

Miami

POP 509,000 / 305,786

Includes ➔

Sights.....	65
Activities.....	108
Courses & Tours.....	111
Festivals & Events.....	113
Sleeping.....	116
Eating.....	126
Drinking & Nightlife ...	140
Entertainment	145
Shopping.....	147

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Kyu (p134)
- ➔ 27 Restaurant (p130)
- ➔ Yardbird (p128)
- ➔ El Carajo (p136)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Biltmore Hotel (p125)
- ➔ Washington Park Hotel (p118)
- ➔ Langford Hotel (p123)
- ➔ Betsy Hotel (p119)
- ➔ Freehand Miami (p122)
- ➔ EAST, Miami (p123)

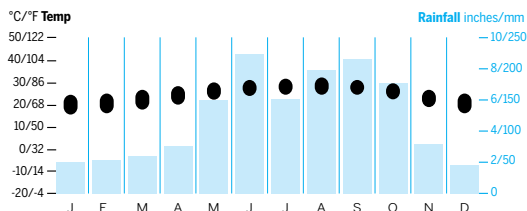
Why Go?

Miami has so many different facets to its diverse neighborhoods that it's hard to believe it all fits in one place. By day you can admire incredible photorealistic murals in Wynwood, then spend the evening immersed in Afro Cuban jazz in Little Havana, followed perhaps by rooftop drinks atop the city's latest skyscraper.

Crossing town you can't help feeling like you've passed into another city. Over in Miami Beach, you can wander the streets amid a veritable gallery of deco masterpieces, each one bursting with personality, best followed by late-afternoon strolls along the sands, when the golden light is mesmerizing.

When to Go

Miami



Dec–Mar Warm, dry weather draws in tourists; lots of festivals and events.

Apr–Jun Not as muggy as deep summer, but lush and greener than winter.

Jul–Oct Prices plummet. When it's not as hot as an oven, there are storms: it's hurricane season.

Sights

South Beach

The most iconic neighborhood in Greater Miami, South Beach is a vertiginous landscape of sparkling beach, beautiful art-deco architecture, high-end boutiques and buzzing bars and restaurants. South Beach has its glamour, but there's more to this district than just velvet ropes and high-priced lodging. You'll find some great down-to-earth bars, good ethnic eating and excellent museums.

Wolfsonian-FIU

MUSEUM

(Map p82; ☎305-531-1001; www.wolfsonian.org; 1001 Washington Ave; adult/child \$10/5, free from 6-9pm Fri; ☀10am-6pm Mon, Tue, Thu & Sat, to 9pm Fri, noon-6pm Sun, closed Wed) Visit this excellent design museum early in your stay to put the aesthetics of Miami Beach into context. It's one thing to see how wealth, leisure and the pursuit of beauty manifests in Miami Beach, but it's another to understand the roots and shadings of local artistic movements. By chronicling the interior evolution of everyday life, the Wolfsonian reveals how these trends were architecturally manifested in SoBe's exterior deco.

Which reminds us of the Wolfsonian's own noteworthy facade. Remember the Gothic-futurist apartment-complex-cum-temple-of-evil in *Ghostbusters*? Well, this imposing structure, with its grandiose 'frozen fountain' and lion-head-studded grand elevator, could serve as a stand-in for that set.

Art Deco Historic District

AREA

(Map p78; Ocean Dr) The world-famous art-deco district of Miami Beach is pure exuberance: an architecture of bold lines, whimsical tropical motifs and a color palette that evokes all the beauty of the Miami landscape. Among the 800 deco buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings, each design is different, and it's hard not to be captivated when strolling among these restored beauties from a bygone era.

One stretch of Ocean Dr has a collection of some of the most striking art-deco buildings in Miami Beach. Between 11th and 14th Sts, you'll see many of the classic deco elements at play in beautifully designed works – each bursting with individual personality. Close to 11th St, the Congress Hotel (p81) shows perfect symmetry in its three-story facade, with window-shading eyebrows and a long marquee down the middle that's reminiscent of

the grand movie palaces of the 1930s. About a block north, the **Tides** (Map p78; ☎305-250-0784; www.tidessouthbeach.com; 1220 Ocean Dr; r from \$340; 📶📶📶) is one of the finest of the nautical themed hotels, with porthole windows over the entryway, a reception desk of Key limestone (itself imprinted with fossilized sea creatures), and curious arrows on the floor; meant to denote the ebb and flow of the tide. Near 13th St, the Cavalier (p117) plays with the seahorse theme, in stylized depictions of the sea creature and also has palm-tree-like iconography.

Note that it's best to go early in the day when the crowds are thinnest, and the light is best for picture-taking. For deeper insight into the architecture, take a guided walking tour of the area offered daily by the Miami Design Preservation League (p112).

SoundSpace Park

PARK

(Map p78; www.nws.edu; 500 17th St) Outside of the New World Center (p68), this park is one of the best places for open-air screenings in Miami Beach. During some New World Symphony performances, the outside wall of the Frank Gehry-designed concert hall features a 7000-sq-ft projection of the concert within.

In addition from October through May, you can watch movies, with weekly film screenings (currently Wednesdays) at 8pm. Bring a picnic and enjoy the free show.

Art Deco Museum

MUSEUM

(Map p82; www.mdpl.org/welcome-center/art-deco-museum; 1001 Ocean Dr; \$5; ☀10am-5pm Tue-Sun, to 7pm Thu) This small museum is one of the best places in town for an enlightening overview of the art-deco district. Through videos, photography, models and other displays you'll learn of the pioneering work of Barbara Capitman, who helped save these buildings from certain destruction back in the 1970s, and her collaboration with Leonard Horowitz, the talented artist who designed the pastel color palette that became an integral part of the design visible today.

The museum also touches on other key architectural styles in Miami, including Mediterranean Revival (typified by the Villa Casa Casuarina; p120) and the post-deco boom of MiMo (Miami Modern), which emerged after World War II, and is particularly prevalent in North Miami Beach.

South Beach

BEACH

(Map p78; Ocean Dr; ☀beach 5am-midnight) When most people think of Miami Beach, they're envisioning South Beach, or 'SoBe.' This area is