

## Sun, Fun and Fantasy

### Florida



### Miami/Fort Lauderdale

Begin your tour in Miami or Fort Lauderdale. When starting in Miami, step onto South Beach in the city's Art Deco District and see what the "American Riviera" is all about. Enjoy a Caipirinha cocktail in an al fresco café while you people watch. Shop along upscale Collins Avenue one block from the beach and experience Cuban cuisine before dancing the night away in a Latin-themed club. For a change of pace, soak up the sunshine on Key Biscayne Beach, just 40 minutes away, but so tranquil it feels like another world. Go exploring in Wynwood Art District and Little Havana for exciting culture, or catch a Marlins baseball game, a Dolphins football game or a Heat basketball game. If you decide to start your tour in Fort Lauderdale, you can't miss the spotless beaches and relaxed, elegant community. The area's many beaches are all worth your time, but Deerfield and Dania are likely to be quieter. Navigate the city by water taxi or take a boat tour past waterfront mansions on "Millionaire's Row." Make stops at the best local sites, including Los Olas Riverfront, with its world-class shopping and dining. Not far from the beach is The Galleria, a two-story mall offering luxury brands, or hunt for bargains at Sawgrass Mills outlet mall in Sunrise, eight miles north. *Accommodation: Miami/Fort Lauderdale*

## Miami/Fort Lauderdale to Orlando

Less than an hour north of Fort Lauderdale, discover Delray Beach, a peaceful seaside community with plenty of culture, and without any high-rise buildings blocking views of the Atlantic Ocean. While there, head to Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens and meander through six intricate green spaces inspired by famous gardens in Japan, or encounter wild Florida at Wakodahatchee Wetlands. Palm Beach, 20 minutes to the north, is a stylish counterpoint to Delray, offering high-end shopping along palm-lined Worth Avenue and culture at Flagler Museum, a Gilded Era estate showcasing period art and decor. Nearby, take a climbing tour to the top of Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse. Continuing along Florida's Space Coast, Cocoa Beach is a sweet surf town with a nostalgic vibe and major attractions nearby. Take a surfing lesson on the beach after visiting famous Ron Jon Surf Shop for wave-riding supplies. Tour Kennedy Space Center just up the coast in Titusville; dozens of immersive exhibits, NASA artifacts and unforgettable experiences are offered here. The center shares Merritt Island with a national wildlife refuge, which is bordered to the north by the Canaveral National Seashore. Hike or boat through the refuge and the shore to experience unspoiled Florida and an abundance of wildlife. Home to more than a dozen theme parks, the Orlando area needs no introduction to many visitors. Most travelers, especially those with children, know about its largest parks - Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom, Epcot and Animal Kingdom; Universal Orlando's Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure; and SeaWorld's SeaWorld Orlando, Aquatica Orlando and Discovery Cove. Here, families can enjoy exciting rides and shows, visits with storybook characters, parades and fireworks. Nearby, Old Town Kissimmee features old-fashioned carnival rides, entertainment and shops. Less than an hour southwest of Orlando in Winter Haven, LEGOLAND offers more fun, and is especially appreciated by younger children. After visiting the major attractions, travelers will find that shopping opportunities also abound, including Orlando International Premium Outlets, Mall at Millenia (upscale fashions) and International Drive's souvenir shops. Also on International Drive, visitors will find restaurants, miniature golf, go-kart tracks, helicopter tours and other activities. At least two nights are needed to experience this amazing destination, and maybe even more. *Accommodation: Orlando*



## Orlando to St. Augustine

Fun for race fans, friends and families, Daytona Beach boasts resorts, attractions, the Daytona International Speedway and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America. Come during the Daytona 500, for a spring family beach break or any time at all. Enjoy 23 miles of beaches for swimming and surfing; some areas are famously set aside to welcome cars on the sand. Listen to live music at the Daytona Beach Bandshell, which was made from coquina shells, at the north end of the boardwalk. Don't forget to visit the Daytona Beach Pier, a historic attraction that recently reopened after a \$5 million restoration. Nearby are the roller coaster, the Daytona Lagoon water park and other attractions in the boardwalk amusement area. Continue to St. Augustine, the longest continually inhabited European-founded city in the USA, commonly called the "Nation's Oldest City." Dive into more than four centuries of history that owes much to Spanish, English, Greek, Native American and African-American influences. Stroll the narrow streets, enter the many museums, and visit landmarks such as Castillo de San Marcos, Ponce de Leon's "Fountain of Youth" and the Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse. St. Augustine is a place for history buffs and everyone else. *Accommodation: St. Augustine*

## St. Augustine to Tampa/St. Petersburg

Ocala is the equestrian heart of Florida with its miles of oak-lined trails decorated with Spanish moss. Outdoor activities include canoeing along crystal-clear streams and hiking unspoiled landscapes, popular as the setting for many Hollywood movies. Continuing to the Gulf Coast, stop at Silver Springs, a nature park that is one of Florida's original attractions. In Tarpon Springs, named for the fish found in its waters, tour the "sponge capital of the world." Stroll its Historic District and browse in antique stores and galleries in buildings dating to the early 19th century. Choose either Tampa or St. Petersburg as your final stop of the day. Tampa is home to many attractions, such as Busch Gardens, an African-themed park with animal viewing areas and thrilling rides; the Lowry Park Zoo; and the Florida Aquarium, where you can swim with sharks. The nearby historic Ybor City neighborhood, once the center of Latin life in Tampa, is a lively dining and nightlife destination. West of Tampa, situated between the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay, you will find beautiful beaches and St. Petersburg, home to fine dining, great shopping, Fort De Soto Park and the Salvador Dali Museum. *Accommodation: Tampa/St. Petersburg*





## Tampa/St. Petersburg to Fort Myers/ Captiva and Sanibel Islands

Stop in Sarasota, where you can enjoy culture, beaches and great shopping. At The Ringling, an art museum founded by circus magnate John Ringling, see world-class artwork, be fascinated in the Circus Museum and tour the Venetian Gothic-style Ca' d'Zan mansion. Continue south to Fort Myers, the perfect location if you are looking for an active and sporty beach experience. For a more laid-back atmosphere, the beautiful white sands of the barrier islands of Sanibel and Captiva are the perfect destinations for you. Swim in warm waters or kayak in the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel to see alligators, birds and other wildlife. *Accommodation: Fort Myers/Captiva and Sanibel Island*

## Fort Myers/Captiva and Sanibel Islands to Key Largo

Travel south to Naples, known for its art galleries, chic boutiques, fine dining and beaches. Continue to Everglades National Park, a wetland habitat that provides refuge for numerous rare and endangered species such as the American crocodile and the Florida panther. Join a kayak or canoe tour or "swamp hike" to see manatees, alligators, white-tailed deer and myriad species of wild birds. If you are limited for time, companies outside of the park offer airboat rides through the watery wilderness. A short drive away is Key Largo, the first in the chain of islands in the Florida Keys, which is home to the world's largest artificial reef, the sunken USS Spiegel Grove, the John Pennekamp Coral Reef Underwater State Park and the African Queen. The clear waters of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary offer unrivaled experiences for divers and snorkelers or glass-bottom boating for the less adventurous. Alternatively, sip a cocktail while enjoying the spectacular sunsets. Take extra days here to relax and absorb the ocean views. *Accommodation: Key Largo*



## Key Largo to Key West

A short drive from Key Largo is Islamorada, an island paradise with glistening blue waters, fabulous restaurants with water views and the freshest seafood. This is a perfect stop on your way to Key West, the southernmost point in the USA that is famous for its lively nightlife, water sports and being the home of Ernest Hemingway. The best way to explore this island is on foot. On Duval Street, you'll find an energetic atmosphere of shops, bars and cafes. The gardens and courtyards enhance the intriguing architecture that make Key West a one-of-a-kind destination. Do not miss visiting The Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum or reading inventive inscriptions on gravestones in the Key West Cemetery.

*Accommodation: Key West*

## Key West to Miami/Fort Lauderdale

Return to Miami/Fort Lauderdale to explore the Little Havana neighborhood to taste traditional Cuban dishes, sip café con leche and watch a lively dominoes game in a public park. Head to famous South Beach to rub elbows with glamorous people, tour Art Deco landmarks and enjoy some of the USA's best nightlife. Miami's coastline ranges from pristine parks, such as Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park, to beaches with plenty of amenities and activities to keep everyone happy. Shoppers will want to browse luxury designer boutiques on Lincoln Road, the Design District and the Bal Harbor Shops, or find great deals at Doral's Dolphin Mall. The city's many museums, such as Vizcaya Museum and Gardens and Wynwood Walls, and the lush Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Miami Beach Botanical Garden, are also great sightseeing stops.