

FORT LAUDERDALE

explore

GREATER FORT LAUDERDALE



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An aerial photograph of a white speedboat moving through clear, turquoise water, leaving a white wake. The text "WELCOME TO" is in a small, black, sans-serif font, and "Fort Lauderdale" is in a large, orange, cursive script font, both positioned in the upper half of the image.

WELCOME TO

Fort Lauderdale

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

Soak up the sun in Fort Lauderdale, an urban cityscape abundant in art, history, culture and nightlife, perfectly located by the Atlantic Ocean and ready for you to explore.

In this "Venice of America" — so called for the beauty of its elaborate waterways — indulge in luxury, from world-class spas to high-end yachting enclaves. Culture enthusiasts can see a play at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts or catch an art exhibit at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center in the Sistrunk neighborhood, while kids can explore other worlds at the Museum of Discovery and Science. Nature lovers can dive through corals and shipwrecks or wander under the ancient tree canopies at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park. See how the city is changing as you visit historic properties like the Stranahan House, frozen in time. Then traverse artsy neighborhoods, like Flagler Village,

that are transforming local street culture. Take in the vibe and flavors of Fort Lauderdale through its shops and restaurants. Down a pint of locally-made beer at Gulf Stream Brewing Company and enjoy performances by international bands at Revolution Live. And multiple times each year, enjoy major events like the spirited Tortuga Music Festival and the sophisticated Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show that fill the streets and beaches with colorful characters from around the world.

Whether you are a first-time visitor eager to revamp your travel itinerary or a Fort Lauderdale native looking for new experiences in your hometown, there's always something fresh to discover in this dynamic city.

THE Run-down



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

While the beaches of Fort Lauderdale loom large in the public imagination, wander off the beaten path and you'll discover a diverse, culturally-rich area teeming with plenty of colloquial things to do and places to see.

An international travel hub, Fort Lauderdale is the home of Port Everglades, which has more home-ported cruise ships than anywhere else in the world, as well as Fort Lauderdale International Airport, through which travelers move back and forth between South Florida, the Caribbean and the world.

Amid a paradise of sun, sand and water, Fort Lauderdale boasts a business-friendly atmosphere and is home to many marine, technology and avionics enterprises. Residential towers can be found in and around the downtown area, with more modest homes toward the outskirts of the city, but along the rivers and canals are some of the most spectacular mansions to be seen. The waterways are also a stage for visual spectacles like the annual Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade, considered the informal launch of the city's holiday season.

▲ A cruise ship departs from Port Everglades.

Live music flourishes at spots around the city like Brew Next Door and concert venue America's Backyard. And Fort Lauderdale's nightlife lives up to its reputation, thanks to a selection of sophisticated venues – rooftop bars like the Sparrow and Hide Tide, as well as fun spots like Pirate Republic.

Revitalization efforts are underway around Historic Sistrunk, Fort Lauderdale's oldest African-American community. The arts and culture scene in Fort Lauderdale is thriving with a vibrant community of creators and the city has seen a boom in the visual arts, buoyed by an active calendar of events. There are family-friendly activities like Las Olas Art Fairs, F.A.T. Village Art Walks and Sunday Jazz Brunches along Riverwalk. More glamorous experiences include Art Fort Lauderdale, where you can take water taxis to several luxurious waterfront properties featuring curated art exhibitions.

On Las Olas Boulevard, don't miss the now iconic monumental sculpture by Daniel Popper, featuring a fern-laden alcove hollowed beneath a fairy-tale giant. Grand, eccentric and magical, the artwork is very much like the city it calls home – as Fort Lauderdale never fails to delight and surprise.

▼ *The Hive, located in Flagler Village, is an iconic development with unique shops, bars and eateries.*

► *The "Thrive" sculpture at Society Las Olas.*



ESSENTIAL

ATTRACTIONS

With year-round great weather, amazing beaches, nightlife, shopping, arts and adventure, Fort Lauderdale is an ideal vacation and stay-cation destination. From gondola rides to museum tours, day spas to eclectic dining and outdoor adventure, there's always lots to do.



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN



FORT LAUDERDALE BEACHES

▲ Seven miles of sparkling seashore stretch along the Atlantic side of Florida’s coast to make up the beaches of Fort Lauderdale. On one side is the turquoise ocean, and on the other is the city’s signature promenade, dotted with shops, restaurants and entertainment venues, separated by the award-winning wave wall – a short, swirling structure extending two miles north to south.

Enjoy roller skating along the promenade, laying out on the sand or indulging in watersport activities. There are playgrounds, a world-class aquatics complex and Las Olas Marina, providing activities for all ages so the whole family can make the most of their time in paradise.

Three miles of the beach are supervised by Fort Lauderdale Ocean Rescue with a number of lifeguard towers to ensure public safety.

THE GALLERIA AT FORT LAUDERDALE

▼ Featuring over 100 retailers and popular eateries, The Galleria at Fort Lauderdale is one of the premier shopping destinations in South Florida.

The multi-story indoor mall is home to stores like Banana Republic, Williams Sonoma and Apple. Shoppers can find everything from clothing to home goods to technology products. And if you get hungry, choose from the food court for a casual meal or restaurants like P.F. Chang’s or Cooper’s Hawk Winery and Restaurant for fine dining. The Galleria is open seven days a week with ample parking and valet service available. The mall is even a stop for the Fort Lauderdale Water Taxi. For those trying to go green, The Galleria offers premium vehicle charging stations for Tesla drivers as well as standard electric charging stations throughout the garage.

➡ **2414 E. Sunrise Blvd. | galleriamall-fl.com**





BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

▲ The anchor of the vibrant Riverwalk Arts and Entertainment District, Broward Center for the Performing Arts began its journey in 1991 with an inaugural performance of "The Phantom of the Opera."

With three theaters on-site, the center hosts more than 700 performances annually and is ranked among the top ten most-visited theaters in the world. Patrons can find Broadway musicals, operas, ballets, concerts, plays, lectures and community events on the calendar. The venue also has one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the country. Partnerships with organizations like Gold Coast Jazz and Symphony of the Americas guarantee a robust roster of entertainment offerings. Free, behind-the-scenes tours are available on the first Sunday of each month during the neighborhood's Sunday Jazz Brunch.

➡ 201 S.W. 5th Ave. | browardcenter.org



MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE

◀ The Museum of Discovery and Science offers 119,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits that explore natural and physical sciences, a 300-seat AutoNation IMAX Theatre and an open-air Grand Atrium with the Great Gravity Clock – 52 feet tall and the biggest kinetic energy sculpture in Florida. This showpiece of the museum is one of only three worldwide.

In the EcoDiscovery Center, visitors can learn about the connections between human actions and the natural world. The Mangurian Foundation Lifelong Learning Center allows visitors to explore health, conservation and the physics of flight. And the 27,000 square foot Science Park provides exhibits that demonstrate principles of physics and engineering through group interaction. MODS is open seven days a week, year-round.

➡ 401 S.W. 2nd St. | mods.org



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE

▲ The 83,000 square-foot building designed by architect Edward Larrabee Barnes contains 25,000 square feet of exhibition space and a 256-seat auditorium. The museum's permanent collection contains 7,500 works, including post-war, avant-garde pieces from artists who resisted German occupation during World War II and the largest collection of works by American painter William J. Glackens. It is known for its emphasis on traditionally marginalized communities, like Black and Hispanic artists. In addition, the museum features outdoor murals and houses an international exhibition program meant to challenge perceptions of the global community.

➡ 1 E. Las Olas Blvd. | nsuartmuseum.org

AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

▲ AARLCC is a 60,000 square-foot public library and event facility anchoring the Sistrunk neighborhood, Fort Lauderdale's most historically significant Black community. The building, only the third of its kind in the nation, is equipped with an expansive auditorium, exhibit area, conference and seminar rooms and dance studios. The special collection holds 85,000 items including rare books, artifacts, art and manuscripts by Black authors and creatives such as "Roots" author, Alex Haley. Stage plays, an annual book fair, regular art exhibitions and destination-themed events are only some of the activities hosted here.

➡ 2650 Sistrunk Blvd.



DRV PNK STADIUM

DRV PNK Stadium, developed and owned by David Beckham, is a 19,000-seat facility that serves as soccer club Inter Miami CF's training complex for its home team, youth academy and the United Soccer League's team, Fort Lauderdale CF.

In addition to world-class soccer matches, DRV PNK Stadium offers the community 34 acres of youth soccer fields, an expansive park and a community center.

1350 N.W. 55th St.
intermiamicf.com

XTREME ACTION PARK

► Featuring over 200,000 square feet of indoor entertainment, Xtreme Action Park offers go kart racing, bowling, a ropes adventure course, a trampoline park, a 12,000 square-foot roller skating rink, escape rooms and more. Have fun with over 100 interactive arcade games, the glow-in-the-dark arena for laser tag or the XD Dark Ride Theater featuring a 7D immersive experience where guests engage in multisensory adventures.

Recently awarded National Family Entertainment Center Location of the Year, it is the largest all-ages indoor entertainment venue in Florida. On-site eats include American comfort foods, local craft brews and premium liquors.

There are private rooms and meeting spaces overlooking the asphalt go kart track, and free high-speed internet. Visit for family entertainment, an adventurous date or your next corporate team-building event.

► **5300 Powerline Road**
xtremeactionpark.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY XTREME ACTION PARK



REVOLUTION LIVE

▲ For more than 15 years, Revolution Live has brought legendary musicians to Fort Lauderdale's live music scene, and it continues to be a draw for up-and-coming artists as well as seasoned performers. The venue delivers an intimate audience experience and has seen acts like Lady Gaga and The Weeknd grace its stage before they broke out as headlining artists.

Awarded "Best of Miami" Rock Club in 2018, Revolution Live delivers on its mission of offering innovative experiences. VIP seating and bottle service are available during concert viewing, and the venue is open to booking private and corporate events. They offer on-site catering, custom beverage packages, entertainment and production, event staff and more.

➡ **100 S.W. 3rd Ave.**
jointherevolution.net

RHYTHM AND VINE

▼ With the tagline #JustChill, you know there's fun to be had at Rhythm and Vine. Their garden experience is filled with lush, tropical foliage, island-inspired art and rustic outdoor furniture. The bar is a converted airstream trailer, and the vibe is "backyard party." Over in the Den, visitors are surrounded by pop art and vintage decor awash in dim, mood-enhancing lighting.

Food trucks rotate throughout the week for local bites that complement the venue's handcrafted cocktails like Plaid Pants or Chapo's Tunnel.

Weekly specials include The Garage Sale, which happens on one Sunday each month, with live music, over 30 vendors and a brunch food truck.

➡ **401 N.E. 5th Terrace | rhythm-vine.com**



PHOTOGRAPHY: MARINA POUPART

Live Like a Local



Dan
FRANKLIN

Stats: I am a 38 year old real estate agent and, in a former life, owned a coffee shop in downtown Fort Lauderdale. I love my city and pretty much all things outdoors.

Lobster roll: I think one thing everyone must participate in at one point or another is lobster mini season. It celebrates something truly unique about South Florida and even if you're just riding in the boat and spending those two days on the water, instead of actually diving in search of Florida lobster, they have a special energy about them.

Where to chill: I really enjoy spending time in the little art districts around the area. So many people are living out dreams running these businesses and they just have a ton of soul about them. These (and many more like them) are the places that make Fort Lauderdale great in my mind.

Simple pleasures: My favorite dining experience in Fort Lauderdale is happy hour at S3. Good cocktails and their small bites are fantastic. Otherwise I recommend eating a pizza at Heritage, drinking a coffee at Wells or grabbing a beer from Laser Wolf.



▲ Wells Coffee Company roasts their own beans on site.



▲ Catch a show at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

Anna
VISNITSKAYA



Stats: I am a fine art curator and consultant in my late 30s. My mind is both creative and logical, which really helps to navigate a world full of innovation and surprises.

Along the boulevard: Las Olas is a pleasant place to stroll, eat and visit the galleries. Take a leisurely drive down the boulevard all the way east to the beach, then stop for lunch at Sun, Surf, Sand (S3) in the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort.

Where to chill: The main entrance to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts overlooks the New River with dreamy yachts and sailboats drifting by. After an exciting show, stroll along the river's edge with your head still full of music.

Dine off the beaten path: Hardy Park Bistro is a hidden gem owned by a mother-son team. My favorites are the open-face chicken salad sandwich on fresh baked bread, grilled salmon nicoise salad and the grilled ribeye.

Bonus share: Fort Lauderdale offers quite a few art galleries, as well as a robust cultural calendar with operas, plays, concerts and exhibitions. Attend as many of them as possible.



Kelley SHANLEY

Stats: I'm a 55-year-old married father of three. I am happiest when spending time traveling with my family or in a roomful of familiar people enjoying each other's company. I have a passion for the arts, bringing people together and the role that art can play in education.

Much to see: Riverwalk is a unique destination where you can enjoy Fort Lauderdale's history, culture and dynamic dining scene, all while you enjoy the beautiful setting. If you're looking for a cozy place to enjoy a few cocktails, try Apothecary 330. It has a speakeasy attitude tucked away in the back of Pizza Craft.

Where to chill: I'll often bring guests to Hugh Taylor Birch State Park and spend an afternoon with a beer at Park and Ocean. The setting captures the casual essence and atmosphere of a city by the ocean.

Breakfast club: The OB House is a favorite, delivering great food. Thoughtfully sourced, exquisitely prepared. The oven baked pancake is a must try. That's been the go-to order for my daughter for years, but she's missing out on the rest of their amazing menu that is worthy of exploration.

Bonus share: Fort Lauderdale is a place to combine your love of the arts with the sunshine and the beach. Ours has more theater offerings than any other Florida city.



▲ OB House is a breakfast bistro in a nearly 100 year old building.



▲ Glitch Bar features old-school arcade and video games.

Rod HAGWOOD



Stats: I was a fashion editor for about 30 years, so doing things with as much style as allowable is important to me. At 58 years old, I continue to enjoy seeing shows, dining out and getting exercise.

A walk about: Downtown, where I live, we are surrounded by entertainment, dining and drinking villages including Himmarshee Village and the Progresso District. The neighborhoods are walkable and there's a good chance you'll come upon a block party, outdoor green market, food truck gathering or an al fresco music festival.

Where to chill: Some of the best dining and lounges are within walking distance of each other in Flagler Village. Foodies of all ilk go to The Hive, a warren of eateries in warehouses and storefronts along the railroad track. My favorites are Heritage and Poke LoLo. The Hive also has Glitch Bar and nearby is Roxanne's, both of which are fun. After dinner, grab some cookies at Batch.

Island grill: You need to get some "Floribbean" cuisine. I like Eats 876 Modern Caribbean Grill, a new, industrial-chic dining room that seats 74 people at tables, low-slung couches and banquettes. I always end up ordering Chef Robinson's Trinidadian calypso chicken wings to share and the platter of tropical seasoned vegetables to gorge on all by myself.

Bonus share: My husband and I splurge on live performances, and there are some quirky local theaters to be found at Fort Lauderdale's Empire Stage and Thinking Cap Theatre.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

▼ Riverwalk runs along the northern bank of the New River.

Street by Street

EXPLORING FORT LAUDERDALE'S ICONIC NEIGHBORHOODS

Beyond the beaches and bustling downtown area, there are a number of beloved thoroughfares, enclaves and neighborhoods that give Fort Lauderdale the eclectic, trendy character for which it has become known.

RIVERWALK

Just south of Las Olas, the Riverwalk district is its own tropical Fort Lauderdale hideaway, though it runs along an impressive expanse of the New River's northern bank, twisting its way through the city. Riverwalk was designed for scenic strolls where you can watch boats, paddlers and birds go by while checking out gorgeous waterside residences and businesses along the way. There's a charming, free-to-ride water trolley that transports visitors along the river and its pathways, stopping at eight tour destinations as passengers attraction-hop. Also within the district are 10 city parks, several outdoor exercise stations, great places to grab a meal and plenty of lush tropical foliage.

➡ goriverwalk.com



▲ Las Olas Boulevard is one of Fort Lauderdale's most active boutique strips.

LAS OLAS

While exploring the city, chances are good that you'll find yourself strolling along Las Olas Boulevard. Beginning in the downtown area and ending at Fort Lauderdale Beach to the east, Las Olas presents immersive Floridian charm, providing all the entertainment you need for a full day of activity. The boulevard is your most scenic route to the beach, drawing you in with lots of window shopping, stunning art galleries and the smells of tropical delectables.

Along Las Olas, the Historic Stranahan House Museum offers a bit of Fort Lauderdale history, while nearby, the sounds of live music fill the air. There are dozens of amazing places to nosh – among them fine dining options, relaxed cafes and ideal waterfront eateries with tropical ambiance. In the incredible array of stores, you'll find everything from luxury jewelry and home decor to trendy clothing and souvenirs.

➡ lasolasboulevard.com

FLAGLER VILLAGE AND MASS DISTRICT

A few blocks north of Las Olas, Flagler Village is one of the more culturally enriching places to spend a day. Find boutique yoga studios alongside an amazing selection of trendy bars, breweries and restaurants. Do a bit of shopping and check out some local art. It's also one of the best areas in the city for luxury apartment and condo living.

Nestled within Flagler Village are the Music & Arts South of Sunrise (MASS) District and the nearby Flagler Arts and Technology (FAT) Village, both home to an incredible variety of small businesses and makers all focused on fostering talent in arts, music and culture. MASS District and FAT Village jointly host a popular art walk on the last Saturday of each month from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

➡ flaglervillagefortlauderdale.com | massdistrict.com

HISTORIC SISTRUNK

"The Heart and Soul of the City," Historic Sistrunk is Fort Lauderdale's oldest predominantly Black community. Sistrunk Boulevard, the area's main thoroughfare, is home to notable churches and landmarks from the past, as well as up-and-coming restaurants and businesses thriving amid recent redevelopment activities. The community is named for Dr. James Franklin Sistrunk, founder of Broward County's first Black hospital.



With incredible access to the Atlantic Ocean along its east coast, striking rivers that slice through the city, and an exquisitely unique canal system, Fort Lauderdale is, at its heart, a water-lover's haven. For those who crave wet and wild adventure, aquatic excursions are available around every corner.

REEFS

Nestled just 1,000 feet from the shoreline at Vista Park Beach is a world of colors and surprises just below the gentle waves. Vista Park Reef is a stunning coral reef that's simultaneously accessible and a bit off the beaten path. It's beloved by locals but not too crowded with visitors. A day of diving or snorkeling here will enchant you with glimpses of colorful coral, stingrays, lobsters and plenty of darting tropical fish. Nearby, Barracuda Reef is also a haven for scuba divers and snorkelers alike. You're unlikely to spot barracuda in this shallow reef, but peek behind rocks to catch a glimpse of massive Florida lobsters and observe peaceful blue tangs, hogfish, angelfish and others as you drift through the warm waves.

SHIPWRECKS

A barge submerged off the coast of Fort Lauderdale in 1986 is now a well-loved location for divers. Hog Heaven Shipwreck was sunk intentionally to create an artificial reef and it's living up to this goal by hosting flourishing populations of fish, including large numbers of hogfish. Divers can also keep their eyes peeled for a range of other visitors, including nurse sharks and groupers, or swim nearby to another sunken barge – the Wayne – for more exploration.

Buried on the ocean floor since 1989, the Robert Edmister Shipwreck is another local spot popular with open water divers. The most popular and largest of a group of three closely connected wrecks, the Edmister was once a coast guard vessel. The Paul Sherman shipwreck is just north of the Edmister, and the Wendy Rosshem is just about 100 feet away, connected by a guide cord. These shipwrecks are loaded with fish and other creatures waiting to be surveyed by intrepid divers.

SAILING

You may prefer to enjoy the water in a more sophisticated way. If so, check out Tropical Sailing. They offer an incredible range of tours that will take you out on luxurious yachts or catamarans to enjoy the scenery, snorkel the reef or sip a drink while you admire a stunning sunset. For those ready for an extra splurge, you can even choose a private yacht rental and enjoy the city in fine style.

WATER SPORTS

While you're probably familiar with jet skis, SEABOBs might be a new concept. Essentially, they are smaller, water-operating electric vehicles. The rider holds onto the SEABOB's handles and uses the machine to cruise along the surface of the water and even below it for snorkeling and observing sea life. It's a simple, safe system that allows you to swim, dolphin-like, at around eight miles an hour. Both personal rentals and guided tours are available. And even if you prefer to opt for the more traditional, surface-dwelling jet ski, you can rent either or both from Beach Ventures.

▼ Dive deep with a SEABOB from Beach Ventures.

► Soar above the surf on a flyboard from Aqua Flight.



For the adrenaline junkies who want even bigger water thrills, Aqua Flight may be the spot to hit. Take to the waves on an electric surfboard reaching speeds of up to 24 mph. This is a great water sports option because it is accessible to learn in a single session, even if you're not a surfing pro. Even more extreme are flyboards, which lift you right off the water and into the air above, providing an amazing rush and a unique view of Fort Lauderdale's coast.

For an elevated perspective, spend a day with Aloha Parasail flying high above the beach, coast and stunning waves. Have a blast on the 15-minute ride alone or take a double ride with a friend and enjoy the views together.



PHOTOGRAPHY: AWAY SPA

Fort Lauderdale provides plenty of opportunities for relaxation with some of the best spas in Florida.

The AWAY Spa, located in the W Fort Lauderdale Hotel, is the perfect intersection of modern luxury and convenience. The spa presents exquisite ambiance and a lavish experience, treating every guest to a complementary elixir shot before services and offering a categorized menu. This would be an amazing pick for a full day of solo rejuvenation and relaxation as well as an afternoon with the girls for pedicures and mini massages.

For a retreat into peace and tranquility, The Spa at Auberge Beach is a stunner. The facility focuses on bringing the best of nature, particularly from the local area, into every treatment. The spa has water- and sand-inspired elements at every turn and indigenous ingredients and techniques from the tropics to enhance each service. Whether your muscles are releasing tension

under the influence of blue mineral oils or salt treatments are calming your nerves and body, you can bet on leaving this spa feeling like you just had a long, tropical getaway.

For those who yearn for time spent by the sea, a day of self-care at The Ritz-Carlton Spa is a great choice. Ocean-inspired, the spa is extraordinary from top to bottom, covered in stone and marble with the added benefit of local ingredients and natural elements in every treatment. They pay special homage to the delights of citrus, particularly in the signature Rebalancing Citrus Spring treatment, featuring a citrus scrub, full-body massage and lots of luxurious oils and tinctures. And while this is an amazing place to spend an entire day to yourself, it would also be an incredible place to bring a partner for a couple's massage and any other treatments you have your hearts set on.

Yachting

**CAPITAL OF
THE WORLD**

A boater's paradise. A yachter's haven. Fort Lauderdale has a well-earned reputation as the yachting capital of the world. So what makes this slice of South Florida so supreme for seafarers aboard high-end vessels?

WATERFRONT GOLD

Boasting over 165 miles of navigable waterways just in the city limits, Fort Lauderdale offers plenty of space to meander, explore and dock while taking in sunsets, sunny skies and views of gorgeous homes and natural riches around every curve. And when the passing yacht owner gets hungry, there is even a vast array of restaurants and bars directly on the water with dock spots open and waiting. There is a range of gorgeous marinas throughout the city where future yacht owners can eye up their aspirations and where, each day, boaters can dock and unwind.

ATTRACTION CENTRAL

Never shy on things to do, Fort Lauderdale also boasts diverse activities and attractions to keep yachters occupied. Visitors can charter a luxury vessel for a day and bring their loved ones along for an unforgettable excursion. Fishing enthusiasts can find great places to idle in the canals or out on the open sea, so they can expect a wide variety of catch. Take a dip off the boat and explore Fort Lauderdale's 76 stunning man-made reefs, all accessible by snorkel or scuba. And for those who like to relax on the water, they can people-watch as paddleboards, parasails, wakeboards and sailboats pass by in every direction.

At Bahia Mar Resort and Yachting Center, a yacht-focused upscale marina with gorgeous coastal access, the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show is hosted annually, proving the city's yachting capital status with several days of the world's best yachts, boat debuts and a sea-centric upscale entertainment.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN





▲ Touring the city by bike with Cycle Party.

SEE THE SIGHTS

Whether you prefer traveling on foot, on wheels, over water or high above it all, there are great options for your tour around Fort Lauderdale.

BIKING AND WALKING

For the gastronomically inclined, Las Olas Food Tours, Inc. is the way to go. Spend a leisurely couple of lunch hours strolling Las Olas Boulevard with expert guides. They provide tidbits of cultural and historical information while taking you for the most scrumptious morsels in town from an array of local-favorite and off-the-beaten-path dining spots.

For a more active dry land option, snag a spot on a cycling tour. A Classic Bike Tour from Riverwalk Activities is a great way to spend the day seeing the city and learning about it as you go. The two-hour, five-mile adventure moves at a relaxed pace. However, if you want the biking experience with a bit of a party atmosphere, grab some friends and opt for a Cycle Party instead. The roving tours are pedal-powered bar crawls, taking you to a few of the city's best watering holes as you maneuver your massive group bike through Fort Lauderdale's scenic corridors.

THROUGH WATER AND SKIES

For those with a passion for the water, Las Olas Gondola takes you for scenic and ultra-romantic voyages through the Fort Lauderdale canals. These tours offer private cabins, well-dressed gondoliers, and relaxing floats past some of the stunning mansions and gardens in the city.

Perfect for groups, families and nights out with friends, Jungle Queen Riverboat offers sightseeing cruises to tropical islands and others that feature dinner and live entertainment.

If you're looking for an unconventional activity, try a paddleboard tour through the canals with your favorite furry friend. SupPup Paddleboard offers rentals and guided tours, perfect for beginners on two, and four, feet.

The pinnacle of adventure, though, might be taking in the views of the city from above. Breeze Helicopters offers shared and private tours of Fort Lauderdale in a variety of lengths and routes, so you can decide how much and what you'd like to see.



A great beer scene provides a range of craft options, artisan brewers and local specialty beers. Here are our picks for the new and improved bar crawl around the heart of Fort Lauderdale.

▲ American Icon Kitchen & Taproom's classic interior.

Tarpon River Brewing is just a few years old. Despite its age, it is backed by the experience of Fort Lauderdale craft beer legends who have been pioneers of the scene for decades. They eventually decided to make their brewery dreams a reality. The historic building is nearly 100 years old and in its iteration as a taphouse, it serves a huge variety of locally made beers, from hard stouts to fruity sours, plus a tasty menu of bar food with upscale twists.

For an experience that's unique and exclusive from start to finish, Invasive Species Brewing is a great spot with extremely wild and constantly changing beer varieties that you can get in the taproom and nowhere else. Beyond the beer lineup, you can also find eats from Billy's Curbside Grill five days a week. What may be most intriguing

of all is the wall-to-wall taxidermy – like you've entered a frozen safari.

A bit more classic both in drinks and in food offerings, American Icon Kitchen & Taproom is ideal for kicking back at the end of the day. Their lineup of beers is sophisticated and simple – craft brews that follow a more timeless energy with flavorful twists. Try their pale ale with mild tropical notes or an IPA with a hint of pine. Enjoy that drink with a delicious plate since each beer comes with a recommended food pairing made in-house.

An establishment that proudly declares itself "something different," Sistrunk Marketplace & Brewery truly is beyond the ordinary. The space is a collection of various eateries, from a bento-box-focused restaurant to empanadas to-go. Also enjoy great shops and the Khoffner brewery, sporting a menu

of craft ales and lagers.

For a modern experience, Gulf Stream Brewing Company does the trick. The immersive taproom combines the enjoyment of gathering and sharing a drink with great ambiance, regular events, plenty of games to enjoy and a bit of a peek into the brewing process. They specialize in beers that combine the freshest local ingredients and experimental ideas like the Everyone Under the Sun beer – the official beer of Visit Lauderdale. They also specialize in amazing pizzas.

Finally, hit LauderAle, Fort Lauderdale's first nano-brewery making tiny batches. This spot features an outdoor beer garden, on-site food trucks, 30 constantly changing taps and a unique electric brewing method. See for yourself.

PHOTO JOURNAL

Beaches and Murals



▲ Two beach-goers walk along the Fort Lauderdale beachfront promenade.

With sparkling ocean views to the east and miles of walkable sand, the beaches of Fort Lauderdale offer much to explore.

Stroll down the paved sidewalks and wave wall along A1A. This famous beachfront promenade plays host to street performers, or roller skaters and skateboarders practicing their skills, so people watching is a must.

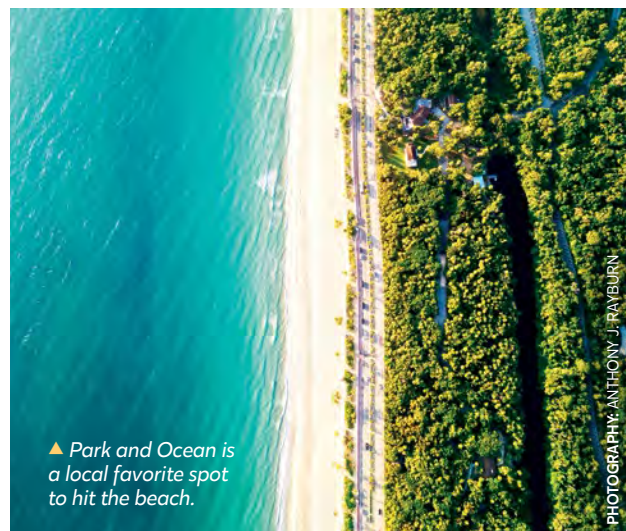
Once you set your sights on that perfect spot on the sand, set up for a relaxing day of tanning, swimming, sand castles and picnics. For the athletic type, go for an early morning jog, or stretch at sunrise yoga on the beach, and feel the seabreeze against your skin. Thrill-seekers can stop by one of the many vendors along the beach and be on a jet ski, paddleboard or parasail above the waves within the hour.



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

The beaches of Fort Lauderdale are also amazing for snorkeling and scuba diving – especially at Vista Park Reef, a shallow reef just off the shoreline, where you can expect to see vibrant corals, tropical fish, sea urchins and even a lone nurse shark gliding through an underwater habitat.

When you're ready for a bite, stop at any of the multiple beachside restaurants serving up fresh catch.



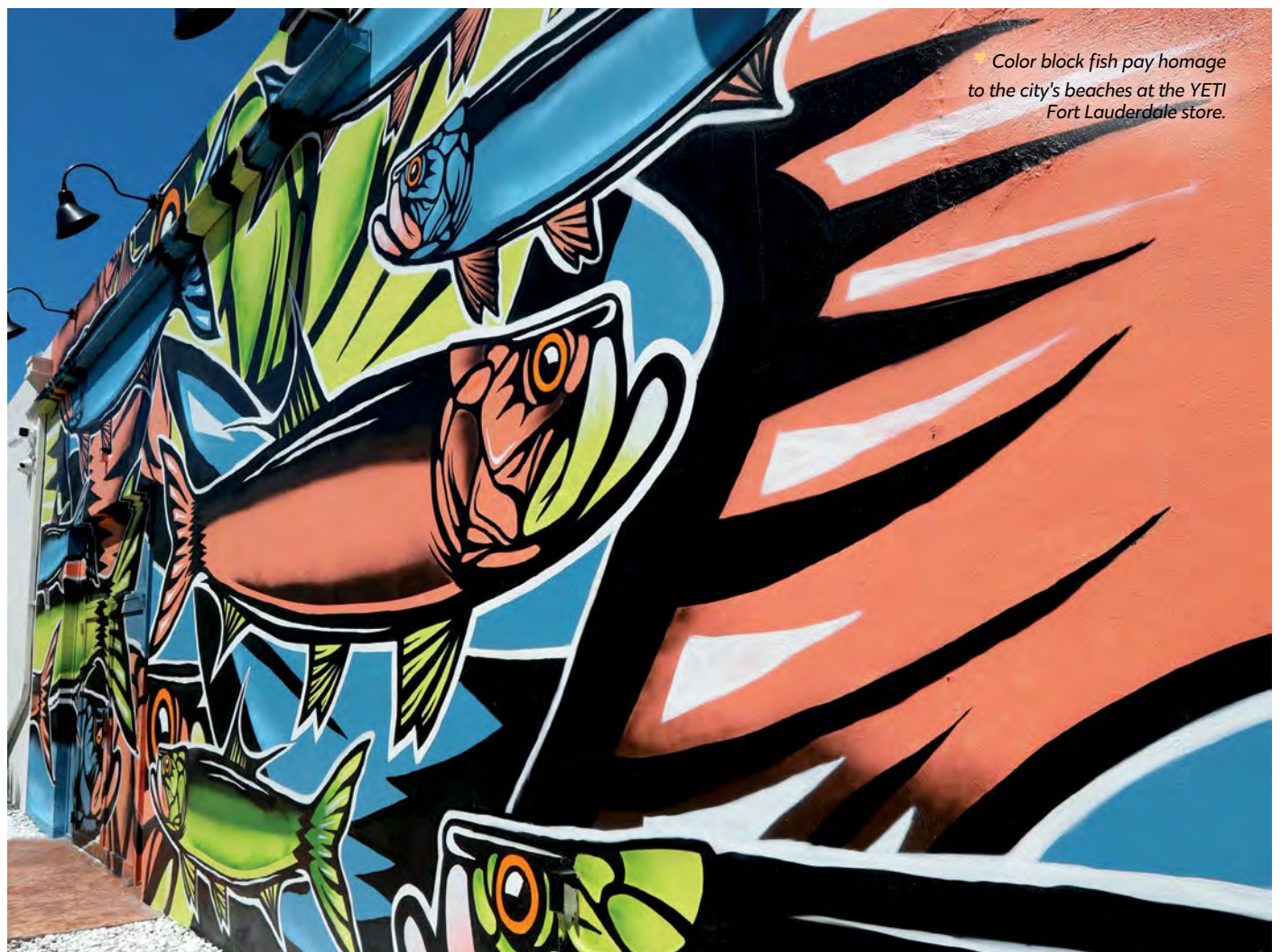
PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

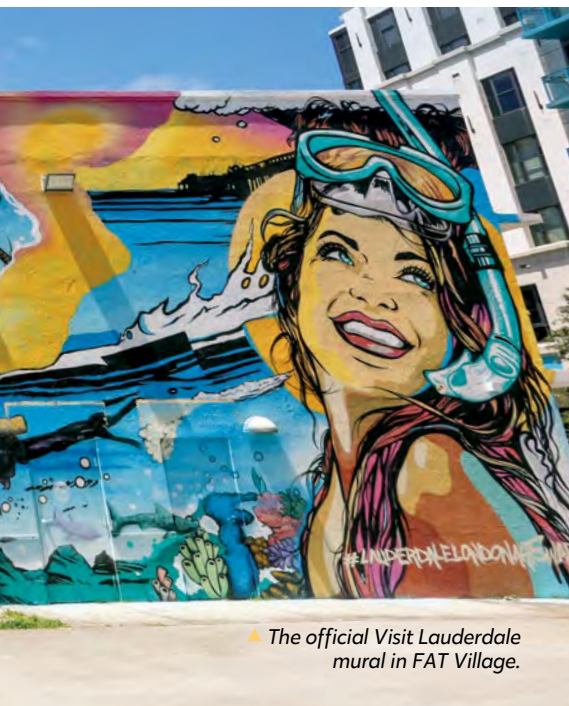
▲ Park and Ocean is a local favorite spot to hit the beach.



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

▼ A concrete wave wall separates the beach from AIA.





▲ The official Visit Lauderdale mural in FAT Village.

If you thought Fort Lauderdale was only about the beaches and nightlife, guess again! Near the downtown area are a number of communities brimming with local art and culture.

When walking through FAT Village, MASS District and other sections of Flagler Village, you'll find extravagant paint and graffiti on many walls and around virtually every street corner. Business buildings, storefronts and local shops are all adorned with beautiful murals that harmoniously articulate the area's personality in vibrant style.

The murals are all publicly accessible, and if you're lucky, you can even spot local artists adding to the art in real time. Abstract art, panoramic scenes, realism and masterful color block designs are scattered throughout, including the new Visit Lauderdale mural in FAT Village, all serving as a reminder of how public art can play a starring role in the production of a community.



▼ Marilyn Monroe mural at the Arts and Crafts Social Club in Flagler Village.

RESTAURANTS

Indulge in Fort Lauderdale's wide range of dining options, where lunch can entice you with traditional Greek fare, Bahamian favorites or oodles of noodles from the Far East, while dinner can transport you to India or Mexico, as well as offering up an abundance of seaside surf and turf specialties.



EATAPAS

◀ Create a custom sangria right at your table with a choice of wine and fruits, the perfect complement to a plethora of tapas like *patatas bravas* (roasted potatoes with a spicy sauce), *chorizos al cava* (sausage in a wine reduction) and *champinones* or *gambas al ajillo* (garlic mushrooms or shrimp) which are also served at happy hour. For dinner, steak, salmon, lamb and chicken entrees are available along with traditional *paella*, all accompanied by live music and flamenco dancing.

➡ 4140 N. Federal Highway | eatapasfl.com

S3 – SUN SURF SAND

Oceanfront dining and breathtaking views create the perfect setting for lunch, dinner, brunch, happy hour and private catered events. Gourmet items like wok charred edamame, tuna tataki and goat cheese croquettes appear on the tiered prix fixe event menus and on the everyday menu, as do a variety of rolls and sashimi. Entrées also include delectable sandwiches like the S3 burger with in-house smoked bacon and chili rubbed Bavette steak, as well as lighter small plates.

➡ 505 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd.
s3restaurant.com



CARLOS & PEPES

Start with homemade chips and salsa or fish dip, or the crab nachos. But save some room. Although American fare like cheeseburgers and skirt steak are on the menu, the authentic Mexican dishes here shine, with burritos made with shredded beef, and fried ice cream liberally drizzled with chocolate. The margaritas are spectacular, with fresh-squeezed lime and lemon and the option to create your own margarita from a range of tequilas.

1302 S.E. 17th St. | carlosandpepesfl.com

NOODLE STATION

If you're not sure what you're in the mood for, Noodle Station offers lots of choices. Try signature bowls like The O.G. Ramen and American Samurai. You can also build your own bowl with your choice of protein, catering to meat lovers and vegetarians alike, with options like udon, soba, ramen or rice noodles, savory chicken, pork or sweet potato broth and fresh veggies. Grab some meat or vegetable *bao* buns to complement the hearty bowl.

3045 N. Federal Highway, Unit 60B | eatnoodlestation.com



MILK MONEY BAR AND KITCHEN

Have coffee and cocktails at this bar and kitchen offering breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Grab a nitro cold brew with a house-made syrup and snack on avocado toast with maple bacon and eggs. Enjoy Sriracha-glazed Brussels sprouts, burrata steak salad or lemon chicken pasta. From their cocktail bar, names like "Fort Laudy Painkiller" and "Baisexual" are sure to pique your interest.

815 N.E. 13th St. | milkmoneybar.com



BOMBAY DARBAR

Bombay Darbar is an ideal place to dine in for a special occasion, and they'll also cater for your event with an array of delicious, authentic and well-loved dishes from India. Traditional favorites can be tailored to your tastes, from very mild to extremely spicy, whether it's a vegetarian choice like *bhindi masala* — a dish of crispy fried okra cooked in

an exotic blend of Indian spices — or Tandoori lamb chops prepared in the clay oven. For lunch, the *thali* special lets you choose smaller portions for one platter to share.

1521 E. Las Olas Blvd. | bombaydarbar.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF SOCIAL BRAND MARKETING

TAKATO

▲ Japanese and Korean fusion cuisine provides a midday to late evening dining experience featuring Kobe Wagyu striploin, rock shrimp *tempura* and *kimchi* fried rice. Try a wide variety of sushi, *maki*, *nigiri* and *sashimi*, with happy hour serving up oysters as well. The breakfast menu here can range from ultra-healthy – with smoothies, veggie omelets, acai bowls and avocado toast – or ultimate comfort if you go with the short rib benedict or decadent buttermilk waffles.

➡ 551 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. | takatorestaurant.com

STEELPAN KITCHEN & BAR

▼ Dishes from The Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Haiti and Cuba dot the menu, featuring salads, sandwiches and entrees for breakfast, lunch and dinner. At breakfast and brunch, which includes bottomless mimosas, patrons can indulge in traditional French toast and pancakes with an island twist through infusions of guava or a Captain Morgan cinnamon glaze. At any time of day, savor meals like jerk chicken wings, blackened mahi or island coconut shrimp tacos and yucca fries with mojo garlic sauce.

➡ 999 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. | steelpanftl.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: MARINA POUPART

THE WILDER

◀ The list of dining options showcases small plates that reflect South Florida's diverse cultures. Try *banh mi empanadas* (spicy pork with vegetables) and *kimchi* aioli – and *patatas bravas* (roasted spicy potato tapas). The drink menu features unique designer cocktails with premium liquors. Combine those with the bottle service, wines and champagnes imported from places like California or New Zealand, and it sets the stage for a great vibe and a fun night out.

➡ 701 E. Broward Blvd. | intothewilder.com



GREEK ISLANDS TAVERNA

Lunch specials of light salads and burgers or Greek roasted chicken with roasted *patates ladoregano* are perfect for a bite with friends. And the extensive main menu of assorted time-honored Greek dishes makes this a great dinner option. The *saganaki* is a perfect starter before you move on to octopus, fresh grouper

drizzled with their signature lemon, oregano and olive oil, delectable *moussaka* or lamb chops. Traditional desserts like *baklava* perfectly top off this Grecian culinary adventure.

➡ 3300 N. Ocean Blvd. | greekislandstaverna.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF ROOFTOP1WLO

ROOFTOP @ 1WLO

▲ This rooftop green space boasts beautiful city skyline views. Signature craft cocktails are served along with small plates like bulgogi beef skewers and matcha green tea doughnuts. Most nights, a DJ spins from mid-afternoon until after midnight. While the menu includes sangria, an extensive wine list and its own creative house cocktails, you're invited to create your own tailor-made cocktail with an option to have it smoked. Stop by on Sundays for the bottomless champagne brunches.

➡ 1 W. Las Olas Blvd. #700 | rooftop1wlo.com

EL CAMINO FORT LAUDERDALE

▼ The lengthy premium tequila menu alone will ensure repeat visits, as many can't be found elsewhere in South Florida. The tortillas made in-house for tacos, burritos and enchiladas can be filled with *carne asada*, *achiote* chicken, smoked brisket, fish, shrimp or veggies and more. Make it a bowl to cut the carbs. The chef is happy to prepare a veggie plate to go with the Mexican rice and smoky black beans if *churrasco* isn't for you.

➡ 817 E. Las Olas Blvd.
elcaminoftlauderdale.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: ALESSA DRAGUN



PHOTOGRAPHY: LAURIE SATRAN

STEAK 954

◀ Dry-aged prime steak, an American Wagyu beef selection and seafood platters, along with entrees like salmon, lamb and Maine lobster are featured lunch and dinner offerings at this luxury restaurant with an epic ocean view. Gourmet sandwiches and traditional morning feasts – from omelets to steak and eggs – a large variety of lighter fare like lobster bisque and salads, as well as oysters, Alaskan king crab, shrimp and lobster from the raw bar make for the ideal brunch date.

➡ 401 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. | steak954.com

SHOOTERS WATERFRONT

This South Florida icon caters to a range of tastes, including your dog's! The menu reflects the inherited cuisines of the region with items like mussels, oysters and poke from the raw bar, flatbreads, sushi rolls, St. Louis style ribs and New England lobster rolls. There are coconut shrimp and fries for the kids and Bahia Beef for the pup. Sushi rolling classes, live music and yoga enhance the experience at this waterfront spot where you can step straight from your boat to the table.

➡ 3033 N.E. 32nd Ave.
shooterswaterfront.com



▲ The historic Bonnet House waterfront estate.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DAVID WARREN

These three historic Fort Lauderdale houses offer a peek into the birth of a unique city. Each is ideal for history aficionados, families looking for a fun and educational outing or those looking for a picturesque wedding venue.

BONNET HOUSE

Chicago-born artist and self-taught architect Frederic Clay Bartlett created Bonnet House estate on 35-acres of oceanfront land in 1920. The design of the main house was based on Caribbean plantation-style architecture. The estate was ultimately transformed into a preeminent heritage and art museum containing original furnishing and an impressive painting collection. The grounds also encompass a rare example of native barrier island habitat, which can be explored through the property's vast garden area. Today, the estate serves to connect visitors with South Florida's architectural, artistic and environmental legacy.

➡ **900 N. Birch Road**
bonnethouse.org

STRANAHAN HOUSE

Built in 1901 by Fort Lauderdale's founding father, Frank Stranahan, and opened to the public as a historical museum in 1984, the Stranahan House is the oldest surviving structure in Broward County. Over the years, besides serving as a residence, the property also operated as a post office, trading post and town hall. A prime example of "Florida Frontier" architecture, this museum, offering a glimpse into the past, contains turn-of-the-century furnishings and historical photos of the area. Admission is exclusively by guided tours lasting between 45 and 60 minutes.

➡ **335 S.E. 6th Ave.**
stranahanhouse.org

HISTORY FORT LAUDERDALE

History Fort Lauderdale has been sharing the stories of the city's diverse community for over five decades. Among other features, the center maintains a 1907 house museum, an 1899 schoolhouse replica museum and a history museum with displays focusing on subjects ranging from archaeology to Seminole culture. Exhibits trace the history and development of the Fort Lauderdale area with lifelike displays, artifacts, dioramas and photographs. History Fort Lauderdale also offers lectures and workshops to the public and tours and activities for school and general groups.

➡ **231 S.W. 2nd Ave.**
historyfortlauderdale.org

▼ Surf instruction with Hang Loose Surf School.



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF HANG LOOSE SURF SCHOOL

Family

MATTERS

HANG LOOSE SURF SCHOOL

Hang Loose Surf School offers one-on-one surf lessons with private instruction for your group of friends. They show you the best surf techniques as well as ocean awareness and safety facts before you even set foot in the water. With a money-back guarantee that you'll ride a wave after your first lesson, there's no reason not to check out Hang Loose Surf School.

Prices start at \$75 per hour for one person and are discounted for groups of two or more. Book your private lesson, large group session, camps or birthday parties.

➡ 1800 N. Fort Lauderdale Beach Blvd. | hangloosesurfschool.com

FLIPPO'S FAMILY FUN CENTER

Flippo's is an indoor playground and activity center for all ages with a laser maze, ropes course, rock wall, arcade games and more. There are sports-oriented activities like basketball hoops and a small soccer field. A Toddler Zone for children age three and under hosts mommy and me classes. When you inevitably get hungry, a delicious menu of pizza, sandwiches and chicken tenders, along with some healthier options is available.

Open play prices range from \$10 upward and birthday party packages can be booked online.

➡ 1455 S.E. 17th St. | flippos.net

BLUEFOOT PIRATE ADVENTURES

Ahoy, maties! At Bluefoot Pirate Adventures, climb aboard the pirate ship and get ready for a fully interactive experience. Children will learn swashbuckling lingo, explore the map in search of treasure and defend the ship against an enemy vessel. Visitors are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes early for painted pirate tattoos before setting sail. This fun, family cruise is designed for all ages. Younger pirates will love the hunt for treasure while the more seasoned can learn about the nearby superyachts along the Intracoastal Waterway.

➡ 801 Seabreeze Blvd., Dock I-909 | bluefootpirates.com

ON THE Marquee

Major events that showcase and celebrate local culture are put on by and for the Fort Lauderdale community.



▲ The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

FORT LAUDERDALE INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

The world's largest in-water boat show, the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show hosts 100,000 visitors for a five-day annual fall event spread over seven locations and showcasing over 1,300 vessels. Superyacht shoppers, celebrities and casual marine enthusiasts tour extravagant watercraft options while navigating between locations via Water Taxi.

➡ **801 Seabreeze Blvd. | flibs.com**

WINTERFEST BOAT PARADE

Since 1971 this annual nighttime flotilla of brightly decorated yachts has sparkled as the premiere holiday event in Greater Fort Lauderdale. Over a million viewers line the 12-mile parade route along the New River and Intracoastal Waterway for the "Best Show on H2O."

➡ **New River to the Intracoastal Waterway
winterfestparade.com**

PRIDE FORT LAUDERDALE

Pride Fort Lauderdale, a two-day festival uniting the LGBT+ community, is the oldest pride celebration in Florida. The annual November event attracts more than 100,000 spectators and attendees with more than 100 food, drink and craft vendors, DJs, concert performances and a street parade down AIA. While the event is free, VIP experiences are available including personal cabanas, bottle service and other exclusive amenities.

➡ **1100 Seabreeze Blvd. | pridefortlauderdale.org**

TORTUGA MUSIC FESTIVAL

Each spring, the beaches of Fort Lauderdale come alive with the three-day Tortuga music festival where, on average, more than 30,000 concert goers enjoy top names in country and rock music, like Kenny Chesney and Luke Bryan. Proceeds benefit the Rock the Ocean Foundation for marine research and coral reef conservation. Get day or weekend packages from \$140 to \$2000.

➡ **1100 Seabreeze Blvd. | tortugamusicfestival.com**

THE GREAT

Outdoors

Bay View Park

Local park with sport practice fields and playground for kids.
4401 Bayview Drive

George English Park

Waterfront park with a walking trail, fishing area, tennis court, playground and pavilions open for rental. Open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
1101 Bayview Drive

Holiday Park

Large city park with sports fields, playgrounds, recreation center and more.
1150 G. Harold Martin Drive

Holiday Park

Dog Park

Fenced-in dog park for off leash play. Open 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
901 Memorial Drive

Hugh Taylor Birch State Park

State park featuring a lagoon, hiking trails, fishing and boat access from the Intracoastal.
3109 E. Sunrise Blvd.

Fort Lauderdale Beach Park

Beachside park and playground with exercise equipment.
100 Seabreeze Blvd.

Mangurian Park

Park facility with playground, walking trails, fitness equipment and restrooms.
3850 N. Federal Highway

Mills Pond Park

Large park with scheduled softball, baseball and football games, fishing, open play and recreation center. Open Monday through Friday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
2201 N.W. 9th Ave.



▲ Hugh Taylor
Birch State Park.

Secret Woods Nature Center

Fiftyseven-acre wilderness area including butterfly garden, reptile habitat, nature and walking trails.
2701 W. State Road 84

Snyder Park

Open recreation area with play and swimming space for dogs.
3299 S.W. 4th Ave.

Vista Park

Small waterfront park with walking trails, open recreation area and picnic tables.
2851 N. Atlantic Blvd.

Resources

ATM BANKS

ATM (Wells Fargo Bank)
1700 W. Commercial Blvd.

**Bank of America ATM
(Drive-thru)**
888 N.W. 62nd St.

**RockItCoin
Bitcoin ATM**
4999 N.W. 9th Ave.

SunTrust ATM
6260 Powerline Road

TD Bank ATM
665 W. Cypress Creek
Road

Wells Fargo Bank ATM
6400 N. Andrews Ave.,
#100

FITNESS

9Round Fort Lauderdale
Kickbox fitness classes.
1031 N. Federal Highway
954-626-0780
9round.com

**CrossFit Fort
Lauderdale**
Strength and weight
training.
1255 N. Flagler Drive
954-463-1889
crossfitfortlauderdale.com

LA Fitness
A variety of cardio
machines and more.
6501 N. Andrews Ave.
954-495-2288
lafitness.com

Orangetheory Fitness
HIIT group workout
program.
2354 N. Federal Highway
954-372-2362
orangetheory.com



▲ The Greater Fort Lauderdale
Chamber of Commerce.

**Powerhouse
Gym Fort
Lauderdale**
Treadmills, elliptical
machines, various weight
machines and classes.
Galleria Mall, 2544 E.
Sunrise Blvd.
954-376-8864
pgfortlauderdale.com

Upload Fitness
Yoga, spin, HIIT and
various other classes.
928 N. Federal Highway,
#2707
954-617-6468
uploadfitness.com

MARKETS

Aldi
Grocery items, meat and
dairy.
100 W. Sunrise Blvd.
aldi.us

Publix Super Market
Groceries, deli and bakery.
1415 E. Sunrise Blvd.
954-888-8915
publix.com

**Publix Super Market at
Galleria**
Groceries, deli and bakery.
2501 E. Sunrise Blvd.
954-390-0225
publix.com

The Fresh Market
Upscale grocery offering
local produce, prepared
eats, wine and more.
3820 N. Federal Highway
954-564-5353
thefreshmarket.com

Trader Joe's
Variety of signature items,
produce, dairy and more.
1560 N. Federal Highway
954-537-3585
traderjoes.com

Winn-Dixie
Fresh produce,
meats and groceries.
3800 N. Ocean Blvd.
954-563-4110
winndixie.com

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Lauderdale
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954-462-6000
ftlchamber.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: ANTHONY J. RAYBURN

▲ Cars over,
superyachts
under the 17th
Street bridge.

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