



Discover Florida

Contents



Throughout this book, we use these icons to highlight special recommendations:



The Best...

Lists for everything from bars to wildlife – to make sure you don't miss out



Don't Miss

A must-see – don't go home until you've been there

Local Knowledge

Local experts reveal their top picks and secret highlights



Detour

Special places a little off the beaten track



If you like...

Lesser-known alternatives to world-famous attractions

These icons help you quickly identify reviews in the text and on the map:



Sights



Eating



Drinking



Sleeping



Information

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Palm Beach & the Gold Coast

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- Fort Lauderdale
- Hollywood Beach & Broadwalk
- Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens
- Flagler Museum
- *Carrie B*
- Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

Miami & the Keys

Highlights182

- Miami Art Deco Historic District
- Key West
- Hemingway Home
- No Name Key
- Venetian Pool
- Little Havana
- Overseas Highway Cycling

Walt Disney

Highlights 54

- Disney's Parades & Light Shows
- Winter Park
- Epcot
- Fantasyland
- Typhoon Lagoon
- Sunset Boulevard
- Disney's Animal Kingdom

Universal

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- Wizarding World of Harry Potter
- Stingray Watching
- Islands of Adventure
- Discovery Cove
- Production Central
- Aquatica

Everglades

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This is Florida

Florida is the USA's playground. Florida is bracken wetlands that melt under soul-searing sunsets. Florida is blue lakes, teal oceans and green rivers cutting a tropical plain into parcels of romantic beauty. Florida is sand like snow. Florida is cities that have dedicated themselves to giving you food, shopping, nightlife and enjoyment. Florida is waiting.

This state exudes a powerful attraction. Generation after generation of travelers keeps coming back. Our grandparents had retirement cottages here. Our parents can recall childhood visions of mermaids and manatees and Mickey that their children remember with a similar warm-hearted nostalgia, and want to pass on to the next generation and the next.

These recollections encapsulate what many deem 'Old Florida.' But Old Florida sits alongside the new here as the state is constantly pushing itself to reinvent the best in tourism. If you want it, Florida has it, in every color, size and shape.

There are malls near Fort Myers where you can live out your most lurid consumer fantasies. Thanks to demand for the local, organic and indigenous, those malls are a few miles from neighborly farmer's markets. There are theme parks galore in Orlando, while in the Everglades to the south and Apalachicola to the north, there are state and national parks where a unique subtropical environment is protected by dedicated citizens settling new frontiers in conservation and environmentalism.

There are miles of beach in Miami. And beyond sun and sun, a world class, daring arts district. There are the latest toys and trends of the wealthy in Palm Beach, and a few hours south, simple pleasures and parades dedicated to flights of fantasy in Key West.

And everywhere you go there is the backbone of Florida: visitors. They can find anything here, and often, more than what they expected. Get ready to join their satisfied ranks.

“
Florida is
the USA's
playground
”

Lifeguard house at Miami's South Beach (p193).

PHOTOGRAPHER: MDCD/ISTOCK IMAGES ©



LIFEGUARD
OFF DUTY

KEEP YOUR BEACH CLEAN

100

Florida



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Top Experiences



- 1 Walt Disney World
- 2 Miami Art Deco Historic District
- 3 Spanish Quarter Museum
- 4 Wildlife in the Everglades National Park
- 5 Key West
- 6 Shelling on Sanibel Island
- 7 Hollywood Beach
- 8 Snorkeling in the Keys
- 9 Amelia Island
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