



OUR BEST SIDE IS

Outside

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach



SM

**PUNTA GORDA
ENGLEWOOD BEACH**

The Charlotte Harbor Gulf Island Coast

PureFlorida.com



Gulf of Mexico

Share in the Fun



Discover the best of Punta Gorda/
Englewood Beach and share your vacation
adventures with **#BestSideOutside**



@RealPureFlorida

Babcock Ranch →

LIFE ON THE *Sunny Side*

Ready for an escape that's off the beaten path, laid-back and filled with every kind of outside fun imaginable? Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach is that pure Florida experience you're longing for, from relaxing on pristine beaches to boating across sparkling waterways. You'll also discover secluded islands, fascinating wildlife, scenic trails, top-ranked golf courses, world-class fishing and so much more. There's no greater place to enjoy the great outdoors.

Contents

- 02 SEASIDE
- 08 WATERSIDE
- 18 TRAILSIDE
- 24 CITYSIDE
- 40 TABLESIDE
- 48 NIGHTSIDE
- 50 ALONGSIDE
- 54 TEESIDE
- 56 AIRSIDE & ROADSIDE
- 60 BEDSIDE



The Charlotte Harbor Gulf Island Coast


Seaside

Discover the prettiest and most peaceful beaches on the planet, perfect for relaxing and reconnecting.



You won't find big crowds on our beaches. Just plenty of white sand, gentle waves and native wildlife, from pelicans gliding across the sky to the occasional dolphins emerging from the Gulf to say hello. Swimming and snorkeling are a joy in the clear waters and if you love seashells, you'll find more sandy treasures than you've ever seen. Another fun activity is hunting for fossilized shark teeth – you won't believe how many you'll find along our shores.




 Check out our live beach cam at Englewood Beach at PureFlorida.com/Beachcam.

Seaside

ENGLEWOOD BEACH PARK

You'll love the absolutely beautiful views here. In addition to pristine sand and thousands of seashells and fossilized shark teeth.



1

STUMP PASS BEACH STATE PARK

Rumored to be the luckiest place on earth, it's tradition here to add a shell to the driftwood stumps on the beach and make a wish. Hike the trail for a gorgeous view of the Gulf on one side and Lemon Bay on the other.



2

KNIGHT ISLAND (PALM ISLAND)

Discover a true island paradise here with an unbelievable beach and views, accessible only by boat, water taxi, or the car ferry. Your best bet to experience this magical place is to book a vacation rental at Palm Island Resort.



3



WHAT'S HAPPENING Seaside

ENGLEWOOD BEACH WATERFEST

Join the party in November for the Offshore Powerboat Association's World Championships. Enjoy a weekend of races, live music and more. See details and all events at PureFlorida.com/Events.



4



LITTLE GASPARILLA ISLAND

Get the true Little Gasparilla experience by staying on the island at one of many lovely vacation rentals scattered gulfside and bayside. No roads, no traffic, no high-rises and no regrets. Accessible only by boat.



5

GASPARILLA ISLAND STATE PARK

Enjoy a beautiful, dune-lined beach and the historical Port Boca Grande Lighthouse, the only lighthouse open to the public on Florida's West Coast. It's home to a museum where you can tour the lighthouse and learn about the island's rich history.



6

PORT CHARLOTTE BEACH PARK

This inland harborside park is conveniently located and easy to reach. A man-made beach offers a calm swimming area along with a playground and kayak/canoe launch.

DON PEDRO ISLAND STATE PARK

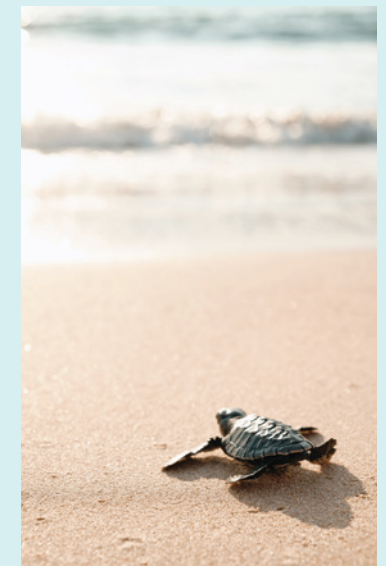
This amazing offshore island park is accessible only by boat or kayak. Dock on the mangrove-lined bayside and explore untouched nature on its hiking trails. The Gulf side of the island is home to a mile of almost deserted white-sand beach. Enjoy swimming in the crystal clear water.



7

Sidetracks

Sea turtle nesting season runs May through October on our beaches. Please remember to respect turtle nests, which are usually marked with stakes and flags, and fill in any holes dug on the beach. If on the beach at night, do not use flashlights or cell phone lights as they can deter nesting or confuse hatchlings heading to the water.



Eats at the Beach



Find the perfect spot for a meal or a chilling cold drink, just steps from the beach! Scan to find great beach dining options



Waterside

A water wonderland awaits in 830 miles of shoreline and the Peace and Myakka rivers, which converge in Charlotte Harbor, Florida's second-largest estuary. 80% of its shoreline is preserved to remain a breeding ground for marine life and protected natural environment.



Whether it's boating, fishing, paddling or swimming, we offer more ways to make a splash with your Florida vacation. If you're an "old salt," you can bring your own boat or rent one. Or if you prefer to let someone else do the driving, kick back and relax on one of the area's many sunset or tiki cruises or guided tours. Amazing fishing, dolphin-spotting and sunsets are just a few of the delights in store.



Water.
Water.
Everywhere!



Waterside

CRUISE IT

Whether you want to rent a motorboat, sailboat or jet ski, there are dozens of marinas and rental businesses throughout the area that'll ensure you and your passengers are comfortable operating the rental vessels. They'll also provide a map of the area if you bring your own boat. You can find many first-class marinas and boat ramps online.

PADDLE IT

The Blueway Trail system has nearly 200 miles of paddling trails, from freshwater rivers and creeks to saltwater coastal areas. Whether in a kayak, canoe, or on a stand-up paddleboard, you'll get a fascinating look at wildlife and breathtaking natural beauty.

TOUR IT

Attractions, like any number of tiki cruises, give you the camaraderie of enjoying a scenic tour of Charlotte Harbor. For a completely laid-back experience, enjoy a narrated boating excursion by **King Fisher Fleet** in Punta Gorda. Visit a few of **Charlotte Harbor's Aquatic Preserves** for an eco-venture – snorkeling in the spring/summer and nature boat tours in the fall/winter. Take a trip to an isolated island, see dolphins in the wild and get lost in the beauty of a sunset. Plenty of guided tours await to give you the experience of a lifetime.



WHAT'S HAPPENING Waterside

CHRISTMAS LIGHT CANAL CRUISES

Experience a Punta Gorda tradition throughout December on a one-hour cruise around residential canals filled with Christmas lights on homes, boats, seawalls and docks. See details and all events at PureFlorida.com/Events.

Sunny Side SUP

Before venturing out to explore our wildlife-rich and beautiful waterways, check out Charlotte County's comprehensive **Blueway Trails Guide** for helpful information in planning your adventures.





NO EQUIPMENT? NO PROBLEM!

With all the sparkling blue water surrounding the area, getting out on it is inevitable. There are a number of rental options to choose from as well as instructors and guides. From glass-bottomed kayaks to free diving equipment, you'll be like a local in no time. Find your perfect rental at PureFlorida.com/Boating.



Scan for more information.



Cruising Charlotte Harbor's vast, protected waters is sure to be one of the highlights of your stay. And if you're coming by boat, many marinas are ready to welcome you. Shop marinas at PureFlorida.com/Marinas.

Find the Fish

Anglers of all skill levels will love the variety of fishing found here – freshwater, saltwater, inshore, offshore and pier fishing. Hundreds of fish species thrive in Charlotte Harbor from the blending of saltwater from the Gulf of Mexico with the freshwater from the Peace, Myakka and Caloosahatchee rivers. Getting on the fish is easy with plenty of guides, charters, marinas and convenient launch areas. Learn more at PureFlorida.com/Fishing.



THE TARPON FISHING CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

The Boca Grande Pass is renowned as one of the best places in North America to catch a tarpon. This spectacular game fish puts up a challenging fight and is on many an angler's bucket list. Though tarpon can be caught year-round, April to October is prime time to land one of these silver kings.

Side Trips

SIGHTSEEING CRUISES ON CHARLOTTE HARBOR

King Fisher Fleet invites you to explore our beautiful estuary on a trip with our knowledgeable crew. Enjoy romantic sunset cruises, picturesque river tours, off-the-beaten path island trips to Cabbage Key, Cayo Costa, and Boca Grande, private events, and more.



Located in Fishermen's Village
1200 W. Retta Espl.
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941.639.0969
KingFisherFleet.com

Trailside

Punta Gorda offers a free bike loaner program. Just check out a bike at one of the pickup locations along the Harborwalk and start exploring any number of planned trails through this quaint, harborside town.



Discover hiking and biking trails in more than 70 parks, nature preserves and recreational areas, from the Gulf Coast on Manasota Key in the north to wet pine flatwoods in the south. Breathtaking tropical beauty and fascinating wildlife await along the Great Florida Birding Trail, 60 Blueway paddling trails, remote beaches and more. Or follow your bliss along harbor-front trails, historic neighborhoods and downtown areas filled with colorful murals, cafés and shops.

Happy Trails to You

Trailside

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach is home to seven sections of the **Great Florida Birding Trail**, featuring Florida's best wildlife viewing sites. The **Cedar Point Environmental Park** is located in the Lemon Bay portion of the trail and offers an easily walkable 3.5-mile hike with ample opportunities to see native wildlife, such as armadillos and nesting bald eagles, in their natural habitats. In Port Charlotte, the trail crosses through **Tippecanoe Environmental Park**, offering 380 acres of uplands and wetlands along the rim of Tippecanoe Bay. Keep an eye out for the Florida Scrub-Jay, an endangered species that's the only bird species unique to Florida. **Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park** is also a part of the Great Florida Birding Trail and Florida's third-largest state park, with more than 43,400 acres of wilderness. Enjoy a hike with a guide along six miles of trails or discover the area by the water via kayak and the two paddle trail systems running through it. The park's shallow water and mangrove forests provide the chance to see wading birds, dolphins, manatees and more.



Meet the Locals

A visit to the **Peace River Wildlife Center**, which specializes in the rehabilitation of our local wildlife, is a great way to meet native birds and reptiles, up close and personal. And don't miss one of the area's most spectacular wildlife encounters at **Babcock Ranch Eco-Tours**. This 90-minute "swamp buggy" tour will lead you through Florida's four eco-systems while viewing alligators, deer, cows, and turkeys among other wildlife on the Crescent B Ranch, a working cattle ranch.



Side Kicks

Peace River Wildlife Center's mission is to contribute to the survival of native Florida wildlife through rescue, rehabilitation and education. The education center is home to nearly 100 permanent residents. It is open to the public for tours every day from 11am-4pm, closed on Christmas day. Donations fund the work at the wildlife rehabilitation hospital to rescue, rehab and ultimately release. The hospital sees approximately 2,500 wildlife intakes per year.



Peace River Wildlife Center™

Rescue · Rehabilitate · Educate

3400 Ponce de Leon Pkwy
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

941.637.3830

prwildlife.org

Cityside



Visitors are often pleasantly surprised by the inviting atmosphere and warm welcome they receive when visiting each community throughout our area. But locals know, whether on the water or off the beaten path, the charming communities here are full of unique character you can't find anywhere else.



If you like towns filled with natural beauty and historic charm, then you'll be delighted by Punta Gorda. Located along scenic Charlotte Harbor, nearly everything is waterfront here, from hotels and restaurants to parks and bike paths. Discover a walkable downtown district with one-of-a-kind shops, art galleries, cafés and unique restaurants. Don't miss **Fishermen's Village**, where you can shop, dine, enjoy live entertainment and take a sunset cruise around the harbor.



WHAT'S HAPPENING *Cityside*

PUNTA GORDA FARMER'S MARKETS

Enjoy the Saturday market downtown (voted the best small market in Florida) or the Sunday market at History Park & Artisan Village. Both offer local produce, homemade treats, arts and crafts, live entertainment and more. Details and more events at PureFlorida.com/Events.

Punta Gorda

Discover Dynamic Arts and Culture



Take a stroll through the **Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens** for an inspiring look at modern art in a setting of natural beauty. The Gardens regularly host touring exhibits.

Cultivate your "inner Beethoven" at the **Charlotte Performing Arts Center**, featuring concerts from The Charlotte Chorale, Punta Gorda Symphony, the Gulfshore Opera and more.

Explore three major galleries bursting with treasures from local artists at the **Visual Arts Center** and pick up something special in the gift shop.

See what the local art scene has to offer at the **Artisan Atelier**, a hip, modern creative space of working artists' studios and a gallery.

Visit the **Sea Grape Gallery**, a cooperative fine art gallery, to peruse a variety of amazing, one-of-a-kind gifts and art pieces created by award-winning artists.

History buffs will appreciate several unique attractions, including the **Vietnam Wall of Southwest Florida** and the **Punta Gorda Historic Railroad Depot**. Also not to be missed is the impressive **Military Heritage Museum**, which offers everything from virtual reality flights on military aircraft in the Flight Ops simulator room to hearing personal stories from veterans who serve as guides at the museum. The newest addition is a Bell UH-1 Iroquois, affectionately known as the "Huey." It's a fascinating educational experience you won't soon forget.

Punta Gorda



As you wander throughout Punta Gorda, download the Otocast audio app and enjoy the Historic Mural Society's 30+ murals dotted across town. Stop and indulge in gourmet hand-crafted chocolate at **Punta Gorda Chocolate & Wine**. Take in dinner and an amazing sunset at **TT's Tiki Bar** or a live band at **Celtic Ray Public House**.



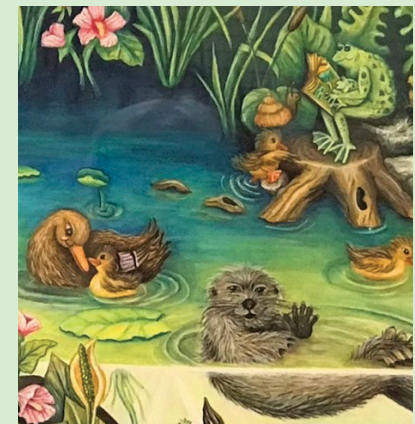
Gulf Islands

Though originally Knight/Palm, Don Pedro, and Little Gasparilla were three separate islands, over time they joined into one landmass. However, they're still considered to be three separate entities. You'll find that each has a unique character. Bordered by 12 miles of serene, silky sand beaches, they're warm, inviting and pristine. Wildlife far outnumbers the human population, so you can experience relaxation of the purest kind.



Side Shows

The **Visual Arts Center** is a creative hub with three galleries showcasing diverse artwork. It features a gift shop for unique art items and offers classes for all ages and skill levels, making it ideal for nurturing artistic passions. Wheelchair accessible and free admission to the galleries.



VISUAL ARTS CENTER



210 Maud Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941.639.8810
VisualArtCenter.org

Port Charlotte & Charlotte Harbor



Discover great golf, dining, shopping, entertainment and hotel offerings in this friendly community at the north side of the harbor, which is home to the **County Fairgrounds** and exciting events year-round. Select restaurants offer an evening of fine dining and entertainment, including comedy at the **Visani Italian Steakhouse and Comedy Theater**, and live music at **The Grill at 1951** and **Donato's Italian Restaurant**. Another great dining option is the **Twisted Fork Restaurant® and Bar** which features live music every weekend on Bert's Back Porch, bike nights and special events. If dynamic community theater is your thing, you'll love the **Charlotte Players**. If you're looking for outdoor adventure, the area boasts a number of parks to explore.



Englewood & Manasota Key

You'll love the laid-back vibe of Englewood and Manasota Key. While the main attraction is breathtaking beaches, you'll never run out of things to do! In addition to being home to two state parks, this is a watersports mecca. Rent a boat, explore mangrove gardens by kayak, fish or take a SUP excursion. It's all here. And you can also take advantage of more than 180 holes of golf in the area. Don't miss daily morning beach yoga and the Sunday sunset drum circle on Englewood Beach, then relax at any of the nearby bars and restaurants near the giant shell roundabout.



Placida, Cape Haze & Boca Grande

Whether enjoying world-class fishing on Gasparilla Sound or seeing manatees in the wild aboard your own kayak, these quiet communities enjoy an island vibe and plenty of ways to get on the water. From ramps and rentals to tours and tide charts you'll find all you need to make it a great day. Plus, you'll find world-class golf, biking, nature watching and of course, a variety of restaurants all nearby. **Gasparilla Marina** is a convenient location to rent a boat and grab a bite at **Smokin' Jerry's Tiki Bar & Grill**. A visit to the historic village of Boca Grande is a favorite for its timeless charm, quaint shops and restaurants, and gorgeous beach views.



Babcock Ranch

This is the first solar powered town in the country with an 870 acre solar farm. Visit its downtown district, **Founder's Square**, for a growing number of excellent dining, shopping and entertainment options, as well as a bandshell and plenty of space for outdoor events.



Side Shows

GULFSHORE OPERA ENRICHING SWFL'S CULTURE

Discover world-class opera in Southwest Florida – a surprising cultural gem awaits your visit! Experience Dvořák's Rusalka, a haunting telling of the classic Little Mermaid tale. Performed in English on March 29, 2025, at Burnt Store Presbyterian.



9911 Corkscrew Road, Suite 105
Estero, FL 33928
239.529.3925
GulfshoreOpera.org



Host Your Next Group Event in Our Outdoor Wonderland

From superb venues and sports facilities to gorgeous weather and beaches, Punta Gorda/ Englewood Beach is the perfect place for destination weddings, sporting events and tournaments, meetings, family reunions and other special group gatherings. We're here to help with finding the right accommodations, booking venues and more.

Visit us online to learn more:
[PureFlorida.com/Weddings](https://www.pureflorida.com/Weddings)
[PureFlorida.com/Meetings](https://www.pureflorida.com/Meetings)
[PureFlorida.com/Sports](https://www.pureflorida.com/Sports)



“Catch some Rays” takes on a whole new meaning with an afternoon of baseball at the Charlotte Sports Park, proud home of Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training. Visit during spring training season (Feb. – Mar.) and enjoy an atmosphere where the pop of a ball hitting a glove and the crack of the bat can be distinctly heard from every corner of the stadium. This intimate stadium experience and proximity to these professional athletes is something you won't get elsewhere or during the regular season.





Our Best Side is
Outside



Tablesideside

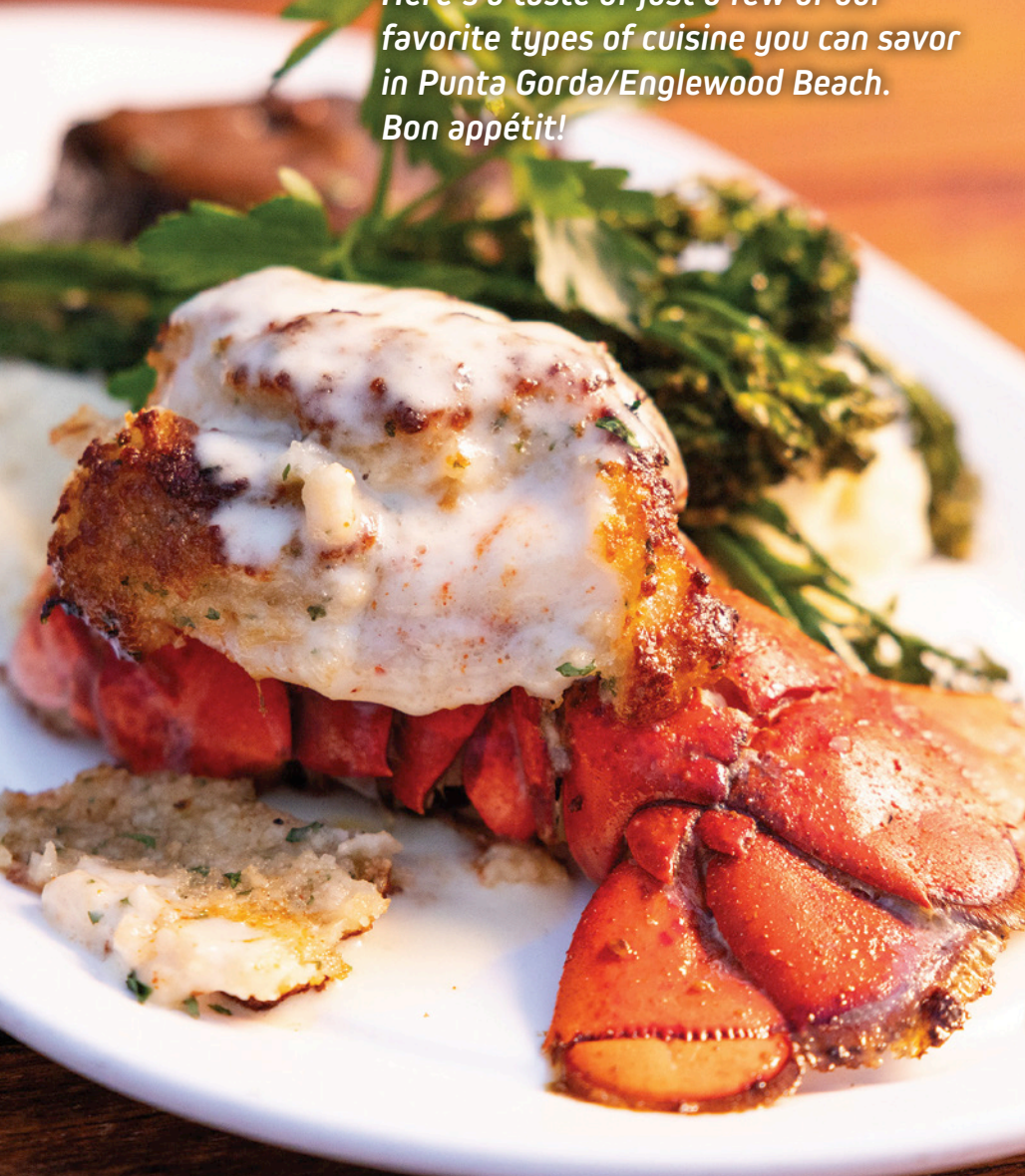
In 2020, Punta Gorda was ranked #2 in
USA Today's 10Best Small Town Food Scenes.



Dining out is always one of the most enjoyable parts of any vacation, and the culinary scene in Punta Gorda/ Englewood Beach is ready to satisfy every foodie's appetite. With a variety of cuisines, original restaurants, award-winning chefs and inspiring waterside views, your dining experiences here are sure to be unforgettable. Begin exploring at [PureFlorida.com/Restaurants](https://www.pureflorida.com/Restaurants).

Foodie Finds

Here's a taste of just a few of our favorite types of cuisine you can savor in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach. Bon appétit!



Surf & Turf

Savor the best of land and sea in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach. Enjoy freshly caught Gulf seafood along the waterfront, like grilled grouper, succulent crab legs, or buttery shrimp, while enjoying breathtaking harbor views. Try our famous Peace River blue crab, served steamed or in She-Crab soup in an authentic crab shack.

For steak or chop lovers, the area boasts several upscale steakhouses offering perfectly seared, tender cuts that will delight any palate. Whether indulging in a seaside feast or enjoying the elegance of a premier steakhouse, the offerings here celebrate the best of coastal traditions and bold flavors, promising a meal to remember.



Italian & Pizza

Who needs a passport when you can savor the essence of Italian cuisine right here? Whether you're craving a classic Margherita pizza fresh from a brick oven, loaded with gooey mozzarella or a heaping plate of pasta topped with rich, slow-simmered marinara and handmade meatballs, there's something to satisfy every craving. For lovers of hearty Italian cuisine, enjoy melt-in-your-mouth lasagna layered with creamy ricotta and robust sauces or perfectly seared chicken Parmesan topped with golden, bubbly cheese. Pair these classics with a curated wine list, and you'll discover an authentic Italian experience nestled in Florida's coastal charm.

Burgers & Barbecue

The area's burger and barbecue offerings are a feast for the senses. Picture juicy, hand-pressed burgers layered with gourmet toppings, served on pillowy buns fresh from the oven. Barbecue enthusiasts will relish smoky ribs, tender pulled pork, and brisket that's been lovingly slow-cooked to perfection, paired with tangy sauces and classic sides. Each bite tells a story of culinary craftsmanship in settings that range from rustic charm to modern comfort. Whether you're a foodie adventurer or a comfort food devotee, the local scene promises flavors you'll savor long after the meal.



International Fare

Take your taste buds on an international journey in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach, where global flavors meet local charm. Relish the smoky jerk chicken and golden patties of Caribbean cuisine, or savor the rich, refined dishes of European bistros that transport you straight to the Continent. Craving Asian? Indulge in exquisitely rolled sushi, steaming pho or hibachi creations that sizzle with flavor. From the bold spices of the tropics to the delicate artistry of Eastern fare, the area's dining scene invites you to explore a world of culinary wonder, all in one unforgettable destination.



Mexican

Spice up your dining experience with a fiesta of bold flavors and vibrant atmospheres. Picture sizzling fajitas with perfectly charred edges, enchiladas layered with rich sauces, and tacos bursting with fresh, zesty ingredients. Pair your meal with a refreshing margarita or a splash of zesty tequila for the perfect complement. Each spot offers its creative twist—authentic staples, contemporary spins, and warm, welcoming vibes that invite you to linger. Whether savoring a casual bite or indulging in a festive dinner, the culinary charm here is a taste of Mexico worth exploring.



Cook Your Catch



One of the most popular and satisfying pastimes in the area is fishing, and another is eating seafood, which makes this the perfect combo. Take your fresh, cleaned catch to one of our local restaurants and they will prepare it for you. Learn more at: PureFlorida.com/cook-your-catch

On the Water

You'll find a wide variety of waterfront dining experiences in the area. You can kick off your shoes and dig your toes into the sand and eat and drink while enjoying the casually elegant ambiance with an expansive view of the harbor. Or get right next to the water and watch the boats come and go while enjoying the peace and quiet. We recommend trying them all! Few things give more of a vacation vibe than a meal at the water's side.



Craving Craft

CHARLIE FOXTROT BREWING

A veteran owned business, Charlie Foxtrot Brewing offers a wide range of craft beers and a unique brewing experience.

THE VILLAGE BREWHOUSE

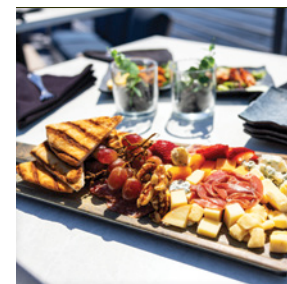
Enjoy an incredible selection of craft beers, signature dishes and breathtaking views of Charlotte Harbor.

PEACE RIVER BEER COMPANY

Choose from over 20 rotating taps of craft beer while enjoying authentic Thai food and fresh sushi in a casual setting.

THE TWISTED FORK

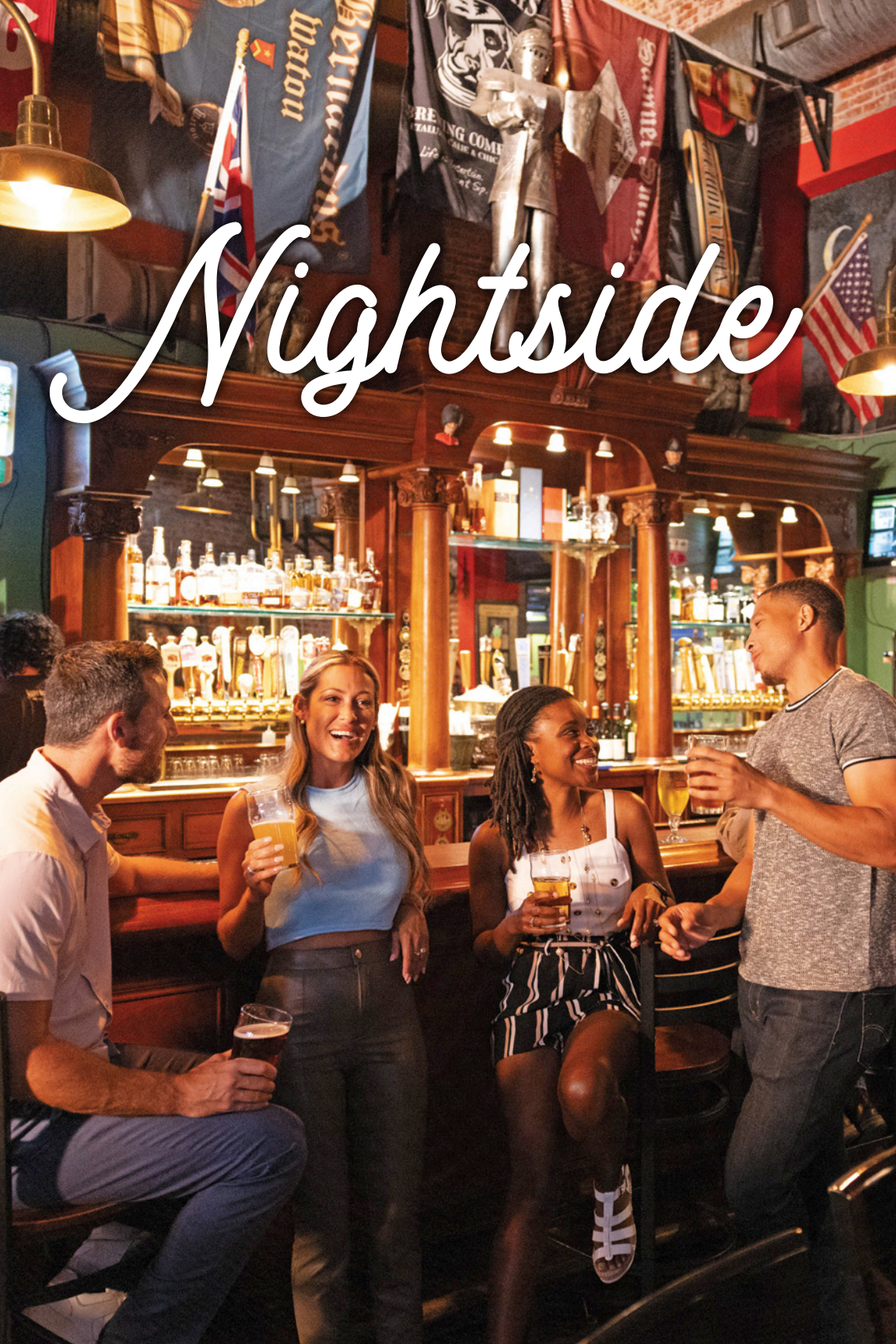
Dive into one of the most extensive drink menus around with hand-crafted shots, specialty martinis, mules, and top-shelf frozen drinks, in a fun atmosphere.



WHAT'S HAPPENING *Tableside*

LET'S EAT ENGLEWOOD

Visit for this annual fall event to enjoy amazing meals at area restaurants at discounted prices. It's a culinary adventure without breaking the bank! See details and all events at PureFlorida.com/Events.



Nightside



The nightlife begins in Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach with a toast to a breathtaking sunset, preferably waterside at one of the area's many casual eateries or happy hour hotspots. The party continues with wining and dining, live music and dancing under the stars.

TT's Tiki Bar is *the* place to kick off your shoes and give your toes some well-deserved sand time while you enjoy one of their specialty cocktails or frozen concoctions. This is a great spot for harborside sunsets and live music under the swaying palms.

Perch 360 is, yes, perched, on the roof of The Wyvern Hotel. You'll want to settle in for a bit to enjoy the best views in town, the tasty tapas, and something from their full bar in the relaxing and elegant décor.

Dean's South of the Border is one of the best places in the area to shake, as it were, your groove thing. This welcoming Tex-Mex joint is always jumping: they feature live music seven days a week.

All-Star Sports Grill in Port Charlotte is a casual indoor/outdoor venue with a sports pub menu and great vibe. It's open late (2am) on weekends, with live music six nights a week.

Dig into upscale comfort food while you enjoy some live music and a one-of-a-kind cocktail in **Leroy's Southern Kitchen and Bar's** homey and convivial atmosphere.

Celtic Ray Public House is not to be missed. Whether you enjoy live music in the outdoor beer garden or hang inside with a Guinness and their world-famous Fish and Chips (do it, trust us), you're going to have a great time.

Housed in the historic Punta Gorda Train Depot, **Downtown Kava** has a fascinating drink menu and an after-hours Sober Speakeasy featuring re-imagined classic cocktails with none of the alcohol.

Experience **The IceHouse Pub**, an authentic British-style pub featuring regulation darts and games, a full menu of British themed staples and American favorites plus 34 tasty beers on tap.

Sandbar Grill & Tiki is the place to be on Manasota Key for great food, atmosphere and people. Live music every night.

Alongside

*Discover every kind of outdoor fun imaginable
and share moments you'll never forget.*




Funny how wide-open spaces can bring you so close together. And here, your family can relax and play on pristine beaches you'll have all to yourself. Hike trails that give you a fascinating look at wildlife. Zip around 830 miles of sparkling shoreline by boat. And enjoy family-friendly attractions, from a concert at Fishermen's Village to a Babcock Ranch Eco-Tour. Even the four-legged kids in your family are welcome – look for the small paw print within the hotel listings for pet-friendly accommodations.



Family Faves



 Craving something sweet? **Harbor Scoops** has a choice of 44 flavors of homemade ice cream. Pair it perfectly with a gorgeous sunset.


 The whole family will enjoy an incredible view of wildlife at **Babcock Ranch Eco-Tours**.



 Hit the playground, have a picnic and enjoy the sweeping views of the harbor at **Gilchrist Park** in Punta Gorda.


 Hang out at **Fishermen's Village** – find that perfect souvenir, grab some lunch or ice cream, and then enjoy views of our beautiful harbor.




 Enjoy laser tag, go karts, an arcade and more at **Kidstar Park** in Port Charlotte.

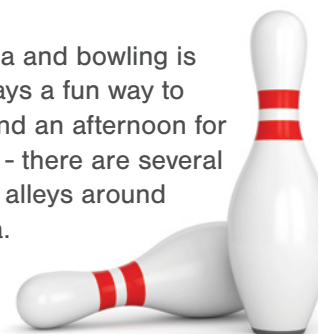


 Kids who like lizards will love **IguanaLand** in Punta Gorda, the largest reptile zoo in the world with over 230 species!

 Splash around at the **Lashley Park Interactive Fountain and Playground** in Punta Gorda.



 Pizza and bowling is always a fun way to spend an afternoon for all ages - there are several bowling alleys around the area.



Side Views

Enjoy a hike at one of the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center's two locations: Cedar Point Park on Lemon Bay in Englewood or the Alligator Creek Preserve in Punta Gorda, home to four miles of trails and a picturesque lake, which is a great place to see, you guessed it, alligators.



Teeside



Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach is home to an impressive list of 15+ challenging golf courses. Golf Pass's Golfer's Choice 2024 ranked Heritage Landing at #2 on the Top 25 Golf Courses in Florida, and #11 for U.S. public courses. You can also enjoy pristine tropical scenery and wildlife as you spend a few rounds sharpening your skills.

See the full list of courses online at PureFlorida.com/Golf.



Year-round gorgeous weather and superb courses make playing on our greens as irresistible as playing on our beaches.

Airside & Roadside



*Getting here and getting around is easy,
no matter how you're traveling.*



PGD Is Your Southwest Florida Airport



Fly nonstop to 50+ destinations with convenient, low-cost air service through Punta Gorda Airport.



FlyPGD.com
28000 A-1 Airport Road
Punta Gorda, FL 33982

BY PLANE

The Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area is serviced by five major airports – Punta Gorda Airport (PGD), Tampa (TPA), St. Petersburg/Clearwater (PIE), Sarasota-Bradenton (SRQ), and Southwest Florida International (RSW). All are convenient options. Punta Gorda also has private jet charters through AirTrek.

BY CAR

Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach is a great hub for exploring other parts of Florida. For example, you can be at Disney World in just 2.5 hours. Many visitors utilize our convenient location as a home base and make relatively short drives to see many of the state's other attractions.

BY BOAT

Water taxis, private boats or charters, and canoes, kayaks or SUPs are the connection between the mainland and captivating islands. Find many marinas with friendly staff and full-service amenities.

BY BIKE

Punta Gorda is a bike-friendly community. You can bring your own or borrow one of the free loaner bikes available. You can also enjoy the Cape Haze Pioneer Trail, an 8.5 mile trek along a circa 1907 railway easement in Englewood.

Bedside



With so many wonderful accommodation options throughout the area, you'll be able to find the perfect place to stay based on the location and price that's right for you. Find everything including resorts, top hotel chains, charming inns, vacation rental homes and condos, RV parks and even a campground. Many places are pet-friendly and offer full kitchens, free bikes or golf carts, and boat transport if staying on an offshore island. Find more information online at PureFlorida.com/Places-to-Stay.



Bedside HOTELS/RESORTS

PUNTA GORDA

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| American Inn Punta Gorda | 941.637.1376 | american-inn.south-west-florida.com |
| Baymont by Wyndham | 941.637.7200 | wyndhamhotels.com/baymont |
| Budget Inn of Punta Gorda | 941.639.8000 | budgetpuntagorda.com |
| Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside 🐾 | 941.637.6770 | fourpointspuntagorda.com |
| Holiday Inn Express & Suites Punta Gorda | 941.205.8002 | holidayinnexpress.com |
| Knights Inn Punta Gorda | 941.505.5701 | redlion.com/knights-inn |
| SpringHill Suites® by Marriott® Punta Gorda Harborside 🐾 | 941.347.4224 | springhillsuites.marriott.com |
| The Suites at Fishermen's Village 🐾 | 941.621.6046 | fishermensvillage.com/stay |
| Wyvern Hotel 🐾 | 941.639.7700 | thewyvernhotel.com |

PORT CHARLOTTE

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Comfort Inn & Suites 🐾 | 941.421.7548 | choicehotels.com/flg39 |
| Country Inn and Suites by Radisson | 941.235.1035 | countryinns.com/portcharlottefl |
| Days Inn by Wyndham Port Charlotte 🐾 | 941.623.9404 | wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn |
| Extended Stay America Premier Suites 🐾 | 941.246.0133 | esa.com/PTC |
| Hampton Inn - Port Charlotte 🐾 | 941.627.5600 | portcharlotte.hamptoninn.com |
| Knights Inn Port Charlotte 🐾 | 941.743.2442 | redlion.com/knights-inn |
| Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Port Charlotte | 941.787.3348 | wyndhamhotels.com/microtel |
| Sleep Inn & Suites 🐾 | 941.613.6300 | sleepinnportcharlotte.com |

CHARLOTTE HARBOR

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Sunseeker Resort Charlotte Harbor 🐾 | 833.914.7300 | sunseekerresorts.com |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|

ENGLEWOOD

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Beach Croft Motel | 941.474.6509 | beachcroftmotel.com |
| Lemon Bay Motel | 941.474.1443 | lemonbaymotel.com |
| Manasota Key Resort 🐾 | 941.474.3431 | manasotakeyresort.com |
| Sun Coast Inn 🐾 | 941.475.6533 | suncoastinn.com |
| Sun Life Beach Hotel | 813.447.1111 | sunlifebeachhotel.com |

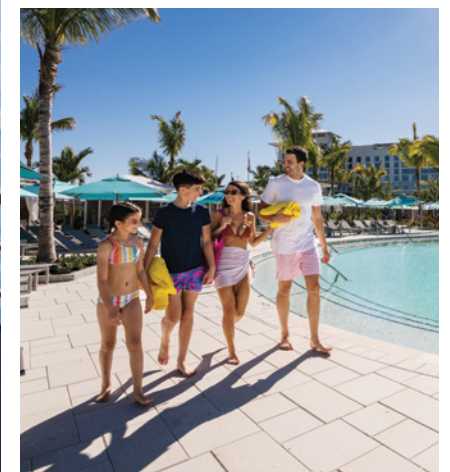
CAPE HAZE

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Palm Island Resort | 941.697.4800 | palmisland.com |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|

BOCA GRANDE

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Boca Grande Hotel | 941.964.4443 | bocagrandehotel.net |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|

🐾 Pet friendly properties (please contact to confirm)



Bedside VACATION RENTALS

Vacation doesn't mean you have to leave the comforts of home behind. Here, you'll find a variety of exceptional vacation rentals, from cozy cottages to spacious houses, many situated right on secluded beaches with breathtaking views.

Relax and reconnect in the privacy of your own space. Enjoy luxuries like having your own personal pool or hot tub. Or the cost-savings of sharing a home with multiple bedrooms or cooking in a fully equipped kitchen instead of dining out. You'll also discover special touches that make you feel right at home, from a welcoming bottle of wine to beach chairs and bikes to use during your stay.

ENGLEWOOD

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Avant Properties | 941.637.4900 | flwestcoastrealty.com/property-management/seasonal-properties |
| Conch Out Vacations 🐾 | 941.474.9536 | englewoodfl.com/conch-out-vacation-rentals |
| Gulf Realty Rentals, Inc. | 941.475.1036 | gulfrealtyinc.com/rental/all-properties |
| The Highview at Stump Pass Place | 941.548.6145 | stumppassplace.com/the-highview |
| Island House on the Beach | 941.474.5019 | islandhouseflorida.net |
| Islander Properties, Inc. 🐾 | 941.697.2000 | islanderproperties.com |
| Manasota Key Condos | 908.500.2158 | manasotakeycondos.com |
| Pelican Shore Cottages | 941.875.0151 | pelicanshorecottages.com |
| Pineapple Gulf Property Management 🐾 | 941.473.0333 | rentenglewood.com/seasonal-listings |
| Rent Me Florida | 941.474.2882 | janlee.biz |
| Sunburst Condominiums | | sunburstcondos.com |




PUNTA GORDA

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| The Cottages at Punta Villas 🐾 | 407.353.3001 | puntavillascottages.com |
| Five Star Realty of Charlotte County | 941.637.6116 | fivestarrealty.com |
| Global Vacation Rentals | 941.265.8598 | globalresorthomes.com/vacation-rentals/charlotte-harbor |
| Lifestyles Realty Group | 941.479.2544 | thelifestylesrealtygroup.com/properties |
| Little Gasparilla Vacation Rentals 🐾 | 813.310.0902 | littlegasparilla.com |
| Place in the Sun Vacation Rentals | 941.697.2175 | placeinthesun.com/index.aspx |
| Tarpon Real Estate | 941.697.9797 | tarponrealestate.com/vacation-rentals/ |

PLACIDA

🐾 Pet friendly properties (please contact to confirm)

BOCA GRANDE

| | | |
|--|--------------|--|
| Boca Grande Real Estate, Inc.  | 941.964.0338 | bocagranderealestate.com/north-end-rentals |
| Boca Grande Vacations | 941.964.2080 | bocagrandevacations.com/vacation/category/bvh |
| Grande Escapes | 941.786.7076 | grandeescapes.com |
| Parsley-Baldwin Realty | 941.964.2700 | rentals.pbgrande.com/off-island |

 Pet friendly properties (please contact to confirm)



Side Stories

THE SUITES AT FISHERMEN'S VILLAGE

Southwest Florida's premier waterfront destination featuring luxury accommodations. Explore boutiques, galleries, fine dining, entertainment and water recreation in an oasis where the endless horizon never goes unnoticed.



THE SUITES AT FISHERMEN'S VILLAGE



1200 W. Retta Esplanade
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941.621.6046
Fishermensvillage.com/stay

Bedside RV PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS

PUNTA GORDA

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Babcock-Webb Campgrounds | | myfwc.com/recreation/lead/babcockwebb/things-to-do/camping |
| Creekside RV Resort 🐾 | 941.833.3334 | creeksidervresort.com |
| Encore Gulf View RV Resort 🐾 | 941.639.3978 | rvonthego.com/florida/gulf-view-rv-resort |
| Harbor Belle RV Resort 🐾 | 941.639.2010 | harborbellervresort.com |
| Peace River RV Park 🐾 | 941.301.8865 | campspot.com/book/peace-river-rv-park |
| Shell Creek RV Resort 🐾 | 941.639.4234 | shellcreekrv.com |
| Sun-N-Shade RV Resort 🐾 | 941.639.5388 | sunnshade.com |

PORT CHARLOTTE

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Encore Harbor Lakes RV Resort 🐾 | 941.624.4511 | rvonthego.com/florida/harbor-lakes-rv-resort |
| Myakka River Motorcoach Resort 🐾 | 941.740.2599 | myakkamotorcoachresort.com |

🐾 Pet friendly properties (please contact to confirm)



Annual Events

The Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach area is absolutely bursting with fun and entertaining events for all ages, all year round. For a complete calendar of upcoming festivities check out PureFlorida.com/Events.

FEBRUARY

Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training
Charlotte Sports Park

Snowbird Baseball
Centennial & South County
Regional Parks

MARCH

**Tampa Bay Rays
Spring Training** (cont.)

Snowbird Baseball (cont.)

**Annual Taste of Punta Gorda
and Beyond**
Laishley Park

Annual Babcock Ranch Art Show
Babcock Ranch Founder's Square

JULY

**Fishermen's Village
Independence Weekend
Celebration**
Fishermen's Village

SEPTEMBER

**Let's Eat! Englewood
Restaurant Week**
Englewood



NOVEMBER

Florida International Air Show
Punta Gorda Airport

Englewood Beach Waterfest
Englewood Beach

Festival of Lights
Fishermen's Village

DECEMBER

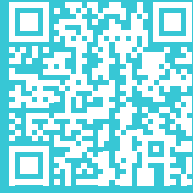
Gardens Aglow
Peace River Botanical
and Sculpture Gardens

**New Year's Eve Celebration
and Fireworks Display**
Fishermen's Village



Scan to find
more great
events.

Want More Ideas on What to Do?



From news, local events, new activities and more,
find out all the latest online. Scan to visit now!



Official Publication of the
Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau
1700 Tamiami Trail, Suite G2, Port Charlotte, FL 33948
PureFlorida.com 941.743.1900

Photography courtesy of Charlotte Symphony Orchestra/Spencer Pullen,
Khoreen Vetter, Jeff Fortuna, Wayne Crawford.

All rights reserved; reproduction in whole or in part prohibited without written permission of the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau. Copyright 2025. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this guide. Dates, times, locations and other specific data are subject to change without notice. The Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau and its agency Aqua Marketing & Communications make no claim of accuracy.

**Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach
Visitor & Convention Bureau**

1700 Tamiami Trail, Suite G2
Port Charlotte, FL 33948



**PUNTA GORDA
ENGLEWOOD BEACH**

The Charlotte Harbor Gulf Island Coast

PureFlorida.com