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The open road can be a fun and exciting place, and who better to help you plan your next adventure than the AAA travel experts.

Learn more about AAA Road Trips inside.



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Choice Hotels® and AAA are working together to enhance the road trip experience for all types of travelers. With over 2,000 properties throughout the United States and 7,500+ worldwide, Choice Hotels has a stay for anyone.

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Their Vacation Dreams, Our Expertise.



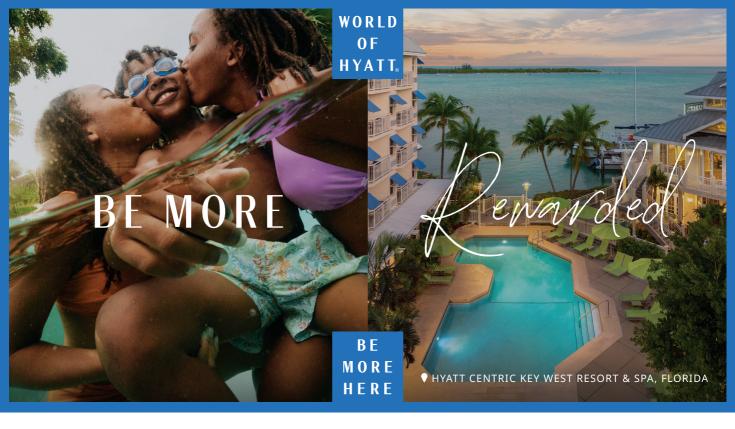
AAA.com/TripCanvas

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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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If you're looking for fun in the sun, look no further than a Hyatt hotel in sunny South Florida. Stay in an art deco icon at **Dream South Beach** and explore the world-famous nightlife scene just outside your door. Or enjoy a relaxing spa experience at **Hyatt Centric Key West Resort & Spa**. If you're looking to lounge by the water, **Hyatt Regency Coral Gables** offers a tranquil oasis, complete with a sparkling pool and spectacular Spanish style windows. With such fantastic Hyatt options, the question isn't if you should go, but where you should stay.

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

LEARN MORE

South Florida



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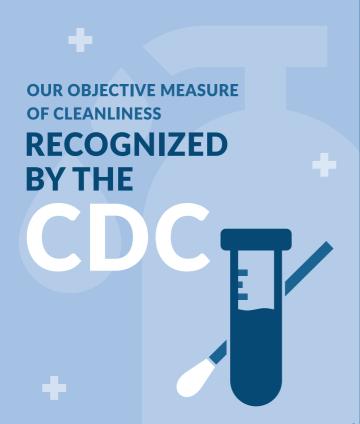




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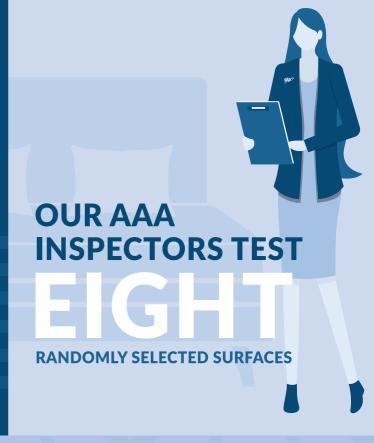






TESTED SURFACES

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





DIAMOND PROGRAM





ROAD South Florida TRIPS

Beach destinations such as Fort Lauderdale, Naples and Fort Myers boast the stately palms, tropical vegetation and warm turquoise waters. In between coasts there's a totally different state: swampy marshlands, vast rangelands, wide open skies and one big lake. Want flash and excitement? Head to Miami, where Art Deco buildings and blingy clubgoers showcase the city in seductive fashion.

















01 FORT LAUDERDALE TO NAPLES, FL

143.3 miles: 2 hours, 51 minutes

Navigate the network of canals that give Fort Lauderdale its nickname, the Venice of America, on a riverboat cruise, water taxi or vintage Italian gondola.

02 NAPLES TO SANIBEL, FL

52.2 miles: 1 hour, 34 minutes

Naples boasts miles of alabaster beaches lapped by warm, gentle waves. On the way to Sanibel, you'll pass manicured golf courses as well as scenery that's on the watery side.

03 SANIBEL TO FORT MYERS, FL

28.6 miles: 1 hour, 2 minutes

Beachcombing is an immensely popular "sport" in Sanibel, where more than 250 kinds of shells can be found.

04 **EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK** TO MIAMI, FL

49.9 miles: 1 hour, 27 minutes

Gleaming skyscrapers and vibrant multicultural communities greet you in sultry Miami. In South Beach, cruise slowly along Ocean Drive.

05 **KEY LARGO TO KEY WEST**

131.6 miles: 3 hours, 6 minutes

US 1 threads a two-lane path from island to island; along the way take in a scenic panorama. The Seven Mile Bridge may take your breath away.

06 **KEY WEST TO EVERGLADES** NATIONAL PARK, FL

135.3 miles: 2 hours, 57 minutes

From Florida City, it's a short drive to the main entrance of Everglades National Park; a series of intricately linked habitats.

For a complete list of itineraries and details





Everglades National Park / © iStockphoto.com / stellalevi

South Florida is a place of stunning extremes. While the mere mention of Miami brings to mind images of neon lights and plenty of bling, the mention of Everglades National Park conjures thoughts of peering crocodile eyes and beautiful sunsets over islands of mahogany trees.

Competing with the state's cities and natural habitats for the title of "most diverse" are the people who call South Florida home. Sharing a place under the sun is a seemingly haphazard mix of retirees, jet setters and adventurers, of young and old, of "conch" fishermen, business tycoons and developers, and of tourists who came to visit but decided to stay.

Also extreme are the strange creatures that inhabit the water, land and air. Oafish manatees—thought to have given rise to the legend of the mermaid—ply the waters of coastal waterways and placid springs. Garish roseate spoonbills, whose showy pink plumes topped the chapeaus of many a society matron in the early 1900s, grace shorelines once dotted with flocks of flamingos. Dog-size Key deer skirt the brush on Big Pine Key.

Extreme Florida

The colorful Florida Keys could easily hold the title of "most diverse" in all of the above categories. Vacationers flock to Key West for its laid-back and liberal lifestyle; countless festivals; diving, boating and fishing; and raucous nightlife. Despite all of its differences, or perhaps because of them, the Keys are one of

Florida's most popular tourist destinations.

With the exception of the Florida Keys, most vacation spots in South Florida hug the East and West Coasts. On the East Coast, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and Palm Beach are the main draws.

For a screenshot of Miami life, cruise Ocean Avenue and watch bikini- and flip-flop-clad crowds promenade past gelato-colored Art Deco hotels and sidewalk cafés; cross the street and you'll find yourself on South Beach, steps away from the Atlantic Ocean. Fort Lauderdale, The Venice of America, was made for water lovers with its numerous canals and proximity to rivers, the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. Take a gondola ride or water taxi through its canals, rent a yacht or just chill on seven miles of goldensand beach. In Palm Beach, shop Chanel and Gucci on chic Worth Avenue; attend a polo match; or drop into the opulent Flagler Museum, a 1902 Gilded Age mansion.

Cities on the West Coast (aka the Gulf Coast) of South Florida may be less well-known than East Coast cities, but they deserve more than a passing glance. Naples is the sophisticated lady of the bunch, with plenty of posh golf courses, swank shopping areas and its own orchestra. The city's 16 miles of beaches and its gulfside location make possible every activity under the sun.

The islands of Captiva and Sanibel also pack a lot of punch despite their diminutive size. Lush tropical greenery overflows, seashells by the score wash up on island shores, and the small-town ambience can't be beat.

Recreation

Not only is South Florida nearly surrounded by ocean and gulf waters, but it also harbors many lakes and hundreds of miles of rivers and canals. The prevalence of boat ramps and the impressive facilities of municipal marinas testify to the popularity of boating. Boaters should take caution to watch for endangered manatees in springs and coastal waterways.

To appreciate the beauty of Everglades National Park's narrow creeks and shallow bays, set out on a canoeing adventure. A tranquil weeklong escape awaits serious paddlers who tackle the 99-mile-long Wilderness Waterway. Although the Turner River and Mud Lake Loop trails are considerably shorter, the scenery is no less spectacular. Airboat rides, tram tours, hiking trails and sightseeing tours on pontoonstyle boats also are popular ways to see the Everglades.

With 882 islands in the Florida Keys, you'll have no trouble finding a place to put in your kayak or canoe. Try the Saddlebunch Keys, where you can guietly glide through sandy lagoons and islands of mangrove trees that appear to be pulling their roots out of the ground. Islamorada offers sport fishing nonpareil; hook trophy-size sailfish, swordfish and tarpon off the island understandably billed as the Sportfishing Capital of the World.

Off the Miami coast, as well as in the waters of Key Largo, shipwrecks and other sunken items, such as a Boeing 727 jet, function as artificial reefs. Rich coral growth makes scuba diving ventures here particularly attractive. Snorkeling is especially popular at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo.

The nearly 600 varieties of fish that live off the coasts lure anglers to cast their lines into the brine. Many marinas provide saltwater fishing equipment, bait and guides for deep-sea or offshore charters. Record-size specimens also swim in the area's rivers and lakes, making freshwater fishing equally rewarding.

Don't neglect to pick up a license from the county tax collector. Saltwater or freshwater licenses, required for all anglers ages 16 to 64, cost nonresidents \$17 for 3 days, \$30 for 7 days or \$47 for 1 year; a resident license costs \$17 for 1 year. A tarpon tag, valid January 1 through December 31, is \$51.50. Resident combination fresh- and saltwater licenses are available for \$32.50. Subagents such as tackle shops, fish camps or hardware or sporting goods stores charge 50c extra for some licenses.

Public and semiprivate courses all over South Florida make golf wildly popular, especially in Naples, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and their surrounding towns.

Crocodile / © iStockphoto.com / ozgurcankaya



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. Cities and/or counties may impose additional rates up to 1.5 percent for a maximum rate of 7.5 percent. 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/Alabama border on US 231 at Campbellton ● 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





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

NATIONAL PARKS (See place listings.)													
Biscayne 173,000 acres. Scenic. Guided boat tours, kayak rental.													
Dry Tortugas 64,657 acres. Scenic.													
Everglades 1,506,539 acres. Scenic. Pets on leash in campgrounds and picnic areas only. Bicycle rental.													
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS													
Ortona Lock 10 mi. e. of La Belle off SR 80 to campground unit; 12 mi. e. off SR 78A to day use unit.													
St. Lucie Lock 140 acres comprising campground and day-use areas 8 mi. s.w. of Stuart off SR 76.													
W.P. Franklin Lock 12 mi. e. of Fort Myers off SR 78 to campground unit; 7 mi. e. off SR 80 to day use unit.													
STAT	E												
Bahia Honda 490 acres on Bahia Honda Key on US 1 at mile marker 37. Bird-watching, geocaching, scuba diving, snorkeling tours; kayak rental.													
Bill Baggs Cape Florida 431 acres off US 1 on Key Biscayne. Historic. Bicycle and kayak rentals, canoe launch, lighthouse tour, playground.													
Cayo Costa 2,426 acres accessible by boat from Boca Grande or Fort Myers. Bird-watching, scuba diving, snorkeling; bicycle and kayak rentals.													
Collier-Seminole 7,271 acres 17 mi. s. of Naples on US 41. Historic. Bird-watching, geocaching; boat tours, canoe rental and trail, playground.													

Recreation Areas Chart



canoe, kayak and paddleboard rentals.

Recreation Areas Chart			10							S		ER	(0	
Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.	5N 5N	KING	HIKING TRAILS	5	RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	ى ت	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 8
Delnor-Wiggins Pass 166 acres 11 mi. n.w. of Naples off SR 846. Shell gathering, scuba diving, snorkeling, turtle watching in nesting season; boardwalks, canoe, kayak and paddleboard rentals, observation tower.														
Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson 310 acres 3 mi. s. of Fort Lauderdale on SR A1A. Canoeing, geocaching, kayaking, scuba diving, snorkeling; beach, kayak and paddleboard rentals.														
Don Pedro Island 230 acres accessible only by boat. Canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling, scuba diving; fishing dock.														
Estero Bay Preserve 10,000 acres .75 mi. n. of jct. US 41 and Corkscrew Rd., then 1.25 mi. w. of Estero to public access point. Aquatic preserve. Geocaching, wildlife viewing.														
Fort Pierce Inlet 1,137 acres 3 mi. e. of Fort Pierce or SR A1A. Bird-watching, canoeing, geocaching, kayaking, scuba diving, surfing; beach, canoe launch, kayak and paddleboard rentals, playground.														
Fort Zachary Taylor Historic 53 acres at the s.w. end of Key West via Southard St. Historic. Bird-watching, geocaching, scuba diving, snorkeling; beach.														
Gasparilla Island 127 acres 3 mi. s. of Placida on CR 775. Historic. Canoeing, kayaking, scuba diving; interpretive center, lighthouse.														
Hugh Taylor Birch 174 acres at Sunrise Blvd. and SR A1A in Fort Lauderdale. Canoeing, kayaking; beach,														

Recreation Areas Ch



board rentals.

Recreation Areas Chart			(0							LS		EB	S	ш
Shaded columns below indicate available services and activities.	5NG	KING	HIKING TRAILS	5	RAMP	BOAT RENTAL	ى ت	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 FR	BICYCI	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITO	LODGE	FOOD (
John D. MacArthur Beach 437 acres on SR A1A, 2.8 mi. s. of jct. US 1 on Singer Island. Bird-watching, boating (no motors), canoeing, geocaching, kayaking, scuba diving, snorkeling; beach, kayak rental, playground.														
John Pennekamp Coral Reef 178 nautical miles on US 1 near Key Largo mile marker 102.5. Boat tours, scuba diving, snorkeling; canoe and kayak rentals, canoe launch, playground.														
Jonathan Dickinson 11,500 acres 2 mi. s. of Hobe Sound on US 1. Historic. Scenic. Bird-watching, equestrian camping; bicycle rental, boat tours, horse trails.														
Koreshan 195 acres .5 mi. s. of Estero on US 41. Historic. Bird-watching, campfire programs; canoe and kayak rentals, historic buildings and gardens, playground.	ı													
Long Key 978 acres on Long Key at Layton on US 1. Bird-watching, canoeing, geocaching, kayaking, snorkeling; interpretive program, kayak rental and trail.														
Lovers Key 443 acres on CR 865, 2 mi. s. of Big Carlos Pass on Lovers Key. Canoeing, geocaching, kayaking; beach, bicycle, canoe and kayak rentals, interpretive program, playground.														
Oleta River 1,032 acres at 3400 N.E. 163rd St. in North Miami Beach. Bicycle, canoe, kayak and paddle)-													

Recreation Areas Chart



closed; phone (954) 357-5100 for updates.

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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
St. Lucie Inlet Preserve 4,492 acres accessible by boat from Port Salerno on the Intracoastal Waterway. Bird-watching, canoeing, kayaking, scuba diving, snorkeling; beach.														
OTHER														
C.B. Smith 299 acres at Flamingo Rd. and Hollywood Blvd. in Pembroke Pines. Basketball, geocaching, tennis; amphitheater, batting cages, bicycle rental, miniature golf course, playground, water park. Everglades Holiday 29 acres 20 mi. w. of Dania off														
Griffin Rd. Wildlife viewing; airboat rides, bicycle rental.														
Lakes Regional 279 acres in Fort Myers 6 mi. s.w. of I-75 exit 131, via Six Mile Cypress. Boating (no motors); bicycle rental, jogging trails, scenic miniature train ride.														
Okeeheelee 1,702 acres in Palm Beach, 6 mi. w. of I-95 on Forest Hills Blvd. Disc golf (18 holes), golf (27 holes), tennis; ball fields, bicycle, canoe and kayak rentals, BMX track, dog park, equestrian center, exercise course, fishing pier, playground, volleyball, waterskiing course.														
Quiet Waters 430 acres 2 mi. w. from I-95 via SR 810, then .25 mi. s. on SR 845 in Deerfield Beach. Basketball, cable water-skiing, geocaching; bicycle rental, water playground. Note: The marina is temporarily														

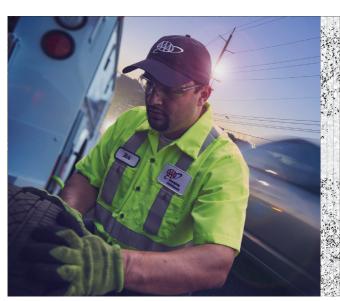
trails, paddleboat rentals, playground.

rides, museum, playground

Tree Tops 243 acres at 3900 S.W. 100th Ave. in Davie. Boating (no private boats permitted); horse

Recreation Areas Chart Shaded columns below indicate available

Shade	d 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 TRAIL	SKIN/SCUBA	VISITOR CENTE	LODGE/CABINS	FOOD SERVICE
Topeekee Sheridan s caching, to rentals, pla able sease															
Coconut C	ds 627 acres at 3600 W. Sample Rd. in Creek. Disc golf (18 holes); ball fields, botanis, horse rental, guided trail rides and pony														





Help AAA keep our roadside techs safe. When driving, put away your phone and focus on the road ahead. Something so simple will mean the world to our roadside techs and those who love them.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

AVENTURA

- Hotels p. 23
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AVENTURA BOOK NOW 786/590-5100





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 20805 Biscayne Blvd 33180. Facility: 233 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























ALOFT MIAMI AVENTURA BOOK NOW 786/590-5150





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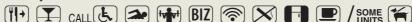
Hotel. Address: 2910 NE 207th St 33180. Facility: 207 units. 2-10 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee).

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



























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AVENTURA MALL BOOK NOW

305/937-0805





Hotel. Address: 2825 NE 191st St 33180. Facility: 166 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































HILTON AVENTURA MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/466-7775







Contemporary Hotel. Address: 2885 NE 191st St 33180. Facility: This upscale hotel takes great pride in showcasing curated artwork throughout its public areas, as well as modern quest rooms with streaming TVs, plush

bedding and marble-enhanced bathrooms. 208 units. 7-12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

























JW MARRIOTT MIAMI TURNBERRY RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW

305/932-6200









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

JW MARRIOTT Resort Hotel. Address: 19999 W Country Club Dr 33180. Facility: Located on 300 landscaped acres, this posh resort offers curated

design as well as myriad amenities. Rooms feature upscale bedding, marble bathrooms and furnished balconies. 685 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 5-23 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, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AVENTURA MALL BOOK NOW 786/528-1001





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

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 19900 W Country Club Dr 33180. Location: Next to Aventura Mall. Facility: 191 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



































BOOK NOW 305/918-8984



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

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 2820 NE 214 St 33180.

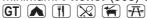
BAHIA HONDA KEY

• Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

BAHIA HONDA STATE PARK is on US 1 at mile marker 37. Clear blue ocean and gulf waters and soft-sand beaches provide the setting for a host of activities, including boating, canoeing, kayaking, snorkeling, bicycling, fishing, swimming, picnicking and camping. The park has earned acclaim for its three picturesque beaches.

The Sand and Sea Nature Center features sea life displays, nature videos, an aquarium and children's activities. A short nature trail leads to the Old Bahia Honda Bridge, which has spectacular views of the island and the Atlantic Ocean. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Pets are prohibited on beach. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 872-2353.



BAL HARBOUR

- Hotels p. 25 Restaurants p. 26
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133









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

THE RITZ-CARLTON Contemporary Hotel. Address: 10295 Collins Ave 33154. Location:

Oceanfront. Facility: Set amidst luxury condos and shopping, this hotel's rooms feature floor-to-ceiling windows offering stunning water views. Bathrooms include soaking tubs and large vanities with two sinks. 103 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 18 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.































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and benefits: AAA.com/hertz



ST. REGIS BAL HARBOUR RESORT BOOK NOW 305/993-3300



INSPECTED @ CLEAN







Resort Hotel, Address: 9703 Collins Ave 33154, Location: Oceanfront. STREGIS Facility: With an envious location near luxe shopping and multiple marinas, this hotel offers ultra spacious rooms with plush bedding and furnished balconies that have partial or full ocean views. 213 units, some two bedrooms, three

bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4-27 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, also, Atlantiko's, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.































WHERE TO EAT



ATLANTIKO'S 305/993-3333



Greek Fine Dining. Address: 9703 Collins Ave 33154.

BAY HARBOR ISLANDS

- Hotels p. 26
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



THE ALTAIR BAY HARBOR HOTEL BOOK NOW 786/535-1500



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN





























BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE

Two major highways, Alligator Alley (I-75) and Tamiami Trail (US 41), cross the preserve and make it accessible from both coasts. Big Cypress National Preserve is part of Big Cypress Swamp, which encompasses more than 2,400 square miles of south Florida. These areas are a

major source of fresh water for the fragile Everglades and the southwestern part of the state. Big Cypress National Preserve protects this valuable resource and provides sanctuary for varied wildlife, including alligators, herons, egrets, woodpeckers, bald eagles, deer and the endangered Florida panther. Hunting and fishing are permitted under special regulations; licenses are required.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

Although referred to as a swamp, the preserve has marshlands, dry prairies, estuarine mangrove forests and islands of pine and hardwoods. Its most distinctive feature is the broad belts of bald and dwarf pond cypress trees lining the strands and wet prairies.

The Oasis Visitor Center, 16 miles east of Ochopee on US 41, and the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center, 3 miles east of SR 29, present a 13-minute film about the preserve as well as exhibits about natural resources and native animal and plant life. In winter ranger talks and ranger-led walks and canoe tours are offered; phone (239) 695-4758.

Both visitor centers are open daily 9-4:30; closed Christmas. Visitors are encouraged to phone ahead to confirm schedule. Entrance is free. For further information contact the Chief of Interpretation, Big Cypress National Preserve, 33100 Tamiami Trail East, Ochopee, FL 34141; phone (239) 695-1201 or (239) 695-4758.

BIG CYPRESS SEMINOLE INDIAN RESERVATION

AH-TAH-THI-KI MUSEUM, 17 mi. n. of I-75 (Alligator Alley) exit 49 on CR 833, is affiliated with the Smithsonian Institute and tells the story of Florida's Seminole Indians through a short film, exhibits about historic and modern-day life, artifacts, life-size dioramas and a livinghistory village featuring arts and crafts demonstrations. Traveling exhibits also are offered. A 1-mile boardwalk winds through a cypress dome. Self-guiding audio tours by cellphone are available. Guided tours are available by reservation. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (863) 902-1113 or (877) 902-1113. GT

BILLIE SWAMP SAFARI, 19 mi. n. of I-75 (Alligator Alley) exit 49 at CR 833 and W. Boundary Rd., gives 20-minute airboat adventure tours and 60-minute "swamp buggy" ecotours of the Florida Everglades and 2,200-acre Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation. Views of such wildlife as panthers, alligators, birds, razorback hogs and deer are common. Venomous snake and swamp critter shows are given daily. Daylong and nighttime safaris, overnight stays in a Chickee hut and exclusive tours also are offered.

Phone: (863) 983-6101 or (800) 949-6101.

BIG PINE KEY

Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

Big Pine Key, between Marathon and Key West, is home to the Key deer, a miniature species maturing to the size of a large dog. By the 1950s hunting had almost annihilated this subspecies of the Virginia whitetail. With only 800-1,000 of the animals remaining, the deer still is an endangered species.

Many deer have collided with vehicles and been injured or killed. Visitors are asked to observe the speed limit and not pull over to feed or photograph deer, as doing so encourages them to approach the road.

Great White Heron and Key West national wildlife refuges also preserve area bird life. The Key West refuge also provides a safe haven for sea turtle nests. Both are accessible only by boat.

Many reefs and their undersea inhabitants are protected in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, at nearby Looe Key. Characterized by coral reefs and clear water. the sanctuary is a delight to divers. Snorkel and scuba trips can be arranged from Looe Key Dive Center on Ramrod Key at mile marker 27.5; phone (305) 872-2215 or (877) 816-3483. For additional dive shops, contact the Monroe County Tourist Development Council; phone (800) 352-5397.

Lower Kevs Chamber of Commerce: 31020 Overseas Hwy., Big Pine Key, FL 33043-0511. **Phone:** (305) 872-2411 or (800) 872-3722.

NATIONAL KEY DEER REFUGE, at mile marker 30.3 on US 1, is a designated refuge for the endangered diminutive deer. It encompasses approximately 9,200 acres. Blue Hole, 1.5 miles north of Key Deer and Watson boulevards, is a former quarry that attracts such wildlife as alligators and turtles. Just north of Blue Hole, two selfguiding nature trails begin off Key Deer Boulevard. Early morning and evening hours are the best times to view the deer. The visitor center features exhibits about the refuge and provides brochures detailing wildlife habitats.

The visitor center is located at 30587 Overseas Hwy. (US 1). **Phone:** (305) 872-0774 or (305) 872-2239.

BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK

Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

Elevations in the land portion of the park are at sea level. Ninety-five percent of the park is water.

Reached via Florida's Turnpike (exit 6, Speedway Boulevard) and south to S.W. 328th St. (North Canal Drive), Biscayne National Park encompasses a huge part of southeast Florida. Only 8,600 of its 173,000 acres are land; the rest are water, and there is as much to see below its surface as there is above it. The park offers a look at unspoiled Florida.

28 BISCAYNE NP — BOCA RATON, FL

Biscayne National Park has four biological systems: the mainland mangrove forests, Biscayne Bay, the upper Florida Keys and the underwater reefs. Shallow Biscayne Bay, between the coast and the northernmost Florida Keys, has clear water and is home to sponges, crabs, dolphins and endangered manatees, which favor the bay's warm waters.

The undeveloped upper Florida Keys are the result of many thousands of years of construction by the tiny animals collectively known as coral. The 20 miles of the park's reefs were formed by more than 40 species of coral and harbor more than 500 different kinds of fish, including brilliantly colored parrotfish, angelfish and wrasses. Moray eels also inhabit many of the underwater crevices.

To preserve the fragile reefs, visitors must tie up to mooring buoys or anchor boats in the sandy bottoms, not on the coral. Do not touch the coral; doing so will kill it. Also, do not sit or stand on the coral, as it breaks easily and can cause painful cuts. Collecting coral, plants, animals, shipwreck artifacts or any other "souvenir" is prohibited.

The upper keys support the Schaus swallowtail butterfly, American crocodile and other endangered species. Bald eagles, ospreys, pelicans, egrets and other large birds find refuge in the dense vegetation. Arsenicker and West Arsenicker keys are important nesting areas and therefore are closed to the public.

The islands feature many tropical plants that originated from seeds either blown here by West Indian winds or deposited by birds. On the mainland are forests of mangroves, easily recognized by their stilt roots, which trap and filter out sediment and keep the water clean. The mangrove roots provide excellent hiding places and food sources for young fish—another function vital to the region's food chain.

Biscayne National Park is an undeveloped wilderness. Camping is permitted only on Elliott Key and Boca Chita Key, which can be reached only by boat. Because the park is accessible primarily by boat, it is helpful to stop at the Dante Fascell Visitor Center on Convoy Point, reached via Florida's Turnpike (exit 6, Speedway Boulevard) and south to S.W. 328th St. (North Canal Drive). Convoy Point is open daily 7-5:30. The visitor center is open daily 9-5; closed Christmas.

Ranger programs are offered late Nov.-Apr. Guided boat tours are offered most Thurs.-Sun., year-round. Kayak rentals and guided sailing and snorkeling trips also are available. Reservations are highly recommended for boat trips.

For further park information contact Biscayne National Park, 9700 S.W. 328th St., Homestead, FL 33033-5634; phone (305) 230-1144, or (786) 335-3644 for boat tours. See Recreation Areas Chart.

BOCA RATON

• Hotels p. 29

Long a haven for the wealthy, Boca Raton has become a center for commerce, finance and technology while maintaining its "small-town" appeal. It is known for its visionary use of green space and parks.

One of the city's oldest unaltered wooden structures, built in 1912 with timber found on the beach, now houses the Boca Raton Children's Museum, 498 Crawford Blvd. The museum features interactive exhibits highlighting history, science and the arts and humanities. Storytelling sessions are offered Tues.-Sat. at 11; art classes take place at 11:30. Special exhibits also are offered in summer; phone (561) 368-6875.

The Gulf Stream comes closest to the Florida shore at Boca Raton, making the climate ideal for sports and recreation.

Boca Chamber: 1800 N. Dixie Hwy., Boca Raton, FL 33432. **Phone:** (561) 395-4433.

Shopping: The Shops at Boca Center, at Military Trail and Town Center Road, offers boutiques, art galleries and restaurants. Mizner Park, on Federal Highway between Palmetto Park and Glades roads, is an outdoor mall with a cultural arts center, upscale boutiques, eateries and a movie theater. Royal Palm Place, US 1 and Mizner Boulevard, features boutiques and specialty shops in a Mediterranean setting. Town Center at Boca Raton, half a mile west of I-95 on Glades Road, contains 220 stores including Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue and Sears.

BOCA RATON MUSEUM OF ART, just e. of US 1 (N. Federal Hwy.) between Glades Rd. and Palmetto Park Rd., in Mizner Park at 501 Plaza Real, houses changing exhibits of varied art media. The permanent collection includes a superb assembly of works by modern masters; important American and European modern and contemporary works by artists ranging from Louise Nevelson to Andy Warhol; and Pre-Colombian and African art.

An outdoor sculpture garden with contemporary works is one of the museum's highlights. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (561) 392-2500. **GT**

BEACH CLUB AT THE BOCA RATON BOOK NOW 561/447-3000

 $[\mathbf{f}\mathbf{y}\mathbf{i}]$ Boutique Resort Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Four Diamond. Address: 900 S Ocean Blvd 33432.



Historic Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 501 E Camino Real 33432.



BOCA RATON MARRIOTT AT BOCA CENTER BOOK NOW 561/392-4600



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

Hotel. Address: 5150 Town Center Cir 33486. Facility: 259 units. 12 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

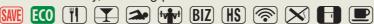
























FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT-BOCA RATON BOOK NOW 561/417-8585



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

Hotel. Address: 3400 Airport Rd 33431. Facility: 119 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























AAA.com/IDTheft—Because identity thieves don't take vacations

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON BOCA RATON BOOK NOW 561/988-0200





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

Hotel. Address: 1455 Yamato Rd 33431. Facility: 94 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Guest Services:

valet laundry.















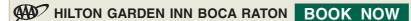












561/988-6110



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

Hotel. Address: 8201 Congress Ave 33487. Location: Commercial area. Facility: 149 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS BOCA RATON WEST BOOK NOW

561/482-7070



Hotel. Address: 8144 Glades Rd 33434. Facility: 97 units. 2-4 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet laundry.































AAA.com/maps—Dream, plan, go with AAA travel planning tools

HYATT PLACE BOCA RATON DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 561/672-7819



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: 100 E Palmetto Park Rd 33432. Facility: 200 units. 7-15 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































RENAISSANCE BOCA RATON HOTEL

BOOK NOW

561/368-5252



RENAISSANCE® **HOTELS**

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

Hotel. Address: 2000 NW 19th St 33431. Facility: 189 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























SONESTA SELECT BOCA RATON TOWN CENTER

BOOK NOW 561/241-7070



Hotel. Address: 2000 NW Executive Center Cir 33431. Facility: 152 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































Discover member savings around the world:

AAA.com/discounts





WYNDHAM HOTEL BOCA RATON BOOK NOW 561/368-5200



Hotel. Address: 1950 Glades Rd 33431. Facility: 181 units. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























BONITA SPRINGS

Hotels p. 32 • Restaurants p. 34

At the edge of Cypress Swamp, Bonita Springs offers good fishing in both the Gulf of Mexico and the Imperial River. The area also offers sparkling beaches and a host of shopping and fine dining choices.

Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce: 25071 Chamber of Commerce Dr., Bonita Springs, FL 34135. **Phone:** (239) 992-2943 or (800) 226-2943.

THE WONDER GARDENS, 27180 Old US 41, was opened in 1936 as a refuge for injured animals. The facility now is home to a collection of native birds, including flamingos, as well as turtles and alligators. The grounds include botanical gardens and trees from around the world as well as a butterfly garden. A natural history museum is on the premises that includes a gallery of landscape photographs on display. Educational programs and special events are offered. Phone: (239) 992-2591.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES Kayaking

• CruiseFishDive is at 28811 S. Tamiami Tr., Suite 3. Boat tours, fishing charters, scuba diving trips and other activities are offered. Phone: (239) 592-1200. GT



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT BONITA SPRINGS

BOOK NOW 239/317-6200



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

Hotel. Address: 28090 La Plaza Bonita Loop 34135. Location: Commercial Center. Facility: 113 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























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HAMPTON INN BY HILTON BONITA SPRINGS/NAPLES NORTH

BOOK NOW

239/947-9393





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

Hotel. Address: 27900 Crown Lake Blvd 34135. Facility: 92 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: valet laundry.



























HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON-BONITA SPRINGS/NAPLES

BOOK NOW 239/949-5913





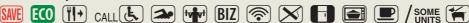
HOMEWOOD AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points SUITES when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8901 Highland Woods Blvd 34135. Facility: 106 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



















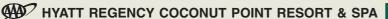












BOOK NOW 239/444-1234







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

Resort Hotel. Address: 5001 Coconut Rd 34134. Location: Waterfront, Facility: Facing the Gulf of Mexico, each guest room has a furnished or Juliet balcony with higher floors offering a range of views. The beds are comfortable and the 55" streaming TVs are great for rainy days. 462 units. 18 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



































TRIANON HOTEL BONITA BAY BOOK NOW 239/948-4400



Hotel. Address: 3401 Bay Commons Dr 34134.

WHERE TO EAT



ANGELINA'S RISTORANTE 239/390-3187



Traditional Italian Fine Dining. Address: 24041 S Tamiami Tr 34135.

BOYNTON BEACH

• Hotels p. 34

ARTHUR R. MARSHALL LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is on US 441/SR 7, 2 mi. s. of jct. SR 804 (Boynton Beach Blvd.) or 3 mi. n. of jct. SR 806 (Atlantic Ave.). The 143,954-acre refuge is home to endangered and threatened species such as the snail kite, the wood stork and the American alligator. Migrating waterfowl gather in the winter. Features include an observation tower, 70 miles of nature trails, a 12-mile bicycle trail, a 5.5-mile canoe trail, a visitor center with exhibits, and facilities for fishing, boating and bird-watching.

Guided tours are offered year-round. Phone: (561) 734-8303. **GT**

SCHOOLHOUSE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM & LEARNING CENTER is at 129 E. Ocean Ave. Exhibits housed in a restored 1913 schoolhouse relate Florida history. Interactive stations include a post office, a doctor's office, a train depot and activities centered on farm life. Family activities are offered. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (561) 742-6780.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT BOYNTON BEACH BOOK NOW 561/737-4600



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1601 N Congress Ave 33426.



HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON-BOYNTON BEACH BOOK NOW 561/369-0018





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

Hotel. Address: 1475 W Gateway Blvd 33426. Facility: 165 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor.

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



























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT BOYNTON BEACH

BOOK NOW 561/375-6512



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2450 Quantum Blvd 33426.

CAPE CORAL

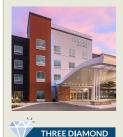
• Hotels p. 35

SUN SPLASH FAMILY WATERPARK, off 1-75 exit 143. 12 mi, w. on SR 78, then .5 mi, s. to 400 Santa Barbara Blvd., offers more than 14 acres of recreational activities. including giant waterslides, activity and family pools, an inner tube river and a children's play area. Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 574-0558.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES CAPE CORAL/NORTH FORT MYERS

BOOK NOW

239/652-0269



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

Hotel. Address: 1701 Old Pondella Rd 33909. Facility: 109 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: coin laundry. SAVE CALL (L) (SAVE) (BIZ) (SAVE) (SAVE)

















HAMPTON INN & SUITES CAPE CORAL/FORT MYERS AREA BOOK NOW

239/540-1050





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

Hotel. Address: 619 SE 47th Terr 33904. Facility: 75 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.























HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS CAPE CORAL/FORT MYERS AREA

BOOK NOW

239/542-2121

Hotel. **Address:** 1538 Cape Coral Pkwy E 33904.

THREE DIAMOND

THE WESTIN CAPE CORAL RESORT AT MARINA VILLAGE BOOK NOW 239/541-5000



INSPECTED © CLEAN

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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 5951 Silver King Blvd 33914. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 308 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 19 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, steamroom, cabanas, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, trails, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































As you drive down Captiva Road, the 5-mile-long island's main thoroughfare, you'll be entranced by the overwhelming proliferation of manicured but lush green landscaping and brilliantly hued flowers that appear to blanket the entire island. Hidden behind much of the beautiful foliage are the homes of well-to-do, privacyloving residents (some quite famous) as well as vacation rental homes with amusing signs at the driveways announcing paradise-inspired names such as Happy Daze and Blue Heaven.

In Captiva's downtown, which fills just a few narrow streets, a handful of island shops and restaurants have managed to emerge from behind the foliage. In the tradition of many townspeople, enjoy a light meal as daylight dissipates; then, as night falls, join the stream of walkers heading for the beach to gaze at the sunset over the Gulf of Mexico.

Banyan trees, exotic flowers and lush vegetation line a walking path along the island's central ridge. The Barbara Sumwalt Museum, located on Useppa Island and accessible only by boat, traces local history through detailed exhibits about archeology, the Calusa Indians, Civil War activities, tarpon fishing and the Bay of Pigs connection; phone (239) 283-9600.

Captiva's small-town ambience, surreal tropical setting and air of refinement give it a reputation of being somewhat exclusive. But even those on a small budget can find a way to experience the island and its beaches. Despite its size, Captiva has a selection of lodgings in all price ranges, from small bed-and-breakfasts and cottages to houses-for-hire and a high-end resort. No matter where you stay, it's likely that the time you actually spend in your room will be minimal, as you'll want to imbibe the sweet tropical air, salty Gulf of Mexico waters and plush-sand beaches to the maximum. Opportunities for seashell hunting; fishing for tarpon, redfish, or snook; catching the breeze on a sailboat; or just baking in the sun slathered in sunscreen are there for the taking in this idyllic tropical paradise.

Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

Shopping: If tiny Captiva Island were large enough to house a shopping mall, it would take over most of the island. Besides, a mall just wouldn't fit in here. Downtown Captiva Village, along Andy Rosse Lane and Captiva Drive, is a much better fit with its cluster of quaint shops, galleries and bistros that complement the island's slowpaced way of life. An old-fashioned general store completes the postcard-perfect setting for this diminutive downtown, just footsteps away from the beach and the Gulf of Mexico.

Check out Jungle Drums, 11532 Andy Rosse Ln., purveyor of nature-themed affordable art, jewelry and décor in such mediums as wood, bronze, glass and clay; phone (239) 395-2266. Just around the corner is Albert Meadow Antiques, 15000 Captiva Dr., which has a collection to rival antiques shops in much larger cities. Expect to happen upon Art Deco and Art Nouveau pieces, antique jewelry, Tiffany glass and American fine art among the plethora of high-quality antiques. The store is open seasonally; phone (239) 472-8442.

Forgot to pack that teeny-weeny yellow polka dot bikini? The fittingly named Beach Stuff is where you can get stuff for the beach, including bikinis. It's located halfway between downtown Captiva and South Seas Island Resort at Captiva Village Square; phone (239) 472-3544.

Walk in the shade of tall palm trees at Chadwick's Square, part of the luxurious South Seas Island Resort at 5400 Plantation Rd., and pop into a small collection of

shops selling jewelry, art, and clothing and accessories for the entire family; phone (239) 472-5111.

CHARLOTTE HARBOR

Hotels p. 37

SUNSEEKER RESORT CHARLOTTE HARBOR BOOK NOW 833/914-7300

THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED & CLEAN**

Resort Hotel. Address: 5500 Sunseeker Way 33980.

CLEWISTON

• Hotels p. 37





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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 305 W Sugarland Hwy 33440.

COCONUT CREEK

- Hotels p. 38
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

BUTTERFLY WORLD is in Tradewinds Park at 3600 W. Sample Rd. Although butterflies, in all their colorful glory, are the star players here, you will also be treated to vividly hued lorikeets, a butterfly museum, tropical birds and gardens in full bloom.

A self-guiding tour takes you first to the laboratory where you'll see hundreds of butterflies in the earliest stages of growth—the egg and larva phase. Then it's on to a favorite area, an aviary with thousands of butterflies from five continents flitting about from flower to flower, frequently landing on your shirt or outstretched hand. Children stand in amazement (as do adults) as these gentle creatures surround them.

A path leads you onward to see cases full of butterfly pupas; if you're lucky, you might be able to watch some

young butterflies emerge and test their wings. The next stop is the Tropical Rain Forest Aviary with an abundance of tropical plants and free-flying butterflies and birds. This is a popular place to snap an up-close picture of a stunningly bright butterfly or bird gracefully landing on a branch.

Enjoy a walk through several gardens filled with tropical vines, plants and roses as you head to the Lorikeet Encounter, where these friendly, brilliantly multi-colored Australian natives will flock to you and sip nectar right out of a cup. (A lorikeet is a small, rainbow-colored, very vocal, small parrot.).

A suspension bridge leads you to an aviary full of tropical birds and flowering plants, and then, for a change of pace, it's on to a museum and insectarium where you can examine amazing specimens of butterflies and insects, and The Bug Zoo with live scorpions, walking sticks, beetles and an assortment of spiders.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (954) 977-4400.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON COCONUT CREEK BOOK NOW 954/363-3000



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

(SAVE) Hotel. Address: 5740 N SR 7 33073.

COCONUT GROVE

- Hotels p. 38
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

THE BARNACLE HISTORIC STATE PARK is at 3485 Main Hwy. Commodore Ralph Middleton Munroe, an area pioneer, naturalist, photographer and noted designer of shallow-draft sailing yachts, built a one-story bungalow on Biscayne Bay in 1891 and later enlarged it by raising the rooms to accommodate a new first floor underneath. With furnishings and photographs that belonged to Munroe, the house offers a glimpse of old Florida. Part of the grounds encompass a tropical hardwood hammock. A boat house also is on the site. Special events and educational programs are held throughout the year.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 442-6866. GT (*

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT - MIAMI COCONUT GROVE BOOK NOW

305/858-2500



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

Hotel. Address: 2649 S Bayshore Dr 33133. Location: Facing the marina. Facility: 200 units. 20 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet and street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry,

area transportation. CAVE



















HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MIAMI-COCONUT GROVE/CORAL

GABLES

BOOK NOW 305/448-2800



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

SWE Hotel. Address: 2800 SW 28th Terr 33133.

Find AAA Inspected & Approved campgrounds at AAA.com/campgrounds

MAYFAIR HOUSE HOTEL & GARDEN BOOK NOW 305/441-0000



Boutique Hotel. Address: 3000 Florida Ave 33133. Facility: Set in the heart of posh Coconut Grove, this unique hotel offers spacious quest rooms with wood furnishings and plush bedding. Over 90 percent of rooms have a furnished balcony to enjoy the weather. 179 units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



















MR. C MIAMI COCONUT GROVE BOOK NOW

305/800-6672



Boutique Hotel. Address: 2988 McFarlane Rd 33133. Facility: Designed to mimic a ritzy ocean liner, room sizes range from 300-sq-ft to generous size 1,400-sq-ft suites. All rooms have furnished balconies, marble vanities with double sinks, and plush bedding. 100 units, some efficiencies. 2-4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet laundry.





















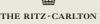






THE RITZ-CARLTON COCONUT GROVE, MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/644-4680





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

Hotel. Address: 3300 SW 27th Ave 33133. Facility: Within walking distance of chic shopping and dining options, this property has a

boutique feel. Guest rooms are spacious, with luxurious bedding, Italian marble bathrooms and furnished balconies. 115 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, cabanas, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.































CORAL GABLES

- Hotels p. 40
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

A planned community, Coral Gables is noted for its landscaped plazas and parkways, gateways of coral rock and royal poinciana trees. Spanish, Mediterranean and contemporary architecture blend in the downtown area. Many estates are in the older section of the city; modern mansions line the bayfront. Coral Gables Merrick House, 907 Coral Way, was the home of founder George Merrick, who named the city after his family home; phone (305) 460-5361.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

40 CORAL GABLES, FL

The Spanish architecture, lagoons and grottoes of the Venetian Pool, a public swimming pool at 2701 De Soto Blvd., reflect the lavish Coral Gables lifestyle of the 1920s; phone (305) 460-5306. Also of interest are the Dutch-South African, Chinese and French villages internationally themed neighborhoods within Merrick's planned community that are now historic districts.

Coral Gables is home to the University of Miami and the annual Beaux Arts Festival of Art each January.

Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce: 224 Catalonia Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33134, **Phone:** (305) 446-1657.

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN is next to Matheson Hammock Park at 10901 Old Cutler Rd. Ever seen a fried egg tree? What about a shaving brush, mousetrap or cannonball tree? You can behold such colorfully named exotics and many, many others at this sprawling 83-acre botanical garden specializing in tropical plants from around the world. A path meanders through flower beds, beneath the shade of a vine pergola, into a palm glade and beside a waterfall in the dim center of a little rainforest. And don't miss the picturesque vista of palm-lined lakes stretching into the distance that's the park's most photographed scene.

The garden's tropical fruit pavilion protects rare specimens of breadfruit, coffee and cacao-among plants you've probably never heard of like durian, salak and chupa chupa (the scientific names, imprinted on metal tags throughout the garden, are usually even stranger). The conservatory next door is packed with foliage that would die even in south Florida's mild winters: graceful ferns, bromeliads and flowering orchids.

Visitors can watch the twice-daily butterfly release at the Wings of the Tropics exhibit in the DiMare Science Village, where thousands of colorful butterflies, hummingbirds, fish and rare plants are on display. And as if this riot of flora and fauna weren't enough, Fairchild frequently hosts sculptural exhibitions with works by such masters as Dale Chihuly installed at strategic locations.

If you want to take in the whole garden, you have guite a hike ahead of you, so instead catch the narrated tram tour that covers the garden from end to end. But should you decide to walk, you'll find plenty of benches where you can rest and enjoy the scenery. You can also plan your visit to coincide with the garden's periodic guided walking tours.

Just remember: to get to the Chinese hat plant, take a right at the elephant apple, don't worry about getting burned by the fire bush or torch ginger, but you can forget about striking it rich among the golden chalice and silver trumpet blossoms. Phone: (305) 667-1651. GT







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

Hotel. Address: 2524 Le Jeune Rd 33134. Facility: 137 units. 3-7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet and street

only. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI CORAL GABLES **BOOK NOW** 305/443-2301



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2051 S Le Jeune Rd 33134.



FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON CORAL GABLES BOOK NOW 305/567-0534



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3861 SW 40th St 33146.



HOTEL COLONNADE CORAL GABLES, AUTOGRAPH

COLLECTION BOOK NOW

305/441-2600



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

HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 180 Aragon Ave 33134. Facility: The historic public areas of this hotel feature a grand staircase underneath a

beautiful rotunda, accented by marble and decorative accents. Rooms are modern in style, with large flat screen TVs. 157 units. 10-14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

FOUR DIAMOND **INSPECTED @ CLEAN**

































HYATT REGENCY CORAL GABLES BOOK NOW

305/441-1234





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

Hotel. Address: 50 Alhambra Plaza 33134. Facility: 254 units, some two bedrooms. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

































LOEWS CORAL GABLES HOTEL BOOK NOW 786/772-7600



Boutique Hotel. Address: 2950 Coconut Grove Dr 33134. Facility: Upon entering this hotel, guests are awed by the modern design of the open concept lobby which leads into a buzzing restaurant. Rooms are large and comfortable, with floor to ceiling windows. 242 units. 19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





























THESIS HOTEL MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/667-5611



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1350 S Dixie Hwy 33146. Facility: This stylish hotel has an ideal location directly across from the University of Miami. The guest rooms include hypo-allergic bed linen while the bathrooms have spacious showers and upscale toiletries. 245 units. 2-10 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























CORAL SPRINGS

- Hotels p. 42
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE/CORAL

SPRINGS

BOOK NOW 954/227-1300



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 620 N University Dr 33071.

DANIA BEACH

- Hotels p. 43
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

Dania Beach is a winter beach resort combining the charm of a small town with accessibility to big-time fun in both Fort Lauderdale and Miami.

Jai-alai is played year-round at The Casino @ Dania Beach (see attraction listing) on Dania Beach Boulevard, one-half mile east of US 1; for schedule phone (954) 920-1511.

Note: Policies vary concerning admittance of children to pari-mutuel betting facilities. Phone for information.

Greater Dania Beach Chamber of Commerce: 102 W. Dania Beach Blvd., P.O. Box 1017, Dania Beach, FL 33004. Phone: (954) 926-2323.

Shopping: Fine art to early Americana can be found in the art and antique district shops along Federal Highway (US 1), just blocks from the beach. Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, jct. I-95 and Griffin Rd. at 200 Gulf Stream Way, features an indoor waterfall and 30,000-gallon aguarium, wildlife exhibits and sporting demonstrations.

GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS

• The Casino @ Dania Beach is at 301 E. Dania Beach Blvd., Dania Beach, FL 33004. Phone: (954) 920-1511.

Turn your dream vacation into reality! AAA.com/AAAVacations



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT BOOK NOW 954/802-7636





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

Hotel. Address: 154 N Compass Way 33004. Location: Located in a commercial area. Facility: 154 units. 11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT & CRUISE

BOOK NOW 954/342-8333



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

Hotel. Address: 400 Gulf Stream Way 33004. Location: Adjacent to Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World. Facility: 174 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



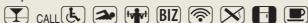
INSPECTED @ CLEAN



























FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT - DANIA

BOOK NOW 954/926-7300



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

POINTS Hotel. Address: 1900 Stirling Rd 33004. Facility: 154 units, some BY SHERATON efficiencies. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

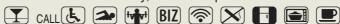
Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.































HOTEL DELLO FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY





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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 28 S Federal Hwy 33004.



HYATT HOUSE FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT -SOUTH & CRUISE

PORT BOOK NOW 954/922-0271



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: 90 SW 18th Ave 33004. Facility: 143 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 954/802-7543





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

Hotel. Address: 166 N Compass Way 33004. Location: Located in a MARRIOTT commercial area. Facility: 196 units. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas,

exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.























For highways, byways and more: AAA.com/maps

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT - FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT & CRUISE

BOOK NOW 954/989-3636



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

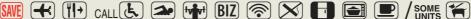
Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4801 Anglers Ave 33312. Facility: 156 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































TRU BY HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT BOOK NOW 754/232-1200





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

Hotel. Address: 44 N Federal Hwy 33004. Location: Located in a commercial area. Facility: 115 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Activities: exercise room.























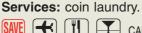
WYNDHAM GARDEN FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT & CRUISE

PORT BOOK NOW 954/212-9100



INSPECTED @ CLEAN



















Hotel. Address: 129 N Federal Hwy 33004. Facility: 142 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest













DAVIE

- Hotels p. 46
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

FLAMINGO GARDENS, off I-595 exit 1B, then 3 mi. s. to 3750 S. Flamingo Rd., contains trees and plants indigenous to subtropical forests. A wildlife sanctuary is home to

Florida panthers, a black bear, bobcats, river otters, alligators and flamingos, while a free-flight aviary houses birds native to Florida. American bald eagles can be seen in the Bird of Prey Center. Visitors may take a 25-minute narrated tram tour through a rainforest, wetlands and native oak hammocks. The historic Wray Home, built by the gardens' founders, is on site; guided tours are offered. Wildlife shows also are presented.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

46 DAVIE — DEERFIELD BEACH, FL

Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (954) 473-2955. GT

YOUNG AT ART MUSEUM is at 8000 W. Broward Blvd., Suite 1208. This hands-on museum features four galleries—GreenScapes, CultureScapes, WonderScapes and ArtScapes—as well as a library. Highlights include art stations where kids make projects to take home, a recycled puppet workshop and theater, and a New York subway car. The museum also hosts traveling exhibits. YAA Fun Zone and YAA Workshop Studio offer camps, art classes and workshops. Phone: (954) 424-0085.



STAYBRIDGE SUITES FT. LAUDERDALE AIRPORT WEST BOOK NOW

954/990-5150

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4901 Griffin Rd 33314.

DEERFIELD BEACH

- Hotels p. 46
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

QUIET WATERS PARK is 2 mi, w. from I-95 via SR 810 (Hillsboro Blvd.), then .2 mi. s. on SR 845 (Powerline Rd.). Within its 430 acres this water-oriented park offers freshwater fishing, pre-setup tent camping, shelter picnicking, a mountain bike trail, a playground and cable water-skiing. A children's water playground also is available. A fishing license may be required for over 16 years of age. The park is the site of the Florida Renaissance Festival, held 6 weekends starting in early February. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Bicvcle rentals are available. Food is available seasonally. Phone: (954) 357-5100, or (954) 429-0215 for ski



DOUBLETREE BY HILTON DEERFIELD BEACH/BOCA RATON

BOOK NOW

954/427-7700





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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 100 Fairway Dr 33441. Facility: 221 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated

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





















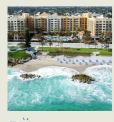




Get member rates and reservations at AAA.com/hertz

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON DEERFIELD BEACH RESORT &

BOOK NOW 954/426-0478







SUITES by HILTON

EMBASSY Resort Hotel. Address: 950 S Ocean Dr 33441. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Located on the beach, this all-suite option has 2 bathrooms in each unit, a living/dining area and either a small Juliet balcony or a full balcony with seating and a small table. 244 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking:

on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































 $^{\prime}$ FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT DEERFIELD BEACH - BOCA

BOOK NOW 954/671-5300



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 301 Hillsboro Technology Dr 33441.



WYNDHAM DEERFIELD BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW

954/428-2850



Hotel. Address: 2096 NE 2nd St 33441. Location: Oceanfront. Across from the beach. Facility: 172 units. 8 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, beach on-site, cabanas, exercise room, Guest Services: valet laundry.





















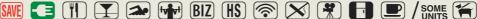














DELRAY BEACH

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

• Hotels p. 48

A resort on the Atlantic Ocean, Delray Beach features well-groomed beaches, a bustling downtown in a villagelike setting and a vibrant arts community. Delray Beach Playhouse, 950 N.W. 9th St., has been offering community theater for more than 70 years; phone (561) 272-1281.

Japanese heritage is celebrated during Hatsume Fair at The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in mid-April. The 2-day festival features bonsai and martial art demonstrations, craft vendors, a Japanese tea ceremony and taiko drummers. Asian and American food vendors, the Kirin Beer Garden, a sake station and children's activities also are offered.

Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce: 140 N.E. 1st St., Delray Beach, FL 33444. Phone: (561) 278-0424.

MORIKAMI MUSEUM AND JAPANESE GAR-DENS, 4000 Morikami Park Rd., offers a permanent exhibit chronicling the history of the area's Yamato

Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

DELRAY BEACH, FL

Colony, an early 20th-century Japanese farming settlement; changing exhibitions dedicated to traditional and contemporary Japanese culture; and seasonal tea ceremony demonstrations. Of special interest is a bonsai exhibit featuring more than 50 trees ranging in age from five to 400 years. Inspired by various historical periods and gardening styles are six diverse gardens situated on 16 acres around a peaceful lake with whispering waterfalls and pagodas.

An audio tour by cellphone is available. Food is available at the on-site cafe Tues.-Sun. 11-3. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (561) 495-0233.

OLD SCHOOL SQUARE is 5 blks. w. of US 1 at 51 N. Swinton Ave., or 1 mi. e. of I-95 on Atlantic Ave. A national historic site, the complex consists of restored, early 20thcentury school buildings that house Cornell Art Museum, Crest Theatre and The Fieldhouse. The theater presents lectures and professional musical, comedy, national tour and Broadway cabaret productions from October through May; community events are held in The Fieldhouse. The museum features rotating exhibits of fine art, crafts and pop culture. An outdoor pavilion hosts concerts and festivals.

Guided tours of the site are available. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (561) 243-7922. GT

Cornell Art Museum, 51 N. Swinton Ave., features contemporary paintings, sculpture, photography and other works by regional and nationally known artists. The facility is a restored 1913 school building. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (561) 243-7922. GT

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT DELRAY BEACH BOOK NOW 561/926-5833



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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 135 SE 6th Ave 33483. Facility: 150 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. 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























FAIRFIELD INN BY MARRIOTT DELRAY BEACH I-95

BOOK NOW

561/279-2900



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

Hotel. Address: 910 W Atlantic Ave 33444. Facility: 95 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































HAMPTON INN BY HILTON DELRAY BEACH BOOK NOW

561/330-9333





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 201 NE 4th St 33483. Facility: 143 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool:

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























HYATT PLACE DELRAY BEACH

BOOK NOW

561/330-3530



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!

[MVE] [fyi] Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 104 NE 2nd Ave 33444. Facility: 134 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



OPAL GRAND OCEANFRONT RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW

561/274-3200



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 10 N Ocean Blvd 33483.



THE RAY HOTEL DELRAY BEACH, CURIO COLLECTION BY

HILTON

BOOK NOW

561/739-1700





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

Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 233 NE 2nd Ave 33444. Facility: Rooms at this chic hotel are decorated in a mid-century modern style and feature streaming TVs as well as unique artwork. Shuttle services to the beach include 2 lounge chairs and an umbrella to use. 141 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



























50 DORAL, FL

DORAL

- Hotels p. 50
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

Created circa 1950, this diverse South Florida community, whose name drew from the first syllables of the real estate developers' names—Doris and Alfred Kaskel—only became incorporated in 2003. Northwest of Miami International Airport (MIA), it boasts numerous import and export businesses, industrial facilities and residential neighborhoods. Popular pastimes include shopping, dining and golfing.

A free trolley runs through the city and connects to the Palmetto Metrorail Station: phone (305) 593-6740 for details.



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AIRPORT WEST DORAL BOOK NOW 786/753-6035



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

SAVE) Contemporary Hotel. Address: 8091 NW 36th St 33166.







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

Hotel. Address: 3265 NW 107th Ave 33172. Facility: 145 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Amenities: safes. Pool:

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

































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

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room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























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Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3285 NW 107th Ave 33172. Facility: 139 units, some efficiencies. 7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Amenities: safes. Dining: entertainment. Pool: outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































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



























INTERCONTINENTAL AT DORAL MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/468-1400



Hotel. Address: 2505 NW 87th Ave 33172. Facility: 265 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service, area transportation.





























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SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3450 NW 91st Ave 33172.



SONESTA SIMPLY SUITES MIAMI AIRPORT

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Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 8855 NW 27th St 33172. Facility: 128 efficiencies. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT - MIAMI DORAL BOOK NOW

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SAVE Hotel. Address: 3895 NW 107th Ave 33178.

TRUMP NATIONAL DORAL MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/592-2000



Resort Hotel. Address: 4400 NW 87th Ave 33178. Facility: Situated on 800 acres of landscaped grounds, this multifaceted resort offers spacious rooms with dark wood furnishings, marble bathrooms and brass accents. 643 units, some two bedrooms. 3-4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation.































FOUR DIAMOND

DRY TORTUGAS NATIONAL PARK

• Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

Elevations in the land portion of the park are at sea level. Most of the park is water.

The Tortugas are 68 nautical miles west of Key West. The seven Tortugas Keys, or Dry Tortugas Islands, and the surrounding waters in the Gulf of Mexico constitute Dry Tortugas National Park. Discovered by Ponce de León in 1513 and named Las Tortugas for their great number of turtles, the islands are called Dry Tortugas because they lack fresh water.

For centuries the islands were inhabited by pirates who were protected from detection by passing vessels by the rocks and shallow waters. Lighthouses were built on Garden Key in 1825 and on Loggerhead Key in 1856.

Strategically located between the United States and South America, the Tortugas attract many species of migratory birds. The most noted inhabitant is the sooty tern, which breeds on Bush Key between March and September. Another familiar inhabitant is the sea turtle, four endangered species of which nest in the park.

Fort Jefferson was begun on Garden Key in 1846, but after 30 years of construction it was still incomplete. Intended to protect vital shipping access to the Gulf, its 8-foot-thick walls and 450 guns were never tested. During

the Civil War Federal troops occupied the fort, but by 1866 the introduction of rifled cannon and the fall of Fort Pulaski had made brick and masonry forts obsolete.

In 1861 Fort Jefferson became a prison for army deserters and in 1865 received the four "Lincoln Conspirators," condemned for their part in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The fort was abandoned in 1874 following a hurricane and a second yellow fever outbreak. The Navy used it as the site for a wireless station in the early 1900s, then as a seaplane base in World War I. In 1935 President Franklin Roosevelt proclaimed the area a national monument.

Access to the park is by private boat (with permit), commercial ferry or seaplane departing from Key West (see place listing p. 115). Operators provide diving and snorkeling trips and guided fishing, wildlife and boating tours. Camping is permitted on the fort's grassy apron, and its shores lend themselves to swimming and snorkeling. No fresh water, food, fuel, supplies or public telephones are available.

Dry Tortugas National Park is open daily dawn-dusk. Admission, valid for 7 days, \$15; free (ages 0-15). A \$15 fee per site per night is charged for camping. Free boating permits and a brief video presentation are available in the visitor center. For further information contact Dry Tortugas National Park, 40001 SR 9336, Homestead, FL 33034; phone (305) 242-7700. See Recreation Areas Chart.



AAA Diamonds are now Inspected Clean:

AAA.com/diamonds



DUCK KEY

- Hotels p. 54
- Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60



HAWKS CAY RESORT BOOK NOW 305/743-7000



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Resort Hotel. Address: 61 Hawks Cay Blvd 33050. Location: Oceanfront. Located in a remote area. Facility: With its private location just north of Marathon key, this multifaceted resort offers a variety of room types featuring stylish furnishings and oversize showers. 177 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, marina, fishing, scuba diving, snorkeling, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: area transportation. Affiliated with Preferred Hotels & Resorts. (See ad p. 55.)























ESTERO

Hotels p. 54

Shopping: Miromar Outlets, I-75 exit 123, holds more than 140 factory outlet stores, including Brooks Brothers, Polo Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger; phone (239) 948-3766. Shop in a beautiful Mediterranean setting replete with fountains, koi ponds and tropical landscaping. When you've maxed out the credit cards, or just need a break, hang around for some free entertainment, including a concert series and a children's playground. Coconut Point, off S. Tamiami Tr. at 23106 Fashion Dr., is home to more than 140 stores and eateries and a 16-screen movie theater.

KORESHAN STATE PARK, US 41 at Corkscrew Rd. on the banks of the Estero River, was the site of the religious community established in 1894 when Cyrus Reed Teed and his followers, members of the Koreshan Unity, arrived from Chicago. Restored historical buildings and gardens occupy the site. Camping and canoe and kayak rentals are available; reservations are recommended. Activities and campfire programs (for campers) are offered seasonally. Special events also are held seasonally. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Note: Due to the ongoing effects of Hurricane Ian, phone ahead for updates. Insect repellent is recommended. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (239) 992-0311. **GT**



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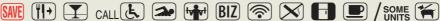
Hotel. Address: 23120 Via Villagio 33928. Location: Located at Coconut Point Mall. Facility: 108 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

































SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS/ESTERO

BOOK NOW

239/948-0220



MARRIOTT

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

Hotel. Address: 10370 Corkscrew Commons Dr 33928. Facility: 100 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor.

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



























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS/ESTERO

BOOK NOW 239/317-3200



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 23161 Via Coconut Point 33928.

EVERGLADES CITY

Because of its location at the northwest corner of the Everglades, Everglades City is a popular point of departure for fishing trips into Everglades National Park. Some restaurants will prepare the day's catch for the evening meal.

Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce: 32016 Tamiami Tr. E., Everglades City, FL 34139. Phone: (239) 695-3941.

EVERGLADES EXCURSIONS—see Naples p. 183.

JUNGLE ERV'S AIRBOAT TOURS, .25 mi. w. of jct. SR 29 on US 41 at 31222 Tamiami Tr., offers 1-hour narrated ecotours of the Everglades on a small airboat. The area is rich with bird life, including great blue herons and egrets, as well as a variety of plant species and alligators. Tours include a visit to a nearby alligator exhibit and boardwalk.

A Wildlife Safari land tour also is offered. **Phone:** (877) 695-2820. **GT**



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

Elevations in the park range from sea level to 8 ft.

The park's main entrance is reached via SR 9336 from US 1 at Florida City. Everglades National Park, the largest remaining subtropical wilderness in the nation, is a diverse and intricately linked series of habitats sheltering a variety of plants and animals, including 39 species listed as threatened or endangered, or which are candidates for listing. The park contains more than 1.5 million acres of natural habitat, half of them water, and includes Cape Sable, the southernmost point on the U.S. mainland. From Cape Sable the park

Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

extends 45 miles north along the Gulf of Mexico and 30 miles east, including Florida Bay.

The Everglades ecosystem, which is much larger than the park, was originally a slow-moving freshwater river, 50 miles wide and a few inches deep, fed by Lake Okeechobee. Much of the region is wetland including saw grass marsh and mangrove forest dotted with hammocks and salt prairies. Except for the pinelands and the highest hammocks, any spot can flood in the rainy season.

Increased development in southern Florida imperils the area. Canals alternately drain and flood the region to meet the water demands of nearby cities, but in doing so they reverse the natural wet and dry cycles of the Everglades. Although fire occurs naturally in this environment, drought and canal drainage have magnified its destructive impact.

The land areas are not more than 8 feet above mean sea level, and bay bottoms are not more than 16 feet below mean sea level. The Ten Thousand Islands area conceals a strange kind of beauty and tranquility within its tide-swept maze of islets, oyster bars and mud shallows.

Trees and flowers are much the same as those found in Cuba and the West Indies. At least seven species of native palms grow within the park. The stately royal palm is found in greatest numbers at the Royal Palm Nature Center. In addition to the tropical and subtropical trees and shrubs, there are more species belonging to the temperate zone and multitudes of ferns, orchids and air plants. Beware of the saw grass; its sharp barbs can easily slash bare skin and thin clothing.

The park is home to more than 300 species of birds, many of which leave during summer. Among those that stay are two species found only in the southernmost tip of the Florida peninsula: the Cape Sable seaside sparrow and the great white heron. One species that does proliferate is the mosquito; strong insect repellent is a necessity from May to November and is recommended all year.

The Everglades is among the few remaining places where the manatee, or sea cow, and the rare American crocodile are assured a permanent sanctuary. Along with more than 600 species of fish, alligators, snakes and sea turtles are common. Bottlenose dolphins occasionally are seen. A fishing license is required for all fishing areas, and bag limits are strictly enforced for both freshwater and saltwater fishing.

General Information and Activities

Everglades National Park is open all year. From the headquarters and visitor center at the main entrance, this 38-mile road continues to Flamingo. The scenic Tamiami Trail (US 41) skirts the park's northern border and leads to the Shark Valley and Everglades City entrances.

Few people really know the waterways of the Everglades. Most of the waters have been charted by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, and visitors traveling by boat should obtain these charts at area bait and tackle shops before starting their trips. Permits are required for overnight backcountry camping and must be applied for in person at the Flamingo or Gulf Coast Visitor Centers, no more than 24 hours in advance. As a safety precaution, park officials urge boaters to file trip plans with the park before their departures and that visitors to the backcountry carry an electronic personal tracking (EPT) device.

Five marked canoe trails offer 5- to 22-mile round trips from the Flamingo area, and the 99-mile Wilderness Waterway winds between Flamingo and Everglades City. Canoe rentals are available at outfitters in Flamingo and Everglades City; visitor centers distribute trail maps.

Along the main park road between park headquarters and Flamingo are six major boardwalk or blacktop nature trails (see trail listings). Flamingo has a campground and a visitor center which is open mid-November to mid-April. Campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis mid-April through mid-November, otherwise by reservations. Campers should carry mosquito repellent. Phone (239) 695-2945 for the visitor center or (877) 444-6777 for campground reservations. See Recreation Areas Chart.

A ranger-led walking/driving tour of the Nike Hercules Missile Site HM-69, one of four facilities constructed in south Florida in response to the Cuban Missile Crisis, is offered December through April. The tour includes the battery control and launch areas. Other tours also are offered; phone (305) 242-7700.

Boat tours depart from Flamingo Marina and from the visitor center in Everglades City. Reservations are recommended for Flamingo-based tours; phone (239) 695-3101 or (239) 695-2591, respectively.

Sightseeing opportunities by independent operators are abundant. Boat trips through a portion of the Ten Thousand Islands area leave from nearby cities (see Everglades City p. 56 and Naples p. 56). Airboat rides, available outside the park, are offered by private operators along the Tamiami Trail (US 41) west of Miami and along SR 9336 near the main entrance to the park.

Self-guiding bicycle, kayak and canoe trips originate in many areas of the park; phone (305) 242-7700.

VISITOR CENTERS within the park offer information that can enhance a visit. Visitor center hours may vary; phone ahead.

Ernest Coe Visitor Center, at the park entrance at 40001 SR 9336, contains natural history exhibits, orientation films and park information. **Phone:** (305) 242-7700.

58 EVERGLADES NP — FLORIDA CITY, FL

Flamingo Visitor Center, 38 mi. s.w. of the main park entrance via SR 9336, has educational exhibits and a marina opening onto Florida Bay. **Phone:** (239) 695-2945.

Gulf Coast Visitor Center, in Everglades City in the northwest corner of the park, contains natural history exhibits, orientation films and park information. **Phone:** (239) 695-3311.

Royal Palm Nature Center, 4 mi. w. of the main park entrance via SR 9336, has natural history items, park information and a book store. **Phone:** (305) 242-7700.

Shark Valley Visitor Center is e. on US 41 to Shark Valley entrance. The center provides park information and educational displays. Guided 2-hour tram tours also are offered. **Phone:** (305) 221-8776 for the center, or (305) 221-8455 for tram tours. GT

ADMISSION to the park at the Homestead and Shark Valley entrances is \$30 per private vehicle, \$25 per motorcycle or \$15 per person arriving by bicycle or on foot and is valid for seven days; free (ages 0-15).

PETS are permitted only in roadside campgrounds and picnic areas, on roadways open to public vehicular traffic, on maintained grounds surrounding public facilities and aboard boats. Pets must be leashed and under close supervision at all times.

ADDRESS inquiries to Everglades National Park, 40001 SR 9336, Homestead, FL 33034; phone (305) 242-7700.

ANHINGA TRAIL starts 4 mi. inside the park at the Royal Palm Nature Center and follows an elevated boardwalk. During the winter alligators, snowy egrets, anhingas and garfish can be seen. **Phone:** (305) 242-7700.

GUMBO LIMBO TRAIL, starts at the Royal Palm Nature Center at 40001 SR 9336 and penetrates the interior of Paradise Key hammock, where many species of native plants can be seen. **Phone:** (305) 242-7700.

LONG PINE KEY AREA, 5.5 mi. from the Homestead park entrance, contains camping and picnic facilities, and nature, hiking and bicycling trails.

MAHOGANY HAMMOCK, 19.5 mi. from the Homestead park entrance, is a region of mahogany trees and many other subtropical plants labeled for easy identification. An

elevated boardwalk winds through the forest. **Phone:** (305) 242-7700.

PA-HAY-OKEE OVERLOOK is 12.5 mi. from the park entrance. The overlook consists of a 12-foot tower at Shark River Slough that affords views of the vast saw grass wilderness.

PINELANDS TRAIL, 6.5 mi. from the Homestead park entrance, extends into an area of southern pines, scrub palmetto and related plants.

SHARK VALLEY, off US 41, has several short self-guiding trails that make it easy to explore the area. Bobcat Boardwalk passes through a bayhead tree island, while Otter Cave Hammock Trail leads through limestone formations and a tropical hammock. Self-guiding bicycle trails and bicycle rentals are available. **Phone:** (305) 221-8776.

Shark Valley Tram Tours departs from Shark Valley off US 41. The 2-hour, 15-mile excursion explores the saw grass wilderness of Shark Valley and includes a 20-minute stop at the observation tower at the southern end of the tram road. Reservations are recommended 1 to 3 weeks in advance Dec.-Apr. **Phone:** (305) 221-8455. **GT**

WEST LAKE BOARDWALK TRAIL, 30.5 mi. from the Homestead park entrance, extends through a mangrove forest at West Lake on an elevated boardwalk.

FLORIDA CITY

- Hotels p. 58
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

Florida City is surrounded by agricultural fields often referred to as the nation's "winter vegetable basket." Snap and pole beans, zucchini and squash are winter crops, while okra, limes, avocados and mangoes grow during the summer.

Tropical Everglades Visitor Association: 160 S.E. 1st Ave. (US 1), Florida City, FL 33034. **Phone:** (305) 245-9180 or (800) 388-9669.

Shopping: Florida Keys Outlet Center, junction SR 821 (Florida's Turnpike) and US 1 at 250 E. Palm Dr., offers more than 50 outlet shops including Aeropostale, Coach, Gap Factory Store and Gymboree Outlet.



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SAVE Hotel. Address: 60 SW 352nd St 33034.

THE FLORIDA KEYS

"One Human Family." You'll see this slogan on bumper stickers and you'll see it in action when you visit the Keys. In Key West, all types of folks saunter down Duval Street with nary a care or a stare: beach bums, gay couples, nattily attired cruisers on shore excursions, Hemingway lookalikes, drag queens, retired folks, honeymooners, strutting roosters, writers, musicians, even the occasional celebrity. All pretenses are dropped in the Keys; after all, everyone is here to let loose and have fun, and the surrounding waters of the Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico and Florida Bay as well as the islands' natural beauty inspire relaxation and good times.

Off the southern tip of Florida, the Florida Keys resemble a broken necklace, each island a charm on a slender 125-mile chain of 1,700 islands linked by more than 40 bridges. The most well-known island and most popular choice for vacationers, Key West, measures 2 miles wide by 4 miles long. Though very small, this tiny island is brimming with more things to do than islands 10 times its size.

But don't dismiss Key West's sister islands—especially Big Pine Key, Islamorada, Key Largo and Marathon—as just names on signs to drive past on your way to Key West. Each island has its own claim to fame and is worth exploring. Key Largo is a scuba diver's dream; it's called the Diving Capital of the World for its many living coral reefs and shipwrecks. Islamorada earns its nickname, the Sportfishing Capital of the World, for its uncommon diversity of fish, including sailfish, swordfish and tarpon, and its proximity to both the salty Atlantic Ocean and the fresh waters of Florida Bay.

The main draw in Big Pine Key is its population of endangered diminutive Key deer; watch your speed carefully as they often roam near the highway. Nicknamed the Heart of the Keys, Marathon is the halfway point to Key West and another hot spot for sport fishing. Here the Seven Mile Bridge, perhaps the world's longest segmented bridge, stretches on and on and on.

However, the bridge isn't the only method one can use to travel between Key Largo and Key West. The Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail runs parallel to US 1 and currently has 90 miles of paved trails that provide an alternative route for bicyclists, in-line skaters, hikers and runners. The trail will be 106 miles when complete, as some segments are still under development. For a map and further information, phone (305) 853-3571.

Driving down the Overseas Highway from the mainland, you'll glimpse beachfront property here and there, and it's easy to imagine that larger sandy beaches exist beyond the ubiquitous thickets of mangroves. Surprisingly, the islands' shores tend to lean toward the rocky side and most beaches are quite small.

But there are a few exceptions, and those exceptions are, well, quite exceptional. Take Bahia Honda State Park, whose beaches have been rated by experts to be among the best in the United States. Barefoot beachgoers enjoy walking in the long stretches of velvety soft sand, taking a dip in the warm ocean water, and picnicking under brightly colored beach umbrellas. The park also appeals to outdoor sports lovers and nature lovers with camping sites, a marina, snorkeling, tarpon fishing, a butterfly garden and a trail to the Old Bahia Honda Bridge, built over Henry Flagler's railroad. Peer over the edge and gaze at the sparkling turquoise expanse of the Atlantic Ocean in all its grandeur, speckled with power boats, sailboats and vachts.

The ocean and gulf attract not only boaters, but scuba divers, snorkelers and fishermen as well. Pull on a wet suit and dive right in to see some spectacular underwater sights. The Keys' limpid waters reveal 600 species of brilliantly colored tropical fish and 55 types of living coral, but that's just the start. In the ocean off Key Largo lie sunken shipwrecks, including two Coast Guard cutters sunk in 1987 and the USS Spiegel Grove, a 510-foot landing dock. Explore an 1853 slave ship off the coast of Marathon and a 1733 Spanish galleon off Islamorada.

At John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo, search for otherworldly sea creatures in the living coral reefs via snorkeling, scuba diving or a glass-bottom boat ride and pay a visit to the oft-photographed underwater statue "Christ of the Deep." For sport fishing, Islamorada is unrivaled for the scores of blue and white



The Florida Keys

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



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Islamorada 106	

marlin, bonefish, grouper, kingfish, sailfish, snapper, tuna and wahoo that fill Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. In fact, the Keys are well-known in the sport fishing world for having the most world records.

Back on land, the partying spirit of the Keys shows up in festivals held throughout the year. For 10 days in April, the Conch Republic Independence Celebration in Key West pays tribute to the "secession" of the Keys from the U.S. in April 1982 with parades, battles of historic ships and a "drag race" featuring drag queens. And what would Key West be without a tribute to Ernest Hemingway, who called Key West home for 10 years? Held in July, Hemingway Days features a marlin fishing contest, a shortstory contest hosted by the legendary author's granddaughter, a Hemingway look-alike contest, and a mock running of the bulls (with Papa's doubles riding wooden bulls).

Fantasy Fest is doubtless the most notorious of festivals in Key West; for 10 days in late October, the town takes on a Mardi Gras-like madness, replete with costume balls and contests, outrageous parties, a pet masquerade and a street fair. The phantasmagorical Fantasy Fest Parade is the event's crowning glory, with marching bands, dancers and amazing floats. Finally, there's the Sunset Celebration held every day at Key West's Mallory Square. Tourists and natives alike swarm to the square, cold beers and frozen cocktails in hand, entertained by jugglers, fire eaters, performing cats, and the pièce de résistance, the radiant sunset. The sun descends in a blaze of glory; the sky bursts with gold, copper and indigo, reminiscent of the treasures pirates and wreckers coveted so many years ago.

Out-of-towners flock to Key West partly because of its reputation as a carefree party town; outdoor recreation aficionados journey to all of the islands because of their reputation as a sportsman's paradise. However, the islands have long held allure for a variety of adventureseekers and mavericks.

Since the 19th century, pirates, shipwreck salvagers, shipbuilders, cigar makers, spongers, rumrunners, artists, writers and Bahamian and Cuban immigrants have experienced the magnetic pull of the Keys, contributing to the area's wealth and fascinating history. Between the 1820s and the 1860s, shipwreck salvagers, also known as wreckers, found their fortune by unearthing boatloads of treasure from ships that wrecked on the nearby coral reefs. Many of the beautiful Victorian homes seen today in Key West were built by wealthy salvage captains.

In the mid-1800s, spongers reaped their harvest from local waters; in the late 1800s, transplanted Cubans turned cigar making into big business. The late 1800s to early 1900s saw the growth of the pineapple industry; Key lime farmers turned a tidy profit around the turn of the 20th century.

Flagler's railroad ushered in the modern era in the early 1900s, connecting the mainland to the Keys in 1912. The 128-mile railroad took 7 years to build and the price was steep, costing not only tens of millions of dollars but hundreds of lost lives due to several hurricanes during its construction. Nature was not kind to Flagler; in 1935, another hurricane destroyed most of "Flagler's Folly." The state of Florida bought the railroad's remains and built a highway; by 1938, the Overseas Highway, an extension of US 1, was in business. And so were the Florida Keys, drawing scores of vacationers and those in search of a more bohemian lifestyle.

Inspired by the beauty and freethinking atmosphere of the Florida Keys, a small group of America's most noted authors, artists and musicians traveled down the Overseas Highway and put down roots. Ernest Hemingway, Tennessee Williams, Robert Frost, John Hersey and Zane Grey are just a few well-known writers who hung their straw hats in Key West; today more than 50 authors call Key West home. Artists Winslow Homer, John James Audubon and Mario Sanchez have had a Florida Keys address; today marine artist Robert Wyland lives in Islamorada and art galleries proliferate throughout the islands. Musician and former resident Jimmy Buffett's song "Margaritaville" is practically Key West's anthem, and tourists flock to his restaurant of the same name on Duval Street for that infamous cheeseburger in you-know-where as well as other savory Florida Keys fare.

But don't stop there. When it comes to culinary delights, the Keys have a bounty of restaurants to tempt your taste buds. Since the ocean and the Gulf of Mexico are almost a stone crab's throw away, fresh seafood practically jumps onto your plate. Besides amazingly fresh grouper, yellowtail snapper, stone crab and shrimp (aka "pink gold"), you'll find conch in many forms, including salad and fritters. Key lime pie is the de rigueur dessert, yet every restaurant has its own version—conduct a taste test of your own.

With an unbeatable combination of Key lime pie and coral reefs, shipwrecks and stunning sunsets, art galleries and the Atlantic Ocean, the Florida Keys are a flavorful feast for the senses and the soul. No matter which of the Keys whets your appetite, whether it's Islamorada or Key West, Marathon or Key Largo, it's time to forget your troubles, get happy and let the spirit of the Keys take over—only good times lie ahead.

Destinations in this region listed under their own names are Bahia Honda Key, Big Pine Key, Cudjoe Key, Dry Tortugas National Park, Duck Key, Islamorada, Key Colony Beach, Key Largo, Key West, Long Key, Marathon and Sugarloaf Key.

Fort Lauderdale

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Then & Now

The Atlantic Ocean is why most visitors head south to Fort Lauderdale, the popular beachfront destination between ritzy Palm Beach and sexy Miami Beach.

More than 7 miles of warm, golden sand beaches separate the ocean from scenic coastal route SR A1A. Hotels, local restaurants and bars, both swanky and not so, are neighbors to shops selling everything from designer wear to touristy souvenirs. Busy Port Everglades also attracts its fair share of cruise passengers to Greater Fort Lauderdale—3.8 million in 2016; the cruise port was ranked No. 2 worldwide.

A 2-mile-long section of the city's ocean coastline is fronted by a pedestrian promenade and what locals call the "wavewall," a flowing, serpentine wall cut by decorative entranceways to the beach and water. A fiber-optic lighting system embedded in the wall creates a glowing neon stripe when the sun retreats.

There's a good reason why Fort Lauderdale is known as the Venice of America and the Yachting Capital of the World. The city's 300 miles of navigable waterways—the Intracoastal Waterway, the New River and the canals that cut away from these liquid highways like side streets veering off a main thoroughfare—create a lacy honeycombed grid where boats replace cars as the means of transportation.

The best way to experience this unusual road system is first-hand on a boat tour; several companies offer sight-seeing cruises along the Intracoastal and the New River. Captains provide narration about the city's history and development as they steer past opulent multimillion-dollar mansions and the mega yachts casually parallel parked in front of them.

Another way of navigating this watery maze of channels, especially if you want to get from point A to point B, is to hop aboard a water taxi. These diminutive bright yellow vessels are easily recognizable as they scurry about Fort Lauderdale.

Ships of a much larger size also make use of the city's water highways. Millions of eager cruisers flock to Fort

Port Everglades / © iStockphoto.com / Levranii





Destination Fort Lauderdale

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



Coconut Creek	37
Coral Springs	42
Dania Beach	42
Davie	4
Deerfield Beach	46
Hallandale Beach	100
Hollywood	10
Lauderdale-by-the-Sea	127
Miramar	179
Pembroke Pines	195
Plantation	196
Pompano Beach	197
Sunrise	208
Tamarac	209
Weston	210

FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE CITY

POP: 165,521 • **ELEV:** 7 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: The sales tax in Broward County is 6 percent. A tourist development tax of 5 percent is levied on rental accommodations.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (954) 828-5700 ● Sheriff (954)

764-4357

FIRE (non-emergency): (954) 828-6800 **TIME AND TEMPERATURE: (954) 748-4444**

HOSPITALS: Broward Health Imperial Point, (954) 776-8500 • Broward Health Medical Center, (954) 355-4400 Holy Cross Hospital, (954) 771-8000.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce: 512 N.E. 3rd Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Phone: (954) 462-6000.

The chamber distributes maps, brochures and a variety of other local information Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

Visit Lauderdale: 101 N.E. 3rd Ave., Suite 100, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. Phone: (954) 765-4466.

The bureau is open Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5.

The Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation events hotline is (954) 828-5363.

Lauderdale each year to begin Caribbean travel or trips to the Panama Canal, the Bahamas and other exotic locales. Port Everglades, one of the world's busiest ports, serves as the departure point for these cruise vacations.

If you're into water-based recreation, Fort Lauderdale's got you covered. Offshore reefs-both natural and artificial—are well-known by scuba divers and snorkelers. Coral reefs plus an assortment of submerged freighters. tugs, planes and shipwrecks attract colorful marine life and those eager to discover it. Fishermen and boaters also are in for a treat. Charter boats for deep-sea sportfishing and drift fishing take anglers out into the Atlantic in search of game fish.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: Airline tickets, information on flight reservations and flights are available at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL)—between I-95 and US 1, just south of SR 84.

RENTAL CARS: Hertz, at the airport, offers discounts to AAA members; phone (954) 764-1199 or (800) 654-3080.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: The Amtrak station is at 200 S.W. 21st Terr. For trip information and reservations phone (800) 872-7245.

Brightline—a high-speed passenger train with stations in Aventura, Boca Raton, Miami, Orlando and West Palm Beach in addition to Fort Lauderdale-is available at 101 NW 2nd Ave.: parking is at 300 NW 2nd St. Phone ahead (305) 521-4800 to confirm schedule and find low fares.

BUSES: The bus terminal serving the destination is Greyhound Lines Inc., 515 N.E. 3rd St.; phone (954) 764-6551.

TAXIS: Cabs are plentiful. Fares are metered and are \$4.50 for the first mile and \$2.40 for each additional mile (plus 40c per minute during stops). The largest company is Yellow Cab. (954) 565-5400 or (954) 777-7777.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Broward County Transit, (954) 357-8400, provides transportation to all sections of Fort Lauderdale and its outlying areas. Buses also are available between the downtown area and the beach. Sun Trolley offers many routes that service the downtown and beach areas; for information phone (954) 761-3543.

As for its history, Fort Lauderdale had its beginnings in the late 19th century when Frank Stranahan established a trading post along the New River. That location, now at the heart of downtown Fort Lauderdale, is part of The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District, which encompasses many of the city's cultural institutions as well as major attractions, shops and restaurants. The district extends east from the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and includes such city highlights as the Museum of Discovery and Science, an interactive must-see for children; Himmarshee Village, known for its nightlife; History Fort Lauderdale's restored early 1900s buildings; the 20th-century works at the NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale: and the Historic Stranahan House Museum.

An integral (and very popular) part of the arts and entertainment district is the Riverwalk, a brick-lined promenade along the New River. Referred to as a "linear park," the lushly landscaped walkway is a great place for an evening or weekend stroll.

In its earliest days, getting to Fort Lauderdale's beach meant arriving by boat. When the first road was built connecting the city to the ocean, it was fittingly named Las Olas ("the waves" in Spanish). From the Riverwalk you can connect to Las Olas at the Stranahan House and fun things to do. The boulevard is still one of the main roads to the beachfront, though it now is also the city's principal shopping avenue.

Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

- Be seen on Las Olas Boulevard. Fort Lauderdale's premier shopping and strolling address. Local restaurants, one-of-a-kind boutiques, high-end designer shops, bars, nightspots, and day spas line this landscaped two-and-a-half-mile avenue stretching from downtown to the ocean.
- Purchase an all-day water taxi pass and navigate the city's liquid streets with unlimited on-off privileges at 13 stops. You'll always be just minutes from hotels,



Dive in the natural reefs / © iStockphoto.com / ultramarinfoto

- the beach, food places and fabulous Las Olas Boulevard. Most of the taxi operators also provide commentary along with the transportation.
- Peek into the world of artists Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett at Se Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (900 N. Birch Rd.). Built in the style of a Caribbean plantation house, the Bartlett home features walls and doors painted in vibrant colors, balconies with lacy wrought iron railings and shaded loggias designed to create outdoor living spaces complete with whimsical sculptures, framed paintings and walls embellished with seashell inlays. Artwork collected and created by the couple illuminates this house museum, and the 35-acre beachfront estate includes lagoons, gardens, a tropical fruit grove, an orchid house, a mangrove jungle and other things to see.
- Stand still long enough in Stand still long enough in Coconut Creek's Tradewinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Rd., and a monarch may land on your head. Thousands of colorful butterflies flutter freely in this botanical destination filled with lorikeets. hummingbirds, insects, spiders and lovely tropical plants, and at the Butterfly Lab's encounter room, you can watch as butterflies emerge from their cocoons.
- Drift through the Venice of America on a vintage Italian gondola piloted by a singing gondolier—one of the best thing for couples to do in Fort Lauderdale or sail past mansions and yachts along the Intracoastal Waterway aboard boats operated by Jungle Queen Riverboat Cruise (s. of Bahia-Mar Yachting Center, 801 Seabreeze Blvd.) or Riverfront Cruises (New River dock at Las Olas Entertainment Complex, 300 S.W. 1st Ave.).
- Skim across a river of grass and encounter wildlife, including alligators, on South Florida's wetland frontier courtesy of Everglades Holiday Park Airboat Tours (21940 Griffin Rd.) or Sawgrass Recreation Park, 1006 US 27N, in nearby Weston.
- Dive deep in the Atlantic Ocean! At least 20 designated dive sites can be reached just off the coast. In fact, the natural reefs and planted wrecks in Fort Lauderdale are perfect for year-round exploration.
- Try your luck at Texas Hold'em or the hundreds of gaming machines at Seminole Hard Rock Casino, 1 Seminole way, in nearby Hollywood.
- Stretch out on pristine sand at Dania Beach, Deerfield Beach, Fort Lauderdale Beach, Hollywood or Pompano Beach, some of south Florida's certified Blue Wave beaches, which have been designated for cleanliness.
- Visit Fort Lauderdale's rustic past at the **Historic**

- Stranahan House Museum, 335 S.E. 6th Ave., a two-story pine structure that served as a trading post for settlers when it was built in 1901 and later became a post office and town hall for the growing destination. Home to one of Fort Lauderdale's first families from 1906-1971, the museum stands at its original location, which is now the eastern end of the city's Riverwalk district.
- Meander along the waterside path at the heart of The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District in downtown Fort Lauderdale, a 22-block area with lush tropical landscaping, shops, food places and historic buildings as well as the Museum of Discovery and Science (401 S.W. Second St.) and cultural institutions such as the NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale (1 E. Las Olas Blvd.) and Broward Center for the Performing Arts (201 S.W. 5th Ave.), which is the city's venue for ballet, concerts and Broadway shows.

Fort Lauderdale 1-day Itinerary

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

Mornina

- Begin your day with a stroll along Fort Lauderdale's lovely Riverwalk. Part of The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District, this meandering promenade connects the **Broward Center for the Performing** Arts (201 S.W. 5th Ave.) with the Historic Stranahan House Museum (335 S.E. 6th Ave.), one of the oldest homes in Fort Lauderdale. You'll also find the Museum of Discovery and Science (401 S.W. Second St.), the NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale (1 E. Las Olas Blvd.) and Himmarshee Village, a four-block-long section of S.W. 2nd Street (Himmarshee Street) with several nightclubs and restaurants nearby.
- From the Riverwalk's eastern end, walk a couple blocks north to reach Las Olas Boulevard, a landscaped thoroughfare running two and a half miles from the heart of downtown directly to the ocean. Along the stretch of Las Olas between S. Federal Highway (US 1) and S.E. 16th Avenue is a shopping district crowded with trendy boutiques, antique shops, art galleries, nightclubs and food places. Palm trees, planters filled with tropical foliage and Mediterranean-style buildings with arched windows, barrel-tile awnings and stucco walls characterize this charming retail area.

Afternoon

 For your midday meal, Las Olas offers stylish restaurants, including Louie Bossi's Ristorante Bar

- Pizzeria (1032 E. Las Olas Blvd.). Featuring an open kitchen and salumi bar, this popular Italian eatery serves up wood-fired pizzas and house-made pastas as well as dry-aged steaks. Prime people-watching opportunities can be found on the patio.
- From the restaurant, go toward 9th Avenue and turn right to return to the river. There's a water taxi stop here; hop aboard one of the outbound taxis to the Gallery ONE stop, which is within walking distance of the Bonnet House Museum & Gardens (900 N. Birch Rd.), as well as the Galleria at Fort Lauderdale mall (2414 E. Sunrise Blvd.). Cross the Sunrise Boulevard bridge over the Intracoastal. Turn right onto Birch Road to get to the Bonnet House, which is tucked inside a lush, wooded oasis surrounded by condo towers and hotels. Beginning in the 1920s, this 35-acre chunk of prime beachfront real estate was the



The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District / © iStockphoto.com / Sean



winter destination of artists Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett, who despite their wealth (Frederic's father made millions with a chain of Midwestern hardware stores), created a laid-back and downright quirky home sharply contrasting with the ostentatious mansions in nearby Palm Beach. The house takes its name from the Bonnet lily, which thrives on the grounds along with palms, fruit trees, mangrove wetlands and coastal hammock hardwoods.

- Catch an inbound water taxi to the Las Olas Riverfront Entertainment Complex (300 S.W. 1st Ave.) and things to do downtown. The Fort Lauderdale luxury homes lining the waterways offer a tantalizing glimpse of the good life enjoyed by well-heeled residents.
- For a better look, take the 90-minute boat tour offered by Riverfront Cruises, which also departs from the Las Olas Riverfront Entertainment Complex. You'll be treated to a narration peppered with juicy tidbits about the mega-rich whose millions are prominently on display in the forms of luxury real estate and über-expensive vachts.

Evening

Do you need a break? Catch a water taxi outbound to Seville Street or drive to The Atlantic Hotel & Spa (600 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd.), several blocks north of Las Olas Boulevard. Since the poolside bar closes at sunset, you'll want to get there early if you want to enjoy ocean views with a frosty libation.

Top Picks for Kids

Under 13

- The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District, a 22-block area in downtown, proves a good year-round choice for youngsters and their parents. It not only provides access to **water taxis** (and great views) along the promenade but also connects with a number of indoor attractions. These are especially welcome diversions when it's too hot or rainy outside—a possibility in Fort Lauderdale, which boasts a tropical climate.
- Luckily, most local attractions are kid-friendly. The Museum of Discovery and Science (401 S.W. Second St.) showcases an array of interactive and educational exhibits. Visitors can experience topics ranging from flight to the human body complete with a heart-pounding simulator.
- Then there's AutoNation IMAX 3D Theater, which is also at 401 S.W. Second St. Kids can hunker down in stadium seating to experience nature's complexity up close or plan to watch the latest Hollywood blockbuster with a handful of popcorn.

Reservations for the family programs at **NSU Art** Museum Fort Lauderdale (1 E. Las Olas Blvd.) are a good idea for those in the mood for hands-on activities. Kids can learn about famous artists, create their own masterpieces and other fun activities. (And, psst, those under age 12 get in free, making the museum a budget-friendly thing to do in Fort Lauderdale.)

Teens

 Fort Lauderdale's beaches and wetlands offer plenty of ways to get back to nature, but did you know a jungle-inspired dining experience is only a short drive away? Located by the shops at Sawgrass Mills in Sunrise, Rainforest Cafe delivers an assortment of themed dishes. The "Awesome Appetizer Adventure"—made up of chips, chicken tenders and several signature appetizers—is fun to share while



Spend the afternoon at the beach / © iStockphoto.com / zoranm



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surrounded by animatronic birds and animals.

- Those experiencing Florida for the first time, however, often want to discover the state's swampy environment firsthand, so a trip to Sawgrass Recreation Park (1006 US 27N, in nearby Weston) or Everglades Holiday Park Airboat Tours (21940 Griffin Rd.) ought to deliver a family-friendly walk on the wild side—especially those looking for an entertaining introduction to the Florida Everglades.
- Another kind of adventure can be found at among the dive sites just off the coast, where one can dive in warm water year-round. Broward County is renowned for natural and artificial reefs.

All Ages

- "Captivating" describes the experience at Butterfly World in Tradewinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Rd., in nearby Coconut Creek. Thousands of free-flying butterflies as well as hummingbirds and other winged creatures delight visitors as they stroll through a lush tropical rain forest, a botanical garden abloom with nectar producing plants, a macaw exhibit and an aviary. Visitors can even witness metamorphosis through glass enclosures in the butterfly emerging area.
- Another Florida-friendly pastime is the beach, and thankfully for families, Fort Lauderdale's location makes a beach day a convenient choice for all ages. In fact, some 23 miles of Greater Fort Lauderdale's beaches have been continuously certified as Blue Wave beaches for more than two decades. Afterward, visitors can choose to either explore more secluded areas or stay close to the city's key amenities along SR A1A and Las Olas Boulevard.
- The latter may provide the most incentive (and bragging rights). After all, Las Olas Boulevard, a landscaped thoroughfare running two and a half miles from the heart of downtown directly to the ocean, is one of the Sunshine State's most well-known districts. Palm trees, planters filled with tropical foliage and Mediterranean-style buildings with arched windows, barrel-tile awnings and terracotta stucco walls characterize this charming area. With more than 70 shopping options and 30 al fresco eateries in addition to renowned art galleries and day spas, there's a little something for everyone, whether they're a budding art critic, fashionista or foodie.

Arriving

By Car

SR A1A, US 1, Florida's Turnpike (toll), I-95 and US 441 are the major approaches to Fort Lauderdale from the north and I-75/I-595, known as Alligator Alley, is the major

western approach. The roads are well-marked; the only trouble drivers might have is with US 1, variously posted as US 1 and Federal Highway. Downtown this route is known as N.E. or S.E. Sixth Avenue.

Getting Around

Street System

The street plan of Fort Lauderdale is a fairly simple grid. Broward Boulevard and Andrews Avenue divide the city into quadrants (N.E., S.W., etc.). Boulevards, courts, drives and streets run east and west; avenues, terraces and ways run north and south.

The speed limit is 25 mph or as posted. Do not try to follow an unfamiliar route during rush hours (7 to 9 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m.) or during lunch time.

Parking

Parking on downtown streets is metered; there are ample lots at rates of 75c-\$1.75 per hour. Municipal



Shop for beach souveniers / © iStockphoto.com / edcorbo



parking in the beach areas costs \$5-\$8 per day. No parking is available along some sections of SR A1A. Parking along side streets costs 50c-\$1.75 per hour. Payment by cellphone is available at most locations.

Shopping

In Fort Lauderdale (and, indeed, all of Broward County) you can easily find the usual souvenirs typical of a beachside location—T-shirts, beach towels, sea shells and a multitude of kitschy items, even at local restaurants. But you can also hunt for antiques, shop for deals at outlet malls, browse flea markets and search through racks of designer duds at high-end retailers.

The crown jewel of Fort Lauderdale's shopping scene has to be Las Olas Boulevard. This tony thoroughfare, which runs from Andrews Avenue to the beachfront, is an eclectic mix of shops, food places, bars, spas and galleries. The tree-lined boulevard, a perfect spot for strolling and window-shopping, has a charming Mediterranean ambience that seems to invite you to stop for a latte at a sidewalk café and watch beautiful people. You can expect to find trendy boutiques stocking the latest fashions, galleries displaying one-of-a-kind pieces and nearby restaurants that run the gamut from small bistros to well-known chains. Traffic can be fierce, so park the car (or float in on a water taxi) and head out on foot or ride-share to explore this Fort Lauderdale gem.

If you're looking for antiques, head south of Fort Lauderdale, just past the airport, to **Dania Beach**. Downtown along Federal Highway (US 1), just blocks from the Atlantic Ocean, is the city's art and antique district, where you can spend hours checking out a cluster of antique shops, art galleries and other fun places to go. Vintage treasures you can expect to find include both American and European antiques, paintings and jewelry.

If your idea of shopping, however, tends to the more contemporary, a visit to Sawgrass Mills is an absolute must. For sheer size and selection this outlet mall at W. Sunrise Boulevard and Flamingo Road in Sunrise (see place listing p. 208) can't be beat. The sprawling destination has more than 350 name-brand outlets and stores (both indoors and open-air), two food courts, seven restaurants (including The Cheesecake Factory, P.F. Chang's and Rainforest Café) and entertainment options including a 24-screen cinema and the GameRoom. You can shop to your heart's content at such retail icons as Ann Taylor Factory Store, Banana Republic Factory Store, Bloomingdale's-The Outlet Store, Gap Outlet, J.Crew Factory Store, Levi's Outlet, Nike Factory Store, Nordstrom Rack, Prada and Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th. Be forewarned, though; as huge as the parking lot is, empty spots can sometimes be difficult to find.

The Colonnade Outlets, at 1800 Sawgrass Mills Cir., the upscale component of Sawgrass Mills, is a collection of luxury outlets adjacent to the huge main mall. The outdoor promenade tempts chic shoppers with marked-down at Barneys New York Warehouse. Bloomingdale's—The Outlet Store, Burberry Factory Outlet, Coach, Hugo Boss Factory Store, Michael Kors Outlet, Neiman Marcus Last Call, Prada, Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th and Stuart Weitzman.

Of course, more traditional malls also dot the Fort Lauderdale landscape. Prominent examples include The Galleria at Fort Lauderdale, just west of the Intracoastal Waterway at 2414 E. Sunrise Blvd., where Dillard's, Macy's and Neiman Marcus guarantee fashionable selections. If carrying all those shopping bags becomes tiring, indulge in some pampering at the mall's Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa.

Westfield Broward Shopping Center, in nearby Plantation at W. Broward Boulevard and S. University Drive, has nearly 100 stores to entice shoppers, including anchor stores Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's. You can find the same anchors south of the city at Pembroke Lakes Mall, 11401 Pines Blvd., in Pembroke Pines. Anchoring **Coral Square Mall,** west of Fort Lauderdale at Atlantic Boulevard and University Drive in Coral Springs, is JC-Penney, Kohls, Macy's and Sears. If your destination is the northern suburbs, you can get your mall fix at Pompano Citi Centre in Pompano Beach at Federal Highway and Copans Road, where JCPenney, Macy's and Sears are fixtures.

Even if a day at the beach is on your agenda, you can still fit in some shopping. In addition to casual restaurants and bars, The Gallery at Beach Place, across SR A1A from the ocean, a couple of blocks north of Las Olas Boulevard, has a good mix of shops with many geared to beachwear and other beach accessories and necessities.

If you truly love to hunt for bargains, point your car north toward Pompano Beach and Festival Flea Market Mall, a huge, indoor complex that covers a full block east of Florida's Turnpike at 2900 W. Sample Rd. Aisle after aisle of booths—more than 300 in all—are chockablock with merchandise of all types. You can find merchants specializing in sunglasses, shoes, watches, toys, clothing, perfume, purses, jewelry, cosmetics, luggage and home furnishings. You name it and it's probably there. If you're hungry, a food court has everything from knishes to fast food options, or you can check out the mall's farmers market for some fresh munchies. Bargains abound; just remember to wear comfortable shoes.

Swap Shop appears more like a mammoth, multifaceted garage sale than your typical flea market, but if

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you look hard enough you might uncover a hidden treasure or two. It's hard to miss this landmark; huge bright yellow flags mark its presence on Sunrise Boulevard between Florida's Turnpike and I-95. Swap Shop has been around in one form or another since 1963 with booths, both indoors and outdoors; a farmer's market; video games; carnival rides; food vendors; and a 14-screen drive-in theater. The place is kitschy (even somewhat gritty), and you never know what you'll find for sale.

Visiting some of the area's top points of interest during any vacation is practically *de rigueur*. What most folks don't realize, however, is that the gift shops at these attractions frequently offer splendid shopping opportunities—and not just the requisite key chains, sweatshirts and post cards but fine apparel, posters, jewelry, books and *objets d'art*. Don't leave **Bonnet House Museum & Gardens** (900 N. Birch Rd.), **NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale** (1 E. Las Olas Blvd.) or **Museum**



The Galleria at Fort Lauderdale / © iStockphoto.com / ShotShare

of Discovery and Science (401 S.W. Second St.) without checking out their gift shops and seeing what's available.

Nightlife

Fort Lauderdale became spring break headquarters following the popularity of the 1960 film "Where the Boys Are," and the **Elbo Room**, featured in the film, became party central. Though the spring breakers have moved on to other sun-soaked beach locales, the Elbo Room, at 241 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., remains as popular as ever. The raucous bar is a local institution, a landmark that is home to a seemingly never-ending party and fun things to do with friends. This unpretentious double-decked hangout on the corner of Las Olas Boulevard and the ocean is still packed with sunbaked revelers—barechested guys and girls in bikinis—soaking up cheap beer while enjoying music and million-dollar ocean views. Be forewarned, though: The bar accepts cash only. Phone (954) 463-4615.

In addition to the Elbo Room, the strip of oceanfront SR A1A between Las Olas and Sunrise boulevards has a concentration of souvenir shops, restaurants nearby and more clubs. You can shop, eat and party without moving your car. One such emporium is **The Gallery at Beach Place**, 17 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd., a multilevel, Mediterranean-inspired shopping center where you can grab a new pair of sunglasses and a bite of lunch, hang around at the beach until the sun sets and return for some casual dining, live music and rum and fruit concoctions at **LuLu's Bait Shack** (17 S. Atlantic Blvd.), or have a frosty daiquiri or a margarita at **Fat Tuesday** (17 S. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd.). Phone LuLu's at (954) 463-7425 or Fat Tuesday at (954) 525-6090.

In the historic Himmarshee Village area of downtown Fort Lauderdale (part of The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District) is a nightlife cluster with a variety of fun things to do. A prohibition-era speakeasy atmosphere is the theme at Stache Drinking Den + Coffee Bar, 109 S.W. 2nd Ave., which provides plenty of things for couples to do. Entertainment includes live bands and DJs playing a crossover format of music from classic rock, funk, rhythm and blues, and soul to electronic, indie and tech. You can have an expert mixologist create a signature cocktail from their high-end collection of spirits or enjoy craft beer or wine. The décor features vintage furniture and mood lighting; phone (954) 449-1044.

Heading northeast are several nightspots that have a cultural focus. Check out **Barrett's Sports Bar**, in a neighborhood plaza at 4446 N.E. 20th Ave. This Irishthemed pub has live entertainment and flat-screen TVs tuned to your favorite game. Here's your chance to sample an Irish brew or cocktail; phone (954) 351-9371. **The Culture Room**, 3045 N. Federal Hwy., is a small

venue that presents concerts mostly by groups playing hard rock and metal; phone (954) 564-1074.

The Galleria at Fort Lauderdale is the posh location of the definitely chic Blue Martini. The lounge, on the ground level of the mall at 2432 E. Sunrise Blvd., has more than 40 martinis to choose from, including the signature blue version. Choose a seat indoors where you can enjoy live music along with your drink, or outdoors on the patio when the weather permits. Phone (954) 653-2583.

A visit to **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino**, just off US 441/SR 7 north of Stirling Road at 1 Seminole Way, presents more than 21,000 square feet of nightlife in nearby Hollywood. If you feel like Lady Luck is on your side, check out the slot machines and table games at the casino. Enjoy a drink in the middle of it all at the aptly named Center Bar, where you may be fortunate enough to catch a pop-up performance. If you are not a gambler, there are numerous nightclubs in addition to trendy shops and a variety of restaurants. Phone (954) 327-7625.

A fine way to end a day in Fort Lauderdale is to take an evening stroll down tree-lined Las Olas Boulevard. Let enticing aromas from some of Fort Lauderdale's best restaurants draw you in for a romantic meal. Ask for a table outside, if available. Las Olas is a top-notch spot for things for couples to do, and you'll want to be close to the action. Then stop for a nightcap or a late night snack at a food place.

Big Events

Las Olas Art Fair Part I is so highly regarded among artists and attendees alike that it occurs in two installments. Upwards of 300 exhibitors set up along Fort Lauderdale's chic Las Olas Boulevard for each show. The first is in early January, while Las Olas Art Fair Part II occurs in March or early April. Typically, the second fair features artists who did not participate in the first. A third fair is held mid-Oct.

As Florida's mild winter gives way to springtime's nearperfect weather conditions, the first guarter of the year is a popular time to hold outdoor art festivals, and most area towns have at least one such signature event. In addition to Fort Lauderdale's big Las Olas affair, Deerfield Beach hosts the Festival of the Arts in late January. In mid-March, the Coral Springs Festival of the Arts also merits your consideration.

Once upon a time, a medieval festival opened in southeast Florida. Still going strong after 20 years, the Florida Renaissance Festival brings costumed performers, skilled artisans, battling knights on horseback, a royal court, falcon handlers and much merriment to Deerfield Beach for 6 weekends starting in early February.

Late March or early April brings the Florida Derby, a Thoroughbred racing event at **Gulfstream Park** in Hallandale Beach. At the Pompano Beach Seafood Festival in late April, two rows of tents on the beach form an inviting chow corridor from which festival-goes can sample their favorite seafood creations. There's plenty of entertainment at stages just off the "foodwalk," so bring a blanket or chair for seating.

The weeklong **Fleet Week Port Everglades** is Fort Lauderdale's annual salute to the U.S. military. More than 2,000 sailors converge here in late April and early May for sports events, golf tournaments, civic appearances and celebrity concerts.

Vintage wines from around the world and dishes created by local chefs tempt tasters at the Las Olas Wine & Food Festival, held downtown on Las Olas Boulevard in late April or early May. Tickets for one of the city's hottest events must be purchased in advance.



Festival of the Arts / © iStockphoto.com / JodiJacobson



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Celebrate Independence Day with family activities, concerts and a fireworks display at the **4th of July Spectacular** on Fort Lauderdale Beach or Hollywood's **Fourth of July Celebration** on Hollywood Beach Broadwalk.

Billed as the world's largest show of its kind, the **Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show** takes place over a 5-day period in late October or early November. Watercraft of every size, shape and price along with the latest marine accessories wow enthusiasts at multiple venues, including the convention center and several marinas.

Fall brings another round of outdoor cultural fetes. Starting in early November and lasting approximately 3 weeks, the **Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival** illuminates the best in independent cinema at several locations.

Mid-November through early January, Tradewinds Park dresses up for the Holiday Fantasy of Lights.



Florida Renaissance Festival / © iStockphoto.com / TheDman

Boating is integral to the south Florida lifestyle, even in winter months. During the Christmas holidays, owners deck their vessels bow to stern with lights and all manner of visual effects for **The Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade**, viewed along a 12-mile water route. Just 14 miles north on the Intracoastal Waterway, 50-75 boats light up an early December evening during the **Greater Pompano Beach Holiday Boat Parade**.

Sports & Rec

Fishing Fort Lauderdale has a public beach and excellent inland and ocean fishing waters. Many species of fish are caught in the "inside" waters. The **Everglades** and deep-sea fishing rank with the best in Florida. Fishing boats can be rented at **Bahia-Mar Yachting Center** and **Pier 66.** Area piers are good spots for fishing; bait, tackle and food are available.

Boating is another popular sport. There are numerous canals to be explored, and sailing around the barrier islands is a favorite pastime. Most marinas rent boats. **Atlantic Coast Kayak Company** rents kayaks at the dock in **Richardson Historical Park and Nature Preserve**, 1937 Wilton Dr. in Wilton Manors. Hardy kayakers can complete the entire 7.5-mile loop through the canals encircling Wilton Manors. The concession operates daily 9-5. Kayak ecotours are offered daily at 10 and 1 and by appointment; phone (954) 781-0073.

Scuba diving is rewarding along three lines of reefs, where clear water permits views of sea fans, branched coral and tropical fish. **Lauderdale Diver** is one of many firms offering instruction and rental equipment; phone (954) 467-2822.

Water skiing is popular on the city's protected waterways and canals. Instruction is offered by McGinnis WaterSki, 2421 S.W. 46th Ave., (954) 214-2792, and Ski Rixen USA at Quiet Waters Park (see Recreation Areas Chart) in Deerfield Beach, (954) 429-0215.

The Broward County Brian Piccolo Park & Velodrome in nearby Cooper City consists of two tracks: one for competitive bicycle racing and one for recreational riding and in-line skating; phone (954) 357-5160.

The **Broward County Parks** system includes nearly 50 regional parks, nature centers, neighborhood parks and natural areas for outdoor recreation. In addition, community centers offer activities ranging from adult programs to summer day camps. For more information, phone the Parks and Recreation Department at (954) 357-8100.

Hockey comes to sunny South Florida in October when the Florida Panthers of the National Hockey League take to the ice at **BB&T Center** in Sunrise; phone (954) 835-7000, or (954) 835-7825 for tickets.

Golf in the area is excellent. Most courses are semiprivate, with play governed by local regulations. Many hotels have agreements allowing guests to play on certain courses; check with your hotel manager.

Tennis is popular throughout the area; many hotels and motels have their own courts. Supplementing these are the public courts at Jimmy Evert Tennis Center, 701 N.E. 12th Ave., (954) 828-5378; and **Joseph C. Carter** Park, 1450 W. Sunrise Blvd., (954) 828-5411.

Performing Arts

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 S.W. Fifth Ave. is in the 22-block Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District, which is where to eat and hang out. Highlights include ballet, opera, Broadway shows, children's theater and concerts; phone (954) 522-5334 or (954) 462-0222.

Parker Playhouse, in Holiday Park at US 1 and N.E. Eighth Street, offers Broadway shows; phone (954) 462-0222.

War Memorial Auditorium, at 800 N.E. Eighth St. in Holiday Park, seats 2,100 people. Plays, concerts, sports events and exhibitions are what to do throughout the year; phone (954) 828-5380.

Broward County supports an opera company and ballet, as well as other dance and musical programs. For performance information or things to do, contact the Cultural Division, (954) 357-7457.

Lauderhill Performing Arts Center, 3800 N.W. 11th Pl. in Lauderhill, is a 1,143-seat venue for music, theater and dance performances and includes an art gallery; phone (954) 777-2055.

Housed in a former church, Savor Cinema - Fort Lauderdale (formerly Cinema Paradiso), 503 S.E. 6th St., shows a mix of foreign and independent films in addition to revivals of old classics; phone (954) 525-3456.



Explore Things To Do, visit AAA.com/tripcanvas

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., focuses on the African American experience through an expansive collection of art, artifacts, books and documents. Guided tours are available by appointment. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (954) 357-6282. **GT**

BONNET HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS, 900 N. Birch Rd., just s. of Sunrise Blvd., is a 35-acre beachfront estate that was the winter home of two

artists. Frederic and Evelvn Bartlett. Designed during the 1920s, the plantation-style house features loggias accented with inlaid shellwork and balconies enclosed with lacy wrought iron made in New Orleans. The residence is surrounded by lagoons, gardens, fruit groves, a mangrove jungle and a desert garden planted from seeds collected on the couple's world travels.

Of note are pieces of artwork, decorative accents and hand-painted ceilings created by the Bartletts as well as collections of porcelains, religious figures, furnishings and objects found on the beach. A shell museum and an orchid greenhouse also are on the grounds. A tram tour of the gardens is available.

Time: Allow 1 hour. 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (954) 563-5393. **GT**

HISTORIC STRANAHAN HOUSE MUSEUM is at Las Olas Blvd. and S.E. 6th Ave. Owned by one of Fort Lauderdale's founding families, this 1901 building has served as a trading post, restaurant and private home. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (954) 524-4736. **GT**

MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE, 401 S.W. Second St., is a hands-on science museum with more than 200 interactive exhibits, including Living in the Everglades and the EcoDiscovery Center, which features the Otters at Play habitat with four North American otters, simulated rides aboard an airboat, prehistoric animal exhibits and the Keller Science Theater, Florida Ecoscapes, focusing on the state's ecology, has sea turtles, bats, snakes, sharks, alligators and a large captive Atlantic coral reef. To Fly features aviation science exhibits, a simulated flight to Mars and an Aviation Station with nine cockpit flight simulators and a 7-D simulator.

The 300-seat AutoNation IMAX 3D Theater offers classic 45-minute films and full-length feature films. The Science Park features a dozen outdoor activities.

Entertaining live science-related programs are offered daily in the Keller Science Theater. Other exhibits cover such topics as health, sound, gravity and technology. National traveling exhibits are featured quarterly.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (954) 467-6637. (11)

AutoNation IMAX 3D Theater is at 401 S.W. Second St. The 300-seat theater presents 2-D and 3-D films on a five-story screen with a surround-sound system. Shows include documentaries and full-length feature films. Phone: (954) 463-4629.

NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE is at 1 E. Las Olas Blvd. Part of Nova Southeastern University, the museum features a permanent collection of more than 6,000

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works of art. Holdings include American Impressionist William Glackens' works, art from the Northern European Expressionist CoBrA movement and significant contemporary Cuban art. Rotating exhibits also are presented.

Note: Backpacks, photography and filming are not permitted. Phone: (954) 525-5500.

THE RIVERWALK ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT, 1 mi. long from S.W. 7th Ave. to US 1, is a meandering promenade through lush tropical landscaping along the New River. The walkway links attractions, arts and cultural institutions, historical points of interest, restaurants and shops. Riverboat cruises and water taxis are available. Esplanade Park features an interactive scientific display that contains a human sundial and "whisper dishes"—satellite-like dishes that amplify whispered messages from 25 feet away. Phone: (954) 414-6910 for information, or (954) 468-1541 for events.

Sightseeing

Boat Tours

Sightseeing cruises along the Intracoastal Waterway and the New River are available aboard the Water Taxi. The craft also offers transportation to nearby restaurants, hotels, shops and attractions. For schedules, information or group travel, phone (954) 467-6677.

CARRIE B. SIGHTSEEING CRUISES, 440 N. New River Dr. E., cruises the waterways surrounding Fort Lauderdale. Ninety-minute tours aboard a replica 19th-century paddlewheeler include views of Millionaires Row, Port Everglades and the Intracoastal Waterway from open-air decks or climate-controlled enclosures. Photos of passengers taken at boarding are available for purchase at the end of the trip.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (954) 768-9920 for information, or (888) 238-9805 for reservations. **GT**

EVERGLADES DAY SAFARI—see Fort Myers p. 90.

EVERGLADES HOLIDAY PARK AIRBOAT TOURS depart from 21940 Griffin Rd., 5.7 mi. w. of I-75 exit 13B. One-hour excursions provide a well-rounded Everglades (see Recreation Areas Chart) experience that includes an alligator presentation conducted by the Gator Boys of the Animal Planet television series and a covered airboat ride on a river of vegetation. Animal encounters, fishing boat and bicycle rentals, and bicycle trails also are available.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (954) 434-8111, (954) 357-8101 for park information or (800) 226-2244. **GT**

EVERGLADES SWAMP TOURS, off I-75N, Mile Marker 35, at Broward County Rest Area, highlights the beauty and wildlife of the Everglades *(see Recreation Areas Chart)* during the 1-hour tour. Kayak rentals also are available. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (305) 849-0135. *(See ad p. 75.)* GT

JUNGLE QUEEN RIVERBOAT CRUISE, s. of Bahia-Mar Yachting Center on SR A1A, offers 90-minute sightseeing cruises along the New River past luxurious homes and downtown Fort Lauderdale. A 3-hour cruise incudes a tropical isle visit, alligator show, and up-close look at exotic birds, lemurs and monkeys. A 4-hour dinner/entertainment cruise also is available. Phone: (954) 462-5596. GT

RIVERFRONT CRUISES, New River dock at Las Olas Riverfront Entertainment Complex, 300 S.W. 1st Ave., offers a 90-minute cruise along the New River and Intracoastal Waterway to the mansion-lined canals nicknamed The Venice of America. Sunset/cocktail cruises also are available. **Phone:** (954) 463-3440 or (800) 499-2248.



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BOOK NOW

Everglades Swamp Tours

We offer educational, fun 1-hr Group Airboat Tours & custom 1-hr, 1.5hr, or 2-hr, Private Airboat Tours. Whether you are family, friends, bird watchers or photographers the Florida Everglades will leave you with a memory of a lifetime.



Reservations are required

Broward County Rest Area Mile Marker 35 on I-75 Evergladesswamptours.com



305-849-0135

Email:Evergladesswamptour@gmail.com

FORT LAUDERDALE

• Hotels p. 76



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BOOK NOW 954/356-7900





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 3029 Alhambra St 33304. Facility: 171 units. 4-10 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























THE ATLANTIC HOTEL & SPA BOOK NOW 954/567-8020



Boutique Hotel. Address: 601 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304.



BAHIA MAR FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH, A DOUBLETREE BY

HILTON

BOOK NOW 954/764-2233





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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 801 Seabreeze Blvd 33316. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 296 units. 4-16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: marina, tennis, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, rental car service.



































Use the free travel planning tools at AAA.com/maps



BEST WESTERN FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT/CRUISE PORT BOOK NOW

954/462-7005



APPROVED INSPECTED 🕝 CLEAN Motel. Address: 1221 W SR 84 33315. Facility: 54 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Guest Services: area transportation.



















BEST WESTERN PLUS OCEANSIDE INN BOOK NOW 954/525-8115



Hotel. Address: 1180 Seabreeze Blvd 33316. Facility: 101 units. 5 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.























INSPECTED @ CLEAN

B OCEAN RESORT FORT LAUDERDALE BOOK NOW 954/524-5551



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1140 Seabreeze Blvd 33316.



CAMBRIA HOTEL FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BOOK NOW 754/243-7650



hotels

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

Hotel. Address: 2231 N Ocean Blvd 33305. Facility: 97 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























CANDLEWOOD SUITES FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT/CRUISE

BOOK NOW 954/522-8822



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1120 W State Rd 84 33315. Facility: 70 efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.

























CONRAD FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BOOK NOW 954/414-5100



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

Resort Hotel. Address: 551 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. Facility: With 17 spacious room configurations ranging from studios to 3-bedroom suites, this is the perfect hotel for a long and luxurious stay. All offer varying views of the ocean or Intracoastal Waterway. 290 efficiency condominium units, some two and three bedrooms. 24 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants, nightclub. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs, health club, spa.

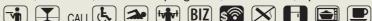
































COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BOOK NOW 954/524-8733



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 440 Seabreeze Blvd 33316.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 954/766-8800



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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 721 N Federal Hwy 33304. Location: Located in commercial downtown area. Facility: 137 units. 3-8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

SAVE (Y) (*) (*) CALL(&) (*) (BIZ) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*)



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE

EAST/LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA BOOK NOW 954/771-8100



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5001 N Federal Hwy 33308.

CROWNE PLAZA FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT/CRUISE PORT

BOOK NOW

954/523-8080



Hotel. Address: 455 SE 24th St 33316. Facility: 149 units. 11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























THE DALMAR FORT LAUDERDALE, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

BOOK NOW 954/945-9500



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

Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 299 N Federal Hwy 33316. Facility: This upscale option has modern rooms with plush bedding and sweeping views. There is a complimentary shuttle to the beach, giving each room 2 beach chairs and an umbrella to enjoy for the day. 209 units. 14-24 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.































ELEMENT FORT LAUDERDALE DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 954/945-9400



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

[SAVE] Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 299 N Federal Hwy 33301.

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE-17TH

BOOK NOW 954/527-2700







SUITES by HILTON

EMBASSY Hotel. Address: 1100 SE 17th St 33316. Facility: 361 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services:

valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



































FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE AT LAS

BOOK NOW 954/713-0400



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

Hotel. Address: 30 S Federal Hwy 33301. Facility: 108 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























FORT LAUDERDALE MARRIOTT HARBOR BEACH RESORT &

BOOK NOW 954/525-4000







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

Resort Hotel. **Address:** 3030 Holiday Dr 33316. **Location:** Oceanfront. MARRIOTT Facility: On a quarter mile of private beach, this multifaceted resort features a beautiful pool area surrounded by tropical foliage and cascading waterfalls. Guest rooms are bright and offer streaming TVs. 650 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























FORT LAUDERDALE MARRIOTT NORTH BOOK NOW 954/771-0440





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

Hotel. Address: 6650 N Andrews Ave 33309. Facility: 315 units. 17 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. **Amenities:** safes. Activities: exercise room.























FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT/CRUISE

BOOK NOW 954/767-8700





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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1800 S Federal Hwy 33316.



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL AND RESIDENCES FORT

LAUDERDALE

BOOK NOW 754/336-3100



Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 525 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FT. LAUDERDALE AIRPORT NORTH

BOOK NOW I

954/524-9900





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

Hotel. Address: 2301 SW 12th Ave 33315. Facility: 109 units. 5 stories. interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet laundry.

































HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 954/414-2222



THREE DIAMOND

INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN





Resort Condominium. Address: 505 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. Facility: Rooms at this hotel offer mini kitchens and balconies with scenic views of either the ocean, Intracoastal Waterway or city. The beach, as well

as popular bars and restaurants, are a short walk away. 374 condominiums. 25 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas. recreation programs, kids club, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



































HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE MARINA BOOK NOW 954/463-4000





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

Hotel. Address: 1881 SE 17th St 33316. Location: Waterfront. Across from Port Everglades and convention center. Facility: 595 units. 3-14 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms:

check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: marina, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





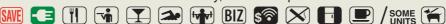






























HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT/CRUISE

PORT BOOK NOW 954/828-9905



































HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES FT. LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE

AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 954/772-3032



Hotel. Address: 1500 W Commercial Blvd 33309.



HOTEL MAREN FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH, CURIO COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 954/524-9595 HILTON



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

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 550 Seabreeze Blvd 33316.



HYATT CENTRIC LAS OLAS, FORT LAUDERDALE BOOK NOW 954/353-1234



HYATT CENTRIC

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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 100 E Las Olas Blvd 33301. Facility: Located within 15 floors of the tallest building in the city, you'll find stylish rooms with modern takes on nautical-themed decor. Many rooms offer sweeping views of the surrounding downtown area. 238 units, some two bedrooms. 8-15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.























BOOK NOW 954/908-7301

Hotel. Address: 2900 Riomar St 33304.

KIMPTON SHOREBREAK FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH RESORT

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

LAGO MAR BEACH RESORT & CLUB BOOK NOW

Resort Hotel. Address: 1700 S Ocean Ln 33316. Location: Oceanfront. Facility:

954/523-6511



Situated in a residential area of Fort Lauderdale Beach, this multifaceted resort offers spacious guest rooms that overlook the pool, beach or Intracoastal Waterway. 204 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 3-5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: steamroom, beach on-site, boat dock, fishing, miniature golf, tennis, recreation programs, playground, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services:







































OCEAN SKY HOTEL & RESORT BOOK NOW 954/565-6611



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN Resort Hotel, Address: 4060 Galt Ocean Dr 33308, Location: Oceanfront, Facility: This modest beachfront hotel has just about everything you need right at your fingertips. The quest rooms vary in size, all featuring a balcony with either direct or partial views of the ocean. 225 units, some efficiencies. 9 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, motor boats, self-propelled boats, miniature golf, game room, health club. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























PELICAN GRAND BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 954/568-9431

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 2000 N Ocean Blvd 33305.

RENAISSANCE FORT LAUDERDALE MARINA BOOK NOW 954/626-1700



RENAISSANCE® HOTELS

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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1617 SE 17th St 33316. Facility: 236 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: hot tub, cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





































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THE RITZ-CARLTON, FORT LAUDERDALE BOOK NOW 954/465-2300





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

THE RITZ - CARLTON

Resort Hotel. Address: 1 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. **Location:** Oceanfront, **Facility:** Within a block of the Intracoastal

Waterway and Atlantic Ocean, this hotel is ideally located for a luxury vacation spent on the water. Rooms are spacious, with comfortably furnished balconies. 199 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, kitchens and condominiums, 24 stories, interior corridors, Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



































RIVERSIDE HOTEL, THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL OF FORT

LAUDERDALE

BOOK NOW 954/467-0671



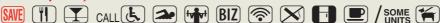
Classic Historic Hotel. Address: 620 E Las Olas Blvd 33301. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This unique hotel offers rooms located within 2 towers. Built in the 1930s, the original building features compact quest rooms with attractive wood detailing in a neutral color palette. 231 units. 6-12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, boat dock, recreation programs, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry. (See ad p. 86.)





























SONESTA FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH BOOK NOW 954/315-1460



Hotel. Address: 999 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. Facility: 240 units. 13 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





































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620 E Las Olas Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301





TRU BY HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 954/769-9982





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

Hotel. Address: 315 NW 1st Ave 33301. Facility: 108 units. 6-19 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























THE WESTIN FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 954/467-1111



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

Resort Hotel. Address: 321 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. Facility: Located in the heart of it all, this sprawling hotel offers luxe rooms with beach-themed decor; many include furnished balconies. There is a guests-only covered bridge to easily access the beachfront. 433 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service.



































954/414-8200





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

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 401 N Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd 33304. Facility: While guest rooms do vary in size, all offer plush bedding HOTELS and most have furnished balconies. The lobby, also known as "The Living Room," has comfortable seating and nightly themed events at the bar. 450 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 24 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated

outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





































FORT MYERS

• Hotels p. 91

Thomas Edison said, "There is only one Fort Myers, and 90 million people are going to find it out." The genius inventor first visited the sparsely populated town in 1885 while searching for a natural source of rubber to use in manufacturing automobile tires. He quickly fell in love with the area's natural beauty, had a house built (see attraction listing) and spent the last 30 winters of his life there. Edison also was enamored with the city's royal palm trees

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and had more imported from Cuba and planted on McGregor Boulevard, the street facing his home. Today, scores of 50- to 75-foot-tall majestic royal palms line this 15-mile street like soldiers standing at attention, guarding the elegant homes in the affluent neighborhoods nearby.

Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

Of course, Edison wasn't the first to discover Fort Myers. Near the end of the Ice Age, the Paleo tribe of Native Americans inhabited the area, followed by the Calusa and Seminole tribes. Most notable of these are the Calusa, lending their name to the Caloosahatchee River and leaving behind ceremonial mounds, some of which can be seen today. Settlers began arriving around 1850, increasing the population to 349 by the year 1885, when Edison's arrival prompted the start of exponential growth.

Snowbirds (aka Northerners) still follow Edison's lead in winter months, but the area, known as the gateway to Southwest Florida's coast, draws countless numbers of vacationers year-round, largely because silky-sand beaches and warm waters are just a short drive away on Fort Myers Beach (on Estero Island) and Sanibel and Captiva islands (see place listings). Vacationers make full use of the city's temperate weather and geographic features, enjoying the usual outdoor activities that go along with such a setting, including boating, fishing, swimming, shelling and tanning.

The City of Fort Myers Yacht Basin, 1300 Lee St. on the Caloosahatchee River, is the hot spot for owners of yachts and smaller crafts alike, with a prime location that's just 15 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and a short walk to the restaurants and shops of downtown Fort Myers' River District. **Note:** Confirm availability and schedule in advance.

If you don't have your own boat, hitch a ride on the 500-passenger paddlewheeler Capt. J.P., departing from the basin on a regular basis (see J.C. Cruises). Cruise the Caloosahatchee River, the Gulf of Mexico, the Intracoastal Waterway or Lake Okeechobee and chances are you'll happen upon such denizens of the deep as dolphins, alligators and manatees along with profusions of tropical flowers, flocks of marine birds and some of Fort Myers most beautiful homes and historic sites.

Back on dry land, *Baaaater uuuuup!* is the battle cry at Fort Myers' baseball parks. If you're exhibiting signs of spring fever (symptoms include cravings for peanuts and Cracker Jacks while daydreaming about kelly green Astroturf and white cowhide balls with red stitching) and you're seeking relief, you've come to the right place. Fort Myers hosts a double header when it comes to baseball. From February through March, the American League's Boston

Red Sox and Minnesota Twins take up temporary residence here for spring training, and the public is invited. Head over to JetBlue Park at Fenway South, 11500 Fenway South Dr., to watch the Red Sox play exhibition games as warm up for the regular season; phone (239) 334-4700 or (877) 733-7699. Hear the crack of a bat and the whizzing of a fastball as you join other fans in cheering on the Minnesota Twins at Hammond Stadium at the CenturyLink Sports Complex off Daniels Road and Six Mile Cypress; phone (239) 533-8946 or (800) 338-9467. Who knows? You may see the next Ted Williams hit a home run or an upcoming Frank Viola throw strikeout after strikeout.

Seeking a haven from the tropical climate? Sharpen your skates and practice your figure eights and triple Salchows on the crystalline ice at Fort Myers Skatium, 2250 Broadway; for the public skating schedule, phone (239) 321-7510. Or cheer on the Florida Everblades, who play their East Coast Hockey League home games at Germain Arena, at I-75 exit 123 (Corkscrew Road); phone (239) 948-7825. The ice hockey season is mid-October to late April.

In late January or early February Fort Myers shows its appreciation for its most celebrated resident at the annual Edison Festival of Light. Three weeks of festivities ensue and include street parties near the Caloosahatchee River, live music, fireworks, a crafts fair, contests and races. Highlights include an inventors' fair and a coronation ceremony for the King and Queen of Light; the event's grand finale is the Grand Parade of Light, complete with marching bands and floats covered in lights.

According to Edison, "The world owes nothing to any man, but every man owes something to the world," and he stayed true to his word. Yet the city of Fort Myers continues to demonstrate its debt to Edison for his botanical contribution to the city's nickname "The City of Palms," as well as for contributing to the growth of one of Florida's top vacation destinations.

Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce: 2310 Edwards Dr., P.O. Box 9289, Fort Myers, FL 33902. **Phone:** (239) 332-3624 or (800) 366-3622.

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau: 2201 Second St., Suite 600, Fort Myers FL 33901. **Phone:** (239) 338-3500 or (800) 237-6444.

Shopping: Fort Myer's mix of nearby factory outlets, suburban shopping malls and a humongous flea market will please bargain hunters, but those who are willing to shell out major shekels have not been forgotten. Either way, you'll find it worth your while to inspect at least a few of the city's offerings.

Satisfy your hunger for designer goodies at Bell Tower Shops, 13499 US 41 S.E., Fort Myers most stylish shopping mall; phone (239) 489-1221. The open-air mall's Miami Vice-pink buildings house high-quality chains such as Chico's, JoS. A. Bank Clothiers and Williams-Sonoma as well as a 20-screen cinema and a fine selection of trendy eateries. At the Edison & Ford Shoppe, you'll find artwork, books and a children's section.

If you're hungry in the true sense of the word, take a drive to Norman Love Confections' Chocolate & Dessert Salon, 11380 Lindbergh Blvd.; phone (239) 561-7215. This world-renowned chocolatier creates miniature works of modern art in white, milk and dark chocolate, and the flavors, including cinnamon roll, pumpkin and vanilla cupcake, are pure ecstasy.

Shop as the natives do and head over to the tried-and-true, unpretentious Edison Mall, 4125 Cleveland Ave. (US 41), which opened in 1965; phone (239) 939-5464. The mall's over 100 stores include anchors Dillard's, JC-Penney and Macy's, and such popular brands as American Eagle Outfitters, Champs Sports and Rack Room Shoes.

Gulf Coast Town Center, I-75 exit 128, is a Fort Myers shopping destination, with anchors Belk and JCPenney and about 100 shops, including Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Ron Jon Surf Shop and Super Target, in a Main Street style setting; phone (239) 267-5107. Some of the town center's 20 restaurants are pet-friendly, so you can chow down on the patio in the company of your chow chow.

About 900 vendors compete for your business with irresistible prices at Fleamasters Flea Market, off I-75 exit 138 on SR 82; phone (239) 334-7001. The market is open Friday through Sunday year-round, and covered areas with misting fans or air conditioning guarantee a cool shopping experience no matter what time of year you visit. Merchandise can run the gamut from belly-dancing outfits and wigs to prescription eyewear and sports memorabilia. You also may discover collectibles and unusual items in the flea market's garage sale section, where locals peddle their unwanted bric-a-brac for a song.

Sanibel Outlets, 20350 Summerlin Rd., has nearly 40 quality shops to satisfy shoppers, including such well-known brands as Coach, Gap, Nike and Tommy Hilfiger; phone (239) 454-1974.

Nightlife: You'll find plenty to do in Fort Myers; during the day, museums, shopping, Everglades tours, sightseeing cruises and playing outdoors will keep you busy, but where can you go for a night on the town? Whether your interests involve punishing the parquet at a dance club, tapping your feet to a live band in a listening room or

kicking back in an elegant lounge, Fort Myers aims to tickle your fancy with a mélange of entertainment venues.

If you like to barhop, downtown Fort Myers is the place to be. A cluster of popular watering holes reside on Main and Hendry streets and include City Tavern (2206 Bay St., (239) 226-1133), a neighborhood bar with tons of character.

Should your equation for a good time equal sinking into a leather armchair à la a 1940's film noir gangster with a stogie in one hand and a scotch in the other, Fort Myers offers a couple of choices. Downtown's World Famous Cigar Bar, 1502 Hendry St., is a veritable man-cave, with wing chairs, plasma TVs and mounted animal heads; its second location is at 10045 Gulf Center Dr. Phone (239) 337-4662 or (239) 267-6020 respectively.

Get back on your feet and move to the beat at The Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon, 2158 Colonial Blvd., which offers country concerts and a dance floor inside its Western-style saloon.

Don't dance too much of the night away as you'll want to save some breath for the belly laughs that are bound to result from the nightly yuck-fest at the Laugh-In Comedy Café, 8595 College Pkwy. Phone (239) 985-9839 for Ranch Concert Hall & Saloon or (239) 479-5233 for Laugh-In Comedy Café.

Swing or sway with your sweetheart on the dance floor at the Roadhouse Café, 15660 San Carlos Blvd.; phone (239) 415-4375. Jazzophiles can feast on a menu of live jazz most nights of the week accompanied by a menu of gastronomic delights, ranging from New England seafood to Italian pasta dishes.

CALUSA NATURE CENTER AND PLANETARIUM is off I-75 exit 136, .5 mi. w. on Colonial Blvd. (SR 884), then n. to 3450 Ortiz Ave. The center is home to snakes, turtles, frogs, alligators, foxes, skunks, birds of prey and bald eagles, and bobcats. It also features a walk-through butterfly aviary, a natural history museum and 3.5 miles of nature trails. Planetarium shows and live animal presentations are offered.

Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (239) 275-3435. **□ □**

ECHO GLOBAL FARM TOURS is off I-75 exit 143, then 1 mi. e. on SR 78, then n. to 17391 Durrance Rd. ECHO, Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization, is a 50-acre farm demonstrating tropical food plants and techniques useful to farmers and urban gardeners in developing countries. The Global Farm is divided into climatic settings that represent tropical lowlands, a rain forest, semi-arid land, hillside farming, a monsoon, and community and urban gardens. The farm is open only by

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guided tour. The Appropriate Technology Tour demonstrates simple technologies made from local or recycled materials.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (239) 543-3246. GT

EDISON & FORD WINTER ESTATES, 1 mi. s.w. on SR 867 at 2350 McGregor Blvd., includes historic buildings and the adjacent winter homes, gardens and a laboratory of early 20th-century industrialists and entrepreneurs Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. Museum galleries containing inventions and artifacts pertaining to Edison's life as well as the caretaker's house also are onsite. A highlight is a banyan tree said to be one of the largest in the continental United States.

Guided and narrated audio tours in English, Spanish, French and German are available. **Note:** Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates. **Time:** Allow 4 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 334-7419. **GT**

Henry Ford Winter Estate, 2350 McGregor Blvd., was restored and furnished in the style of the 1920s. Bought by Ford in 1916 because of its proximity to his good friend Edison, this winter residence of one of the world's first billionaires features grounds planted with tropical foliage. A garage houses antique Ford cars. A caretaker's cottage also is on the grounds. Guided and narrated audio tours in English, Spanish, French and German are available. Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane lan may be taking place; phone ahead for updates. Time: Allow 4 hours minimum. Phone: (239) 334-7419. GT

Thomas A. Edison's Winter Estate, 2350 McGregor Blvd., is where the inventor spent his "working vacations" from 1886 until his death in 1931. Here he experimented with perfecting the incandescent light bulb and searched for an American botanical source of rubber. He also cultivated a 14-acre botanical garden. The complex also includes a botanic research laboratory and a museum containing a large collection of Edison's inventions. Guided and narrated audio tours in English, Spanish, French and German are available. Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane lan may be taking place; phone ahead for updates. Time: Allow 4 hours minimum. Phone: (239) 334-7419. GT

EVERGLADES DAY SAFARI picks up from various locations in the Fort Myers area. An in-depth trip through the Everglades in search of alligators, birds, snakes, plants and mammals is led by an experienced naturalist guide and includes a scenic boat ride, a nature walk, a wildlife drive and an airboat ride. Lunch is included. **Time:** Allow 9 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 472-1559 or (800) 472-3069. GT

IMAG HISTORY & SCIENCE CENTER, 2000 Cranford Ave., contains more than 60 interactive exhibits and a 3-D video that allow visitors to explore the sciences, arts and humanities. Aquariums and touch tanks hold stingrays, horseshoe crabs, sea stars, urchins, snails and other marine life. One saltwater aquarium is a replica of the USS *Mohawk*, a World War II Coast Guard Cutter. A walk-through southwest Florida history exhibit highlights mammoths, mastodons and saber-tooth cats. An outdoor freshwater lagoon features fish, turtles, ducks, geese and swans. Animal Lab is home to alligators, snakes, tortoises and birds. Other highlights include Dino Discovery, Science of Motion, Mind Magic, Solar Array, IMAG-TV and an Imagination Playground.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (239) 243-0043.

J.C. CRUISES depart downtown at 1300 Hendry St. Offered are narrated lunch and dinner sightseeing cruises of varying lengths on area waterways aboard a 475-passenger paddlewheeler. Trips may include viewings of wildlife and points of interest.

Phone: (239) 334-7474. GT

LEE COUNTY MANATEE PARK, 10901 SR 80, features observation platforms on a canal where manatees sometimes congregate during cooler winter months. Prime viewing season usually extends November through March; phone ahead for recorded updates. A boardwalk and trail system wind through native plant habitats and a butterfly garden. Interpretive naturalists are available to answer questions. Kayak rentals are available; guided kayak tours are offered by advance reservation.

Note: Pets are not permitted. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (239) 690-5030. GT



THE BANYAN HOTEL FORT MYERS, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 239/337-3446



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1520 Broadway Ave 33901.

BEST WESTERN FT. MYERS INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 239/278-3949



Hotel. Address: 4400 Ford St Ext 33916. Facility: 103 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























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

Hotel. Address: 10081 Intercom Dr 33913. Facility: 90 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated indoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























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

Hotel. Address: 10050 Gulf Center Dr 33913. Facility: 134 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS CAPE CORAL BOOK NOW

239/275-8600



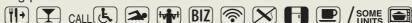
COURTYARD AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Hotel. Address: 4455 Metro Pkwy 33916. Facility: 149 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry. boarding pass kiosk.





























DOUBLETREE BY HILTON FORT MYERS AT THE BELL TOWER

BOOK NOW 239/482-2900





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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 13051 Bell Tower Dr 33907. Facility: 225 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: off-site registration, check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area

transportation. (See ad p. 93.)



























BOOK NOW 239/267-1340











THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN



Hotel. Address: 9950 University Plaza Dr 33913.



FORT MYERS
AT BELL TOWER SHOPS

13051 Bell Tower Dr. Fort Myers Fl 33907

(239)-482-2900



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CORAL B

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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7090 Cypress Terr 33907.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON FT. MYERS-COLONIAL

BLVD BOOK

BOOK NOW 239/931-5300

THREE DIAMOND
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SAVE Hotel. Address: 4350 Executive Cir 33916.

MAY HA

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FORT MYERS DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 239/362-9542

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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2151 Johnson St 33901.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FT. MYERS AIRPORT I-75 BOOK NOW 239/768-2525

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SAVE Hotel. Address: 9241 Marketplace Rd 33912.

W T

HILTON GARDEN INN FORT MYERS BOOK NOW 239/790-3500

THREE DIAMOND

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CLEAN**

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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 12600 University Dr 33907.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES AT THE FORUM BOOK NOW 239/936-0410

Hotel. Address: 3427 Forum Blvd 33905.

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HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON FORT MYERS - COLONIAL BLVD

AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and ea

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

BOOK NOW

239/225-9250

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4333 Ford St 33916.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON FORT MYERS AIRPORT/FGCU

BOOK NOW

239/210-7300



BY HILTON

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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 16450 Corporate Commerce Way 33913. Facility: 133 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























BOOK NOW 239/275-6000



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

BY HILTON" Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5255 Big Pine Way 33907. Facility: 130 kitchen units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































LUMINARY HOTEL & CO, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION **BOOK NOW** 239/314-3800



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

HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 2200 Edwards Dr 33901. Location: Waterfront. Facility: In the heart of the downtown waterfront, this hotel's rooms are designed in a modern nautical theme. You'll find plenty of nods to local history, as well as plush robes and massive flat-screen TVs. 243 units. 5-12 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry. (See ad p. 96.)

















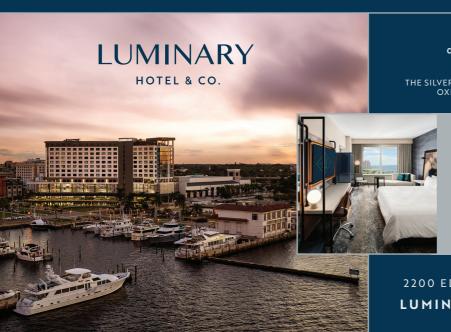












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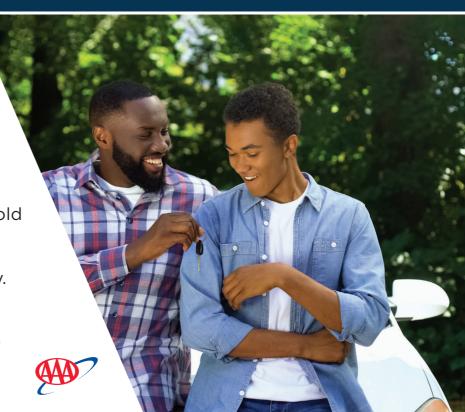
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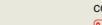
MARRIOTT SANIBEL HARBOUR RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 239/466-4000



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

Resort Hotel. Address: 17260 Harbour Pointe Dr 33908. Location: MARRIOTT Waterfront. Facility: Located on 82 acres overlooking San Carlos Bay, this hotel offers an abundance of activities to enjoy during your stay. Rooms all

offer furnished balconies with sweeping views of the resort or water. 347 units. 2-11 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor, heated indoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, boat dock, fishing, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.



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RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS BOOK NOW 239/936-0110



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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2960 Colonial Blvd 33966. Facility: 78 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS GULF COAST TOWN

BOOK NOW 239/332-7001





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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 10054 Gulf Center Dr 33913. Facility: 116 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FORT MYERS/SANIBEL BOOK NOW 239/415-4150

[fyi] Extended Stay Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 20371 Summerlin Rd 33908.

FORT MYERS BEACH

Hotels p. 99

The town of Fort Myers Beach resides on Estero Island, a barrier island on the Gulf of Mexico and neighbor to Sanibel Island. **Note:** Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane lan may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

Folksy, funky and fun, this beach town is dotted with high-rise hotels that hover over 7 miles of ivory sand beaches. Visitors to the town will tell you it's more affordable than surrounding cities, and a place where you can really let your hair down.

At the northern end of the island at San Carlos and Estero boulevards lies Times Square, a cacophony of colorful emporiums, family-friendly eateries, pubs and flipflop-wearing, sunburned and towel-wrapped tourists having a great time. Parking is minimal, so be sure to wear comfortable shoes.

Plan to partake in golf, tennis, jet skiing, parasailing or fishing during your stay. Charter a boat for a full- or half-day of fishing for flounder, trout, mullet, pompano, bluefish, snook, grouper or tarpon. If you're fishing from a pier or bridge, the catch will likely be sheepshead. For a complete list of outfitters, equipment rentals and charters, phone the Greater Fort Myers Beach Area Chamber of Commerce.

Spend some time and not a lot of cash at the parks of Fort Myers Beach. At Lynn Hall Memorial Park, north of Matanzas Pass Bridge, have a picnic on the public beach (or make use of the on-site shelters and grills), watch the kids frolic on the playground, and learn about local flora and fauna at a nature kiosk. Next to the park is the 560foot-long public fishing pier, a popular hangout for anglers, dolphins, pelicans and sea gulls.

Covering the north end of Estero Island, Bowditch Point Park's 17 acres are part beach, part nature preserve and face both the Gulf of Mexico and the bay of Matanzas Pass. This combination lends itself to a range of outdoor fun: Walk on a nature trail or in a butterfly garden, watch the sunset from the park's amphitheater-style seating,

spot local birds in the preserve, splash around in the gulf or bay and dive into your picnic basket in a shaded area complete with tables and grills.

Mangrove trees, sabal palms and a live oak hammock are just a few of nature's works that fill the 60-acre Matanzas Pass Wilderness Preserve. 1 mile south of the Matanzas Pass Bridge on Bay Road. Further south is Lovers Key State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart) with beaches, bicycle trails and bicycle and watercraft rentals. A free tram (with park admission) is provided; phone (239) 463-4588.

In November more than 1,000 tons of sand transforms Fort Myers Beach into a gallery of sculptures created by master sand artists from around the world at the American Sand Sculpting Championship. The championship features masters solo and doubles divisions, and the Advanced Amateur State Championships. An amateur competition, the Quick Sand speed sand sculpting competition, sand sculpting lessons and demonstrations, chainsaw art, the Sand Vendor Village, musical entertainment and children's activities also are offered.

Ready to see more of Florida? Climb aboard a catamaran provided by Key West Express, a ferry service that offers 3.5-hour high-speed trips to Key West for a fee. The ferry operates daily Jan.-May; Thurs.-Mon., rest of year (weather permitting); phone (888) 539-2628.

Greater Fort Myers Beach Area Chamber of Commerce: 1661 Estero Blvd., Suite 8, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. Phone: (239) 454-7500.

Shopping: Fort Myers Beach may not be a mecca for shopaholics, but there are plenty of souvenir and gift shops as well as more distinctive options. Once you've selected a magnet for Grandma or a conch shell for Uncle Bob, peruse the nautical-themed décor at Salty Dog Gallery & Gifts (1901 Estero Blvd., (239) 463-9900); inhale the complex fragrance of cigars at The Cigar Hut (1172 Estero Blvd., (239) 765-5550); or feast your eyes on the rainbow of art, jewelry and casual fashions at Local Color (1021-B Estero Blvd., (239) 463-9199).

BEST WESTERN PLUS BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 239/463-6000



[fyi] Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 684 Estero Blvd 33931. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 75 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies, kitchens and cottages. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, picnic facilities. Guest Services: coin laundry.

SAVE (TI+) CALL (E) 🗻 (BIZ) (HS) 🤝 🔀 🗐 🖃 🖳 / SOME 😭

DIAMONDHEAD BEACH RESORT - FORT MYERS BEACH BOOK NOW

239/765-7654

Resort Hotel. Address: 2000 Estero Blvd 33931. THREE DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

GULLWING BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 239/765-4300



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 6620 Estero Blvd 33931.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES FORT MYERS BEACH/SANIBEL

GATEWAY

BOOK NOW

239/590-0664



Hotel. Address: 11171 Summerlin Square Dr 33931.

LOVERS KEY RESORT BOOK NOW 239/765-1040



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 8771 Estero Blvd 33931.

PINK SHELL BEACH RESORT AND MARINA BOOK NOW

239/463-6181

Hotel. Address: 275 Estero Blvd 33931.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

POINTE ESTERO BEACH RESORT

BOOK NOW

239/765-1155

 $[{f fyi}]$ Vacation Rental Condominium. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 6640 Estero Blvd 33931.

100 FORT PIERCE — HALLANDALE BEACH, FL

FORT PIERCE

Hotels p. 100

Beef, citrus and vegetables from nearby ranching and farming areas find a market in Fort Pierce, which developed on the site of a U.S. Army post established in 1838 as a defense against the Seminoles. A Saturday farmers market is offered downtown, 101 Melody Ln., 8-noon; phone (772) 940-1145. Native trees, flowers and colorful birds can be seen along Indian River Drive, which follows the river's west shore toward Jensen Beach.

Several sporting activities and events are offered in nearby Port St. Lucie. Championship golf is played at PGA Village; phone (800) 800-4653. Ball games are played at First Data Field. In late February or early March this stadium becomes the spring training site for the New York Mets, and the St. Lucie Mets play minor league baseball here April to early September; for further information phone (772) 871-5476.

The Indian River State College McAlpin Fine Arts Center presents live performances throughout the year; phone (772) 462-4750. The historic Sunrise Theatre presents year-round performances including ballet productions, rock concerts and symphonies; phone (772) 461-4775.

East of Fort Pierce on SR A1A. Fort Pierce Inlet State Park includes Jack Island, a bird and wildlife refuge accessible by footbridge, as well as recreational facilities (see Recreation Areas Chart); phone (772) 468-3985.

Visit St. Lucie: 2000 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34982. Phone: (800) 344-8443.



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT PIERCE BOOK NOW 772/462-2900



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

Hotel. Address: 6502 Metal Dr 34945. Facility: 108 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





























HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON FT. PIERCE BOOK NOW 772/828-4100



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1985 Reynolds St 34945.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES FORT PIERCE WEST

BOOK NOW

772/464-5000

Hotel. Address: 7151 Okeechobee Rd 34945.

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HALLANDALE BEACH

• Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

Primarily a retirement community, Hallandale Beach is the home of Gulfstream Park and Mardi Gras Race Track. Gulfstream Park, at US 1 and Hallandale Beach Boulevard, is open for simulcast wagering year-round and live horse racing Wed.-Sun., early Dec.-late May; Thurs.-Sun., June through September. Phone ahead to confirm schedule (954) 454-7000, or (800) 771-8873. Mardi Gras

Race Track, at US 1 and Pembroke Road, presents simulcast greyhound, Thoroughbred and harness racing from North American tracks; phone (954) 924-3200, or (877) 557-5687.

Note: Policies vary concerning admittance of children to pari-mutuel betting facilities. Phone for information.

HIGHLAND BEACH

• Hotels p. 101



THREE DIAMOND
INSPECTED

CLEAN**

Boutique Hotel. Address: 2809 S Ocean Blvd 33487.

HOBE SOUND

HOBE SOUND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is at 13640 S.E. US 1. Occupying more than 1,000 acres of coastal sand dunes, mangrove swamps, sand pine and scrub oak forests, and sea turtle nesting areas, the refuge offers trails and a white sand beach. At the nature center visitors can observe live animals in naturalistic settings as well as shell and taxidermy displays. The beach is on Jupiter Island, accessible from North Beach Road. Educational programs and special events are offered. Guided turtle walks are held in summer.

Pets are not permitted. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (772) 546-6141 for the refuge, or (772) 546-2067 for the nature center. **GT**

HOLLYWOOD

- Hotels p. 102
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

South of Fort Lauderdale, north of Miami and extending west from the Atlantic Ocean past Florida's Turnpike, Hollywood is a combination of a seaside resort and a residential metropolis.

The heart of the city's beachfront is the Broadwalk, a charming palm tree-fringed brick promenade that runs for 2.5 miles along the sandy shore. There's plenty of room for couples out for a stroll, joggers, bicyclists and inline skaters. The path also provides ample opportunities for oceanfront dining. Though modern in every respect, the Broadwalk is reminiscent of the nostalgic Florida of an earlier day with its seawall, period street lamps and unparalleled views of the turquoise ocean and its tumbling waves.

Children will enjoy taking a break along the Broadwalk at Charnow Park. This beachfront park comes equipped with a water fountain to splash in, two areas dedicated to playground equipment and several covered picnic areas.

Hollywood prides itself on its cultural amenities. At the core of its redeveloped downtown district is the ArtsPark at Young Circle, a multifaceted space within a 10-acre circular roundabout. A popular gathering place, the park includes an artistic water sculpture near a huge baobab tree, a play area for children with an interactive fountain, a contemporary pavilion with classrooms and art studios, an amphitheater, glassblowing demonstrations, a shady grove, a meadow for tossing Frisbees and a plaza that is a frequent venue for festivals and events. Funtastic Fridays features children's activities Fridays at 5:30; movies are shown at 8 p.m. Food Truck Mondays take place Monday 5:30-10. Phone (954) 921-3500.

If your itinerary takes you near the beach, to the Broadwalk or to downtown Hollywood, hop on the Hollywood Trolley, which stops at more than a dozen locations Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri. 7 a.m.-11 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. and Sun. 10-9, for a minimal fee. Phone (954) 921-3551 for details.

Hollywood Beach Visitor Center: 320 Johnson St., Hollywood, FL 33019. Phone: (954) 924-2936.

Shopping: Downtown Hollywood offers boutique shopping, art galleries and dining venues. Harrison Art and Design District is known for its selection of antiques, collectibles, artwork, and home furnishings and accessories. Oakwood Plaza, 3900 Oakwood Blvd., features a cluster of nationally-known book, clothing and household retail stores as well as restaurants and theaters. Clothing and jewelry featuring the Hard Rock logo can be found at the gift shop at WE Hard Rock Cafe, 1 Seminole Way.

102 HOLLYWOOD, FL

GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS

 Seminole Hard Rock Casino is at 1 Seminole Way. Hollywood, FL 33314. **Phone:** (954) 327-7625 or (866) 502-7529.

THE DIPLOMAT BEACH RESORT, CURIO COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 954/602-6000



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

Resort Hotel. Address: 3555 S Ocean Dr 33019. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Each room at this resort features a luxurious bedding package and a marble bathroom with separate tub and shower, as well as scenic views of either the beach or the city. 1000 units. 4-36 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

























HOLIDAY INN FORT LAUDERDALE AIRPORT BOOK NOW

954/925-9100



Hotel. Address: 2905 Sheridan St 33020.



HOLLYWOOD BEACH MARRIOTT BOOK NOW 954/924-2202



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2501 N Ocean Dr 33019.

MARGARITAVILLE HOLLYWOOD BEACH RESORT

BOOK NOW 954/874-4444

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Hotel, Address: 1111 N Ocean Dr 33019.

SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO HOLLYWOOD

BOOK NOW

954/327-7625

Resort Hotel. Address: 1 Seminole Way 33314.



APPROVED INSPECTED @ CLEAN

SHELL MOTEL BOOK NOW 954/923-8085

Motel. Address: 1201 S Federal Hwy 33020.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.



VILLA SINCLAIR BEACH SUITES & SPA BOOK NOW 954/450-0000



Resort Cottage. Address: 317 Polk St 33019. Facility: This boutique villa and its host will provide you with a unique experience. The apartment-style units are appointed with original artwork and include beach chairs, towels and other creature comforts. 6 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 2 stories (no elevator), interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and street. Amenities: safes. Activities: sauna, hot tub, bicycles.

Guest Services: coin laundry. CAVE















HOMESTEAD

- Hotels p. 103
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

South Florida's hub of fruit and nursery production also serves as a gateway to Biscayne National Park (see place listing p. 27), Everglades National Park (see place listing p. 56) and The Florida Keys (see place listing p. 59). The historic district offers shops and restaurants in a landscaped setting.

South Dade Chamber of Commerce: 455 N. Flagler Ave., Homestead, FL 33030. Phone: (305) 247-2332.

CORAL CASTLE is at 28655 S. Dixie Hwy. Using handmade tools, Latvian immigrant Ed Leedskalnin worked alone 1923-51 to build the castle as a monument to his lost love. Weighing 100 pounds and standing just over 5 feet tall, Leedskalnin built Coral Castle at night in secret. The building is made of massive blocks of hand-hewn coral rock, some weighing 27 tons.

Sculptured pieces include a 28-ton, 25-foot-tall Polaris telescope, a table carved to scale in the shape of the state of Florida including Lake Okeechobee, 1,000-pound rocking chairs and a fountain representing the phases of the moon. A 9-ton gate and working sundial with seasons also are on the grounds. A video presentation features the history of the site. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 248-6345. **GT TI**

WINERIES

 Schnebly Redland's Winery & Miami Brewing Company, 5.5 mi. w. off US 1 on S.W. 296th St. (Avocado Dr.), then .5 mi. s. to 30205 S.W. 217th Ave. (Loveland Rd.). Phone: (305) 242-1224. GT



HILTON GARDEN INN HOMESTEAD

BOOK NOW 786/650-2560





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

Hotel. Address: 2601 NE 9th Ct 33033. Facility: 130 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























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TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT MIAMI/HOMESTEAD BOOK NOW

305/248-2001



SUITES"-MARRIOTT

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

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 935 NE 30th Terrace 33033. Facility: 115 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors.

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

























ISLAMORADA

- Hotels p. 107
- Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

Islamorada (I-lah-mor-AH-dah) is a fishing haven spread over the islands of Lower Matecumbe Key, Plantation Key, Upper Matecumbe Key and Windley Key. Its purplish appearance from a distance caused the Spanish to call it the "purple isle" (isla morada). The wreck of the galleon Herrera, 2.5 miles off Whale Harbour Bridge, offers opportunities for underwater exploration and photography.

Indian Key Historic State Park, a half-mile southeast of Lower Matecumbe Key, is an 11-acre uninhabited island. This lavish paradise of notorious wrecker Capt. Jacob Housman was destroyed in 1840 when the captain's misuse of power prompted a Native American uprising. The ruins of houses and cisterns are now choked by vegetation planted by physician and botanist Dr. Henry Perrine, who conducted plant experiments at the settlement in 1838. The site is accessible only by canoe or kayak due to damage sustained during past storms. For park information phone (305) 664-2540; for boat rentals phone (305) 664-9814.

Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park can be reached only by private or chartered boat from the marinas at the western end of Islamorada. Because of its high elevation and the sensitive management of former owner William Matheson, the island retains a singular plant community and is a fine example of a West Indian hardwood hammock. Indigenous and introduced trees blossom at various times but are best viewed in spring or early summer.

Matheson House, built of coral in 1919 and furnished in 1930s styles, remains unchanged. A stone wall, possibly built by Spanish explorers as a navigation aid, extends the length of the island. Walking shoes and mosquito repellent are essential. For park information phone (305) 664-2540; for boat information phone (305) 664-9814.

Islamorada Chamber of Commerce: 87100 Overseas Hwv., P.O. Box 915, Islamorada, FL 33036, **Phone:** (305) 664-4503 or (800) 322-5397.

Shopping: Outfit yourself with fishing and snorkeling gear as well as well-priced outdoor wear at World Wide Sportsman (gulfside at 81576 Overseas Hwy.). Hop on the full-size replica of Ernest Hemingway's boat, Pilar, and ride the old-fashioned glass elevator to the second floor of this department store for the outdoor sports lover.

Looking for a one-of-a-kind piece of art? You're sure to find something at the galleries making up the Morada Way Arts and Cultural District (oceanside off US 1, mile marker 82 between Palm Avenue and Beach Road). If you haven't had any luck with your rod and reel, you can still reel in the big one at Redbone Gallery (oceanside off US 1, mile marker 82 at 200 Morada Way), home to a sizable collection of contemporary and traditional fishing and sporting art ranging from oil paintings in brilliant colors to Audubonesque etchings. Peruse a prized painting by the famed marine artist at Pasta Pantaleo's Signature Gallery (81599 Old US 1) or at Roberto/Russell Galleries (81888 Overseas Hwy.).

Meander in and out of tiny cottages in a serene garden setting at Rain Barrel Artisan Village (86700 Overseas Hwy.) and you'll happen upon objets d'art such as pottery, glass, sculpture and paintings made by resident artists. Look out for the 30-foot-tall lobster standing guard in front of the village.

Beautify your home inside and out with a purchase from the Banyan Tree Garden & Boutique (on US 1 at mile marker 81.2). Outside the shop, wander through a magical mix of beautiful botanicals under the shade of a

towering banyan tree. Inside, unearth a sophisticated collection of jewelry, women's clothing, plants and home décor. Casa Mar Village (US 1 at mile marker 90.7) offers clothing and accessories shops and rentals for water sports. You'll find ocean-inspired fuzed glass at Seaside Glassworks (81902 Overseas Hwy.), tropical-themed art at Michelle Nicole Lowe Gallery (81904 Overseas Hwy.), local handcrafted gifts at The Mystical Mermaid (82245) Overseas Hwy.), and pottery and bronze and copper sculptures at Old Road Gallery (88888 Overseas Hwy.).

Those in search of fashionable threads in Islamorada will come upon several key shops between mile markers 81 and 83. Lion's Lair Swimwear (82185 Overseas Hwy.) specializes in maillots, bikinis with mix and match tops and bottoms, and lingerie in a wide range of sizes. The helpful staff is well-versed in finding the perfect fit for any body type.

Latitude 25 Clothing Co. (82748 Overseas Hwy.) carries guys' and gals' casual attire, swimwear and sunglasses by brands such as Tommy Bahama and Body Glove; shoes by Crocs and Havaianas; Key West Aloe toiletries; and a large assortment of kitschy Keys décor including coasters and bowls shaped like alligators and parrots, palm-tree etched wine glasses and tiki bar dishes. There's also an extensive section devoted to pets featuring collars, toys and natural foods. The Islamorada Mercantile (81904 Overseas Hwy.) features clothing, housewares and clocks made of driftwood.

The Islamorada Marketplace on 90 farmers market (90311 Old Hwy. at mile marker 90) is open Fri. 10-3 seasonally.

Nightlife: Islamorada may be lacking in its quantity of watering holes, but this fisherman's paradise has a few places to go and have a cold one after a day of reeling them in from the deep blue sea. Savor your choice of bourbon or whiskey cocktails while listing to live music at oo-tray, 80939 Overseas Hwy. Phone (305) 922-2027.

Look for the sign with a pink pig to find Hog Heaven Sports Bar & Grill (on US 1 at mile marker 85.3). This local hangout is just off one of the many bridges that connect the islands, so there's a fantastic view of the Atlantic Ocean. Inside, 21 flat-screen TVs, good pub grub, pool tables and video games create a roadhouse/sports bar vibe. Phone (305) 664-9669.

A giant two-dimensional mermaid points you in the direction of Lorelei Restaurant & Cabana Bar (gulfside on US 1 at mile marker 82). This family-friendly, open-air alehouse sits on the dock; you can sit under a thatched umbrella, tuck into lunch or dinner, have a drink or two and listen as local musicians serenade the sunset. Phone (305) 664-2692.

Vacationers and locals alike flock to the two bars at Postcard Inn Beach Resort at Holiday Isle (84001 Overseas Hwy.). Down an electric lemonade and do the electric slide at the rockin' Holiday Isle Tiki Bar or have a mai tai at Rum Runner's Island Bar, a tropical tree house comprising staggered tiers of tiki huts. Phone (305) 664-2321.

Take refuge from the usual fast-paced Keys nightlife at the Zane Grey Long Key Lounge (81576 Overseas Hwy.) on the second floor of World Wide Sportsman. The walls, bar and fireplace are sheathed in carved mahogany at this sophisticated, masculine pub decorated in the style of an English hunting lodge; handwritten notes and fishing reels are some of novelist Grey's memorabilia on display. Relax on the balcony with cocktails and bask in the sun's fading glow as it slowly sets behind the boats in the adjacent marina. Phone (305) 664-9271.

THEATER OF THE SEA is at 84721 Overseas Hwy. The park features live performances by dolphins, sea lions and parrots, a guided tour of the marine life exhibits and a trip through a natural saltwater lagoon in a "bottomless" boat. Special events and programs also are offered at an additional cost and include a 4-hour adventure cruise and interaction programs with the alligators, dolphins, parrots, sea lions, sea turtles, sharks and southern rays. Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 664-2431. **GT T**





Hotel. Address: 80001 Overseas Hwy 33036.



CHEECA LODGE & SPA BOOK NOW 305/664-4651



FOUR DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Resort Hotel. Address: 81801 Overseas Hwy 33036. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Notable for its ocean pier, this luxurious beach resort also offers multiple pools, lush landscaping and upscale rooms. Tucked away on 27 acres, this property is an idyllic retreat. 258 units, some condominiums. 2-4 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, boat dock, fishing, snorkeling, regulation golf, par 3 golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.































305/664-2031



Hotel. Address: 82100 Overseas Hwy 33036. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 114 efficiencies, some two bedrooms. 1 story, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, fishing, snorkeling, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports. Guest Services: coin laundry, area transportation.





























JENSEN BEACH

Hotels p. 108

On the banks of the Indian River Lagoon, the historic downtown district exudes the charm of a century-old coastal village and is a popular dining, shopping and cultural destination. Street vendors, artists and musicians set up along Jensen Beach Boulevard every Thursday evening for Jammin Jensen. Hutchinson Island, just across

the causeway, features miles of unspoiled sandy beaches. From March through October, approximately 6,000 sea turtles make their annual journey from ocean to shore and back: the turtles should not be disturbed.

Jensen Beach Chamber of Commerce: 1960 N.E. Jensen Beach Blvd., Jensen Beach, FL 34957. Phone: (772) 334-3444.

HUTCHINSON SHORES RESORT & SPA

BOOK NOW

772/334-1950

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Resort Hotel. Address: 3793 NE Ocean Blvd 34957.

VISTANA BEACH CLUB BOOK NOW 772/229-9200

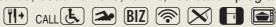


SHERATON VACATION CLUB AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy[™] points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Resort Condominium. Address: 10740 S Ocean Dr 34957. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: These spacious condo-style units feature fully equipped kitchens and two bedrooms. One building offers balconies overlooking the ocean, while the other building has units with in-room laundry. 76 condominiums. 8-9 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, tennis, recreation programs. Guest Services: coin



















JUNO BEACH

Hotels p. 109

LOGGERHEAD MARINELIFE CENTER, 14200 US 1, rehabilitates injured sea turtles for return to their natural habitats while educating the public about the endangered species. Turtle tanks, aquariums with indigenous marine life and hands-on exhibits enhance the experience. Heavy sea turtle nesting occurs on area beaches March through October. Seminars, labs, camps, hikes and other programs are offered for a fee. Picnicking is permitted in the park area only. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone:



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON JUPITER/JUNO BEACH BOOK NOW 561/626-9090



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 13801 US Hwy 1 33408.

JUPITER

• Hotels p. 110

Once the transportation hub of southeastern Florida, Jupiter was the starting point for the Celestial Railroad, which ran through Mars, Venus, Neptune and Juno to Lake Worth. The town since has become a center for recreation and light industry while retaining its quaint atmosphere. Sawfish Bay Park, 1133 N. Alternate A1A, fronts the Intracoastal Waterway. Open daily 6 a.m.-midnight, the park features a fishing pier, boardwalk, and canoe and kayak launches; phone (561) 741-2400.

The Miami Marlins, 1997 and 2003 World Series champions, and the St. Louis Cardinals, 2006 and 2011 champions, both take up residence in Jupiter during spring training. Exhibition baseball games are played in March at Roger Dean Stadium, 4751 Main St.; phone (561) 775-1818.

JUPITER INLET LIGHTHOUSE AND MUSEUM. 1 mi. n. on US 1, .1 mi. e. on Beach Rd., then .2 mi. s. on Captain Armour's Way, offers climbing tours of the landmark 1860 lighthouse. The history museum, housed within a restored World War II-era building, features the exhibit Five Thousand Years on the Loxahatchee. Outdoor exhibits include the Tindall Pioneer Homestead, Lighthouse, Keeper's Workshop exhibit and Native American displays. Sunset and moonrise tours, educational programs and special events also are offered.

Access to the lighthouse is by guided tour only. Proper shoes are required (no heels) and children under 48 inches tall are not permitted to climb the lighthouse tower. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (561) 747-8380.



BEST WESTERN INTRACOASTAL INN BOOK NOW 561/575-2936





Hotel. Address: 810 S US Hwy 1 33477. Location: Waterfront. Adjacent to Riverwalk. Facility: 52 units. 2 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: outdoor. Guest

Services: coin laundry. SAVE TI+ BIZ RIZ RIZ















APPROVED

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-PALM BEACH JUPITER

BOOK NOW 561/776-2700



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

Hotel. Address: 4800 Main St 33458. Location: Adjacent to Roger Dean Stadium. Facility: 128 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















JUPITER BEACH RESORT & SPA

BOOK NOW

561/746-2511



Resort Hotel. Address: 5 N A1A 33477.



JUPITER WATERFRONT INN BOOK NOW 561/747-9085



Boutique Motel. Address: 18903 SE Federal Hwy 33469.



Where do you want to go today? AAA.com/roadtrips



WYNDHAM GRAND JUPITER AT HARBOURSIDE PLACE BOOK NOW 561/273-6600



Hotel. Address: 122 Soundings Ave 33477. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 179 units. 4-5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, trails, exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet laundry.



























KENDALL

- Hotels p. 111
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



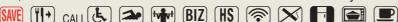
BEST WESTERN PLUS KENDALL HOTEL & SUITES BOOK NOW 305/271-4848



Hotel, Address: 8560 SW 124th Ave 33183, Facility: 120 units, 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.























INSPECTED @ CLEAN

BEST WESTERN PLUS MIAMI EXECUTIVE AIRPORT HOTEL &

SUITES BOOK NOW 305/969-1600



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 13700 SW 139th Ct 33186. Facility: 97 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























THE PALMS INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 305/270-0359



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 11750 Mills Dr 33183. Location: Adjoins The Palms at Town and Country Mall. Facility: 97 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry. SAVE













KEY BISCAYNE

- Hotels p. 112
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

CRANDON PARK, 6747 Crandon Blvd., is reached via the Rickenbacker Causeway over Biscayne Bay; toll \$1.75. This scenic park has historic gardens, landscaped picnic areas and a 2.5-mile public beach. Kayak rentals and guided ecotours are available. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (305) 361-5421. **GT** 🔀 📆



THE RITZ-CARLTON KEY BISCAYNE, MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/365-4500



INSPECTED @ CLEAN"



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THE RITZ CARLTON

Resort Hotel. Address: 455 Grand Bay Dr 33149. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This luxurious oceanfront resort offers myriad on-site activities, including shopping, tennis courts, a kids' club and beautiful pools. Rooms are sizeable and most rooms include a furnished balcony. 442 units, some efficiencies, kitchens and condominiums. 14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only.

Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest

Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

































KEY LARGO

- Hotels p. 114
- Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

The 1948 film "Key Largo" and Bertie Higgins' eponymous 1982 hit song might spring to mind when you hear this island's name. Both "Key Largo," starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, and the 1951 film "The African Queen" with Bogart and Katharine Hepburn were partially filmed here, creating a romantic image of this tropical isle, the first link in the Florida Keys' chain.

Named "Cayo Largo," or Long Key, by Spanish explorers, Key Largo links to the mainland by the first of 42 bridges along the Overseas Highway-the scenic 113mile section of US 1 between the Florida mainland and Key West-and introduces visitors to the lifestyle of the Keys with its marinas, diving and snorkeling shops, fishing guides and art galleries.

Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

With an abundance of shipwrecks and living coral reefs begging to be explored several miles away in the clear waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Key Largo's nickname—the Diving Capital of the World—is well-earned. A multitude of outfitters, guides and charters are at the ready whenever you are. If you prefer to stay dry, experience the reefs and their otherworldly marine life on a glass-bottomed boat tour. Diving, snorkeling, sailing, freshwater and saltwater fishing, jet-skiing, parasailing—Key Largo's world is an outdoor recreation lover's oyster.

From sky to sea, the area teems with wildlife. In the waters of Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, you can hook a trophy fish or dinner; reel in dolphin, grouper, marlin, redfish, sailfish, snapper, swordfish and tarpon. Marine and shore birds—including herons, ospreys, pelicans, roseate spoonbills and white ibis—make their home in the forests of the Everglades and thickets of mangrove trees; catch migrating hawks and songbirds with your binoculars in the spring and fall. The island is also close to Everglades National Park (see place listing p. 56); take an ecotour or explore on your own via kayak.

Get your first taste of Keys seafood here. Many restaurants will prepare your freshly caught fish, or just order off the menu; either way, local chefs know how to create exquisite seafood dishes. Dine at one of Key Largo's bay-side restaurants and gaze at a sublime sunset over Florida Bay.

Key Largo hosts an assortment of festivals and fishing tournaments throughout the year. In mid-January, the Uncorked: Key Largo & Islamorada Food & Wine Festival satisfies gourmands with 10 days of food and wine tastings, gourmet dinners at local restaurants and cooking demonstrations.

Key Largo Chamber of Commerce: 106000 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, FL 33037. **Phone:** (305) 451-1414 or (800) 822-1088.

Shopping: A large sign outside of Largo Cargo (103101 Overseas Hwy.) boasts of the store's contents, which begs the question: What *are* beer can shorts? As you might imagine, they're shorts with pockets deep enough to hold a beer can. You can also buy the usual beachy stuff here, including beach bags, sandals, seashells and flamingo knick-knacks.

Buy some bottle-opener flip flops to go with the beer can shorts at Sandal Factory Outlet (102411 Overseas Hwy.). Or choose from a selection of casual and dressy open-toe shoes from shoemakers like Birkenstock and Teva. Need a T-shirt to go with your new footwear? Peruse the stacks and racks at the T-Shirt City in the same building.

Shell World, the superstore of shells with 13,000 square feet, has two locations in Key Largo (on US 1 at mile markers 97.5 and 106). Not only do they sell scores of seashells and starfish, the store features products from resort wear and home décor to bath products and wood manatee and dolphin sculptures. Serious shellers will find a selection of rare shells priced over one hundred dollars. Fun buys include a pineapple pillow and margarita glass party lights.

Key Largo could not call itself the Diving Capital of the World without having some major sporting goods stores to supply the steady stream of outdoor sports lovers. Divers and snorkelers can stock up on fins, snorkels, masks, tanks, wet suits, spearguns and underwater cameras at the supersized Diver's Direct (99621 Overseas Hwy.). West Marine (on US 1 at mile marker 103.4 in the Pink Plaza Shopping Center) will float every sailor's boat; swag includes boating supplies, frozen bait, boat shoes, rods and reels, engine parts, inflatable kayaks, and sportswear.

If you need an art fix before you get to the plethora of galleries in Key West, visit a few of Key Largo's finest. Key Largo Art Gallery (103200 Overseas Hwy., Suite 10) has amassed a collection of works by Florida Keys and Cuban artists; add a splash of color to your home with a painting featuring vibrant tropical and Caribbean motifs. Surrounded by tropical gardens, the Gallery at Kona Kai (97802 Overseas Hwy.) shows only original works and specializes in international artists who work in such mediums as black and white photography, sculpture, watercolors and oils.

A tiki god guards each parking space at Key Lime Products (95231 Overseas Hwy.), where most of the products are made from—you guessed it—Key limes. The assortment of goodies includes natural bath products, cookies, jam, salsas and Key lime juice. Furnishings and accessories for the garden and patio are sold outside the shop, where you might see a craftsman carving a tiki.

Nightlife: A great introduction to the Florida Keys lies deep in the heart of the mangrove swamps on a floating barge. It doesn't get any more old Florida than local fave Alabama Jack's (58000 Card Sound Rd.). Sip frosty local brews, wolf down what may be the best conch fritters in the Keys, and bop to live music on the weekends; occasionally you may catch square dancers swinging their partners. The joint closes at 6:30 p.m., so it's a good place to start your evening out. Phone (305) 248-8741.

Rumor has it that scenes from the classic film "Key Largo" were shot at the rustic Caribbean Club (gulfside on US 1 at mile marker 104). Stop in for some local flavor and ice cold libations, eyeball the collection of Bogie and Bacall movie memorabilia, and watch the sunset over the bay behind the bar. Phone (305) 451-4466.

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In Key Largo, much of the nightlife is centered around bars tucked inside restaurants and hotels, where you can quench your thirst with a frozen concoction, nibble on some conch fritters at a tiki bar, boogie to live music, chill out with friends and behold the beautiful sunsets.

Sharkey's Pub & Galley Restaurant (522 Caribbean Dr.) has the laid-back island ambience vacationers and locals alike seek, with all the components necessary for a good time: icy beers, a juke box, live music, pool tables, fresh seafood and views of Port Largo Canal. Daily live entertainment draws locals to Snapper's Oceanfront Restaurant (139 Seaside Ave.). Phone (305) 453-0999 for Sharkey's and (305) 852-5956 for Snapper's.

Dance the night away to local bands on the spacious patio at Snook's Bayside Restaurant and Grand Tiki Bar (99470 Overseas Hwy.); don't ignore the awesome views of the bay, especially as the sun sets. Phone (305) 453-5004.

Hipsters will want to head over to Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill (104000 Overseas Hwy.) where they can check out the sunset in a more modern setting, chill out at the gulfside tiki bar or settle into outdoor sofas while indulging in martinis or margaritas. Live rock bands and DJs provide the soundtrack at this happening spot, which also features a raw bar, sports bar and karaoke. Phone (305) 453-9066.

Breezer's Tiki Bar is part of the Key Largo Bay Marriott Beach Resort (on US 1 at mile marker 103.8). Walk across a suspension bridge to this open-air, polygonshaped bar and contemplate the breathtaking sunsets from one of the many windows that open to expansive Florida Bay. Phone (305) 453-0000.

JOHN PENNEKAMP CORAL REEF STATE PARK, on US 1 at mile marker 102.6, combines a land area with 178 nautical square miles of protected ocean waters. Features include a living coral reef, the underwater bronze statue "Christ of the Deep," two beaches, a boardwalk through a mangrove area and a visitor center with a 30,000-gallon saltwater aguarium. Snorkel, scuba and glass-bottom boat tours are offered. Snorkeling tours to view "Christ of the Deep" are ocean and weather permitting only; the area is too shallow for glass-bottom boat tours. Boat, kayak, canoe and snorkeling charter boat rentals also are available. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Phone: (305) 451-1202 for the park ranger, or (305) 451-6300 for tour information and reservations.



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HOTELS

Resort Hotel. Address: 97450 Overseas Hwy 33037. Location:

Oceanfront. Facility: Located across 14 acres, rooms are split between a handful of buildings. Standard quest rooms are quite spacious, while the corner suites or bungalows are massive; all offer luxurious amenities. 178 units, some efficiencies, kitchens and houses. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, boat dock, bicycles, lawn sports, trails, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: coin laundry.



































Motel. Address: 97850 Overseas Hwy 33037.

KEY WEST

- Hotels p. 119 Restaurants p. 126
- Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

To its rocky shores, sandy beaches and weathered homes reminiscent of a coastal New England town, Key West adds another feature: its subtropical climate, which nourishes lush vegetation, especially palm trees, hibiscus and bougainvillea. Ship carpenters, using wooden pegs instead of nails, built many of the older houses, which are predominantly Bahamian in architecture.

The southernmost city in the continental United States, Key West once served as a base of operation against pirates; today it is the southern terminus of the scenic Overseas Highway (US 1). The prosperity of mid-19th century Key West was based on the thriving salvage business. At one time these enterprises provided the town with the highest per capita income in the nation.

Because of its proximity to Havana, about 90 miles south, the town was later a haven for Cuban political exiles. San Carlos Institute on Duval Street dates from the late 19th century, when it was used as a meeting place for the local Cuban community. City Cemetery on Margaret Street is the gravesite of the victims of the USS *Maine*, whose sinking precipitated the Spanish-American War.

Home at various times to Ernest Hemingway, Tennessee Williams and Robert Frost, Key West remains a popular retreat for artists and writers.

Although turtle hunting was once a major industry, federal laws protecting the endangered reptiles were enacted in the 1970s. The remains of a turtle-canning factory stand behind Turtle Kraals Restaurant & Bar on the harborfront at the north end of Margaret Street.

Of Key West's many natural attractions, its sunsets are among the most popular. Every night, weather permitting, more than two dozen street vendors and performers gather at Mallory Square Dock in Old Town off Duval Street. Jugglers, palm readers, contortionists, musicians and other entertainers vie for the attention and donations of the many spectators who begin gathering about an hour before sunset.

Nature also puts on a daily show in the shady confines of Nancy Forrester's Secret Garden, 518 Elizabeth St., where a small garden creates a junglelike atmosphere and sanctuary for orphaned parrots. Parrot 101—a presentation about parrot intelligence—is given daily at 10. The garden is open daily 10-3; phone (305) 294-0015.

The Caribbean influence extends to the town's cuisine. Along Duval Street and its side streets, imaginative cafes and open-air restaurants serve foods ranging from gourmet specialties to ethnic snacks.

Various types of cruises, including those offering underwater viewing of the denizens of the deep, sailing, snorkeling and reef diving, depart from several private and city marinas. Deep-sea fishing trips leave from City Marina on Garrison Bight off N. Roosevelt Boulevard. Contact the chamber of commerce for more information or phone (800) 352-5397.

Note: Parking regulations are strictly enforced throughout the city. Motor scooters should be parked in the areas designated for that purpose. There is no street parking available for recreational vehicles; follow signs to designated RV parking areas. Key West Park N' Ride service is available at Old Town Garage, jct. Grinnell and Caroline sts.

Key West Chamber of Commerce: 510 Greene St., 1st Floor, Key West, FL 33040. **Phone:** (305) 294-2587 or (800) 527-8539.

Self-guiding tours: Pelican Path—a route marked with pelican signs—leads visitors through historic Key West. A descriptive brochure outlining the tour and its sights can be picked up at the chamber of commerce.

Shopping: Key West's Duval Street, along with the surrounding side streets, is really the only shopping district in the Keys, with a multitude of art galleries, sidewalk cafés, souvenir shops, open-air bars, jewelry stores and boutiques stretching more than a dozen blocks, from Mallory Square to the southernmost point in the U.S. Several nationally known companies have set up shop on this street, including Banana Republic, Birkenstock, Chico's and Coach, but most of the emporiums are owned by locals and are infused with a salty-sweet Key West flavor you won't find elsewhere.

Although the Keys are sorely lacking in shopping malls, Key West does have one department store: Fast Bucks at Home (726 Caroline St.) which sells home décor and gifts; locals called its original store the Southernmost Bloomingdales.

Fresh Produce (400A Duval St.) is a chain store but its fashions are imbued with the fun-loving spirit of Key West with a rainbow array of basics in cool shades of pink, blue, green and yellow, as well as matching mother/daughter styles.

Chic urbanites who might feel like a fish out of water in the Keys will feel right at home at an assortment of up-to-the-minute boutiques on Duval Street. To satisfy your thirst for high style, there's Express (431 Duval St.) and Banana Republic Factory Store (501 Duval St.) for the hippest fashions and accessories.

Mambo on over to the Funky Chicken Store (814 Duval St.) for a selection of all things chicken, including paintings by Key West artists, home furnishings and T-shirts.

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Then hark back to the late 1800s, when stogies were hand-rolled in Key West's 100 or so Cuban cigar shops. Today, you can still find a few tobacconists who roll 'em like they did in the old days, including Key West Cigar Club & Smoke Shop (335 Duval St.) and Cigar City USA (410 Wall St.).

Dress yourself, your digs and your dogs with purchases from the Margaritaville Store (500 Duval St.), which caters to Jimmy Buffett fans and margarita lovers with such pieces as a "Margaritaville Mutt" dog collar, a clock emblazoned with the saying "It's 5:00 Somewhere" and Adirondack chairs painted with images representing Buffett songs, along with the expected T-shirts, hats and CDs. You'll even find that lost shaker of salt here. For more rock-inspired gear, head over to Hard Rock Cafe (313 Duval St.) for T-shirts, collectible pins and other items emblazoned with the cafe's logo. Tucker's Provisions (611 Duval St.) offers more apparel and accessories, while The Green Pineapple Wellness Center (1130 Duval St.) sells desserts and fine wines.

You'll discover a plethora of art galleries in Key West, which probably boasts the highest concentration of artists in all of the Keys. Many are located at the upper end of Duval Street from the 600 to 1200 blocks. Beginning at the 1200 block and working your way down, you'll be treated to a museum's worth of art in a wide variety of mediums, including photography, oil and watercolor paintings, sculpture, metalwork, woodwork, jewelry and handblown glass. Subjects go way beyond the expected paintings of dolphins, sunsets and the Hemingway House, though even the treatments of these subjects will pleasantly surprise shoppers.

At the Alan S. Maltz Gallery (1210 Duval St.), you'll find beautiful nature photography on display by the eponymous fine art photographer; his work is inspired by Florida and includes fiery sunrises and Florida wildlife. Archeo Gallery (1208 Duval St.) brings the tribal art of Africa to Key West, including masks, sculpture, pottery and metal works, along with teak Indonesian furniture and gabbeh rugs made by Iranian nomads.

Dig through the ultra-cool collection of original vintage Art Deco posters at South Pointe Gallery (1201 Duval St.). 7 Artists & Friends (122 Duval St.) features fun art by locals; the selection includes beaded jewelry, vibrant tropical paintings and whimsical sculptures.

There are many other high-caliber galleries on Duval Street; all are worth a visit. Among them are Gingerbread Square Gallery (1207 Duval St.), Glass Reunions (825 Duval St.), Island Style Gallery (512 Duval St.), Key West Gallery (601 Duval St.), Wild Side Gallery (1000 Duval St.) and Wyland Galleries (623 Duval St.).

Do take the time to explore the side streets off Duval Street; you'll happen upon even more galleries and shops deserving of your time. Art covers every square inch of the walls at Gallery on Greene (606 Greene St.); see pieces by Jeff MacNelly, known for the comic strip "Shoe," playwright Tennessee Williams and Cuban artist Mario Sanchez. Lucky Street Gallery is at 1204 White St.

Step through the doors at Besame Mucho (315 Petronia St.) and you'll swear you've been transported to France. Housed in an adorable little cottage in Bahama Village, the shop showcases an artfully arranged mix of treasures including delicate jewelry, Diptyque candles, design books, stationery, Dr. Hauschka and Kiehl's skin care products, and Tocca fragrances. Then stop at Gildea Contemporary Gallery (522 Southard St.) where you'll find more artwork, sculptures and terra cotta works.

Wander among the stacks at Key West Island Books (513 Fleming St.) and uncover tomes by Hemingway and Tennessee Williams, Cuban literature and signed editions by local writers amidst a conglomeration of new, used and rare books. At Books & Books (533 Eaton St.), you'll find everything from magazines to best sellers. Drink to Hemingway's memory with some fruit wines from Key West Winery (103 Simonton St.) including surprising flavors such as mango, watermelon, Key lime, orange and blueberry. Or honor the author of "The Old Man and the Sea" with a trip to The Saltwater Angler (243 Front St. at the Westin Key West Resort & Marina) for fishing supplies on the fly. The avid angler will find lures, fly rods and fly reels, men's and women's clothing, caps and visors and marine art.

Should you forget to pack a pair of sandals (and you *will* need some in the Keys), get a brand-new handmade pair at Kino Sandal Shop and Factory (107 Fitzpatrick St. near Mallory Square), open since 1966. You can watch while *sandaleros* make a pair to your specifications; they're very inexpensive to boot. To complete your island look, check out Assortment Inc. (514 Fleming St.) for the latest in quality men's attire, including Peter Millar and Martin Dingman.

Nightlife: In Key West, you can drink like Hemingway, carouse like a frat boy and sing along loudly to Jimmy Buffett songs, and you'll fit right in with the crowds who fill the Old Town clubs. The scene caters to those who like to party day and night; bars open between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. and close between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. Do the Duval Crawl and check out as many bars as you can, but don't ignore the clubs that are off Duval Street's well-beaten path; they're some of the most legendary in town.

Key West is rife with open-air bars, all the better to take advantage of the year-round balmy climate. The Bull & Whistle (224 Duval St.) has three levels: an open-air bar

with live bands on the first floor, a pool hall with balcony (the better to watch the crowds below) on the second floor and the clothing-optional Garden of Eden on the roof. Phone (305) 296-4565.

Your prototypical Key West cantina, the Hog's Breath Saloon (400 Front St.) is a great place to pull up a barstool and ogle the tourists while chugging an icy brewski and chasing it with a Key lime shooter, or while slurping oysters on the half-shell from the raw bar and being filmed on the web cams. Schooner Wharf Bar (202 William St.) sits by the dock of the bay with a scenic view of the historic seaport. This place is downright magical, literally—a house magician performs most Wednesday through Sunday nights. At night, the party gets started with live music and dancing. Phone (305) 296-4222 or (305) 292-3302, respectively.

Continue your hunt for local music at Smokin' Tuna Saloon (4 Charles St.), which is a hub for songwriters. Phone (305) 517-6350.

Island Dogs Bar (505 Front St.) transforms itself from a sports bar to a live music venue or trivia ring as easily as the breezes that blow through the open air space near Duval St. Pull up a chair and people watch as the servers bring you a cold beer or creative cocktail, like their signature Key Lime Martini. They'll even quench your fourlegged friend's thirst with his own water bowl. Try the shrimp BLT or Baha fish tacos if you're hungry. Phone (305) 509-7136.

At Capt. Tony's Saloon (428 Greene St.), you'll find an odd assortment of curiosities: Bras, business cards and license plates are tacked to the walls, a live tree pierces the roof, a gravestone is imbedded in the floor and a skeleton hangs behind the bar. Past *habitués* at the site of Hemingway's favorite haunt, the original Sloppy Joe's, include Truman Capote, Jimmy Buffett, Tennessee Williams and Elizabeth Taylor; if only the walls could talk. Try the Pirate's Punch, the house specialty, and catch local musicians most nights at Key West's oldest bar, open since 1851. Phone (305) 294-1838.

Sloppy Joe's bar was moved to 201 Duval St. after a dispute with the landlord over a rent increase, so while the current location isn't the original Hemingway hangout, the literary legend spent plenty of time there. Imbibe in a generously poured cocktail just like Papa did in the good old days. The bar serves up tasty sandwiches, pizzas, salads and snacks, too, and there's a large stage that's almost never devoid of a rockin' band. Phone (305) 294-5717.

Hang out with the locals at the Green Parrot Bar (601 Whitehead St.) which some say has the world's coolest jukebox; artists range from B.B. King and the Velvet Underground to Koko Taylor and the Rolling Stones. But don't start crying into your beer when the sad songs

play—a sign on the wall says "No snivelling." Note that things get rowdy as the evening progresses and when bands play most nights. Phone (305) 294-6133. The Porch, 429 Caroline St., serves craft beer and wine; phone (305) 517-6358. And you can find more beer taps at The Waterfront Brewery, 201 William St.; phone (305) 440-2270.

Let your inhibitions run wild at Bourbon St. Pub (724 Duval St.) and 801 Bourbon Bar (801 Duval St.), a duo of gay dance clubs with drag shows, male go-go dancers and high-energy dance music. Phone (305) 293-9800 or (305) 294-4737, respectively. Shake your groove thang at Aqua (711 Duval St.), a gay nightclub with live musicians, karaoke, drag shows featuring the Aquanettes, and DJs spinning tunes from the 1950s to the present; phone (305) 294-0555. Come taste the wine and hear the music play at The Cabaret at La Te Da (1125 Duval St.). This classy supper club attracts national drag acts of the highest caliber doing spot-on impersonations of celebrities like Cher, Marilyn Monroe and Madonna. Phone (305) 296-6706.

Party people get raucous around the clock at Rick's/Durty Harry's entertainment complex (202 Duval St.). The venue comprises eight clubs, including a dance club, rock and roll and sports bar, and the Red Garter Saloon, a strip club. If you're looking for music that breaks the sound barrier, wet T-shirt contests and cheap drinks, this is the place for you. Phone (305) 296-5513.

For those who might get the impression that nightlife in the Keys is all grit, no glamour, well, guess again. There are a few *boîtes* with urban flair tucked in among the multitude of beer joints. Sophisticates can smoke a stogie and have a tipple (a single-malt scotch or a crème de menthe, perhaps?) at Berlin's Cocktail and Cigar Bar at 700 Front St. Check out the well-stocked humidor and backgammon tables, and tap your feet to Sinatra-era tunes as a pianist tickles the ivories on the baby grand; phone (305) 294-5880. Mix locals and tourists, swinging bands, a loungey vibe and great martini specials, then shake, and you have Virgilio's Key West Martini Bar (524 Duval St.); phone (305) 296-1075.

AUDUBON HOUSE AND TROPICAL GARDENS, 205 Whitehead St., is the restored home of noted harbor pilot Capt. John Geiger. The site honors John James Audubon who painted the wildlife of the Florida Keys in 1832. Chippendale furniture and Staffordshire pottery are among the 18th- and 19th-century furnishings. Original Audubon engravings are displayed. Tropical gardens feature exotic native plants. A 19th-century replica cookhouse also is on the grounds.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 294-2116.

CONCH TOUR TRAIN leaves from 303 Front St. in Mallory Square. Step into a canary yellow open-air car shaded by striped awnings for a 90-minute, 14-mile tour through old and new Key West. Knowledgeable "engineers" regale passengers with humorous yet informative anecdotes about the island's colorful history, architecture and local legends, including a story about a wealthy cigar manufacturer who moved his house across the street via mules because he didn't care for the way the sun hit it. You'll also hear tales about Ernest Hemingway, Harry Truman, and the Navy's role in Key West history.

During the tour, the train passes by many local landmarks, including City Cemetery, Duval Street, the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum, the Key West Lighthouse Museum, the Harry S. Truman Little White House, Smathers Beach, and the Southernmost Point. The tour also takes you off the beaten path through residential areas populated with pretty pastel-colored, gingerbreadtrimmed Victorian houses surrounded by lush gardens. Take note of the shops and restaurants you'll see along the way; you'll want to check them out later.

The train makes a 10-minute stop midway through the tour at its depot at the junction of Front and Duval streets, where you can purchase refreshments. The train also stops during the trip at Flagler Station at the Historic Seaport and at the intersection of Duval and Truman streets. You may disembark at any of the stops and hop back on later to resume the tour.

Phone: (305) 294-5161. GT (1)

THE CUSTOM HOUSE, 281 Front St., towers over Mallory's historic seaport and features exhibits about Key West history, including the history of the 1891 Custom House and its 9-year restoration. Displays focus on local and regional Key West artists, Flagler's Overseas Railroad and the works of Mario Sanchez, a local woodcarver. Temporary exhibits also are on display. The site houses the Key West Art & Historical Society. Special events are offered. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 295-6616.

DRY TORTUGAS NATIONAL PARK FERRY departs from the Key West Ferry Terminal at 100 Grinnell St. The ferry service offers a round-trip excursion to Fort Jefferson aboard *Yankee Freedom III*, a high-speed catamaran with air-conditioned cabins and open decks. Before returning to Key West, passengers spend 4.5 hours within the park during which they can swim, snorkel, bird-watch and take a 45-minute guided tour of the fort.

Allow a full day. **Phone:** (305) 294-7009 or (800) 634-0939. GT

ERNEST HEMINGWAY HOME & MUSEUM is at 907 Whitehead St. Hemingway and his second wife, Pauline, moved into the 1851 Spanish Colonial-style mansion in 1931, after her uncle helped them buy it. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is the most widely known of the eight novels, several short stories and many poems written here.

The two-story house and writing studio in back is set in a lush tropical garden planted by the author. It is still home to more than 50 six-toed cats. A penny embedded in the concrete at the head of the pool (what he said was his last penny) supposedly was placed there when Hemingway discovered the pool's \$20,000 price tag.

He left the home after the couple divorced in 1940, when he left for Cuba with his third wife. Guides and story boards offer insight into the author's life, death and work, as well as his influential place in Key West's lore.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 294-1136. GT

FLORIDA KEYS ECO-DISCOVERY CENTER, 35 E. Quay Rd. next to Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park, features interactive and touch-screen exhibits exploring the region's underwater and uplands environments, native plants and animals, and how humans affect marine life. Highlights include a 2,500-gallon reef tank, videos about the Florida Keys and coral reef restoration efforts, a 3-D video about Dry Tortugas National Park and a walk-through model of Aquarius, an underwater sea laboratory. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 809-4750.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LITTLE WHITE HOUSE, 111 Front St. inside the Truman Annex, is the vacation retreat that Presidents Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy used during their administrations. The house has been restored to its 1948 appearance. A 10-minute video introduces visitors to Truman, and a 45-minute guided tour gives insight into both his experiences in Key West and his presidency. Changing exhibits also are offered. The grounds include a 1-acre botanical garden.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 294-9911.

KEY WEST BUTTERFLY & NATURE CONSERVATORY is at 1316 Duval St. More than 50 butterfly species and more than 20 species of tropical birds flourish amid tropical plants and trees in a climate-controlled atrium. Two Caribbean flamingos and Mandarin ducks also are on display. A learning center provides an orientation film and tips for identifying butterflies by country of origin. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (305) 296-2988.

KEY WEST SHIPWRECK TREASURES MUSEUM, 1 Whitehead St. in Old Mallory Square, is in a reproduction of the wreckers warehouse that originally stood on the site. Costumed actors interact with visitors and recreate the events of the wreck and salvage of the *Isaac Allerton*, which sank in 1856. Artifacts from the shipwreck are on display. A 65-foot observation tower provides a magnificent view of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (305) 292-8990.

MARTELLO TOWERS, on the south side of the island, are reached via SR A1A (S. Roosevelt Blvd.). The two brick fortifications were begun in 1862 by Union engineers to protect the defenses east of Fort Zachary Taylor.

Fort East Martello Museum, 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd., exhibits Key West artifacts and military memorabilia relating to island history. Other exhibits feature the shipwreck and cigar manufacturing industries. Of special interest is Robert, a reportedly haunted doll. Metal sculpture works by folk artist Stanley Papio are displayed. The tower, accessible by stairs, provides a scenic overlook. Special events are offered. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 296-3913.

Key West Garden Club and Joe Allen Garden is on a county beach at 1100 Atlantic Blvd. Tropical plants grow among the ruins of the West Martello Tower. **Phone:** (305) 294-3210.

MEL FISHER MARITIME MUSEUM. 200 Greene St., displays both precious and functional artifacts recovered from the wreckage of two Spanish galleons. While en route to Spain from Havana, the ships sank 40 miles off Key West in a hurricane Sept. 6, 1622. Highlights of the collection include a 77.76-carat emerald as well as gold and silver religious objects. Informative exhibits illustrate techniques of underwater archeology. The museum also presents temporary exhibits.

Guided tours of the conservation laboratory are offered. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 294-2633.

OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOURS leave from Mallorv Square downtown or can be joined at any of the stops around the island. The 90-minute tour aboard the bright orange and green trolley includes a narrated introduction to the history, legends and geography of the island. Passengers can get on and off at their leisure to visit attractions or grab a bite to eat. The knowledgeable drivers know the best local places to try along the route, and they return to each of 13 stops twice an hour. Each driver has a different personality and fun facts to share, but all will give you a flavor and overview of this laid-back town.

Points of interest include Old Town attractions like the Key West Aguarium and Mallory Square, Harry S. Truman Little White House, the historic waterfront, Simonton Row (near Sloppy Joe's bar), Duval Street, the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum, and the Southernmost Point as well as a view of New Town and the beaches along the Atlantic Ocean. Unique shopping and historical sites are noted as the tour progresses.

The company also offers an evening "Ghosts & Gravestones" tour. **Note:** Children ages 0-5 are not permitted on the Ghosts & Gravestones Tour.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 296-6688. (GT)

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES Snorkeling

• Fury Water Adventures Double Dip Reef Snorkel departs from Historic Seaport at 631 Greene St. Other tours also are available. Phone: (855) 832-9893.

BEST WESTERN HIBISCUS MOTEL BOOK NOW

305/294-3763



Motel. Address: 1313 Simonton St 33040. Facility: 61 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor.

















BLUE MARLIN MOTEL BOOK NOW 305/294-2585



Motel. Address: 1320 Simonton St 33040. Facility: 57 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Guest Services: coin laundry. SAVF (1) > (SAVF) (1)











THE CAPITANA KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/296-6925

Boutique Hotel. Address: 2401 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040.



CASA MARINA KEY WEST, CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON

BOOK NOW |

305/296-3535



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

Historic Resort Hotel. Address: 1500 Reynolds St 33040. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Sprawling across multiple buildings, the main unit of this luxurious resort was originally built in 1920 as the Flagler Hotel. Rooms sizes vary, but all have 65" TVs as well as comfortable bedding. 311 units, some two bedrooms. 3-4 stories, interior/ exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, recreation programs, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.































THE CONCH HOUSE HERITAGE INN BOOK NOW 305/293-0020



Historic Bed & Breakfast, Address: 625 Truman Ave 33040.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT - KEY WEST WATERFRONT BOOK NOW

305/296-6595



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

SAVE Hotel, Address: 3031-41 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040.



ELLA'S COTTAGES - KEY WEST HISTORIC INNS BOOK NOW 305/296-3336



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 811 Simonton St 33040. Facility: Located in the heart of town, this charming option offers tropical-chic guest rooms dotted along well-tended garden alcoves. King City single rooms are only 180 sq feet - ideal for single travelers. 22 cottages, some two bedrooms. 1-2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and street. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor.

















FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT AT THE KEYS

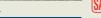
COLLECTION

BOOK NOW 305/320-0910



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

Hotel. Address: 3852 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040. Facility: 133 units. 2 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, area transportation.



































FITCH LODGE - KEY WEST HISTORIC INNS BOOK NOW 305/294-6151



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1030 Eaton St 33040. Facility: This unique hotel's rooms are spread out between four buildings, some dating back to 1892. Rooms can be tight, but all include comfortable bedding, mini fridges and wall-mounted TVs. 44 units. 2 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Parking: street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor.





















THE GATES HOTEL KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/320-0930



Hotel, Address: 3824 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040. Facility: 100 units. 2 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























THE GRAND GUESTHOUSE BOOK NOW 305/294-0590



Historic Bed & Breakfast. Address: 1116 Grinnell St 33040.



HAVANA CABANA AT KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/294-5541



Boutique Hotel. Address: 3420 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040. Facility: This unique hotel offers rooms with views of the bay or the pool. The lagoon-style pool is the largest in Key West and is surrounded by lush greenery There's also a covered bar area and a food truck! 106 units. 2 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, lawn sports. Guest Services: area transportation.



























HILTON GARDEN INN KEY WEST AT THE KEYS COLLECTION BOOK NOW

305/320-0920



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

Hotel. Address: 3850 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040. Facility: 141 units. 2-4 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

































HYATT CENTRIC KEY WEST RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 305/928-6273



HYATT CENTRIC

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

Hotel. Address: 601 Front St 33040. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 120 units. 5 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.























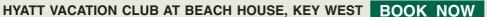












305/294-0059



Vacation Rental Condominium. Address: 5051 Overseas Hwy 33040. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: All of the units at this property offer 2 bedrooms and bathrooms, as well as a comfortably furnished balcony or lanai. The spa-like bathroom in the master bedroom includes a huge two-person shower. 74 kitchen condominium units. 3 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, self-propelled boats, boat dock, fishing, playground, picnic facilities. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.

























THE LAUREATE KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/295-7509



Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 3444 N Roosevelt Blvd 33040.



LIGHTHOUSE HOTEL—KEY WEST HISTORIC INNS BOOK NOW 305/294-9588



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 902 Whitehead St 33040. Facility: While some of the rooms at this property are quite small, they all offer comfortable bedding, robes and flat screen TVs. Paid on-site parking is on a first-come, first-served basis, 45 units, 1-2 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles.





















MARGARITAVILLE BEACH HOUSE KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/292-9800



Hotel, Address: 2001 S Roosevelt Blvd 33040, Location: Across from the beach. Facility: 186 units. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation.

































THE MARKER WATERFRONT RESORT BOOK NOW

305/501-5193



Hotel. Address: 200 William St 33040. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 96 units, some two bedrooms. 2 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: recreation programs, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























OCEANS EDGE RESORT & MARINA BOOK NOW

305/809-8204



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 5950 Peninsular Ave 33040. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This gated hotel is located on a marina with multiple pools. The tastefully decorated, spacious guest units all face the water and feature furnished balconies, plush beds and streaming televisions. 175 units. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: motor boats, self-propelled boats, marina, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation. Affiliated with Preferred Hotels & Resorts.





























OPAL KEY RESORT & MARINA KEY WEST

BOOK NOW

305/294-4000



Resort Hotel. Address: 245 Front St 33040.



THE PERRY HOTEL KEY WEST BOOK NOW 305/296-1717



Hotel. Address: 7001 Shrimp Rd 33040.



PIER HOUSE RESORT AND SPA BOOK NOW

305/296-4600



Hotel. Address: One Duval St 33040. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 142 units, some two bedrooms. 2-5 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























THE REACH KEY WEST, CURIO BY HILTON BOOK NOW 305/296-5000



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SAVE Resort Hotel. Address: 1435 Simonton St 33040.



RIDLEY HOUSE - KEY WEST HISTORIC INNS BOOK NOW

305/294-6969



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 601 Caroline St 33040. Facility: Located near Duval Street and the historic seaport area, this reimagined property is a cluster of Bahamian-style houses dating from 1888. Room sizes vary, all including plush beds and mini fridges. 23 units. 2-3 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Parking: street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm, age restrictions may apply. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated



Book and save at AAA.com/hertz



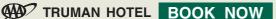
SOUTHERNMOST BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 305/296-6577



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 1319 Duval St 33040. Facility: This sprawling property offers a variety of room types, many including beachside accommodations with upscale aspects. Rooms in the renovated historic building offer additional amenities and services. 296 units. 2-3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry. SAVE







305/296-6700



Boutique Hotel. Address: 611 Truman Ave 33040. Facility: Within steps of Duval Street, this property offers stylish and relatively spacious rooms. Each room has either a furnished balcony or courtyard seating area. The pool is open daily until midnight. 35 units. 2 stories, exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated





WINSLOW'S BUNGALOWS - KEY WEST HISTORIC INNS **BOOK NOW** 305/294-5229



HREE DIAMOND **INSPECTED** CLEAN

Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 725 Truman Ave 33040. Facility: Located a couple of blocks from buzzing Duval Street, this Bahamian-style inn offers a variety of room types split between multiple buildings. Room sizes vary, but all have plenty of storage options. 85 units. 1-3 stories (no elevator), interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor.















WHERE TO EAT



LATITUDES 305/292-5394



International Fine Dining. Address: 245 Front St 33040.



LAKE WORTH

Development of Lake Worth began in the 1900s when lakeshore lots were offered as giveaways to those who bought nearby tracts of fruit and truck land. The area became so popular that land to the west intended for development was virtually abandoned until the late 1930s, while the lake settlement expanded and was named for Gen. William Jenkins Worth of Seminole Indian Wars fame.

A variety of recreational programs is offered throughout the city for visitors and residents alike, including golf, swimming, sunbathing, shuffleboard, tennis and boating. Local theater groups perform at the Lake Worth Playhouse; phone (561) 586-6410. Concerts are held at Duncan Theatre on the Palm Beach State College campus; phone (561) 868-3309.

Lake Worth offers fine fishing. Freshwater varieties are caught in Lake Osborne and from spillways in Lake Worth; saltwater species are snagged from one of Florida's longest municipally owned Atlantic Ocean piers as well as from charter craft for deep-sea and reef fishing.

The annual Lake Worth Street Painting Festival is held downtown in late February.

Visitors' Information Center: 414 Lake Ave., Lake Worth, FL 33460. Phone: (561) 540-5304.

LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

- Hotels p. 127
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

APPROVED

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

TROPIC SEAS RESORT MOTEL BOOK NOW 954/491-3733

Motel. Address: 4616 El Mar Dr 33308.

LOXAHATCHEE

LION COUNTRY SAFARI, 15.5 mi. w. of I-95 exit 68 on SR 80 (Southern Blvd.), features a 4-mile safari drive through a wildlife preserve in which more than 900 animals including giraffes, wildebeests, rhinoceroses, lions, zebras, ostriches and chimpanzees roam freely. Visitors must stay in their cars with doors and windows closed. Convertibles are not permitted; rental vehicles are available. Other highlights include Safari World Amusement Park, with a giraffe feeding platform, animal encounters and a petting zoo as well as a carousel, paddleboats, water slides and a water spray ground.

Pets are not permitted; free kennels are available. **Time:** Allow 3 hours minimum. **Phone:** (561) 793-1084.

MARATHON

- Hotels p. 128
- Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

The midway point between Key Largo and Key West, Marathon is the largest city in the Florida Keys. The

Seven Mile Bridge, built on the foundation of Henry Flagler's East Coast Railroad, begins here and joins the Middle Keys to the Lower Keys. Named for the lament of a railroad engineer when told to continue the line still farther, the city is the commercial and sport fishing center of the Middle Keys. Anglers will find copious amounts of bill-fish, dolphin, tarpon and tuna in the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean, while sailors, scuba divers and snorkelers won't be able to resist the vast expanses of clear blue water.

Park your umbrella and beach towel at Sombrero Beach, oceanside at mile marker 50, favored by the locals for its family-friendly atmosphere and its variety of recreational opportunities. Chow down on sandwiches and chips at a shaded picnic table, join the kids on the playground or toss a ball on the volleyball court. The beach's clear waters and soft sand encourage boating, shell collecting, snorkeling, swimming and windsurfing.

This family-oriented community has its fair share of events. Listen to live bands and munch on festival food while strolling through booths displaying the works of more than 70 artists at the Pigeon Key Art Festival, held early February. Visit the city's beautifully decorated homes and lush gardens during the Marathon Home and Garden Tour in early March and see how the natives live.

128 MARATHON, FL

Indulge in locally caught fresh fish, lobster, shrimp and stone crab at the 2-day Marathon Seafood Festival in mid-March; live music, children's games, a flea market and a boat show round out the festivities. The Seven Mile Bridge closes for several hours on a Saturday morning in April every year for the Seven Mile Bridge Run, a Marathon tradition.

Greater Marathon Chamber of Commerce: 12222 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, FL 33050. Phone: (305) 743-5417 or (800) 262-7284.

Shopping: Bayshore Clothing (8911 Overseas Hwy.) has been in operation since 1988 and specializes in men's and women's sportswear, including Life is Good T-shirts and baseball caps. More fashion must-haves can be found at Anthony's Women's Apparel (5800 Overseas Hwy.); think stylish juniors, petites and misses swimsuits and casual clothing by Ruby Rd. and Alfred Dunner.

Nightlife: The sleepy town of Marathon offers a handful of down-home, no-frills pubs where you can kick back with your buddies over a few beers and rock out to live music.

For the quintessential Keys experience, drop by the Dockside Tropical Café at the Sombrero Marina in Boot Key Harbor (off US 1 mile marker 50, 35 Sombrero Blvd.). Sit at a picnic table with a frosty mug, feel the gentle breezes floating in from the harbor and join the regulars getting their groove on to guitar-playing musicians.

Enjoy local talent perform nightly, or join in the beach and pool party on Sundays at Sunset Grille & Raw Bar (7 Knights Key Blvd.). Phone (305) 396-7235.

Blues and rock bands will rock you like a hurricane at local institution The Hurricane (4650 Overseas Hwy.). This gulfside juke joint is a popular hangout where regulars come to shoot the breeze, shoot some pool and throw

back tropical house specialties like a Tropical Depression or the pub's own version of a Hurricane. Phone (305) 743-2220.

Get funky at the Brass Monkey (234 55th St.). This unpretentious pub favored by locals comes complete with neon beer signs, a couple of pool tables and live classic rock music. Former resident Nick Carter (of Backstreet Boys fame) occasionally shows up to sing a few songs. Phone (305) 743-4028.

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER is at 58901 Overseas Hwy. (US 1) mile marker 59. Home to Atlantic bottlenose dolphins and California sea lions, this research facility offers educational programs and demonstrations throughout the day as well as special experiences that include the Dolphin Encounter, Family Dolphin Splash and Ultimate Trainer-for-a-Day. A water-theme playground also is available.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 289-1121, or (305) 289-0002 for reservations.

FLORIDA KEYS AQUARIUM ENCOUNTERS, 11710 Overseas Hwy., is a learning and conservation center offering hands-on exhibits, displays of marine life and educational programming. The main aquarium viewing area highlights the residents of the inter-connected coral reef and shark tanks. Also on-site is the Tide Pool Touch Tank, which houses shallow water species like starfish, the Nursery Tank and Stingray Cove, where visitors can touch stingrays. Behind-the-scenes Encounter programs, some of which include snorkeling, allow for more in-depth interaction with tropical fish, stingrays, nurse sharks and other marine animals.

Guided tours and scheduled public feedings are available with general admission. Time: Allow 45 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (305) 407-3262.

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FARO BLANCO RESORT

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305/289-2100





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

Hotel. Address: 2146 Overseas Hwy 33050. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 124 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. **Pool:** heated outdoor. **Activities:** hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, bicycles, game room, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



















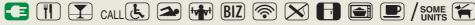
















FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES MARATHON BOOK NOW 305/289-0222



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 13201 Overseas Hwy 33050.



FARO BLANCO RESORT & YACHT CLUB MARATHON, CURIO COLLECTION BY

BOOK NOW 305/743-1234



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

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 1996 Overseas Hwy 33050. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Each of the hotel's bright quest rooms offer a king or 2 queen beds as well as a large sofa bed with a chaise, so there's plenty of room for multiple guests. 125 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: self-propelled boats, marina, exercise room.

















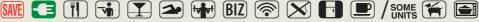


















HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MARATHON-FLORIDA KEYS BOOK NOW



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 13351 Overseas Hwy 33050.



ISLA BELLA BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 305/481-9451



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 1 Knights Key MM 47 33050. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This full-service resort is ideal for a romantic or family getaway. Enveloped on 24 acres of a natural oasis, all quest units have furnished balconies or patios that face the ocean. 199 units, some two bedrooms. 3 stories, exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: steamroom, beach on-site, motor boats, self-propelled boats, scuba diving, snorkeling, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























MARCO ISLAND

• Hotels p. 130

At the northern tip of the Ten Thousand Islands and 18 miles south of Naples, Marco Island serves as a large playground for sun seekers and outdoor sports fans.

Although the island is lined with contemporary high-rise hotels and resorts, most of the attention is focused on its beautiful beaches and the Gulf of Mexico. Crescent Beach spans the entire 3.5-mile length of the island along its western coastline and is covered with velvety sand the color of alabaster. Hotel guests can rent jet skis, sailboats,



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

130 MARCO ISLAND, FL

kayaks and equipment for parasailing and windsurfing along most of Crescent Beach, which is fronted by hotels and condominiums.

Tigertail Beach, a 1-mile section of Crescent Beach at the island's northern tip, is accessible to all visitors. There's no danger of boredom here; you can rent all sorts of beach gear, including lounge chairs, umbrellas, kayaks and a 7-foot-long watercraft called a Sea Squirt, which shoots 20-foot-tall sprays of water. There also are showers, a playground and a beachside café in case you're hungry for a juicy burger or a veggie wrap. The beaches also are known as a shell-gatherer's paradise; scan the sands for such varieties as sand dollars, scallop shells and whelks.

Marco Island also is home to more than 100 miles of waterways, luring boaters and fishermen; the island has several marinas from which to launch your craft or a rental, including Rose Marina; phone (239) 394-2502. From late December to late April (also Tues.-Wed., early July to mid-Aug.), Key West Express, 951 Bald Eagle Dr., offers a ferry service to Key West for a fee (weather permitting); phone (888) 539-2628 to confirm schedule.

Long before Marco Island became a resort area, it was home for hundreds of years to the Calusa Indians, a fierce tribe whose main food source came from the surrounding waters. As a result, the Calusas left behind many shell mounds as well as other artifacts. The most well-known is the 6-inch-tall Key Marco Cat; carved from buttonwood, it has a mixture of human and panther features and may have been used for religious practices. The figure now is housed in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. The Marco Island Historical Museum (see attraction listing this page), displays a replica of the Marco Cat.

Marco Island Area Chamber of Commerce: 1102 N. Collier Blvd., Marco Island, FL 34145. Phone: (239) 394-7549 or (888) 330-1422.

Shopping: Marco Town Center Mall, downtown at North Collier Boulevard and Bald Eagle Drive, features a small

yet chic collection of one-of-a-kind boutiques and restaurants. This quaint shopping village draws shoppers with its peaceful tropical atmosphere marked by immaculate landscaping and cobblestone walkways. Standouts include Sandpiper Clothiers, specializing in attire by Lilly Pulitzer and Claudia Nichole; Periwinkles, featuring casual women's and plus-size clothing in sorbet colors from Fresh Produce; and Blue Mangrove Gallery, a vendor of artsy jewelry and home décor as well as works by nearly 300 artists, including photographer Clyde Butcher.

Bargains galore await you at Naples Outlet Center, 5 miles north of Marco Island on SR 951. Save a bundle at nearly 20 retailers, including Ann Taylor Factory Store, Coach and Samsonite.

MARCO ISLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS is at 1010 Winterberry Dr. The venue for the visual arts offers workshops, classes, lectures, demonstrations, temporary art exhibits, outdoor art shows, and fine art and craft shows. **Phone:** (239) 394-4221.

MARCO ISLAND HISTORICAL MUSEUM is at 180 S. Heathwood Dr. Guests will take a historical expedition of Southwest Florida as they learn about the Calusa Indians. The Calusa Indians were the first settlers to this region and their story is told through informative displays, exhibits and a tribal village replica. The exhibits feature rotating, temporary and permanent displays. An impressive bronzed Key Marco Cat serves as the central focus to the museum and will greet you before entering the doors.

Guided tours are available by appointment. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (239) 642-1440. **GT**

VANTASTIC TOURS picks up passengers from area hotels and central Marco Island locations. Naturalist-led 4.5-to 5-hour expeditions include a nature walk, an airboat ride and a visit to an animal habitat. Guests may see alligators, bald eagles, manatees, wading birds and other native wildlife. A 4.5-hour afternoon tour is available upon request. Time: Allow 5 hours minimum. Phone: (239) 394-7699. GT

HILTON MARCO ISLAND BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 239/394-5000



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

SAVE Resort Hotel. Address: 560 S Collier Blvd 34145.



239/393-3460



Vacation Rental Hotel. Address: 571 W Elkcam Cir 34145.



JW MARRIOTT MARCO ISLAND BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 239/394-2511



FOUR DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN



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

JW MARRIOTT Resort Hotel. Address: 400 S Collier Blvd 34145. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Serenely set on the Gulf of Mexico, this property is split between 2 towers and offers many on-site amenities. All rooms have a balcony or patio, plus streaming TVs and comfortable beds. 809 units, some two bedrooms. 2-11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, rental car service, area transportation.

































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Miami-Miami Beach

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Visitors once flocked to this particular spot on the South Florida coast for vacation simply because it had sun, sand and adventurous things to do. It gained early fame as a winter playground for the rich and a retirement village for seniors eager to trade their snow shovels for shuffleboard cues. But like the doe-eyed, swimsuit-clad beauties seen in postcards from those early, innocent years, there didn't seem to be a lot of substance behind that bright "wish you were here" smile. As a city Miami was just, well, *nice*.

AAA.com/tripcanvas

But as Miami dealt with runaway growth, refugees and periodic crime waves, the destination exchanged its image as a placid winter retreat for the more nuanced reputation as an edgy, yet sophisticated destination with a blend of diverse cultures all its own.

Decades ago it took something as over the top as the artist Christo outlining 11 islets in Biscayne Bay with acres of bright, pink plastic to grab the attention of the art world. Now thousands of those same discerning eyes turn

toward Miami each winter during the prestigious Art Basel Miami Beach art show when artists, curators, collectors, critics and A-list celebrities from across the globe come together for the glitzy sister event of Switzerland's Art Basel with numerous things to see.

The art scene might not have taken off like this had it not been for an earlier watershed moment: the rebirth of South Beach and its Art Deco District. Once heralded as the American Riviera, South Beach began a long period of decline in the late 1950s. By the 1970s the neighborhood had an unwelcoming reputation for drug-related crime. But in 1979 historic preservationists successfully lobbied to have the Art Deco District added to the National Register of Historic Places, setting the stage for a dramatic comeback. Protected from the wrecking ball, area hotels, local restaurants and apartment buildings were returned to their pastel glory, and soon artists, photographers and fashion industry players rediscovered South Beach.

While architectural trends like Art Deco shaped the skylines, political events in nearby Cuba transformed both cities' culture. In the decades following the 1959 Cuban

Art Deco architecture along Ocean Drive / © iStockphoto.com / QwazzMe





Destination Miami-Miami Beach

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



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Surfside	

FAST FACTS

ABOUT THE AREA

Miami POP: 399.457 ● ELEV: 20 ft. Miami Beach POP: 87,779 ● ELEV: 4 ft.

MONEY

SALES TAX: Miami-Dade County sales tax is 7 percent. An additional hotel room tax is 6 percent in Miami-Dade County, with the exception of Surfside and Bal Harbour, where the resort tax is 4 percent.

WHOM TO CALL

EMERGENCY: 911

POLICE (non-emergency): (305) 476-5423 (Miami-Dade

County) or (305) 579-6111 (Miami)

FIRE (non-emergency): (786) 331-5000 (Miami-Dade

County) or (305) 416-5400 (Miami)

TIME AND TEMPERATURE: (305) 324-8811

HOSPITALS: Baptist Hospital of Miami, (786) 596-1960 Jackson South Community Hospital, (305) 251-2500

- North Shore Medical Center, (305) 835-6000 University of Miami Hospital, (305) 689-5511 • Westchester General
- Hospital, (305) 264-5252.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau: 701 Brickell Ave., Suite 2700, Miami, FL 33131. Phone: (305) 539-3000 or (800) 933-8448.

The bureau distributes information and a vacation planner Mon.-Fri. 8:30-6.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: Miami International Airport (MIA), northwest at Le Jeune Road and N.W. 36th Street, is centrally located 7 miles from downtown.

Revolution, hundreds of thousands of refugees arrived in South Florida, first settling in an area along S.W. 8th Street (Calle Ocho) that became known as Little Havana. Today, Little Havana remains the historic heart of the Cuban community.

According to a 2013 report, immigrants account for 39 percent of the population of Miami. When asked why they chose to travel to the Miami area, visitors today rate its international, multiethnic vibe as one of their top reasons. They also come for its urban diversions: cruise vacations.

Taxis offer transportation to hotels but at almost twice the price of limousines. Airport limousine service to most locations may be charged a flat rate; return trips usually cost less.

The Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is a convenient option for those traveling to the northern portions of the Miami-Miami Beach area. The airport is about an hour north of Miami via I-95. US 1 or Florida's Turnpike.

RENTAL CARS: Miami and Miami Beach are served by many major car rental agencies. Hertz, (800) 654-3080, or (305) 871-0300 at Miami International Airport, offers discounts to AAA members.



Visit AAA.com/roadtrips

RAIL SERVICE: The Amtrak Station is at 8303 N.W. 37th Ave.; for reservations and other information phone (800) 872-7245.

Brightline—a high-speed passenger train connecting Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Miami to Orlando-is now open, with service to Orlando expected as phase 2. Phone (305) 521-4800 for customer service.

BUSES: Greyhound Lines Inc. stations are at 3801 N.W. 21st St., (305) 871-1810.

TAXIS: Cabs are plentiful and operate on the meter system. Fares are \$2.95 base fee plus \$5.10 for the first mile, \$2.40 per additional mile and 40c for each minute of waiting. A \$2 fuel surcharge and an airport surcharge may apply. Taxi companies include Yellow Taxi, (786) 830-6253, and USA Taxi, (305) 897-3333.

Private limousine service is \$60 to \$110 an hour, with a 2-hour minimum; most companies add a 20 percent driver gratuity.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: Transportation by elevated light rail, people mover and bus is available in Miami. See Getting Around, Public Transportation.

elegant shopping districts, world-class performing arts centers, local restaurants representing a variety of cuisines, a now-legendary nightlife scene and fun things for couples to do.

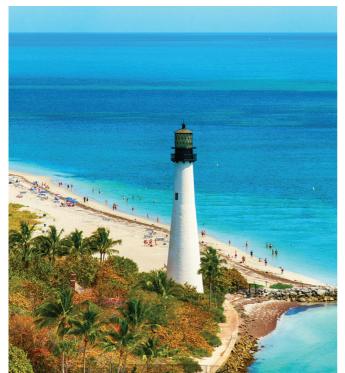
Must Do: AAA Editor's Picks

 Cruise along oceanfront Collins Avenue, past rows of hotels and condos, to Ocean Drive in South Beach, where people-watching is an art form. Marvel at the architectural things to see in the Art Deco District as



you dine, drink or shop in this oh-so-trendy area. South Beach doesn't really come to life, though, until the sun goes down. Then there are the fun things for couples to do: Neon-lit lounges, hip cafes and dance clubs pulsate into the wee hours with jazz, salsa and pop rhythms. You might even spot a celebrity or two among the cosmopolitan, international crowd.

- Cheer on the **Dolphins**, **Heat**, **Marlins**, **Golden** Panthers or Hurricanes, depending on what time of year you're visiting the destination—if you can get a cheap ticket.
- Imagine what life was like during the Gilded Age at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens (3251 S. Miami Ave.), the lavish 34-room winter estate of industrialist James Deering. The estate enjoys a beautiful setting on Biscayne Bay that includes a 10-acre Italian Renaissance formal garden with paths, fountains and statues: a hammock of native hardwood trees: and an ornate stone "barge" just in the estate's boat harbor.
- ¡Bienvenidos a Calle Ocho! Welcome to Eighth **Street**, the main thoroughfare of Little Havana. Immerse yourself in Cuban culture, transplanted to South Florida, as you sip a café con leche or shop for hand-rolled cigars and the perfect souvenir



Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Beach / © iStockphoto.com / Art Wager

- *quavabera*. Join the celebration every month on the last Friday during Viernes Culturales (Cultural Fridays). This family-friendly street party features visual and performing arts, food, dancing and music.
- Feel the sand trickle through your toes, wade into the gentle surf (being careful not to get a mouthful of saltwater) and test your architectural skills with a plastic pail and shovel. Two favorite beaches are nearby in Key Biscayne: Crandon Park (6747 Crandon Blvd.) and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Beach (1200 S. Crandon Blvd.).
- Steer your car south toward Florida City to the main entrance of Everglades National Park (see place listing p. 56), where trails, boardwalks and tram tours provide access to hardwood hammocks, swamps, mangrove forests and sawgrass prairies. Also south is Biscayne National Park (see place listing p. 27), 95 percent of which is underwater and suitable for adventurous things to do, such as scuba diving, snorkeling or kayaking. Guided boat tours are offered most Thurs.-Sun., year-round.
- You won't be able to tiptoe through the tulips, though you can travel through a rainforest and among the palms, bougainvillea, hibiscus, vines and fruit trees that grow in organized profusion at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (10901 Old Cutler Rd.).
- Glide your way through the ★Zoo Miami (12400) S.W. 152nd St.) on a monorail, taking time to admire the habitats where animals native to Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and South America live. More than 3,000 animals including endangered animals are visible from the zoo's 3 miles of walkways. Close-up and some face-to-face encounters are available at the free-flight aviary and more than 100 cageless exhibits throughout the zoo.
- In a city famous for its diverse cultures and lifestyles, The Holocaust Memorial (1933-1945 Meridian Ave.) is a fitting reminder of our world's need for tolerance. The Miami Beach memorial features a circular reflecting pool bordered by bougainvillea-draped arbor surrounding a towering bronze sculpture of an outstretched arm.
- Watch sea lions frolic beneath the Golden Dome at Miami Seaguarium (4400 Rickenbacker Cswy.), a Miami institution on Virginia Key that's been enchanting visitors since 1955.

Miami-Miami Beach 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



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AAA.com/TripCanvas.

Before making travel plans, it is important to note that while Miami and Miami Beach share an enviable location in sunny South Florida, they are distinct cities separated by Biscayne Bay. Because of the distances involved, you'll need a car to reach many of the places mentioned below.

Morning

- Start your stay in Miami Beach with a visit to South Beach. This trendy hot spot is as well-known for its restored sherbet-hued Art Deco-inspired boutique hotels as for its pulsating nightlife. The perfect place to begin is the Art Deco Welcome Center, 1001 Ocean Dr. at 10th St. In addition to exhibits and a neat gift shop, the center offers a 90-minute self-guiding audio travel tour, an enlightening walk that provides historical and architectural information about Art Deco District gems. Several guided walking tours also are available.
- Now that you're well-versed in "Streamline Moderne," stepped rooflines and porthole windows, head across the MacArthur Causeway, admiring the palatial mansions on one side and the balcony-bedecked cruise ships at the Port of Miami on the other.

Afternoon

- If meatless meals are more to your liking, make reservations at nearby PLANTA South Beach (850 Commerce St.). The plant-based restaurant offers a variety of healthful options, such as vegan sushi and gluten-free pizza, as well as theme nights and Sunday brunch.
- Proceed back into the heart of the Art Deco District to a museum dedicated to decorative arts created between 1885 and 1945. The Wolfsonian-Florida International University (1001 Washington Ave.) examines how these things to see reflect the societal, technological and political bent of their time. Not far away, a series of sculptures—centered around a 42-foot-high bronze arm and outstretched hand thrust into the sky—and a contemplative garden at The Holocaust Memorial (1933-1945 Meridian Ave.) powerfully remind visitors of the horror and tragedy of the 6 million Jewish men, women and children persecuted and exterminated by the Nazis 1933-45.

Evening

- To complete your day in Miami Beach, have dinner on Lincoln Road, a 7-block-long, tree-lined pedestrian mall in the northern reaches of the Art Deco District.
- After eating out, check out the eclectic array of shops, galleries and boutiques for which Lincoln Road is known; then move on to one of SoBe's many clubs

- for an evening of dancing, merriment and beautiful-people watching, perhaps topped off by a nightcap at a fashionable hotel bar or a walk on the beach. With so many things to do, you'll soon understand why this section of Miami Beach is also known as "America's Riviera."
- Serious partying in South Beach doesn't begin until late, after 11 for sure, and an evening on the town in this trendy destination can be expensive when you factor in parking fees, cover charges and steep drink prices. Lines form to get in the more popular clubs (many with over-the-top themes), and bouncers can be selective. DJs are the norm; live music is a rarity. Consider checking the swanky red environment of Skybar at the Shore Club hotel (1901 Collins Ave.) or the scene at another classy hotel bar as an alternative.



The Holocaust Memorial / @ flickr / CC BY / Phillip Pessar



Top Picks for Kids

Under 13

- Visitors will get a kick out of the antics of Salty the Sea Lion, one of the marine animal stars at the Miami Seaguarium (4400 Rickenbacker Cswy.). Salty shares the spotlight with Flipper the dolphin, and between shows, there's plenty of saltwater exhibits featuring sharks, sea turtles, reef fish and manatees.
- What's more fun than a barrel of monkeys? How about a whole park filled with monkeys? A fenced-in path through the subtropical forest at Monkey Jungle (14805 S.W. 216th St.) keeps humans and monkeys safely separate but lets you get really close to these wonderful animals—ranging in size from tiny tamarins to orangutans and a gorilla named King.
- When kids start getting cranky in South Florida's heat,



Miami Seaguarium / © iStockphoto.com / Cecilia Linton

- head to the Miami Children's Museum (980 MacArthur Cswy.) on Watson Island for indoor fun in the shade (and air conditioning). Enter through the cone-shaped tower into a world of wild primary colors and 14 galleries of interactive exhibits. Climbing through a two-story sand castle and clamoring aboard a pint-size cruise ship are what to do here.
- The impressive displays at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science (Frost Science) (1101 Biscayne Blvd.) will bring out the budding scientist in any kid. Things to see include a 500,000-gallon Gulf Stream aguarium and a planetarium offering sky shows.

Teens

- If you want a travel tour of South Beach without fear of hearing choruses of, "I'm bored," then hop on an amphibious vehicle courtesy of **Duck Tours South Beach** (1661 James Ave.). The 90-minute excursion provides a big splash into Biscayne Bay with plenty of entertaining but educational stories.
- Enjoy a delicious introduction to Miami's local flavor at La Carreta (11740 S.W. 88th St.). This Miami food place serves home-style Cuban cuisine that includes charbroiled meats and chicken-and-rice dishes as well as ropa vieja, palomilla steak and picadillo. Desserts include dulce de leche, flan and très leches.
- Each year for 3 weeks beginning mid-March the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition (10901 S.W. 24th St.) offers fun things to do, such as live entertainment, concerts, an ice skating show, midway-style games, agricultural exhibits and a circus. Key to entertaining teenagers are thrill rides with names like "Mach 3," "Fireball" and "Mega Drop."

All Ages

- Hit the **beach!** Miami Beach is the obvious choice, particularly if you're staying at one of the hotels. There's also nearby Key Biscayne with its two public beaches: Crandon Park (6747 Crandon Blvd.), a 2-mile stretch of sand noted for its calm waters and rental cabanas, and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park (1200 S. Crandon Blvd.), with its postcard-worthy historic lighthouse.
- Miami boasts a top-notch animal park. Too Miami (12400 S.W. 152nd St.) sprawls across hundreds of acres southwest of downtown with an animal collection too diverse to list. Getting around this vast, cageless zoo is made easier by way of tram tours, a monorail and Safari Cycles—big rental bikes that can accommodate a family of six.
- Take a trip to **Everglades National Park** (see place listing p. 56), South Florida's wilderness jewel



west of Florida City. The endangered "River of Grass" is a haven to birds, alligators, snakes, turtles and manatees. You can drive the 38 miles from the entrance to the Flamingo Visitor Center (1 Flamingo Lodge Hwy.), enjoying the views from your car. Trailheads radiate out from the road at several spots inviting short hikes. A thrilling, high-speed way of exploring the park is by airboat; rides are offered at the Everglades Alligator Farm (40351 S.W. 192nd Ave.) and Everglades Safari Park (26700 Tamiami Tr.).

Arriving

By Car

Moving from the coast inland, the major north-south routes are SR A1A, US 1, I-95, US 441 and Florida's Turnpike. The coastal route—SR A1A—offers the most



Park in a downtown garage / © iStockphoto.com / Manakin

things to see but is slow. It is the only approach to Miami Beach from the north. US 1 travels through cities and commercial areas. I-95 is a congested four- to six-lane freeway. Two- to four-lane US 441 traverses developed and industrial land with heavy traffic.

From farther north, through the central part of the state, comes Florida's Turnpike (toll), which swings in a wide arc to the west around Miami; it also is linked directly with the I-95 connection into downtown. Between exits 1 and 47, the Turnpike only collects tolls electronically. Drivers may use a SunPass (a prepaid toll program) or will be billed via TOLL-BY-PLATE, a system that takes a photo of the license plate and mails the bill, which includes a \$2.50 administrative fee. Those driving their own vehicle can purchase a SunPass sticker for \$4.99 (which is applied to future tolls) prior to the trip; phone (888) 865-5352 for information or visit your local AAA Travel Agency.

SR 826 (Palmetto Expressway) provides another western bypass closer to the city limits. SR 836 (Dolphin Expressway) runs east and west, connecting to the turnpike, I-95 and SR 826. The Dolphin Expressway toll plaza only collects tolls electronically; drivers may use a Sun-Pass or will be billed via TOLL-BY-PLATE.

From the west come I-75, US 27 and US 41 (Tamiami Trail), all of which become congested as they approach the city limits.

Seven causeways span Biscayne Bay to link Miami and Miami Beach: MacArthur (US 41 and SR A1A), Venetian (toll), Julia Tuttle (I-195), 79th Street, Broad (96th Street), 163rd Street and William Lehman (SR 856).

Getting Around

Street System

Negotiating the streets of Miami can be mastered easily despite its sprawling layout. Two helpful points of reference are the destination's cluster of skyscrapers, downtown at the geographical center, and Biscayne Bay, always to the east.

Miami is divided into four quadrants: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest. Should you be looking for a particular address within the city, the section designation (N.E., N.W., S.E., S.W.) is an important factor in planning what to do.

Flagler Street divides the city north-south, while Miami Avenue is the east-west divider. Avenues, courts and places run north and south; streets and terraces run east and west. Except for the communities of Hialeah and Coral Gables, which have their own numbering systems, all street numbers start at Flagler Street and at Miami Avenue.

Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit is 30 mph in business and residential areas and 55 mph on highways.

It is 65 or 70 mph on Florida's Turnpike and other designated highways. Miami has a typical big-city rush hour (7) to 9 a.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m.). Expressway traffic is particularly slow. Right turns on red are permitted after a complete stop, unless otherwise posted. Left turns on red are permitted from a one-way street onto another one-way street after a complete stop. U-turns are permitted except where otherwise posted.

The primary point of reference in Miami Beach is Collins Avenue (SR A1A), the city's major north-south through street. Along or near this thoroughfare is the famed string of hotels and motels, with the residential area lying west to Bay Road.

In both cities the speed limit is 25 mph or as posted. Motorists should not try to follow an unfamiliar route during rush hours. The lunch hour also is busy.

Parking

Both Miami and Miami Beach have downtown, on-street metered parking, parking lots and garages. Downtown metered street parking in Miami ranges from \$1.50 to \$4 per hour.

Miami has metered garages at 90 S.W. First St., 40 N.W. Third St., 190 N.E. Third St., 100 S.E. Second St. and 2850 Oak Ave. in Coconut Grove. Parking first halfhour is free. Rates range from \$2 per 2 hours to \$7 after the first half-hour, with maximum daily rates topping out between \$5 and \$19. Cashier and pay-and-display machine lots also can be found throughout the city; rates range from \$1 per hour with an \$8 maximum to \$5 per hour with a \$25 maximum. Some specialty districts have their own lots and fee schedules. Lot rates vary according to location, but they generally start at \$1 per hour. Bayside Marketplace charges \$10 for the first two hours with a \$30 maximum.

On-street parking in Miami Beach often is difficult to find. Visiting drivers should look carefully for signs when parking on Miami Beach streets due to the number of areas where parking is restricted.

Metered parking is available throughout Miami Beach at the rate of \$1 to \$4 per hour. There are 10 municipal parking garages: at Seventh Street and Collins Avenue, Lenox Avenue, 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, 13th Street and Collins Avenue, 16th Street and Washington Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue and Lincoln Lane, 17th Street by the Theater of the Performing Arts, Meridian Avenue, Bay Road, and 42nd Street. Rates are \$2 per hour up to a maximum daily rate of \$20, depending on the garage.

There are also numerous public parking lots in the Miami Beach area. Rates vary by lot and location. Lots with daily rates generally charge \$2 to \$4 an hour. Some



Miami-Dade Metromover / © iStockphoto.com / Torresigner

lots are served by electronic meters that charge the standard metered rate; these lots offer a daily rate only during events.

Public Transportation

The Miami-Dade Transit links greater Miami with buses, Metrorail and Metromover. Metrorail is an elevated rapid transit system serving downtown Miami; it also runs north and west to Hialeah and the Miami International Airport and south to Kendall. Metromover is a 4.4-mile automated people mover system that loops around downtown and extends south to Brickell's financial district and north to N.E. 15th Street.

Brightline—a high-speed passenger train with stations in Aventura. Fort Lauderdale. Boca Raton and West Palm Beach in addition to Orlando and Miami—is available at 600 N.W. 1st Ave.; parking is at 161 N.W. 6th St. Phone (305) 521-4800 for customer service.

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Metrobuses operate countywide. The fare is \$2.25 for the majority of routes. Express bus fare is \$2.65. Exact change is required.

Metrorail fare is \$2.25. Fare gates do not accept cash; an EASY Card or EASY Ticket is required, available at any Metrorail station or at sales outlets throughout the county. The Go Miami-Dade Transit app is available. Regular Metromover fare is free; the cost to transfer from Metromover to a bus or Metrorail is \$2.25. Both Metromover and Metrorail trains operate daily 5 a.m.-midnight. Metromover cars arrive frequently—approximately every 90 seconds during rush hours and every 3 to 5 minutes during off-peak hours. Metrorail trains arrive approximately every 15 minutes on weekdays (every 10 minutes during high-volume hours, 6 a.m.-9:45 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m.) and every 30 minutes on weekends. For schedules, routes and fare information about both systems phone (305) 891-3131.



Shop at Miracle Mile / © iStockphoto.com / poba

Shopping

With its string of iconic, pastel-colored Art Deco hotels, Ocean Drive may be South Beach's most well-known street, but as SoBe's storied shopping district, **Lincoln Road** ranks a close second. The diversity of businesses along this rejuvenated shopping promenade is dizzying: ice cream parlors, coffee houses, local restaurants serving an array of cuisines, art galleries, furniture stores, high-profile designer boutiques, unique shops and chain stores are all represented.

And when it comes to people-watching, the human diversity is just as striking. There's Miami's multicultural mélange of residents and the international visitors the city attracts. There are retirees and twentysomethings. There are wealthy society matrons dressed to the nines and beach bums in board shorts. There are conservatively dressed business people and fashionistas daring to wear the latest designs. You might not see as many model-types as you would have in the 1990s, but spying a glamorous woman owning the sidewalk as if it were a runway in Milan is certainly not unusual.

Creating a very different mood just a couple blocks south is another, smaller pedestrian-only shopping destination: the charming **Española Way**. Designed to look like a Spanish village, Española Way features colorfully painted Mediterranean-style buildings, lovingly restored and housing art galleries, clothing shops and restaurants. At night, strings of lights overhead make the setting especially romantic, and on weekends the street becomes an open-air market with vendors selling produce, flowers, jewelry and clothing.

The easiest place to park for both Lincoln Road and Española Way is in the large parking garage on 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue across from the Miami Beach City Hall. Lincoln Road is just south and Española Way is south of 15th Street between Washington and Jefferson avenues. The best way to get from Lincoln Road to Española Way is via Drexel Avenue.

Head to Miami Beach's northern tip to **Bal Harbour Shops** in the upscale village of Bal Harbour. Its blank-walled exterior may not compare favorably to some of the more recently built outdoor shopping villages with their carefully executed ornamentation inside and out, but Bal Harbour Shops has been the destination for ritzy shopping in South Florida for more than 5 decades. And what it lacks on the outside is more than compensated for by its lushly landscaped interior courtyards with fountains, waterfalls and abstract sculptures—a modern and sophisticated setting. When your wanderings among the pricey boutiques and high-end department stores (Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue) become too much, there's

always a seat at hand among the palm trees, tree ferns and orchids in bloom.

Across the bay, downtown Miami's Bayside Market**place** enjoys a prime waterfront location in the shadow of Miami's tallest buildings. The brightly colored outdoor shopping center offers a mix of typical suburban mall stores and vendors doing a brisk business selling tourist knickknacks to the busloads of cruise passengers waiting to embark from the nearby terminal. Stop in at the ME Hard Rock Cafe for a casual meal and check out the gift shop, filled with jewelry, T-shirts and other rockinspired gifts sporting the Hard Rock logo. On most evenings, live bands on the Marina Stage create a festive atmosphere.

Enjoy upscale shopping in downtown Miami's financial district at Brickell City Centre, located just south of the Miami River. Spread across three city blocks, pedestrian bridges allow you to stroll through the expansive, mixed-use center unimpeded by street traffic. Anchored by Saks Fifth Avenue, the center features a variety of high-end boutiques including Coach, Tommy Bahama, Nest Casa and Victoria's Secret. On the third and fourth levels, you can dine and enjoy cocktails at upscale lounges and restaurants; some offer open-air seating. The complex also offers a dine-in movie theater. The faceted, wavelike steel and glass canopy is an elegant sculpture that connects buildings throughout the center while providing you shade and shelter from the sun and rain.

Just north of downtown, the Wynwood Art District is home to more than 70 art galleries, artist studios and museums. Although the district covers several city blocks between Biscayne Bay and I-95 north of N.W. 20th Street, the majority of galleries are concentrated around N.W. 2nd Avenue and N.W. 24th Street. Not only does Wynwood figure prominently during Art Basel Miami Beach, the prestigious international contemporary art show held in early December, it also hosts a popular art walk every second Saturday evening of the month.

What the Wynwood Art District is to contemporary art, the Miami Design District is to stylish furniture showrooms and interior design stores, although there's a good bit of overlap between the two ever since art galleries and studios began proliferating here as well. Local restaurants and exclusive clothing boutiques are among the latest arrivals to this roughly 18-block area north of Wynwood and I-195 between N.E. 2nd and N. Miami avenues. And like Wynwood, the Design District also hosts an art walk every second Saturday evening of the month.

The tree-shaded sidewalks of **Coconut Grove**, a Miami neighborhood on Biscayne Bay south of downtown, entice shoppers to stroll from shop to shop, with a pause here and there for coffee or a bite to eat at one of the Grove's



Food court at Miami International Mall / © iStockphoto.com / AHPhotoswpg

many food places. Enjoy a pleasant afternoon of retail therapy and dinner at the CocoWalk shopping center on Grand Avenue and Virginia Street, home to several stores and nearby restaurants. Another place to check out is MKTplace in Goombay Plaza, an up-and-coming public space and food market, where you can connect with locals as well as enjoy art and special events.

Less than 3 miles away is **Miracle Mile**, a far more lively shopping district in downtown Coral Gables. Although the Gables is better known for its exclusive Mediterranean Revival-style housing communities and banyan treeshaded streets, the downtown area centered along Coral Way, known as Miracle Mile between Douglas and Le Jeune roads, boasts several high-rise office buildings and hotels (also Mediterranean Revival-style). Still, the character of Miracle Mile seems more like a small town business district, with book stores, hair salons and bridal shops sprinkled in among the stores selling men's and women's apparel, housewares and furniture. Fountains mark the entrances to Miracle Mile, which is actually a mere half mile long, and at the western end you'll see the graceful curving colonnade and clock tower of Coral Gables City Hall, completed in 1928.

Another, much newer Mediterranean Revival-style landmark in the Gables, the Village of Merrick Park, is just over a mile south of city hall. This chic outdoor shopping village is centered about a large courtyard with fountains and statues and is landscaped with immaculate flower beds and ranks of stately royal palms. The largest retailers are Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom, which are joined by dozens of upscale boutique chains. During the day and into the early evening you can travel between Merrick Park and Miracle Mile aboard the free trolley that runs every 15 minutes along Ponce de Leon Boulevard.

Anchored by Kohl's and other department store favorites, **Miami International Mall**, 1455 N.W. 107th Ave., is 10 miles west of Miami International Airport in nearby Doral. Conveniently situated next to SR 836 (Dolphin Expressway), the mall has plentiful parking and offers a variety of shopping from upscale to bargain at more than 140 retailers. The food court offers international fast food from countries including Brazil, China, Cuba and Japan.

Lighten your wallet at Miami's original mall, **Dadeland Mall**, 7535 N. Kendall Dr., located between SR 826 (Palmetto Expressway) and US 1. The iconic shopping mecca features more than 160 stores and restaurants anchored by the largest Macy's in Florida as well as JCPenney and Saks Fifth Avenue. If you want something more than food court fare, choose from one of the casual dining restaurants at Terrace Dining at Dadeland.

Get away from the bustling mall crowds at **The Falls Shopping Center**, 8888 S.W. 136th St., one of the largest open-air shopping centers in the country. Take a leisurely stroll along covered walkways, through a milliongallon waterscape with lush foliage, and enjoy the tranquil sounds of fountains and waterfalls. The sprawling mall has more than 100 stores and local restaurants. Satiate your appetite at one of the fast-food places or casual dining restaurants. Take a break from shopping and catch a movie at the 12-screen Regal Cinemas.

Nightlife

The glamorous life is as much a part of the **South Beach** mystique as palm trees, lapping ocean waves and Art Deco hotels. Once the sun goes down, that lifestyle takes on a whole new luster as the glitterati step out in designer clothes to sip cocktails and groove to booming music in ultra-stylish surroundings. Although the air of exclusivity is carefully cultivated—as it was during South Beach's earlier heyday in the 1930s, '40s and '50s when it was America's playground for the rich and famous— the

reality isn't quite so intimidating, particularly if you start your evening before 11 p.m. Wondering where to go? The area around the intersection of Collins Avenue and Lincoln Road specializes in chic nightspots

Getting in might be a challenge at **SET** (320 Lincoln Road), but the effort is worth it. SET offers the real South Beach nightclub experience, something you might not expect judging from its plain-Jane exterior. If it weren't for the crowds waiting outside you might never find the place. Inside is a whole other world of light and sound that will likely leave your head spinning before you ever touch one of the pricey (though not by South Beach standards) cocktails.

The two-level club has enough spot lights, lasers, smoke machines, plasma screens, projectors and top-of-the-line speakers for a big-budget Hollywood movie set, which may be where it gets its name. From its main



Mango's Tropical Café / © iStockphoto.com / Juanmonino



level—with its globular chandeliers and twin go-go girl platforms behind the bar—to the exclusive VIP Room and ultra-exclusive Trophy Room upstairs, the décor is posh and dramatically lit. Check into getting bottle service; purchasing that privilege may make sense if you have a party small enough to fit at a reserved table but large enough to share the expense. Phone (786) 735-1900.

Several blocks south of Lincoln Road, Mango's Tropical Café (900 Ocean Dr.) offers a very different nightclub experience, but one no less saturated with local color. The Latin-Caribbean hot spot on beautiful, beachfront Ocean Drive serves up spicy Caribbean cuisine, tasty mojitos and dance numbers that get steamier—while the dancers' costumes get skimpier—as the evening progresses. Vibrant murals, garish lighting and lively entertainment help make Mango's a perennial tourist favorite. Phone (305) 673-4422.

Surf and sand is the theme at the appropriately named Nikki Beach (1 Ocean Dr.), near the southern tip of the island. The beautiful people love sunbathing in Nikki Beach's huge outdoor area with its cabanas, plush day beds and signature white teepees. The club regularly hosts parties and fashion shows, and resident DJs play the latest dance music. Phone (305) 538-1111.

Should stepping out to South Beach's fabulous clubs (with their fabulous prices) begin to wear thin, head to one of the city's local haunts for a low-key alternative. Although Mac's Club Deuce (222 14th St.) is just a short walk from the beach and Lincoln Road it offers a refreshing change of pace when all you want is a beer and a game of pool. The bar accepts cash only; phone (305) 531-6200. Likewise, **The Abbey Brewing Co.** (1115 16th St.), just a couple blocks off Lincoln Road, dispenses with all that high-end Collins Avenue frippery in favor of a dim, no-frills ambience where you can choose from among a handful of house recipe brews along with several imported draft beers; phone (305) 538-8110.

Of course, there's far more to the Miami nightclub scene than South Beach. In recent years nightlife across the bay in downtown has really taken off, and one of the first big clubs was Club Space (34 N.E. 11th St.), a two-level warehouse of a place with a state-of-the-art sound system and a regular lineup of top DJs from around the world. Space's unusual 24-hour liquor license allows it to keep the party going all night long after other dance emporiums have closed. Space even hosts a popular Sundaymorning dance event on its outdoor Terrace where you'll find energetic clubbers who've been up all night mingling with those well-rested patrons who've come out to start their day with a cup of coffee and a healthy dose of throbbing house music. Phone (786) 357-6456.

Across the street you'll find **E11EVEN Miami** (29 N.E. 11th St.). This 24-hour cabaret/nightclub features DJs, burlesque entertainers and theatrical performances including aerialists, contortionists, go-go dancers and magicians on multiple stages. More than 600 square feet of LED video walls and moving lights add to the high energy atmosphere. Looking for where to eat? A full service kitchen and six bars serving expertly crafted cocktails will keep you satiated around the clock. Phone (305) 829-2911.

LILT Lounge (270 Biscayne Blvd. Way), in the luxurious EPIC Miami hotel, complements the hotel's contemporary design with its sleek, modern décor. Copper orbs are suspended above a circular, white-lacquered bar surrounded by leather and metal semicircular stools. After dark, the lights are turned down and dramatic, colorful up lighting creates a more intimate atmosphere. Nosh on small plates perfect for sharing including carpaccio, gazpacho and lobster cocktail. Expertly-crafted cocktails infused with locally-sourced, fresh fruits and herbs, are available at the bar or from the table-side champagne cart. In cool weather, head outside to the patio overlooking the serene Miami River. Phone (305) 351-7403.

Amid cigar shops and coffee counters in Little Havana, **Ball & Chain** (1513 S.W. 8th St.) is a nightclub with a storied past that includes gambling and owners that were bootleggers and felons. The main room has avocadogreen walls with wood trim and features a large, square bar in the center. Live music is performed on a pineappleshaped stage in the spacious courtyard. Select from signature cocktails infused with tropical fruit juices and fresh, hand-crank-pressed guarapo (sugarcane juice). Order Cuban-, Mexican- and Caribbean-inspired dishes from a tapas menu including plantain chips, fish tacos, fried pork rinds and roasted corn. Inside tables are only available for reserved bottle and cocktail pitcher service after 8 p.m. Phone (305) 643-7820.

LeKoKe Wines & Bites (1225 S.W. 8th St.) is a familyowned wine boutique in Little Havana. Green walls are lined with wooden shelves filled with bottles of wine, antiques and Cuban memorabilia. A large, crystal chandelier, dim lighting and soft music create a casual ambience for eating out. Select from more than 300 Old World and New World wines from some of the best wine-producing regions around the world to take with you or enjoy at the cozy lounge. Sit back, sip your wine and nibble on generous bites including bruschetta, caprese salad, empanadas, tortilla flamenca or tostones. Phone (305) 848-5656.

Big Events

South Florida's guarantee of year-round warm, sunny days makes Miami a natural destination for festivals of all types. Football fanatics start the year off right (especially if their team wins!) at the Capital One Orange Bowl, a

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late December or early January clash between two of the nation's top-ranked collegiate teams. Being part of the Bowl Championship Series guarantees fans a top-notch match-up, in addition to a high-energy half-time spectacular. The contest's name is somewhat of a misnomer, though, as the game moved north from Miami's venerable Orange Bowl to **Hard Rock Stadium** (formerly Sun Life Stadium).

South Beach's whimsical architecture is the focus of mid-January's **Art Deco Weekend.** Sponsored by the Miami Design Preservation League, the 3-day event promotes the culture and the unique design elements that constitute Miami Beach's historic **Art Deco District.** Ocean Drive between 5th and 15th streets is closed for the duration of the event, all the better to appreciate the pastel-hued 1930s gems lining the street. Walking tours; a film series; lectures; music, dance and theatrical performances; a parade; and vendors with era-appropriate antiques and collectibles help reinforce the theme.

If you're vacationing in Florida (or if you live here), chances are you came to be near the water or, better yet, on it. A boater's idea of heaven surely must include the **Miami International Boat Show & Strictly Sail.** This 5-day event, held at the **Miami Marine Stadium Park & Basin** in February, brings together more than 2,300 manufacturers of boats, engines and boat-related accessories and a quarter of a million aficionados—a match made in heaven, so to speak. Whether you're ready to buy or are just window shopping, you can find anything from personal watercraft to luxury yachts. If you prefer your boat to have sails, head to the show's Strictly-Sail Miami at Miamarina at Bayside Marketplace.

Slightly later in the month, the **Coconut Grove Arts Festival**, held in the tropical, eclectic village of the same name, is one of the nation's leading outdoor art festivals. Known for its trendy shopping and entertainment district, the Grove is the perfect setting for this 3-day affair featuring the works of more than 380 of the country's premier artists and craftsmen. Art lovers can mingle with vendors while admiring their paintings; jewelry and metalwork; sculptures; photography; and glass, fiber, clay and wood works.

Miami-bound foreign and independent film fans will enjoy the **Miami International Film Festival**, which takes place during March at several venues around the city.

It takes 2 weeks in March to celebrate **Carnaval Miami**, a Hispanic extravaganza drawing revelers from around the world. Held mostly in the **Little Havana** section of Miami, the colorful fiesta features Latin music and culinary delights; parades; fireworks; and sporting events, including a domino tournament. The festivities culminate with Calle Ocho, said to be the nation's largest street

party. Twenty-three blocks of S.W. 8th Street in Little Havana are closed down to accommodate more than 30 stages from which salsa, merengue and Caribbean rhythms pulsate. Some estimates claim a million partygoers pack this gargantuan block party.

When spring arrives in Miami, the Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition can't be far behind. Known simply as The Fair, the 25-day event from mid-March into April is a family favorite. The 80-acre Fair Expo Center at Coral Way and 112th Avenue is where fairgoers can whoop it up on midway rides, chow down on corn dogs and cotton candy, survey blue ribbon-winning cows and apple pies, and try to win the elusive teddy bear at games of chance.

Cultural heritage comes to the forefront in the fall. Events include **Miami Broward One Carnival**, a celebration of Caribbean dance, cuisine and music.

The **Homestead-Miami Speedway** in nearby Homestead (see place listing p. 103) is the site of the Ford



Coconut Grove Arts Festival / © iStockphoto.com / w-ings



Championship Weekend in mid-November. Three seasonending NASCAR races, including the Ford EcoBoost **400,** draw the sport's biggest names and their legions of fans.

For a full week in late November bibliophiles gather at the Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus in downtown Miami to indulge their passion for the printed word. The Miami Book Fair International, one of the nation's largest such fairs and a booklover's delight, offers readings by authors from the United States and abroad, a rare book show and events for young readers.

Art dealers, collectors and lovers have access to an international assemblage of museum-caliber artworks in early December at Art Basel Miami Beach, held at galleries throughout the Art Deco District.

Handmade arts and crafts, alligator wrestling, food and Native American music are all part of the festivities that take place over a period of several days in late December at the Miccosukee Indian Village during the Miccosukee Indian Arts Festival. In a zany spoof of the beloved King Orange Jamboree Parade, the **King Mango** Strut in late December features such wacky entries as the Marching Freds. The New Year's Eve Big Orange Ball Drop and Bayfront Park Fireworks kicks off a weekend of New Year's celebrations.

Sports & Rec

In addition to year-round sunshine and white, sandy beaches, Miami is blessed with an abundance of professional sport offerings, including four major-league teams. No matter what your preference might be, you'll find a venue and a crowd of like-minded fans ready to cheer on their favorites.

In addition, a wealth of clear blue skies and a climate conducive to outdoor activity any time of the year make Miami a "hot" spot for those in search of adventurous things to do. This tropical playground, with an average annual temperature of 76 F, comes equipped with aquamarine waters and more than enough land-based activities to suit all tastes.

Auto Racing Some of the sport's top names go all out on the 1.5-mile oval track at Homestead-Miami **Speedway** in nearby Homestead (see place listing p. 103).

Baseball Fans of the National League Miami Marlins passionately support their team during home games at the retractable-roof **LoanDepot Park**, 501 Marlins Way; phone (877) 627-5467. The Marlins brought the World Series title home to Miami in 1997 and 2003. The national pastime also is played locally in the college ranks when the University of Miami Hurricanes take the field on the UM campus at Alex Rodriguez Park at Mark Light **Field:** phone (800) 462-2637 for ticket information. The Florida International University Golden Panthers play at **FIU Baseball Stadium** on the FIU campus, 11200 S.W. 8th St.; phone (305) 348-4263.

Basketball The Miami Heat, 2006, 2012 and 2013 NBA champions, have been a hot ticket in town since their 1988 debut. During their October to April season, the Heat play at the **FTX Arena**, downtown on Biscayne Boulevard adjacent to Bayside Marketplace; phone (786) 777-1000 for information.

Football Backed by legions of "dolfans," the Miami **Dolphins** suit up for battle at the 65,326-seat **Hard Rock Stadium** (formerly Sun Life Stadium); phone (305) 943-8000. The **University of Miami Hurricanes** also call the stadium their home turf. Despite five national championship titles, the 'Canes seldom fill up the stadium, so tickets are not difficult to come by; phone (800) 462-2637. The Florida International University Golden Panthers play at **Ricardo Silva Stadium** on the FIU campus, 11200 S.W. 8th St.; phone (305) 348-4263.

Horse Racing Thoroughbreds run to the roar of the crowd Wed.-Sun., early December to late May, Thurs.-Sun., June through September at Gulfstream Park, 901 S. Federal Hwy. in nearby Hallandale (see Hallandale Beach p. 100), about a half-hour drive north from downtown Miami. The scenic track, encircling an artificial lake, is host to numerous major races; phone ahead to confirm schedule (954) 454-7000, or (800) 771-8873.

The season is extended at **Gulfstream Park West.** just south of County Line Road (SR 852) at 21001 N.W. 27th Ave., where the horses run during October and November on a 1-mile course in a glass-enclosed, air-conditioned sports facility. Phone (954) 454-7000 for race dates.

From late May to late June, cheer on your favorite quarter-horse at Hialeah Park Racing & Casino, 2200 E. 4th Ave. in nearby Hialeah; phone (305) 885-8000.

Note: Policies concerning admittance of children to parimutuel betting facilities vary. Phone for information.

Jai Alai In this high-speed, indoor version of lacrosse, players climb the walls to catch and hurl balls (pelotas) with woven baskets (cestas). Spectators place bets on players from behind a protective wall of glass. See the action for yourself at America's oldest jai alai arena (fronton), the Miami Jai-Alai, 3500 N.W. 37th Ave.; phone (305) 633-6400.

Note: Policies on admitting children to pari-mutuel betting facilities vary. Phone in advance for specific information.

Bicycling Few places offer such diverse cycling environments as Miami. Pedal the hard-packed sands of **Miami Beach** while enjoying the sun and sights, or take the bicycle path that winds beneath a canopy of trees in **Coconut Grove**, where you can hop off and cruise through the neighborhood's colorful downtown area. Slightly more removed is the tropical escape of **Key Biscayne**. Here, on an island just 7 miles long and 2 miles wide, are 12 miles of bicycling trails. Bicycle rentals are available at all of the above locations; helmets are required for those under 16.

Experienced bicyclists desiring more extensive routes can contact the Miami-Dade Bicycle Pedestrian Program, which distributes maps about bicycling and bicycling safety and outlines some of Miami's more than 250 miles of bicycle trails; phone (305) 375-1647. A color-coded map of Miami-Dade County's suitable roads also is available.

If you haven't brought your wheels with you on vacation, the Citi Bike bicycle-sharing system owned by DecoBike LLC is available in the Miami-Miami Beach area. Two-wheelers may be rented and returned at stations scattered throughout Miami, Miami Beach, Surfside and Bay Harbor Island. The cost is \$24 (1 day); \$18 (4 hours); \$10 (2 hours); \$6.50 (1 hour); \$4.50 (30 minutes). Phone (305) 532-9494 for more information.

Fishing An abundance of water naturally brings plenty of fishing opportunities, and the popularity of bridge fishing, seen all over Miami, is just a prelude to the opportunities available in a city where fishing is serious business. South Pointe Park in south Miami Beach offers excellent surf casting. Although bridge fishing generally is not allowed, it is permitted on the old Rickenbacker Causeway, which was left standing for that purpose when the new bridge was constructed for automobile traffic. Several piers in Miami Beach, as well as the Tamiami Canal, also are favorites of anglers.

Numerous marinas offer deep-sea fishing excursions, where avid anglers haul in prizes that range from snapper and bonito to big game catches like sailfish, tarpon and bluefish.

Kelley Fishing Fleet, 10800 Collins Ave. at **Haulover Park Marina**, provides party boats for half-day or full-day excursions out of Miami Beach; phone (305) 945-3801. Private charter boats abound at Haulover, with many offering 2-, 3- and 4-day fishing trips to the Bahamas; make the rounds and choose the one that suits your needs.

Licenses, required for freshwater and saltwater fishing, are available at bait and tackle shops, sporting goods and discount department stores, as well as the county tax collector's office at 200 N.W. 2nd Ave., Miami, FL 33128. Licenses also are available by mail; phone (888) 347-4356 (a credit card is required).

Golf More than 30 golf courses provide a wide choice of greens for hackers and seasoned golfers alike. **Crandon**



South Pointe Park / © iStockphoto.com / LeoPatrizi

Golf at Key Biscayne, 6700 Crandon Blvd. in Key Biscayne, (305) 361-9129, is recognized by most Florida golfers as the No. 1-ranked public course in the state; it also is among the top public links in the country. All courses listed below offer at least 18 holes and are open to the public.

Sites in the Miami area include Biltmore, 1210 Anastasia Ave. in Coral Gables, (305) 460-5364; Country Club of Miami, N.W. 186th St./6801 Miami Gardens Dr., (305) 829-8456; International Links/Melreese Country Club, 1802 N.W. 37th Ave., (305) 633-4583; The Silver Fox at Trump National Doral Miami, 4400 N.W. 87th Ave., (305) 592-2030; Killian Greens, 9980 S.W. 104th St., (305) 271-0917; Miami Springs Golf & Country Club, 650 Curtiss Pkwy. in Miami Springs, (305) 805-5180; Miccosukee Golf & Country Club, 6401 Kendall Lakes Dr., (305) 382-3930; Normandy Shores, 2401 Biarritz Dr. in Miami Beach, (305) 868-6502; and The

Senator at Don Shula's Hotel and Golf Club. 7601 Miami Lakes Dr. in Miami Lakes, (305) 820-8088.

The two city-owned Miami Beach courses welcome guests, and many hotels and motels have arrangements with private and semiprivate courses that allow quests to plav.

Tennis Miami's balmy climate allows for year-round tennis dates, and nearly 500 public courts cater to the racket. A majority of the hotels and motels in Miami and Miami Beach have private tennis facilities for their guests. Nearly all charge an hourly fee for use by nonresidents.

Best bets include the Crandon Tennis Center, 7300 Crandon Blvd. in Key Biscayne, with hard courts; phone (305) 365-2300. Miami Beach's Flamingo Park Tennis Center, 1200 Meridian Ave., offers 17 well-maintained clay courts; phone (305) 673-7761. For additional information about public courts phone the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department at (305) 755-7800.

Water Sports Whether you like zipping across its surface or exploring the world below it, everything you need to enjoy the water can be found in Miami, and all of it can be rented—from kayaks, windsurfers and boogie boards to catamarans, sailboats, personal watercraft and scuba equipment.

Many scuba and sail shops offer day-trip packages that include rental equipment and lessons for windsurfing, scuba diving and snorkeling. Sunken hulls, reefs and underwater gardens provide excellent opportunities for photography or exploration. North of Snapper Creek and south of Matheson Hammock Park is one of the better snorkeling sites. Another favorite location is near **Fowey** Rocks Light just south of Key Biscayne.

Boating is popular in Miami. Boats of all sizes and descriptions are for hire, whether for pleasure cruising, fishing or water skiing. Dinner Key and waterfront Co**conut Grove** are pristine and popular sites for launching sailboats. Other locations for sailboat rentals are available around the bay and on the **Miami River.** Boating events. whose locations and schedules are printed in area newspapers, take place throughout the year.

Powerboat rentals are available from Club Nautico at two locations: Crandon Park Marina in Key Biscayne, (305) 361-9217 or (305) 216-8879, and Miami Beach Marina in Miami Beach, (305) 673-2502. Renters must be at least 25 years of age.

Water skiing and windsurfing instruction and equipment are available throughout the area. Many shops are clustered around the **79th Street Causeway** (North Bay). Skiing is good all along the bay. Personal watercraft also can be rented. Surfing, while not the best in the country. attracts many enthusiasts. Two of the best spots are South Beach and Haulover Beach.

Some of the most popular white sand beaches in the Miami area are at Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park and Crandon Park. Miami Beach's oceanfront restoration program added 150 to 200 feet to the width of the city's 10.5-mile stretch of beach, southward from 87th Terrace to the southern end of Miami Beach.

Performing Arts

The 1981 development of the National Foundation for the Arts was the springboard for cultural evolution in South Florida, and now there are many fun places to go. Included are the handsomely refurbished Colony Theatre on Lincoln Road in south Miami Beach, (305) 674-1040; the 1,567-seat, Moorish-styled **Olympia Theater**, 174 E. Flagler Street in downtown Miami, (305) 374-2444; and



Ballet Flamenco La Rosa / © iStockphoto.com / OcusFocus



the Art Deco-styled **The Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater of the Performing Arts** on Washington Avenue in south Miami Beach, (305) 673-7300.

The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County offers three theaters and an outdoor performance plaza showcasing everything from Broadway to opera, dance to drama and cabaret to comedy. The center is at 1300 Biscayne Blvd. in Miami; phone (786) 468-2000, or (305) 949-6722 for ticket information.

The **Performing Arts Network** (PAN) offers dance, music and theater performances at 74 N.E. 150th St. in Miami; phone (305) 705-3994.

Dance Among the professional dance troupes in the Miami area is the Miami City Ballet, Florida's first fully professional resident ballet company. Artistic director Lourdes Lopez was a principal dancer for 24 years in the New York City Ballet under George Balanchine; works by Balanchine are included in the company's repertoire. Performances take place October through April at Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County. Phone (786) 468-2000; phone (305) 949-6722 or (305) 929-7010 for things to see and ticket information.

The professional dance company **Ballet Flamenco La Rosa** moves to a flamenco and Latin-style beat; for ticket and schedule information phone (786) 320-6982.

Music Miami Symphony Orchestra presents nearly a dozen concerts each year; phone (305) 275-5666. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas created the New World Symphony, the only advanced-training orchestra in the world, as an interim step for young musicians who have completed their academic instruction. Performances take place at the Frank Gehry-designed New World Center, 500 17th St. For subscriptions, season or single tickets phone (305) 673-3331.

Opera The celebrated **Florida Grand Opera**, which has provided South Florida with operatic performances since the early 1940s, offers productions in the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County; phone (786) 468-2000, or (305) 949-6722 for ticket information. Among the opera's offerings Nov.-May are international artists and the lower-priced performances where promising singers make their mark in lead roles.

Theater Off-Broadway plays are presented by Area Stage Company, 1560 S. Dixie Hwy. in Coral Gables, throughout the year; phone (305) 666-2078. Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theater, 280 Miracle Mile in Coral Gables, offers year-round productions for adults and children and is host to the Kids Fest Family Day, which offers fun things to do with kids; phone (305) 444-9293.



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DEERING ESTATE is off S.W. 168th St. at 16701 S.W. 72nd Ave. The 450-acre bayfront estate, once part of the town of Cutler, was purchased by industrialist Charles Deering in 1913. On the grounds is the circa 1900 Richmond Cottage, which served as Cutler's inn and is said to be the first hotel between Coconut Grove and Key West. In 1922 Deering built the adjacent, Mediterranean Revival-style Stone House. Some of the estate's original furnishings, antique books and works of art decorate the homes; Deering was an avid art collector and amateur painter. The grounds also include a carriage house, pump house and power house, which today house artists in residence.

The property consists of landscaped grounds, a keyhole-shaped boat basin, a palm grove and a board-walk through coastal wetlands with a mangrove forest, salt marshes and submerged sand dunes. In addition to rare fauna and flora, the estate harbors a variety of birds, butterflies, marine life and wildlife such as gray foxes, spotted skunks and squirrels.

Guided tours of the houses and natural areas are offered. On the natural areas tour, guests hike on a Native American footpath and visit Cutler Creek and the Cutler Burial Mound. Guests can also participate in Deering Adventures, including a bike tour, kayak rental, sunrise or moonlight canoe tour, and bay cruise. Bird walks, ecotours, ghost tours and night hikes (which include making s'mores by a campfire) are available for a fee.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (305) 235-1668, ext. 233. $\boxed{\text{GT}}$

GOLD COAST RAILROAD MUSEUM is at 12450 S.W. 152nd St. (Coral Reef Dr.), at the entrance to Zoo Miami. Featured exhibits include passenger cars, locomotives, freight cars, cranes and cabooses. One exhibit describes the contributions of Pullman porters. A tour of the Silver Crescent offers a view of how train travel used to be. The *Ferdinand Magellan*, the Pullman car built for President Franklin Roosevelt, is on the premises. A model railroad display in a separate building includes play tables for children. The museum is on the site of a former World War II blimp airship base; an exhibit details base history.

Special events are offered. Most train rides are offered on weekends. Rides on a restored narrow gauge train

also are offered (weather permitting). **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (305) 253-0063.

Watson Island. Step into a lush, tropical jungle on an island in Biscayne Bay and admire foliage as well as capybara, flamingo, lemurs, macaws, parrots, sloth, tortoise, and wallaby. Treewalk Village allows explorers to climb between tree houses through 8-foot tall hammocks, nets, and wooden bridges. A playground also is available. Note: Rental strollers and wheelchairs are available. Time: Allow 4 hours minimum. Phone: (305) 400-7000.

MIAMI-DADE CULTURAL CENTER, 101 W. Flagler St., comprises three Spanish-style buildings with arched windows, tile roofs and wrought-iron fixtures surrounding a large plaza. The buildings house HistoryMiami and the public library (see attraction listings). Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 375-1492.

HistoryMiami, 101 W. Flagler St., is housed in two buildings and traces the history of South Florida and the Caribbean through permanent and changing exhibits, interactive exhibits and collections of artifacts. A research center also is available. Special events and educational programs are offered. City tours are available by reservation. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 375-1492. GT

Main Library of the Miami-Dade Public Library System, 101 W. Flagler St. at S.W. First Ave., has collections of rare books and documents as well as photographs and prints recording area history. Artwork and an extensive collection of foreign language materials further enhance the library's holdings. Phone: (305) 375-2665.

MIAMI SEAQUARIUM, 4400 Rickenbacker Cswy., offers shows, presentations and marine mammal exhibits. Divers hand feed reef fish and moray eels in a 750,000-gallon saltwater aquarium. Popular shows feature TV dolphin "star" Flipper and the funny exploits of Salty the Sea Lion and his friends. Other highlights include sharks and endangered manatees and sea turtles as well as an interactive stingray exhibit. Penguin Isle provides an up-close look at African penguins.

The Dolphin Odyssey and Dolphin Encounter programs let participants interact one-on-one with dolphins. Height and age restrictions apply; wet suits are provided. **Time:** Allow 4 hours, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (305) 361-5705, or (305) 365-2501 for dolphin encounter reservations.

MONKEY JUNGLE is at 14805 S.W. 216th St. Visitors take a jungle safari to the wilds of South America, Asia and Africa. Habitats include the Camaroon Jungle, Mandrills and Parrots of the World and the Amazonian Rain Forest. Various feedings and shows are presented daily.

Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (305) 235-1611. **GT**

PÉREZ ART MUSEUM MIAMI (PAMM), in Maurice A. Ferré Park at 1103 Biscayne Blvd., is home to the former Miami Art Museum, a model for sustainable museum design worked on by world-renowned architectural firm Herzog & de Meuron. It offers 200,000 square feet of galleries exhibiting international art of the 20th and 21st centuries with an emphasis on art of the Americas. The Caribbean Cultural Institute offers programming on arts and culture centered around the Caribbean and the diaspora community. Vertical gardens hang from the overhanging roof and modern sculptures adorn the grounds.

Educational programs are offered. Parking is limited; visitors are encouraged to use public transportation. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (305) 375-3000.

PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE (FROST SCIENCE), in Maurice A. Ferré Park at 1101 Biscayne Blvd., presents exhibitions spanning topics from living systems to the solar system. Features include a three-level 500,000-gallon Gulf Stream aquarium, a planetarium and a learning center. Highlights include Feathers to the Stars, where visitors will encounter a 30-foot-tall dinosaur, and River of Grass, an indoor-outdoor look at the Everglades ecosystems. Traveling exhibits and educational programs are offered.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (305) 434-9600.

RUBELL MUSEUM, 1100 N.W. 23 St., is in the Wynwood Art District. An eclectic collection of contemporary artwork belonging to the Rubell family is exhibited in 36 galleries. Rotating exhibits might include works by such artists as Keith Haring, Damien Hirst, Jeff Koons and Neo Rauch. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 573-6090.

VIZCAYA MUSEUM AND GARDENS is at 3251 S. Miami Ave. Formerly the winter residence of American businessman James Deering, the Europeaninspired estate features 34 rooms lavishly furnished with art and furnishings spanning 2,000 years. Of special interest is a 1917 Welte Philharmonic pipe organ. Temporary exhibits also are offered.

Hedges and walls divide the estate into many small gardens similar to those created in 17th- and 18th-century Italy and France. The design features fountains, sculptures and hidden gardens. At the foot of the steps leading to Biscayne Bay, an unusual sculptured barge serves as a breakwater.

Audio tours (in English, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole and Portuguese) are available. **Note:** Visitors are required to ascend and descend stairs. Only non-flash photography for personal use is permitted in the house. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (305) 250-9133.

ZOO MIAMI, 12400 S.W. 152nd St. (Coral Reef Dr.), is a cageless zoo where animals roam in settings similar to their natural habitats. The spacious exhibits cover the continents of Africa, Asia, Australia and North and South America with such inhabitants as chimpanzees, elephants, meerkats and Cuban crocodiles.

The Amazon & Beyond exhibit is home to howler monkeys, river otters and jaguars. Winding paths in Wings of Asia lead visitors through exhibits of some 70 bird species. Also featured are Sumatran tigers and an African plains habitat with a feeding station that allows visitors to hand-feed giraffes. Florida: Mission Everglades showcases wildlife conservation and animals native to the area.

Wildlife shows are presented daily in an amphitheater, and a children's zoo features Animal Tales presentations. Dr. Wilde's World showcases permanent and temporary exhibits. A tram traverses the zoo's 327 acres. Safari cycles, animal encounters and behind-the-scenes tours are available.

Time: Allow 3 hours minimum. Phone: (305) 251-0400. $\overline{\text{GT}}$

Miami Beach pop. 87,779

THE BASS, 2100 Collins Ave., features permanent and temporary international contemporary art exhibitions in a 1930s Art Deco building. Exhibits include works by midcareer and established artists from around the world. Educational programs, lectures and guided tours also are offered. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 673-7530. GT

DUCK TOURS SOUTH BEACH departs from 1661 James Ave. This 90-minute narrated land and sea excursion explains the history of Miami as well as tours famous landmarks. Highlights include the South Beach historic neighborhood, the Art Deco District, Millionaire's Row and Fisher Island. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (305) 673-2217. GT

THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL, 1933-45 Meridian Ave., is dedicated to the memory of the 6 million Jewish men, women and children who suffered and died at the hands of the Nazis during their rule of Germany. The focus of the memorial is a 42-foot-high bronze arm rising from the ground; sculptured people climb it, looking for an escape.

Other features include a memorial wall with black granite panels etched with names of victims; a series of vignettes displaying victims helping victims; a photographic mural of holocaust history; a meditation garden; and the Dome of Contemplation with an eternal flame. A 20-minute documentary on the memorial's creation can be viewed free upon request from 9 to 3. Audio tours are available in English, French, German, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. **Time:** Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (305) 538-1663.

JEWISH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA-FIU, 301 Washington Ave., is housed in two adjacent buildings formerly used as synagogues within the Art Deco district. The core exhibit depicts Jewish life in Florida since 1763. Temporary exhibits also are presented. Films, a timeline wall of Jewish history and a research center are available. Guided area walking tours and food tours are offered by advance reservation. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (305) 672-5044.

Sightseeing

Go Miami pass is an all-access pass to some 44 Miami area attractions. There are different passes to suit, whether you want to choose the number of days or attractions to visit. Choose from your favorite area attractions including Big Bus Miami Hop-on, Hop-off Discover Tour, Gray Line Miami: Key West Day Trip, Duck Tours South Beach and other attractions and sightseeing tours. The Go Miami pass is available online or by phone (800) 887-9103.

Gray Line offers multilingual narrated sightseeing tours of Miami's hot spots including South Beach, Coconut Grove, downtown Miami and the Art Deco district. Options include walking tours and tours via bus, boat and helicopter. A hop-on, hop-off bus tour stops at local attractions throughout the day; passengers may purchase 1- to 2-day passes. Rates and schedules vary; phone (877) 643-1258 for detailed information and reservations.

Driving Tours

Main and Ingraham highways and Old Cutler Road, south from Coconut Grove, offer scenic drives through Coconut Grove and Coral Gables, and are fun places to go. Old Cutler Highway passes Matheson Hammock Park and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (see Coral Gables p. 39).

South Miami Avenue, between 15th Road and Dixie Highway, is lined with royal poinciana trees. During late May and June the trees are ablaze with red flowers, making it a fun thing to do in early summer.

An interesting drive in Miami Beach is along Collins Avenue, with its hotels and motels. Also of interest are the magnificent homes and estates, which run the architectural gamut from Spanish-Mediterranean to bold modern. Although not open to the public, these can be seen by driving around some of the private islands accessible from the MacArthur, Venetian, North Bay and Broad causeways.

Walking Tours

There are several opportunities for exploration on foot. Coconut Grove, with its varied architecture and bohemian air, offers particularly appealing things to see.

The Art Deco District in Miami Beach is a showcase for the movement's characteristic architectural touches: porthole windows, geometric patterns, rounded corners and glass-block construction as well as walls bathed in fuchsia, turquoise, chartreuse and lavender. The Miami Design Preservation League offers a 90-minute tour of the area daily at 10:30 a.m. (also Thursday at 6:30 p.m.). The tour begins and ends at the Art Deco Welcome Center at Ocean Front Auditorium, 1001 Ocean Dr. in Miami Beach; phone (305) 531-3484. The fee is \$25, \$20 (students, senior citizens and veterans with ID). The organization also arranges other Miami Beach area tours and provides self-guiding audio tours.

Little Havana, S.W. 12th Avenue to S.W. 27th Avenue, has open-air markets, shops, local restaurants and a plaza, all of which reflect Cuban culture.

DOWNTOWN MIAMI

Hotels p. 151
 Restaurants p. 155





COMFORT INN & SUITES DOWNTOWN-BRICKELL BOOK NOW 305/374-5100





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

Hotel. Address: 100 SE 4th St 33131. Facility: 149 units. 16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



















COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI DOWNTOWN/BRICKELL

BOOK NOW 305/374-3000



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

Hotel. Address: 200 SE 2nd Ave 33131. Location: Adjoining convention center. Facility: 233 units. 13 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk. SAVE Fig. 1812 S





DUA MIAMI, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 305/239-1300



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

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1300 S Miami Ave 33130.



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/358-3535



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1435 Brickell Ave 33131. Facility: Sculptures worth millions of dollars adorn the lobby, setting the tone for this luxuriously designed hotel. Rooms are spacious and offer plush bedding, high-end coffee makers and marble bathrooms. 221 units, some two bedrooms and condominiums. 20-29 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, recreation programs in season, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.































BOOK NOW HILTON-MIAMI/BRICKELL-DOWNTOWN 305/377-9400



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 50 SW 12th St 33130.

HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI

DOWNTOWN/BRICKELL BOOK NOW 305/285-7112



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

BY HILTON Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1750 SW 1st Ave 33129. Facility: 102 efficiencies. 3-8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.





























HOTEL AKA. BRICKELL BOOK NOW 305/503-6500

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1395 Brickell Ave 33131.



YATT CENTRIC BRICKELL MIAMI

BOOK NOW 786/441-1234



HYATT CENTRIC

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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1102 Brickell Bay Dr 33131. Facility: 208 units. 3-18 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet































HYATT REGENCY"

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

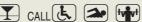
Hotel, Address: 400 SE 2nd Ave 33131, Location: Waterfront, Next to convention center, adjacent to James L. Knight Center. Facility: 615 units. 24 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.































INTERCONTINENTAL MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/577-1000



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 100 Chopin Plaza 33131. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Guest rooms at this modern hotel are spacious, with large streaming TVs and comfortable all-white bedding. The floors above the 29th are considered concierge level and feature extra amenities. 652 units. 6-34 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service.



















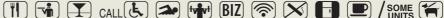
















JW MARRIOTT MARQUIS MIAMI BOOK NOW

305/421-8600





JW MARRIOTT

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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 255 Biscayne Blvd Way 33131. Facility: Within walking distance of Brickell and the Miami River, this hotel's spacious guest units are well-equipped with lots of technology and many have stunning views of the skyline. 313 units. 21-37 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























JW MARRIOTT MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/329-3500





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

Hotel. Address: 1109 Brickell Ave 33131. Facility: 296 units. 6-22 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, health club. Guest Services:

valet laundry, rental car service.

































KIMPTON EPIC HOTEL BOOK NOW 305/424-5226



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 270 Biscayne Blvd Way 33131. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This stylish hotel offers luxurious amenities and design throughout. The guest rooms are accented beautifully with fine linens and luxurious bathrooms with marble walls and floors. 411 units. 18-30 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: Zuma, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, cabanas, marina, recreation programs, bicycles, health club. spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.

































MANDARIN ORIENTAL, MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/913-8288



Hotel. Address: 500 Brickell Key Dr 33131.



MIAMI MARRIOTT BISCAYNE BAY BOOK NOW 305/374-3900



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

Hotel. **Address:** 1633 N Bayshore Dr 33132. **Location:** Waterfront. MARRIOTT Adjacent to Grand Retail Center. Facility: 605 units. 31 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm.

Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, health club. Guest **Services:** valet and coin laundry.

































WHERE TO EAT



LA MAR BY GASTON ACURIO 305/913-8358



Peruvian Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 500 Brickell Key Dr 33131.



NAOE 305/947-6263



Japanese Sushi Seafood Fine Dining. Expert Advice: Plan ahead to dine at this unique omakase experience. The 8-seat dining room has minimal design enhancements beyond the spotless stainless steel kitchen. The meal will last about three hours, but time flies as the expert staff pampers and the chef wows you with their culinary talents. If offered a choice, I recommend sitting at the bar to watch the staff at work. Beautiful food presentations center on ever-changing, exotic, fresh seafood, much of which is flown in daily from Japan. Reservations: required. Address: 661 Brickell Key Dr 33131. Parking: on-site (fee).



ZUMA 305/577-0277



New Japanese Small Plates Fine Dining. Address: 270 Biscayne Blvd Way 33131.

MIAMI

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AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT MIAMI BRICKELL

BOOK NOW

786/628-1500





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 115 SW 8th St 33137. Facility: 156 units. 21 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.























AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT MIAMI/DADELAND BOOK NOW

305/668-4490





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

Hotel. Address: 7695 N Kendall Dr 33156. Facility: 177 units. 2-7 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry. (See ad p. 157.)





















AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT MIAMI WYNWOOD BOOK NOW 786/209-0005





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

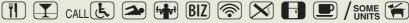
Contemporary Hotel. Address: 3400 Biscayne Blvd 33137. Facility: 153 units. 2-7 stories, interior corridors, *Bath:* shower only. **Parking:** on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































INSPECTED @ CLEAN



7695 N KENDALL DRIVE, MIAMI, FL 33156 305.668.4490

AMENITIES

- · Complimentary WiFi
- · Outdoor Heated Pool
- AC Lounge (Craft beer, hand-crafted cocktails & Tapas style bites)
- · AC Kitchen Onsite Restaurant
- · Fitness Center
- · Complimentary Self parking

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS & BUSINESSES

- · Baptist Health South Florida
- · Dadeland Mall
- · Dadeland South Metro Station
- · Downtown Dadeland
- · Jungle Island
- · Miami Children's Museum
- · Miami Seaquarium
- · University of Miami
- · Zoo Miami











ALOFT MIAMI AIRPORT BOOK NOW 786/866-0600



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7220 NW 36th St 33166.



ALOFT MIAMI DADELAND BOOK NOW 305/595-6000



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 7600 N Kendall Dr 33156.



ATWELL SUITES MIAMI BRICKELL BOOK NOW 305/860-3874



Hotel. Address: 145 SW 11th St 33130. Facility: 90 units. 16-24 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























BEST WESTERN PLUS MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HOTEL &

BOOK NOW 305/774-6100



APPROVED

Hotel. Address: 4100 W Flagler St 33134. Facility: 144 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AIRPORT BOOK NOW

305/642-8200



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

Hotel. Address: 1201 NW 42nd Ave (Le Jeune Rd) 33126. Facility: 301 units. 5-10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



































COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT, MIAMI DADELAND BOOK NOW 305/670-1220



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

Hotel. Address: 9075 S Dadeland Blvd 33156. Facility: 128 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI WEST/FL TURNPIKE BOOK NOW

305/500-9600



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

Hotel. Address: 11580 NW 105th St 33178. Facility: 127 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.



























BOOK NOW 305/261-3800





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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 711 NW 72nd Ave 33126. Facility: 334 units. 12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Amenities: safes. Pool: by Hilton™ heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



































ELEMENT MIAMI BRICKELL BOOK NOW 786/628-1500







Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 115 SW 8th St 33137. Facility: 108 efficiencies. 8-21 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























ELEMENT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW

305/636-1600



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3525 NW 25th St 33142.



THE ELSER HOTEL MIAMI BOOK NOW

786/472-1000



Resort Condominium. Address: 398 NE 5th St 33132. Facility: Located within steps of Bayside and the basketball arena, this modern property offers luxurious rooms with full kitchens, furnished balconies, streaming TVs as well as a washer and dryer. 450 condominiums. 50 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, lawn sports, health club. Guest Services: complimentary laundry.

























EVEN HOTEL MIAMI AIRPORT

BOOK NOW

305/636-7000



Hotel. Address: 3499 NW 25th St 33142.



FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON MIAMI AIRPORT WEST BOOK NOW

305/351-5730





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

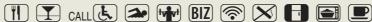
Hotel. Address: 3570 NW 74th Ave 33122. Facility: 124 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

































HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI AIRPORT SOUTH/BLUE

LAGOON BOOK NOW 305/262-5400



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 777 NW 57th Ave 33126.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI WYNWOOD DESIGN

DISTRICT BOOK NOW 786/581-0600



Hampton)

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

Hotel. Address: 3450 Biscayne Blvd 33137. Facility: 151 units. 2-8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool:

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





























HILTON GARDEN INN-MIAMI AIRPORT WEST

BOOK NOW 305/629-7701





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

Hotel. Address: 3550 NW 74th Ave 33122. Facility: 189 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub. exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



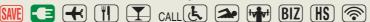


































HILTON GARDEN INN MIAMI BRICKELL SOUTH BOOK NOW 305/854-2070



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

SAVE Hotel, Address: 2500 Brickell Ave 33129.



HILTON GARDEN INN MIAMI DOLPHIN MALL BOOK NOW 305/500-9097



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

SAVE Hotel, Address: 1695 NW 111th Ave 33172.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.



HILTON MIAMI DADELAND BOOK NOW 786/975-1920





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 9100 N Kendall Dr 33176. Facility: 184 units, some efficiencies. 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.





























HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI-AIRPORT WEST BOOK NOW

305/629-7831



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

BY HILTON Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3590 NW 74th Ave 33122. Facility: 124 efficiencies, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: limited exercise equipment. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























305/500-9077





HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI DOLPHIN MALL BOOK NOW

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN



SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1695 NW 111th Ave 33172.



HOTEL BEAUX ARTS, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW

305/421-8700



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

SAVE Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 255 Biscayne Boulevard Way 33131.



HOTEL INDIGO MIAMI BRICKELL BOOK NOW

305/860-3874



Hotel. Address: 145 SW 11th St 33130. Facility: 140 units. 6-15 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.































MIAMI AIRPORT MARRIOTT BOOK NOW 305/649-5000







Hotel. Address: 1201 NW 42nd Ave (Le Jeune Rd) 33126. Facility: 371 MARRIOTT units. 9-10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest

Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























MIAMI MARRIOTT DADELAND BOOK NOW

305/670-1035





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

Hotel. Address: 9090 S Dadeland Blvd 33156. Facility: 302 units. 24 MARRIOTT stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest

Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





















MOXY MIAMI WYNWOOD BOOK NOW 786/885-2670

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

[SAVE] [fyi] Hotel. Pending inspection, call for details. Address: 255 NW 25 St 33127.



NUVO SUITES HOTEL BOOK NOW 786/472-9095



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1750 NW 107th Ave 33172. Facility: 83 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























PULLMAN MIAMI AIRPORT HOTEL BOOK NOW 305/264-4888



Hotel. Address: 5800 Blue Lagoon Dr 33126. Facility: 281 units. 15 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.































786/796-0199





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

Hotel. Address: 3401 NW 25th St 33142. Facility: 157 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest **Services:** valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























REGENCY MIAMI AIRPORT BY SONESTA BOOK NOW

305/441-1600



Hotel. Address: 1000 NW 42nd Ave 33126. Facility: 176 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room.



























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AIRPORT BOOK NOW

305/642-8570





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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1201 NW 42nd Ave (Le Jeune Rd) 33126. Facility: 164 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 6 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.

































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI WEST/FL TURNPIKE BOOK NOW 305/500-9800



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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 11500 NW 105th St 33178. Facility: 123 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk. SAVE





















SONESTA MIAMI AIRPORT BOOK NOW 305/446-9000



Hotel. Address: 950 NW Le Jeune Rd 33126. Facility: 308 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT MIAMI DOWNTOWN/MEDICAL

BOOK NOW 305/575-5300



MARRIOTT

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

Hotel. Address: 1311 NW 10th Ave 33136. Facility: 198 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

































THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

STAYBRIDGE SUITES MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

BOOK NOW

786/629-1413

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3651 NW 25th St 33150.

TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT MIAMI AIRPORT BOOK NOW 305/779-0900



SUITES®-MARRIOTT

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

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 4021 NW 11th St 33126. Facility: 165 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 7 stories, interior corridors.

Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise

room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT MIAMI/KENDALL WEST BOOK NOW

305/383-5511



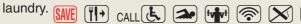
SUITES® MARRIOTT

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

> Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 9055 SW 162nd Ave 33196. Facility: 116 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors.

Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin























TRU BY HILTON MIAMI AIRPORT SOUTH/BLUE LAGOON BOOK NOW 305/567-2599



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 5560 Blue Lagoon Dr 33126.



TRU BY HILTON MIAMI WEST BRICKELL BOOK NOW

305/500-2700



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1931 SW 3rd Ave 33129.

WHERE TO EAT

L'ATELIER DE JOEL ROBUCHON MIAMI 305/402-9070

FOUR DIAMOND

New French Fine Dining. Address: 151 NE 41st St 33137.

STUBBORN SEED 786/322-5211



New American Fine Dining. Expert Advice: From the imagination of reality competition winner Jeremy Ford. Stubborn Seed offers an eclectic prix fixe menu of small bites that utilize a wide variety of creative techniques. The kitchen offers unique takes on fresh ingredients, gathered from local farms and fisheries. The drink menu is guite special and the bar team crafts a menu that is adjusted seasonally. If you're on a tight budget or timeline, quests who dine at the bar can order a handful of dishes a la carte. Features: full bar. Reservations: suggested. Address: 101 Washington Ave 33130. Parking: valet and street only.

MIAMI BEACH

Hotels p. 167
 Restaurants p. 177

BOOK NOW ANDAZ MIAMI BEACH - A CONCEPT BY HYATT 305/424-1234



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

 (\mathbf{fyi}) Historic Boutique Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Four Diamond. Address: 4041 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Opened in the 1940s as the Lord Tarleton, this hotel's rooms vary in size, but all offer lovely views and comfy bedding. 339 units. 10-16 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

BENTLEY HOTEL SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 305/538-1700

THREE DIAMOND

Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 510 Ocean Dr 33139.

THE BETSY SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW

305/531-6100

THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1440 Ocean Dr 33139.

For highways, byways and more: AAA.com/maps

CADILLAC HOTEL & BEACH CLUB, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION BOOK NOW 305/538-3373



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

HOTELS

Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 3925 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Designed with upscale nods to Art Deco design.

this hotel's rooms are split between the original 1940 Cadillac Tower and the Ocean Tower, 357 units, 3-14 stories, interior corridors, Parking; valet only, Terms; check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry.

























CARDOZO HOTEL SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 786/577-7600



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1300 Ocean Dr 33139.

CARILLON MIAMI WELLNESS RESORT BOOK NOW

305/514-7000



Resort Hotel. Address: 6801 Collins Ave 33141.

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT MIAMI SOUTH BEACH

BOOK NOW

305/604-8887



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

Hotel. Address: 1530 Washington Ave 33139. Facility: 90 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor.

























EDEN ROC MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW

305/531-0000



Classic Resort Hotel. Address: 4525 Collins Ave 33140.

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

FAENA HOTEL MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/534-8800

Historic Hotel. Address: 3201 Collins Ave 33140.





FONTAINEBLEAU MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW

305/538-2000



Classic Resort Hotel. Address: 4441 Collins Ave 33140.



THE GATES HOTEL SOUTH BEACH, A DOUBLETREE BY

BOOK NOW 305/860-9444





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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 2360 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 235 units. 4-8 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet

only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, self-propelled boats, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























THE GOODTIME HOTEL, MIAMI BEACH, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

BOOK NOW 786/687-0234



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

Boutique Hotel. Address: 601 Washington Ave 33139. Facility: From the moment you step into the lobby you'll be entranced by the whimsical tropical decor. Rooms are purposefully small, but efficiently and comfortably designed with soft bedding and large TVs. 266 units. 3-7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MIAMI BEACH-MID BEACH BOOK NOW 305/532-4999



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

SAVE Historic Hotel. Address: 4000 Collins Ave 33140.



HILTON CABANA MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/864-6261







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

Hotel. Address: 6261 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 231 units. 3-10 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool:

heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.

















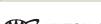












HILTON GRAND VACATIONS CLUB AT MCALPIN-OCEAN PLAZA BOOK NOW

305/604-8225



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

WE Vacation Rental Condominium, Address: 1430 Ocean Dr 33139.



BOOK NOW 305/763-8006



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 3101 Indian Creek Dr 33140. Facility: Rooms at this unique property are designed in a quirky, tropical style. All include flat-screen TVs, wet bars and retro fridges, while some have a small outdoor seating space. 71 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles. Guest Services: valet laundry.





















INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HYATT CENTRIC SOUTH BEACH MIAMI BOOK NOW

305/428-1234



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

[M] Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 1600 Collins Ave 33139. Facility: Rooms here are compact, but offer plush bedding and views of South Beach or the ocean. You'll find the pool and indoor/outdoor restaurant on the lobby level, both areas offering plenty of seating. 105 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles.



KIMPTON ANGLER'S HOTEL SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 305/534-9600



Boutique Hotel. Address: 660 Washington Ave 33139. Facility: A couple of blocks from the beach, this hotel provides beach bags with towels in each room as well as umbrellas by request. Rooms vary in size between each building, but all feature luxurious bedding. 132 units. 2-6 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles.

























KIMPTON HOTEL PALOMAR SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 786/628-2000



Boutique Hotel. Address: 1750 Alton Rd 33139. Location: Waterfront. Facility: Ideally located near Lincoln Road and South Beach, you'll find rooms with pillow top mattresses and large showers. The two-tier rooftop pool area offers stunning views. 96 units. 3-5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet and street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: cabanas, bicycles, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

























KIMPTON SURFCOMBER BOOK NOW 305/532-7715



Boutique Hotel. Address: 1717 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: While rooms at this classic option can be on the small side, they feature cozy bedding and bright bathrooms. Guests flock to the lushly landscaped pool area which includes a tiki bar and many cabanas. 186 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry.

































LENNOX HOTEL BOOK NOW 305/531-6800



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1900 Collins Ave 33139. Facility: One section of this refined, boutique property dates back to 1939. Guests flock to the courtyard pool and bar, which is surrounded by verdant landscaping and plush loungers. 118 units. 2-4 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





























LOEWS MIAMI BEACH HOTEL BOOK NOW 305/604-1601



Resort Hotel. Address: 1601 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This large oceanfront hotel epitomizes the Art Deco design that has made South Beach famous. Scenic views, outdoor seating and luxurious bedding packages are the highlight of the guest rooms. 790 units, some two bedrooms. 4-18 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























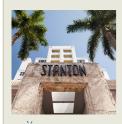




MARRIOTT STANTON SOUTH BEACH

BOOK NOW

305/536-7700



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

Hotel. Address: 161 Ocean Dr 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 226 MARRIOTT units. 4-11 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, beach on-site, cabanas, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet and

coin laundry.

































THE MIAMI BEACH EDITION BOOK NOW 786/257-4500



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

Historic Resort Hotel. Address: 2901 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Designed in partnership with famed hotelier and Studio 54 owner Ian Schrager, this iconic hotel is popular for its bright, airy hotel rooms and the myriad activities available on property. 294 units. 5-11 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, beach on-site, ice skating, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk. (See ad p. 174.)













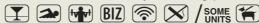
















MOXY SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 305/600-4292





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

Boutique Hotel. Address: 915 Washington Ave 33139. Facility: This hotel is ideal for those who don't plan to spend their vacation in their room! Bedding is upscale and there are streaming TVs throughout, but many of the rooms are quite compact. 202 units. 2-7 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: outdoor. Activities: cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry. SAVE





THE NATIONAL HOTEL BOOK NOW 305/532-2311









Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1677 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Catering solely to adults, you'll find stylish rooms accented by florals and animal prints. Room sizes vary, but all have plush bedding and mini fridges designed to look like Marshall amplifiers. 137 units. 4-11 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. **Terms:** check-in 4 pm, age restrictions may apply. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.







































Oceanfront modern luxury resort in the heart of Miami Beach, featuring a full service spa and fitness center, two distinctive pool experiences, our Basement Bowl/Skate/Club entertainment district, and extraordinary restaurant venues developed by world renowned Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

BOOK NOW

2901 COLLINS AVENUE, MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33140 PHONE 786 257 4500

NAUTILUS SONESTA MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/503-5700



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 1825 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Originally built in the 1950s by famed architect Morris Lapidus, this hotel offers a modernized take on art deco glamour. Bathrooms are small, but designed to provide an enjoyable experience. 250 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, recreation programs in season, bicycles, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet

























NOBU HOTEL MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/704-7600

FOUR DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN Boutique Contemporary Hotel. **Address:** 4525 Collins Ave 33140.



THE PALMS HOTEL & SPA BOOK NOW 305/534-0505



Boutique Hotel. Address: 3025 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This chic hotel offers rooms decorated with modern palm tree accents throughout. The gorgeous pool area is surrounded by lush, tropical foliage and offers F&B service until sunset, 251 units, 12 stories, interior corridors, Bath: shower only, Parking; valet only, Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: steamroom, beach on-site, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry. Affiliated with Preferred Hotels & Resorts.

































RADISSON RESORT MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/532-1600





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

Hotel. Address: 4343 Collins Ave 33140. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: 216 units. 4-10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, self-propelled boats, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI BEACH/SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 305/604-6070



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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1231 17th St 33139. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 116 efficiencies. 5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. **Parking:** valet and street only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.



























THE RITZ-CARLTON, SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 786/276-4000





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

THE RITZ - CARLTON

Resort Hotel. Address: 1 Lincoln Rd 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: In the heart of the historic Art Deco District, this luxury hotel offers a variety of room types. All offer lavish furnishings and 50" flat screen TVs with several streaming options. 376 units. 2-11 stories, interior corridors. **Parking:** valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa.

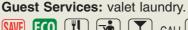






























THE SETAI, MIAMI BEACH BOOK NOW 305/520-6000

Boutique Hotel. Address: 2001 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: In the heart of the bustling Art Deco area, this hotel offers a variety of spacious units that are engulfed in lavish touches. The hotel's rooms have Asian-inspired decor and Swedish DUX beds. 154 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, kitchens and condominiums. 2-38 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, beach on-site, motor boats, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest











































W SOUTH BEACH BOOK NOW 305/938-3000



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

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

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 2201 Collins Ave 33139. Location: HOTELS Oceanfront. Facility: This trendy oceanfront hotel option epitomizes South Beach style. Rooms include furnished balconies, luxurious bedding packages and start at 600 square feet in size. 352 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3-20 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet and street only.

Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, nightclub, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

















Boutique Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1437 Collins Ave 33139. Location: Located in Art Deco District. Facility: This chic hotel offers a variety of activities within the resort fee, ranging from Art Deco walking tours to yoga and meditation classes. Rooms are oversize and offer both indoor and outdoor seating. 50 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated















Z OCEAN HOTEL, CLASSICO A SONESTA COLLECTION BOOK NOW

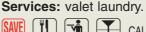
305/672-4554





INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN















outdoor. Activities: hot tub, recreation programs, bicycles, exercise room. Guest











THO THE CALL (L) (A) SHS SO (X) THO DE (Y) SING (Y)



WHERE TO EAT



PAO BY PAUL QUI 786/655-5630



New Asian Fusion Small Plates Fine Dining. Address: 3201 Collins Ave 33140.



Delivered & Installed on the Spot!

aaa.com/autorepair/carbatterysolutions





MIAMI LAKES

- Hotels p. 178
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



SONESTA SELECT MIAMI LAKES BOOK NOW 305/556-6665



Hotel. Address: 15700 NW 77th Ct 33016. Facility: 151 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

























MIAMI SPRINGS

- Hotels p. 178
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



COMFORT INN & SUITES MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BOOK NOW

305/888-3633





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

Hotel. Address: 665 Mokena Dr 33166. Facility: 120 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























EB HOTEL MIAMI BOOK NOW

305/324-6835



Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4299 NW 36th St 33166. Facility: This stylish hotel offers spacious, modern rooms close to the airport. The guest bathrooms are a spa-like retreat, including multiple shower heads, jet sprayers and many even feature a bidet. 133 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, rental car service. SAVE (T) (T) (T) (BIZ) (HS) (S) (MS) (MS)





EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 305/634-5000



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3974 NW South River Dr 33142.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON MIAMI AIRPORT EAST BOOK NOW 786/801-3136





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

Hotel. Address: 3449 NW 42nd Ave 33142. Facility: 127 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

























THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

WYNDHAM GARDEN MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

BOOK NOW

786/482-2511

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4909 NW 36 St 33166.

MIRAMAR

- Hotels p. 179
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-FORT LAUDERDALE

SW/MIRAMAR

BOOK NOW 954/450-1801





Hotel. Address: 14500 SW 29th St 33027. Facility: 128 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.

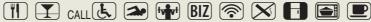
































HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON FT

LAUDERDALE/MIRAMAR BOOK NOW 954/430-5590





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

Hotel. Address: 10990 Marks Way 33025. Facility: 122 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: coin laundry.





















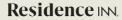




RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT-FORT LAUDERDALE

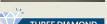
SW/MIRAMAR BOOK NOW 954/450-2717





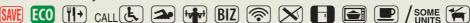
Residence INI. AAA Benefit: Members save 5% or more and earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 14700 SW 29th St 33027. Facility: 130 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 5 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT FORT

LAUDERDALE/MIRAMAR BOOK NOW 954/435-4900



MARRIOTT

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

Hotel. Address: 10880 Marks Way 33025. Facility: 124 units. 6 stories, interior corridors, Pool; outdoor, Activities; exercise room, Guest Services; coin

laundry. SAVE CALL (L)

NAPLES

• Hotels p. 184 • Restaurants p. 191

From an aerial view, Naples appears to be made up of nothing but golf communities placed end-to-end. Indeed. at a glance, the area is rich with golf courses and country clubs, but zoom in a little closer and you'll see that Naples is more than just a golfer's dream come true.

Residents of this felicitous city live the good life, and the majority of them are past retirement age, well-to-do or both. The area is blanketed with high-end hotels, elegant museums, tasteful art galleries, swanky restaurants and stylish shops. However, you won't find Naples' greatest treasures in its museums or boutiques. The city has long earned accolades for its 16 miles of alabaster beaches: coupled with its location on the Gulf of Mexico, the area



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

proves irresistible to fishermen, boaters, sun worshippers, shell collectors and anyone who likes to live the outdoor sporting life.

For starters, check out Naples Municipal Beach near Millionaires Row, home to the Naples Pier, a relic of the city's early days. Damaged by fire and hurricanes but always managing to rise from the ashes, the pier has become a local icon, appearing in many advertisements for the city. Folks gather on the pristine beach at dusk every night for a low-key salute to the setting sun, some with cameras in hand, ready to shoot photos of the sun with the silhouetted pier in the background.

You'll not only encounter an enticing mile-long stretch of white-sand beach at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park (see Recreation Areas Chart), 11 miles northwest via SR 846, but you'll find a host of engaging fun-in-the-sun activities at this popular 166-acre park. Take to the waters of the Cocohatchee River or Gulf of Mexico for boating, fresh- or salt-water fishing and kayaking. Beachside, scoop up seashells, cool off with a swim, or snorkel and scuba dive on the nearby hard-bottom reef. Alternatively, slather on some sunscreen, lie on the beach and soak in the sun. When hunger strikes, unpack your picnic basket on a table in an area shaded by a coastal hammock.

Veering sharply away from Naples' sophisticated image is its long-held tradition of Swamp buggy races, perhaps the last thing you would expect to find in a city like this. For those who don't know much about swamp buggies, here's a little background. The buggy's body resembles a race car, but its most unusual feature is its huge, skinny tires that dwarf the buggy. Swamp buggies originally had big, thick flotation wheels and were first used by Florida Crackers in the 1930s for hunting trips, as they were the only vehicles that could travel through the area's swampy bogs. Owners began to race against each other, and the first official swamp buggy race was held in 1949. Races take place in January and March at the Florida Sports Park off Collier Boulevard on an oval race track called the Mile o' Mud. A swamp buggy parade also is held in downtown Naples before the races begin, but the big finish (arguably the best part) is when the reigning Swamp Buggy Queen is willingly tossed into the mud with the race's winner. Phone (239) 774-270 for details.

Naples' bounty of gifts from nature, combined with its upscale accourtements and a dash of the unexpected, make it one of the most sophisticated yet aesthetically and athletically pleasing cities on Florida's west coast. It's a combination that's hard to beat no matter where your tastes may lie.

Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce Information Center: 1051 Fifth Ave. S., Naples, FL 34102, inside Naples Depot Museum. **Phone:** (800) 688-3600.

Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention & Visitors Bureau: 2660 Horseshoe Dr. N., Suite 105, Naples, FL 34104. Phone: (800) 688-3600.

Shopping: While Naples natural attributes are its greatest treasures, avid shoppers are bound to strike gold in the city's collection of both high-end and affordable shopping districts and malls.

Like most affluent American cities, Naples has its fair share of shopping malls, but its *pièce de résistance* is Waterside Shops, 5415 Tamiami Trail N. Marked by cool white building façades, palm trees, luxuriant landscaping and tiered fountains lined with shimmering blue tiles, this glamorous mall puts on the Ritz and the glitz with its clean, sophisticated design. Its selection of high-end emporiums ranges from Saks Fifth Avenue and Louis Vuitton to Tiffany & Co. as well as more affordable options for those with slimmer wallets, including Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Pottery Barn and Talbots. Phone (239) 598-1605.

Mall-goers have other less fancy but still viable options. Open since 1976, Coastland Center, 1900 Tamiami Tr. N., features anchors Dillard's, JCPenney and Macy's, complemented by specialty shops such as Aéropostale, Express, Hallmark and Old Navy; phone (239) 262-2323. The smaller yet picturesque Village on Venetian Bay, 4200 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., offers nearly 50 boutiques (most locally owned) filled with clothing and shoes for men, women and children; art galleries; and restaurants in a Mediterranean setting that abuts the Gulf of Mexico. Phone (239) 261-6100. Mercato, 9132 Strada Pl. off Tamiami Tr. N., has more than 30 shops and eateries and a movie theater; phone (239) 254-1080.

While malls have their pluses, including the convenience of having your favorite national chains gathered in one temperature-controlled building, it can be lots of fun to check out more old-fashioned shopping experiences. In the Naples Downtown Shopping District, shoppers can stroll in several quaint yet stylish shopping districts, reminiscent of the old-fashioned Main Streets of yore. Popular destinations include Tin City, Third Street South and Fifth Avenue South, all within a 5-mile radius.

Tin City, at the corner of US 41 (Tamiami Trail) and SR 851 (Goodlette-Frank Road) at 1200 5th Ave. S., contains traces of Naples' past, when fishing and boating were important industries; phone (239) 262-4200. The original iron and wood buildings were used as seafood processing plants and for boatbuilding; today, this rustic, colorful compilation of some 30 locally owned shops on the waterfront is the place to go for touristy tchotchkes, wildly patterned Hawaiian shirts, or even a haircut. While you're there, you may also hop on a sightseeing cruise departing from the

nearby harbor or grab your favorite fish dish at a seafood restaurant on the waterfront.

The Third Street South shopping district in Old Naples' historic district, just 2 blocks from the Naples Pier, comprises more than 50 boutiques, galleries, antique shops, salons and cafés; phone (239) 434-6533. The mix of shops ranges from well-known brands such as Eileen Fisher and Tommy Bahama (the chain's original location) to local favorites such as gourmet grocery and wine shop Tony's Off Third and jeweler José Aragón. Need help finding the perfect gift or maybe directions to the beach? Stroll over to the street concierge's kiosk near Fleischmann Fountain for answers to questions about the area.

The showpiece of Third Street South is Marissa Collections, 1167 3rd. St. S., the place to go for the newest in haute couture by such international designers as Oscar de la Renta and Michael Kors. Each piece in this 10,000-square-foot boutique is judiciously hand-picked by owner Marissa Hartington, who has been in the business for more than 40 years. Phone (239) 263-4333 or (800) 581-6641.

Similar to Third Street South but on a slightly smaller scale, the palm-tree lined Fifth Avenue South shopping district isn't lacking in charm or quality either. The avenue had a makeover in 1996, when its run-down buildings were replaced by eye-pleasing Mediterranean-style structures that now hold a mixture of galleries, shops, hip restaurants and the occasional real estate agency.

Hunting for clothes that carry a lot of cachè without requiring a lot of cash? Check out Naples thrift and consignment shops, where you'll find well-made designer clothing, accessories and home furnishings for bargain basement prices. Many of these shops are on Naples' Trail of Treasures, along 10th Street North between 5th Avenue North and 2nd Avenue South. Stop in at Audrey's, 104 10th St. N., where clothing racks groan under the weight of gently worn contemporary and vintage garments and display cases overflow with glittering jewelry that spans the decades; phone (239) 403-8322. Another best bet includes Options Thrift Shoppe (968 2nd Ave. N., (239) 434-7115).

Nightlife: As you might expect of a town of Naples caliber, nightlife opportunities tend to lean toward genteel events of the type where sitting quietly in theater seats and clapping politely is the norm, not the exception. Slip into a little black dress or suit and tie for a little night music at the 1,425-seat Artis-Naples (formerly Philharmonic Center for the Arts, aka "The Phil" by locals), 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., which hosts not only opera, dance and symphonic performances (although the Phil has its own.

not-to-be-missed 49-piece orchestra), but also such nationally known acts as Big Bad Voodoo Daddy; Blood, Sweat & Tears; and Three Dog Night. Phone (239) 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900 for schedules and tickets.

For a completely different vibe, attend a free concert by a jazz orchestra under the stars at the Cambier Park band shell. The atmosphere is much less formal than at the Phil, but you do have to bring your own seating and you may bring a cooler filled with your favorite munchies. As for attire, the more casual, the better. The band shell itself is a sight to behold; rebuilt in 2001, it looks like a modern work of art, with a white fabric roof and a rock wall, and also features excellent acoustics; phone (239) 213-3058.

Hoist a frosty mug and listen to live music at places like the Old Naples Pub, with a zealous in-house piano player (255 13th Ave. S., (239) 649-8200).

If your tastes lean toward bubble-free liquids in a stemmed glass, spend some time at Avenue Wine Café, 483 5th Ave. S.; phone (239) 403-9463. Choose from a list that's suited to wine snobs and neophytes alike at all price points. Take your beer-drinking buddies; they'll be pleasantly surprised by the café's extensive list of microbrews. To complete the scene, select a fine cigar from the humidor, settle into a comfortable leather chair and puff away.

Bar Tulia, a gastropub at 462 5th Ave. S., serves wines from small wineries and craft beer; phone (289) 228-7606.

For a tropical experience, the Sunset Beach Bar & Grill at the Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club, 851 Gulf Shore Blvd. N., is a Naples tradition; phone (239) 261-2222. Unwind at this resort's awning-covered outdoor bar that sits on the edge of the Gulf of Mexico, sip on your tropical drink of choice and watch the sun slowly go down in a blaze of glory.

THE BAKER MUSEUM is at 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. Part of the Artis-Naples complex, the 30,000-square-foot museum houses permanent and temporary collections in 15 galleries. The permanent installations comprise modernist American paintings and drawings; modern Mexican art; sculpture; and two large chandeliers by artist Dale Chihuly.

Your experience begins at the striking 16-foot-tall bronze and steel front gates, crafted by artist Albert Paley. In the lobby a 35-foot-tall glass icicle chandelier by Dale Chihuly grabs your attention.

On the third floor, discover Chihuly's Persian Ceiling 2001, an exuberant piece bursting with a kaleidoscope of vivid colors. Light shines through more than 600 translucent glass pieces shaped like sea shells, flowers, jelly fish tentacles and other organic forms that cling to the ceiling,

kept in place by a sheet of glass. The piece measures about 50 feet long and 6 feet wide.

The American Modernism collection features paintings and drawings from 1912 to the 1950s. Artists from the New York School, also called abstract expressionism, a post-World War II art movement, are well-represented and include Oscar Bluemner and Alexander Calder. Several galleries also contain furniture from this period, including an Art Deco desk and living room pieces.

The Modern Mexican Masters collection includes vivid 20th-century paintings, drawings and sculpture by such artists as Diego Rivera and Rufino Tamayo.

Pieces from the permanent collection are rotated every season. The museum also has several changing exhibits in the Hayes Hall galleries. In addition, temporary exhibits take place throughout the season; past exhibitions have featured works by Edgar Degas, Louise Nevelson, Edward Weston and Frank Lloyd Wright. Educational programs, workshops, family events and lectures also are presented each season. Art After Hours offers performances by local musicians.

Note: Photography is not permitted. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 597-1900 or (800) 597-1900.

CONSERVANCY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA NATURE CENTER, 1495 Smith Preserve Way, features nature trails and daily programs. Of interest is the von Arx Wildlife Hospital, an active animal nursery with an outdoor exhibit and an indoor viewing window. The Dalton Discovery Center features a 5,000-gallon aquarium and hands-on displays including a touch tank where visitors can get an up-close look at native animals. The Little Explorer Play Zone offers an interactive environment for families. Visitors may take a 45-minute narrated electric boat tour on the Gordon River. Seasonal guided kayak tours also are available by advance reservation.

Special events, environmental lectures and programs and Cinema Saturdays are offered. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (239) 262-0304.

CORKSCREW SWAMP SANCTUARY, 375 Sanctuary Rd., is a 13,000-acre wilderness area and wildlife sanctuary of the National Audubon Society, with nearly 200 bird species in temporary or permanent residence. The sanctuary contains the largest known stand of virgin bald cypress, some more than 500 years old. Alligators, otters and white-tailed deer may be seen from the 2.25-mile boardwalk. Guided walks and educational programs are offered seasonally.

Pets are not permitted. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (239) 348-9151. GT T

DOUBLE R'S FISHING & TOUR CO. is at Port of the Islands Resort, 13.5 mi. e. of SR 951 (Collier Blvd.) on US 41 (Tamiami Tr.) to 25000 Tamiami Tr. E. Narrated 2.5-hour manatee ecotours by knowledgeable local guides traverse the waterways of the Florida Everglades in search of manatees, alligators, dolphins and tropical bird species. The area is home to one of the largest herds of manatee in South Florida. A 3-hour ecotour/shelling adventure includes a stop on White Horse Key. Time: Allow 2 hours, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (239) 642-9779.

EVERGLADES EXCURSIONS, departing from the downtown Experience Naples Visitor Center at 1010 6th Ave. S., offers full- and half-day excursions throughout the Everglades lead by eco-trained guides. Highlights include a narrated jungle cruise through Everglades National Park, a visit to Everglades City, an airboat ride through the Ten Thousand Islands and a tour of Big Cypress National Preserve that includes a stop at a private animal sanctuary. Lunch is provided on the full-day excursions.

Time: Allow 4 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 262-1914 or (800) 592-0848. **GT**

THE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA is at 4760 Tamiami Tr. N. More than 11 million people were victims of the Holocaust. The museum chronicles the history of the Holocaust and houses more than 1,000 artifacts including donated items such as armbands and attire worn by the prisoners, medical items, documents and photographs. World War II-era exhibits, including the history of a railway boxcar, are on display. Traveling exhibits and educational programs also are offered. An audio tour is available.

Note: Due to the sensitive nature of many of the photographs, it is advised that children under 12 be accompanied by an adult. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 263-9200.

THE NAPLES ART ASSOCIATION AT THE VON LIEBIG ART CENTER is at 585 Park St. This gallery and community art center hosts exhibitions of original art representing regional, national and internationally recognized artists. Programs include studio art classes, workshops, lectures, festivals and collecting opportunities. A resource library is available. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (239) 262-6517.

NAPLES ZOO AT CARIBBEAN GARDENS is at 1590 Goodlette-Frank Rd. Founded in 1919, the 44-acre zoo features a self-guiding trail that winds through a historic botanical garden populated by big cats, macaws, zebras, black bears, a Florida panther, red ruffed lemurs, honey

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badgers and other animals. South American wildlife include a giant anteater and cotton-top tamarins. An exhibit allows visitors to feed giraffes. Visitors can observe natural animal behavior complemented by wildlife footage and graphics during two feature presentations in the Safari Canyon Theater. Also scheduled are keeper talks, alligator feedings and Reptile Rendezvous presentations. A 20-minute boat cruise offers views of monkeys, brown and ring-tailed lemurs and gibbons roaming freely on island habitats.

Time: Allow 4 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 262-5409. $\boxed{\dagger}$

PALM COTTAGE is at 137 12th Ave. S. The 1895 house of tabby mortar construction is said to be Naples' oldest and features original antique furniture. Docent-led tours of the home provide insight into area history. Norris Gardens, adjacent to the cottage, has several themed areas, including sensory, edible and shade gardens. Palm Cottage is home to the Naples Historical Society. Guided walking tours of the Naples historic district also are available. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (239) 261-8164. GT

ROOKERY BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE, 300 Tower Rd., is in an area of mangrove islands that shelters rare birds and marine life. The Rookery

Bay Environmental Learning Center features interactive exhibits that highlight the plants and animals found in the 110,000-acre reserve as well as an aquarium, a touch tank with indigenous marine animals, naturalist-led daily programs, an art gallery and a butterfly garden. An observation bridge and nature trail also are on the grounds. Science Saturdays programs are held monthly. Special events are offered; guided walks and kayak and boat tours are offered seasonally.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (239) 530-5940, or (239) 530-5972 for boat tours. **GT**

SEE MANATEES GUARANTEED is 15 mi. e. of SR 951 on US 41 to 525 Newport Dr. at the Port of the Islands marina. Guided 90-minute trips aboard a six-passenger covered boat offer close-up glimpses of submerged and surfacing manatees as well as sightings of alligators and birds. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (239) 642-8818. GT

SEGWAY TOURS OF NAPLES, 1010 6th Ave. S., offers narrated sightseeing tours of downtown Naples on two-wheeled Segway transportation devices. Participants are equipped with a state-of-the-art earphone system. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 262-1443 or (800) 592-0848. **GT**



AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT NAPLES 5TH AVE BOOK NOW 239/944-3755



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

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 455 12th St S 34102.



BAYFRONT INN 5TH AVE BOOK NOW 239/649-5800



Boutique Hotel. Address: 1221 5th Ave S 34102.

BELLASERA HOTEL BOOK NOW 239/649-7333

Resort Condominium. Address: 221 9th St S 34102.





BEST WESTERN NAPLES PLAZA HOTEL BOOK NOW 239/643-6655



Hotel. Address: 6400 Dudley Dr 34105. Facility: 240 units, some efficiencies and kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























Boutique Hotel. Address: 955 7th Ave S 34102.



COMPASS BY MARGARITAVILLE HOTEL BOOK NOW 239/659-3500





Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4805 Tamiami Tr N 34103.



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/434-8700



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

Hotel. Address: 3250 US 41 N 34103. Facility: 102 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.































239/262-7161



Condominium. Address: 900 Broad Ave S 34102.



DOUBLETREE SUITES BY HILTON NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/593-8733



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

SAVE Contemporary Hotel. Address: 12200 Tamiami Tr N 34110.



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FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/530-3355

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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3808 White Lake Blvd 34117.

GREENLINKS GOLF VILLAS AT LELY RESORT BOOK NOW 239/732-9920



Vacation Rental Hotel. Address: 7995 Mahogany Run Ln 34113. Facility: In a quiet residential community, this property features two- and three-bedroom units with full kitchens and laundry facilities, living and dining space, plus a private screened patio with seating. 38 kitchen units, some two and three bedrooms. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, trails, exercise room. Guest Services: complimentary laundry, boarding pass kiosk.















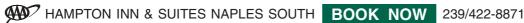














AAA Benefit: Members save up to 10% and earn Honors points when booking AAA/CAA rates!

SAVE Hotel, Address: 5146 Tamiami Tr 34113.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON NAPLES CENTRAL BOOK NOW 239/261-8000



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 3210 Tamiami Tr N 34103.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON NAPLES I-75 BOOK NOW 239/596-1299

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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2630 Northbrooke Plaza Dr 34119.



HAWTHORN SUITES BY WYNDHAM NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/593-1300

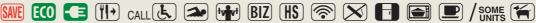


Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 3557 Pine Ridge Rd 34109. Facility: 84 units, some two bedrooms and efficiencies. 3 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.































HILTON NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/430-4900





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

Hotel. Address: 5111 Tamiami Tr N 34103. Facility: Rooms at this centrally-located option offer beds with plush linens, as well as 55" flat screen TVs. The relaxed, inviting pool area features cascading waterfalls

and a secluded hot tub. 199 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, health club. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.































HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES-NAPLES DOWNTOWN 5TH

AVENUE BOOK NOW 239/261-3500



Hotel. Address: 1785 5th Ave S 34102. Facility: 124 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON NAPLES/I-75 PINE RIDGE ROAD BOOK NOW 239/598-2222



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

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 3865 Kramer Dr 34109.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

HYATT HOUSE NAPLES/5TH AVENUE BOOK NOW 239/775-1000



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

► 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 Hvatt membership!

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1345 5th Ave S 34102. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 183 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, boat dock, fishing, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































INN AT PELICAN BAY BOOK NOW 239/597-8777



Boutique Hotel. Address: 800 Vanderbilt Beach Rd 34108. Facility: Just a short drive to the beach, this quaint hotel offers charming style and accommodating staff. Most rooms feature furnished balconies and unique photography on the walls from a local artist. 100 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



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INN OF NAPLES, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY HILTON BOOK NOW 239/649-5500



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4055 Tamiami Tr N 34103.



THE INN ON FIFTH AND CLUB LEVEL SUITES BOOK NOW 239/403-8777



Boutique Hotel. Address: 609 5th Ave S 34102. Facility: This property offers two upscale experiences. Inn on Fifth rooms include luxury bedding and bathrooms. They also have direct access to the exercise room, as well as the primary pool and bar area. 119 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, exercise room, spa. **Guest Services:** valet laundry, area transportation.



CALL (BIZ

LAPLAYA BEACH & GOLF RESORT BOOK NOW 239/597-3123



Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 9891 Gulf Shore Dr 34108. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Set on the Gulf of Mexico, this upscale hotel's rooms are comfortable & spacious with fully furnished balconies. The bathrooms offer a spa-like experience and upgraded amenities. 189 units. 3-15 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site, motor boats, self-propelled boats, regulation golf, recreation programs in season, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.



























NAPLES BAY RESORT & MARINA

BOOK NOW 239/530-1199



Resort Hotel. Address: 1500 5th Ave S 34102. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This upscale resort complex boasts a Tuscan influence and a slew of recreational amenities. Each room's furnished balcony offers serene views of the marina and Naples Bay. 85 units, some two bedrooms and kitchens. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 4 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, marina, tennis, recreation programs in season, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.

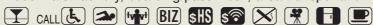






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NAPLES GRANDE BEACH RESORT BOOK NOW 239/597-3232



Resort Hotel. Address: 475 Seagate Dr 34103. Facility: Located along 23 acres of Clam Bay, this sprawling resort offers a plethora of activities. Most of the furnished balconies in the main tower offer a partial view of the sandy beaches of the Gulf Coast. 474 units. 18 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, cabanas, self-propelled boats, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.



































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INSPECTED @ CLEAN

RED ROOF PLUS+ & SUITES NAPLES DOWNTOWN-5TH AVE S

BOOK NOW

239/774-3117

Motel. Address: 1925 Davis Blvd 34104.



THE RITZ-CARLTON, NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/598-3300





FIVE DIAMOND

INSPECTED @ CLEAN



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

THE RITZ-CARLTON

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 280 Vanderbilt Beach Rd 34108. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: This beachfront resort offers

contemporary elegance alongside luxurious amenities. The bright guest rooms offer large bathrooms and furnished balconies, many with views of the Gulf of Mexico. 474 units, some two bedrooms. 3-14 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants, also, The Grill, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, motor boats, self-propelled boats, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, game room, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





































THE RITZ-CARLTON, NAPLES TIBURON BOOK NOW 239/593-2000









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

THE RITZ - CARLTON

Resort Hotel. Address: 2600 Tiburon Dr 34109. Facility: As the name would imply, many flock to this resort to enjoy the world-class golf course that surrounds the hotel. Rooms are spacious all featuring a furnished balcony or patio area. 295 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, steamroom, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, playground, lawn sports, trails, health club, massage. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.































SOME (



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/352-2234



THREE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN

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

SAVE Hotel, Address: 3798 White Lake Blvd 34117.

STAYBRIDGE SUITES NAPLES MARCO ISLAND **BOOK NOW** 239/774-1200

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 9401 Triangle Blvd 34113.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT NAPLES BOOK NOW 239/213-3334



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 5425 Juliet Blvd 34109.

WHERE TO EAT



THE GRILL 239/598-6644



Steak Seafood Fine Dining. Address: 280 Vanderbilt Beach Rd 34108.

NORTH BAY VILLAGE

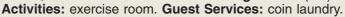
- Hotels p. 191
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



NORTH BAY INN MIAMI BOOK NOW 305/865-7100

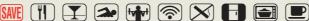


Hotel. Address: 1819 79th St Cswy 33141. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 118 units. 3-5 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor.





















NORTH MIAMI

- Hotels p. 191
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



BEST WESTERN PLUS WINDSOR INN

BOOK NOW 305/891-7350



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 12210 Biscayne Blvd 33181. Location: Located in a commercial area. Facility: 96 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





















PALM BEACH

• Hotels p. 192 • Restaurants p. 193

In 1878 the Spanish ship *Providencia*, bound from the West Indies to Spain, went aground at Palm Beach, spilling its cargo of coconuts along the sandy, barrier island. When Henry Flagler visited the area in the early 1890s, he found a small community of settlers amid a growth of coconut palms. Recognizing the potential of South Florida, he chose Palm Beach (also see West Palm Beach p. 211) for the site of his next luxury hotel and laid out a fashionable resort that has retained the guiet charm and tropical beauty of his original vision.

Polo tournaments are held January through April at International Polo Club Palm Beach, 3667 120th Ave. S. in Wellington; phone (561) 204-5687.

A scenic portion of SR A1A meanders along the ocean as it extends from Palm Beach south to Fort Lauderdale, a drive of 47 miles.

Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce: 400 Royal Palm Way, Suite 106, Palm Beach, FL 33480. Phone: (561) 655-3282.

Shopping: Shops such as Escada and Gucci line treeshaded Worth Avenue

FLAGLER MUSEUM is at Cocoanut Row and Whitehall Way. Original and period furnishings and Flagler family memorabilia grace Whitehall, the opulent 1902 Gilded Age mansion that Standard Oil founding partner and railroad magnate Henry Flagler built for his bride. With more than 75 rooms, the home was hailed as "grander and more magnificent than any other private dwelling in the world." Restored and opened as a museum in 1960, the mansion's highlights include the marble Grand Hall, a Louis XIV-style music room and a Louis XVstyle Grand Ballroom. The museum also features changing exhibits and special programs. Visitors can see Flagler's private railroad car in the Flagler Kenan Pavilion, a Beaux Arts-style railway palace.

Narrated audio tours and self-guiding brochures in English, Spanish, French, German and Portuguese are available. Food is available seasonally. Backpacks and strollers are not permitted. Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (561) 655-2833. GT

SOCIETY OF THE FOUR ARTS. Four Arts Plaza just off Royal Palm Way, comprises two libraries, an art gallery, auditorium, administration building, education center and sculpture and botanical gardens. Lectures by authors and noted speakers are presented November through April. Also offered are concerts, films, educational programs, art telecasts and art exhibits. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (561) 655-7227.

THE BRAZILIAN COURT BOOK NOW 561/655-7740



Historic Boutique Hotel. Address: 301 Australian Ave 33480. Facility: Opened in 1926, this distinctive getaway maintains an historic ambience while offering modern luxuries. Rooms are accented by original wood moldings and richly colored velvet-draped beds. 80 units, some two and three bedrooms. 3 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: Cafe Boulud, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

























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THE BREAKERS, PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/655-6611



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Classic Historic Resort Hotel. Address: One S County Rd 33480. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Originally built in 1896 by Henry Flagler, you'll find intricate moldings and murals along the public area ceilings and walls. Guest room size varies, but all offer sumptuous bedding. 534 units. 6-8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 5 restaurants, entertainment. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, snorkeling, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, playground, game room, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.



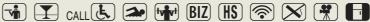




























FOUR SEASONS RESORT PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/582-2800



Resort Hotel. Address: 2800 S Ocean Blvd 33480. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Located along a quiet section of beach, your luxurious room's private balcony or patio overlooks enticing pools, splendid ocean views and a private beach. 207 units, some two bedrooms. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, tennis, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, game room, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.































PALM BEACH HISTORIC INN BOOK NOW 561/832-4009



INSPECTED 🔗 CLEAN

Historic Bed & Breakfast. Address: 365 S County Rd 33480.

THE VINETA HOTEL PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/659-5800

 $[\mathbf{fyi}]$ Historic Boutique Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Four Diamond. Address: 363 Cocoanut Row 33480.

WHERE TO EAT



CAFE BOULUD 561/655-6060

FOUR DIAMOND

French Fine Dining. Address: 301 Australian Ave 33480.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

194 PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL

PALM BEACH GARDENS

Hotels p. 194

Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce: 5520 PGA Blvd., Suite 200, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418. Phone: (561) 746-7111.



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON PALM BEACH GARDENS BOOK NOW 561/625-8880



Hampton)

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

Hotel. Address: 4001 RCA Blvd 33410. Facility: 116 units, some kitchens. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor.

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





























HILTON GARDEN INN PALM BEACH GARDENS BOOK NOW 561/694-5833





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

Hotel. Address: 3505 Kyoto Gardens Dr 33410. Facility: 180 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

































HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON PALM BEACH GARDENS BOOK NOW 561/622-7799

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

Extended Stay Hotel. **Address:** 4700 Donald Ross Rd 33418. **Facility:** 94 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes, Pool: heated outdoor, Activities: exercise room, Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



INSPECTED @ CLEAN































MARRIOTT PALM BEACH GARDENS BOOK NOW 561/622-8888





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

Contemporary Hotel, Address: 4000 RCA Blvd 33410. Facility: 282 units. MARRIOTT 11 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.

























THREE DIAMOND

PGA NATIONAL RESORT BOOK NOW 561/627-2000



Resort Hotel. Address: 400 Avenue of the Champions 33418. Location: Waterfront. Facility: This posh hotel offers rooms decorated in a coastal mid-century modern style, featuring velvet seating and furnished balconies or patios throughout. 339 units, some cottages. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, cabanas, regulation golf, tennis, kids club, playground, game room, lawn sports, trails, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT PALM BEACH GARDENS

BOOK NOW

561/629-9001



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

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 4250 Design Center Dr 33410.

PEMBROKE PINES

- Hotels p. 195
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63



HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FT LAUDERDALE WEST/PEMBROKE

PINES





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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1900 NW 150th Ave 33028.

196 PLANTATION, FL

PLANTATION

- Hotels p. 196
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

Recreation facilities and tree-lined residential neighborhoods distinguish this community, which can be found in the center of Broward County. Its location has attracted a

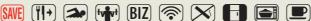
number of national businesses, including American Express and Motorola. It has appeal for the silver screen as well; Plantation City Hall (400 N.W. 73rd Ave.) appeared—uncredited—in "There's Something About Mary" while Grande Oaks, a private golf club, was shown during the "Caddyshack" pool scene.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES PLANTATION BOOK NOW 954/472-5600





Hotel. Address: 1701 N University Dr 33322. Facility: 156 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.





















BOOK NOW

954/472-2252



RENAISSANCE®

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

Hotel. Address: 1230 S Pine Island Rd 33324. Facility: 250 units. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

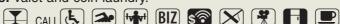
Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























SONESTA ES SUITES FORT LAUDERDALE PLANTATION

BOOK NOW

954/577-9696



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 410 N Pine Island Rd 33324. Facility: 141 units, some two bedrooms and efficiencies. 4 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.































POMPANO BEACH

- Hotels p. 197
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

Settled in 1880 and named for a local fish, Pompano Beach is known for its abundant sunshine and variety of recreational opportunities. Tourism became the city's focus in the 1920s after the Dixie Highway was completed. Warmed by the Gulf Stream, Pompano Beach is a popular resort. The city has approximately 50 parks, many of which offer tennis, softball, fishing and swimming. Shipwreck Park, an underwater artificial reef with rotating art exhibits, is a popular dive site.

In December one of the longest-running holiday boat parades in the nation delights thousands of spectators along the shores of the Intracoastal Waterway. Dozens of illuminated yachts and smaller boats compete for prizes in several categories during the Greater Pompano Beach Holiday Boat Parade.

Horse racing takes place at Isle Casino Racing Pompano Park, west of I-95 on Powerline Road (Race Track Road/S.W. 3rd St.), early October through late May or early June; phone (954) 972-2000.

Note: Policies vary concerning admittance of children to pari-mutuel betting facilities. Phone for information.

Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce: 2200 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33062. **Phone:** (954) 941-2940 or (888) 939-5711.

Shopping: Pompano Citi Centre, 1 Pompano Sq. at the corner of Federal Highway and Copans Road, counts JC-Penney, Lowe's and Ross among its retailers. Festival Flea Market Mall, 2900 W. Sample Rd., offers a farmers market and more than 300 vendors selling bargains daily.





Resort Hotel. Address: 1200 S Ocean Blvd 33062. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Located along the Atlantic Ocean, this hotel is perfect for a beach getaway. Room sizes vary from spacious, traditional hotel rooms to bungalows with even more room for the whole family! 135 units, some two bedrooms. 1-8 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee) and valet. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: outdoor, heated outdoor. Activities: beach on-site.























FORT LAUDERDALE MARRIOTT POMPANO BEACH RESORT &

BOOK NOW 954/782-0100



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

SAVE Resort Hotel. Address: 1200 N Ocean Blvd 33062.



AAA Diamonds are now Inspected Clean:

AAA.com/diamonds





HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FORT LAUDERDALE/POMPANO

BOOK NOW 954/623-9000





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

Hotel. Address: 900 S Federal Hwy 33062. Facility: 102 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.

























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE POMPANO BEACH

CENTRAL

BOOK NOW 954/784-9003



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2880 Center Port Cir 33064.

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE/POMPANO BEACH

OCEANFRONT

BOOK NOW 954/590-1000



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1350 N Ocean Blvd 33062.



TRU BY HILTON POMPANO BEACH PIER BOOK NOW

954/943-4711





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 200 N Ocean Blvd 33062. Facility: 60 units. 2-5 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, game room, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























PORT CHARLOTTE

Hotels p. 199



COMFORT INN & SUITES BOOK NOW 941/979-4200





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

Hotel. Address: 812 Kings Hwy 33980. Facility: 81 units. 3 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, picnic facilities, exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.























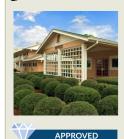


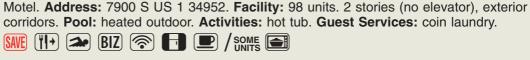


PORT ST. LUCIE

Hotels p. 199

BOOK NOW 772/878-7600







HAMPTON INN & SUITES PORT ST. LUCIE WEST BOOK NOW 772/878-5900



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 155 SW Peacock Blvd 34986.



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RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT PORT ST. LUCIE BOOK NOW 772/344-7814

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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 1920 SW Fountainview Blvd 34986.

SHERATON PGA VACATION RESORT, PORT ST. LUCIE BOOK NOW 772/460-5700



THREE DIAMOND

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

Vacation Rental Hotel. Address: 8702 Champions Way 34986. Facility: About 20 minutes from the beach, this small property offers an attractive

pool area and overlooks a golf course. Each room includes a kitchen and dining space, as well as a stacked washer and dryer. 42 kitchen units, some two bedrooms. 3 stories, exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, playground, lawn sports, picnic facilities, trails. Guest Services: complimentary laundry. SAVE CALL ()



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT PORT ST. LUCIE

BOOK NOW

772/871-2929



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2000 NW Courtyard Cir 34986.



TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT PORT ST LUCIE I-95

BOOK NOW



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

[SAVE] Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 10460 SW Village Pkwy 34987.



TRU BY HILTON PORT ST. LUCIE TRADITION BOOK NOW 772/837-9810



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

SAVE) Hotel. Address: 11560 SW Village Pkwy 34987.

PUNTA GORDA

• Hotels p. 201

Punta Gorda, the county seat, is Charlotte County's only incorporated community. The old city dock, on the banks of the Peace River, has been transformed into Fishermen's Village, a marina and shopping complex. Across the street, the Visual Arts Center houses several galleries and features revolving exhibits. The area offers cruises, boat rentals and fishing charters.

Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

A local organization that assists orphaned or injured animals is the Peace River Wildlife Center in Ponce de Leon Park, which attempts to rehabilitate and release native wildlife to their natural habitats; phone (941) 637-3830.

Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce: 311 W. Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. Phone: (941) 639-2222.

MILITARY HERITAGE MUSEUM is at 1200 W. Retta Esplanade in Fishermen's Village. Exhibits feature more than 30,000 artifacts chronicling military history from the Civil War to current conflicts. Time: Allow 30 minutes minimum. Phone: (941) 575-9002.

⁷ HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES, PUNTA GORDA

BOOK NOW 941/205-8002

INSPECTED @ CLEAN

Hotel. Address: 9075 Mac Dr 33950.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT PUNTA GORDA

HARBORSIDE

BOOK NOW

941/347-4224



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 101 Harborside Ave 33950.

WYVERN HOTEL BOOK NOW 941/639-7700

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

Boutique Hotel. Address: 101 E Retta Esplanade 33950. Facility: A short walk from the marina, waterfront and downtown, this hotel's upper floor rooms feature beautiful views. All are spacious with lots of seating options and pillow top mattresses. 63 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Guest Services: valet laundry. Affiliated with Ascend Hotel Collection Member.





















RIVIERA BEACH

• Hotels p. 202

The harbor city remains a popular destination for recreational activities, including boating and diving. In fact, Blue Heron Bridge, accessible from Phil Foster Park, 900 Blue Heron Blvd., on the Intracoastal Waterway, is a world-class dive site; sea horses, lobsters, pipefish and other marine life can be seen in the Lake Worth Inlet, a large estuary, especially around high tide.

RAPIDS WATER PARK is at 6566 N. Military Tr. The 35acre park features a lazy river, wave pool and 42 rides and slides. Thrill rides include the six-lane Rapids Racer, Brain Drain and the Black Thunder rafting experience. Note: Restrictions apply to clothing and items that may be carried in; phone ahead for specific details. Inquire about height and weight restrictions for certain rides as well as weather policies. Phone: (561) 848-6272.

Learn about the AAA School Safety Patrol® program at AAA.com/safety

PALM BEACH MARRIOTT SINGER ISLAND BEACH RESORT &

BOOK NOW 561/340-1700



INSPECTED @ CLEAN



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

Resort Hotel. Address: 3800 N Ocean Dr 33404. Location: Oceanfront. MARRIOTT Facility: Secluded on exclusive Singer Island, this resort offers large condo-style units that all feature kitchens with stainless steel appliances, a furnished balcony and luxurious bedding. 180 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and

kitchens. 4-21 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, self-propelled boats, snorkeling, recreation programs, kids club, bicycles, health club, spa. Guest Services: complimentary and valet laundry.

























THE SINGER OCEANFRONT RESORT, CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON BOOK NOW

561/848-3888

[fyi] Hotel. Under major renovation, call for details. Last Designation: Three Diamond. Address: 3700 N Ocean Dr 33404.

SANIBEL

Hotels p. 204

The sign at the entrance of the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce, 1159 Causeway Rd., welcomes all visitors with the greeting "Please wipe snow off shoes before entering." Many of Sanibel's visitors hail from the northern states, trading in their snow boots for flip-flops and taking full advantage of the sea- and sandinspired activities on Sanibel Island.

For such a small island, it's hard to believe the sheer abundance of nature's gifts, including lush tropical vegetation, miles of beaches and hundreds of bird varieties. However, these are all outnumbered by the countless seashells swept ashore by each tide due to the east-west orientation of the island, earning Sanibel Island its welldeserved reputation as one of the best places in the world to find seashells.

The island's reputation as a place with extraordinary quantities of seashells dates back to 1513, when Ponce de León discovered Florida's southwest coast and christened it Costa de Caracoles, or "Coast of Seashells." There are several stories that explain how Sanibel got its name, but the most romantic version holds that pirate José Gaspar was so charmed by this lovely isle that he named it after Santa Isabella, a beautiful Spanish gueen.

Sanibel attracts thousands of visitors each year with an assortment of outdoor sports including shelling, fishing,

canoeing, boating, kayaking and bicycling. In fact, bicycling is a favorite mode of transportation, due in part to the wide paved paths that run parallel to many roads. Moped and bicycle rentals are widely available and some hotels may provide bicycles as a courtesy.

Searching for seashells by the seashore, or shelling, is an immensely popular "sport" in Sanibel. More than 250 species may be found, but even if you only spend an hour or two doing the "Sanibel stoop," you can bet on scooping up several varieties. You'll find the best shells early in the morning in winter months. Make sure that the shells don't have any living creatures inside, though; it's illegal to remove those from the beach. Put on your clam-diggers and try your luck at Bowman's Beach, off Sanibel-Captiva Rd.; Gulfside City Park, on Algiers Lane; Lighthouse Park Beach, 1 Periwinkle Way; or Tarpon Bay Road Beach, on Tarpon Bay Road.

The Sanibel Shell Festival, held in March, showcases nature's seashore gems. This event features arts and crafts, food, entertainment, educational presentations and a shell tent where shells from near and far can be purchased. A juried show includes art and science exhibits submitted by competitors from around the world.

Public beach parking is \$4 per hour and is in short supply on Sanibel Island; regulations are strictly enforced. For information about designated parking areas contact the Sanibel & Captiva Islands Visitor Center. Access to

the island is by a toll causeway (\$6 access, free egress) from Punta Rassa. A bridge crosses over Blind Pass, connecting Sanibel Island with Captiva Island (see Captiva p. 36). There are no traffic lights on the island, only stop signs, and it is an unwritten rule as well as common courtesy that drivers must stop for pedestrians crossing the roads.

Note: Repairs due to the effects of Hurricane Ian may be taking place; phone ahead for updates.

Sanibel & Captiva Islands Chamber of Commerce: 1159 Causeway Rd., Sanibel, FL 33957. Phone: (239) 472-1080.

Shopping: Looking for somewhere to spend some clams? Sanibel offers an array of quaint island shops for your perusal. Cruise Periwinkle Way, Sanibel's main thoroughfare and check out these shops.

If you haven't had a chance to scoop up sea shells from the infinite amount that washes up on Sanibel's shores, and you don't mind shelling out a little extra cash, go to She Sells Sea Shells. Owner Ann Joffe creates intricate flowers, glittery Christmas ornaments and colorful collages from seashells and sells them at two locations on Sanibel Island (1157 Periwinkle Way and 2422 Periwinkle Way) along with bunches of perfect seashells from conchs to rare junonias. Phone (239) 472-6991 and (239) 472-8080, respectively.

Periwinkle Place, 2075 Periwinkle Way, is Sanibel's largest shopping center, with more than 20 shops connected by covered boardwalks, so you're never in direct sun while you're shop-hopping. Highlights include the first Chico's, now a national chain for women's apparel; Everything But Water, whose inventory includes literally thousands of bathing suits including La Blanca and Trina Turk in sizes up to 30; Congress Jewelers, for those who would rather be dripping in diamonds than dripping with salty gulf water; and Toys Ahoy, packed to the rafters with fun and games for kids. Take a respite from your spending spree at the Blue Giraffe, a casual café, and munch on a cool salad or seafood dish accompanied by a glass of chilled chardonnay.

Tahitian Gardens, 1975-2019 Periwinkle Way, features shops with whimsical names, including Needful Things, where girls can find must-haves including Hello Kitty merchandise, costume jewelry and kitschy gifts; C. Turtles & Co., where 20-somethings can pick up the latest from Michael Stars, Citizens of Humanity, Splendid Tees and J Brand Jeans; and Shiny Objects, featuring handmade glass jewelry as well as sterling silver, opals and cubic zirconia, by artist and glassblower Jason Thiemann.

Eileen Fisher, well-known for her drapey, flattering designs, has a shop at 2055 Periwinkle Way; her casually

elegant bridge brand fits in well with the Sanibel way of life. Phone (239) 472-4655.

BAILEY-MATTHEWS NATIONAL SHELL MU-SEUM & AQUARIUM, 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Rd., will pique the interest of shell aficionados as well as those who want to know a little more about the subject than just their natural beauty.

Inspect the museum's collection of more than 30 educational and visually stimulating exhibits and learn fascinating facts about the roles of shells in architecture, history, medicine and religion as well as the biology of mollusks, living creatures that create the shells.

Feast your eyes on shell species from around the world, including such varieties as lightning whelk, crown conch (pronounced conk) and Humphrey wentletrap, typically found on area beaches. A 6-foot-round globe holds shells from the Pacific Northwest, New England, Japan and Saudi Arabia. World Record-Size Shells are also on exhibit. Other displays showcase shell habitats, rare specimens and shell fossils from southwest Florida.

A life-sized diorama with models of a Calusa father and son demonstrates how Calusa Indians, the area's original inhabitants, used shells as tools for fishing and as anvils and hammers hundreds of years ago. Check out the scallop exhibit and examine the wide range of shell colors and patterns. An exhibit about edible mollusks examines how various countries use them in local dishes and offers recipe ideas.

Spin the shell classification wheel to identify the sea shells you've collected. Mollusks in Action, an amusing 30-minute video depicting live mollusks, plays on the hour in the auditorium; Trails & Tales of Living Seashells, a 30-minute video featuring sea creatures that leave trails in the sand, plays on the half-hour.

See how sea shells have been used to create crafts and artwork, including cameos and the sailors' valentine. The sailors' valentine was created in the early 1800s by Caribbean women who artfully arranged shells in works featuring loving sentiments; in turn, the pieces were purchased by visiting New England whalers as gifts for their sweethearts back home.

Children will have a blast in the children's learning lab, featuring hands-on play areas, shell games, displays, a touch tank with live mollusks and a children's video. Visitors can attend weekly and monthly programs and lectures. Guided beach walks also are offered.

Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (239) 395-2233 or (888) 679-6450. **GT**

CLINIC FOR THE REHABILITATION OF WILDLIFE, at 3883 Sanibel Captiva Rd., features a visitor education

204 SANIBEL — SINGER ISLAND, FL

center and teaching hospital. Visitors can watch recovering patients via "critter cams" and learn what it takes to be a wildlife veterinarian from exhibits such as Peek at a Pelican and Radiographs. Live animals are on display in the invasive species exhibit. The clinic cares for more than 3,500 annually. Presentations as well as Wildlife Walks take place year-round. Lunch & Learn with CROW's hospital director and a speaker series are available seasonally.

Phone: (239) 472-3644.

EVERGLADES DAY SAFARI—see Fort Myers p. 90.

J.N. "DING" DARLING NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, 1 Wildlife Dr., is named for the editorial cartoonist and pioneer conservationist. The refuge encompasses more than 6,400 acres of estuary, wetlands and mangrove islands and uplands. Amenities include canoe trails, a birdwatching tower, a self-guiding wildlife drive, interpretive trails, a double-decked boardwalk and a boat ramp. A list of more than 245 bird species that can be viewed and exhibits about manatees and crocodilians are available at the "Ding" Darling Visitor and Education Center at the refuge entrance. Educational programs are offered. A tram tour of Wildlife Drive operates Saturday through Thursday. Kayak, paddleboard and boat tours and bicycle rentals also are available.

Phone: (239) 472-1100, or (239) 472-8900 for tram tour information. **GT ★**

Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF), 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Rd., has four miles of walking trails, a butterfly house, freshwater and saltwater aquariums,

reptiles and nature center exhibits. Educational programs and guided tours are offered. **Phone:** (239) 472-2329. **GT**

Take the Tram Wildlife Drive departs from the main entrance at 1 Wildlife Dr. within J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Island history, folklore, archeology and wildlife are highlighted during 90-minute, narrated tram tours. The tram follows the refuge driving tour path and makes various stops to allow ample viewing of mangroves and wildlife. **Note:** Due to the ongoing effects of Hurricane lan, the tram is closed; phone ahead for updates. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (239) 472-1351 or (239) 472-8900. **GT**

Tarpon Bay Explorers Nature and Sea Life Cruise departs from the foot of Tarpon Bay Rd. within J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Ninety-minute programs include a 1-hour boat tour of Tarpon Bay with opportunities for viewing pelicans, herons, dolphins and manatees as well as a 30-minute interactive presentation by marine biologists at touch tanks filled with sea horses, sea stars, puffer fish and other marine life. Breakfast and sunset cruises as well as kayak and paddleboard tours also are available.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. Phone: (239) 472-8900.

SANIBEL HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND VILLAGE, 950 Dunlop Rd., exhibits local artifacts and memorabilia in a 1913 Florida Cracker house. Authentically restored original buildings and exhibits trace the history of Sanibel from its pioneer days through the 1940s. Nine cottages and buildings are on the site. A 1926 Model T pickup truck is displayed. **Phone:** (239) 472-4648. GT

SANIBEL SIESTA ON THE BEACH BOOK NOW 239/472-4117

fyi Vacation Rental Condominium. Under major renovation, call for details. **Last Designation:** Approved. **Address:** 1246 Fulgur St 33957.

SUNDIAL BEACH RESORT & SPA BOOK NOW 239/472-4151

fyi Vacation Rental Condominium. Under major renovation, call for details. **Last Designation:** Three Diamond. **Address:** 1451 Middle Gulf Dr 33957.

SINGER ISLAND

Known for its wide beaches and proximity to the Gulf Stream a mile away, Singer Island was owned in the 1920s by Paris Singer, son of the sewing machine magnate. He planned to develop the island as Palm Beach had been, but it became the property of one of Singer's ex-wives, who did not appreciate its potential. The island now supports a resort community.

JOHN D. MACARTHUR BEACH STATE PARK is 1.75 mi. s. of jct. US 1, SR A1A and SR 786 or 3 mi. n. of jct. US 1, SR A1A and SR 708 at 10900 Jack Nicklaus Dr.

Sandwiched between the Atlantic Ocean and Lake Worth, the park protects a diverse and undisturbed subtropical coastal habitat with seven species of plants and 22 endangered or threatened animal species. The area is widely known as a nesting ground for loggerhead, leatherback and green sea turtles. Rangers and volunteers conduct daily nature walks and seasonal sea turtle education and nesting observations, birding programs, kayak tours and other seasonal programs. A nature center has interpretive exhibits, sea turtle tanks and four aquariums. See Recreation Areas Chart.

Time: Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. **Phone:** (561) 624-6950. **GT** 🔀 🚰 开

STUART

Hotels p. 205

Stuart is known by boating enthusiasts as the eastern terminus of the Okeechobee Waterway, which crosses the state to the Gulf of Mexico. Fishing is excellent in nearby Indian River as well as in the Gulf Stream about 10 miles offshore, where larger species, especially sailfish, are caught.

Florida Oceanographic Coastal Center, 890 N.E. Ocean Blvd. on Hutchinson Island, offers a 57-acre site with aguariums, touch tanks, daily programs, a nature trail and educational exhibits about marine life; phone (772) 225-0505.

Stuart/Martin County Chamber of Commerce: 1650 S. Kanner Hwy., Stuart, FL 34994. Phone: (772) 287-1088.

ELLIOTT MUSEUM is on Hutchinson Island, 4.5 mi. n.e. of US 1 at 825 N.E. Ocean Blvd. The museum honors prolific inventor, civil rights champion and social activist Sterling Elliott. Featured are exhibits of Elliott inventions, more than 80 vintage cars, baseball memorabilia and local history. An art gallery hosts changing art and maritime history exhibits year-round. Time: Allow 1 hour minimum. Phone: (772) 225-1961. GT

BEST WESTERN DOWNTOWN STUART BOOK NOW 772/287-6200



Hotel. Address: 1209 SE Federal Hwy 34994. Facility: 119 units. 2 stories (no elevator), exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























THREE DIAMOND

COMFORT SUITES STUART/HUTCHINSON ISLAND BOOK NOW 772/888-2424





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

Hotel. Address: 3423 SE Federal Hwy 34997. Facility: 94 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-STUART BOOK NOW 772/781-3344



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

Hotel. Address: 7615 SW Lost River Rd 34997. Facility: 120 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























HAMPTON INN BY HILTON STUART NORTH BOOK NOW 772/692-6922



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1150 NW Federal Hwy 34994.



HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON STUART BOOK NOW 772/208-5858



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

SAVE Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 1440 NW Federal Hwy 34994.

MARRIOTT HUTCHINSON ISLAND BEACH RESORT, GOLF &

BOOK NOW 772/225-3700





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

Contemporary Resort Hotel. Address: 555 NE Ocean Blvd 34996. Facility: MARRIOTT Spread out over 200 acres of lushly landscaped grounds, this family-friendly resort offers spacious rooms which all feature a furnished balcony. 274

units, some condominiums. 4 stories, interior/exterior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 3 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub. marina, regulation golf, tennis, recreation programs, bicycles, lawn sports, health club. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk, area transportation.





























SUGARLOAF KEY

• Part of The Florida Keys area— see map p. 60

Sugarloaf Key gained its name from the sugarloaf pineapples once grown in the area. Just north of US 1 at the airport entrance is Bat Tower, an island landmark and a monument to a futile attempt to manipulate nature. Built in 1929 by fishing resort owner R.C. Perky, the tower was to become home to a colony of bats intended to feed on the resident mosquito population; once the bats were released they flew away, and the mosquitoes remained.

SUNNY ISLES BEACH

- Hotels p. 207
 Restaurants p. 207
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133



ACQUALINA RESORT AND RESIDENCES ON THE BEACH BOOK NOW 305/918-8000



Resort Hotel. Address: 17875 Collins Ave 33160. Location: Oceanfront. Facility: Unrivaled luxury and sophistication set this oceanfront hotel apart! Rooms are spacious with comfortably furnished balconies, marble bathroom accents and satiny bedding with a variety of pillows. 98 units, some two bedrooms, three bedrooms and kitchens. 5-28 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants, also, Il Mulino New York, see separate listing. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: sauna, hot tub, steamroom, beach on-site, cabanas, recreation programs, kids club, lawn sports, health club, spa. Guest Services: valet laundry.

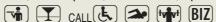






















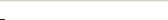












DOUBLETREE RESORT BY HILTON OCEAN POINT RESORT BOOK NOW

786/528-2500



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

SAVE Condominium. Address: 17375 Collins Ave 33160.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI SUNNY ISLES BEACH BOOK NOW 305/933-5224



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

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 17700 Collins Ave 33160. Facility: 194 efficiencies. 18 stories, interior corridors. Bath: shower only. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry, boarding pass kiosk.





























WHERE TO EAT



7 IL MULINO NEW YORK 305/466-9191

Regional Italian Fine Dining. Address: 17875 Collins Ave 33160.



Please refer to pages 10-11 for Inspected Clean details.

208 SUNRISE — SURFSIDE, FL

SUNRISE

- Hotels p. 208
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

Shopping: If you enjoy shopping for deals, a visit to Sawgrass Mills won't disappoint. This large outlet mall at W. Sunrise Boulevard and Flamingo Road features more than 350 name-brand outlets, two food courts, seven restaurants and entertainment options including a 24-screen cinema and the GameRoom.

AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT SAWGRASS MILLS BOOK NOW 954/846-0400





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

Hotel. Address: 1870 Sawgrass Mills Cir 33323. Location: Located within Sawgrass Mills Mall. Facility: 174 units. 7 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry.





















DOUBLETREE BY HILTON SUNRISE - SAWGRASS MILLS BOOK NOW 954/851-1020



INSPECTED @ CLEAN

FIVE DIAMOND INSPECTED @ CLEAN



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

DOUBLETREE Hotel. Address: 13400 W Sunrise Blvd 33323. Location: Across from Sawgrass Mills Mall. Facility: 252 units. 10 stories, interior corridors.

Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room.





by Hilton'





















SURFSIDE

- Hotels p. 208 Restaurants p. 209
- Part of Miami-Miami Beach area— see map p. 133

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL AT THE SURF CLUB **BOOK NOW** 305/381-3333

Boutique Resort Hotel. Address: 9011 Collins Ave 33154.



RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT MIAMI BEACH SURFSIDE

BOOK NOW 305/514-3101



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

(SAVE) Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 9200 Collins Ave 33154.

WHERE TO EAT

OUR DIAMOND

THE SURF CLUB RESTAURANT BY CHEF THOMAS KELLER 305/768-9440

New Continental Fine Dining. Address: 9011 Collins Ave 33154.

TAMARAC

- Hotels p. 209
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63



 ${f 7}$ Fairfield inn & suites by marriott fort Lauderdale

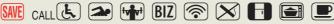
NORTHWEST BOOK NOW 754/238-1300



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

Hotel. Address: 6800 NW 88th Ave 33321. Facility: 120 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



















HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FT. LAUDERDALE-COMMERCIAL







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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 4499 W Commercial Blvd 33319.

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- Visit vour local club office
- Call 800-Join-AAA (564-6222)





WELLINGTON

Hotels p. 210

Approximately 15 miles west of West Palm Beach, Wellington is home to the International Polo Club Palm Beach, 3667 120th Ave. S., where polo matches take place from January through April; phone (561) 204-5687. Shopping: The Mall at Wellington Green, US 441 and Forest Hill Boulevard, features nearly 160 stores and eateries, including Dillard's, JCPenney, Macy's and Nordstrom.

FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT WELLINGTON WEST PALM BOOK NOW 561/408-5990



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

Hotel. Address: 10616 Forest Hill Blvd 33414. Facility: 107 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

























WESTON

- Hotels p. 210
- Part of Fort Lauderdale area— see map p. 63

SAWGRASS RECREATION PARK is 2 mi. n. of I-75 exit 23 on US 27N at mile marker 35. Thirty-minute airboat tours of the Florida Everglades are featured. Guests have an opportunity to hold a live alligator, visit the Glades Exhibit and see a Florida panther in the Exotic Wildlife exhibit. Boat rentals are available. Phone: (954) 389-0202 or (888) 424-7262. GT 🖍 🚻 🔀 📆



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT FORT LAUDERDALE WESTON

BOOK NOW 954/343-2225



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2000 N Commerce Pkwy 33326.

HAMPTON INN BY HILTON FT. LAUDERDALE/WESTON BOOK NOW 954/659-1555





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

Hotel. Address: 2201 N Commerce Pkwy 33326. Facility: 127 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room.

Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.





























WEST PALM BEACH

• Hotels p. 212

Founded in 1894 by railroad tycoon Henry Flagler, West Palm Beach has grown into a center for commerce and business. Fifty miles north of Miami, the city is a popular destination for beach recreation, sport fishing, shopping and cultural activities.

SunFest held in late April or early May features many genres of music performed on three stages, food and beverage booths, and a fireworks show. More than 60 artists display their works.

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., includes a 2,200-seat concert hall, a black box theater, a restaurant and an outdoor amphitheater. Performances range from classical to country and feature well-known entertainers; for information phone (561) 832-7469. Clematis Street is known for its trendy shops, restaurants, theaters and nightlife.

Sports fans have reason for enthusiasm as well. The Ballpark of The Palm Beaches, 5444 Haverhill Rd., is the 6,500-seat spring training complex for the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals. Parking is \$10 per car or \$25 per RV during games. The 160-acre site also features a playground, splash park, sports courts and a 1.8-mile trail; amenities are open daily dawn-dusk. Phone (877) 935-5668 for tickets or (844) 676-2017 for more information.

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches: 401 N. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach, FL 33401. Phone: (561) 833-3711.

Shopping: CityPlace in downtown West Palm Beach resembles a European town and offers a mix of upscale shopping, gourmet dining and entertainment, including dancing fountains choreographed to light and music. Palm Beach Outlets, 1751 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., offers outlet shops and eateries.

COX SCIENCE CENTER AND AQUARIUM, 4801 Dreher Tr. N. in Dreher Park, has a variety of permanent and changing exhibits and interactive displays. Tanks at the Aquariums of the Atlantic display Atlantic species of ocean life, including live corals and interactive touch tanks.

"Journey Through The Human Brain" is a neuroscience exhibit sponsored by the FAU Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute. "Science on a Sphere" projects images of storms and climate change on a 6-foot-tall globe. A conservation station where visitors can research the Everglades also is

available. The "Discovery Center" offers hands-on exhibits for younger children, while right next door "Out of This World" is home to a 232-pound meteorite and a hurricane simulator.

The Marvin Dekelboum Planetarium offers full-dome star shows and movies. An Observatory, open on Fridays during Nights at the Museum, features an F/11 refractor, one of the largest in the state. Outside, a conservation-themed 18-hole miniature golf course, set within a butterfly garden, can be played off the Fisher Family Science Trail that connects 15 interactive exhibits, including the Physics Forest, a shark tooth dig, gem panning station, dino dig and the FPL SolarScape splash pad.

Time: Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (561) 832-1988. $| T | \times | F |$

LION COUNTRY SAFARI—see Loxahatchee p. p. 127.

NORTON MUSEUM OF ART is at 1450 S. Dixie Hwy. This museum is recognized for its extensive permanent collection of European, American and Chinese art; contemporary art and photography. Highlights include ancient bronzes, jades, ceramics, 19th- and 20th-century paintings and sculpture by such European artists as Paul Gauguin, Henri Matisse, Claude Monet and Pablo Picasso; and American artists including Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe and Jackson Pollock. Also offered are special events and performances, educational programs, and family offerings.

Audio tours in English and Spanish as well as guided tours are available. **Time:** Allow 1 hour minimum. **Phone:** (561) 832-5196. **GT**

PALM BEACH ZOO & CONSERVATION SOCIETY is at 1301 Summit Blvd. in Dreher Park. The 23-acre zoo is home to more than 500 animals from Florida, South and Central America, Asia and Australia. Exhibits include Florida panthers, two Malayan tiger habitats, giant anteaters, exotic birds, Komodo dragons and a white alligator. The Tropics of the Americas section features Mayan pyramids housing jaguar and bush dog habitats. Children's attractions include an interactive fountain, a carousel and a train. Daily shows take place throughout the day. Behind-the-scenes programs are offered.

Rental strollers and wheelchairs are available. **Time:** Allow 2 hours minimum. **Phone:** (561) 533-0887.

RAPIDS WATER PARK—see Riviera Beach p. p. 201.



THE BEN WEST PALM, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION HOTEL BOOK NOW 561/655-4001



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

HOTELS

Boutique Hotel. Address: 251 N Narcissus Ave 33401. Facility: The design of this unique hotel pays homage to the colorful past of West

Palm Beach. Room types vary, but all include luxurious beds and upgraded technology. 208 units. 8 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles. exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































CANOPY BY HILTON WEST PALM BEACH DOWNTOWN BOOK NOW 561/655-0404



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

Boutique Hotel. Address: 380 Trinity Pl 33401. Facility: With an enviable location, this hotel has unique artwork throughout that has been inspired by local history and culture. Rooms are relatively spacious, all featuring 55" streaming TVs and comfy beds. 150 units, some two bedrooms. 6-12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: outdoor. Activities: hot tub, bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.





























COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-WEST PALM BEACH AIRPORT

BOOK NOW 561/207-1800



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1800 Centrepark Dr E 33401.

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL WEST PALM BEACH AIRPORT

BOOK NOW



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1808 S Australian Ave 33409.



FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES BY MARRIOTT WEST PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/227-3040





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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 2045 Vista Pkwy 33411. Facility: 127 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: coin laundry. CAVE

















HAMPTON INN BY HILTON WEST PALM BEACH FLORIDA

TURNPIKE BOOK NOW 561/682-9990





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

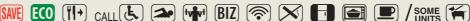
Hotel. Address: 2025 Vista Pkwy 33411. Facility: 110 units. 4 stories, interior corridors. Pool: outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest

Services: valet and coin laundry.































HAWTHORN SUITES BY WYNDHAM-WEST PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/472-7000



Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 301 Lamberton Dr 33401. Facility: 112 efficiencies, some two bedrooms. 6 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: bicycles, exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry, area transportation.































HILTON GARDEN INN WEST PALM BEACH AIRPORT BOOK NOW 561/472-5956



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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 1611 Worthington Rd 33409.



HILTON GARDEN INN WEST PALM BEACH 195 OUTLETS BOOK NOW 561/683-0069



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

Hotel. Address: 1675 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd 33401. Facility: 190 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.





























HILTON PALM BEACH PBI BOOK NOW

561/684-9400





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

Hotel. Address: 150 Australian Ave 33406. Location: Waterfront. Facility: 249 units. 10 stories, interior corridors. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: hot tub, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry,

area transportation.































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

Contemporary Hotel. Address: 600 Okeechobee Blvd 33401. Location: Adjacent to Palm Beach County Convention Center. Facility: Next to the convention center, this hotel offers comfortable rooms that have oversize

streaming TVs and a large desk space. The bathrooms offer luxurious amenities from a high street brand. 400 units. 2-12 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Dining: 2 restaurants. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: hot tub, cabanas, recreation programs, lawn sports, exercise room. Guest Services: valet laundry, area transportation.

































HOME2 SUITES BY HILTON WEST PALM BEACH AIRPORT BOOK NOW 561/686-1006





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

Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2375 James L Turnage Blvd 33406. Facility: 120 units. 5 stories, interior corridors. Pool: heated outdoor.

Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: coin laundry.



























HOMEWOOD SUITES BY HILTON WEST PALM BEACH BOOK NOW 561/682-9188



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

SAVE Extended Stay Hotel. Address: 2455 Metrocentre Blvd 33407.



HYATT PLACE WEST PALM BEACH DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW

561/655-1454



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: 295 Lakeview Ave 33401. Facility: 165 units. 6 stories, interior corridors. Parking: on-site (fee). Amenities: safes. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.

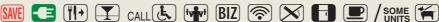




























RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT WEST PALM BEACH

DOWNTOWN

BOOK NOW 561/653-8100



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

Extended Stay Contemporary Hotel. Address: 455 Hibiscus St 33401. Facility: 152 units, some two bedrooms, efficiencies and kitchens. 9 stories, interior corridors. Parking: valet only. Terms: check-in 4 pm. Amenities: safes. Pool: heated outdoor. Activities: exercise room. Guest Services: valet and coin laundry.



























SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT-WEST PALM BEACH I-95 BOOK NOW 561/689-6814





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

SAVE Hotel. Address: 2437 Metrocentre Blvd 33407.



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ICON LEGEND



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In select cities only:

fyi Indicates the property has not been inspected, but is included as an "information only" service.

SERVICES

Airport transportation

Pet friendly (Call for restrictions/fees.)

Restaurant on premises

Restaurant off premises

Room service for 2 or more meals

Full bar

Child care

BIZ Business center

Accessible features (Call property for available services and amenities.)

AMENITIES

Full-service casino

🚁 Pool

Health club or exercise room on premises

HS High-speed Internet service

High-speed Internet service (Call property for fees.)

Wireless Internet service

Wireless Internet service (Call property for fees.)

No wireless Internet service

Pay movies

Refrigerator

Microwave

Coffeemaker

No air conditioning

No TV

No telephones

SAFETY FEATURES

No sprinklers

No smoke detectors

DINING

Designated smoking section

B Breakfast

L Lunch

D Dinner

24 Open 24 hours

LATE Open after 11 p.m.

ATTRACTIONS

GT Guided Tours available

Camping facilities

Recreational activities

Picnicking allowed

Designates an attraction of exceptional interest and quality. AAA GEM — a Great Experience for Members®.