 Universal Studios Plaza). The heart-pounding drops on the Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit or Revenge of the Mummy roller coasters are perfect for those with nerves of steel. Learn the secrets of monsterish makeup at the Horror Make-Up Show, or outmaneuver other contestants at Fear Factor Live.
- Encounter the snapping jaws of live alligators at Gatorland (14501 S. Orange Blossom Tr.), one of the area's oldest attractions. Climb the observation tower for a view of the breeding marsh where 130 gators live. At the Gator Jumparoo brave trainers let the reptiles snatch meat from their hands; it's a must-see.
- Discover more of natural Florida with Boggy Creek Airboat Rides (2001 E. Southport Rd.) in nearby



Gatorland / Courtesy of Gatorland

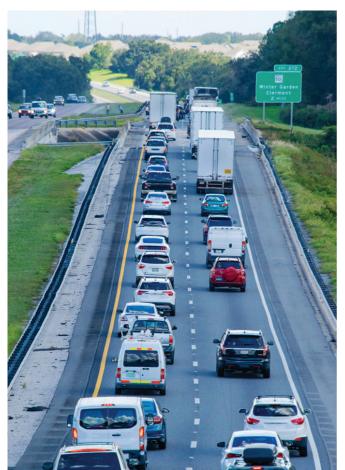


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Kissimmee. From a dock on East Lake Tohopekaliga, your airboat skims across the Everglades headwaters on a river of grass while you watch for gators, birds and native wildlife.

All Ages

- Experience the wondrous world of science at WonderWorks (9067 International Dr.). Try to stand in 71-mph hurricane winds, feel an earthquake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale, climb inside a replica of the Mercury space capsule, lie on a bed of nails and use EEG technology to move a ball.
- At pisney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park (2901 Osceola Pkwy.), try to find the 300 different animals carved into the 14-story Tree of Life®. Watch out for geysers and waterfalls while drifting through a lush rain forest with your family on the Kali River



Florida's Turnpike / © iStockphoto.com / Michael Warren

- Rapids[®]. Go on safari through an African savanna and spot lions, giraffes, zebras and hippos on Kilimaniaro Safaris[®].
- Have a blast on the Twilight Zone Tower of Terror® and the Rock 'n' Roller Coaster® Starring Aerosmith at Disney's Hollywood Studios® (50 Animation Dr.). Then there are Toy Story Manial® and Star Tours®—The Adventures Continue. But don't miss Fantasmic!, an entrancing nighttime show led by Sorcerer Mickey that will have you oohing and aahing as pyrotechnics and lasers light up the sky.
- There are many delicious places to eat in Orlando theme parks. If you're traveling with kids, be sure to check out Disney Springs® (1486 Buena Vista Dr.) for kid-friendly themed restaurants. T-Rex (1676 Buena Vista Dr.) features meteor showers with flashing lights, thunder and misting water. Waterfalls, a volcano, tropical greenery and animatronic animals surround you at the Rainforest Cafe® (1800 E. Buena Vista Dr.) while the menu will please every appetite with its wide variety of dishes.

Arriving

By Car

Orlando is laced with busy thoroughfares. Primary among these is I-4, a trans-Florida route that combines direct travel through the city with strategic controlled access. From the Daytona Beach area it forks off I-95 and enters Orlando on the northeast side; from the Gulf Coast it comes from Tampa, passing Walt Disney World_ $_{\tiny \circledR}$ Resort and entering town from the southwest.

Florida's Turnpike (toll) links Orlando with the resort areas of southeastern Florida. About 35 miles to the northwest it connects with I-75, a major north-south freeway. Florida's Turnpike interchanges with I-4 at the southwestern city limits.

I-4 and Florida's Turnpike form an X across central Florida. Two older routes, US 17/92 and US 441, also cross at Orlando, traversing different portions of the area.

SR 528, more commonly known as the Beachline Expressway (toll), passes south of the city. It channels traffic between Orlando and the Cape Canaveral area and connects with routes leading to a downtown destination.

SR 50 (Colonial Drive) is an east-west route that passes through downtown and connects smaller communities near the Gulf with Atlantic coast areas. To avoid traffic an alternative is SR 408, the East-West Expressway (toll), which links with SR 50 both east and west of downtown. The expressway also connects with the Central Florida Greeneway (SR 417) just south of SR 50. An expansion

to the eastern terminus brings the toll road to US 17/92 in Sanford; other eastern and western expansions are planned and sections of the expressway may be undergoing construction.

SR 436 (Semoran Boulevard) swings in a wide northwesterly arc from the airport and SR 528 (Beachline Expressway) southeast of town to US 441 northwest at Apopka and offers an alternative—although often busy route to I-4.

Air Travel

Several airlines serve the Orlando area using one of the city's two airports: Orlando International Airport (MCO), at SR 436 (Semoran Boulevard) and SR 528 (the Beachline Expressway), and Orlando Sanford International Airport (SFB) in Sanford, which serves commercial and private aircraft. OIA, about 15 miles from both downtown and the tourist district, is a primary destination for many major domestic and international airlines. Serving more than 35 million passengers a year, it is one of the world's fastestgrowing major airports. Its satellite terminals are linked to the main terminal by automated people movers, making it easy to navigate. Use AAA, one of the top travel websites, to find cheap airfare to the Sunshine State. (Note: Orlando's tourist volume often leads to traffic congestion during peak vacation seasons. When planning your trip, allow plenty of transit time-coming and going-between the airport and your destination.)

To reach downtown Orlando, follow Airport Boulevard north as it merges into SR 436. Though heavily traveled, SR 436 offers direct access to central, east and north Orlando via SRs 50 or 408 (toll). To reach the International Drive area, take Airport Boulevard to SR 528 (toll), then head west to SR 482, which intersects International just east of I-4. Take Airport Boulevard south to SR 417 (toll) to go to the Walt Disney World® Resort via SR 536 or to reach Kissimmee via US 17/92/441.

Cab fares from the Orlando airport to downtown or International Drive run about \$38-\$45; limousines cost about \$50-\$90 plus tax and a 20 percent tip but can vary depending on the company and other factors; shuttle vans are \$19-\$20 one way, or \$31-\$32 round-trip; and bus transportation is \$2. Cab fare to the Disney resort ranges \$58-\$68. Many hotels have courtesy shuttle service.

Orlando is served by several major rental car agencies. Arrangements should be made before you depart, especially during peak seasons. Your local AAA club can provide this service or additional information. Hertz, (407) 859-8400 or (800) 654-3080, offers discounts to AAA members.

Getting Around Street System

Because much of Orlando's growth occurred during the 1960s and '70s, the city is remarkably car-friendly. Roads are generally in good shape, although construction caused by near-constant expansion is a fact of life around the tourist district and downtown. Points of interest are usually on or near the main thoroughfares, most of which are accessible via I-4. For a small city, Orlando has surprisingly lengthy rush-hour periods, 6:30-9 a.m. and 4-6:30 p.m. Try to avoid traveling on I-4, US 17/92, SR 50 and SR 436 during these times.

Downtown Orlando is basically a grid, with several one-way streets. All street numbering begins at the intersection of Central Boulevard and Orange Avenue, the main strip through downtown. Orange is a one-way road



Orlando International Airport / © iStockphoto.com / JPForte

south through the downtown core; its northbound counterpart is Rosalind Avenue. East-west roads accessing important downtown sites include Livingston Street (Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre), Robinson Street (Lake Eola), Central (Orlando Public Library, Lake Eola), Church Street (Kia Center, Church Street Market) and South Street (City Hall).

International Drive, the heart of the tourist area, is south Orlando's busiest road. A profusion of hotels, shopping centers, outlet stores, restaurants, strolling vacationers and cruising teenagers usually combine to create crowded conditions and frequent delays.

Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit on most streets is 30 mph. Unless otherwise posted, right turns are permitted on red after a complete stop.

Parking

Metered street parking downtown is available at \$1 per hour, but spaces are generally hard to find at peak periods, which are on weekdays and weekend evenings. Meter enforcement hours are Mon.-Sat. 8-6 except on city holidays.

Nearly a dozen municipal garages can be found throughout downtown, including at W. Amelia Street, between Revere and N. Hughey avenues; E. Amelia Street next to the Orange County Courthouse, between N. Magnolia and N. Orange avenues; W. Pine Street, between Garland and Orange avenues; three adjacent lots between W. Jefferson to the north and W. Central Boulevard to the south (between N. Garland and Orange avenues); E. Central Boulevard, between Rosalind and Magnolia avenues; and the garage by the Orange County Administration Building at the intersection of Liberty Avenue and E. Jackson Street (this will service the new Dr. P. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts). Rates are \$2 per hour or \$15 per day. Event parking costs \$10 for an evening. For more details, contact the City of Orlando Parking Division at (407) 246-2155.

The city of Winter Park has free parking along Park Avenue, but spaces can be hard to come by during peak hours. Fortunately, several free public lots are located just a few blocks east and west off Park Avenue.

Most attractions and shopping centers have ample parking, but parking fees for the major theme parks can run as high as \$25-\$27 per day. Check with your hotel to see if it offers free shuttle service to the theme parks.

Public Transportation

Brightly painted buses are a colorful sight in the metro area, thanks to LYNX, the transit authority for Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, which operates more than 300 buses on over 70 routes.

Bus stops, called Links, are marked by fuchsia pawprint signs listing all the routes that are immediately accessible from that stop. The system serves most of the city, including downtown, the tourist district and major shopping centers. Main routes are Links 107 and 108, between downtown Orlando and Kissimmee; 10, through Kissimmee to St. Cloud; 38, downtown to the International Drive area; 436S, between SR 436 and the airport; 42, between International Drive and the airport; and 50, between downtown to the Walt Disney World® Resort.

LYNX fare is \$2; transfers are free. Xpress service is \$3.50. Exact change is required. Bus passes in daily, weekly and monthly increments also are available. Buses run Mon.-Fri. 4:15 a.m.-3:05 a.m., Sat. 4:45 a.m.-1:05 a.m., Sun. 4:45 a.m.-10:35 p.m.; holiday schedules may vary. For additional information about routes and schedules phone (407) 841-5969.

LYNX offers LYMMO, four limited fare-free bus routes that primarily use a bus-only lane to transport passengers throughout the downtown area. LYMMO runs Mon.-Thurs. 6 a.m.-10:45 p.m., Fri. 6 a.m.-midnight, Sat. 10 a.m.-midnight, Sun. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

LYNX—routes 8, 107 and 441—also connects to Megabus, a low-cost bus service that arrives to and departs from Orlando, at 4504 S. Orange Blossom Tr. Fares, available in Suite 4652 in the Orange Blossom Center, start at \$1.

I-Ride Trolleys cater exclusively to tourist traffic along International Drive 8 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; the wait is about 20 minutes. The Red Line runs along International Drive while the Green Line starts in the business district and runs along Universal Boulevard and South International Drive. Trolley fare is \$2; \$1 (ages 3-9 with adult); 25c (ages 65+); \$5 (all-day pass); \$7 (3-day pass); \$9 (5-day pass); \$12 (7-day pass); \$18 (14-day pass). Transfers are free. Exact change is required. Passes also may be purchased at various locations; phone (866) 243-7483.

SunRail, a commuter train operating Mon.-Fri., links De-Bary in Volusia County to Sand Lake Road, south of the City of Orlando. There are 16 stations along the 49-mile route, including stops in Sanford, Altamonte Springs, Winter Park, four stops in downtown Orlando, Meadow Woods in Orange County and three stations in Osceola County—the Tupperware Station (at Osceola Parkway), Kissimmee at downtown Kissimmee and Poinciana. A round-trip ticket for the longest route (DeBary to Poinciana) costs \$9.50; \$4.75 (ages 7-18, ages 65+ and the physically impaired). An expansion is in the works to connect Orlando International Airport. Though there's service during the morning, midday and evening on weekdays, the train's schedule may fluctuate depending on special

events and demand; SunRail is closed major holidays. Phone (855) 724-5411 for additional details.

Brightline—an express, inter-city high-speed passenger train connecting Orlando, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Miami—is under construction at press time. A Miami-to-West Palm Beach route is available. Service to and from Orlando is scheduled to start in 2023; phone ahead (305) 521-4800 to confirm schedules and fares.

Shopping

Orlando is a shopper's wonderland. You can buy mouse ears, T-shirts and, ironically enough, snow globes, to your heart's content in Orlando, but the city has so much more to offer both bargain hunters and lovers of luxury goods than just ordinary souvenirs. You just have to know where to find it all when you travel there.

Antiques

Escape the stifling heat and bustling theme parks with a leisurely amble through one of Orlando's antique districts. Shopping for antiques is always a good idea if you're looking for fun things to do with friends. Wander in and out of air-conditioned emporiums in the North Orange Avenue Antiques District downtown, running south from the 2900 block to the 1600 block. Shops are packed to the rafters with one-of-a-kind finds; excavate for such relics as a 1930s RCA Victor radio, an 18th-century French buffet or vintage threads. Pop into Rock & Roll Heaven, 1814 N. Orange Ave., where they have a heck of a band (on vinyl and CDs, anyway); the selection of rare and collectible music ranges from Miles Davis and Elvis to The Mothers of Invention and Devo. Discover even more charming shops just down the street on Ivanhoe Row, along the 1200 block across from Lake Ivanhoe. If you like antiques and decorative items, stop at 1618 Something Different Retro and A T Furniture & Antiques, which are next to each other on North Orange Avenue.

Ritzy **Park Avenue**, in Winter Park to the north, has a handful of antique shops where you may unearth that perfect Art Deco brooch or turn-of-the-20th-century Tiffany lamp. Save money on your overall vacation costs by purchasing affordable vacation packages and you'll have a little extra to spend on fancy antique treasures.

Take a side trip to historic **Mount Dora**, a half-hour northwest of Orlando, and while away the day visiting its quaint antique shops. Rummage through the wares of the hundreds of dealers who gather each weekend at **Renninger's Florida Twin Markets** on SR 441, also in Mount Dora. Lovers of antiquities also can hunt for treasure at the antique boutiques on First Street in downtown **Sanford.**

Malls

Orlando is a mall rat's delight, and the *crème de la crème* is **The Mall at Millenia**, off I-4 at 4200 Conroy Rd. Feast your eyes on its upscale shops including Bloomingdale's, Chanel, Gucci, Neiman Marcus, Lilly Pulitzer and Tiffany & Co., as well as more than 150 retailers, services and eateries. With its luxe design—intricate mosaic floors, leaping fountains, modern décor, sculptures and fashion shows broadcast on 35-foot-high LED screens—the mall is a sight to behold. Despite its opulent look, the mall also appeals to those without deep pockets with such mall standards as Banana Republic, Express, Forever 21, Gap, Macy's and Urban Outfitters. Bonus: **IKEA** is next to the mall.

More than 200 shops occupy one of the largest malls in Florida, so it's the perfect destination for shoppers who value variety. **The Florida Mall**, 8001 S. Orange Blossom



Park Avenue / © AAA / Thuyvi Gates



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Tr. in south Orlando, is anchored by major retailers Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's and Sears. A number of smaller stores impress as well, including apparel store BoxLunch, where every purchase above \$10 goes toward feeding a hungry person through Feeding America. American Girl's specialty doll store, Primark's large Disney apparel selection and The Crayola Store with its accompanying Crayola Experience (see attraction listing p. 202), add even more kid-friendly options. That's why international tourists arrive by the busful, joining the sea of shoppers who invade this mall regularly. There's also an attached hotel, so intrepid bargain hunters can drop bags off in their rooms and stay overnight.

Not enough malls for you? Shop all you want: Greater Orlando's got more. Most malls contain an assortment of heavyweight anchors such as Belk, Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's and Sears as well as mall stalwarts including



Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores / @ AAA / Sherry Mims

Aéropostale, Banana Republic and Gap—with food courts to provide fuel for more shopping. Take your pick from the following list.

Altamonte Mall, on 451 E. Altamonte Dr. in Altamonte Springs, offers 2 floors containing 150 boutiques. To the east is Oviedo Mall, 1700 Oviedo Mall Blvd., with more than 50 retailers and services as well as a kid's learning and entertainment center. Northeast of Orlando's downtown is Orlando Fashion Square, 3201 E. Colonial Dr.; it houses dozens of shops and services. Sanford's Seminole Towne Center, 200 Towne Center Cir., is the northernmost of the malls, while west of downtown in Ocoee is West Oaks Mall at 9401 W. Colonial Dr. (SR 50); both have more than 100 businesses.

Outlets

Looking for cheap things to do? **International Drive** is a mecca for bargain hunters and fashionistas. Souvenir shops abound, of course, especially in this part of Orlando, but the outlet stores are the true treasure troves. It's not a boast to say that whatever you're looking for, you'll find it at one of the outlet malls, and you'll save a bundle. From electronics to cookware and designer fashions to luggage, you won't be able to leave Orlando empty-handed.

Orlando Premium Outlets—Vineland Avenue offers name brand and luxury brand shops in a Mediterranean village atmosphere at 8200 Vineland Ave., which connects International Drive and SR 535 (or off I-4 exit 68). The lineup of 160 outlet stores includes Banana Republic, Burberry, DKNY, Forever 21, Motherhood Maternity, Nike, OshKosh B'gosh, Polo Ralph Lauren, Prada, Steve Madden and Tommy Hilfiger. Covered outdoor walkways offer protection from the Florida sun. Amenities include parcel lockers and a currency exchange. Note: Premium parking, such as the on-site garage, costs \$10.

At 4951 International Dr. is **Orlando International Premium Outlets**, featuring apparel, electronics, fine jewelry, shoes, housewares and other items from 180 vendors, including BCBG Max Azria, Carter's, Kitchen Collection, Michael Kors, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th, Skechers, Sunglass Hut, Swarovski and Vera Bradley. Not your ordinary outlet mall, the center is an elegant outdoor market-place with beautiful landscaping and Mediterranean styling. Both Premium Outlets locations offer many of the same stores. **Note:** Premium parking spaces cost \$10.

Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores, 15657 S. Apopka Vineland Rd. (SR 535), is a rare jewel in the crown of Orlando outlets. With roughly 50 stores and a new expansion, this venue offers a much different shopping experience compared to the Premium outlets but still features bargains galore. You'll find Aéropostale, Crocs,

Eddie Bauer, Gap, Levi's, Old Navy, Reebok and Under Armour. There are shops that cater to both men and women, so shopping here is one of the most enjoyable things for couples to do.

Specialty Districts

Large malls and outlets aren't the only games in town—follow the lead of Orlandoans and check out the following independent and themed shopping districts. Some are tucked in among the nightclubs, business offices and local restaurants in **Downtown Orlando** within a few blocks of Lake Eola Park.

The Orange County Regional History Center Emporium at 65 E. Central Blvd., is a fun place to go for gifts thanks to its shelves stocked with toys and books as well as items representative of Central Florida history.

Gentlemen can check out **Siegel's Clothing Co.**, 130 S. Orange Ave., for fine suits and sportswear; they also carry a good selection of attire for women. (A second location for **Siegel's** can be found on Winter Park's Park Avenue.) When only the most current styles will do, head a few blocks east to **Zou Zou Boutique**, 2 N. Summerlin Ave. (near the Thornton Park neighborhood), for designer fashions by the likes of Ella Moss, Milly, J Brand jeans and Sam Edelman shoes; this trés chic women's shop has another location at 7988 Via Dellagio Way in the Bay Hill area.

The **College Park** neighborhood, located near the intersection of Edgewater Drive and Princeton Street, offers a small selection of stores and is a nice location for browsing. If you're on the hunt for home décor, a bicycle, jewelry, a new outfit or a gift, try College Park. The dining scene is good as well.

Get your local produce, specialty foods, baking supplies and a foodie education at **East End Market**, 3201 Corrine Dr. The market—not a typical farmers market but rather a cultural food hub—features a garden, a demonstration kitchen, stores, offices, restaurants and event space in a two-story building in Orlando's **Audubon Park Garden District.**

There are several other markets worth checking out. Sundays at Lake Eola Park's **Orlando Farmers Market**, corner at E. Central Blvd. and N. Eola Dr., are especially nice. From 10-4 vendors sell produce, plants, art and handmade crafts, and there often is live entertainment. On Monday nights, head to the parking lot of Stardust Video and Coffee at 1842 E. Winter Park Rd. for the **Audubon Park Community Market.** This one is small, but hip.

Beyond Orlando, there is the **Maitland Farmers Market** at Lake Lily Park, 701 Lake Lily Dr., in Maitland, which features nearly three dozen vendors and live music every

Sunday 9-2. On Saturday mornings, locals make tracks to the **Winter Park Farmers Market** in a refurbished train depot at 200 W. New England Ave. for the freshest produce, herbs, baked treats and cheeses.

Where to Eat and Shop

One block east is Winter Park's heart and soul, **Park Avenue.** An eclectic assortment of upscale, preppy and trendy boutiques, galleries and bistros line this lengthy European-flavored street near Rollins College, perfect for shopping, people watching or just taking a stroll. Brick-paved alleys provide a taste of the old country with hidden courtyards and gardens. **Kathmandu**, 352 N. Park Ave., in Winter Park, will ensure you go home with a unique treasure from its collection of items from different countries. When you get hungry, there are plenty of places to eat nearby that will satisfy your appetite and your palate.

Running out of steam? Relax your weary dogs under a century-old oak in shady **Central Park**, or sip ice-cold chardonnay at a sidewalk café. Speaking of dogs, bring yours or enjoy the parade as locals show off their purebreds; shop owners thoughtfully set out bowls of water for parched pups.

Disney Springs®, centered around 1486 Buena Vista Dr. in Lake Buena Vista, features tons of shopping venues along the shores of Buena Vista Lagoon. In The Landing, you can ease into the charming rustic vibe of the waterside district by shopping at a trendy boutique. In Town Center, you can stroll the day away shopping at boutiques and one-of-a-kind flagship stores along the Mediterranean-inspired Florida streets. Featuring amazing crystal glass coaches to sportswear with a Disney flair, The Marketplace remains one of the hippest shopping experiences around. However, the go-to destination for Disney souvenir gifts remains World of Disney, the world's largest Disney character and memorabilia shop. Another memorable place to shop is M&M'S at Disney Springs®.

Farther south, near the intersection of I-4 and US 192, is the **Town of Celebration**; its picturesque downtown offers nearly two dozen shops and restaurants. Celebration evokes a turn-of-the-20th-century small town with brick streets. It's not too old-fashioned, though; you'll still find signs of the 21st century, including the requisite Starbucks.

Nightlife

Orlando's evening scene is all over the map, literally, but the greatest concentrations of fun things to do are downtown and along I-Drive. For those who want a theme to go with their nightlife, the entertainment zones at Universal Orlando Resort and Walt Disney World Resort® are

packed with diverse nightspots. Here, clubbers can hop from one dance floor to another within a short distance.

Disney Springs

One of the four fascinating neighborhoods at Disney Springs®, the West Side, is a neighborhood with a vibe all its own. There, the air is mixed with the sound of applause for world-renowned entertainment and tempting aromas that will ignite your senses. Or, head over to The Landing, where the wharf-side eateries offer everything from artisanal cocktails crafted at the edge of your stage-side table to a sushi bar. The most difficult decision you'll make when you're here is choosing where to eat. There are so many great restaurants here that serve mouth-watering dishes in a fun and energetic atmosphere.

Some of the best national recording acts perform at **House of Blues**® (1490 Buena Vista Dr.); past acts



East End Market / © AAA / Sherry Mims

include Jane's Addiction, The Used, Flogging Molly, Colbie Caillat and Jerry Lee Lewis. The club has a warm and homey feel, with folk art everywhere you look. A large floor in front of the stage gives you plenty of room to dance and get close to your favorite rock star; there are seating areas for those who would rather spectate.

Get your jig on at Raglan Road Irish Pub and Restaurant (1640 Buena Vista Dr.), where live Irish music and Irish dancers await nightly and everyone becomes Irish as soon as they step inside. The entire pub, bar and all, was made in Ireland and shipped here for a true Gaelic experience. The fully stocked bar is a beer lover's dream, with a wide variety of Irish imports, craft beers, stouts and ales as well as a selection of specialty drinks, wine and Irish whiskeys. Sampling the various alcoholic beverages is one of the most fun things to do with friends while you're here.

Downtown Orlando

For concerts by today's biggest names in music, hit the **Kia Center**, 400 W. Church St., where recording artists such as Bruno Mars and Ed Sheeran have recently played. This arena holds 20,000 concertgoers, so be prepared for large crowds. This is a great place to go if you're on a group travel vacation and can't cram your entire party into a small club.

Shhh, Orlando has a secret—speakeasy, that is. A handcrafted product awaits you at **Hanson's Shoe Repair**, 27 E. Pine St., but only with the right password; phone (407) 476-9446. A text back means an "in," so tread wisely.

For a pint of Guinness and some *craic* (aka fun), there's **Harp and Celt**, 25 S. Magnolia Ave. The Celt Irish Pub not only features classic Irish music but also the latest soccer and rugby matches.

Celebrate Halloween all year at the aptly themed **Cocktails and Screams** (39 W. Pine St.) which offers "spirits" and a spooky atmosphere.

The renovated old Beacham Theater, 46 N. Orange Ave., houses **The Beacham**, an upscale hot spot popular for its mix of hip-hop, high-energy and Top 40 tunes—and for its VIP clientèle and celebrity performers. However, Orange Avenue also is the main strip for less-formal dance clubs that typically belt alternative, punk, funk, rock and indie music. **The Social**, 54 N. Orange Ave., is a small (400-person capacity) indie music venue.

Party on at **Wall Street Plaza**, a side street in the heart of downtown Orlando where you'll find **Wall Street Cantina**, **Shine**, **Hen House**, **Hooch**, **Waitiki**, **Monkey Bar** and **Sideshow**. These clubs and bars line each side of the street and there are outdoor tables and chairs to enjoy balmy Florida evenings and musical acts that sometimes perform

outside. You also can get a bite to eat until 11 p.m. or dine at one of the nearby restaurants. The street is closed off often for block parties, and holidays like New Year's Eve, St. Patrick's Day and Cinco de Mayo as well as other special events are done up big here.

International Drive

The house bands at **B.B. King's Blues Club** at Pointe Orlando, 9101 International Dr., play everything from blues to Motown to classic rock on an elevated stage right in the middle of this restaurant/nightclub with a supper club feel. Do your best jitterbug on the checkered dance floor, and if you feel the need for a tropical breeze, step outside onto the patio.

Blue Martini, also at Pointe Orlando at 9101 International Dr., is a happening spot with upscale décor and drink prices to match (but worth every penny). A quality martini menu includes concoctions like Lemon Drop, Masterpiece Bleu and the Blue Martini (served with a glow stick). Snack on appetizers from the limited menu, and when the feeling strikes, get down and shake it up on the small dance floor.

3NINE, tucked away in the Rosen Plaza Hotel at 9700 International Dr., features DJs most nights, comedy on Wednesday and karaoke on Thursday; the sports bar area has dart boards, pool tables and large TVs. Need something hotter? **FIRE Lounge**, 8967 International Dr., draws a diverse bump-n-grind crowd and the DJs mostly spin hip-hop and top 40 tunes. Neighboring **ICEBAR Orlando**, on the other hand, will make you feel like an extra from "Dr. Zhivago" after you pull on borrowed parkas and gloves for an adventure in a chilly setting (27 degrees Fahrenheit) made from carved ice and enhanced with lights and music. Warm up with shots served in glasses made of ice.

For something a little different, where you can belt out pop tunes, commercial jingles, and songs you forgot you knew under the direction of dueling piano players, visit **Howl at the Moon**, 8815 International Dr.

Universal CityWalk

Bustling crowds, bright lights and variety at a single location make this a popular destination for park visitors and locals.

At the entrance to Universal Orlando Resort is **Universal CityWalk**TM, 6000 Universal Blvd., which features an eye-catching promenade of shops, restaurants, clubs and a 20-screen movie theater. There's something here to satisfy any age group or music sensibility. Before you start your evening, inquire about opening times and cover charges at various restaurants and clubs. You can save a bundle by purchasing a CityWalk Party Pass at guest services.

Jump-start your evening with happy-hour mojitos or martinis at the **Red Coconut Club**. With its retro-style furnishings, banquette seating, conga drums, fake palm trees, velvet-roped VIP areas and intimate dance floor, this lounge-style dance club looks like an updated version of an early Vegas nightclub.

Reggae rules at **Bob Marley-A Tribute to Freedom**, which is housed in a replica of Marley's former home in Jamaica. A reggae band and a DJ in the interior courtyard accompany dinner or just drinks every evening.

Speaking of courtyards, **Pat O'Brien's**, next door, is a carbon copy of the New Orleans landmark, right down to the meticulously re-created carriageway entrance with arched rifles overhead. The main bar exudes the character of a vintage New Orleans neighborhood watering hole, while a secluded patio surrounded by worn brick



House of Blues® / © AAA / Diana Beyer



walls features faithful appointments such as slate floors, ironwork fencing, huge planters of greenery and the famous flaming fountain. Pianos duel it out in the club's raucous third bar. The signature Hurricane drink, served in a souvenir glass, looks like punch and really packs one. You've been warned.

Hard Rock Live is a concert venue with a full bar where you can catch national recording artists like BB King; Crosby, Stills & Nash; Earth, Wind & Fire; Elvis Costello; Florence and the Machine; The Fray; and Neon Trees as well as well-known comedians. Before the show, check out the rare music memorabilia that decks the walls. Right next door is the WE Hard Rock Cafe, where you can have a burger or steak before the show and gaze at walls blanketed with hundreds of rock artifacts.

Several wildly decorated intimate lounges offer retreats from the pounding beat on the dance floor at **the groove**,



Hard Rock Live / @ AAA / Thuvvi Gates

where DJs play Top 40, hip-hop, R&B and pop hits nightly. And when your dancing machine runs out of steam, decide if you want to be the entertainment at **CityWalk's Rising Star.** This innovative karaoke club rewards daring performers with a live band and backup singers. There's nothing cliché about the district's newest nightspot.

Don't overlook nocturnal happenings at the on-site hotels, all of which can easily be reached via the water taxi. **Velvet Bar,** inside Hard Rock Hotel, 5800 Universal Blvd., at Universal Orlando, is best known for its monthly Velvet Sessions (the last Thursday of the month, January-October), a themed cocktail party featuring a live band. Cabana Bay Beach Resort, 6550 Adventure Way, offers a blast from the past (and classic cocktails) at the poolside Atomic Tonic or Hideaway Bar & Grille near the lazy river. Head over to Loews Royal Pacific Resort, 6300 Hol-Ivwood Way, at Universal Orlando for Jake's American Bar, featuring live entertainment on select nights, and Orchid Court Lounge & Sushi Bar, providing a serene setting to sip cocktails among orchids and fountains. Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, 5601 Universal Blvd., at Universal Orlando is home to two watering holes. The Thirsty Fish is a casual dockside bar offering great sunset views and live jazz three nights a week. If cocktails and conversation are more your speed, grab a seat at swanky Bar American.

Big Events

On New Year's Day two top college football teams test their skills during the VRBO Citrus Bowl. A parade and other related activities precede the big game. For suggestions of things to do during your stay, talk to your AAA travel agent about events and activities that are scheduled during your visit.

In late January the Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities celebrates the life of the noted interpreter of Southern rural African American culture. The African American writer grew up in Eatonville, a community just north of Orlando that holds the distinction of being the nation's oldest incorporated Black municipality; this is where the event takes place. Renowned African American musicians, vocalists, authors, educators and artisans celebrate Zora's legacy and Eatonville's heritage with this 10-day precursor to Black History Month. This energetic event is a great option if you're looking for fun things to do with friends.

Orlando's moderate temperatures are ideal for art festivals. Most popular are the Mount Dora Arts Festival in early February and the Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival on the third weekend in March. Spring Fiesta in the Park and Fall Fiesta in the Park celebrations take place in April and November on the shores of Lake Eola.

In March PGA's **Arnold Palmer Invitational** is held at **Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge.** Golf's top contenders drive, putt and birdie their way across a challenging championship course.

Cultural festivals explore the visual and performing arts. Held in April, the Florida Film Festival highlights cutting-edge current cinema from more than 30 countries at selected theaters. For 2 weeks in May, entertainers from around the world converge on downtown Orlando, treating theatergoers to a variety of unusual and cutting-edge performances as part of the Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival. The event nurtures "outsider-artist" expressionism with uncensored genre performances ranging from comedy improv to dramedy to musical cabaret. The name says it all. This is nontraditional theater at large. Pencil it into your group travel itinerary and enjoy top-rate entertainment with your fellow travelers.

Pay tribute to our nation's anniversary at early July's Lake Eola Park Fireworks at the Fountain. This picture-perfect setting downtown features a colorful fountain in the lake, but the true show is the spectacular fireworks display that takes place after dark. Live bands fill the park with music, and you can supplement your picnic with a cold one from the beer garden.

The horror, the horror! At Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Studios Florida, don't be surprised if you hear yourself screaming this out loud as zombies pop out of the woodwork in haunted houses and scare zones, complete with terrifying sound effects, strobe lights and fog. This may be the Halloween party of your dreams (or nightmares, as the case may be). If you love adventure travel, it doesn't get much more adventurous than this! This activity may not be ideal for the faint of heart. You've been warned.

Orlando's holiday season unofficially kicks off with mid-November's **Festival of Trees** at the **Orlando Museum of Art.** Eyeball a large array of stunning Christmas trees, wreaths and gingerbread villages and gather ideas for your own holiday decorating. Kids can get crafty in Toyland Town and meet Santa, and everyone can treat themselves to treasures and trinkets in the holiday boutique. If you love shopping, this is one of the most fun things to do while you're here.

Change your blah "Bah Humbug" to a merry "Ho, Ho, Ho, Ho" with a visit to **Light Up UCF** mid-November through late December at the Addition Financial Arena. Hit the ice on an outdoor skating rink, marvel at a dazzling light show, take in holiday films, tap your toes to live music, glide down an icy slide and take joy rides on a Santa Train. Ferris wheel and carousel. Complete your evening

by warming up with a fresh-cooked meal from one of the nearby restaurants.

The city of **Winter Park** rings in the holiday season with **Christmas in the Park**, which combines a concert by the Bach Festival Choir and stunning outdoor displays of lighted Tiffany windows on loan from The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art.

Sports & Rec

Looking for a vacation destination for sports lovers? Orlando will not disappoint! From downtown Orlando to Walt Disney World® Resort, locals have several venues to choose from when it comes to the city's various professional sports offerings. Orlando's Kia Center, 400 W. Church St., hosts basketball and hockey games, while the renovated Camping World Stadium, One Citrus Bowl Pl., features college football games.



Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival / @ AAA / Thuyvi Gates

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Area residents also make the most of central Florida's lengthy summers and mild winters, which create ideal recreation conditions year-round. The area's many waterways host a wide variety of activities, and drier pastimes abound as well. Phone the Orange County Parks & Recreation Division at (407) 836-6200, or (407) 836-6280 for the event information line.

Baseball The **Florida Fire Frogs** (formerly the Brevard County Manatees), a Class A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves, play at **Osceola County Stadium**, 631 Heritage Park Way in Kissimmee; phone (321) 697-3220.

Basketball Orlando basketball enthusiasts fill **Kia Center** to watch the NBA's **Orlando Magic**; for schedule and ticket information phone (407) 896-2442.

Orlando's University of Central Florida Knights' men's and women's basketball teams play at Addition Financial Arena, (407) 823-6006, which seats more than 10,000. Nearby Winter Park's Rollins College also has men's and women's basketball teams; they play at Alfond Sports Center, (407) 646-2000.

Football The **UCF Knights** play at the 45,000-seat **FBC Mortgage Stadium** (aka "Bounce House"), (407) 823-1000.

The **Camping World Stadium** hosts college football games, including the annual Cheez-It Bowl and the VRBO Citrus Bowl, (407) 440-5700.

The Kia **Kia Center** is once again home to arena football's Orlando Predators. The season runs mid-March to early August.

Soccer Home to the Orlando City Lions as well as the Orlando Pride, a National Women's Soccer League expansion franchise, the Inter&Co Stadium, 655 W. Church St., seats at least 25,500 fans; for tickets phone (855) 675-2489. Orlando City B (OCB), a United Soccer League club, plays home games at a 5,400-seat stadium in Osceola Heritage Park (1875 Silver Spur Ln.) in Kissimmee; phone (321) 697-3333 for Osceola Heritage Park.

Bicycling Bicycling is a great option if you're looking for fun things to do that will help you stay active during your vacation. While it's a fun and entertaining way to see the city, traffic is always a concern. Exercise caution and obey all traffic laws when bicycling on the street. If possible, ride in a park—both Bill Frederick at Turkey Lake and Lake Underhill parks offer trails—or other specially designated area. The Walt Disney World® Resort offers a variety of trails as well as bicycle rentals.

Locals enjoy the quiet, tree-lined streets of Rollins College (in nearby Winter Park), College Park and downtown Orlando. Many points of interest can be seen along the Orlando Urban Trail, which runs from downtown along Orange Avenue to Loch Haven Park and Winter Park's Mead Botanical Garden.

The Little Econ Greenway, about 8 miles, begins at the intersection of Alafaya and Lokanotosa trails and runs alongside the Little Econlockhatchee River through Jay Blanchard Park to Forsyth Road. There's also a butterfly garden about halfway through near Union Park Middle School. For trail information phone (407) 254-9030.

Just north of Orlando in Seminole County, home to Orlando's bedroom communities, are the 23-mile Cross Seminole Trail and the 14-mile Seminole Wekiva Trail. Sections of these trails are part of the Florida National Scenic Trail. The Cross Seminole Trail begins in Casselberry at the intersection of Howell Branch Road and Aloma Avenue, runs through the Spring Hammock Preserve, then ends in Lake Mary at the pedestrian bridge, where it joins the Seminole Wekiva Trail. Built on the Orange Belt Railway, the Seminole Wekiva Trail runs south to Altamonte Springs. Phone (407) 665-2001 for more information.

Many jogging/walking sites also cater to bicyclists; see the next section.

Jogging and Walking Orlando boasts two scenic, paved recreation trails built on old railway beds. Active people who love adventure travel can see the city from a whole new light while walking along the many beautiful walking trails. Prefer to explore the trails at a faster pace? Try jogging or bicycling. The 22-mile West Orange Trail runs between the Killarney Station in Oakland to Apopka; phone (407) 654-1108. A 10-mile portion of the trail also is open to equestrians.

Closer to downtown Orlando, the 7.2-mile Cady Way Trail connects Orlando Fashion Square Mall with Winter Park, where it connects to the Cross Seminole Trail; phone (407) 254-9025. The 3-mile Orlando Urban Trail runs along a rail line downtown from the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Weber Street north to Winter Park's Mead Botanical Garden, which is a nice place to stroll through nature trails and the freshwater creek. For additional information contact the Orange County Parks and Recreation Division at (407) 836-6200.

Downtown Orlando features Lake Eola Park (E. Central Boulevard), noted for the Linton Allen Memorial Fountain, as well as Mayor Carl T. Langford Park on Central Boulevard. Just outside downtown are the charming streets of College Park and the serene oasis of Lake Ivanhoe's Gaston Edwards Park. Cypress Grove Park on Holden Avenue is a nice sport for walking and biking and has playgrounds and a lake; each holiday season the park puts on a Christmas light drive-through show.

Orlando Loch Haven Park (see attraction listing p. 204), home to two art museums and the Orlando Science Center, is a nice place to spend some time outdoors among the sculptures at this cultural hub.

Orlando's beautiful, upscale Baldwin Park neighborhood (about 3 miles from downtown) features a 2.5-mile walking/biking trail around **Lake Baldwin**.

Winter Park is a good place for a stroll, particularly along popular Park Avenue or on the Rollins College campus. Other appealing sites include Kraft Azalea Garden in Winter Park as well as Harry P. Leu Gardens (see attraction listing p. 202) in Orlando. Due to the relentless Florida sun, early morning and late afternoon are the best times for either activity.

For a more rural destination, head about 25 miles east of Orlando to Christmas' **Orlando Wetlands Park**, where you can walk, jog and bike; phone (407) 568-1706.

Fishing With hundreds of lakes and several rivers to choose from, anglers will have no problem finding a place to cast their lines—bass, bream and catfish are among the available catches. Some favorite spots are Bill Frederick Park at Turkey Lake and Lake Cane/Marsha Park, both just off Conroy-Windermere Rd.; Gaston Edwards Park on Lake Ivanhoe near downtown; Lake Fairview, north of College Park; Lake Tohopekaliga in Kissimmee, south of US 192; Lake Underhill Park, east of town off Conway Road; and Wekiwa Springs State Park in northwest Orange County. Walt Disney World® Resort also affords angling opportunities for tourists and residents alike.

Deep-sea fishing is a popular pastime, and charters are available in many beachfront towns. Anglers age 16 and over must purchase freshwater or saltwater licenses, which are available at many bait and tackle shops, most Wal-Marts and Bass Pro Shops and at all tax assessors' offices. For further information phone the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, (888) 347-4356.

Golf For many Orlando residents, golf is a way of life, and there are numerous ways to play. One of the newest facilities is the 65,000-square-foot Topgolf Orlando, 9395 Universal Blvd., which features 102 hitting bays.

An abundance of courses—more than 175—also grace the metropolitan area, from the city-bound links of small municipal properties to the spectacular settings of the luxury resorts. All of the following courses offer at least 18 holes and are open to the public year round: Casselberry Golf Club, (407) 699-9310, 300 S. Triplet Lake Dr. in Casselberry; Celebration Golf Club, (407) 566-4653, 701 Golfpark Dr. in Celebration; Dubsdread, (407) 246-2551, 549 W. Par St.; EastWood Golf Club, (407) 281-4653, 13950 Golfway Blvd.; Hunter's Creek, (407) 240-4653, 14401 Sports Club Way; Mayfair Country Club, (407) 322-2531, 3536 Country Club Rd. in Sanford; MetroWest Golf Club, (407) 299-1099, 2100 S. Hiawassee Rd.; Stoneybrook East Golf Club, (407)

384-6888, 2900 Northampton Ave.; **Walt Disney World** golf courses, (407) 939-4653, in Lake Buena Vista; and **Wedgefield Golf and Country Club**, (407) 568-2116, 20550 Maxim Pkwy.

Hot Air Ballooning The following offer aerial views of the Orlando area: Aerostat Adventures, (407) 476-7101 or (877) 495-7433; Bob's Balloon Charters, (407) 466-6380 or (877) 824-4606; Magic Sunrise Ballooning, (866) 606-7433; Orlando Balloon Adventures, (407) 786-7473 or (321) 229-4213; and Orlando Balloon Rides, (407) 894-5040. Some trips include champagne.

Tennis In metropolitan Orlando, tennis courts are nearly as numerous as lakes, with more than 600 offering tennis programs. Some have national-level recognition. The United States Tennis Association features at least 100 courts at the new 63-acre USTA National Campus in

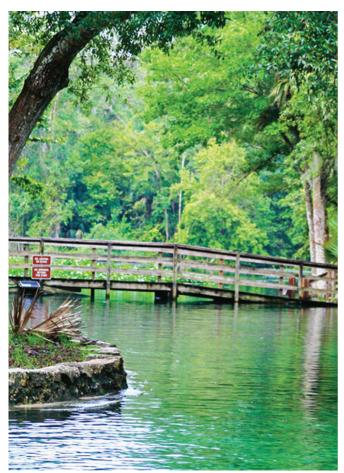


Kraft Azalea Garden / © AAA / Thuyvi Gates

Lake Nona and supports tennis players ranging from beginner to professional; phone (914) 675-2500.

Many hotels offer court privileges to their guests. The courts at county parks are always open to the general public; for further details phone the City of Orlando Recreation Bureau, (407) 246-4300, or the Orange County Parks and Recreation Division, (407) 836-6200. Some resorts offer public access, including **Grand Cypress Tennis and Racquet Club**, 55 Grand Cypress Blvd., (407) 239-1234 (making reservations 24 hours in advance is recommended).

Water Sports The abundance of lakes in central Florida—more than 2,000 by some counts—provides endless opportunities for water sports of all kinds, including boating, canoeing, paddleboarding, swimming, water



Wekiwa Springs State Park / Courtesy of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks

skiing and windsurfing. Some of the most popular sites include Lake Ivanhoe; Lake Underhill; and the Butler Chain of Lakes and Winter Park Chain of Lakes. For more information contact the Orange County Parks and Recreation Division at (407) 836-6200 or the City of Orlando Recreation Bureau at (407) 246-4300. For information about the Winter Park Chain of Lakes, phone (407) 599-3334.

Just north of Orlando in Apopka is **Wekiwa Springs State Park** (see Recreation Areas Chart), where swimming in the crystal clear spring water is popular. The **Wekiva River** is considered one of the state's best canoeing rivers; canoe and kayak rental information is available at the marina, (407) 884-4311.

Boating is a favorite recreation; residents have their choice of several inland waterways to explore. The Butler and Winter Park Chain of Lakes are groupings of connected lakes. The Rollins College campus and beautiful homes line the shores of the lakes in Winter Park's chain, and boat tours are available (see place listing p. 363). Another active waterway, the **St. Johns River**, connects nearby Sanford with Jacksonville. Houseboats can be rented in DeLand, allowing visitors to navigate the river in comfort. With such a wide variety of recreational options available, you'll never have to wonder what to do while you're here.

Performing Arts

The strength of Orlando's appeal lies mainly with its family attractions and entertainment. While this is good news for the folks at Disney and Universal, it has detracted some focus from the city's cultural scene. Arts enthusiasts need not despair, though—local arts groups have begun to expand their presence. Theater offers the most varied slate, with dance and music filling in the gaps. Performing arts lovers around the world think of Orlando as a prime destination for dance, film, music and theater.

The **Dr. P. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts**, 445 S. Magnolia Ave., adds even more options to the ever-evolving arts scene. The venue, which covers two blocks, features several individual theaters as well as an outdoor plaza and performance space. Phone (844) 513-2014 for the box office.

Opened in 1927, the historic **Bob Carr Theater**, 401 W. Livingston St., is nestled in the heart of Orlando and serves as the primary arts and cultural destination for the Orlando Philharmonic and concerts. Phone (407) 246-4262.

Orlando Amphitheater at the Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 W. Colonial Dr., draws a variety of performers. The open-air venue has no seats but can accommodate some 10,000 guests. If you're a fan of

group travel and are looking for fun things to do that can accommodate large groups, squeeze a show at this amphitheater into your itinerary. Phone (407) 295-3247. Check with your travel agency to see if any performing arts tickets are offered with select travel packages.

Dance The Orlando Ballet produces year-round main stage productions. Concerts and programs ranging from classical to modern are featured. The Nutcracker ballet is performed in December, accompanied by a live orchestra of local musicians. Orlando Ballet performances generally are held at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, while rehearsal space, studios and a multipurpose auditorium are at Harriet's Orlando Ballet Centre (600 N. Lake Formosa Dr.) in Loch Haven Cultural Park. For information phone (844) 513-2014.

Rollins College brings in some of the dance world's brightest stars, such as the Alvin Ailey Repertory and Pilobolus, to the **Annie Russell Theatre** to supplement the **Rollins Dance** student program; phone (407) 646-2145.

Film Alternative cinema finds a home at the **Enzian Theater**, 1300 S. Orlando Ave., offering filmgoers a varied menu of critically acclaimed American independent and international films. The Enzian also produces the annual Florida Film Festival. The theater itself is unusual—it is set in an old house, with audience seating at tables rather than in an auditorium. For information phone (407) 629-0054.

Music Orlando has a variety of groups dedicated to making beautiful music. The **Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra** gives four concert series during the year. It's one of the most romantic things for couples to do during their vacation. Performances are held at the 1,700-seat Steinmetz Hall at the Dr. Phillips Center in 2020. The orchestra also leases The Plaza Live (425 N. Bumby Ave.) from the City of Orlando. For additional information phone (407) 770-0071 for the box office.

Central Florida Community Arts, 250 S.W. Ivanhoe Blvd., performs concerts appropriate for most audiences, such as Broadway-style musicals, community chorus and symphony orchestra, at various locations in the area. For additional information phone (407) 937-1800.

Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts hosts live performances, such as classical, jazz, world music and spoken word, in Winter Park's South on Fairbanks Avenue (SOFA) district at 1905 Kentucky Ave. For tickets phone (407) 636-9951; reservations are recommended. When you're done soaking up the music, head to one of the nearby restaurants for delicious local food.

A favorite local event is the **Bach Festival**, a celebration of masterworks by Bach and other major composers. Held in late February or early March, the program is performed by the **Bach Festival Society of Winter Park**, which also

offers the Visiting Artists and Choral Masterworks series. The group performs at the **Knowles Memorial Chapel** at **Rollins College**; phone (407) 646-2115 for the chapel or (407) 646-2182 for ticket information.

Theater A local favorite is the Broadway Across America-Orlando series, which brings touring Broadway shows to the Dr. Phillips Center. The season runs December through June, and tickets for the biggest hits often require several weeks' notice; phone (800) 448-6322.

One of the area's most popular theaters for families is the **Orlando Family Stage**, 1001 E. Princeton St., (407) 896-7365.

The play's the thing at **Orlando Shakes**, in partnership with UCF, which is dedicated to staging the bard's timeless plays in innovative ways at the John and Rita Lowndes Shakespeare Center at Loch Haven Park, 812 E. Rollins St.; phone (407) 447-1700. The organization



Enzian Theater / Courtesy of Enzian Theater

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produces works throughout the year, from classically inspired independent pieces to Broadway productions to the **PlayFest Series**, a three-day festival of experimental plays.

The University of Central Florida features a full season of performances through **Theatre UCF**, (407) 823-1500. Rollins College also mounts a full season, with productions at the Annie Russell Theatre, 1000 Holt Ave. in Winter Park, running the gamut of theatrical genres; phone (407) 646-2145.

INSIDER INFO:

CityPASS and Go Orlando Pass

Orlando CityPASS offers savings on admission to Orlando's famous theme parks with one simple and convenient purchase. Park options include Walt Disney World[®] Resort, Universal Orlando Resort™, SeaWorld[®] Orlando, LEGOLAND[®] Florida Resort and Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

The validity period, price and savings of the Orlando City-PASS vary depending on the number of parks, number of days, travel dates and types of tickets chosen. Tickets can be purchased online at CityPASS.com/Orlando.

Note: Reservations are required and parks may sell out. Before purchasing tickets, be sure to check park availability for your preferred visit dates to ensure availability. Once you purchase, you will receive instructions on how to make your reservations; we recommend making reservations as soon as possible.

Go Orlando pass is an all-access digital pass to some 15 area attractions. There are different passes to suit, whether you want to choose the number of days or attractions to visit. Attractions include Boggy Creek Airboat Tours, Fun Spot America, Gatorland, SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium, The Wheel and WonderWorks as well as other popular activities and sightseeing tours. The Go Orlando pass is available online, or by phone (800) 887-9103.



Explore Things To Do, visit AAA.com/tripcanvas

CRAYOLA EXPERIENCE is in The Florida Mall at 8001 S. Orange Blossom Tr. The 26 stations, including places to color and sculpt, allow children and adults to play and create works of art. Creating a personalized crayon label as well as using melted wax to paint or splatter in drip art

are among the highlights. In the Adventure Lab, kids can go on digital and physical quests. Toddler- and kidoriented playgrounds are on-site. **Time:** Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (407) 757-1700.



NOTIFIED DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM THEME PARK—
see Lake Buena Vista p. 127.



DISNEY'S HOLLYWOOD STUDIOS—see Lake Buena Vista p. 128.



EPCOT—see Lake Buena Vista p. 130.

FUN SPOT AMERICA, 5700 Fun Spot Way, offers roller coasters (one of which is wooden), several thrill rides and more than a dozen family and children's rides as well as an arcade, a midway and four go-kart tracks. The 15,000-square-foot Gator Spot portion features birds, snakes, lizards and, of course, alligators. **Phone:** (407) 363-3867.

GATORLAND is 6 mi. s. of the Beachline Expwy. (SR 528) on US 17/92/441 at 14501 S. Orange Blossom Tr. Opened as a roadside attraction in 1949, the park and wildlife preserve is home to thousands of alligators, crocodiles, snakes and other reptiles. Highlights include the Stompin' Gator Off-Road Adventure, a children's petting zoo, a train ride, an aviary, a breeding marsh with observation tower, Gator Gauntlet Zip Line and the Screamin' Gator Zip Line. Daily shows include Gator Wrestlin', Gator Jumparoo and Up-Close Encounters. Gator Gully Splash Park includes more than a quarter acre of dueling water guns, a bucket tree and a splash fountain.

Rental strollers and wheelchairs are available. **Time:** Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (407) 855-5496 or (800) 393-5297. **GT**

HARRY P. LEU GARDENS is at 1920 N. Forest Ave.; I-4 exit 85 to Princeton Ave., s. on Mills Ave., then .5 mi. e. via Virginia Dr. Stop and smell the roses at this 50-acre botanical garden sheltering camellias, vegetable and herb plots, and a colorful butterfly garden. The site also boasts 10 "idea" gardens designed to inspire weekend horticulturists as well as a tropical stream garden ornamented by banana and palm trees, ginger plants and bamboo. Guided tours lasting approximately 30 minutes showcase the Leu House Museum, a two-story farmhouse dating from the 1880s.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (407) 246-2620.



ICON PARK. 8387-8449 International Dr., offers entertainment, dining and shopping around The Wheel, a 400foot tall observation wheel. Featured attractions include The Wheel, Madame Tussauds, Museum of Illusions, SEA LIFE Orlando and Wheelhouse Market, as well as a central lawn with water features, including a colorful water show choreographed to music. Special events also are held throughout the year.

Phone: (407) 999-9985.

Madame Tussauds Orlando Wax Attraction is at 8387 International Dr., part of ICON Park, home of The Wheel. This international franchise features representations of A-listers, historical figures, sports legends, famous artists, tech icons, pop stars and even local celebrities.

Phone: (407) 999-9985.

SEA LIFE Orlando Aquarium is at 8449 International Dr., part of ICON Park, home of The Wheel. The stunning walk-through tunnel offers a 360-degree view of fish and sea creatures such as sharks, rays and turtles. Other displays include jellyfish, colorful fish and seahorses. The facility also offers a hands-on rock pool experience. Daily educational talks aim to inspire visitors to help in the important work of conservation.

ICON PARK, 8387-8449 International Dr., offers entertainment, dining and shopping around The Wheel, a 400foot tall observation wheel. Featured attractions include The Wheel, Madame Tussauds, Museum of Illusions, SEA LIFE Orlando and Wheelhouse Market, as well as a central lawn with water features, including a colorful water show choreographed to music. Special events also are held throughout the year.

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Phone: (407) 999-9985. | | | | | | |

LAKE EOLA PARK, 3 blks. from the center of town on E. Central Blvd., has stately trees and flowering plants and shrubs. In the center of Lake Eola is the colorfully lighted Linton E. Allen Memorial Fountain. Several swan species are at home in the lake. The park also has swan paddleboats, gondolas, a playground and a Sunday farmers market.



ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER, 65 E. Central Blvd., is housed within a restored five-story 1927 courthouse and offers permanent exhibits tracing the area's history from Native American settlement to its development as a tourist community. A Smithsonian affiliate, the center hosts biannual traveling exhibitions. Other features include a Florida Cracker-style pioneer cabin, a replica tepee from a '50s motel, a recreated Seminole Indian village, interactive displays about Florida industries and the adjacent Heritage Square park.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (407) 836-8500 or (800) 965-2030.



Madame Tussauds Orlando Wax Attraction / © AAA / Janet Brindle Reddick

ORLANDO LOCH HAVEN PARK, at 777 E. Princeton St. and bounded by N. Mills Ave. (US 17/92), E. Rollins St. and Camden Rd., contains three museums, two theaters and a sculpture garden. The Orlando Family Stage, 1001 E. Princeton St., and the Orlando Shakes (formerly Orlando Shakespeare Theater), in the John and Rita Lowndes Shakespeare Center at 812 E. Rollins St., stages productions. The city's oldest oak tree, The Mayor, is located in the park.

Phone: (407) 246-2283 for park information, (407) 896-7365 for Orlando Repertory Theatre, or (407) 447-1700 for Orlando Shakespeare Theater. ≰

The Mennello Museum of American Art is in Loch Haven Park at 900 E. Princeton St. next to the Orlando Science Center's parking garage. This Smithsonian Institution affiliate museum houses a permanent collection of the works of Earl Cunningham, a prominent 20th-century self-taught American folk artist. Traveling exhibits also are featured. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (407) 246-4278.

Orlando Museum of Art, in Loch Haven Park at 2416 N. Mills Ave., maintains permanent collections of American and African art, including art of the ancient Americas. Also featured are changing exhibits, a discovery center and hands-on family activities. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 896-4231.

Orlando Science Center, in Loch Haven Park at 777 E. Princeton St., features hundreds of hands-on exhibits and live programming, as well as the 11,000-square-foot KidsTown exhibit. Visitors can also encounter Florida wildlife, unearth dinosaur mysteries and, on select dates, gaze at stars in the observatory. Large-format films can be viewed on the eight-story screen in the Dr. Phillips CineDome while feature films play in the Digital Adventure Theater.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (407) 514-2000. $| \tilde{\uparrow} |$

PIRATE'S DINNER ADVENTURE is .25 mi. s. of International Dr. at 6400 Carrier Dr. Guests at this interactive dinner show enjoy a feast while musical comedy, swash-buckling stunts and live-action performances take place aboard a pirate galleon. After the show, guests may attend the Buccaneer Bash dance party. Phone: (407) 206-5102 or (800) 866-2469.

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! ORLANDO ODDITO-RIUM is .5 mi. s.e. of I-4 exit 74A (Sand Lake Rd.) at 8201 International Dr. Odd and unusual exhibits and video presentations from around the world are featured in 16 themed galleries that include interactive illusions, human and animal oddities, weird art and dinosaurs and fossils. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 345-0501.

SEAWORLD PARKS ORLANDO, jct. I-4 and SR 528 (Beachline Expwy.), offers South Sea islands-inspired water fun at Aquatica, unforgettable encounters with marine life at Discovery Cove Orlando, and Seasame Place as well as sea-themed shows, exhibits and rides at Sea-World Orlando.

Rental strollers and wheelchairs are available. **Phone:** (888) 800-5447 for SeaWorld, or (407) 545-5550 for Aquatica.

Aquatica is at 5800 Water Play Way next to SeaWorld Orlando. The whimsical water park, inspired by the colors, flora and personality of South Sea islands, combines thrill rides; vast, sandy beaches with exotic trees and personal cabanas; and an opportunity for up-close animal experiences. Reef Plunge, a park highlight, is a clear tube ride that sends riders plunging through a lagoon inhabited by Commerson's dolphins, leopard sharks and cold-water fish. Ihu's Breakaway Falls features slides that drop riders 80 feet. Twisting rivers, raft rides and side-by-side wave pools add to the fun.

Height restrictions apply on some rides. Cabanas, lockers and towels can be rented. Allow a full day. **Phone:** (888) 800-5447.

Discovery Cove Orlando is at 6000 Discovery Cove Way next to SeaWorld Orlando. The all-inclusive day resort allows guests, at their own pace, to encounter a variety of animals up-close and in a lush island resort setting. You can touch and swim with dolphins, meet otters, swim with sharks, snorkel in waters inhabited by mysterious stingrays and schools of tropical fish, view hundreds of exotic birds in a free-flight aviary, drift down a lazy river and lounge on powdery beaches.

Allow a full day. **Phone:** (407) 513-4600 for general information. $\boxed{\P}$

SeaWorld Orlando is at 7007 SeaWorld Dr., at jct. I-4 and SR 528 (Beachline Expwy.). This marine life adventure park has themed shows; up-close animal encounters; attractions; and rides, including the Pipeline surf coaster, the Manta, a face-down flying coaster, the floorless coaster Kraken, the water coaster Journey to Atlantis, or the launch coaster Ice Breaker.

The newest coaster Pipeline is the first-of-a-kind as it allows you to be launched 110 feet up at 60 mph while standing. At 200 feet tall and running up to 73 mph, the Mako roller coaster is reportedly the highest and fastest coaster in Orlando. Climb aboard your raft and prepare to

get soaked while reaching peak excitement on Infinity Falls. Enjoy roaring rapids, thrilling chutes and splashing turns before plunging into churning whitewater.

Shows include Dolphin Adventures, with dolphins and trainers in an educational production; "Orca Encounter," a presentation about orcas; and "Sea Lion and Otter Spotlight," which features Clyde and Seamore as well as an otter and other characters participating in a fun but educational show about animals within the Pacific Point Marine Conservation Center.

The Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin exhibit—complete with chilly temps, simulated snowstorms, imitation ice formations, a penguin-themed family ride and 250 live penguins—provides a glimpse into the fascinating lives of the tuxedoed cold-weather creatures. At the TurtleTrek exhibit, guests visit a manatee and sea turtle habitat before stepping into a huge dome theater for a 360-degree 3-D film experience.

Take a stroll down Sesame Street. In addition to rides at Sesame Steet Land, there are plenty of familiar places to go, including the famous stoop at 123, the inside of Hooper's Store and Big Bird's Nest. Also enjoy Sesame Street® Party Parade, featuring Elmo, Cookie Monster, Abby and all the gang.

Dolphin Nursery, Stingray Lagoon and Shark Encounter. On Behind-the-Scenes Tours, guests can interact with a penguin, touch a shark and learn how animal experts care for rescued manatees and sea turtles. Several other guided tours are offered.

If you happen to get wet at Infinity Falls, you'll be able to dry off in no time at dryers for a small fee. Kennels, strollers, wheelchairs and lockers can be rented. Allow a full day. **Phone:** (407) 545-5550.

SAVE SLEUTHS MYSTERY DINNER SHOWS is at 8267 International Dr. Guests become detectives to help solve a crime in these comedy-mystery dinner shows. Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (407) 363-1985 or (800) 393-1985.

UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT™ is off I-4 exit 75A (eastbound) or 74B (westbound), following signs to the parking garages at 6000 Universal Blvd.

At Universal Orlando Resort[™], three amazing theme parks let you immerse yourself in the next generation of blockbuster entertainment, journey through the legendary worlds of incredible heroes, and enjoy the thrills and relaxation of a tropical paradise. You can script an incredible day of fun at Universal Studios Florida[™], a real working film and TV studio that features rides, shows and attractions that puts you right in the middle of the action. Next

door you'll step right into powerful stories, myths and legends at Universal's Islands of AdventureTM. At Universal's Volcano BayTM water theme park, you'll find an oasis of excitement along with laid-back luxuries. Universal Epic Universe, opening in 2025, will introduce Super Nintendo World.

In the meantime, savor the unforgettable dining and entertainment of Universal CityWalkTM, home to an array of themed restaurants, clubs, concert venues, movies, shops, miniature golf and more. Unwind at your choice of eight on-site hotels featuring a range of accommodations, amenities, recreation and special theme park benefits.

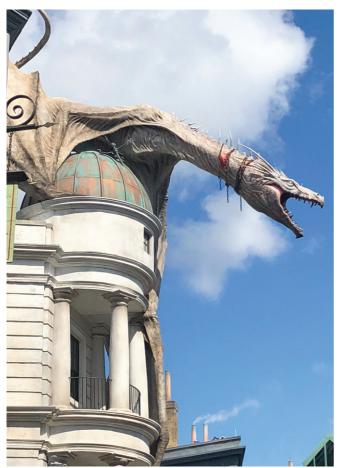
Strollers, wheelchairs, electric carts and air-conditioned kennels can be rented. Vehicles can leave the garage and return the same day by stopping at the toll plaza upon reentry and presenting their parking ticket. **Phone:** (407) 363-8000.



Aquatica / Courtesy of SeaWorld Parks & Resorts Orlando

Universal CityWalk™, off I-4 exit 75A (eastbound) or 74B (westbound), following signs to the parking garages at 6000 Universal Blvd., is an entertainment complex featuring specialty shopping, the 20-screen AMC Universal Cineplex 20 movie theater, nightclubs, two miniature putt-putt golf courses, and casual and fine dining in themed restaurants that cater to every member of the family. The complex is located between Universal's Islands of Adventure™ and Universal Studios™ and within walking distance of each on-site hotel. Note: Vehicles can leave the garage and return the same day by stopping at the toll plaza upon re-entry and presenting their parking ticket. Phone: (407) 363-8000.

Universal's Islands of Adventure™ is off I-4 exit 75A (eastbound) or 74B (westbound), following signs to the parking garages at 6000 Universal Blvd.



Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ - Hogsmeade™ at Islands of Adventure / © AAA / Inspector 87

Journey through the legendary worlds of incredible heroes at Universal's Islands of Adventure™, where you'll step into powerful stories, myths and legends during thrilling rides and attractions.

Encompassing 20 acres, The Wizarding World of Harry Potter is home to Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey, a state-of-the-art attraction that brings the magic, characters and stories of Harry Potter to life. The Flight of the Hippogriff coaster provides thrills for all ages. Note: Only guests with Park-to-Park admission tickets are eligible to ride the Hogwarts Express to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter-Diagon Alley at Universal Studios Florida.

Marvel Super Hero Island puts you in the middle of a comic book where you'll find the 3D thrill ride The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man, The Incredible Hulk Coaster, the gravity-defying Doctor Doom's Fearfall and Storm Force Accelatron.

Based on cartoons and comic strips, Toon Lagoon's attractions include Dudley Do-Right's Ripsaw Falls log flume ride and Popeye & Bluto's Bilge-Rat Barges whitewater raft ride. Children can explore all three decks of Popeye's boat, *Me Ship, The Olive*.

Then there's Skull Island: Reign of Kong, which allows visitors to go on expedition to the mysterious island.

Jurassic Park brings to life a land inhabited by prehistoric creatures. Jurassic World VelociCoaster offers "the rush of the hunt" with high-speed drops and spins through the raptor paddock. Jurassic Park River Adventure features a narrow escape from an hungry T-rex. Visitors unearth mysteries from the past at the Jurassic Park Discovery Center. Camp Jurassic is an interactive children's play area which also features the Pteranodon Flyers, an attraction made especially for kids.

Dr. Seuss' stories and characters come to life at Seuss Landing. The Cat in the Hat takes visitors on a ride through the classic children's book, and a menagerie of Dr. Seuss characters serves as steeds on the Caro-Seuss-el. Other attractions include the If I Ran The Zoo play area, The High in the Sky Seuss Trolley Train Ride! and the One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish ride. **Note:** Vehicles can leave the garage and return the same day by stopping at the toll plaza upon re-entry and presenting their parking ticket. **Phone:** (407) 363-8000.

Universal Studios Florida™ is off I-4 exit 75A (eastbound) or 74B (westbound), following signs to the parking garages at 6000 Universal Blvd.

Immerse yourself in the next generation of blockbuster entertainment at Universal Studios™. You'll script a day of fun at this real working film and TV studio that features



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rides, shows and attractions that put you in the middle of the action.

Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit is a multimedia roller coaster that lets you pick your own music and download a video of your experience. Transformers: The Ride 3-D includes high-tech, action-packed fun.

Join Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa and Maggie on The Simpsons Ride as they visit the Krustyland theme park. Riders are plunged into darkness in Revenge of the Mummy. Despicable Me Minion Mayhem is a 3-D motion-simulator ride through Gru's secret laboratory.

The interactive ride MEN IN BLACK Alien Attack allows visitors to save the galaxy by zapping creatures as the ride moves through city streets.

At Race Through New York Starring Jimmy Fallon it's you versus Jimmy in a fun-filled race around New York City landmarks. Fast & Furious— Supercharged takes you into an amazing re-creation of the crew's headquarters filled with movie props and supercharged vehicles you've only seen on the big screen. Orlando's Horror Make-Up Show offers an in-depth look at the creation of horror movie characters.

Attractions inside the onetime Woody Woodpecker's KidZone include E.T. Adventure and features Animal Actors on Location! Now DreamWorks Land, the area offers interactive experiences and highlights characters from "Kung Fu Panda," "Gabby's Dollhouse," "Shrek," "Trolls" and other family favorites.

The Wizarding World of Harry Potter–Diagon Alley is an expansion of Universal's Islands of Adventure's The Wizarding World of Harry Potter–Hogsmeade. Climb aboard a mind-blowing, multi-dimensional ride Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts. The Hogwarts Express allows guests with Park to Park tickets to experience this adventure, connecting King's Cross Station in London to Hogsmeade.

Note: Vehicles can leave the garage and return the same day by stopping at the toll plaza upon re-entry and presenting their parking ticket. **Phone:** (407) 363-8000.

Universal's Volcano Bay™ is off I-4 exit 75A (east-bound) or 74B (westbound), following signs to the parking garages at 6000 Universal Blvd. An adventure-drenched water theme park, the third at Universal Orlando Resort™, is filled with both thrilling rides and relaxing indulges.

Ride the Ko'okiri Body Plunge, featuring a 70-degree fall through a drop door and 125 feet of white-knuckle fun, or

brave the rope bridge and take the plunge down the Ohno and Ohva Slides, serpentine adventures that each end several feet above the pool below. Whether plummeting down Krakatau[™] Aqua Coaster or catapulting into pools of blue water, thrill seekers will have plenty to do day and night. Calming lagoons, leisure pools, secluded waterfalls and lazily winding rivers make the water theme park a place of thrills and relaxation.

Two-story cabanas, concierge services and resortlike amenities also are available. Vehicles can leave the garage and return the same day by stopping at the toll plaza upon re-entry and presenting their parking ticket. **Phone:** (407) 363-8000.



WELLS' BUILT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE is at 511 W. South St. Orlando's African American history is depicted through photographs, artifacts and multimedia exhibits. The former hotel built by Dr. William Monroe Wells, one of the area's first Black physicians, was a safe haven to Black visitors, including Ella Fitzgerald and Jackie Robinson, due to Jim Crow laws. Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. Phone: (407) 245-7535.

WONDERWORKS is .8 mi. n. of SR 528 at 9067 International Dr. An upside-down building contains this interactive attraction, which features more than 100 hands-on exhibits and a laser tag arena. Virtual reality technology and simulations enable visitors to experience an earthquake and hurricane force winds, design and ride their own roller-coaster, explore a replica of a Mercury space capsule, play virtual sports and land a space shuttle. Also of interest is a three-story, glow-in-the-dark ropes course (height and weight restrictions apply; closed-toe shoes are required) and the 4D Motion Theater. The Outta Control Magic Comedy dinner show is offered nightly.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 351-8800.

Sightseeing

Bus and Van Tours

GRAY LINE OF ORLANDO/GATOR TOURS picks up from area hotels. Offered is a 7.5-hour city tour of Orlando including downtown highlights around Lake Eola, the Park Avenue shops in Winter Park and Disney Springs. Various day tours and seasonal theme tours also are available. **Phone:** (407) 522-5911 or (800) 537-0917. **GT**

DOWNTOWN ORLANDO

Hotels p. 209



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/635-2300





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 333 S Garland Ave 32801. Facility: 180 units. 18-25 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





















ALOFT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/380-3500



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SAVE Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 500 S Orange Ave 32801.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/996-1000



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 730 N Magnolia Ave 32803. Facility: 200 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.



























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CROWNE PLAZA ORLANDO-DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/843-8700



Hotel. Address: 304 W Colonial Dr 32801. Facility: 227 units. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation.



















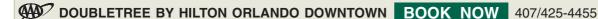
















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DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 60 S Ivanhoe Blvd 32804. Facility: 342 units. 15 stories. interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.















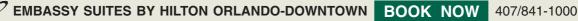
















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SUITES by HILTON

EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 191 E Pine St 32801. Facility: 167 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services:

complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.





































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HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 325 S Orange Ave 32801. Facility: Luxury awaits in these upscale rooms with custom furnishings and plush bedding. Art lovers will be jazzed here. A wealth of art and a rare Imperial Grand

Bosendorfer piano are on display. 248 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



































HILTON GARDEN INN ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/648-4171





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 401 N Magnolia Ave 32801. Facility: 149 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/839-3331





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 401 N Magnolia Ave 32801. Facility: 101 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























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MARRIOTT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/868-8686





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 400 W Livingston St 32801. Facility: 297 units. 15 stories, MARRIOTT interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 407/482-1500



Residence INI AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 680 N Orange Ave 32801. Facility: 138 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated indoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN



























ORLANDO

Hotels p. 212
 Restaurants p. 221



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/957-3400



INSPECTED CLEAN



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 12799 S Apopka Vineland Rd 32836. Facility: 196 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























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AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

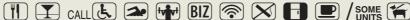
Hotel. Address: 5730 Central Florida Pkwy 32821. Facility: 144 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee).

Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























ALOFT ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW







AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7950 Palm Pkwy 32836. Facility: 141 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated

outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.



























ALOFT ORLANDO LAKE NONA

BOOK NOW 407/313-3700



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7215 Corner Dr 32827.



AVID HOTEL ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/640-7460



Hotel. Address: 7976 S Conway Rd 32812.



BEST WESTERN PLUS ORLANDO EAST - UCF AREA

BOOK NOW

407/737-7303



Hotel. Address: 12101 Challenger Pkwy 32826. Facility: 70 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin



























CAMBRIA HOTEL ORLANDO UNIVERSAL BLVD BOOK NOW 407/815-9500



hotels

CAMBRIA AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 6801 Visitors Cir 32819. Facility: 118 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.





















CAMBRIA ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/652-6284



hotels

CAMBRIA AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7986 S Conway Rd 32812. Facility: 108 units. 5 stories, interior corridors, Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: coin laundry.

























CANDLEWOOD SUITES ORLANDO LAKE BUENA VISTA BOOK NOW 407/477-4433



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 12341 Winter Garden Vineland Rd 32836. Facility: 163 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.

























THE CELESTE HOTEL, ORLANDO, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

BOOK NOW 407/207-4700





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO BonvoyTM points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Boutique Hotel. Address: 4105 N Alafaya Tr 32826. Facility: The

celestial theme at the boutique hotel shines through and is especially notable in the art. Traditionally sized rooms feature upscale elements and offer a calming ambience. 179 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room.



























COMFORT SUITES DOWNTOWN ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/228-4007





by CHOICE HOTELS

AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2416 N Orange Ave 32804. Facility: 122 units, some efficiencies. 3-4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















HREE DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN®



BOOK NOW 407/277-7676 COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO EAST/UCF AREA

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 12000 Collegiate Way 32817.



DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ORLANDO EAST/UCF AREA

BOOK NOW

407/275-9000





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 12125 High Tech Ave 32817. Facility: 242 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: trails, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























ELEMENT ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE

BOOK NOW

407/584-0441





BY WESTIN

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5750 Central Florida Pkwy 32821. Facility: 140 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



















































ELEMENT ORLANDO UNIVERSAL BLVD BOOK NOW 407/352-2225

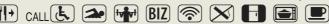




AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8278 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: 165 units, some kitchens. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES ORLANDO AT MILLENIA BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3551 Millennia Blvd 32839.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON ORLANDO LAKE NONA

BOOK NOW

407/275-5071



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 10002 Eagle Creek Sanctuary Blvd 32832.



HILTON GARDEN INN-ORLANDO EAST/UCF AREA BOOK NOW

407/992-5000



Hilton AAA Benefit: Members save up to 107
Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates! AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors

Hotel. Address: 1959 N Alafaya Tr 32826. Facility: 122 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ACROSS FROM UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW

407/313-3333

Hotel, Address: 5916 Caravan Ct 32819.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES ORLANDO-OCOEE

EAST

BOOK NOW 407/290-2710



Hotel. Address: 7474 W Colonial Dr 32818.



HOLIDAY INN ORLANDO EAST-UCF AREA

BOOK NOW

407/658-9008

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 1724 N Alafaya Tr 32826.



HOLIDAY INN ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE - ICON PARK BOOK NOW



Hotel. Address: 8368 Jamaican Ct 32819. Facility: 223 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.



















INSPECTED 🕝 CLEAN

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO LAKE NONA **BOOK NOW** 407/275-5071

THREE DIAMOND



SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10002 Eagle Creek Sanctuary Blvd 32832.



BOOK NOW HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO NEAR UCF 407/815-6850



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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3414 Technological Ave 32817.



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HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO SOUTH PARK BOOK NOW 407/355-9222







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2800 Destination Pkwy 32819. Facility: 120 efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.























HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO-UCF AREA

BOOK NOW

407/282-0067



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3028 N Alafaya Tr 32826.



HYATT HOUSE ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW

407/858-0801





HYATT AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their

World of Hyatt membership!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5472 Gateway Village Cir 32812. Facility: 156 efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.























JW MARRIOTT ORLANDO BONNET CREEK RESORT & SPA

BOOK NOW I

407/789-0999





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

JW MARRIOTT Hotel. Address: 14900 Chelonia Pkwy 32821. Facility: Standouts include the inviting pool area with cabanas and day beds, and the

variety of restaurants. Kids will adore the activity deck, and parents will like the impressive spa facilities. 516 units, some two bedrooms. 16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































LAKE NONA WAVE HOTEL BOOK NOW 833/462-9283



Hotel. Address: 6100 Wave Hotel Dr 32827. Facility: Rooms are uncluttered and feature elements of luxury including robes, iPads that connect you to hotel services, and reading lights. Expect to be wowed by unique artwork throughout the hotel. 234 units. 17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, also, BACÁN, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service.































SPOT X HOTEL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 321/218-4440

Hotel. Address: 12235 Regency Village Dr 32821.



APPROVED

SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO LAKE NONA

BOOK NOW



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 13700 Boggy Creek Rd 32824. Facility: 153 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AIRPORT

BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5530 Butler National Dr 32812.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO EAST/UCF



BOOK NOW 407/243-6100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SWE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11801 High Tech Ave 32817.





MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5433 Altamira Dr 32819. Facility: 153 kitchen units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool:

outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























TRYP BY WYNDHAM ORLANDO FLORIDA

BOOK NOW

407/315-7500



Hotel. Address: 11539 International Dr 32821.

WYNDHAM GARDEN ORLANDO - UNIVERSAL/I DRIVE

BOOK NOW 407/996-8888



Hotel. Address: 5855 American Way 32819.

WHERE TO EAT



BACÁN 407/675-2000



Latin American Fine Dining. Address: 6100 Wave Hotel Dr 32827.

ORLANDO SOUTH

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AVANTI PALMS RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER

BOOK NOW

407/996-0900



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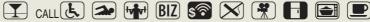
Resort Hotel. Address: 6515 International Dr 32819. Facility: The hotel is spread out and offers a variety of room types. Some rooms offer at-door parking, while others overlook the pool area. Elevators not provided in all buildings, inquire during booking. 652 units, some efficiencies. 2-14 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





































BEST WESTERN ORLANDO GATEWAY HOTEL BOOK NOW 407/351-5009



Hotel. Address: 7299 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: 298 units. 7-8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, Guest Services; coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.































BEST WESTERN PLUS UNIVERSAL INN

BOOK NOW 407/226-9119



Hotel. Address: 5618 Vineland Rd 32819. Facility: 70 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes, Pool: outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.

























CASTLE HOTEL, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 407/345-1511



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 8602 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: The unique hotel is upscale in design with impressive art pieces and

furnishings that are castle worthy. Highlights include an on-site restaurant, a well-equipped gym and an inviting pool area. 213 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, exercise room, Guest Services; valet and coin laundry.



































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COMFORT SUITES NEAREST UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/363-1967





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

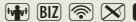
Hotel. Address: 5617 Major Blvd 32819. Facility: 101 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest **Services:** coin laundry, area transportation.

























COMFORT SUITES ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/812-9100





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1936 McCoy Rd 32809. Facility: 95 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























CONRAD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1500 Eastbeach Way 32836. Facility: This luxurious resort is saddled up next to a nature preserve and offers golf, water activities, great dining and an easy shuttle to the parks nearby. 433 units. 7 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: Ceiba, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: regulation golf, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. (See ad starting on p. 224.)



















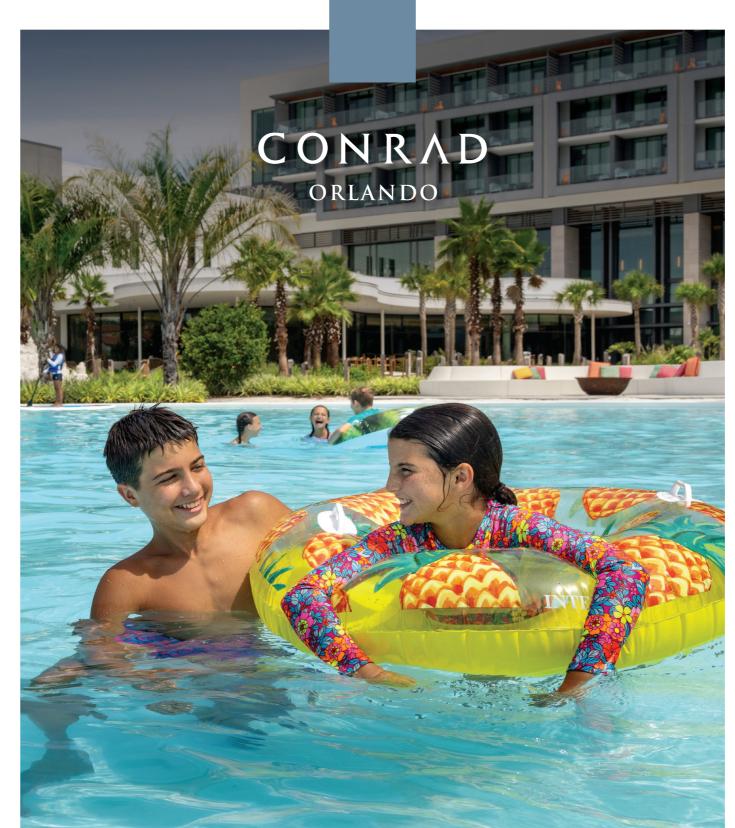








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BOOK NOW



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/240-7200



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7155 N Frontage Rd 32812. Facility: 149 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE/CONVENTION

CENTER BOOK NOW 407/351-2244



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8600 Austrian Ct 32819. Facility: 151 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO LAKE NONA

BOOK NOW

407/856-9165



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 6955 Lake Nona Blvd 32827. Facility: 102 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



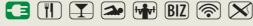














THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

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COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO SOUTH/GRANDE LAKES

BOOK NOW 407/351-2661



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4120 W Taft Vineland Rd 32837. Facility: 128 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

























DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL AT THE ENTRANCE TO UNIVERSAL

BOOK NOW 407/351-1000







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!





DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 5780 Major Blvd 32819. Location: Opposite main entrance to Universal Studios. Facility: 742 units, some two bedrooms. 18-19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm.

Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



































DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/352-1100





INSPECTED @ CLEAN



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

DOUBLETREE Resort Hotel. Address: 10100 International Dr 32821. Facility: The resort's 28 lushly landscaped acres offer a tranquil setting within the busy

International Drive area. Rooms and bathrooms offer upgraded accommodations and décor elements. 1042 units. 2-17 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes, Dining: 2 restaurants, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: hot tub. playground, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





























DRURY INN & SUITES NEAR UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

BOOK NOW

Hotel. Address: 7301 W Sand Lake Rd 32819.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO-AIRPORT

BOOK NOW

407/888-9339





SUITES

by HILTON

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 5835 TG Lee Blvd 32822. Facility: 174 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN





























BOOK NOW

407/352-1400



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 8978 International Dr 32819.

FAIRFIELD BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/888-2666



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Fairfield Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7100 Augusta National Dr 32822. Facility: 139 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

























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FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/354-1139



Fairfield AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

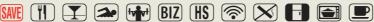
Hotel. Address: 10815 International Dr 32821. Facility: 200 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

























FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO-NEAR UNIVERSAL ORLANDO **BOOK NOW** 407/581-5600 RESORT



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5614 Vineland Rd 32819.



THE FLORIDA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER BOOK NOW 407/859-1500



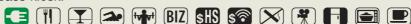
Hotel. Address: 1500 Sand Lake Rd 32809. Location: Located in The Florida Mall, south side. Facility: 511 units. 11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























SOME (

FLORIDAYS RESORT ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/238-7700



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 12562 International Dr 32821. Facility: 432 kitchen units, some two and three bedrooms. 6 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs in season, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.





































FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON ORLANDO CONVENTION

CENTER

BOOK NOW 407/351-6600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 6435 Westwood Blvd 32821.



FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL

BOOK NOW 407/351-2100



OUR AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5905 International Dr 32819. Facility: 301 units. 21 BY SHERATON stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























VILLAGE

BOOK NOW 407/857-2830





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5460 Gateway Village Cir 32812. Facility: 180 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

































AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7003 Sea Harbor Dr 32821.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES ORLANDO-JOHN YOUNG PKWY/S

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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 7500 Futures Dr 32819.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON ORLANDO-INTERNATIONAL DRIVE/CONVENTION

CENTER

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SAVE Hotel. Address: 8900 Universal Blvd 32819.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON ORLANDO NEAR UNIVERSAL BLVD/INTERNATIONAL

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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7110 S Kirkman Rd 32819.

HAMPTON INN CLOSEST TO UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/351-6716





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5621 Windhover Dr 32819. Facility: 120 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.























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HARD ROCK HOTEL® AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/503-2000



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Resort Hotel. Address: 5800 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: Enjoy contemporary comfort in tastefully designed rooms that showcase the latest hip industry styles and feature upscale bedding packages. The cabanas and sandy beach will draw you into the pool area. 650 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants, also, The Palm Restaurant, see separate listing, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, game room, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



































INSPECTED @ CLEAN®

HILTON GARDEN INN ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/354-1500

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 6850 Westwood Blvd 32821.



HILTON GARDEN INN ORLANDO I-4 MILLENIA BLVD MALL BOOK NOW 407/996-9001



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5058 Millenia Pl 32839.



HILTON GARDEN INN-ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 407/240-3725



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7300 Augusta National Dr 32822. Facility: 132 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























HILTON GARDEN INN-ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE

BOOK NOW 407/363-9332



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5877 American Way 32819.



HILTON GRAND VACATIONS AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/239-0100 AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking

AAA/CAA rates! INSPECTED @ CLEAN®

SAVE Resort Condominium. Address: 6924 Grand Vacations Way 32821.



HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB AT TUSCANY VILLAGE BOOK NOW 407/465-2600



Hilton **Grand Vacations**

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Condominium. Address: 8122 Arrezzo Way 32821. Facility: Sophisticated décor creates an easy-going vibe. Guests relax while enjoying leisure activities, the inviting pool area and the well-equipped fitness center. Enjoy delicious ice cream at the market. 720 condominiums. 6-8 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, playground, game room, picnic facilities, trails, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.































HILTON ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/313-4300





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 6001 Destination Pkwy 32819. Facility: Rooms offer basic décor and the oversize TVs provide relaxing entertainment after a day at the pool or nearby attractions. In the evening, enjoy making s'mores around the huge fire pit. 1424 units. 19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site

(fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, health club, spa.

Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service. (See ad starting on p. 234.)































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(407) 313-4300 | 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, FL 32819







HOLIDAY INN & SUITES ORLANDO I-DRIVE - THEME PARKS BOOK NOW 407/239-4177





Hotel. Address: 12005 Regency Village Dr 32821. Facility: 143 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















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THREE DIAMOND

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES LAKE NONA

BOOK NOW 407/207-7001



Hotel. Address: 10115 William Carey Dr 32832.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES NEAREST UNIVERSAL

ORLANDO

BOOK NOW 407/363-1333



Hotel. Address: 5605 Major Blvd 32819.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL

BOOK NOW 407/581-7900 AIRPORT











Hotel. Address: 7900 S Conway Rd 32812. Facility: 107 units, some efficiencies. 4

Click, call or contact your local AAA office or AAA.com/travel today!





HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES ORLANDO-INTERNATIONAL

BOOK NOW 407/535-4100



Hotel. Address: 7276 International Dr 32819. Facility: 156 units, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























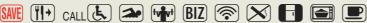
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/996-4100



Hotel. Address: 10771 International Dr 32821. Facility: 181 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























HOLIDAY INN ORLANDO-INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/851-6400



Hotel. Address: 5750 TG Lee Blvd 32822. Facility: 288 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

































HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/852-0844



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 5445 Hazeltine National Dr 32812. Facility: 128 kitchen units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in

4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE

SOUTH BOOK NOW 407/944-1705



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 12107 Regency Village Dr 32821. Facility: 146 efficiencies. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO NEAR UNIVERSAL

BOOK NOW

407/519-3151



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5910 American Way 32819.

 7 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO-NEAREST UNIVERSAL

STUDIOS

BOOK NOW 407/226-0669



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SWE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5893 American Way 32819.



HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO THEME PARKS BOOK NOW 407/778-5888



BY HILTON"

HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6940 Westwood Blvd 32821. Facility: 133 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.























(449) HOTEL LANDY ORLANDO UNIVERSAL BLVD, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

BOOK NOW 407/355-0550



TRIBUTE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott P O R T F O L I O Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7800 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: 400 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





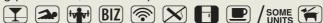
























HYATT HOUSE ACROSS FROM UNIVERSAL ORLANDO

BOOK NOW 407/352-5660





 H Y A T T AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5940 Caravan Ct 32819. Facility: 168 units, some kitchens. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































HYATT PLACE ACROSS FROM UNIVERSAL ORLANDO

BOOK NOW 407/351-0627



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hvatt Place/Hvatt House with their World of Hvatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 5976 Caravan Ct 32819. Facility: 150 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



































HYATT PLACE ORLANDO/CONVENTION CENTER BOOK NOW 407/370-4720



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hvatt Place/Hvatt House with their World of Hvatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 8741 International Dr 32819. Facility: 150 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO

BOOK NOW 407/284-1234





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 9801 International Dr 32819. Location: Adjacent Orange County Convention Center. Facility: The expansive resort is attached to the Orange County Convention Center and features abundant recreational amenities, upscale rooms with plush bedding and scenic views, and a world class spa on site. 1641 units, some two bedrooms. 31-32 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





































HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/825-1234







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of REGENCY Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 9300 Jeff Fugua Blvd (Airport Blvd) 32827. Facility: Forget shuttle buses. The beautiful hotel is actually within the airport and only an elevator ride from the terminal. Updated rooms have upscale décor and oversize TVs, and the rooftop pool is a plus. 445 units, some two bedrooms. 10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, luggage security pick-up.









































JW MARRIOTT, ORLANDO GRANDE LAKES BOOK NOW 407/206-2300





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

32837. **Facility:** Elegant throughout, this hotel offers contemporary rooms with neutral tones and backlit headboards. Many units feature a small chaise lounge, and those with balconies offer great views of the resort. 1010 units. 26 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, also, Primo, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, self-propelled boats, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area









































LA QUINTA INN & SUITES BY WYNDHAM BOOK NOW 407/315-7400

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 11545 International Dr 32821.

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LA QUINTA INN BY WYNDHAM-ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL DRIVE

BOOK NOW 407/351-4100



fyi Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Approved. Address: 5825 International Dr 32819. Facility: 156 units. 2 stories (no elevator), interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





















LAS PALMERAS, A HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB BOOK NOW 407/233-2200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 9501 Universal Blvd 32819.

LOEWS PORTOFINO BAY HOTEL AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/503-1000



Resort Hotel. Address: 5601 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: Resembling a small town on the Italian Riviera, the hotel features a small bay, gardens, piazzas and multiple pools. Luxurious, custom furnishings and marble accents create cozy, inviting rooms. 750 units, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 8 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, playground, game room, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.





































LOEWS ROYAL PACIFIC RESORT AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/503-3000



Resort Hotel. Address: 6300 Hollywood Way 32819. Facility: Aloha! With its tropical gardens, towering palms and soothing water features, the South Pacific-themed hotel exudes an island ambience. The inviting rooms are designed with gray hues and cozy bedding, 1000 units, some two bedrooms, 7 stories, interior corridors, Parking; on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: video games, safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, entertainment, Pool; heated outdoor, Activities; sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, playground, game room, trails, health club, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



































LOEWS SAPPHIRE FALLS RESORT AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/503-5000



Resort Hotel. Address: 6601 Adventure Way 32819. Facility: You'll be swept away to the Caribbean at this island-inspired resort which features bright designs, cascading waterfalls and lush landscaping. Rooms have modern amenities and an upscale island feel. 1000 units, some two and three bedrooms. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, game room, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.

































ORLANDO AIRPORT MARRIOTT LAKESIDE BOOK NOW

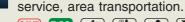
407/851-9000





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 7499 Augusta National Dr 32822. Facility: 485 units. 9 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car



































AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Resort Condominium. Address: 11272 Desforges Ave 32836.



THE POINT HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 407/956-2000



Hotel. Address: 7389 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: 108 units, some kitchens. 12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



























RENAISSANCE ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/351-5555



RENAISSANCE® **HOTELS**

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 6677 Sea Harbor Dr 32821. Facility: The 10-story open atrium gives the hotel the "wow factor." Guest rooms are luxurious and inviting with cozy bedding and upscale décor. Abundant on-site activities offer hours of fun. 781 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Parking:

on-site (fee) and valet. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. **Dining:** 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. steamroom. recreation programs in season. game room, lawn sports, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT NEAR UNIVERSAL ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/313-1234



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5616 Major Blvd 32819.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT MILLENIA BOOK NOW

407/352-2700



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5403 Millenia Lakes Blvd 32839. Facility: 120 kitchen units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD

BOOK NOW

407/313-3600



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11000 Westwood Blvd 32821.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO CONVENTION

CENTER

BOOK NOW 407/226-0288



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8800 Universal Blvd 32819.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 407/856-2444



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 7024 Augusta National Dr 32822.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO LAKE NONA BOOK NOW

407/888-9974



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6955 Lake Nona Blvd 32827. Facility: 102 units, some kitchens. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



































THE RITZ-CARLTON ORLANDO, GRANDE LAKES BOOK NOW 407/206-2400







THE RITZ-CARLTON

AAA Benefit: Special member savings plus Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 4012 Central Florida Pkwy 32837. Facility: Follow the winding entry road through the lushly

manicured grounds to the entrance of this lovely resort. Guest rooms are bright, with custom furnishings as well as balconies to enjoy the Florida sun. 582 units, some two bedrooms. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, also, Highball & Harvest, Knife & Spoon, see separate listings. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, self-propelled boats, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation.

































ROSEN CENTRE HOTEL BOOK NOW 407/996-9840



Hotel. Address: 9840 International Dr 32819. Facility: 1334 units, some two bedrooms. 24 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



































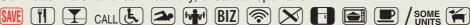
ROSEN INN AT POINTE ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/996-8585



Hotel. Address: 9000 International Dr 32819. Facility: 1020 units. 4-10 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: playground, game room, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























ROSEN INN CLOSEST TO UNIVERSAL BOOK NOW 407/996-4444



Hotel. Address: 6327 International Dr 32819. Facility: 315 units. 4-9 stories, interior/ exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.































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ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL BOOK NOW 407/996-9700



Hotel. Address: 9700 International Dr 32819. Facility: 800 units. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, nightclub, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.







SOME ()



























Resort Hotel. Address: 9939 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: The sprawling 230-acre retreat offers upscale rooms with custom design elements, numerous dining and lounge outlets, a championship 18-hole golf course and extensive spa and recreational facilities. 1501 units, some two bedrooms. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 10 restaurants, also, A Land Remembered, Cala Bella, see separate listings. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs in season, game room, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.



































SHERATON SUITES ORLANDO AIRPORT BOOK NOW 407/240-5555



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!



SHERATON Hotel. Address: 7550 Augusta National Dr 32822. Facility: 150 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 248.)



































SOME (



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407-240-5555

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SHERATON VACATION CLUB VISTANA VILLAGES BOOK NOW 407/238-5000



THREE DIAMOND

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SHERATON VACATION CLUB

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Condominium. Address: 12401 International Dr 32821. Facility:

The property is located within an expansive gated compound that's convenient to the local area's major attractions. The home-like rooms are inviting and vary in size. Amenities are abundant. 1156 condominiums. 5-6 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, playground, picnic facilities, trails, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.

































SONESTA ES SUITES ORLANDO- INTERNATIONAL DRIVE BOOK NOW

407/352-2400



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8480 International Dr 32819. Facility: 146 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation.































SPARK BY HILTON ORLANDO NEAR SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/313-4100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 6301 Westwood Blvd 32821. Facility: 93 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























SPARK BY HILTON ORLANDO UNIVERSAL BLVD BOOK NOW 407/313-4200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7701 Universal Blvd 32819.



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 407/816-5533



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5828 Hazeltine National Dr 32822.

SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT MILLENIA BOOK NOW 407/352-2500



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5403 Millenia Lakes Blvd 32839. Facility: 134 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD

BOOK NOW 407/354-1176



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 10801 International Dr 32821. Facility: 200 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry. boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN



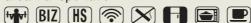
























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT-ORLANDO CONVENTION CENTER/INTERNATIONAL DRIVE

BOOK NOW 407/345-9073



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 8840 Universal Blvd 32819.



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STAYBRIDGE SUITES ORLANDO AIRPORT SOUTH BOOK NOW 407/438-2121



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 7450 Augusta National Dr 32822. Facility: 135 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.































STAYBRIDGE SUITES ORLANDO AT SEAWORLD BOOK NOW 407/917-9200



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6985 Sea Harbor Dr 32821.

TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT

SEAWORLD

BOOK NOW 407/996-3400



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TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address**: 10731 International Dr 32821. **Facility**:

188 kitchen units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























TRU BY HILTON ORLANDO CONVENTION CENTER AREA BOOK NOW

407/351-4091





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 6461 Westwood Blvd 32821. Facility: 259 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























UNIVERSAL'S AVENTURA HOTEL BOOK NOW 407/503-6000



Hotel. Address: 6725 Adventure Way 32819. Facility: 600 units. 17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation. SAVE TI CALL & SAVE BIZ 🛜 🔀 💷



UNIVERSAL'S CABANA BAY BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 407/503-4000



Resort Hotel. Address: 6550 Adventure Way 32819. Facility: Close to popular Universal Studios attractions and just steps from Volcano Bay water park, the hotel features a '50s and '60s theme. Rooms are vibrant, some have great views of Volcano Bay. 2200 units. 2-11 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. cabanas, game room, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation, Affiliated with Loews Hotels.































UNIVERSAL'S ENDLESS SUMMER RESORT - DOCKSIDE INN AND

BOOK NOW 407/503-8000



Resort Hotel. Address: 7125 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: The coastal vibe at the hotel will get you into vacation mode quickly. The family hotel has varying room types including rooms that sleep up to six. The convenient location makes this a huge draw. 2050 units. 10-14 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: game room, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, rental car service, area transportation. Affiliated with Loews Hotels.

































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UNIVERSAL'S ENDLESS SUMMER RESORT - SURFSIDE INN AND

BOOK NOW 407/503-7000



Resort Hotel. Address: 7000 Universal Blvd 32819. Facility: Located near many popular attractions, the hotel makes for a great family vacation destination. Rooms are designed in beach-surf décor and the family suites have a small kitchen area, 750 units, some kitchens. 6-9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: game room, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation. Affiliated with Loews Hotels.

































VISTA CAY RESORT BY MILLENIUM BOOK NOW 407/313-6501



Vacation Rental Hotel. Address: 4874 Cayview Ave 32819.

WESTGATE LAKES RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 407/345-0000





Resort Hotel. Address: 9500 Turkey Lake Rd 32819. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Nestled serenely on Big Sand Lake, the multifaceted resort is spread out over nearly 100 acres and is comprised of several buildings. Multiple room types are offered, most feature a balcony or patio. 2162 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 6 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor, Activities: sauna. hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, marina, fishing, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, picnic facilities, health club, spa. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.































WESTGATE PALACE RESORT BOOK NOW 407/996-6000



Condominium. Address: 6145 Carrier Dr 32819. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Condo-style rooms are spacious and some offer scenic views of the surrounding areas and a small lake below. Numerous on-site activities keep quests entertained for days. Major attractions are nearby. 403 condominiums. 19 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. cabanas. self-propelled boats, fishing, recreation programs, playground, game room, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.

































WINGATE BY WYNDHAM AT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS & CONVENTION

BOOK NOW 407/226-0900



Hotel. Address: 5661 Windhover Dr 32819.



WINGATE BY WYNDHAM ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW

407/826-5258



Hotel. Address: 5750 Hazeltine National Dr 32822. Facility: 108 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.























WHERE TO EAT



A LAND REMEMBERED 407/996-1448



Steak Seafood Fine Dining. Expert Advice: Bearing the name of the iconic book by Patrick D. Smith, the restaurant offers patrons an evening to remember with excelled service, an elegant ambience and picturesque views of an expansive golf course. The menu is steeped in delicious, high-quality items which include goat cheese fritters, Black Angus aged beef and seared Chilean sea bass. The award-winning desserts created by the pastry chef should not be missed. Features: full bar, patio dining. Reservations: suggested. Address: 9939 Universal Blvd 32819. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet.



D CALL



CALA BELLA 407/996-9939



Regional Italian Fine Dining. Expert Advice: Cala Bella translates to "beautiful creek," referring to the historic creek for which the resort is named. The elegant restaurant serves up Italian fare with Mediterranean and Tuscan influences. Menu selections include baked meatballs, grass fed lamb and oxtail fettuccine. The pastry chef creates incredible desserts which offer a most delightful end to the meal, and the refined staff offers excelled service. Features: full bar, patio dining. Reservations: suggested. Address: 9939 Universal Blvd 32819. Parking: on-site and valet.





FOUR DIAMOND

FOUR DIAMOND

FOUR DIAMOND

Mexican Fine Dining. Address: 1500 Eastbeach Way 32836.

CHRISTINI'S RISTORANTE ITALIANO 407/345-8770

Northern Italian Fine Dining. Address: 7600 Dr Phillips Blvd 32819.

HIGHBALL & HARVEST 407/206-2400

THREE DIAMOND New Southern Casual Dining. Address: 4012 Central Florida Pkwy 32837.

KNIFE & SPOON 407/393-4333

Steak Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 4012 Central Florida Pkwy 32837.

THE PALM RESTAURANT 407/503-7256

American Fine Dining. **Address:** 5800 Universal Blvd 32819.

PRIMO 407/393-4444

New Italian Natural/Organic Fine Dining. Address: 4040 Central Florida Pkwy 32837.

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Check back to find more Inspected Clean properties!





256 ORMOND BEACH — PALATKA, FL

ORMOND BEACH

Hotels p. 256

Pioneers of automobile racing, including R.E. Olds, founder of the Olds Motor Vehicle Company, sped their vehicles on the sands of Ormond Beach in the early and

mid-1900s, giving the city its nickname "The Birthplace of Speed."

Ormond Beach Chamber of Commerce Welcome & Visitors Information Center: 165 W. Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach, FL 32174. Phone: (386) 677-3454.

CLARION INN ORMOND BEACH BOOK NOW 386/944-1500



Hotel. Address: 1635 N US Hwy 1 32174. Facility: 78 units. 2-3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise

room. Save (1)+) (2) (1-1) (2)























HAMPTON INN DAYTONA-ORMOND BEACH BOOK NOW

386/677-9999



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 155 Interchange Blvd 32174. Facility: 84 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























OSCEOLA NATIONAL FOREST

Elevations in the forest range from 120 ft. to 180 ft.

Near the Georgia border off US 90 approximately 12 miles east of US 441, Osceola National Forest encompasses 201,364 acres consisting of flat country dotted with ponds and swamps. Fishing is available in numerous streams and ponds. Hunting is permitted, but a special license is required in the Osceola Wildlife Management Area by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (see Good Facts To Know). Ocean Pond and Olustee Beach are major recreation areas within the forest. Phone (386) 752-2577. See Recreation Areas Chart.

PALATKA

Hotels p. 257

Judge Isaac Bronson, one of Palatka's foremost residents, was a member of the 25th U.S. Congress and was responsible for proposing the act by which Florida became a state. His restored home, Bronson-Mulholland

House, 100 Madison St., was built in 1854 and is open to the public; phone (386) 329-0140. Adjacent to the home is the Putnam Historic Museum; phone (386) 385-3975 for hours. Rodman Reservoir, 10 miles southwest off SR 19, is a popular recreation destination, particularly for bass

fishing. Several boat ramps are available in the area. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Putnam County Chamber of Commerce: 1100 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177. Phone: (386) 328-1503.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON RIVERFRONT BOOK NOW 386/530-2420

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 100 Memorial Pkwy 32177.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES-PALATKA NORTHWEST **BOOK NOW** 386/325-2500

Hotel. Address: 3813 Reid St 32177. THREE DIAMOND

PALM BAY

Hotels p. 257

BOOK NOW HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES PALM BAY 321/220-2003

Hotel. Address: 1206 SE Malabar Rd 32907.

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON PALM BAY I-95 BOOK NOW 321/329-5454

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

> AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1425 Sportsman Ln NE 32905.

HYATT PLACE MELBOURNE/PALM BAY BOOK NOW 321/332-0212



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1435 Sportsman Ln NE 32905. Facility: 106 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























PALM COAST

Hotels p. 258

WASHINGTON OAKS GARDENS STATE PARK, 6400 N. Oceanshore Blvd., originally was part of Bella Vista Plantation owned by Gen. Joseph Hernandez, a militia general who commanded troops during the Second Seminole War. Extending from the Atlantic Ocean to the Matanzas River, the park covers more than 400 acres of Florida coastal scenery. Included are scenic tidal marshes, a scrub community, a beach and a hammock. Coguina rock outcroppings worn into unusual shapes by the sea give the beach area an unearthly appearance. Many species of shorebirds and marine and forest animals make their home in the park. See Recreation Areas

Formal gardens contain exotic plants from around the world; a history of the area is presented at the Young House Visitor Center. Guided walks are provided by request. Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (386) 446-6780.

BEST WESTERN PLUS FLAGLER BEACH AREA INN & SUITES BOOK NOW

386/439-3939



Hotel. Address: 200 Flagler Plaza Dr 32137. Facility: 80 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin

















HAMMOCK BEACH GOLF RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 386/246-5500



Resort Hotel. Address: 200 Ocean Crest Dr 32137. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The winding drive up to the expansive resort offers a striking first impression. The upscale rooms located in the towers vary in design, all offer a comfortable stay. 285 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms and kitchens. 4-10 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, marina, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Preferred Hotels & Resorts.





























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HILTON GARDEN INN PALM COAST TOWN CENTER BOOK NOW 386/586-2463



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Hilton AAA Benefit: Mellibers save up to 10/16/Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 55 Town Center Blvd 32164. Facility: 121 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























PINELLAS PARK

Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

The Tackle Shack, 7801 66th St., offers instruction and rentals for kayaking, sailboating and scuba diving as well as scuba diving tours; phone (727) 546-5080.

TAMPA BAY AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM is at 3301 Gateway Centre Blvd. Vintage vehicles are displayed within a 16,000-square-foot gallery. Noteworthy exhibits include front-wheel-drive and rear-engine cars from the 1920s and '30s, which spearheaded engineering standards for the present-day automobile. Motorcars from Czechoslovakia, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy and United States of America are featured. A sole replica of the world's first self-propelled vehicle, the 1770 Fardier de Cugnot, also is showcased.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (727) 579-8226.

PLANT CITY

- Hotels p. 260
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

Plant City was named after Henry Bradley Plant, a wealthy railroad magnate, but the town is best known for its plant crop, the strawberry. The majority of all the winter strawberries in the United States is grown on farms surrounding Plant City. The annual The Florida Strawberry Festival draws some 800,000 visitors in late February and early March; phone (813) 752-9194.

The town is home to the International Softball Federation, the world governing body for softball competition; phone (813) 864-0100.

A 700-acre reservoir created from a reclaimed phosphate mining area is the center of recreational activities in Edward Medard Park, 6140 Turkey Creek Rd.; phone (813) 757-3802. See Recreation Areas Chart.

The Pioneer/Heritage Museum, in the 1914 Plant City High School Community Center at 605 N. Collins St., has several exhibit rooms with period themes such as clothing, furnishings, medical equipment, farm implements and railroading; phone (813) 757-9226 for tour reservations.

Plant City Visitor Information Center: 1702 N. Park Rd., Plant City, FL 33563. **Phone:** (813) 754-7045.

DINOSAUR WORLD, 5145 Harvey Tew Rd., features more than 200 life-size dinosaur models in an outdoor setting. Uncover a life-size dinosaur replica in the boneyard, watch educational films in a cave and stroll through a garden filled with man-made dinosaur skeletons. In the Prehistoric Museum, inspect such authentic fossils as dinosaur bones and teeth found around the world, and gaze at five animatronic dinosaurs, including a pterodactyl, triceratops and a T-rex. A woolly mammoth exhibit, a geode excavation site and a cave show also are featured. Children may cavort on two playgrounds and play archeologist in a fossil dig; they can take home several real fossils, which may include shark teeth and dinosaur bone fragments.

Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (813) 717-9865. 😭 д



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT LAKELAND- PLANT

BOOK NOW 813/757-6202

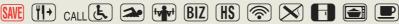


AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Fairfield Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4307 Sterling Commerce Dr 33566. Facility: 87 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.



























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON PLANT CITY BOOK NOW 813/756-5600



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2702 Thonotosassa Rd 33563.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT PLANT CITY BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2709 Thonotosassa Rd 33563.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH

- Hotels p. 260 Restaurants p. 263
- Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93



HILTON GARDEN INN JACKSONVILLE/PONTE VEDRA

BOOK NOW 904/280-1661



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Hilton AAA Benefit: Members save up to 107
Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 45 PGA Tour Blvd 32082. Facility: 127 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

































THE LODGE & CLUB AT PONTE VEDRA BEACH BOOK NOW 904/273-9500



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 607 Ponte Vedra Blvd 32082. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The oceanfront resort is in an area referred to as the "Palm Beach of North Florida." The inviting rooms are upscale and suites include living and kitchen areas. Recreational activities are abundant. 66 units. 2 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, self-propelled boats, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































PONTE VEDRA INN & CLUB BOOK NOW 904/285-1111



Resort Hotel. Address: 200 Ponte Vedra Blvd 32082. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Established in 1928, the sprawling property is on 300 acres of beautifully manicured grounds with a superb beach, world class spa and magnificent golf courses. Families will love the relaxed ambience. 262 units. 2 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, self-propelled boats, fishing, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. (See ad p. 262.)

































SAWGRASS MARRIOTT GOLF RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW

904/285-7777





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Hotel. Address: 1000 PGA Tour Blvd 32082. Facility: The MARRIOTT PLAYERS Championship PGA tournament is played right next door to this resort which offers well-designed rooms. Many offer great views of the

ponds, waterfall or the resort grounds. 514 units, some two bedrooms. 2-7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 6 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, regulation golf, miniature golf, recreation programs in season, kids club, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.





































WHERE TO EAT



Fusion Fine Dining. Address: 818 A1A N 32082.

PORT ORANGE

FOUR DIAMOND

• Hotels p. 263







AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5802 Journey's End Way 32127. Facility: 87 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub,

exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.

























PORT RICHEY

- Hotels p. 263
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

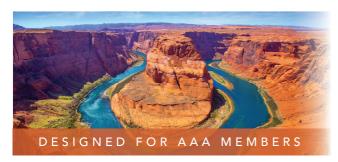


HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA/PORT RICHEY BOOK NOW 727/819-1000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11115 US 19 N 34668.





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264 RIVERVIEW — SAFETY HARBOR, FL

RIVERVIEW

- Hotels p. 264
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 10743 Big Bend Rd 33579.

HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA/RIVERVIEW/BRANDON BOOK NOW 813/626-6610

BOOK NOW 813/644-4050



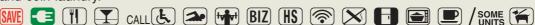
AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4328 Garden Vista Dr 33578. Facility: 119 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























RUSKIN

- Hotels p. 264
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES - RUSKIN, FL

BOOK NOW

813/922-4561



Hotel. Address: 226 Teco Rd 33570.

SAFETY HARBOR

- Hotels p. 265
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Local Native Americans dipped into the area's five mineral springs long before the 1539 arrival of Hernando de Soto, who named the springs Espiritu Santo, meaning water of the Holy Spirit. Said to possess healing powers, the water first lured health-minded visitors to the area in the mid-1800s; by the early 1900s it was being bottled and shipped around the world. Today, Safety Harbor's calling card is its spa culture.

Safety Harbor Chamber of Commerce: 200 Main St., Safety Harbor, FL 34695. Phone: (727) 726-2890.

SAFETY HARBOR MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

is at 329 Bayshore Blvd. S. The Pre-History exhibit displays tools, points, fossils and pottery tracing regional habitation dating back 12,000 years to the period of Spanish exploration. The Safety Harbor Heritage Gallery explains the importance of the mineral springs in area development through photographs and memorabilia. The City Gallery features temporary exhibits of local art. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (727) 724-1562. GT

SAFETY HARBOR RESORT & SPA, TRADEMARK COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 727/726-1161



Historic Resort Hotel. Address: 105 N Bayshore Dr 34695. Location: Waterfront. Facility: World-renowned for its mineral springs and full-service spa facilities, the resort is located on Tampa Bay and the Espiritu Santo Springs. Rooms are spacious with many overlooking the bay and grounds. 172 units. 3-6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, fishing, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































ST. AUGUSTINE

• Hotels p. 270

As the oldest, continuously occupied European settlement in the United States, St. Augustine has played varied and prominent historic roles. Juan Ponce de León, in search of the legendary Fountain of Youth, landed in this area Apr. 3, 1513, and took possession of the region for Spain. In 1565 King Phillip II sent Pedro Menéndez de Avilés to colonize the new territory. Menéndez de Avilés arrived in Florida on the Feast Day of St. Augustine and named the landing site after the saint.

Its coastal location made the town both strategic and vulnerable. Pirates sacked St. Augustine in both the 16th and 17th centuries. Military importance soon came to the forefront as England extended its holdings southward down the coast. Spain responded by starting to build Castillo de San Marcos in 1672.

By the time St. Augustine was ceded to England in 1763, it had served as the seat of government for 30 missions as well as for all Spanish possessions in the regions of Florida and coastal Georgia. During the Revolutionary War, British loyalists from adjacent states sought refuge in St. Augustine.

In 1783 in recognition of Spain's assistance to the United States in its war against Britain, Florida was returned to Spain. Encouraged by Spanish land grants, many Americans moved onto property vacated by the English. Florida became a U.S. possession in 1821, and during the Second Seminole War in the 1830s, St. Augustine resumed a military role.

The guiet coastal town came to life in the 1880s when Henry Flagler began to develop the area as a winter resort and playground. With a railway link provided from New York, plush hotels were built and leisure activities such as golf and yachting awaited the city's guests.

Still preserving strong evidence of its Spanish origin, the Old City is being restored to a likeness of its colonial days; much of the historic area north of the Plaza de la Constitución is complete. Typical Spanish houses, with walled patios enclosing Old World gardens, line the many narrow streets.

Tolomato Cemetery, also known as the Old Spanish Cemetery, is at Cordova Street between Orange and Saragossa streets. Formerly the site of the Christian Native American village of Tolomato, the cemetery served as a Catholic burial ground 1784-1892 and is the burial site of Augustin Verot, the first bishop of St. Augustine. The cemetery is only open by request; information is available at the rectory entrance of the Cathedral of St. Augustine on Treasury Street.

South of the city on Anastasia Island, St. Augustine Beach provides a return to the present. Miles of wide, hard-packed sand beaches afford beach driving, swimming and surfing opportunities. Boating also is popular.

Tours of area attractions by horse-drawn carriage depart from the bayfront area next to Castillo de San Marcos. The city's historic sites can be seen in a different light during nightly ghost tours. Costumed guides tell eerie stories about the city and its historic buildings as part of walking tours conducted by Ghost Tours of St. Augustine; phone (904) 829-1122. The Trolley of the Doomed provides transportation to haunted sites such as the St. Augustine Lighthouse grounds and The Old Jail on tours offered by Ghosts & Gravestones; phone (866) 721-1844.

The Huguenot cemetery, between the City Gate and the Visitor Information Center, is open to the public anytime the gate is unlocked.

266 ST. AUGUSTINE, FL

Note: Parking regulations are enforced strictly throughout the city. Yellow curbs are no-parking zones. A garage and paid parking spaces are available.

St. Augustine & St. Johns County Visitors Information Center: 10 W. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32084. Phone: (904) 825-1000.

Shopping: St. Augustine Outlets and St. Augustine Premium Outlets are both off I-95 exit 318 on SR 16.

The Old City

BLACK RAVEN ADVENTURES departs from the St. Augustine city marina at 111 Avenida Menendez. This 1.5-hour interactive journey aboard the *Black Raven*, a replica of a pirate ship that cruises Matanzas Bay, is a floating performance stage for pirate-themed entertainment. Adults and kids can participate in shipboard activities that range from singing, skits and sword-fighting to face painting, games and a rehearsed but unscripted show. Rum Runner is a 2-hour evening cruise for adults only; it features live entertainment and a full bar.

Phone: (904) 826-0000, or (877) 578-5050 for reservations. **GT**

CASTILLO DE SAN MARCOS NATIONAL MONUMENT, a Spanish fortress, is at Castillo Dr. and Avenida Menéndez. The oldest masonry fort in the continental United States, it was built 1672-95 of coquina, a soft local shellrock, as part of the defenses along the route of the treasure fleets. For many years the fort was the northernmost point of Spain's New World holdings.

The symmetrical fort has massive diamond-shaped bastions at each of its four corners, and 60 to 77 cannons once occupied the gun deck. Its 28-foot-high walls are skirted by a moat on three sides. A stairway leads to the gun deck overlooking the Old City Gate, quaint old streets and Matanzas Bay. Exhibits and a 25-minute video trace fort history, and costumed re-enactors give weapons demonstrations and presentations about Colonial life.

Until the mid-18th century this fortress defended St. Augustine. The English acquired the fort and Florida from Spain in 1763 at the end of the French and Indian War. Spain regained possession of Florida in 1784 as part of the Treaty of Paris.

Upon the acquisition of Florida in 1821, the fortress became part of the U.S. coastal defense system. It also was a military prison. Seminole leader Osceola was confined in the fort during the Second Seminole War. The fort's final military use was for imprisonment of some American soldiers during the Spanish-American War.

Metal detectors are not permitted. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 829-6506.

COLONIAL QUARTER, 33 St. George St., is a 2-acre historic park featuring hands-on activities, pictorial stories and demonstrations in a tour that explores three centuries of life in early St. Augustine. At the 16th Century Spanish First City, visitors can explore a replica archaeological dig, watch a 50-foot caravel ship being built by hand and meander down a boardwalk underneath flags that flew in St. Augustine over the centuries.

Costumed guides depict daily life through demonstrations of blacksmithing and gunsmithing at the 17th Century Spanish Fortified Town, where you can climb a 35-foot-tall watch tower and participate in a musket drill. At the 18th Century Spanish Garrison Town, explore a soldier's home; in the 18th Century British 14th Colony, learn how life changed under the British occupation and during the American Revolution. A British pub and Spanish taberna are on the premises.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 342-2857 or (888) 991-0933. **GT T**

GOVERNOR'S HOUSE CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM is at 48 King St. Exhibits blend technology with historic artifacts to tell the story of St. Augustine's founding based on research by the Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida. First Colony: Our Spanish Origins details the area's role in shaping American history. In addition to the lobby's permanent exhibit, there are rotating exhibits in a gallery and interpretive signs on the grounds. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (904) 825-5079.

LEGACY TOURS OF FLAGLER COLLEGE, 74 King St., explores several rooms of the former Ponce de León Hotel, built in 1887 by Henry Flagler. Highlights include the dining hall, which features 79 Tiffany glass windows. Eight Tiffany crystal chandeliers, artwork and Flagler family portraits adorn the Flagler room, formerly the grand parlor. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 819-6400. **GT**

LIGHTNER MUSEUM, 75 King St., is housed in the former Alcazar Hotel, built by Henry Flagler in 1888. In 1948 Otto C. Lightner, the Chicago publisher and editor of *Hobbies* magazine, converted the empty hotel into a museum to contain his vast collection of decorative and fine arts, artifacts and other antiques.

Four floors display furnishings, paintings, Victorian art glass, cut and blown glass, and natural history specimens. Other highlights include Asian art, art nouveau works and the Victorian Village portraying 19th-century life. The museum's collections are displayed within the

hotel's entertainment center where the spa level and ballroom were located and can still be seen. The former indoor swimming pool, which was one of the largest of its day, is now the site of the Cafe Alcazar.

The museum is self-guiding with docents available to answer questions. Nineteenth-century mechanical musical instruments are demonstrated daily at 11 and 2. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (904) 824-2874.

OLDEST HOUSE, 14 St. Francis St. at the s. end of the seawall, also known as the González-Alvarez House, is said to be Florida's oldest documented Spanish Colonial dwelling. Built on a site occupied since the early 1600s, the present structure, with coquina walls and hand-hewn cedar beams, dates from the early 1700s.

A number of alterations brought the house into its current shape and size, reflecting both Spanish and British architectural styles. The house is furnished to represent its different periods. An ornamental garden typifies plants grown by the Spanish, British and American occupants. The complex includes the Page L. Edwards Gallery, highlighting the city's history through changing exhibits, and Manucy Museum, tracing 450 years of the state's history.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 824-2872.

OLDEST WOODEN SCHOOLHOUSE, 14 St. George St., was built 1750-60 of cypress and cedar and is among the nation's oldest. Automated mannequins representing the professor and his students dressed in period clothing relate the school's history and explain the barter system, subjects studied and the use of the dunce cap. Schoolbooks, slates, old maps and other artifacts are displayed. The kitchen, separated from the main building to reduce the risk of fire, is open to the public. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (904) 824-0192 or (888) 653-7245.

PEÑA-PECK HOUSE, 143 St. George St., was built in the 1750s of native coquina stone. Originally the home of Spanish Royal Treasurer Juan Estevan de Peña, it became the home of British government in North America south of Canada after the Revolutionary War until 1785. Dr. Seth Peck bought the property in 1837. Displays include early Spanish artifacts and Peck family furnishings from the 18th century. Much of the original artwork has been restored; the kitchen has been staged to appear as it did in 1840. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (904) 829-5064. GT

ST. AUGUSTINE PIRATE & TREASURE MUSEUM is 1.5 mi. s. of SR 16 at 12 S. Castillo Dr. The museum houses

more than 800 pirate artifacts, including such items as Captain Kidd's last voyage journal, an original Jolly Roger flag and an authentic pirate treasure chest. Original shipwreck treasures on display includes gold, silver, jewelry and weapons. Interactive displays enhance the experience. **Time:** Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (904) 819-1444 or (877) 467-5863.

VILLA ZORAYDA MUSEUM, 83 King St., features Moorish architecture reminiscent of Spain's Alhambra Palace. The palatial residence was built of coquina and Portland cement in the 1880s by Franklin Smith and includes arches, columns, traceries and an interior courtyard as well as extensive collections of antiques, art and furnishings from the previous owners. Smith introduced the coquina construction method that was later used by Henry Flagler for his St. Augustine hotels. Audio tours are available in English, Spanish and French. Docent-led candlelight tours are available during the Christmas holidays.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (904) 829-9887. GT

XIMENEZ-FATIO HOUSE, 20 Aviles St., is a well-preserved merchant's house and store dating to the Second Spanish Period 1783-1819. The house has been restored to the Territorial Period 1821-61, when it was operated as an inn. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (904) 829-3575. GT

Other Points of Interest

AUTHENTIC OLD JAIL COMPLEX, 167 San Marco Ave., centers on the history of the Old Jail, which was constructed by the same company that built Alcatraz; other things to do on-site include Florida Heritage Museum and Old Town Trolley Tours of St. Augustine. Phone: (904) 531-3248. GT

The Authentic Old Jail, 167 San Marco Ave., contains a large collection of weapons and displays that illustrate prison life in early St. Augustine. Costumed guides portray deputy sheriffs, their wives and jail prisoners. Visitors may tour the family's living quarters, which are in the same building as the prisoners' cells. Newspaper articles and photographs depict the history of the jail. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (904) 531-3248.

Old Town Trolley Tours, departing 167 San Marco Ave., offers a narrated 70-minute tour of the city with stops at 22 sites. Passengers may reboard the open-air trolleys at their own pace. **Phone:** (904) 531-3248 or (888) 910-8687. **GT**

St. Augustine History Museum, 167 San Marco Ave., depicts Florida's growth from early Native American cultures through the Flagler era. Personal items and pictures of Henry Flagler are displayed along with a model railroad tracing the route he established between Jacksonville and Key West. Additional exhibits focus on the Florida Cracker, Fort Mose, Confederate items, 16th-century Spanish weapons, a life-size sunken ship and its treasures, and a replica of a Native American village. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (904) 531-3248.

MISSION NOMBRE DE DIOS is at 27 Ocean Ave., 5 blks. n. of the city gate on San Marco Ave. Pedro Menéndez de Avilés landed here Sept. 8, 1565, and established the first permanent community. A 208-foot stainless-steel cross marks the site of the founding of St. Augustine. The Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche and Mission Nombre de Dios Museum, which houses Menéndez's casket and exhibits, are on the grounds.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 824-2809 or (800) 342-6529.

PONCE DE LEÓN'S FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH ARCHAEO-LOGICAL PARK, e. of SR A1A (San Marco Ave.) on Williams St. to 11 Magnolia Ave., is on the site claimed to be Ponce de León's landing place Apr. 3, 1513 and the site of the 1565 Pedro Menendez settlement, the original location of St. Augustine.

The park contains the Timucuan Indian spring Ponce de León hoped was the Fountain of Youth. A cross of coquina stones excavated in 1909 is thought to be the claiming landmark. Remains of Christian Native American burials and archeological exhibits are on the grounds. Also located in the park is the reconstructed Mission Church of Nombre de Dios, built here in 1587 and a living-history blacksmith.

A planetarium offers a display about star navigation, and an observation deck provides views of marshland. Black powder and cannon firing demonstrations also are offered. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (904) 829-3168 or (800) 356-8222.

ST. AUGUSTINE ALLIGATOR FARM ZOOLOGICAL PARK, 1.75 mi. s.e. on SR A1A, on Anastasia Island, features a complete collection of the 23 crocodilian species, including rare white alligators. An elevated walkway winds through a rookery and over an alligator swamp. Florida wildlife shows are presented hourly. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (904) 824-3337.

ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE AND MUSEUM is 1 mi. s.e. on SR A1A, then n. on Red Cox Dr. on Anastasia Island. St. Augustine's maritime past is reflected in this

working lighthouse and restored keeper's house. Visitors may climb the 219 stairs to the top of the tower for a panoramic view of the city and its beaches. Highlights include exhibits illustrating the lives of lightkeepers and U.S. Coast Guard personnel who were stationed in St. Augustine during World War II. Shipwreck artifacts also are featured.

Themed guided tours are available; phone ahead to confirm schedule. **Phone:** (904) 829-0745. **GT**

WORLD GOLF HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM AT WORLD GOLF VILLAGE, .5 mi. w. of I-95 exit 323, is a showcase for the game of golf. The World Golf Hall of Fame pays tribute to the history of the game and honors its members through exhibits of more than 3,000 pieces of memorabilia and artifacts, video presentations and interactive golfing activities. The village consists of the World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum, Hall of Fame Challenge Hole, a 3D IMAX theater, two championship golf courses, a golf academy, resort hotels, a convention center, restaurants and shopping.

Audio tours are available. **Phone:** (904) 940-4133 for IMAX theater. \boxed{GT}

World Golf Hall of Fame IMAX Theater is .5 mi. w. of I-95 exit 323. The 300-seat 3D IMAX theater shows full-length feature films and documentaries on an 80-footwide, six-story-high screen. Film topics vary. **Phone:** (904) 940-4629 or (904) 940-4133.

AAA Walking Tours The Old City

The tour will take 1-2 hours, depending on your pace as well as the number of listed sites you visit and plaques you stop to read along the way. Those attractions appearing in bold type have detailed listings in The Old City section. Even if you decide not to visit a listed site, reading the listing when you reach that point should make the tour more interesting.

The best place to park is in the Historic Downtown Parking Facility adjacent to the Visitor Information Center, 10 W. Castillo Dr., across from the Castillo de San Marcos. Keep in mind that no automobiles are permitted on St. George Street north of the Plaza de la Constitución. (Most paid parking around there is enforced Mon.-Sat. 10-5 and federal holidays; phone ahead to confirm schedule.)

St. Augustine, compact and full of history, is a great place for a stroll. Influenced by the Timucuan Indians and placed under Spanish and English rule before becoming a U.S. territory, the city retains the flavors of its multicultured past. In the early 18th century, the walled city was entered

through the City Gates, and this remains a logical place to begin a walk through Old St. Augustine. The Spanish built the wall surrounding the city in 1739 for defense; this gateway connected the wall, which was constructed of palm logs, dirt, cacti and coquina (soft limestone containing shell and coral fragments, quarried locally on Anastasia Island). The pillars, also made of coquina, were added in 1808. Closed at dusk, the gates protected the north end of the city. A replica of the log wall runs from the gates to the Castillo de San Marcos, which you can see by looking east toward the water. Looking west from the gates, you can see the Santo Domingo Redoubt, an important defensive position.

The Huguenot Cemetery, just north of the City Gates, serves as a final resting place for many non-Catholics, not solely French immigrants. An outbreak of yellow fever coupled with the fact that the Catholic cemetery inside the city walls would not accept Protestants brought about its founding in 1821.

Begin by heading south on narrow St. George Street, where second-story balconies add interest to simple buildings and whitewashed walls hide courtyards. More than 50 houses and craft shops have been restored or reconstructed on this pedestrians-only lane, where it seems there are always groups of school children on field trips.

The first spot the kids flock to is the **Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse**, on the right at 14 St. George St. The cedar building also served as a guardhouse during the Seminole Wars due to its proximity to the City Gates. If you can beat the crowd, check out its tabby floors (a mixture of crushed oyster shells and lime) and wooden peg construction.

The major part of the restoration area begins as you cross Fort Alley. The reconstructed Colonial Quarter, 33 St. George St., is a living-history museum demonstrating daily life in the 16th-, 17th- and 18th centuries. Noteworthy structures in the village include a Spanish soldier's dwelling, a leatherworker's shop and a blacksmith's forge.

Note the National Greek Orthodox Shrine, 41 St. George St., dedicated to the Greek colony of New Smyrna, where Greek immigrants were kept as servants. Its St. Photios Chapel is decorated with icons and frescoes depicting Greek Orthodox theology. Gold leaf highlights much of the chapel's artwork, and sounds of Byzantine music fill the halls.

On the west side of the block at the corner of Cuna Street is the Sánchez de Ortigosa House. Nearby are the reconstructed wooden buildings comprising the Peso de Burgo/Pellicer House, occupied by a Minorcan family 1763-83.

Proceed along St. George, enjoying the warm tones of ancient coquina stonework and the glimpses of courtyards between many of the buildings. At 105 St. George is the

Sánchez House, a restored coguina and masonry building (now home to a crystal shop); house tours are offered.

As you cross Hypolita Street, look out for the sightseeing tram that shuffles by, accompanied by clanging bells.

Glance down Treasury Street, one of the narrowest streets in the Old City. On the left, the Peña-Peck House occupies the corner of Treasury and St. George; built in the 1690s for the Spanish treasurer, it was later occupied by a British doctor whose wife often used the house for high-society get-togethers. The art and furnishings reflect an extravagant lifestyle.

The tower on your left is part of the large **Cathedral**-**Basilica of St. Augustine**, which faces the Plaza de la Constitución. Founded in 1565, the parish holds what are said to be the country's oldest parish records, dating from 1594. The present cathedral was built in 1797 in the Spanish Mission style; following a fire in 1887 it was restored and its adjacent Spanish Renaissance-style bell tower was added. Inside the church, oil paintings are replicas of those found in the Vatican's Pauline Chapel. Victorian stained glass and sculpted marble also adorn the interior. (You might choose to visit the church later, as the route circles back this way.)

Cross Cathedral Place and continue south along St. George. To your left is the Plaza de la Constitución, which extends east toward the bay. Established in 1598 by an edict from King Phillip II, it was the hub of the original settlement. In the center is a monument dedicated to the Spanish Constitution of 1812.

The building to your right on the corner of St. George and King streets is the Governor's House Cultural **Center and Museum.** Dating to the 1700s, the site served as the headquarters for Spanish, English and territory governors 1595-1821. It is now home to the St. Augustine Preservation Board and contains interesting artifacts and Spanish treasure.

Turn right at King Street. At Cordova Street, the Casa Monica Hotel will be on your left. This Spanish/Moorishstyle structure, one of three hotels owned by railroad magnate Henry Flagler, has a long history. Born as a grand hotel in 1887, it later served as the county courthouse for nearly 30 years before reopening in its present state.

Now look to the right. You can't miss the former Ponce de León Hotel—a huge Moorish-style palace with tall spires, turrets and a red-tiled roof. Built in 1888 by Henry Flagler as part of his grand plan to turn the city into an exclusive winter retreat, the hotel was the country's first major building to be crafted using poured concrete. The interior is posh: It features Tiffany stained glass, imported marble and carved oak. A beautiful courtyard, open to the

270 ST. AUGUSTINE, FL.

public, leads to the fover. Since 1968 the building has served as the main hall of Flagler College; it has what is arguably the fanciest student dining room. Guided tours are available.

Across the street from Flagler College is the third of Henry Flagler's hotels—the Spanish Renaissance Revival-style Alcazar Hotel, which also opened in 1888. Its design was based on the royal palace in Seville, Spain. Palm trees, fountains and a statue of Pedro Menéndez front the large building, which shelters City Hall and the Lightner Museum. Flagler would be proud—the museum's collection of decorative arts is quite affluent.

If you like, continue 1 block west on King Street to Villa Zorayda Museum, a smaller re-creation of the 13thcentury Spanish Alhambra in Granada.

Retrace your steps along King to St. George. At the corner of St. George and King is Trinity Episcopal Church, established in 1830 and said to be the oldest Protestant church in Florida. Turn right onto St. George and make a left on narrow Artillery Lane to enter the city's oldest section.

At Aviles Street, turn right. At the corner of Cadiz Street is the two-story Ximenez-Fatio House (it's the one surrounded by the white picket fence). This late 18th-century coguina house has been restored and is furnished to reflect an 1850s boarding house.

Traipse back on Aviles, where galleries and boutiques reside. On the right, at 3 Aviles, is the Spanish Military Hospital Museum (once called the Hospital of our Lady Guadalupe), which has displays depicting day-to-day operations of the 18th century.

Head back to the Plaza de la Constitución by continuing north on Aviles. The market building to your right is a replica of the original. Turn right on Cathedral Street and walk for one block to Charlotte Street. From here you can see the life-size statue (on the east end of the plaza) of Juan Ponce de León, who landed in 1513. To the east the Bridge of Lions, a Mediterranean-style bridge built in 1927, crosses Matanzas Bay. Tile-roofed towers, arches and lion statues grace the structure, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Turn left on Charlotte and proceed north. A three-block walk past boutiques, antiques shops and bed and breakfast inns leads to Cuna Street. Look northeast from the corner of Charlotte and Cuna for a good view of the fort and bay. Turn left on Cuna, where more stores in restored buildings entice shoppers. At St. George, turn right. The City Gates, where you began your tour, is about a block north.



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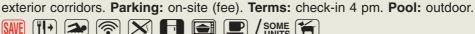














Motel. Address: 16 Avenida Menendez 32084. Facility: 59 units. 2 stories (no elevator),



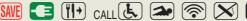
BEST WESTERN HISTORICAL INN BOOK NOW 904/829-9088



Motel. Address: 2010 N Ponce de Leon Blvd 32084. Facility: 39 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee).

Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















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Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 100 Front Nine Dr 32092. Location: In World Golf Village. Facility: The multi-faceted condominium property is accented nicely by well-manicured grounds. Each unit is set up as a suite and has a kitchen, living room and bedroom. All transactions are cashless. 214 condominiums. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, tennis, playground, lawn sports, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry. Affiliated with Ascend Hotel Collection Member.



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HOTELS

Historic Hotel, Address: 95 Cordova St 32084, Location: Across from Lightner Museum and Flagler College. Facility: Since 1888 this historic

property has served many functions, including as a courthouse. Rooms are tastefully appointed and include imported furnishings. Enjoy the amenities of the Serenata Beach Club. 138 units, some two and three bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





























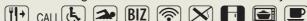




Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 149 Cordova St 32084. Location: Across from Lightner Museum, Facility: The buildings are set among beautiful, serene gardens, Antiques. hardwood floors and elegant furnishings keep the historic nature of the property. Most quest rooms have a living area. 30 units, some two bedrooms. 2 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: massage. Guest Services: valet laundry.























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Hotel. Address: 2075 SR 16 32084. Facility: 100 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: Some: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.























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DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ST. AUGUSTINE HISTORIC DISTRICT BOOK NOW



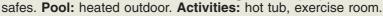
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DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 116 San Marco Ave 32084. Facility: 97 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities:





























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Hotel. Address: 305 Outlet Mall Blvd 32084. Facility: 86 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: Some: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















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SAVE Hotel. Address: 2050 N Ponce de Leon Blvd 32084.

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SAVE Hotel, Address: 1600 N Ponce de Leon Blvd 32084.



HILTON ST. AUGUSTINE HISTORIC BAYFRONT BOOK NOW

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Hotel. Address: 32 Avenida Menendez 32084. Facility: 72 units. 2 stories. interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes, Pool: outdoor, Activities: hot tub, exercise room, Guest Services: complimentary laundry.





























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ST. AUGUSTINE I-95 BOOK NOW

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AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 270 Outlet Mall Blvd 32084. Facility: 90 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** age restrictions may apply.

Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























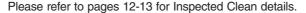


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Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10 Prawn St 32084. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 117 units, some kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: marina, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























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Hotel. Address: 117 Vilano Rd 32084. Facility: 120 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet and street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























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AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 6 W Castillo Dr 32084. Facility: Nestled in a charming area, the hotel's distinct décor and design sets the mood for a memorable stay. Appreciate a touch of luxury in the lavish public spaces and appealing, spacious rooms. 89 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. *Bath:* shower only.

Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























276 ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, FL

ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH

• Hotels p. 276

Just 5 miles south of its notable neighbor St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach is a quiet, relaxing vacation spot. Sea turtles nest here May through October, and furry creatures also enjoy the upscale beach community, as many of its businesses welcome dogs on a leash. On

Wednesday mornings, bring your four-legged friend to the Wednesday Market at St. Johns County Pier Park (350 A1A Beach Blvd.), where 60-80 vendors purvey fresh produce, fine foods, and arts and crafts from 8-12:30. Pull up a lawn chair and attend a free summer concert at the same park on Wednesday evenings from mid-May to mid-October.

BEST WESTERN SEASIDE INN BOOK NOW 904/461-9990



Hotel. Address: 541 A1A Beach Blvd 32080. Facility: 50 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub. Guest Services: coin laundry.































COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 605 A1A Beach Blvd 32080. Facility: 206 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest **Services:** coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



























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EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON ST AUGUSTINE BEACH OCEANFRONT

BOOK NOW

904/461-9004





SUITES

by HILTON



EMBASSY Resort Hotel. Address: 300 A1A Blvd 32080. Location: Oceanfront. **Facility:** Spend leisure time relaxing in the cozy lobby, at the lobby bar, visiting the upscale gift shop, or enjoying the comfort of your room. The

oceanfront pool area is guite appealing. 217 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































HAMPTON INN BY HILTON ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH BOOK NOW

904/471-4000





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 430 A1A Beach Blvd 32080. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 100 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm.

Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, exercise room.

















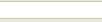












HILTON GARDEN INN ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH BOOK NOW 904/471-5559





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 401 A1A Beach Blvd 32080. Facility: 83 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































278 ST. CLOUD, FL

ST. CLOUD

- Hotels p. 278
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

The streets of downtown St. Cloud's historic business district, which features some 100 buildings and ranges from Florida to Massachusetts avenues and 8th through 13th streets, are lined with a variety of antique shops and retailers inviting treasure hunters with appliances, arts & crafts and furniture. The district plays host throughout the year to a number of special events, including a crawfish festival, car and motorcycle shows and live entertainment.

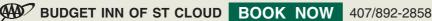
The town was founded in the early 1900s as a colony for elderly Civil War soldiers, eventually became an agricultural hub and now serves as an overflow tourist destination from its neighbors to the north, Walt Disney World Resort and Orlando. The former Union fighters, many 70 years or older, were recruited for the area's purported climatic and health benefits. The 3 Cs of Florida farmingcane (sugar), cows and citrus—helped the area prosper until agriculture gave way to a tourist economy.

The St. Cloud Heritage Museum, located in the Veterans Memorial Library at 1012 Massachusetts Ave., offers a vast collection of pieces chronicling city history as well as the stories of its founding individuals and organizations. Exhibits include area artifacts, articles, books and such items as historic records, photographs and postcards. The building was home to St. Cloud's first library and was built in 1922. For further information, phone (407) 957-7587 or (407) 414-2682, after hours.

Lakefront Park, 1104 Lakeshore Blvd., has a beach, fishing pier, marina and performing arts pavilion as well as bike and walking paths extending from Louisiana to Mississippi (avenues, that is). The 58-acre Peghorn Nature Park and Trail, 2101 Peghorn Way, offers nature programs; Hopkins Park, 620 E. 17th St., is home to a butterfly and vegetable garden. For program schedules and further information about these and other city parks, phone the St. Cloud Parks and Recreation Department at (407) 957-7243.

St. Cloud Greater Osceola Chamber of Commerce: 1200 New York Ave., St. Cloud, FL 34769. Phone: (407) 892-3671.

REPTILE WORLD SERPENTARIUM, 1 mi. e. on US 192 to 5705 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., houses more than 50 species of snakes from around the world in glass display cases. Also featured are turtle, alligator and lizard exhibits. Venom programs are given daily at noon and 3. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (407) 892-6905.





Motel. Address: 602 13th St 34769. Facility: 17 units, some kitchens. 1 story, exterior







A For getaways off the beaten path, visit AAA.com/campgrounds or AAA.com/maps for thousands of places to camp.

ST. PETE BEACH

- Hotels p. 279
 Restaurants p. 281
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

A resort community on Long Key, St. Pete Beach is connected to the mainland by the St. Pete Beach Causeway and the Pinellas Bayway (toll). The town has good swimming beaches, several fishing piers and charter boat operations. Two trolleys, operated by PSTA, provide transportation in St. Pete Beach. The Central Avenue Trolley travels Central Avenue and Gulf Boulevard between St. Petersburg and Pass-A-Grille Beach. The Suncoast Beach Trolley travels Gulf Boulevard between Clearwater and St. Pete Beach; phone (727) 540-1900.

Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce: 6990 Gulf Blvd., St. Pete Beach, FL 33706. Phone: (727) 360-6957 or (800) 944-1847.

Shopping: Dolphin Village Shopping Center, 4615 Gulf Blvd., has 30 specialty shops. The historic Corey Avenue area offers varied shops.

Nightlife: Lazy beach days call for lazy beach nights. At sundown, make your way to Crabby Bill's, 5100 Gulf Blvd., for the best crabs in town and take in fantastic views of the Gulf of Mexico and the Intracoastal Waterway from the tiki bar. After dinner, join the raucous crowd grooving to a one-man steel drum band at the Undertow Beach Bar, 3850 Gulf Blvd., where a bikini-clad waitstaff serves up frozen margaritas and sugary daiguiris. Keep track of the rubber duckies sailing around the bar's countertop moat, or head outside and put the Undertow's much-loved sand volleyball court to the test. Phone (727) 360-8858 for Crabby Bill's or (727) 368-9000 for the Undertow Beach Bar.

For an ultra-mellow, somewhat romantic and decidedly upscale experience head to The Don CeSar, a huge pink resort located on the beach where Gulf Boulevard connects to the SR 682 causeway. Order desserts from the outstanding in-house restaurant, then lounge on cushioned couches inside this historic hotel. Sit at a table in the elegant Lobby Lounge, where an amazing pianist will play just about any song you call. Or, play Name That Tune to see who buys the next round; phone (727) 360-1881.



BAYVIEW PLAZA WATERFRONT RESORT BOOK NOW

727/367-2791



Motel. Address: 4321 Gulf Blvd 33706.

BEACH HOUSE SUITES BY THE DON CESAR BOOK NOW 727/363-5050



Hotel. Address: 3860 Gulf Blvd 33706. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 71 kitchen units. 6 stories, exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.































BELLWETHER BEACH RESORT

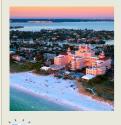
BOOK NOW 727/360-1811



Hotel, Address: 5250 Gulf Blvd 33706.



THE DON CESAR BOOK NOW 727/360-1881



Classic Historic Resort Hotel. Address: 3400 Gulf Blvd 33706. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Set on the Gulf of Mexico, the internationally recognized "pink palace" is a beacon to the beach. It boasts lavishly decorated public areas, specialty boutiques and a gorgeous pool and spa area. 277 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, also, Maritana Grille, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, recreation programs, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.







































HOTEL ZAMORA BOOK NOW 727/456-8900



Hotel. Address: 3701 Gulf Blvd 33706. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 71 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: self-propelled boats, boat dock, fishing, bicycles, exercise room.





























ISLAND GRAND, A TRADEWINDS BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 727/367-6461



Resort Hotel, Address: 5500 Gulf Blvd 33706, Location: Oceanfront, Facility: Situated directly on the Gulf, the property features an appealing winding stream complete with paddleboats. Rooms vary in size and feature inviting décor. The tropical landscaping is soothing, 585 units, some two bedrooms, kitchens and condominiums, 2-7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, playground, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

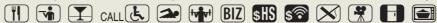






































BOOK NOW

727/360-9327



Motel. Address: 3848 Gulf Blvd 33706.



PLAZA BEACH HOTEL - BEACHFRONT RESORT

BOOK NOW

727/367-2791



Hotel. Address: 4506 Gulf Blvd 33706.

RUMFISH BEACH RESORT BY TRADEWINDS BOOK NOW

727/360-5551



Resort Hotel. Address: 6000 Gulf Blvd 33706. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: The beachside hotel has a variety of room styles with coastal decor. Tropical landscaping with a waterfall, a koi pond, hammocks, fire pits and a mechanical surfboard for the kids are all big draws. 211 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 7 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



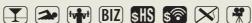




























WHERE TO EAT



MARITANA GRILLE 727/360-1881



Continental Fine Dining. Address: 3400 Gulf Blvd 33706.

ST. PETERSBURG-CLEARWATER AND **BEACHES**

Such words as haven, refuge and sanctuary will likely spring to mind as you discover the St. Petersburg-Clearwater area's conglomeration of kitsch-crammed Florida highways and quaint main streets, Gulf Coast beach towns and strikingly untouched environs. Over the last few centuries, these idyllic surroundings have sheltered Tocobaga Indians, Spanish conquistadors and marauding pirates as well as, in more recent years, Greek sponge fishermen, condominium-loving snowbirds and culinary enthusiasts looking for the next best food places. Artistic enclaves from Dunedin to Gulfport safeguard creative expression in this perpetually inspiring milieu, while

state parks, including Anclote Key Preserve and Honeymoon Island, protect delicate natural habitats and endangered fauna.

Whether you spend the day windsurfing on the Gulf or looking for where to eat in downtown St. Pete, you'll find yourself in good company. More than 13 million people vacation in this tranquil locale each year. Here, you can shop, dine and unwind in cities crisscrossing the Pinellas Peninsula, a 280-square-mile tract situated between Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, or explore the coastal communities of Pasco County, one of nine counties comprising a 980,000-acre expanse dubbed the "Nature Coast."

Since the late 1800s, tourism has been a key local industry. The completion of two bridges—the Gandy (1924) and the Courtney Campbell (1934), which linked Tampa

Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.



St. Petersburg-Clearwater

This map shows cities in St. Petersburg-Clearwater where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants.

Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



Clearwater	49
Clearwater Beach	52
Dunedin	7
Indian Rocks Beach	90
Indian Shores	91
Largo	165
Madeira Beach	168
North Redington	
Beach	176
Oldsmar	180
Pinellas Park	259
Port Richey	263
Safety Harbor	264
St. Pete Beach	279
St. Petersburg	283
Seminole	302
Tarpon Springs	346
Tierra Verde	
Treasure Island	351

with St. Petersburg and Clearwater respectively—helped firmly establish this expanse as a major travel destination. In fact, several elegant hotels and resorts built around the turn of the 19th century are still busy pampering discerning guests. Safety Harbor Resort and Spa, an elegant retreat built atop mineral springs, has welcomed travelers lured by the region's purported health benefits since the 1920s. St. Pete Beach's "pink palace," The Don CeSar, began operating in 1928 and remains a vacation hot spot.

Home to Renaissance Vinoy, a Gatsby-era jewel overlooking Tampa Bay, St. Petersburg has long attracted wintering Northerners seeking a temperate climate and group travel enthusiasts. The city boasts an average 361 days of sunshine a year and holds the Guinness World Record for the most consecutive sunny days. Through the 1980s, St. Petersburg was widely known for its large population of sun-loving retirees; however, it has since emerged as a prominent cultural center. Today, you'll find nearly 30 art galleries and museums in town—from the expanded Morean Arts Center, featuring a permanent collection of Dale Chihuly's world-renowned glass art, to The Dalí Museum, an impressive waterfront abode for Salvador Dalí oil paintings, sculptures, photographs and other things to see.

Momentum also picked up on the sports scene with the addition of Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays in 1998; 10 years later, the team won the American League Championship Series four games to three against the Boston Red Sox. Currently Florida's fourth largest city in terms of population, St. Petersburg continues to grow, with chic local restaurants, live music venues, upscale shops and contemporary urban dwellings catering to the hip set opening regularly.

With tourism the primary industry, Clearwater, too, is evolving, as condominiums, eateries and retailers spring up in the Cleveland Street District, a budding downtown quarter hosting street festivals and featuring public art displays. Clearwater Beach visitors now enjoy a revitalized beachfront decked out with whimsical turtle-topped showers and well-designed landscaping. Replacing deteriorating parking lots that once fronted the seashore along South Gulfview Boulevard, the five-year project known as Beach Walk offers pedestrians, bicyclists and in-line skaters unobstructed views of rolling dunes and undulating waves from a winding promenade.

Cultural heavyweight St. Petersburg draws erudite vacationers, and Clearwater's scenic vistas lure those seeking fun in the sun. But in this expansive destination area, these two captivating communities are just the crest of a foam-tipped wave. Many visitors choose to play on broad, graceful, white-sand beaches stretching for almost 35 miles from Crystal Beach south to Fort De Soto Park; others flock to Tarpon Springs to mingle with exuberant *Opa!*-shouting natives and eat at local restaurants during one of the city's food- and music-packed celebrations. Along with a wide variety of watery recreational pursuits and things to do, including saltwater fishing, scuba diving and canoeing, sightseeing opportunities abound in the vicinity—from Largo's arresting botanical gardens to Hubbard's Marina Cruises in Madeira Beach, where you can hop on a catamaran and scout the Gulf for dolphins. While a trip to the St. Petersburg-Clearwater area guarantees lots of R and R, you'll find your vacation also laced with a bit of adventure travel—no matter where your boogie board, kayak or beach cruiser takes you.

ST. PETERSBURG

Hotels p. 287

The American Medical Association was on to the bay area's bounty of recreational riches back in 1885, when it named St. Petersburg as an ideal destination for a "world health city." Near year-round warmth, broad beaches, a varied system of waterways and some 400 public parks and playgrounds make the region a true haven for adventure travel enthusiasts.

The Pinellas Trail, built along an abandoned railroad corridor, stretches 34 miles from Tarpon Springs to St. Petersburg. It provides opportunities for walking, jogging, bicycling and in-line skating. Many entry and exit points exist along the trail, with spurs going to Clearwater Beach and Honeymoon Island State Park. For information on things to do in St. Petersburg, contact the Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources, 12520 Ulmerton Rd. in Largo; phone (727) 582-2100.

One picturesque place to go is the St. Pete Pier. The 26-acre waterfront complex features local restaurants. shops and recreational things to do, such as swimming, biking and strolling. Phone ahead to confirm schedule and

Boasting an average 361 days of sunshine annually, St. Pete also allows for year-round golfing. The city's public and semiprivate courses include Baypointe, 9399 Commodore Dr., (850) 235-6950; Mainlands, 9445 Mainlands Blvd. W., (727) 577-4847; Mangrove Bay, 875 62nd Ave. N.E., (727) 893-7800; and Twin Brooks, 3800 22nd Ave. S., (727) 893-7445.

For racket pros, the St. Petersburg Tennis Center, 650 18th Ave. S., features 16 clay and four hard-surface courts; phone (727) 823-2225. For additional information phone the St. Petersburg Parks and Recreation Department at (727) 893-7441.

One of the world's largest shuffleboard clubs is at Mirror Lake Recreation Park in downtown St. Petersburg, Daily

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quest membership is available. The St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club, next to Mirror Lake Recreation Park, open its shuffleboard lanes every Friday night and is among the fun things to do with friends in the area; phone (727) 822-2083.

If you'd rather exercise gray matter than muscles, try the St. Petersburg Chess Club on select days at 540 Fourth Ave. N. in Mirror Lake Recreation Park; phone (727) 822-1171. Or, contemplate at the First United Methodist Church, 212 Third. St. N., which houses a 10- by 18foot stained-glass window of Da Vinci's masterpiece "The Last Supper"; phone (727) 894-4661.

A full season of symphonic presentations is brought to the area by the Florida Orchestra and by local dance companies. Performances take place at the Mahaffey Theater; (727) 893-7832 or (800) 874-9020 for ticket and schedule information.

Those seeking Broadway and off-Broadway plays should check out the American Stage Theater Company, the area's oldest professional theater at 163 Third St. N., for classical and contemporary plays in an intimate setting at the Raymond James Theatre that's; phone (727) 823-7529. The St. Petersburg City Theatre, 4025 31st St. S., stages six major productions September through May; phone (727) 866-1973.

Get Downtown First Friday, a free street party offered in downtown on the first Friday of every month from 5:30-10 p.m., offers budget-friendly things for couples to do. The event features live jazz as well as arts and crafts.

Throughout the year, a number of other special events keep visitors busy. Williams Park; South Straub Park, next to the Museum of Fine Arts (see attraction listing) overlooking the inner harbor; and bayside Vinoy Park, near Straub Park, are settings for many St. Petersburg events and offer fun things to do with kids.

In late April or early May St. Petersburg hosts the St. Anthony's Triathlon. American Stage in the Park offers several weeks of professional theatrical productions under the stars mid-April to mid-May; phone (727) 823-7529. In late October or early November the city recognizes its ethnic groups during the International Folk Fair; offerings include folk dances and food places. To round out the year, the holiday Lighted Boat Parade takes place downtown at the waterfront in mid-December.

Sports fans flock to St. Pete to watch Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays of the American League. The team plays April through September at Tropicana Field, 1 Tropicana Dr.; phone (727) 825-3137. The Rays' spring training games take place at Charlotte Sports Park, 2300 El Jobean Rd. in Port Charlotte; phone (941) 235-5010 for ticket information. The minor-league Charlotte Stone

Crabs of Port Charlotte also play at the sports park; phone (941) 206-3511 or (941) 206-4487.

The Downtown Looper trolley circles downtown St. Petersburg and affords visitors access to a variety of museums, shops and local restaurants. The trolleys operate Sun.-Thurs. 10-5, Fri.-Sat. 10-11:40; closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Fare is 50c; 25c (ages 65+ and the physically impaired); free (ages 0-5), and exact change is required.

Shopping: For splendid views of Tampa Bay and a bounty of delightful keepsakes, wander along the downtown St. Petersburg waterfront. Head to Beach Drive and peruse its upscale shopping establishments. Art showrooms, boutiques and long-established jewelers intermingle with cozy cafés and high-rise condos on this palm tree-lined thoroughfare, a lovely milieu prized by sightseeing pedestrians and gallivanting locals.

While you're prowling Beach Drive for things to see, stop in at Sundial, a collection of upscale shops and eateries at 153 Second Ave. N. between First and Second streets. Track down some new threads at its fashionable boutiques, including Chico's, Tommy Bahama and White House Black Market, take a load off in the courtyard beside a 30-foot-tall working solar sundial, or catch a flick at the 19-screen movie theater.

West of downtown St. Petersburg at Tyrone Boulevard and 22nd Avenue North, Tyrone Square Mall entices those stalking brand names. Fashion mavens can gather an impressive array of bulging bags from such tenants as Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's at the shopping center, which also houses more than 170 specialty stores and is the focal point of a retail hub embracing several national chains.

With the sweet-and-salty scent of kettle corn hanging in the air, more than 100 vendors showcase their wares to the tune of funky jazz beats and energetic pop vocals at the Saturday Morning Market and offer fun things to do with kids. Drawn in by persuasive chalk signs ("World's Best Pineapple—2 for \$5!"), sandaled browsers weave in and out of white tents sheltering delicate orchids, floppy sunhats, handmade jewelry and robust organic coffees. The downtown St. Petersburg event takes place in the Al Lang Stadium parking lot at First Avenue Southeast and First Street Southeast from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., early October to late May; phone (727) 455-4921. The Saturday Morning Market also operates on a smaller scale at Williams Park, First Avenue North and Third Street North, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June through August.

Drive along Central Avenue between the waterfront and 31st Street to discover pockets of retail space where merchants hawk everything from antique wardrobes to contemporary paintings to emo skateboarding accessories.

Smell the roses at Green Bench Flowers, in business for more than 25 years, then satisfy your sweet tooth with a boxful of handmade truffles from the adjacent Schakolad Chocolate Factory, on the corner of Central Avenue and Fourth Street North. Though the decadent nibbles are likely to be gone by the time you reach Daddy Kool Records, 666 Central Ave., take care not to leave any chocolaty fingerprints on the indie store's selection of hard-to-find vinyl albums, CDs and music DVDs.

If you're searching for a vintage toy, mid-century modern chair or 19th-century chandelier, plant yourself inside Antique Galleries of St. Petersburg at 450 34th St. N. Nostalgic shoppers roam the marketplace, salivating over restored furniture, unusual knick-knacks, glitzy jewelry and other distinctive finds offered by more than 80 vendors.

Even if you're not a bookworm, you'll have a tough time overlooking Tombolo Books, 2153 1st Ave. S. in the Grand Central District. The indie bookstore offers a curated selection of new fiction and nonfiction titles from Florida and around the world as well as fun programs, such as book clubs and children's storytime. Phone (727) 755-9456.

Nightlife: Things to do with kids include cheering on the Tampa Bay Rays alongside tenured patrons at family-operated Ferg's Sports Bar & Grill. You'll find the rambling patchwork structure sprouting out from a former gas station on Central Avenue, just north of Tropicana Field. Order the Ahi tuna nachos, or devour Ferg's scrumptious half-pound burger topped with honey barbecue sauce and allied cheeses (American and Swiss); phone (727) 822-4562.

For live riffs, catch a show at Jannus Live, 200 First Ave. N., said to be Florida's oldest outdoor concert venue. After jamming to the likes of such varied musical talents as Bleachers, Phantogram and Social Distortion, hit up a local restaurant or one of St. Petersburg's many dive bars for a few longnecks. About 3 blocks west of Jannus Live on Central Avenue, the Emerald Bar presents the requisite mishmash of bad bar décor (i.e., chintzy wood wall panels, linoleum and tired neon beer signs) complemented by loud jukebox music, occasional live music and cheap drinks. On Second Street North, the Ringside Café—an unusual St. Petersburg institution that once operated as a boarding house and boxing club-packs in down-to-earth blues aficionados with wailing performances by local bands, stiff libations and tasty bar grub. Phone (727) 565-0550 for Jannus Live box office, (727) 898-6054 for the Emerald Bar or (727) 894-8465 for the Ringside Café.

While daytime sightseers enjoy al fresco lunches, farmers markets, and arts and crafts tent sales along

Central Avenue in downtown St. Petersburg, exuberant beer drinkers and wine connoisseurs swing by after dark. Survey incoming night owls from your perch on the wrought iron balcony of A Taste for Wine, a romantic establishment occupying the second floor of the bygone St. Charles Hotel, which offer plenty of things for couples to do. Nibble on artisan cheeses, bacon-wrapped scallops, and puff pastries filled with beef and mushrooms inside the comfy art-adorned lounge, where jazz, pop and folk artists often entertain laid-back weekenders; phone (727) 895-1623.

Of course, a trip to sun-kissed St. Petersburg isn't complete until you've slurped fruity beverages with bronzed, sandaled natives at Kahuna's Bar & Grill, 10515 N. Gandy Blvd. Though you can stop by this cozy tiki hut any day of the week for a casual game of pool or a few rounds of foosball, you'll often find aging Hawaiian shirt-wearing beach bums going up against college kids in fierce Hula-Hoop contests and fun-loving volleyball tournaments; phone (727) 576-7800.

St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce: 100 Second Ave. N., Suite 150, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. **Phone:** (727) 821-4069.

CHIHULY COLLECTION, 720 Central Ave., is home to works by celebrated glass artist Dale Chihuly, whose brilliantly hued pieces are reminiscent of sea creatures and exotic flowers. Inside, the attention-grabbing "Ruby Red Icicle Chandelier" is suspended from the ceiling. Other holdings include such works as "Ikebana," "Macchia," "Niijima Floats" and "Persians." A video explores Chihulv's life and techniques.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (727) 822-7872.

THE DALÍ MUSEUM, jct. Bayshore Dr. S.E. and 5th Ave. S.E. at 1 Dalí Blvd., houses an unparalleled collection of Spanish artist Salvador Dalí's art; more than 2,000 works, comprising nearly 100 oil paintings, eight of which are Dalí masterworks. A geodesic glass sculpture (nicknamed The Enigma), made of 1,062 triangular-shaped glass pieces, sinuously wraps around a portion of the exterior. The museum's Avant-Garden is comprised of a subtropical grotto, a hedge labyrinth, a wish tree and a stone patio.

Inside, a helical spiral staircase climbs to the third floor where two exhibition galleries are located. The James Family Wing holds the permanent collection and the Hough Family Wing hosts all special exhibitions. The Dali Museum's preeminent collection represents every moment and medium of Dali's creative life. Paintings range from small impressionistic works to gigantic surrealistic montages. Sculptures, prints, photographs and other objects illustrate

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Dalí's artistic diversity. In addition to the extensive permanent collection, the museum showcases frequent special exhibitions curated from top worldwide collections. The museum also features a children's education classroom, a theater, family programs and special events.

Note: Free audio/visual guides are available in English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (727) 823-3767 or (800) 442-3254. GT (T)

EGMONT KEY STATE PARK is at the mouth of Tampa Bay, s.w. of Fort DeSoto Beach. The island, accessible only by boat, is a wildlife refuge and protects gopher tortoises, box turtles and a variety of nesting bird species. Bottlenose dolphins are a common sight for boaters and beachcombers. The island served as a camp for captured Seminoles and was occupied by the Union Navy during the Civil War. In 1898, due to the threat of the Spanish-American War, Fort Dade was built. An 1858 lighthouse also is on site. Recreational activities include seashell collecting, fishing, swimming, hiking, snorkeling and wildlife viewing. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Note: Private companies offer ferry services to the island at an additional cost. Visitors are advised to bring sufficient food and beverages as there are no shops on the island. Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (727) 893-2627 for recorded park information, or (727) 398-6577 for ferry information.

THE FLORIDA HOLOCAUST MUSEUM, 55 Fifth St. S. at jct. First Ave. S., spreads a message of tolerance as it memorializes the millions of men, women and children lost during the Nazi regime's systematic killing of Jews and other civilian groups—including Poles, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals and the disabled—during World War II. Holocaust survivors speak weekly and share their personal stories with visitors. An audio tour included with admission offers additional details about the permanent exhibit History, Heritage and Hope.

Somber visitors pause before interpretive panels, streaming film clips and timeworn documents relating the history of the state-sponsored genocide, while a variety of chilling artifacts—from armbands worn by Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto to bricks from a crematorium chimney—document the brutality of the period. Putting a human face on the tragedy is a photo wall spotlighting Holocaust-affected families before the war. Another photographic display showcases wartime heroes who helped Jews escape Nazi persecution. At the center of the museum sits a boxcar from Nazi-occupied Poland. One of the museum's most dramatic and disquieting pieces, it rests on railroad tracks from the Treblinka camp.

Temporary exhibitions presented on the second and third floors augment the stirring first-floor gallery space. Flash photography and video are prohibited. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (727) 820-0100. **GT**

FORT DE SOTO PARK is off I-275 exit 17 to 3500 Pinellas Bayway S.; two toll causeways are crossed en route. The 1,136-acre park occupies five keys: Bonne Fortune, Madelaine, Mullet, St. Christopher and St. Jean. Plants and wildlife are protected; pets must be leashed except at Paw Playground. Facilities include a beach, a 7-mile multipurpose trail, two fishing piers, a boat launch and a small museum. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Phone: (727) 552-1862, or (727) 582-2267 for recorded information. ■ GT ▲ ¶ 🔀 🕌 🚘

Fort De Soto, on the southern end of Mullet Key, was begun during the Spanish-American War but was incomplete at war's end. Its guns never were fired in battle. There are walkways around the fort ruins. A pamphlet outlining a self-guiding tour along the Historical Trail is available. A ferry to Egmont Key State Park (see attraction listing) is available for a fee. Phone: (727) 582-2267 or (727) 893-9185.

GREAT EXPLORATIONS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM is off I-275 exit 24, 1 mi. e. on 22nd Ave. N., then .5 mi. s. to 1925 Fourth St. N. This 24,000-square-foot children's museum offers hands-on and role playing exhibits, including Bella Brava Pizza Kitchen, My First Market, Fire Station 15, Bay News 9 on the Air, Pet Vet and Great Beginnings. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (727) 821-8992.

THE JAMES MUSEUM OF WESTERN & WILDLIFE ART is at 150 Central Ave. More than 3,000 works of art, including sculptures, paintings and jewelry from Native American artists, reflect the landscapes, wildlife and peoples of the American West. Artist lectures, workshops and a Western-themed book club also are available. Phone: (727) 892-4200. GT

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS is at 255 Beach Dr. N.E. on the waterfront. Among the highlights of the comprehensive 18,000 piece art collection are works by de Kooning, Monet, Morisot, O'Keeffe, Rauschenberg and Whistler. Also on view are ancient Greek and Roman, pre-Columbian, Asian, African and Native American works and decorative arts. An extensive photography collection also is featured. Special exhibitions are presented in the Hazel Hough Wing, a 39,000-square-foot exhibit space designed by noted architect Yann Weymouth.

Phone: (727) 896-2667. GT (1)

THE PIER DISTRICT is at the foot of 2nd Ave. N. The 26acre site features a number of attractions, food places, shops, public art and recreational things to do, such as bicycling, swimming and strolling. Fishing is available from a deck built from the pyramidal 1973 pier's leftover caissons. Activities for kids include a beach, playground, splash pad, and exhibits and educational programs at the Discovery Center. The Second S

ST. PETERSBURG MUSEUM OF HISTORY is at 335 Second Ave. N.E. Permanent exhibits from a collection of 32,000 artifacts and 8,000 digitized photographs focus on the history of the Pinellas Peninsula, the 1914 origination of the first commercial airline flight in St. Petersburg, the 1920s tourist boom and the area's diverse heritage and neighborhoods. Permanent exhibits include Schrader's Little Cooperstown, highlighting the history of baseball and its importance to the area. Temporary exhibits, a student learning center and an archival library for history research also are available. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (727) 894-1052.

SUNKEN GARDENS is at 1825 Fourth St. N. In the 1920s avid gardener George Turner began charging visitors a nickel to stroll among his garden's lush foliage; he officially opened it to tourists in 1935. Today visitors can follow paths that meander among ponds, waterfalls and

exotic plants. Butterflies, flamingos and macaws live in the garden. Horticultural programs are offered throughout the year. Pets are not permitted. Guided tours are available by appointment. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (727) 551-3102. GT

WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE is 1 mi. e. on 83rd Ave. (Patica Rd.) off Fourth St. N., then 1 mi. n.e. on San Martin Blvd., following signs to 1800 Weedon Dr. N.E. The 3,190-acre preserve is rich with a diversity of native flora and fauna and serves as a habitat for a variety of fish and wildlife. Recreational activities include hiking, fishing, canoeing and kayaking. Boardwalks and an observation tower overlook the mangroves and estuary. Free guided hikes through the mangroves are offered on Saturday mornings. A variety of nature and archaeology programs are available.

The Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center features the Connecting People and Place exhibit gallery depicting the estuary and the Native American and early 20th-century influences that helped shape the preserve. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Note: Visitors participating in guided and self-guiding tours are advised to take along plenty of water, a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, insect repellent and snacks. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (727) 453-6500.

GT 🔀 环

DOWNTOWN ST. PETERSBURG

- Hotels p. 287
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282



THE BIRCHWOOD INN **BOOK NOW** 727/896-1080

Boutique Hotel. Address: 340 Beach Dr NE 33701.





Let Your Voice Be Heard

If your visit to a listed property doesn't meet your expectations, tell us about it.

AAA.com/MemberFeedback

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ST. PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 727/450-6200



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Historic Hotel. Address: 300 4th St N 33701. Facility: The location is fantastic as it is within walking distance of museums, the waterfront, and downtown dining and shopping venues. Spacious quest rooms are decorated in slick slate-gray tones. 128 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: heated indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

































HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON ST.

PETERSBURG-DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 727/892-9900





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 80 Beach Dr NE 33701. Facility: 91 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































BOOK NOW

727/894-5000



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 333 1st St S 33701.



HYATT PLACE ST. PETERSBURG/DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW

727/220-0950



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 25 2nd St N 33701. Facility: 175 units. 7-15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





































THE VINOY RESORT & GOLF CLUB, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 727/894-1000



FOUR DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Historic Resort Hotel. Address: 501 5th Ave NE 33701. Facility: Built in 1925 as a haven for the rich and famous, the hotel has been restored

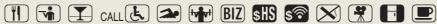
and modernized, yet it retains its historical grandeur. Rooms are upscale in style and range from cozy to spacious. 356 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, marina, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.































ST. PETERSBURG

- Hotels p. 289
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT ST PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 727/864-0001



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 110 2nd St N 33701.



COMFORT INN & SUITES NORTHEAST GATEWAY BOOK NOW 727/563-9100





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 875 94th Ave N 33702. Facility: 53 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























HILTON ST. PETERSBURG CARILLON PARK BOOK NOW 727/540-0050





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 950 Lake Carillon Dr 33716. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 227 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet

and coin laundry.





























HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES ST. PETERSBURG

BOOK NOW 727/520-7800 NORTH



Hotel. Address: 2171 54th Ave N 33714.



HOLIDAY INN ST. PETERSBURG WEST

BOOK NOW 727/322-0770



Hotel. Address: 1200 34th St N 33713.



ST. PETERSBURG MARRIOTT CLEARWATER BOOK NOW 727/572-7800



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 12600 Roosevelt Blvd 33716.



TRU BY HILTON ST. PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN CENTRAL AVE

BOOK NOW 727/550-2200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1650 Central Ave 33712.

SANFORD

- Hotels p. 291
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

On Lake Monroe at the head of navigation on the St. Johns River, Sanford was established as a trading post in 1837. Gen. Henry R. Sanford bought 12,000 acres, including the townsite, in 1871 and established citrus groves.

The historic district, centered on First Street, contains structures dating back to 1883 and includes a former office building and hotel erected in 1887 for railroad entrepreneur Henry B. Plant. With the addition in recent years of cafés, pubs, art galleries and antique shops, downtown Sanford has become a hipster hangout. A refurbished 1922 silent movie and vaudeville house at 201 S. Magnolia Avenue is home to the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center, a venue for the theater's repertory company and other performance troupes; phone (407) 321-8111.

RiverWalk, a 2-mile pedestrian way skirting the lake north of the historic district, provides waterfront picnicking and recreation space.

Amtrak's Auto Train transports passengers and their cars to and from Lorton, Va. To reach the station, take SR 46 (I-4 exit 101C) east to 600 Persimmon Ave. Phone (800) 872-7245 for arrival information or reservations.

Greater Sanford Regional Chamber of Commerce: 400 E. First St., Sanford, FL 32771. **Phone:** (407) 322-2212.

Shopping: First Street, in the downtown historic district, features a variety of shops with antiques, art, books and collectibles.

Self-guiding tours: Brochures for walking tours of the historic district are available from the chamber of commerce

BEST WESTERN PLUS SANFORD AIRPORT/LAKE MARY BOOK NOW

407/320-0845



Hotel. Address: 3401 S Orlando Dr 32773. Facility: 71 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























COMFORT INN & SUITES NORTH ORLANDO/SANFORD BOOK NOW 407/585-1580

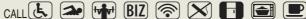




AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 590 Ava Ct 32771. Facility: 107 units. 4 stories. interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin





















HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON SANFORD ORLANDO NORTH

BOOK NOW

321/363-1119



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4764 FL-46 32771.

SARASOTA

• Hotels p. 293 • Restaurants p. 299

Although the origin of its name is not clear, the city has been a fixture on Sarasota Bay since the 1700s. The population was augmented by Scottish settlers in the 1880s, and the area became popular as a resort in the early part of the 20th century.

The circus is an integral part of Sarasota's past. In 1927 John Ringling selected the town for his Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus and made it his home. He exerted a major influence on the growth and development of the city because people from all over the world came to Sarasota to star in his show. After 146 years, the circus closed in May 2017.

Sarasota, including the offshore islands of Casey Key, Lido Key, Longboat Key, St. Armand Key and Siesta Key, is a beach resort and art community. Hotels and residential and commercial areas ring Sarasota Bay, and the islands offer 35 miles of beaches that border the blue waters of the Gulf.

In the mainland section of the city is an array of performing arts groups, including Asolo Repertory Theatre, The Players Theatre, Sarasota Opera, Sarasota Orchestra, Sarasota Ballet, The Jazz Club of Sarasota, The Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe Of Florida, Inc., and several vocal and chamber ensembles as well as an active theater district.

Performing arts facilities include The F.S.U. Center for the Performing Arts, 5555 N. Tamiami Tr., home to Asolo Repertory Theatre; Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, 777 N. Tamiami Tr.; the Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Ave.; and Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center, 709 N. Tamiami Tr. The Florida Studio Theatre, 1241 N. Palm Ave., presents entertainment from drama to musicals; phone (941) 366-9000. The Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, 1012 N. Orange Ave., celebrates African American history and artistic contributions, with acting, dancing, singing and educational programming among the varied offerings; phone (941) 366-1505.

Since Sarasota is the city where golf was introduced to Florida from Scotland and where the first course was laid out in 1886, it is understandable that the sport remains popular; more than 30 courses are within minutes of downtown.

The Baltimore Orioles' spring training games take place in March at Ed Smith Stadium, 2700 12th St.; phone (941) 954-4101.

Sarasota Ski-A-Rees presents a free water ski show each Sunday at 2 p.m. from early February to early May and in October at Ken Thompson Park on City Island near the aquarium; phone (941) 388-1666.

Visitor Sarasota County: 1945 Fruitville Rd., Sarasota, FL 34236. **Phone:** (941) 706-1253 or (800) 522-9799.

Shopping: Westfield Sarasota Square, 8201 S. Tamiami Tr., includes JCPenney, H&M and Old Navy among its 125 stores. St. Armands Circle and the vicinity contain more than 140 shops. Macy's is the anchor at Westfield Siesta Key, 3501 S. Tamiami Tr. The Mall at University Town Center, off I-75 exit 213 at the junction of Cattleman Road and University Parkway, is anchored by Dillard's, Macy's and Saks Fifth Avenue and has more than 100 stores and restaurants.

CROWLEY MUSEUM & NATURE CENTER is off I-75 exit 210, 10 mi. e. on Fruitville Rd. (SR 780), then 3 mi. s. to 16405 Myakka Rd. This 190-acre nature preserve includes trails through five habitats, a half-mile-long boardwalk over Maple Branch swamp and an observation tower overlooking the Myakka River. Also on site is a pioneer history area with a museum that includes a homesteader's cabin, sugar cane mill, two-story Cracker house circa 1889 and operating blacksmith shop. Chickens, horses and cracker cows are on the premises. A self-guiding tour, pioneer crafting workshops and demonstrations also are offered.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (941) 322-1000.

THE JOHN AND MABLE RINGLING MUSEUM OF ART is 4 mi. n., just w. of US 41 at 5401 Bay Shore Rd. The fortune John Ringling derived from his circus, vast real estate, oil and railroad investments was well spent on his art museum and 1920s estate. The 66-acre complex, decorated with statues and dotted with banyan trees, offers a rose garden, a children's play area and a view of Sarasota Bay.

The museum was built in Italian Renaissance style, with an inner courtyard studded with many renowned sculptures from the Chiurazzi Foundry in Italy, including a bronze cast of Michelangelo's "David." The art collection includes significant holdings of American, European and non-Western art, with masterpieces from the 17th-century baroque period. Noteworthy is the Peter Paul Rubens collection and the James Turrell Skyspace. The Ulla R. and Arthur F. Searing Wing features a variety of changing exhibits year-round.

Ca' d'Zan, The Circus Museum and Tibbals Learning Center are on the museum's grounds (see attraction listings).

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (941) 359-5700, (941) 358-3180 for advance ticket information, or (941) 351-1660 for recorded information. **GT**

Ca' d'Zan (Ringling's Winter Residence) is at 5401 Bay Shore Rd. on the grounds of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, and was completed in 1925 at a cost

of \$1.5 million. The 56-room, terra cotta mansion resembles a Venetian Gothic palace. Marble, tapestries and elaborately carved and gilded furniture dominate the interior. The mansion's first floor can be viewed on a selfguiding tour. The guided Mable's Tour includes the first and second floors; John's Tour includes floors two through five. Docent-led tours are limited: an admission time is provided with art museum ticketing. Note: Guided tours require climbing stairs and standing for long periods.

Phone: (941) 359-5700, or (941) 358-3180 for advance ticketing. GT TI

Circus Museum, 5401 Bay Shore Rd., on the grounds of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. consists of displays of gilded parade wagons, calliopes, costumes, posters, photographs and a variety of circus memorabilia. Of special interest is an exhibit honoring famed circus performers.

Phone: (941) 359-5700, or (941) 358-3180 for advance ticket information. GT (II)

Tibbals Learning Center is at 5401 Bay Shore Rd. on the grounds of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. Handcrafted by Howard Tibbals, the miniature circus is said to be the world's largest and encompasses almost 4,000 square feet. Interactive galleries provide an up close experience. Restored circus posters also are on display. "The Greatest Show on Earth" mural depicts 45 circus performers.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (941) 359-5700, or (941) 358-3180 for advance ticket information. **TI**

MYAKKA WILDLIFE TOURS, 9 mi. e. of I-75 exit 205 via SR 72, offers narrated tram tours through the wildlife habitats in Myakka River State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart). Narrated airboat cruises on Upper Myakka Lake interpret the ecology of the lake and offer views of the animals. Binoculars are recommended.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (941) 365-0100. GT =7-





ALOFT SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/870-0900

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1401 Ringling Blvd 34236. Facility: 139 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only.

Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AMENITI BAY BW SIGNATURE COLLECTION BOOK NOW

941/500-9960

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 5985 Brookhill Blvd 34232.



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ART OVATION HOTEL, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 941/316-0808



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

HOTELS

Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1255 N Palm Ave 34236. Facility: This hotel's lobby is enhanced by rotating exhibits featuring an in-house artist creating new pieces daily. The upscale rooms include a sketch pad and ukulele to unleash your creative side. 162 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry, area

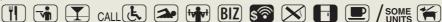






























BOOK NOW CIRQUE ST. ARMANDS BEACHSIDE 941/388-5555

 $[\mathbf{fyi}]$ Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Approved. Address: 233 Ben Franklin Dr 34236.



COMFORT INN & SUITES SARASOTA I-75 BOOK NOW 941/342-8778





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5931 Commercial Way 34232. Facility: 111 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT SARASOTA/BRADENTON

AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 941/355-3337



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 850 University Pkwy 34234. Facility: 81 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































EVEN HOTELS SARASOTA-LAKEWOOD RANCH BOOK NOW 941/782-4400

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 6231 Lake Osprey Dr 34240.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON - SARASOTA BRADENTON

AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 941/355-8140



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Hotel. Address: 975 University Pkwy 34234.

HAMPTON INN SARASOTA/I-75/BEE RIDGE BOOK NOW

941/371-1900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE [fyi] Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Address: 5995 Cattleridge Blvd 34232. Facility: 121 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

HILTON GARDEN INN SARASOTA-BRADENTON AIRPORT BOOK NOW 941/552-1100



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 8270 N Tamiami Tr 34243. Facility: 115 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





































HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES SARASOTA EAST I-75

BOOK NOW

941/925-0631



Hotel. Address: 5730 Gantt Rd 34233.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON SARASOTA I-75 BEE RIDGE BOOK NOW

941/330-0333





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6410 Mauna Loa Blvd 34240. Facility: 118 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities:

exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/365-7300



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking **AAA/CAA** rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3470 Fruitville Rd 34237.



 7 HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON SARASOTA LAKEWOOD

BOOK NOW 941/309-3904



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 305 N Cattlemen Rd 34243.



HOTEL INDIGO SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/487-3800



Boutique Hotel. Address: 1223 Boulevard of the Arts 34236. Facility: This hotel is just a short walk from shopping, dining and the performing arts center. Each room has a bright bathroom with a granite vanity and walk-in shower. 95 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

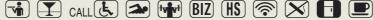






























SOME (



HYATT PLACE - SARASOTA BRADENTON AIRPORT BOOK NOW 941/554-5800



HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 950 University Pkwy 34234. Facility: 114 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



































LIDO BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 941/388-2161



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 700 Ben Franklin Dr 34236.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT SARASOTA-BRADENTON BOOK NOW 941/358-1468

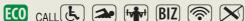


Residence INN. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1040 University Pkwy 34234. Facility: 78 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























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THE RITZ-CARLTON, SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/309-2000





AAA Benefit: Special member savings plus Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

THE RITZ-CARLTON Resort Hotel. Address: 1111 Ritz-Carlton Dr 34236. Location: Waterfront. **Facility:** In the heart of downtown, this luxurious property offers spacious rooms decorated with chic coastal accents. Many rooms offer views of Sarasota Bay, but all have furnished private balconies. 276 units, some two bedrooms. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry,

































THE SARASOTA MODERN, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO HOTEL BOOK NOW

941/906-1290



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Boutique Hotel. Address: 1290 Boulevard of the Arts 34236. Facility: Echoing the mid-century modern style of Palm Springs, this hotel offers a cozy central courtyard that includes the multi-faceted pool area, cabanas and an outdoor bar. 89 units, some kitchens. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, bicycles, lawn sports, picnic facilities, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























SIESTA KEY PALMS RESORT BOOK NOW 941/786-4778

APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN Boutique Motel. Address: 1800 Stickney Point Rd 34231.



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SPARK BY HILTON SARASOTA SIESTA KEY GATEWAY BOOK NOW 941/924-4900



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Hotel. Address: 6600 S Tamiami Tr 34231. Facility: 114 units. 4 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





























THE WESTIN SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/217-4777





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 100 Marina View Dr 34236. Facility: Across from the marina and a short drive from St. Armands Circle, this hotel's rooms all include plush bedding, streaming TVs and showers with luxe rainfall shower heads. 255 units. 19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



































WHERE TO EAT



MICHAEL'S ON EAST 941/366-0007



Continental Fine Dining. Expert Advice: Locals flock to this upscale restaurant for special occasions or just to enjoy a great evening out. While options vary by season, the seafood, steaks and other meats are sourced from the highest quality purveyors. Both the breads and desserts are made in-house, so it's worth the calories to splurge! The bar is known for its lengthy wine list and craft cocktails. Ask your server to help guide you through the options that will best pair with your meal. Features: full bar, patio dining, happy hour. Reservations: suggested. Address: 1212 East Ave S 34239. Parking: valet only.



Sarasota's only AAA 4D restaurant

SEBASTIAN

In 1715 several ships of the Spanish fleet were lost in Sebastian Inlet during a hurricane. To this day, treasure hunters search the waters along Sebastian's coast for gold, jewelry and rare antiquities.

Skydiving and surfing are among the area's popular recreational activities. The Indian River Lagoon, the St. Sebastian River and Blue Cypress Lake are fishing hot spots and paradise for boaters. Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat for more than 30 species of birds; the refuge may be viewed only by boat.

Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Center: 700 Main St., Sebastian, FL 32958. Phone: (772) 589-5969.

SEBRING

• Hotels p. 301

Sebring (SEE-bring) was founded in 1911 by George E. Sebring, an ardent prohibitionist from Ohio; some early deeds contained bans against the use or sale of alcohol on the premises. The Atlantic Coast Railroad reached the town in 1912 and the land boom began. By 1920 there were nine resorts and the area was a popular winter resort for the affluent, and in 1926, the residents numbered 7,000. Following the land bust of 1924-26, the population dwindled to approximately 3,000. The establishment of the B-17 training facility Hendricks Field in World War II began the town's rebirth.

Today Sebring boasts some of the state's largest groves of citrus, lime and avocado trees. Sebring International Raceway plays host to automobile races, including March's grueling 12 Hours of Sebring, part of the

American Le Mans Series; phone (800) 626-7223. Medal of Honor Park, on US 27 at the Agricultural Center, is an outside memorial dedicated to veterans.

Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce: 227 US 27N, Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: (863) 385-8448.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF THE HIGHLANDS, 901 US 27 N., has a child-size diner complete with a pizza oven, make-believe ethnic food and costumes. Other hands-on exhibits include a waterworks and a television station. Children can shop for groceries, paint their faces and make huge bubbles using materials provided by the museum. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (863) 451-5385.

HIGHLANDS HAMMOCK STATE PARK, 4 mi. w. of US 27 on CR 634, is a 9,251-acre wilderness of lush, dense junglelike and subtropical vegetation and swamps, all accessible by an excellent system of paved drives, well-marked trails and elevated boardwalks. Trees range in age from more than 400 years to 1,000 years.

Highlands Hammock was Florida's first state park and opened to the public in 1931. The CCC was active in the park during the mid-1930s and '40s and developed additional facilities as well as planned for a botanical garden. The Florida State Civilian Conservation Corps Museum features displays about park history and short films about the park. Ranger-narrated tram tours of the park's remote areas are available year-round and park rangers conduct a variety of programs during the week, November through April. Inquire at the ranger station for schedules and locations. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Phone: (863) 386-6094, or (800) 326-3521 for camping reservations. GT ♠ (¶) 🔀 (♣) 🛧



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RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-SEBRING BOOK NOW 863/314-9100



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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3221 Tubbs Rd 33870.



SEVEN SEBRING RACEWAY HOTEL BOOK NOW

863/655-7200



Hotel. Address: 150 Midway Dr 33870. Facility: 123 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





SOME (HS)





























AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1775 US Hwy 27 S 33870.

SEFFNER

- Hotels p. 301
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305



HAMPTON INN & SUITES TAMPA EAST BOOK NOW 813/630-4321





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 11740 Tampa Gateway Blvd 33584. Facility: 74 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: coin laundry.































302 SEMINOLE — SPRING HILL, FL

SEMINOLE

- Hotels p. 302
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282





Hotel. Address: 4816 100th Way N 33708.

SIESTA KEY

Hotels p. 302





Boutique Motel. Address: 6782 Sara Sea Cir 34242. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This tiny property offers rooms that have full kitchens and comfortable beds. There's plenty of outdoor seating in the courtyard, as well as gas grills for guest use. 10 kitchen units. 1 story, exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Terms: check-in 3:30 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.



















TROPICAL BEACH RESORTS

BOOK NOW 941/349-3330



Motel. Address: 6717 Sara Sea Cir 34242.

SPRING HILL

Hotels p. 303

WEEKI WACHEE SPRINGS STATE PARK, on US 19 at jct. SR 50, is built around a spring that flows at a rate of 170 million gallons a day and maintains a temperature of 74 F. "Mermaids" perform in an underwater theater, and a riverboat cruise explores the flora and fauna of a typical Florida ecosystem. Animal shows focus on birds and reptiles. A natural spring on the Weeki Wachee River feeds

Buccaneer Bay, which features a white-sand beach; a flume ride and lazy river are open seasonally. Rental canoes and kayaks are available. Picnicking is permitted only at Buccaneer Bay.

Time: Allow 6 hours minimum. Phone: (352) 592-5656, or (352) 597-8484 for boat rental information.

GT III 🔀 环





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1344 Commercial Way 34606.

STARKE

CAMP BLANDING MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL PARK is 11 mi. e. of ict. US 301 at 5629 SR 16W, at the main gate of Camp Blanding in building 3040. The museum, housed in a refurbished World War II barracks, contains photographs, weapons, artifacts and exhibits honoring the

camp, which was a major training center during World War II. Outdoor exhibits include vehicles and artillery pieces as well as monuments and memorials to those who served in World War II and other 20th-century conflicts. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (904) 682-3196. **GT**









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Tampa

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More ways to look, book and save: AAA.com/tripcanvas

Then & Now

With the world's tourism mecca— Orlando— just 70 miles up the road, it might be easy to overlook the city by the bay as a major travel destination. But Tampa and its communities offer a number of fun things to do with friends and family. First, there's a theme park here: Busch Gardens Tampa Bay preceded Walt Disney's dream by 12 years. With varied cultural offerings, world-class attractions, championship sports teams, water recreation opportunities and a vibrant Latin heritage, Tampa merits a closer look.

During the 18th century the bay belonged to pirates who left a decided influence on the area. The legendary Jose Gaspar may have pillaged his way to annual celebrity—Tampa's Gasparilla Pirate Festival takes place late January or early February. The NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers also take their name from this era.

In the late 1800s, railroads stimulated the tourist trade, attracting wealthy Northern vacationers. In 1891, royalty,

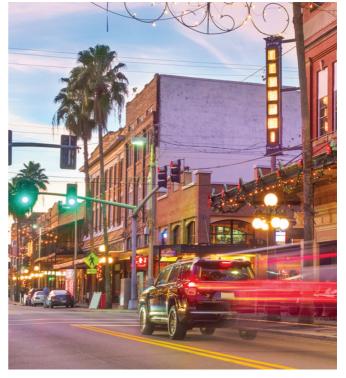
financial bigwigs and luminaries attended the opening of Henry B. Plant's exclusive Tampa Bay Hotel, which is now part of the University of Tampa.

Cigars were once the city's mainstay, and brick and frame factories housing such companies as Hav-a-Tampa and Cuesta-Rey provided employment for Spanish, Italian and Cuban immigrants who labored at long tables hand-rolling tobacco leaves. Cigars are still produced, but the business community has diversified.

Tampa is now the foremost port of Florida's west coast and one of the nation's busiest, with petroleum, coal, steel and cement among its major inbound cargoes. A state-of-the-art cruise terminal welcomes passengers of several cruise lines bound for Caribbean and Latin American destinations.

Architecturally, Tampa admirably records the different periods of its growth. Older stucco homes with flat roofs, patios and wrought-iron balconies show a marked Spanish influence. The Tampa Convention Center, the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, and skyscrapers and

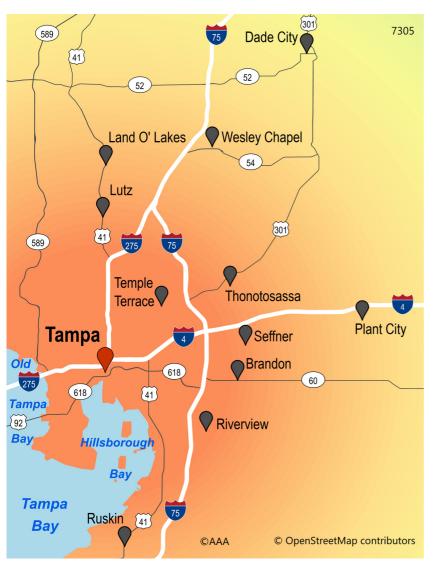
Ybor City / © iStockphoto.com / benedek





Destination Tampa

This map shows cities in the Tampa vicinity where you will find attractions, hotels and restaurants. Cities are listed alphabetically in this book on the following pages.



Brandon	4
Dade City	65
Land O' Lakes	16
Lutz	167
Plant City	259
Riverview	264
Ruskin	264
Seffner	30
Temple Terrace	347
Thonotosassa	348
Wesley Chapel	356

FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE CITY

POP: 352,957 • **ELEV:** 27 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: Sales tax is 8.5 percent in Hillsborough and 7 percent in Pasco County. An accommodations tax is 6 percent in Hillsborough County and 5 percent in Pasco County.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (813) 231-6130 ● Sheriff (813)

247-8200

FIRE (non-emergency): (813) 274-7011

HOSPITALS: AdventHealth Carrollwood, (813) 932-2222
■ AdventHealth Tampa, (813) 971-6000
■ Memorial Hospital of Tampa, (813) 873-6400
■ Tampa General, (813) 844-7000.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Tampa Bay Visitor Center: 201 N. Franklin St., Suite 102, Tampa, FL 33602. The Tampa Bay Visitor Center is open Mon.-Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-5 for when you want additional advice for what to do on your vacation. **Phone:** (813) 226-2752 or (800) 448-2672.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: Commercial domestic and international flights entering Tampa land at Tampa International Airport (TPA). Several commercial airlines and private planes use St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE). Private

luxury hotels added during the building boom of the 1980s and early 1990s heightened the city's once modest business district to a stature worthy of more established corporate centers.

On the waterfront, The Riverwalk, a 3-mile pedestrian promenade that parallels the Hillsborough River, has transformed the downtown landscape, opening up public access to Tampa's lovely waterfront and linking museums, parks, hotels, numerous places to eat and outdoor gathering places. Pedestrians can walk alongside the river beginning near The Florida Aquarium, passing Amalie Arena, Tampa Museum of Art and the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, and ending at Water Works Park.

and corporate planes have access to Albert Whitted Airport (SPG) in St. Petersburg and Peter O. Knight Airport (TPF) in Tampa. *See Arriving, Air Travel.*

RENTAL CARS: Hertz, which offers discounts to AAA members, is at the car rental center at Tampa International Airport, (813) 874-3232; St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport, (727) 532-4801; and at St. Pete Beach, (727) 360-1631; or phone (800) 654-3080.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: Tampa's Amtrak station is at 601 N. Nebraska Ave. in downtown Tampa, behind historic Union Station. Daily service is offered; phone (813) 221-7600 or (800) 872-7245. Bus service to Union Station is available via HART routes 9, 12 and 400; phone (813) 254-4278.

BUSES: Greyhound Lines Inc. is at 610 E. Polk St. in Tampa; phone (813) 229-2174.

TAXIS: Major companies include United Cab Co., (813) 777-7777, and Yellow Cab Co., (813) 253-0121.

Taxis are metered. Most cabs charge \$2.50 to enter and \$2.40 per mile and 30c per 60 seconds of waiting time. A taxi ride between Tampa International Airport and downtown Tampa, the Ybor City area and the cruise terminals costs a flat rate of \$25 in either direction. Limousine service averages \$65 per hour in the Tampa Bay area.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: HART serves Tampa and its immediate suburbs, including shopping malls and area attractions. Service also includes the TECO Line Streetcar System, which makes 11 stops along a 2.7-mile track between downtown Tampa and Ybor City. For HART bus and streetcar fares and schedules, phone (813) 254-4278.

Hosting the Super Bowl for the fifth time in 2021 served notice of the bay area's passion for sports, particularly football, and the resident Tampa Bay Buccaneers ended up winning the Super Bowl LV trophy at their home stadium. The Buccaneers had previously took home the Super Bowl XXXVII trophy in 2003, the same year the Tampa Bay Storm arena football team won its fourth championship. In 2020 and 2004, the Tampa Bay Lightning took the NHL's coveted Stanley Cup. Then there's Major League Baseball. From late February to early April, a spring training stint renders pro teams accessible to those who want to see how their favorites—including the 2020 World Series contender Tampa Bay Rays— are shaping up for the *real* season.

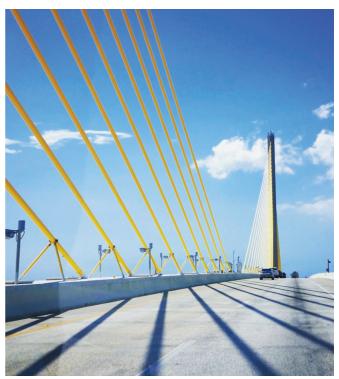
Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

- Guide the family on a safari through
 Busch Gardens Tampa Bay (3000 E. Busch Blvd.). You'll be transported to the countries and landscapes of Africa the moment you walk through the arches of this extraordinary 335-acre animal preserve and theme park.
- Immerse yourself in the Cuban culture of Ybor City: Learn about this district's historic cigar industry at Ybor Chamber Visitor Information Center (1600 E. 8th Ave.); take a walking tour offered by the Ybor City Museum State Park (1818 E. 9th Ave.); sample traditional café con leche at Carmine's (1802 E. 7th Ave.); and watch sensuous flamenco dancers while dining at the historic Columbia Restaurant (2117 E. 7th Ave). For things to do this weekend, live la vida loca (the crazy life) among thousands of club-hoppers along Seventh Avenue.
- Don your beach attire and take a trip to the Gulf Coast beaches on the Pinellas Peninsula. These are some of the best sandy shores in the nation when it comes to climate, water, sand and safety.
- Get acquainted with the man who turned Tampa into a winter resort at the Henry B. Plant Museum (401 W. Kennedy Blvd.) which occupies a wing of the railroad magnate's luxury 1891 hotel. The preserved Victorian-era building, with its sprawling veranda, ornate gingerbread trim and signature silver minarets, is part of the University of Tampa. During the annual Victorian Christmas Stroll, the halls are decked in 19th-century Christmas finery.
- Talk to the animals at ZooTampa at Lowry Park (1101 W. Sligh Ave.). Practice your bird calls in the zoo's free-flight aviaries, trumpet like the African elephants in the Ituri Forest and roar along with the white Bengal tigers in the Asian Gardens. See African creatures close up on the Safari Ride's train as it weaves around behind many of the zoo's animal enclosures. You can also feed giraffes, lorikeets and white rhinos, ride a camel or a llama, pet a stingray and gaze at Australian animals like kookaburras, koalas, wallabies and emus.
- Take in the views at the Tampa Museum of Art (120 W. Gasparilla Plaza) on the waterfront of the Hillsborough River. The building itself is quite modern, wrapped in aluminum panels with LED lights peeking out of its perforations, while the view across the river features the University of Tampa's minarets. Inside, the view includes a wide range of styles such as Greek and Roman art dating as far back as 2300

- B.C., contemporary photorealist oil paintings, photography from the 19th to 21st centuries and cutting-edge works by artists like Cindy Sherman.
- Looking for fun things to do with friends this weekend? Attend a rock concert or an ice hockey game at Amalie Arena (401 Channelside Dr.). The arena is home base for the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning and the AFL's Tampa Bay Storm and has recently hosted WWE wrestling events. Musical artists, including Ed Sheeran and Rush, also play at the arena. Simulated lightning bolts made by Tesla coils at the Lightning games make ice hockey even more exciting.
- Take a drive on the Sunshine Skyway, a 15-mile causeway spanning the mouth of Tampa Bay between the mainland north of Bradenton and the Pinellas Peninsula.

Tampa 1-day Itinerary

AAA editors suggest these activities for a great short vacation experience. Those staying in the area for a longer visit can access a 3-day itinerary at AAA.com/TripCanvas.



Sunshine Skyway / © iStockphoto.com / Boogich



Morning

- Devote your day to Tampa's museums. Begin with an introduction to the early days at the Tampa Bay History Center (801 Old Water St.). Interactive exhibits cover periods of native habitation, Spanish exploration and events of the 20th century. A satellite of the Columbia Restaurant opens for lunch at 11.
- Complement your history lesson with a visit to the Henry B. Plant Museum in the restored Tampa Bay Hotel on the University of Tampa campus (401 W. Kennedy Blvd.). With its exotic minarets, domes and cupolas, Plant's Moorish-design hotel overlooking the Hillsborough River was a magnet for the Victorian-era's well-heeled. Peer into lavishly decorated rooms filled with antique furniture, period accessories and vintage clothing.



Columbia Restaurant / Courtesy of Columbia Restaurant

- Discover forces of nature, visit a lunar colony in 2070, encounter a real meteorite, climb a ropes course, learn all about STEAM careers, stargaze in the planetarium and experience future technologies, all at MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry) (4801 E. Fowler Ave.). Dozens of engaging exhibits appeal to all ages.
- If your inner Dr. Doolittle begs to come out, start out at ZooTampa at Lowry Park (1101 W. Sligh Ave.) where you can feed giraffes, ride a camel, pet a pony, interact with kangaroos, observe submerged manatees and giggle over monkeys in the primate exhibit.

Afternoon

- Get up close for a personal encounter with penguins at The Florida Aquarium (701 Channelside Dr.).
 Dive shows, animal feedings, touch tanks and a live coral reef place you within reach of the secrets of the sea.
- The Florida Aquarium is next to Sparkman Wharf, formerly Channelside Bay Plaza, where you can grab a bite at several casual eateries serving everything from Cedar Key oysters and Detroit-style pizza to Spanish tapas in trendy shipping containers.
- Burn off those lunch calories on Tampa's Riverwalk, a linear park that ambles beside the Hillsborough River. Begin at Fort Brooke Park (just south of Channelside at 601 Old Water St.), passing The Florida Aquarium, Amalie Arena, the Tampa Convention Center, Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park and the Tampa Museum of Art. On the way, break for a snack at The Sail (333 S. Franklin St.).

Evening

- Dinner options abound in Tampa. You may decide to start the evening with authentic Spanish-inspired cuisine and a flamenco show at one of Florida's oldest dining establishments. The Columbia Restaurant (2117 E. 7th Ave.) had its start as a lunch counter for cigar rollers in 1905 and is operated by descendants of founder Casimiro Hernandez. An informative menu tempts you with detailed descriptions of dishes prepared from original family recipes. (Flamenco performances—Monday through Saturday—are popular, so remember to make reservations in advance. There is a small cover charge for the show.)
- Shopping extends into the evening in Ybor. Between 15th and 17th streets you'll find vintage clothing, jewelry and artwork as well as cigar shops with wine and coffee bars (a few even offer cigar rolling demonstrations).

- For an American-style gourmet repast, the Tampa landmark Bern's Steak House (1208 S. Howard Ave.) in the Hyde Park neighborhood should suit you to a T (or a T-bone). This restaurant opened in 1956 and has built its reputation on the premise that preparing steak is an art form. Their menu features detailed descriptions of USDA Prime steak cuts including Châteaubriand and Delmonico.
- Spend your evening at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa (5223 N. Orient Rd.). Open 24 hours, you can hear the ringing bells of slot machines and the shuffling of cards until the wee hours of the morning.
- After dinner, return to Ybor City's Seventh Avenue and sample nightlife at a variety of clubs. See our Nightlife article for recommendations.

Top Picks for Kids

Under 13

- With more than interactive exhibits on topics including space, physics and robotics, MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry) (4801 E. Fowler Ave.) has fun things for kids and adults alike. They can immerse themselves in space at the planetarium and the simulated moon base, and then tackle the ropes course.
- At ZooTampa at Lowry Park (1101 W. Sligh Ave.), do more than simply look at the animals. Stand eye level with giraffes and feed them lettuce. Touch the smooth back of a stingray as it glides past in a shallow pool. Sit in on some of the daily shows and learn about birds of prey, elephants, penguins and other animals from the zoo keepers.
- Adventure Island (10001 N. McKinley Dr.) is a tropical-themed water park. Feel the excitement of the big slides, relax in the half-mile lazy river and play in children's areas complete with waterfalls, slides and bridges.
- Children will have fun learning at the 17 themed areas and during the daily programs at Glazer Children's Museum (110 W. Gasparilla Plaza). While here, kids can soar through the skies of New York, San Francisco and Tampa in a biplane, become a firefighter and drive a truck at the scaled-down fire station, and take the journey of a water droplet that evaporates into the sky and trickles back down into an aquifer.

Teens

 A visit to the Tampa Museum of Art (120 W. Gasparilla Plaza) will add a bit of culture to your trip.

- The permanent collections feature Greek and Roman antiquities as well as modern and contemporary art with a focus on photography. After dusk the building itself becomes a piece of art when the facade of LEDs, designed by Leo Villareal, lights up in a random sequence.
- Try one of the specialty pizzas at Eddie & Sams Pizza & Gelato Bar (203 E. Twiggs St.). The food is cooked with water imported from New York—said to give it that extra authenticity. Although delicious, save room for gelato.
- If shopping is what your teen is into, spend some time in Hyde Park Village (1602 W. Snow Ave.). This charming area has a delightful assortment of high-end and specialty shops as well as some great restaurants and cafés with outdoor seating. Enjoy the



MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry) / Courtesy of the MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry)

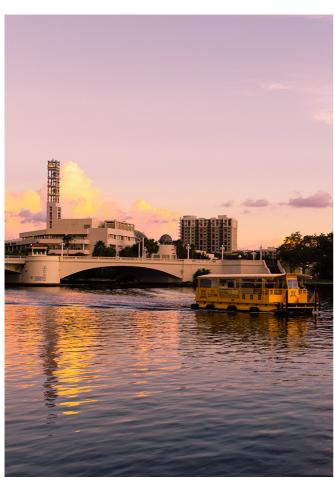


310 TAMPA, FL

pleasant environment with a stroll through the butterfly garden, and check out the loading docks on Swann Avenue where local artists have painted murals.

All Ages

• Have a wild time at ₩ Busch Gardens Tampa Bay (3000 E. Busch Blvd.), Tampa's premiere thrill-ride destination. Ride the big coasters, such as Tigris, for a thrill. Then take a trip down Stanley Falls or through the Congo River Rapids to cool off. Animals are a delight on the Serengeti Railway; view these beautiful creatures from above on Skyway cable car. For the smaller ones in your group, Sesame Street Safari of Fun has rides and play areas that are perfectly sized. Check with a AAA Travel professional for available vacation packages.



Pirate Water Taxi / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

- If you fancy a bit of baseball, catch a game during the New York Yankees Spring Training at George M. Steinbrenner Field (1 Steinbrenner Dr.). In the month of March the Yankees call Tampa home, and game day tickets are surprisingly affordable. Plan your trip well in advance though because tickets sell out quickly.
- Learn about Tampa and how the city developed at the Tampa Bay History Center (801 Old Water St.). The museum covers topics such as Spanish explorers, Seminole and Miccosukee tribes, and the cigar industry in Ybor City. The second floor has several interactive elements for kids. Plan to get a bite to eat while here. The famous Columbia Restaurant, one of the most popular restaurants in Tampa,has a satellite location, Columbia Café, in the lobby.

Arriving

By Car

The major direct route to Tampa from the north is I-75, which traverses Florida's north-central lake district: The 62-mile stretch south of Wildwood is especially scenic. It is roughly paralleled by US 301 on the east and US 41 on the west. North of downtown I-75 changes to I-275, which merges with I-4 in mid-city. I-75 bypasses the city proper to the east, rejoining I-275 north of Bradenton.

Driving into Tampa from the south, US 41 parallels I-75, the main corridor from the southern Gulf Coast. From Daytona Beach in the east, I-4 angles across central Florida through Orlando, while older US 92 runs parallel from Lakeland. SR 60, a four-lane, divided highway, leads from Lake Wales. Running from the Gulf Coast west of Tampa, SR 60 connects to Clearwater, and I-275 travels to St. Petersburg.

Air Travel

Cheap airline flights can be found from numerous cities. Commercial flights entering Tampa land at Tampa International Airport (TPA). Several commercial airlines and private planes use St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE). Private and corporate planes have access to Albert Whitted Airport (SPG) in St. Petersburg and Peter O. Knight Airport (TPF) in Tampa.

Tampa International Airport is on the city's west side along Old Tampa Bay. The 1.4-mile-long SkyConnect train connects the airport, the economy garage and car rental center. To reach downtown Tampa, take I-275 north—though you'll actually be traveling east—and take the Ashley Street exit. Past this exit I-275 turns sharply northward, bisecting the city. Continue along I-275 to reach such destinations as the University of South Florida and Busch Gardens Tampa Bay. Exit to I-4 east if you're heading for Ybor City, Plant City or Lakeland. Or take a cab: United and Yellow cabs provide service from the airport. Both have a minimum \$15 fare from the airport; the flat rate to downtown (about 8 miles) or cruise terminal (about 9 miles) is about \$25.

To reach downtown St. Petersburg, take I-275 south, cross the bay on the 7-mile Howard Frankland Bridge, and proceed another 10 miles or so due south. From I-275, take I-375 into the northern half of downtown or I-175 into the southern half. Transportation from Tampa International to St. Petersburg is easily acquired.

St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport is about 10 miles across the bay from Tampa on SR 686 (Roosevelt Boulevard), near the west side of the W. Howard Frankland Bridge. Airport traffic exits northwest toward Clearwater or south, providing access to St. Petersburg and Tampa.

Hertz, which offers discounts to AAA members, is at the car rental center by Tampa International Airport, (813) 874-3232 or (800) 654-3080; St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport, (727) 532-4801; and at St. Pete Beach, (727) 360-1631; or phone (800) 654-3080.

Getting Around

Street System

Downtown Tampa is bracketed by water and has only a few major access routes. From I-275, take the Ashley Street exit. Also from the north, SR 45 (Nebraska Avenue) and one-way US 41 Bus. Rte. lead into downtown. Cass Street approaches from the west. From the east, use SR 60 (John F. Kennedy Boulevard).

Tampa also is laid out in a basic grid, with a few geographic variations. US 41 Bus. Rte. (Florida Avenue) divides east from west; John F. Kennedy Boulevard/Frank Adamo Drive (SR 60) separates north from south. Many streets in the downtown area are one way.

Five major east-west thoroughfares support cross-town traffic: SR 582 (Fowler Avenue), SR 580 (Busch Boulevard), US 92/US 41 (Hillsborough Avenue), SR 574 (Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard), and the Crosstown Expressway (toll). Three others parallel I-275: on the west, SR 597/SR 580/US 92 (Dale Mabry Highway); through

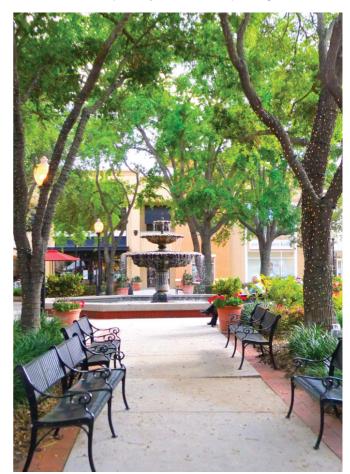
the central city, US 41/SR 45 (Nebraska Avenue); and on the east, SR 583 (56th Street).

Generally, downtown speed limits are 30 mph or as posted. Unless otherwise posted, a right turn is allowed on a red light after a complete stop. It is best to avoid taking an unfamiliar route during rush hours (about 7 to 9 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m.).

If driving is not your thing, you can explore downtown Tampa by water. Pirate Water Taxi cruises along the Hillsborough River and has some 14 stops on its route. A fee is charged; phone (813) 390-3711 for rates and schedule.

Parking

Limited on-street parking is available in the downtown business sections and along major thoroughfares. Rates for municipal parking garages start at \$1 per hour with a maximum of \$12 per day. Metered lot parking starts at \$1



Hyde Park Village / © AAA / Patricia Miller



per hour with a maximum of \$9 per day. For downtown parking information phone (813) 274-8179 or (813) 221-3686.

Shopping

Tampa's retail front offers an abundance of things to do, whether you prefer expansive malls with high-end merchandise or the diversity and uniqueness found in specialty shopping districts.

Malls

Dillard's, Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom along with Arhaus furniture store anchor International Plaza and Bay Street, an upscale extreme shopping mall with an outdoor dining and entertainment center. In addition to nationally recognized department stores like Banana Republic and LOFT, women's fashions are well represented by designer boutiques Coach, Gucci, kate spade new york and Tory Burch; men's apparel by Abercrombie & Fitch, BOSS Hugo Boss and J.Crew; and children's togs by abercrombie kids, Janie and Jack, and Journeys Kidz. Teens won't feel left out with such stores as Forever 21, H&M and Urban Outfitters.

More than 200 retailers have all your shopping needs covered, from jewelry to home décor to electronics. A food court, two cappuccino bars and a children's play area provide R and R for weary shoppers, while 16 restaurants in the open-air Bay Street village adjoining the mall offer variety for lunch or post-shopping dinner. The complex is located at 2223 N. Westshore Blvd. at Boy Scout Boulevard, near Tampa International Airport, perfect for a last-minute trip at the end of your vacation; phone (813) 342-3790.

Westfield Citrus Park, 8021 Citrus Park Town Center off Veterans Expressway and Gunn Highway in west Tampa, is on one level lined end-to-end with 110 stores anchored by Dick's Sporting Goods, JCPenney and Macy's. Lampposts and an antique carousel add to the mall's Main Street ambience; phone (813) 926-4644 for mall information and (813) 926-9232 for the carousel. Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's and 140 specialty shops and boutiques can be found at Westfield Brandon, 459 Brandon Town Center Dr. at the intersection of I-75 and SR 60 on Tampa's east side; phone (813) 661-6255.

The former **University Mall**, west of the University of South Florida at 2200 E. Fowler Ave., was once one of the region's largest at 1.3 million square feet but is now being redeveloped as RITHM at Uptown; phone (813) 971-3466 for updates.

WestShore Plaza, off I-275 exit 40A at 250 WestShore Plaza, opened in 1967 and was the first of Tampa's enclosed malls. Dick's Sporting Goods, JC Penney and Macy's anchor the mall, which has more than 70 other stores and an international food court; phone (813) 286-0790.

Tampa Premium Outlets opened in October 2015 at 2300 Grand Cypress Dr. in Lutz, 20 miles north of Tampa at I-75 and SR 56. This newest addition to area shopping destinations has a Key West theme and houses Coach, Express, Fossil, Michael Kors, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF Fifth, Vera Bradley and about 80 other outlets; phone (813) 909-8716. In nearby Wesley Chapel, head to The Shops at Wiregrass, 28211 Paseo Dr., a pedestrian-friendly village with about 100 shops including Brighton, Champs Sports, The Children's Place and Pottery Barn, along with anchors Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's; phone (813) 994-2242.

Last but not least, **Ellenton Premium Outlets**, 5641 Factory Shops Blvd., is about 40 miles south of Tampa, but well worth the drive for those who want to scout for bargains. There are more than 130 stores, including Aéropostale, BCBG MAX AZRIA, The Children's Place, Coach, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th, Tommy Hilfiger, Vans and White House Black Market; phone (941) 729-8615.

Specialty Districts

Just off Bayshore Boulevard at Swann and South Dakota avenues in the historic Hyde Park neighborhood is **Hyde Park Village**, home to a delightful collection of more than 40 shops, restaurants and cafés. The residential area offers an Old World charm complemented by a cosmopolitan tempo. Shoppers can settle at a shady outdoor table or grab a bite at one of the eateries after perusing the upscale fashions at Anthropologie, Brooks Brothers and lululemon athletica, or before seeking out specialty items at more than two dozen shops, including Downtown Dogs, Pottery Barn, Sur La Table and west elm. Free garage parking encourages browsers or buyers to make a day of it; phone (813) 251-3500.

A short drive from Ybor City, and adjacent to the Florida Aquarium at the cruise ship docks, is **Sparkman Wharf**, 615 Channelside Dr., an entertainment and dining complex with several unique shops. Park in the garage across the street.

Defined by its location south of Kennedy Boulevard and north of Gandy Boulevard on the Interbay Peninsula, **South Tampa** yields some standouts in the shopping arena. **Seedlings**, 1530 S. Dale Mabry Hwy., offers everything you need for bringing up babies and toddlers, with a dash of style for modern mommies. You'll squeal with delight at the latest in car seats and strollers, fresh-frozen organic food, environmentally friendly bath products, books, clothes, toys and Sophie the giraffe teethers; phone (813) 251-5111. Right next door to Seedlings, you'll find **The Pink Palm**, 1532 S. Dale Mabry Hwy., the area's only Lilly Pulitzer signature store; phone (813) 259-9780.

If you're familiar with ultrahip clothing lines by names like Dolce Vita, Sam & Lavi, Splendid and Velvet, you'll

enjoy searching the racks at **Penelope T**, 3310 W. Bay to Bay Blvd., phone (813) 254-5740. Naming the boutique after 1960s model Penelope Tree, its native Floridian owners worked in the fashion industry in New York City before returning to Tampa and opening their shop in 2005.

Tampa Heights is home to a former streetcar warehouse that's been renovated into a popular market and event space called **Heights Public Market - Armature Works** (1910 N. Ola Ave.). Shop for local and handcrafted goods at A.W. Mercantile or just grab a bite at one of the dozen or so local restaurants inside the 22,000-square-foot building that overlooks the Hillsborough River.

The **Ybor City** shopping experience is as culturally rich and vibrant as its nightlife. Most of the activity centers on 10 blocks of Seventh and Eighth avenues bounded by 13th and 23rd streets, an area flush with local restaurants, cigar shops, nightclubs, cultural attractions, shops and other fun things to do. While you might find a national chain or two, most retailers are home-grown originals.

With vintage and reproduction apparel, hats, accessories and home décor items from the 1920s, '30s, '40s and '50s, **La France**, 1612 E. 7th Ave., offers a unique shopping experience along with a reputation for quality over its more than 40-year run in Ybor City; phone (813) 248-1381. At **Revolve Clothing Exchange**, 1620 E. 7th Ave., budget-conscious shoppers can trade in gently worn items for other used garments or cash. Don't be surprised to find brands like American Apparel, Diesel, Free People, Marc Jacobs and Nanette Lepore at greatly reduced prices; phone (813) 242-5970. Go to **Ybor Agora**, 1515 E. 7th Ave., for accoutrements for the home. This shop has an Asian vibe but will appeal to anyone who wants to dress up their abode with things like paper lanterns, pottery, fragrant candles and lamps; phone (813) 247-4141.

Cigar rolling is the very industry upon which the historic district was founded, and cigar shops, or *chinchales*, were once a mainstay. Although their numbers have dwindled over the years, there are still a few places where you can buy a hand-rolled stogie. Step inside one of the South's largest humidors during your trip to **Metropolitan Cigars**, 2014 E. 7th Ave.; phone (813) 248-3304. Sip an espresso and watch cigar rolling in the window at **La Faraona Cigars**, 1517 E. 7th Ave.; phone (813) 648-1422. Or enjoy Cuban coffee or wine with your smoke at **King Corona Cigars Café & Bar**, 1523 E. 7th Ave.; phone (813) 241-9109 or (888) 248-3812.

If buying or eyeballing local art is your thing, there are a couple of art galleries featuring works by local artists scattered throughout Ybor City. During the **Saturday Market**, Centennial Park, 1901 19th St., bursts into a riot of color and texture with artwork, crafts, produce, plants and gourmet foods; phone (813) 241-2442.

You can find souvenirs along with history books and locally made products at **Ybor City Museum State Park**, 1818 E. 9th Ave., and the **Ybor Chamber Visitor Information Center**, 1600 E. 8th Ave.; phone (813) 247-6323 and (813) 241-8838, respectively. After lunch at the oldest restaurant in Tampa, historic **Columbia Restaurant**, 2117 E. 7th Ave., visit the gift shop, which offers a full line of the restaurant's branded packaged foods, including salad dressing, sangria mix, seasonings and Cuban coffee; phone (813) 248-4961.

Specialty Shops

The atmosphere is as enticing as the offerings at the bay area's assorted specialty emporiums. Seek out these retailers for a one-of-a-kind shopping experience.

Fans of Swedish designs thronged to the grand opening of the **IKEA** store in 2009. With nearly 50 room displays



Metropolitan Cigars / © iStockphoto.com / cookelma

and three complete model homes, this home design superstore has everything a DIY-er with modern decorating sensibilities could ask for: furniture with clean, contemporary lines; sofas with washable upholstery; ergonomic chairs; closet organizing systems; and lots of accessories including rugs, linens, lamps, artwork, cookware and cutlery. IKEA is at 1103 N. 22nd St. near the southeast corner of Ybor City; phone (813) 623-4532.

In nearby Lutz, Jewelry, contemporary crafts and fine art are the focus at **Dan Balk Jewelry Studios**, 1418 Julie Lagoon. What makes this shop unique is that it's a working silversmith studio, so you can take a 4-hour class for a fee and leave with a customized piece of your own design; phone (813) 728-4325.

Across the street from the University of Tampa is **Oxford Exchange**, 420 W. Kennedy Blvd. Its carefully curated collection of books combining new releases,



Oxford Exchange / © AAA / Patricia Miller

classics, out-of-print and children's books is housed in a handsome 24,000-square-foot white brick building that began life as a hotel stable in 1891. You'll marvel at the shop's grand decor; modeled after shops and private clubs in London, it offers the feel of an English manor and features inlaid marble, pine and reclaimed white oak on its floors, leather-paneled walls and ceilings, leather club chairs and plush sofas, and a conservatory with a retractable glass roof covering the in-house restaurant. There's also a coffee bar, tea shop and a boutique that offers an eclectic selection of curiosities such as apothecary items, travel accessories, autographed books, statuettes and home fragrances. Phone (813) 253-0222.

If all this shopping has made you hungry, follow the fragrance of freshly baked Cuban bread to **Mauricio Faedo's Bakery**, across the street at 5150 N. Florida Ave.; phone (813) 237-2377. Open 24 hours a day (except on Saturday, when it closes at 1:30, and Sunday, when it closes at 5), this local favorite will satisfy cravings for pastries, doughnuts and breads just about anytime. Just a little further down the street in an adorable lime-green building is **Cleanse Apothecary**, 6500 N. Florida Ave., where you'll find handmade soaps, makeup bags, fragrances, body lotions and toiletries artfully arranged on mismatched antique furniture; phone (813) 374-0305.

Nightlife

Evening options in Tampa range from weekday happyhour get-togethers at numerous local restaurants and bars to full-out weekend partying at velvet-rope dance clubs in Ybor City. Or maybe you'd prefer an evening of mellow jazz, twangy country sounds or high-energy pop music. Tampa's eclectic nightlife scene appeals to everyone.

Downtown

Downtown Tampa's business core is sprinkled with after-five gathering places. TAPS Restaurant, Bar & Lounge, 777 N. Ashley Dr., pairs upscale decor with an extensive libations list, including more than 100 varieties of wine; phone (813) 463-1968. If you land in town on the first Thursday of the month, join locals at Rock the Park for music, food and drinks from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, 600 Ashley Dr.; phone (813) 274-8615. Any day of the week after 2 p.m. is a good time to mellow out at The Sail Pavilion, 333 S. Franklin St., an outdoor bar on The Riverwalk. You'll hear live music on the weekend and get a free shot at sunset. Leashed dogs get a free bowl of water; phone (813) 274-7778.

The place to go to see nationally known entertainers, especially rock and country artists, is **Amalie Arena**, 401 Channelside Dr.; phone (813) 301-6500. Musicians such

as Paul McCartney, Chance the Rapper and Pitbull have performed there.

Hyde Park

Hyde Park is one of Tampa's oldest established suburban neighborhoods and a hub of upscale living that's well worth the trip. Nightlife venues range from casual hangouts with spacious outdoor decks to wine bars to ultrachic intimate lounges. With luxurious décor, a velvetroped preferred seating area, a dance floor and a dress code, **The Kennedy**, 2408 W. Kennedy Blvd., ranks among the classiest nightspots in the bay area; phone (813) 259-9669. **Hyde Park Café**, 1806 West Platt St., features a similar ambience plus elegant courtyard seating and resident DJs who keep the music going; phone (813) 254-2233.

If you're in the mood for dinner and a movie, kill two birds with one stone at **CMX CinéBistro At Hyde Park Village**, 1609 W. Swann Ave. Settle into a plush leather chair, sip a glass of merlot or a martini, and sup on an exquisite meal like fettuccine al forno while a current feature film plays on the screen; phone (813) 514-8300. Note that you must be age 21 or older to be admitted. When only an Irish pub will do, **Irish 31 Pub House & Eatery**, 1611 W. Swann Ave., is just the ticket with its cozy interior, an umbrella-covered outdoor deck, a sports bar vibe and Monday trivia nights; phone (813) 250-0031.

A concentration of watering holes frequented by residents and college students can be found along or adjacent to South Howard Avenue, commonly known as the **SoHo** district. Enjoy a spirit of camaraderie, sip a Guinness, play darts and listen to live music (on select nights) with loyal patrons on the deck of **MacDinton's Irish Pub & Restaurant**, 405 S. Howard Ave.; phone (813) 251-8999. The SoHo lineup also includes **Tiny Tap Tavern**, 2105 W. Morrison Ave.; and **World of Beer**, 402 S. Howard Ave.

Ybor City

The historic cigar city is Tampa's smokin'-hot nightspot, especially on weekends when the overflow from a lively mix of dance clubs, hookah bars, lounges, microbreweries, martini bars and watering holes transforms the main strip of Seventh Avenue into an outdoor fiesta. Most bars and clubs here close at 3 a.m., so you can party into the wee hours.

Most bars offer DJ and/or live music ranging from acoustic to jazz to indie rock. Some of the most popular along Seventh and Eighth avenues are pirate-themed **Gaspar's Grotto**, 1805 E. 7th Ave., with two large outdoor bars and a covered patio; and **Coyote Ugly**, 1722 E. 7th Ave., where dancing on the bar is to be expected; phone (813) 248-5900 or (813) 241-8459. Get rowdy at

The Double Decker, 1721 E. 7th Ave., a party saloon with karaoke, or at loud and gritty Crowbar, 1812 N. 17th St., specializing in high-energy bands appealing to twenty-somethings; phone (813) 248-2099 or (813) 241-8600, respectively. With different music and ambience on each of its five floors, Club Prana, 1619 E. 7th Ave., distinguishes itself as Ybor's chicest dance scene. Show your hip-hop moves in the plush first-floor lounge and later head to the rooftop bar for reggae music and an awesome view; phone (813) 241-4139.

A little off the beaten path is microbrewery **Coppertail Brewing Co.**, 2601 E. 2nd Ave. In an old brick warehouse across the street from IKEA, it makes for a good place to unwind after a shopping trip with a refreshing brew made on-site, and it also has a tasting room; phone (813) 247-1500.



Ybor City / © Keir Magoulas / Visit Tampa Bay



Centro Ybor, 1600 E. 8th Ave., offers fun things to do in the historical entertainment complex, comedy club, eateries and a handful of shops. GameTime Tampa is an alternative to the usual pub or nightclub; it features a sports bar with plenty of flat-screen TVs, but it also has pool tables, air hockey and a slew of arcade and video games, including Dance Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero, Pac-Man and a driving simulator. Players earn tickets that are redeemable for prizes, so this is a great option for families or date night; phone (813) 241-9675. For a side-splitting good time, slip into the Improv Comedy Theater; recent performers include Harland Williams and Amazing Johnathan. In its prime, the beautifully renovated 100-year-old building was a Spanish movie theater; phone (813) 864-4000. Ybor City Wine Bar appeals to a mellow crowd and has more than 200 boutique wines on its list; phone (813) 999-4966.



Coppertail Brewing Co. / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

If your taste in nighttime entertainment veers toward something outside of "normal," step inside **The Castle**, 2004 N. 16th St., a two-story club that draws an unlikely combination of Ralph Lauren-clad college preps and black-garbed goth kids. On the first floor, both the music and crowd skew towards typical club fare, but in the second floor's dark, massive ballroom, you'll hear goth, industrial, techno, new wave, emo and other alternative beats. You'll also be visually stimulated by the club's habitués, who don leather, corsets, shredded tights and combat boots; phone (813) 247-7547.

For alternative music fans who love the energy of a live show, **The Orpheum**, 1915 E. 7th Ave., is the place to go. This venue has hosted shows by up-and-coming acts like Manchester Orchestra, Sleeping With Sirens and Dum Dum Girls; phone (813) 248-9500. You can check out live national bands at **The Ritz Ybor**, 1503 E. 7th Ave., which also has Saturday night dance parties with live deejays spinning EDM, pop and indie tunes; phone (813) 248-4050.

And when it's time to drag yourself home in the wee hours of morning, convenient and affordable flat-fee garage parking at two locations—Fifth Avenue at 16th Street and Eighth Avenue at 13th Street—takes the guesswork out of the closing-time conundrum "Where did I park the car?".

Channelside District

Sparkman Wharf, 615 Channelside Dr., is an entertainment center with a large courtyard opening onto Garrison Channel, where cruise ships depart. It includes lofts, retail, an open outdoor space with a lawn, outdoor dining, an ice cream shop and a beer garden.

The Outer Limits

There are loads of fun places to go on the outskirts. Pull an all-nighter at **ME Hard Rock Cafe**, an upscale club worthy of celebrity patronage in the **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa**. Live music starts around 8 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday and goes into the wee hours of morning, long after most metro-area clubs have closed. The casino never closes, so there's plenty of opportunity before or after clubbing to try your luck at the tables. Located on Tampa's east side at 5223 N. Orient Rd., Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino is an easy 30 minutes from Orlando; phone (813) 627-7757.

Dallas Bull, a few miles from the casino at 3322 US 301 near the Florida State Fairgrounds, has been Tampa's stronghold of country music since 1979 and a favorite performance stage of top-name artists, including Dierks Bentley and Sam Hunt. With seven bars, two dance floors and a VIP lounge, this ain't no hole in the wall, pilgrim. Of

course, there's the requisite mechanical bull; phone (813) 987-2855.

Ciro's Speakeasy & Supper Club, 2109 Bayshore Blvd., is not a circa-1925 speakeasy in name only. Before you even step inside, you must know the secret password, which you'll get when you make a reservation; phone (813) 251-0022. Get in the mood by donning a fedora or flapper dress (not required, but it adds to the fun). Knock on the front door and give the password to the gent through the little window, and you're in. Take a seat at the bar and order a made-from-scratch Old-Fashioned or an absinthe cocktail, expertly prepared by a bartender in Prohibition-era garb (modern-day drinks also are available, but why not keep the theme going?). Jazz music plays in the background, and guests can sit in a private booth behind a curtain. The only thing this place is missing is a dance floor on which you can kick up your heels dancing the Charleston.

Jazzophiles will find that jazz clubs are few and far between in Tampa, but several local restaurants have risen to the occasion to fill the void. Tap your feet to the beats of jazz trios and quartets any night of the week at **The V Lounge** at **Eddie V's Prime Seafood**, 4400 W. Boy Scout Blvd. near Tampa International Airport; phone (813) 877-7290. Then there's **Ybor City Jazz House**, 1611 E. 7th Ave., a three-level red-hot club where you can get cozy on the main floor's red velvet sofas while grooving to smokin' live jazz bands, strut your stuff on the second floor's dance floor or go up to the rooftop bar and get some air and a good view of Ybor City at night; phone (813) 642-6558.

Big Events

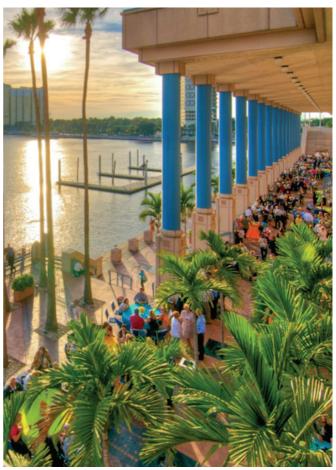
Tampa's calendar of events begins with the **Outback Bowl** at **Raymond James Stadium** on Dale Mabry Highway. This New Year's Day event matches college football's Southeastern Conference and Big 10 Conference champions. Mid-month brings the **Tampa Bay Black Heritage Festival**, a 10-day-long fete beginning in mid-January that honors African American culture with such family-friendly events as a 2-day street festival, art exhibits, crafts, spoken word performances, music and ethnic food.

Around the turn of the 20th century, Tampa leaders introduced a citywide, pirate-themed festival based on the adventures of legendary buccaneer Jose Gaspar. **Gasparilla Pirate Fest** evolved into a full-blown mock pirate invasion followed by a downtown parade, an arts and crafts show and live entertainment on multiple stages. The tongue-in-cheek surrender of the city to swashbucklers kicks off in late January or early February with the arrival

of the fully rigged *Jose Gasparilla*—a faithful replica of a Spanish galleon—at the **Tampa Convention Center**.

With so many events and fun things to do, February is a great time to vacation in Florida. First, catch daily parades, top-name entertainment, rodeo competitions, cookoffs, livestock shows, agriculture demonstrations, exhibits of everything from antique farm equipment to purebred canines and so much more at the **Florida State Fair**, which takes place over a 12-day period in early February. This all-American event has delighted Floridians for more than 100 years. Where else but a state fair would you make a meal of funnel cakes and corn dogs, stroll along a midway under the stars and step into the poultry barn to cast your vote for the best-looking chicken?

The promise of work in cigar factories lured Cuban, German, Italian and Spanish immigrants to Tampa's Ybor City in the late 19th century. **Fiesta Day**—once a day of



Tampa Convention Center / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay



rest for the workers—celebrates Ybor's rich ethnic heritage with lively music, multicultural entertainment, a colorful parade of flags, international food from nearby restaurants, cigar rolling demonstrations and contests for the best flan *and* the best flan eater. A high-spirited Latin tempo energizes the historic district during this celebration in late February.

Take advantage of March's cool spring temperatures and join the throng of art lovers wandering among more than 300 white-tented artists' booths filled with every genre imaginable during your trip to the **Gasparilla Festival of the Arts**, held on the first weekend of the month.

Early March is a good time to pick strawberries. If you can't make it to the farm, celebrate the harvest at the 11-day Florida Strawberry Festival in Plant City, 15 miles east of Tampa. Taste the freshest strawberry pies,



Gasparilla Pirate Fest / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

cobblers, shortcakes and milkshakes, or buy a flat of berries and make your own. Although strawberries are the star of the show, this festival boasts a stellar lineup of country music performers. With exhibits, carnival rides, a midway and a parade, this event has all the flair of a state fair.

The Apollo Beach Manatee Festival of the Arts, held in Ruskin, has a dual mission: to preserve Florida's manatee population and to promote visual and performing arts. At this early March event you will find 100 booths of fine arts and crafts, live entertainment, food vendors and a beer garden as well as activities for children and lots of information about manatees and local wildlife.

In April, **Best of Tampa Bay,** sponsored by the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, features culinary creations from the area's top local restaurants. You also can eat, drink and be merry at the **Tampa Caribbean Festival** at the **Florida State Fairgrounds** in April. Celebrate the culture and history of the islands with Caribbean cuisine, parades, dance demonstrations, live deejays and soca, reggae and steel bands.

Whoever said "you have nothing to fear but fear itself" had obviously never been to **Howl-O-Scream** at **Busch Gardens Tampa Bay.** Haunted houses, zombies, ghosts, vampires and a host of otherworldly creatures will scare you out of your wits on select nights from late September through late October.

The historic **Tampa Bay Hotel** is the perfect setting for a **Victorian Christmas Stroll**. Christmas trees, holiday greenery, lavish period decorations, vintage toys and elegantly wrapped packages adorn the hotel's Grand Hall and rooms of the **Henry B. Plant Museum** harking back to Christmas traditions of the past.

Sports & Rec

Tampa Bay area fans have the option to root for a home run; slap high-fives after a touchdown; count down the time during a power play; watch dogs chase a stuffed rabbit; or applaud as a favorite horse makes a photo finish. Plus, year-round warmth and a varied system of waterways and public parks make the region a true haven for outdoor and adventure travel enthusiasts.

Baseball Fans of professional baseball have more than their fair share of teams to cheer on in Tampa, including the city's own Major League Baseball team, the Tampa Bay Rays of the American League. They're at bat April through September at Tropicana Field, 1 Tropicana Dr., in St. Petersburg. Are you wondering why this Tampa team doesn't actually play in their home town? They've played at Tropicana Field since their inception in 1998, but their lease with the city doesn't expire until 2027; until

then, phone (888) 326-7297 for tickets. You can also catch spring training for the Rays in March at **Charlotte Sports Park**, 2300 El Jobean Rd., in Port Charlotte; phone (941) 235-5010 for ticket information.

In spring, New York Yankees' fanatics can travel to catch the team's major and minor league games in Tampa. The MLB team plays at **George M. Steinbrenner Field,** 1 Steinbrenner Dr., from late February through late March. The facility's 10,000-seat stadium, fronted by a life-size bronze statue of the Yankees' former owner, is a replica of New York's old Yankee Stadium, which closed in 2008. Minor league's Class A **Tampa Yankees** (a New York Yankees affiliate) play April through August; for information phone (813) 875-7753 or (813) 879-2244.

Two other MLB Grapefruit League teams hold spring training on the Pinellas Peninsula: the **Philadelphia Phillies** and the **Toronto Blue Jays**, both of which have minor league affiliates that play ball locally. In summer the Phillies' **Clearwater Threshers** train at Clearwater's **Spectrum Field**, 601 Old Coachman Rd., and the **Dunedin Blue Jays** work out at **Florida Dunedin Stadium**, 373 Douglas Ave. in Dunedin. Both teams play a full minor league schedule; phone (727) 467-4457 for the Threshers or (727) 733-0429 for the Blue Jays.

Football The NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 2021 Super Bowl champs, play at Raymond James Stadium, 4201 N. Dale Mabry Hwy.; for ticket information phone (866) 582-2827. You can also take a stadium tour Monday through Thursday and some Fridays at 2:30 (a fee is charged); phone (813) 350-6500 for details. The Outback Bowl is played here on New Year's Day.

Hockey The NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning, winners of the 2004 Stanley Cup, hit the ice at Amalie Arena, 401 Channelside Dr., early October through mid-April. For information and tickets phone (813) 301-6600.

Horse Racing The only Thoroughbred track on Florida's west coast, Tampa Bay Downs, 11225 Race Track Rd., attracts horse racing devotees from near and far. The track has year-round simulcasting and holds live races Friday through Sunday, Wednesday and some Thursdays from early December to early May; post time is 12:25. For more information phone (813) 855-4401 or (866) 823-6967.

Note: Policies vary concerning admittance of children to pari-mutuel betting facilities. Phone for information.

Bicycling Tampa's busy roadways generally are not conducive to safe bicycling; however, scenic **Bayshore Boulevard** is a delightful exception. It offers a breezy ride along the western shore of Hillsborough Bay with pretty

water views as a backdrop. **Suncoast Parkway Trail** parallels the toll road of the same name between the Veterans Expressway and State Road 50, and is generally separated from it by a buffer zone of plants and trees.

Cruise the periphery of **Downtown Tampa**; there are bike lanes on Tampa and Jackson streets and Nebraska Avenue, and more than 250 bike racks and parking are scattered through the area. If you don't have a bike, rent one from downtown's **City Bike Tampa**, 212 E. Cass St.; phone (813) 225-1777. Rental fees range from \$10 per hour to \$45-149 weekly, depending on style of bike; phone (813) 225-1777. There's also **Coast Bike Share**, which has dozens of hubs throughout downtown Tampa where its bright blue bikes are stationed. Rental fees start at \$8 per hour or \$15 monthly (for 60 minutes of use per day); phone (813) 999-3300 for information.

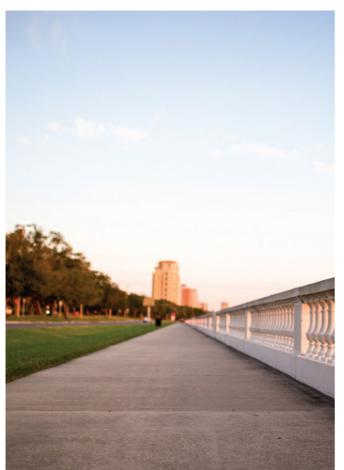


The Riverwalk / © Keir Magoulas / Visit Tampa Bay



You can also take a leisurely trip on foot or by bicycle or scooter along **The Riverwalk**, a wide paved path which runs along the banks of the Hillsborough River, beginning near The Florida Aquarium and passing the Tampa Bay History Center, Amalie Arena, the Tampa Convention Center and MacDill Park. It then goes past Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, the Tampa Museum of Art, Glazer Children's Museum, the David A. Straz Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, and ends near Water Works Park and Spring. If you get a flat tire, take advantage of the walk's two bike repair stations. There's also plenty of signage along the walk to guide you.S

Just south of downtown, peddle bayside on the **Davis Islands Trail**, beginning at Channel Drive and ending at Severn Boulevard near a seaplane basin next to Peter O. Knight Airport.



Bayshore Boulevard Linear Park / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

Fishing The waters of Hillsborough County yield bass, bream and perch. **Lake Thonotosassa**, northeast via SR 582, attracts freshwater fishing enthusiasts, and the docks off **Davis Islands** offer ample casting sites.

The central **Gulf Coast** offers some of the best saltwater fishing in the state. Boats can be chartered for inshore and offshore saltwater and freshwater fishing at **Clearwater Beach** and in other coastal communities.

In March and April, the Gulf of Mexico yields grouper, amberjack and king mackerel; in May and June, it's red snapper season. In November and December, head to the coast for gag grouper.

If you plan to fish on your vacation, freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses are sold at tackle shops, sporting goods and discount department stores and the county tax collector's office; phone (813) 635-5200 for information.

Golf With dozens of golf courses to choose from and weather that allows for year-round play, the Tampa Bay area is a true golfer's paradise and a great place to find things to do with friends. Some of the public and semiprivate courses include Babe Zaharias, 11412 Forest Hills Dr., (813) 631-4374; Bloomingdale Golfers Club, 4113 Great Golfers Pl. in Valrico, (813) 685-4105; The Claw at USF, 13801 N. 46th St., (813) 632-6893; Heritage Harbor, 19502 Heritage Harbor Pkwy. in Lutz, (813) 949-4886; Lake Jovita, 12900 Lake Jovita Blvd. in Dade City, (352) 588-9200 or (877) 481-2652; **Northdale**, 4417 Northdale Blvd., (813) 962-0428; Pebble Creek, 10550 Regents Park Dr., (813) 973-3870; Rocky Point, 4151 Dana Shores Dr., (813) 673-4316; Rogers Park, 7910 N. 30th St., (813) 356-1670; Saddlebrook, 5700 Saddlebrook Way in Wesley Chapel, (813) 973-1111 or (800) 729-8383; **TPC Tampa Bay,** 5300 W. Lutz Lake Fern Rd. in Lutz, (813) 949-0090 or (866) 752-9872; and Westchase, 11602 Westchase Golf Dr., (813) 854-2331.

Hot Air Ballooning Tampa has its fair share of things for couples to do, as well. A champagne brunch accompanies hot air balloon flights that take off at sunrise and offer breathtaking views of the Tampa Bay area. For fares, flight schedules and departure locations phone Big Red Balloon Sightseeing Adventures, (813) 969-1518. You can also take to the skies with American Balloons in Land O' Lakes or Celebration Aviation; phone (813) 243-9507 and (813) 884-5610 respectively.

Jogging and Walking unny weather encourages both visitors and locals to enjoy the outdoors. Four walking trails with a combined distance of 7.3 miles wind through scenic hardwood hammocks at Hillsborough River State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart) about 12 miles northeast to 15402 US 301 N.; phone (813) 987-6771.

For a sweeping view of Hillsborough Bay, nothing beats the 4.5-mile **Bayshore Boulevard Linear Park**, which begins at Columbus Statue Park and ends at Gandy Boulevard. The 10-foot-wide sidewalk is peppered with fitness stations along the way, and chances are you'll spot manatees and dolphins in the bay. On the opposite side of the street, you'll see Hyde Park's beautiful million-dollar homes.

In downtown Tampa, the **Riverwalk** runs alongside the Hillsborough River and passes numerous attractions, local restaurants, parks and hotels. The 2.5-mile walkway is open to pedestrians and runners.

Pound the asphalt on the 12-mile **Upper Tampa Bay Area Trail** in northwest Hillsborough County. The partially shaded trail begins at Memorial Highway and Montague Street with the northern terminus at Suncoast Parkway and W. Lutz Lake Fern Road; there are several water kiosks and benches on the trail. Phone (813) 801-6729 for a map and more information.

Commune with nature at **Sydney Dover Equestrian Trails**, 535 N. Dover Rd. in Apollo Beach, where you might be joined by hikers, runners, cyclists and horseback riders on 7.5 miles of smooth, wide grass and sand trails; phone (813) 757-3802.

Tennis The city-operated tennis facility at Hillsborough Community College, 4001 W. Tampa Bay Blvd., has 41 hard and clay courts; phone (813) 348-1173. There are eight lighted clay courts at the Sandra W. Freedman Tennis Complex, 59 Columbia Dr. on Davis Islands just south of downtown Tampa; phone (813) 259-1664. Cal Dickson Tennis Center, 4000 Watrous Ave. has eight courts open to the public; phone (813) 259-1893. For a complete list of playing courts, phone Tampa Parks and Recreation Department at (813) 274-8615.

Water Sports While there are two public beaches on the Tampa side of the bay—Ben T. Davis Beach, 7740 Courtney Campbell Causeway (SR 60) near the airport, and Picnic Island Park, 7409 Picnic Island Blvd. near Port Tampa—it's the Gulf beaches that draw lovers of water sports. Favorites are Caladesi Island State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), Clearwater Beach (see place listing p. 52), Fort De Soto Park (see Recreation Areas Chart) and St. Pete Beach (see place listing p. 279).

Hillsborough County parks also offer aquatic variety. Swimmers can dip into refreshing 72-degree spring water year-round at **Lithia Springs Regional Park**, 3932 Lithia Springs Rd. (see Recreation Areas Chart); phone (813) 744-5572. The springs feed the **Alafia River**, the county's most popular canoeing destination; launches are available in Lithia Springs Regional Park and in **Alderman's**

Ford Regional Park, off CR 39 near Lithia at 9625 Canoe Launch Rd.; phone (813) 757-3801.

Picnic Island Park, 7409 Picnic Island Blvd., near the original encampment of Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War, beckons boaters, swimmers, picnickers and anglers to its beach, pier and bay waters. The park is south of the Gandy Bridge (US 92) near MacDill Air Force Base and is accessible via Commerce Street; phone (813) 274-8615.

John Chesnut Sr. Park, 2200 E. Lake Rd. in Palm Harbor, accesses 5-mile-long Lake Tarpon; it allows motorized boats and is popular with water-skiers and users of personal watercraft. There's also a canoe trail (for non-motorized boats only), an elevated boardwalk that leads to a lookout tower, a dog park and playgrounds. Swimming is prohibited.

Paddle a rented canoe or kayak on Class II rapids at Hillsborough River State Park, 15402 N. US 301, or bask in the sun on the poolside lawn and cool off in the 1/2-acre swimming pool. Catch some bass, bream and catfish in the river, or just gaze at the bucolic view from a 1938 suspension bridge; phone (813) 987-6771 for information.

Other Diversions For enthusiasts of trapshooting (a type of clay pigeon shooting), the Tampa Bay Sporting Clays, 10514 Ehren Cutoff in Land O' Lakes, offers 260 acres of courses through palmetto and pine woods with one five-stand sporting clay and three wireless eight-station courses. There's also a 3D stationary archery course with 15 stations; phone (813) 929-6200.

Performing Arts

Tampa's spectrum of performing arts encompasses blockbuster Broadway musicals, symphony and chamber music concerts, children's shows and holiday spectaculars. Its keystone is the 335,000-square-foot **David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts,** the largest facility of its kind south of Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center. On the east bank of the Hillsborough River in downtown, the center plays host to a great variety of cultural things to do at its venues: the 2,610-seat **Carol Morsani Hall;** 1,042-seat **Ferguson Hall;** 268-seat **Jaeb Theater;** and 130-seat **Shimberg Playhouse.** Phone (813) 229-7827 or (800) 955-1045 for schedule, ticket information and group travel accomodations regarding each of these venues.

The MIDFLORIDA Credit Union Amphitheatre welcomes 20,000 visitors for big name acts. Featuring both a lawn and covered seats, the venue hosts events and performances just the Florida State Fairgrounds at 4802 US Hwy. 301. Phone (813) 740-2446.

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To learn about all the great things to do this weekend, grab a free copy of *Creative Loafing*, or the *Tampa Bay Times*, which are available throughout the city. The publications are filled with local news features; sections on where to eat, theater, film and music; and listings of upcoming events.

Film Downtown's 1,500-seat Tampa Theatre, a restored 1926 movie palace at 711 N. Franklin St., is a great spot to catch foreign films, cult movies, Hollywood classics and occasional concerts, especially if you're looking for unique things to do as a couple. Tours of the historic building also are offered; phone (813) 274-8981.

Music A full season of symphonic presentations is brought to the area by the **Florida Orchestra Inc.** and by local dance companies. Performances take place at David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts; phone (727) 892-3337 or (800) 662-7286 for ticket and schedule information.

Works for voice are presented by the **Master Chorale** of Tampa Bay, (813) 974-7726 and Tampa Oratorio Singers, (813) 666-5942. Performance locations vary.

Theater Broadway and off-Broadway theater plays are a big hit. **The Carrollwood Players**, 4333 Gunn Hwy. is a little-theater group presenting a variety of productions; phone (813) 265-4000. Comedies, musical revues and stage readings are offered at **The Gorilla Theatre**, 4419 N. Hubert Ave.; phone (813) 879-2914.

David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts' Shimberg Playhouse features local performing companies and improvisational groups, and the cozy Jaeb Theater presents plays and cabaret shows. The **Broadway** series brings the best of Broadway to Carol Morsani Hall. Phone the performing arts center at (813) 229-7827 before your trip.

INSIDER INFO: CityPASS

If you're looking for the best things to do in Tampa Bay, you'll love the savings, simplicity and convenience of the Tampa Bay CityPASS. The CityPASS ticket includes discounted prepaid admission to Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, the Florida Aquarium, and Zoo Tampa at Lowry Park. Plus, your choice of **two** more attractions from the following: The Tropics Boat Tours Dolphin or Sunset Cruise, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Museum of Science & Industry, or the Glazier Children's Museum. These attractions may already be on your list of things to do in Tampa, so take advantage of the savings when you're planning family or group travel to this destination city.

The Tampa Bay CityPASS tickets will save visitors upwards of 50 percent compared to purchasing individual tickets to the included attractions. CityPASS tickets may

be purchased <u>here</u>, at CityPASS.com and at some participating attractions and are valid for 9 consecutive days starting with and including the first day of use. Credit cards accepted vary with the vendor. Visit citypass.com for more information or to purchase.

Note: Reservations may be required or recommended at some attractions. Please check for updated attraction reservation information before you visit.



Explore Things To Do, visit AAA.com/tripcanvas

AMERICAN VICTORY MARINERS MEMORIAL & MUSEUM SHIP is at 705 Channelside Dr. Berth #271. The memorial, an operational World War II-era military cargo ship named the SS American Victory, is dedicated to those who built, served aboard and protected American merchant vessels. Completed in 1945, the ship served many roles in its history, such as delivering supplies to help rebuild Europe. Visitors can tour a variety of rooms and decks.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (813) 228-8766.

BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA BAY is at 10165 N. McKinley Dr., 2 mi. e. of jct. I-275 at the Busch Blvd exit or 2 mi. w. of I-75 at eit 265. The 335-acre adventure park features thrilling rides, live shows, shopping, dining and a major zoo with thousands of animals.

The newest ride, the Serengeti Flyer, allows guest to be seated back-to-back across two gondolas and reaches speeds of 68 mph and a maximum height of 135 feet at the ride's peak.

Tigris, a launch coaster, catapults riders forwards and backwards through twists, drops and rolls at top speeds of over 60 miles-per-hour. If you are looking for something faster, try the new Iron Gwazi reaching top speeds of 76 miles-per-hour with a 206 foot peak.

Cobra's Curse, a spin coaster for the whole family, features a vertical lift 70 feet high and a roller coaster that spins in different directions at 40 mph while a gigantic snake king stares you down.

Dive face down on a 335-foot drop tower, Falcon's Fury. At the thrill ride's highest point, riders pivot 90 degrees in midair to a face-down dive position. An instant later, they plunge straight down at 60 miles per hour.

Visitors watch in awe as cheetahs sprint across the plains of Cheetah Run. The hair-raising launch coaster Cheetah Hunt simulates a cheetah in pursuit of prey.

Jungala is a village nestled among towering trees where visitors can explore a three-story playland, soar on a zipline adventure, be launched into the sky from inside a 35-foot waterfall, connect up-close with orangutans and engage in a tug-of-war with a tiger.

SheiKra, one of several heart-pounding roller coasters, is a floorless dive coaster that sends riders 200 feet up, then 90 degrees down. Among the kid-friendly attractions in the Sesame Street Safari of Fun area are Elmo's Tree-house Trek, Bert & Ernie's Watering Hole, the Air Grover coaster, the Zoe-patra & the Hippos of the Nile flume ride and The Count's Zambezi Rally car ride.

Edge of Africa offers a walking safari with hippos, lions, meerkats, vultures, Nile crocodiles and lemurs living in naturalistic habitats, remote encampments and African villages.

Myombe Reserve visitors can see lowland gorillas and chimpanzees in a naturalistic setting. The Serengeti Safari Tour takes riders through 65 acres and herds of freeroaming giraffes, zebras, rhinos, antelopes and ostriches. Kennels, strollers, wheelchairs and lockers can be rented. Allow a full day.

Phone: (813) 884-4386. GT (**)

THE FLORIDA AQUARIUM, 701 Channelside Dr. on the downtown waterfront, is a 20,000-square-foot aquarium with themed areas featuring more than 9,000 aquatic creatures.

Hike through the aquarium's Wetlands of Florida and view alligators, otters and several species of free flying birds. See a Burmese python and learn why this highly invasive species poses such a threat to Florida's native wildlife. The habitat is designed to simulate Florida's outdoor wetlands environment in an indoor setting.

Moon Bay allows visitors to get up close to moon jellies (jellyfish). Visit a species that's been around for more than 500 million years as they drift gracefully through the water, bodies illuminated by the changing colored lights built into their 2,000-gallon habitat.

View colorful live coral from the Indian Ocean along with several species of fish at the Journey to Madagascar. Also see chameleons, frogs, geckos and ring-tailed lemurs at this tree-house themed exhibit.

Waves of Wonder features a variety of aquatic species such as clownfish, moon jellies and a giant Pacific octopus. The 100,000-gallon Heart of the Sea exhibit offers guests a unique look into the aquarium's conservation efforts to protect and restore our blue planet and features several diverse species including bonnethead sharks, a nurse Shark, a loggerhead sea turtle, a green sea turtle and southern stingrays.

The rainforest themed Splash Pad offers both wet and dry play areas for younger guests to explore. Climb, slide and navigate through this outdoor play area and get drenched by dump buckets, showers and waterworks at the splash zone. Outside and next to the Splash Pad you will find the new African Penguins exhibit.

The 4Ducks Theater experience combines a 15-minute, 3-D film with various sensory effects built into the seats and the theater itself. Added effects include bubbles, FX lighting, mist, snow, wind, various scents and vibrating seats.

Phone: (813) 273-4000. GT



The Florida Aquarium / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

FLORIDA MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS, 400 N. Ashley Dr., is on the second and third floors of a stunning six-story glass building called the Cube, which displays photographic images on its facade. The museum collects, preserves and exhibits historic and contemporary works by nationally and internationally known photographic artists. Previous exhibitions have included work from world-renowned photographers such as Gohar Dashti, Vivian Maier and Jerry Uelsmann.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (813) 221-2222. $\overline{\text{GT}}$

GLAZER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM is off I-275 exit 44, then .5 mi. s.e. on Ashley Dr. N. at jct. W. Cass St. to 110 W. Gasparilla Plaza. In this three-story, 53,000-square-foot interactive museum, with 170 interactive exhibits, children follow the cycle of a water drop, captain a cruise



Florida Museum of Photographic Arts / Courtesy of Visit Tampa Bay

ship, build a fort, design a house, dress like a firefighter, play a veterinarian, create art in various forms and explore engineering marvels. A play space for toddlers also is available.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (813) 443-3861.

J.C. NEWMAN CIGAR CO., 2701 Sixteenth Ave., is not only the last cigar factory in Ybor City but also the last operational one in the nation. Visit the museum and take the guided tour to learn how they have been making cigars since 1895. Phone: (813) 248-2124. GT

MOSI (MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY), 4801 E. Fowler Ave., contains more than 100 hands-on activities and demonstrations pertaining to science, technology, space, health and weather. Exhibits include Mission: Moonbase, featuring a simulated lunar colony; Idea Zone, a makerspace with robotics, 3D printing and prototyping; Connectus, which focuses on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) careers; and Dinovations Lab, which explores paleontology.

The multilevel Sky Trail Ropes Course dares you to defy gravity and your fears while testing your balance and dexterity. Make your way through the challenging ropes course that includes swinging steps, balance beams and trembling bridges 12 to 36 feet above ground level. The center also features Saunders Planetarium.

Note: Visitors are required to sign a release of liability before climbing the Sky Trail Ropes Course; clothing, height and weight restrictions apply. Open-toed shoes are not permitted on the Sky Trail; guests 42-47 inches tall must climb with an adult. Phone ahead for more details. Sky Trail Ropes Course Fri.-Sun. Additional fee required. Phone: (813) 987-6000.

TAMPA BAY HISTORY CENTER, 801 Old Water St., interprets 12,000 years of Florida's history. Topics include Florida's first people, maritime activities, conquistadors, pirates, shipwrecks, and the cigar and cattle industries. Three floors of exhibits focus on the Gulf Coast, from prehistoric times to the present through artifacts, artwork, textiles, documents and furniture. Collections include more than 100 rare shipwreck artifacts recovered from Florida waters along with tools, clothing and ceremonial items from the Seminole Indians. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (813) 228-0097.

TAMPA MUSEUM OF ART, 120 W. Gasparilla Plaza in Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, displays permanent and major traveling exhibitions with a focus on modern and

contemporary art. The 66,000-square-foot building is encased in perforated aluminum panels accented by Leo Villareal's "Sky," an LED light display. Permanent collections include Greek and Roman antiquities as well as contemporary art in such mediums as oil paintings, lithographs, photography and sculpture. The museum faces the Hillsborough River with a view of the University of Tampa's minarets.

Phone: (813) 274-8130.

TAMPA POLICE MUSEUM, 411 N. Franklin St., houses law enforcement equipment, vehicles, uniforms and memorabilia. One section documents the pursuit and capture of notorious criminals. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (813) 276-3258.

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA, 401 W. Kennedy Blvd., was established in 1931 and serves approximately 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Encompassing 110 riverfront acres, the modern and historic downtown campus centers around Plant Hall, the former Tampa Bay Hotel. The Victorian-style building exemplifies Moorish revival architecture with minarets, domes and cupolas. The hotel was built in 1891 by transportation magnate Henry B. Plant, who was instrumental in the reconstruction of the South. The non-denominational Sykes Chapel and Center for Faith and Values, built in 2010, features a built-in Dobson pipe organ.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (813) 253-6211 for campus tours. **GT**

Henry B. Plant Museum is housed in the south wing of Plant Hall at 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. Built in 1891 as the luxurious Tampa Bay Hotel by Henry Bradley Plant, a wealthy railroad magnate, the museum displays the Moorish Revival-style building's original collection of decorative arts and furnishings from the Gilded Age. The hotel, made of red brick and topped with stainless steel minarets and domes, cost \$3,000,000 to build; the price includes much of the Victorian decor purchased by Plant and his wife during trips to Europe.

Hotel guests included Theodore Roosevelt, Babe Ruth, actress Sarah Bernhardt, author Stephen Crane and composer John Philip Sousa. Edison carbon filament light bulbs are the only lights used throughout the museum so that visitors may experience the hotel much like its original visitors. Exhibits are housed in 14 former guestrooms and re-create the first-class accommodations and activities of 1891.

A 14-minute video presentation highlights Tampa's Victorian-era lifestyle and tourism, and a live stage performance features character vignettes of the hotel's staff

and guests. The 45-minute self-guiding audio tour features oral histories, commentary, music and sound effects. Guided tours for 10 are more are available Jan-Oct for an additional fee.

Strollers, backpacks and large bags are not permitted. Closed Monday. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (813) 254-1891. **GT**

YBOR CITY is bounded n. by 12th Ave., s. by Adamo Dr., e. by 26th St. and w. by Nebraska Ave. Ybor City was established by Don Vicente Martinez Ybor in 1886. Ybor moved his Key West cigar manufacturing business to the Tampa area to escape political and labor unrest resulting from the Cuban Freedom Movement. It soon became the Cigar Capital of the World, producing millions of cigars each year. By the 1960s, the cigar industry had waned, primarily due to the Cuban tobacco embargo.

The city is a busy entertainment district with strong Latin influences in music, food and culture. The historic district features cigar factories, shops and restaurants on brick streets lined with globe lampposts. Guided walking tours are available for a fee through Ybor City Museum State Park (see attraction listing). Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (813) 241-8838 for Ybor City Visitor Information Center. GT

Ybor Chamber Visitor Information Center is at 1600 E. Eighth Ave., Suite B-104. Located within Tampa's historic cigar-manufacturing district, the center features cigar trade exhibits and a 7-minute video tracing the area's transformation from quiet swampland to bustling city. Maps for self-guiding walking tours are available. Time: Allow 15 minutes minimum. Phone: (813) 241-8838.

Ybor City Museum State Park, 3 blks. s. of I-4 exit 1 at 1818 E. Ninth Ave., is in a former bakery with huge brick ovens still intact. Displays depict Ybor City's founding by Don Vicente Martinez Ybor as well as the cigar industry, which brought many nationalities to Tampa. An 1895 cigar worker's cottage (La Casita) furnished in period is open by guided tour. Walking tours of Ybor City also are offered; reservations are required. A garden features statues, a fountain and picnic tables.

Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (813) 247-6323. $\overline{\text{GT}}$

ZOOTAMPA AT LOWRY PARK, 1101 W. Sligh Ave., features iconic Florida species and wildlife from around the world. In Africa, see animals such as okapi, pygmy hippos, African elephants and white rhinos. An adorable colony of African penguins show off their expert swimming skills in a beach-themed habitat.

Feel the rush on the family-friendly water ride Roaring Springs. Trek to discover endangered Florida wildlife, then

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board a boat for a journey along a flowing stream and thrill to the roar of a three-story splashdown. The Florida habitat harbors endangered Florida panthers, owls, red wolves, river otters and manatees. New is the Florida Wilds which is home to rescued animals. In the Asian habitat, revel in the beauty of such rare or endangered species as Malayan tigers, binturong, Malayan tapirs and Komodo dragons.

Wallaroo is an Australian-themed children's area where you can walk just a few footsteps away from wallabies and visit koalas. Kids can cool off in a water play area. Also enjoy the Tasmanian Tiger roller coaster, Boomers' Flyin' Bananas, Overland Express Train, Wild School of Training, animal mingles and keeper chats.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (813) 935-8552. (GT) ("I)

Sightseeing

Driving Tours

With its scenic views of Hillsborough Bay, 4.5-mile-long Bayshore Boulevard is not only a popular walking and exercise area for residents but also a preferred driving destination. Among the beautiful residential neighborhoods to explore are Davis Islands, built on three man-made islands in the 1920s, and historic Hyde Park.

Walking Tours

Take in the sights, explore the local restaurants and delve into the city on foot. The Ybor Chamber Visitor Information Center, 1600 E. Eighth Ave., offers information about guided walking tours of historic Ybor City.

DOWNTOWN TAMPA

Hotels p. 326





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SAVE Hotel. Address: 100 W Kennedy Blvd 33602.

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COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 102 E Cass St 33602. Facility: 141 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























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SAVE Hotel. Address: 513 S Florida Ave 33602.







AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1155 E Kennedy Blvd 33602. Facility: 116 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm.

Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.































AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 211 N Tampa St 33602. Facility: 520 units. 17 stories. interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. **Dining:** 2 restaurants. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub.

exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



































DISTRICT BOOK NOW 813/525-9900





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Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1155 E Kennedy Blvd 33602. Facility: 97 kitchen units, 10 stories, interior corridors, Parking; on-site (fee).

Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

































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Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 905 N Florida Ave 33602. Facility: This historic hotel offers modern décor while maintaining intricately carved ceilings that testify to its former age. Upscale rooms feature wireless chargers, multiple outlets and USB ports. 210 units. 20 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



HOTEL TAMPA RIVERWALK BOOK NOW 813/223-2222





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 200 N Ashley Dr 33602. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 275 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry. Affiliated with A Hilton Hotel.

TO CALL (L) HAND REPORTED / SOME (A) HIS































HYATT HOUSE TAMPA DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 813/616-1234





house™

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World of Hyatt membership!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 325 N Florida Ave 33602. Facility: 115 units, some efficiencies. 4-17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.















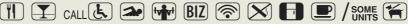
















LE MERIDIEN TAMPA BOOK NOW 813/221-9555



Le MERIDIEN AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 601 N Florida Ave 33602. Facility: Located in the arts/entertainment district, the hotel was previously a federal courthouse. Upscale rooms vary in shape and size and were once judges' chambers, courtrooms and even holding cells. 130 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.























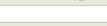












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813/221-4224



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 101 E Tyler St 33602. Facility: 109 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

































THE TAMPA EDITION BOOK NOW 813/221-4600



AAA Benefit: Special member savings plus Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 500 Channelside Dr 33602. Facility: Nestled in the heart of downtown, this hotel will surprise guests with its thriving foliage and many cozy seating areas. A grand staircase leads to the "punch" room for a fun gathering with friends. 172 units, some kitchens. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, also, Lilac, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, exercise room, in-room exercise equipment, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































TAMPA MARRIOTT WATER STREET BOOK NOW 813/221-4900



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 505 Water St 33602. Location: Waterfront. Opposite MARRIOTT Tampa Convention Center. Facility: Anchoring the downtown waterfront, this landmark hotel features striking public areas and impressive views of downtown and the bay. Rooms have an updated style and pleasing tones. 727 units. 27 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes.

Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas. marina. health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service.

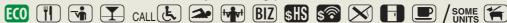


































THE WESTIN TAMPA WATERSIDE BOOK NOW 813/229-5000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 725 S Harbour Island Blvd 33602.

TAMPA

Hotels p. 332
 Restaurants p. 345



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT TAMPA AIRPORT BOOK NOW 813/350-4020





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4020 W Boy Scout Blvd 33607. Facility: 175 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN































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AAA.com/AAAVacations



ALOFT TAMPA MIDTOWN BOOK NOW 813/353-0555





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3650 Midtown Dr 33607. Facility: 111 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms:

check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























COMFORT SUITES TAMPA AIRPORT NORTH BOOK NOW 813/880-8938



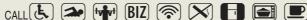


AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5421 W Waters Ave 33634. Facility: 89 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT TAMPA BRANDON BOOK NOW 813/661-9559



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 10152 Palm River Rd 33619.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT TAMPA NORTH I-75 FLETCHER **BOOK NOW** 813/978-9898



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 13575 Cypress Glen Ln 33637.

AAA.com/maps—Dream, plan, go with AAA travel planning tools

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT TAMPA NORTHWEST/VETERANS

EXPRESSWAY BOOK NOW 813/920-2011



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 12730 Citrus Park Ln 33625. Facility: 128 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESTSHORE/AIRPORT BOOK NOW 813/874-0555



COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3805 W Cypress St 33607. Facility: 145 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

































AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2545 Rocky Point Dr 33607.

ELEMENT TAMPA MIDTOWN BOOK NOW 813/353-0600





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 3650 Midtown Dr 33607. Facility: 115 units, some kitchens. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA AIRPORT WESTSHORE

BOOK NOW 813/875-1555



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 555 N Westshore Blvd 33609.



EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA-BRANDON BOOK NOW 813/653-1905











SUITES

by HILTON























EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA- USF/BUSCH GARDENS BOOK NOW 813/977-7066



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3705 Spectrum Blvd 33612.



EPICUREAN HOTEL, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 813/999-8700



AUTOGRAPH AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott

HOTELS

COLLECTION[®] Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Boutique Hotel. Address: 1207 S Howard Ave 33606. Facility: Located

in the old Hyde Park area, the hotel features impressive décor infused with epicurean accents that is sure to draw your attention. Inviting rooms offer cozy accommodations. 180 units, some kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool:

heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



















AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points

















FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT-BRANDON/TAMPA **BOOK NOW** 813/661-9719





Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESTSHORE/AIRPORT BOOK NOW 813/872-0044



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Fairfield Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2215 N Lois Ave 33607. Facility: 129 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.

























FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON TAMPA AIRPORT WESTSHORE

BOOK NOW

813/873-8675



FOUR AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4400 W Cypress St 33607. Facility: 261 units. 8 stories, BY SHERATON interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area

































GRAND HYATT TAMPA BAY BOOK NOW 813/874-1234





GRAND HYATT AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2900 Bayport Dr 33607. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Next to a protected salt marsh, this hotel is spread across 35 acres of lushly landscaped grounds overlooking Old Tampa Bay. Rooms types vary, but all offer either city or bay views. 442 kitchen units. 13 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: Oystercatchers Restaurant, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: self-propelled boats, tennis, bicycles, game room, lawn sports, trails, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA AIRPORT AVION PARK

WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/287-8500





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 5329 Avion Park Dr 33607. Facility: 178 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 3333 E Busch Blvd 33612.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES TAMPA RIVERVIEW BRANDON **BOOK NOW** 813/497-4590



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 10240 Causeway Blvd 33619.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON TAMPA-INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT/WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/287-0778



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4817 W Laurel St 33607.

HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA AIRPORT/WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/289-2700





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors Garden Inn points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5312 Avion Park Dr 33607. Facility: 171 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





































HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA EAST/BRANDON BOOK NOW 813/626-6700



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

(SAVE) Hotel. Address: 10309 Highland Manor Dr 33610.

HILTON TAMPA AIRPORT WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/877-6688





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2225 N Lois Ave 33607. Facility: 238 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: tennis, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





























HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES TAMPA EAST-YBOR CITY

BOOK NOW

813/533-0400

Hotel. Address: 2520 N 50th St 33619.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES

TAMPA-FAIRGROUNDS-CASINO BOOK NOW 813/490-1000



Hotel. Address: 8610 Elm Fair Blvd 33610.



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES

BOOK NOW

813/287-8585

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Hotel. Address: 3025 N Rocky Point Dr 33607.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES 813/910-7171 **BOOK NOW**

Hotel. Address: 8310 Galbraith Rd 33647.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN



HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL & SUITES USF BUSCH

GARDENS

BOOK NOW

813/936-8200



Hotel, Address: 2807 E Busch Blvd 33612.



7 HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON BRANDON TAMPA

BOOK NOW

813/612-5950





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 10323 Palm River Rd 33619. Facility: 125 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin



























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA USF/BUSCH GARDENS

BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11606 N McKinley Dr 33612.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA WESTSHORE AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 813/284-0568



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5222 W Laurel St 33607.



HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA WESTSHORE

BOOK NOW 813/282-1950



HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5325 Avion Park Dr 33607. Facility: 144 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



































HOTEL ALBA TAMPA, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY HILTON BOOK NOW 813/289-1950



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 5303 W Kennedy Blvd 33609.



HOTEL SUITES SOUTH TAMPA BOOK NOW 813/832-4656



Motel. Address: 3314 S Dale Mabry Hwy 33629.



HYATT HOUSE TAMPA AIRPORT WESTSHORE

BOOK NOW 813/207-9500





Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their

World of Hyatt membership!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 5308 Avion Park Dr 33607. Facility: 145 units, some efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



















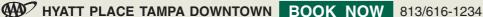














HYATT PLACE AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hvatt Place/Hvatt House with their World of Hvatt membership!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 325 N Florida Ave 33602. Facility: 230 units. 4-17 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



































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JW MARRIOTT TAMPA WATER STREET BOOK NOW 813/221-4950





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

JW MARRIOTT Contemporary Hotel. Address: 510 Water St 33602. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Ideally located downtown next to the Amalie

Arena and the river walk, this impressive luxury hotel has contemporary rooms, a trendy lobby area and an inviting pool area with cabanas. 519 units. 19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, cabanas, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service.































MARRIOTT TAMPA WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/287-2555





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1001 N Westshore Blvd 33607. Facility: 310 units. 13 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

































QUALITY INN AIRPORT CRUISE PORT BOOK NOW 813/254-3005

Motel. Address: 1020 S Dale Mabry Hwy 33629. Facility: 74 units. 2 stories (no

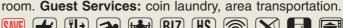


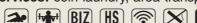






















elevator), exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise







RENAISSANCE TAMPA INTERNATIONAL PLAZA HOTEL BOOK NOW 813/877-9200



RENAISSANCE® HOTELS

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Boutique Hotel. Address: 4200 Jim Walter Blvd 33607. Facility: Located next to the International Plaza, the unique hotel has guest rooms that vary in size and are elegantly decorated in slate gray and tan tones. The cozy lobby offers a lot of comfortable seating, 293 cottages, 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























PARK/BRANDON **BOOK NOW**

813/627-8855



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 9719 Princess Palm Ave 33619. Facility: 102 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESTSHORE BOOK NOW 813/877-7988



Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4312 W Boy Scout Blvd 33607. Facility: 160 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 8 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

































SAILPORT WATERFRONT SUITES ON TAMPA BAY BOOK NOW 813/281-9599





Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 2506 Rocky Point Dr 33607. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Set on Old Tampa Bay, this property offers one and two-bedroom fully equipped condos with a living room. Guests enjoy spectacular views of the bay from a private balconies. 192 condominiums. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: fishing, lawn sports, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO TAMPA BOOK NOW 813/627-7625

OUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 5223 N Orient Rd 33610.



SHERATON TAMPA BRANDON BOOK NOW 813/623-6363



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

 $\mathsf{SHERATON}$ Hotel. **Address:** 10221 Princess Palm Ave 33610. **Facility:** 266 units. 5

stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Pool:** heated outdoor.

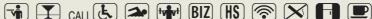
Activities: tennis, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

































SLEEP INN & SUITES TAMPA SOUTH BOOK NOW 813/831-4020



Hotel. Address: 6231 S Dale Mabry Hwy 33611.

AAA Car Battery Service. Delivered & Installed on the Spot!

aaa.com/autorepair/carbatterysolutions







SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA NORTH/TAMPA

BOOK NOW 813/558-0300



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 5396 Primrose Lake Cir 33647. Facility: 127 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA/WESTSHORE AIRPORT BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4835 W Cypress St 33607.



TAMPA AIRPORT MARRIOTT BOOK NOW 813/879-5151





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4200 George J Bean Pkwy 33607. Facility: 298 units. 8 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, luggage security pick-up.

































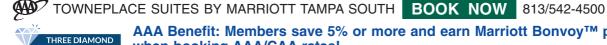


TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA CASINO AREA BOOK NOW 813/678-2500



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[SAVE] Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 6202 E Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd 33619.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4505 S Dale Mabry Hwy 33611.

TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESTSHORE/AIRPORT

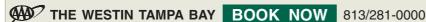
BOOK NOW

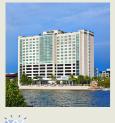
813/282-1081



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

[MVE] [fyi] Extended Stay Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 5302 Avion Park Dr 33607. Facility: 122 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 7627 W Courtney Campbell Cswy 33607. Location: Waterfront. Facility: The hotel is located on the waterfront and is only a short drive to downtown Tampa, sports and concert venues and museums. Guest rooms offer fabulous views of Tampa Bay. 252 units, some efficiencies. 16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Activities: motor boats, self-propelled boats, bicycles, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























THE WESTSHORE GRAND, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO HOTEL

BOOK NOW



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4860 W Kennedy Blvd 33609.

WHERE TO EAT



LILAC 813/771-8022



Mediterranean Fine Dining. Address: 500 Channelside Dr 33602.



OYSTERCATCHERS RESTAURANT 813/207-6815



Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 2900 Bayport Dr 33607.

TARPON SPRINGS

Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Tarpon Springs became an important center for sponge diving when Greek divers came to the area in the early 1900s. Although the industry has diminished, the Greek influence still is evident in the remaining historic Sponge Dock area, where natural sponges, shops and a variety of ethnic restaurants and bakeries are plentiful. Spongediving exhibitions, scenic cruises and deep-sea fishing charters are available from the dock area.

Spring Bayou, one block west of downtown, is home to manatees and dolphins in winter and the site where men dive for the cross during the Epiphany Celebration in January. Nearby Crescent Circle features lovely Victorian homes. The Tarpon Springs Heritage Museum, 100 Beekman Ln. in Craig Park, features a variety of items pertaining to the Victorian era as well as a video presentation about the history of the sponge-diving industry; phone (727) 937-0686.

A replica of St. Sophia's in Constantinople, the 1943 St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, at the corner of Pinellas Avenue (US 19A) and Orange Street, is the center of colorful pageantry during Greek festivals; phone (727) 937-3540. St. Michael Shrine at 113 Hope St. reflects the Greek culture through its artwork and murals.

The Safford House, at 23 Parkin Ct., was home to Anson Safford and his family. Safford was one of the city's founders. His sister, Mary Jane, was the first practicing female physician in Florida; phone (727) 937-1130.

Tarpon Springs also offers two sandy beaches on the Gulf of Mexico: Fred Howard Park, 1700 Sunset Dr.; and Sunset Beach, 1800 Gulf Rd.

Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce: 1 N. Pinellas Ave., Tarpon Springs, FL 34689. **Phone:** (727) 937-6109.

Shopping: More than 100 gift shops and homespun Greek eateries dot the historic Sponge Docks area; you'll find most establishments on Dodecanese Boulevard and along Athens Street. Munch on sticky baklava chunks as you putter past tour boat operators bellowing the latest cruise times and neat sale racks displaying sandals of every color and dimension. Along with a myriad of seaharvested products, including loofahs and natural sponges, local businesses proffer a variety of keepsakes—from shell jewelry and safari hats to tropical wind chimes and hand-rolled cigars. Break up your afternoon of Florida kitsch by visiting Tarpon Springs' historic downtown, home to a handful of antiques dealers operating on Tarpon Avenue.

BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER is at 3940 Keystone Rd. The 25,000-square-foot center features permanent exhibits focusing on natural Florida and local history, while temporary displays include art. Guided hikes, programs and workshops are available year-round. Boardwalks and a network of nature trails provide bird-watching opportunities. Sightings include deer, turkey and gopher tortoises. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (727) 453-6800.

LEEPA-RATTNER MUSEUM OF ART is at 600 Klosterman Rd. Located on the Tarpon Springs campus of St. Petersburg College, the museum features modern works of art by Allen Leepa, Abraham Rattner, Esther Gentle and their contemporaries, including Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Georges Rouault and Max Ernst. Contemporary pieces by Florida and southeastern artists also are featured. The Challenge of Art Interactive Gallery includes hands-on activities. Changing exhibitions also are offered.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (727) 712-5762. GT

SUN LINE CRUISES departs from the sponge docks at 18 and 510 Dodecanese Blvd. Narrated by a trained naturalist, this 2-hour cruise traverses the Anclote River and Gulf of Mexico. Visitors learn about the area's history, local sponging and fishing industries, and wildlife. Sightings may include dolphins, eagles, osprey, herons and a variety of birds in a protected nesting area. The tour includes a 30-minute stop at Anclote Key, where swimming, shelling and wildlife viewing are possible. Binoculars are available on loan throughout the tour. Weekend sunset tours and visits to the Anclote Lighthouse also are offered seasonally.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (727) 944-4468 or (727) 943-2164. **GT**

TAVARES

• Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

With a number of small planes buzzing around Lake Dora, this small community exemplifies "America's Seaplane City," but there's also a hint of the past with a walkable downtown and quaint Tavares Union Station (305 E. Ruby St.).

Alexander St. Clair-Abrams, a New Orleans businessman with ties to newspapers and the railroad, founded and named this small community after a Portuguesee ancestor in 1880. His goal of it becoming the state

capital was not realized, but Tavares did become the county seat of Lake County in 1887.

Hurricane Irma blew through the town Sept. 10, 2017, and destroyed the marina and seaplane base; seaplanes are lining up along temporary docks on Lake Dora. Note: A new marina and seaplane base (150 E. Ruby St.) is

scheduled to open late 2020; phone (352) 742-6267 for more information.

Wooton Park, 100 E. Ruby St., is along the shores of Lake Dora and the site of many community events. Open daily dawn-dusk, it features docks, a fishing pier, playground and seaplane-themed splash pad (April through September); phone (352) 742-6267.

TEMPLE TERRACE

- Hotels p. 347
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305



HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA NORTH BOOK NOW 813/342-5000

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 13305 Tampa Oaks Blvd 33637.





AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 13420 N Telecom Pkwy 33637.

THE VILLAGES

• Hotels p. 347

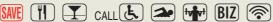
BROWNWOOD HOTEL & SPA BOOK NOW 352/626-1246



Boutique Hotel. Address: 3003 Brownwood Blvd 32163. Facility: The impressive hotel features a notable "Florida Cowboy" theme. Rooms offer upscale, unique décor, and suites feature luxurious claw foot tubs. 151 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room, spa.































HAMPTON INN & SUITES-THE VILLAGES BOOK NOW 352/259-8246





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 11727 NE 63rd Dr 32162. Facility: 82 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: coin laundry.































Hotel. Address: 1105 Lakeshore Dr 32162. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 116 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry. SAVE (YI) 🕎 🗻 🙌 (BIZ) (HS) 🤝 🔀 🗐 🖃 🕒 / SOME 🕌





























THONOTOSASSA

• Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

Fort Foster, on the Hillsborough River in nearby Hillsborough River State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart). was used as a battle post and supply depot during the Second Seminole War. Abandoned in 1838 because of disease and the miserable, damp conditions, the fort and the bridge it guarded have been reconstructed on the original site. A tram transports visitors to the fort for a fee. Seasonal guided tours are available (weather permitting); phone (813) 987-6771.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES Canoeina

• Canoe Escape is in John B. Sargeant Park, 12702 US 301, by the Hillsborough River, **Phone:** (813) 986-2067. GT



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TIERRA VERDE

- Hotels p. 349
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282



VERDE BOOK NOW 727/864-4868



Residence IN AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 214 Madonna Blvd 33715. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 95 kitchen units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























TITUSVILLE

Hotels p. 349

Named for founder Col. Henry T. Titus in 1874, Titusville once was a citrus shipping point and commercial fishing port. The establishment of Kennedy Space Center (see place listing p. 113) brought the Space Age—and increased tourism—to this small mainland city.

AMERICAN POLICE HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM, 6350 Horizon Dr., displays more than 10,000 items relating to law enforcement. Exhibits include a mock crime scene, a forensic area and specialty cars. An indoor memorial lists the names of U.S. police officers killed in the line of duty since 1960. A 24-lane shooting range is available. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (321) 264-0911.

VALIANT AIR COMMAND WARBIRD AIR MUSEUM, 6600 Tico Rd. at the Space Coast Regional Airport, following signs, features aviation memorabilia dating from World War I to the present. Exhibits include model planes, uniforms, artifacts and up to 50 vintage warbird aircraft in three restoration and exhibition hangars. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (321) 268-1941.





Motel. Address: 3455 Cheney Hwy 32780. Facility: 129 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.































BOOK NOW CENTER

321/577-1234





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4830 Helen Hauser Blvd 32780. Facility: 122 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT TITUSVILLE KENNEDY SPACE

CENTER

BOOK NOW

321/966-9100



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 6245 Riverfront Center Blvd 32780.



HAMPTON INN TITUSVILLE/I-95 KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

BOOK NOW 321/383-9191



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4760 Helen Hauser Blvd 32780.

HOLIDAY INN TITUSVILLE/KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

BOOK NOW

321/383-0200

Hotel. Address: 4715 Helen Hauser Blvd 32780.



HREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HYATT PLACE TITUSVILLE/KENNEDY SPACE CENTER BOOK NOW



. AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn World of Hyatt points when booking AAA/CAA rates! Members also receive free breakfast at Hyatt Place/Hyatt House with their World of Hyatt membership!

Hotel. Address: 6299 Riverfront Center Blvd 32780. Facility: 110 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT TITUSVILLE/KENNEDY SPACE

BOOK NOW

321/603-0811



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4815 Helen Hauser Blvd 32780.

TREASURE ISLAND

- Hotels p. 351
- Part of St. Petersburg-Clearwater and Beaches area— see map p. 282

Located on a barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico, about 8 miles west of St. Petersburg, Treasure Island offers 4

miles of tranquil beaches for sun worshippers. Those on land can pick up a club or racquet at Treasure Bay Golf and Tennis (10315 Paradise Blvd.). If you want to hit the water, fishing charters are plentiful, and there's paddleboarding and parasailing for thrill seekers. On Gulf Boulevard, 1950s-era motels will delight fans of midcentury architecture.



PAGE TERRACE BEACHFRONT HOTEL

BOOK NOW 727/367-1997



INSPECTED 🕝 CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 10500 Gulf Blvd 33706. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 36 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ST. PETERSBURG TREASURE

ISLAND

BOOK NOW

727/367-2761



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11908 Gulf Blvd 33706.



THE SEA CHEST

BOOK NOW 727/360-5501

APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN Motel. Address: 11780 Gulf Blvd 33706.

SUNSET VISTAS BEACHFRONT SUITES

BOOK NOW 727/360-1600



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 12000 Gulf Blvd 33706.



TREASURE ISLAND BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW

727/322-7022



Resort Hotel. Address: 10800 Gulf Blvd 33706.

WESTWINDS WATERFRONT RESORT

BOOK NOW 727/363-4807



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 10265 Gulf Blvd 33706.

VENICE

Hotels p. 352

As its name implies, Venice has a distinct Mediterranean ambience with Northern Italian influences. The city's location on the Gulf makes it a popular destination for recreation, including boating, fishing, golfing and biking. At Big Bam Bikes, 412 E. Venice Ave., less than a block from the Legacy Trail that ranges from Sarasota to Venice and North Port, e-bike rentals run from \$39 for 2 hours to \$249

weekly; delivery is available for a small fee. Tours in English and Spanish are available by appointment. Phone (941) 240-1717.

Visitors can comb the beaches for fossilized shark teeth, which range in size from one-eighth-inch to 3 inches.

Venice Area Chamber of Commerce: 597 Tamiami Trail S., Venice, FL 34285-2424. Phone: (941) 488-2236.



BEST WESTERN PLUS AMBASSADOR SUITES VENICE BOOK NOW 941/480-9898

















Hotel. Address: 400 Commercial Ct 34292. Facility: 83 units. 3 stories, interior corridors.









FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT VENICE BOOK NOW 941/488-4343



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Fairfield Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 2935 Executive Dr 34292. Facility: 103 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry. SAVE (1) CALL (4) (2) (BIZ) (HS) (S) (X) (1) (E)

























HAMPTON INN & SUITES VENICE BAYSIDE/SOUTH SARASOTA BOOK NOW 941/488-5900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 881 Venetia Bay Blvd 34292.



INN AT THE BEACH BOOK NOW 941/484-8471



Boutique Motel. Address: 725 W Venice Ave 34285.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT VENICE BOOK NOW 941/879-9100



SUITES® MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2986 Executive Dr 34292. Facility: 86 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool:

heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























VERO BEACH

• Hotels p. 354

McKee Botanical Garden, 350 US 1, features orchids, water lilies, palm trees and dense tropical vegetation on the remaining 18 acres of an 80-acre jungle garden created in the 1930s by William Lyman Phillips for northern industrialist Arthur McKee. It was one of Florida's first public gardens; phone (772) 794-0601.

The Vero Beach Museum of Art, 3001 Riverside Park Dr., is home to several galleries focusing on American and International artists; phone (772) 231-0707.

Sebastian Inlet State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), 15 miles north on SR A1A, preserves more than 900 acres of barrier island for recreation and wildlife protection. In addition to 3 miles of beach for swimming, surfing and snorkeling, the park has nature trails and a Volksport walking trail. Interpretive programs and two museums also are available; phone (321) 984-4852.

Indian River County Chamber of Commerce: 1216 21st St., Vero Beach, FL 32960. Phone: (772) 567-3491.



Please refer to pages 12-13 for Inspected Clean details.

354 VERO BEACH, FL

Shopping: Discover a variety of shopping experiences in Vero Beach, a waterfront destination located on the Treasure Coast—so named after the priceless goods a Spanish fleet lost offshore in a 1715 storm. Visitors can find their own treasures in the trendy boutiques and traditional shopping centers at this destination.

Getting a deal on designer items is as easy as going to Vero Beach Outlets (1824 94th Dr.), an open-air outlet mall. Ann Taylor Factory, Nike Factory Outlet and Tommy Hilfiger are among the dozens of brands and retailers onsite. Phone (772) 770-6097.

Indian River Mall (6200 20th St., off SR 60) offers more than 60 stores, food places and services. JCPenney and Dillard's anchor the mall. Phone (772) 770-9404.

Boutiques and one-of-a-kind shops can be found along SR A1A, which has the added benefit of being near the beach with access to waterfront views. The Village Shops features a collection of specialty stores that present fine art, apparel and accessories; phone (772) 231-1066. Head southward to Maus & Hoffman, 981 Beachland Blvd., a longtime family-owned boutique, which sells highend, custom sportswear; phone (772) 226-5028.

MCLARTY TREASURE MUSEUM, 13 mi. n. on SR A1A, is at the s. end of Sebastian Inlet State Park at 13180 SR A1A. The museum's historical displays include artifacts and a diorama of the 1715 Spanish Plate Fleet and the shipwreck salvors' camp, including salvage materials. "The Queens Jewels and the 1715 Fleet," an A&E Channel production, tells the story of the ill-fated journey that was ended by a hurricane off the Florida coast, and the ongoing salvaging operations to recover the treasure. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (772) 589-2147.

COSTA D' ESTE BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 772/562-9919



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 3244 Ocean Dr 32963. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This hotel's location is ideal for shopping, dining or lazy beach days. Rooms are bright & airy, offering high-quality bedding, furnished patios or balconies and huge showers with dual shower heads. 94 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























DISNEY'S VERO BEACH RESORT

BOOK NOW

772/234-2011



Resort Hotel. Address: 9250 Island Grove Terrace 32963.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT VERO BEACH BOOK NOW 772/213-0535

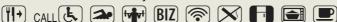


Fairfield AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 9065 Americana Way 32966. Facility: 80 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON VERO BEACH BOOK NOW 772/770-4299





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 9350 19th Ln 32966. Facility: 63 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON VERO BEACH I-95 BOOK NOW 772/410-0770



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 9060 Americana Way 32966.



KIMPTON VERO BEACH HOTEL & SPA BOOK NOW 772/231-5666



Boutique Hotel. Address: 3500 Ocean Dr 32963. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This oceanfront property offers a variety of spacious rooms which all include plush bedding, a wet bar, Jerusalem tile bathroom accents and furnished balconies. 111 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors, Parking; valet only, Terms; check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, beach on-site, self-propelled boats, snorkeling, recreation programs, bicycles, game room, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























SOME (

STAYBRIDGE SUITES VERO BEACH BOOK NOW 772/562-6000



Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 5155 20th St 32966. Facility: 109 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens, 3 stories, interior corridors, Terms; check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest **Services:** complimentary laundry, area transportation.



























WALDO

Hotels p. 356



BEST WESTERN WALDO INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 352/468-2500



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 17230 NE US 301 32694. Facility: 51 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

SAVE (T) CALL (L) (20) (BIZ) (R) (X) (F) (E) (SOME (F)

















WEIRSDALE

THE GRAND OAKS MUSEUM, 3000 Marion County Rd., is located on a 400-acre equestrian-County Rd., is located on a 400-acre equestrianthemed resort tucked into the rolling hills of Florida's horse breeding and training country. The museum displays a painstakingly curated collection of more than 160 restored antique carriages, including an 1850 dress chariot owned by Emperor Franz Josef of Austria; guests can also learn about equine history. The grounds include trails, arenas, an RV park and cottages. Grand Oaks hosts more than 40 events and horse shows featuring hunters, jumpers and dressage each year. Carriage and horseback rides and carriage driving lessons are available.

Note: The museum is under renovation; phone ahead for updates. **Phone:** (352) 750-5500 or (866) 500-2237.

BOOK NOW 813/973-2288

WESLEY CHAPEL

- Hotels p. 356
- Part of Tampa area— see map p. 305

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESLEY

CHAPEL

BOOK NOW 813/536-1818



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2650 Lajuana Blvd 33543.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE) Hotel. Address: 2740 Cypress Ridge Blvd 33544.

HILTON GARDEN INN TAMPA-WESLEY CHAPEL BOOK NOW 813/591-6900



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 26640 Silver Maple Pkwy 33544.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS TAMPA NORTH WESLEY CHAPEL

BOOK NOW

813/803-7899

Hotel. Address: 2775 Cypress Ridge Blvd 33544.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT TAMPA WESLEY CHAPEL

BOOK NOW

833/214-9098



Residence INI AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2867 Lajuana Blvd 33543. Facility: 128 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

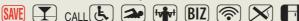






















WEST MELBOURNE

Hotels p. 357



COMFORT INN & SUITES MELBOURNE-VIERA BOOK NOW 321/724-2050





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4510 W New Haven Ave 32904. Facility: 68 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: Some: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON WEST MELBOURNE-PALM BAY

ROAD **BOOK NOW** 321/372-7445



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4520 Durham Dr 32904.





HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MELBOURNE

BOOK NOW 321/956-6200



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 194 Coastal Ln 32904.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES WEST MELBOURNE

BOOK NOW

321/345-4186

Hotel, Address: 2255 Coastal Ln 32904. THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

WILDWOOD

Hotels p. 358





COMFORT INN & SUITES WILDWOOD-THE VILLAGES BOOK NOW

352/748-0507





AAA Benefit: Members save 10% or more and earn Choice Privileges points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 1224 S Main St 34785. Facility: 62 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































BOOK NOW

352/399-6759

Hotel. Address: 928 E State Road 44 34785.



THREE DIAMOND

HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON WILDWOOD THE VILLAGES BOOK NOW

352/913-2100





AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 7555 Penrose Pl 34785. Facility: 96 efficiencies. 4 stories, interior corridors. **Pool:** heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























WINTER GARDEN

- Hotels p. 359
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO

CROSSINGS

BOOK NOW 407/993-9200



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 631 Flagler Ave 34787.



THE GROVE RESORT & WATER PARK ORLANDO BOOK NOW 407/545-7500

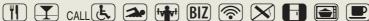


Hotel. Address: 14501 Grove Resort Ave 34787. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 865 kitchen units, some two and three bedrooms. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, cabanas, self-propelled boats, boat dock, fishing, recreation programs, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, area transportation.

























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON BOOK NOW 407/347-8305



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel. Address: 12341 W Colonial Dr 34787.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO

CROSSINGS

BOOK NOW

407/993-3999



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 341 Flagler Ave 34787.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO

CROSSINGS BOOK NOW 407/993-3011



AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 411 Flagler Ave 34787.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO

CROSSINGS

BOOK NOW 407/993-3233



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvov™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2111 Flagler Ave 34787.

SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO CROSSINGS TOWN CENTER/ WESTERN ENTRANCE BOOK NOW 407/507-1200



MARRIOTT

SPRINGHILL SUITES® AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

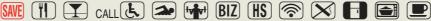
Hotel. Address: 13279 Hartzog Rd 34787. Facility: 248 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT ORLANDO AT FLAMINGO CROSSINGS® TOWN CENTER/ WESTERN ENTRANCE BOOK NOW 407/507-1300



SUITES®-MARRIOTT

TOWNEPLACE AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 13295 Hartzog Rd 34787. Facility: 250 efficiency kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors.

Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED CLEAN

































LET'S GET SOCIAL

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WINTER HAVEN

Hotels p. 361

Winter Haven is surrounded by more than 40 freshwater lakes, many of which are joined by canals to form a navigable chain of lakes ideal for family recreation and water sports such as boating, fishing and skiing.

Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce: 401 Ave. B N.W., Winter Haven, FL 33881. Phone: (863) 293-2138.

LEGOLAND FLORIDA RESORT, 4 mi. w. on SR 540 at ict. US 27 and SR 540 at 1 LEGOLAND Way, offers themed zones on 150 acres with dozens of family-oriented interactive attractions, shows and rides, including rollercoasters and a botanical garden. Some 65 million LEGO bricks were used in the initial construction of the zones, including Miniland USA, which features such miniaturized cities and places as Las Vegas; Washington, D.C.; New York City; Florida, featuring Daytona International Speedway and Kennedy Space Center.

Other zones include the toddler-oriented DUPLO Valley: Fun Town, featuring a 4D theater and carousel; Star Wars: The Force Awakens MINILAND Model Display; medieval-themed LEGO Kingdoms; LEGO Technic, featuring the Great LEGO Race VR coaster and AQUAZONE Wave Racers; Imagination Zone, where guests can build cars and robots from LEGO bricks; Pirates' Cove, a water stunt show; Land of Adventure, where riders take adventurous journeys through a prehistoric jungle and ancient Egypt; LEGO City, a child-sized "town" where kids can drive a LEGO car and receive a LEGOLAND Florida driver's license; Heartlake City, an area based on LEGO Friends. LEGO NINJAGO. THE LEGO® MOVIE™ WORLD is the newest expansion featuring three new rides and numerous attractions, all inspired by the characters and themes of the worldwide blockbuster THE LEGO® MOVIE™ and the exciting big-screen animated adventure sequel THE LEGO® MOVIE™ 2: The Second Part.

Note: Peppa Pig Theme Park, inspired by the animated series for children, is under construction. The area presents six rides, including Daddy Pig's Roller Coaster, as well as a water play area and other interactive attractions; phone ahead for details and passes. Phone: (877) 350-5346. **YI**

LEGOLAND Florida Water Park is 4 mi. w. on SR 540 at jct. US 27 and SR 540 at 1 LEGOLAND 540 at jct. US 27 and SR 540 at 1 LEGOLAND Way. Designed to appeal to younger children, the water park's LEGO-themed offerings include a gentle wave pool and several slides. Build-A-Raft River is a lazy river with soft LEGO bricks that kids can grab from the water and attach to their inner-tube rafts as they float along. DUPLO Splash Safari and Joker Soaker are interactive water playgrounds. Water slides include Splash Out, which has three slides, including one with a 60-foot drop, and Twin Chasers, a 375-foot-long enclosed waterslide.

Phone: (877) 350-5346.

BEST WESTERN PLUS WINTER HAVEN INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 863/268-8001



INSPECTED & CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 5801 Roosevelt Dr 33884. Facility: 97 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



















COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT WINTER HAVEN BOOK NOW 863/292-3000



AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

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SAVE Hotel. Address: 6225 Cypress Gardens Blvd SE 33884.

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Resort Hotel. Address: One LEGOLAND Way 33884. Location: Waterfront. Facility: The LEGO themed hotel is geared toward children ages 2-12. Rooms have a split floor plan so both the children and adults can relax in their own space. The themed rooms are eye catching and popular. 152 two-bedroom units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: miniature golf, recreation programs, trails.



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Resort Hotel. Address: One LEGOLAND Way 33884.

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Hotel. Address: 305 5th St NW 33881.

- Hotels p. 364 Restaurants p. 364
- Part of Orlando area— see map p. 183

Moss-draped oaks line the residential streets of Winter Park, a community of beautiful homes and picturesque lakes. The campus of Rollins College features brick streets and Mediterranean-style buildings on the shores of Lake Virginia; maps for self-guiding tours are available. The small, private college is at the foot of Park Avenue, a popular shopping district with a varied selection of upscale boutiques, galleries and restaurants.

Hannibal Square Heritage Center, 642 W. New England Ave., recounts the settlement of Winter Park's African American community with oral histories, photographs, art displays and artifacts; phone (407) 539-2680.

Winter Park Chamber of Commerce: 151 W. Lyman Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789. **Phone:** (407) 644-8281 or (877) 972-4282.

Shopping: On Saturday mornings, make a beeline to the Winter Park Farmers Market, 200 W. New England Ave., for fresh local produce, pastries, plants and cheeses. Head one block east to Park Avenue for an assortment of shops, galleries and restaurants with a European feel. Writer's Block Bookstore, 316 N. Park Ave., is a 1,700-square-foot indie bookstore featuring a curated selection of titles for kids and adults as well as book clubs and author events. Phone (407) 335-4192.

Winter Park Village is just a short drive from Park Avenue and features shops such as LOFT, Pier I Imports and White House Black Market, along with several restaurants and a 20-screen movie theater.

ALBIN POLASEK MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDENS is 1.3 mi. e. of US 17/92 at 633 Osceola Ave. (SR 426). Three galleries and lush gardens on the shores of Lake Osceola display the sculptures and paintings of the Czech-American artist. Noteworthy is a wooden nativity

Polasek created at age 15. Tours provide insight into how the sculptor lived and worked. **Phone:** (407) 647-6294. **GT**

THE CHARLES HOSMER MORSE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, 445 N. Park Ave., contains a comprehensive collection of works by Louis Comfort Tiffany, a celebrated and influential designer of the late 19th and early 20th century. In addition to the brilliant jewel-toned leaded-glass lamps and windows the talented artist is best known for, visitors will find objets d'art such as Tiffany jewelry exquisitely handcrafted of enamel and semi-precious gems circa 1905-20, and detailed drawings and oil paintings created by Tiffany. The collection also features blown-glass pieces including vases in the forms of pansies, lilies and carnations as well as wine and liqueur glasses, all in resplendent shades of violet, gold, ruby, aqua and rose.

A highlight is the Byzantine-Romanesque chapel Tiffany designed for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, a masterpiece that includes a baptistery, a 1,000-pound cross-shaped chandelier, 16 mosaic columns, a mosaic altar and stained-glass windows.

Many of the stained-glass windows on exhibit were installed at Laurelton Hall, Tiffany's country estate built on Long Island 1902-05. The estate burned down in 1957, but many pieces were rescued from the ruins by Hugh and Jeannette McKean, the Winter Park couple who assembled the Morse collection. Painstakingly restored to their original splendor, these treasures are on display in the museum's Laurelton Hall wing.

The exhibit features pieces that provide insight into the lifestyle of the wealthy in the early 20th century, including partially re-created rooms from Laurelton Hall that include many original pieces. The re-created dining room holds an original rug patterned with dark blue medallions as well as two replicas that visitors may walk on. The room also includes original leaded-glass windows in a wisteria design that features stunning shades of purple and green.

In another large room, the striking Daffodil Terrace contains eight 11-foot-tall columns topped with yellow and



364 WINTER PARK, FL

green glass daffodils that support a coffered ceiling under which Tiffany and his guests may have enjoyed a cool spring breeze. A cell phone audio tour of Laurelton Hall is available.

The museum's permanent collection also includes late 19th- and 20th-century Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau furnishings, American art pottery, American paintings and decorative art.

Flash photography, selfie sticks, backpacks, large bags and large strollers are not permitted in the building. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (407) 645-5311. **GT**

CORNELL FINE ARTS MUSEUM, 1000 Holt Ave. at Lake Virginia on the Rollins College campus, displays permanent and changing exhibits of American and European works of art ranging from the Renaissance to contemporary. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (407) 646-2526. **GT**

SCENIC BOAT TOURS, leaving from the foot of E. Morse Blvd., provide narrated 1-hour cruises aboard an 18passenger pontoon boat past many of Winter Park's opulent lakeside estates and landmarks. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (407) 644-4056. **GT**

THE ALFOND INN AT ROLLINS

BOOK NOW 407/998-8090



Boutique Hotel. Address: 300 E New England Ave 32789. Facility: Public areas are striking and feature hand-picked artwork showcasing various artists. Elegant rooms with vibrant colors, custom furnishings and cozy bedding make it easy to rest at the end of the day. 183 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: lawn sports, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry.































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SAVE Hotel. Address: 1275 Lee Rd 32789.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT WINTER PARK BOOK NOW 407/960-4624



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 1127 N Orlando Ave 32789.

WHERE TO EAT



SOSEKI MODERN OMAKASE 407/619-3952

FOUR DIAMOND

Japanese Sushi Raw Foods Fine Dining. Address: 955 W Fairbanks Ave 32789.

YULEE

- Hotels p. 365
- Part of Jacksonville area— see map p. 93



BEST WESTERN PLUS FIRST COAST INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 904/225-0182



Hotel. Address: 462577 SR 200 32097. Facility: 62 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















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Hotel. Address: 76043 Sidney Pl 32097. Facility: 59 units. 2 stories. interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES JACKSONVILLE NORTH -

FERNANDINA

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