

VISIT TAMPA BAY



TOP 10 WAYS TO PLAY IN TAMPA BAY

While we know Tampa Bay has much to explore, we are always ready to hand over the keys to adventure! This list of Tampa Bay's top ten treasures makes it easy to conquer the best the area has to offer. So, come take over a destination full of culture, rich history, and worth-while experiences.

1 CityPASS | Attractions



For less than half the normal cost of a ticket, **CityPASS** gets you into some of Tampa Bay's most popular attractions. Fly like a falcon at **Busch Gardens® Tampa Bay**. Dive with sharks or play outside in the 2-acre water zone at **The Florida Aquarium**. Come face to face with manatees at **Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo**, named the best zoo in the U.S. by Parents magazine. Build robots or ride a bicycle 40 feet (12 meters) above the ground at **MOSI, the Museum of Science and Industry**. CityPASS costs \$99 for adults, \$89 for children 3-9 years of age -- a 54% saving compared to buying all the tickets at full price.

Anyone looking for a little retail therapy will find all kinds in Tampa Bay. The region's premiere shopping destination, **International Plaza & Bay Street**, has 200 luxury shops. Open-air **Hyde Park Village** near downtown is adding restaurants and high-end retailers. Simon Premium Outlets' **Tampa Premium Outlets**, just 20 minutes north of downtown, it has nearly 100 retailers, including Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5TH, Michael Kors, and shoe stores galore. Looking for something crafty or unique? A multitude of **weekend markets** make Tampa Bay a shopping centerpiece.

2 Shopping



3 Special Events



Each January, the scurvy crew of legendary pirate José Gaspar sails into Tampa Bay with cannons blazing. Get into the spirit by pulling out your best pirate gear to greet Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla as they lead the country's third-largest parade down scenic Bayshore Boulevard past 300,000 cheering fans. The invasion aboard the nation's only fully functioning pirate ship, kicks off **Gasparilla Season**: 8 weeks of parades, festivals, and sporting events. The line-up includes the **Gasparilla Music Festival**. Look for tickets to **Gasparilla International Film Festival** and **Gasparilla Festival of the Arts** coming soon.

Food halls bring a dynamic vibe to Tampa Bay's award-winning culinary offerings. Creative chefs have earned the area a spot on every foodie's must-try list, where the topic is eco-conscious dining or the world's largest private wine collection. Restaurants imbue their menus with local flavor: Try **Ulele**, **Oxford Exchange**, and the **Columbia**, Florida's oldest restaurant. Great drinks are part of Tampa Bay like sunshine and hand-rolled cigars. Two dozen local brewers produce drafts found only here. **Cigar City Brewing Co.** ranks among RateBeer's best craft brewers in the world. **Brew Bus** runs beer-tasting tours from its own brewery in hipster-friendly Seminole Heights. You can try cocktails at **Florida Cane Distillery** where the signature vodka comes from Florida-grown sugar cane. Or mingle with the locals in the intimate confines of **Cigar City Cider & Mead**.

4 Food & Beer



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Cruise

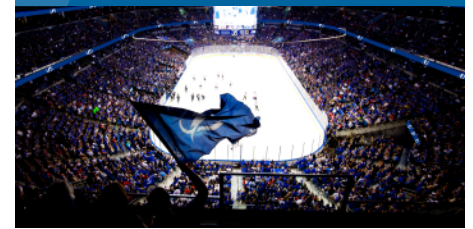


Port Tampa Bay hosts four cruise lines: Carnival, Royal Caribbean, Norwegian America and Holland America. They make Tampa Bay the ideal port of departure. Add a day to your stay to enjoy the destination “Porthole” magazine named its Best Kept Secret. The **TECO Historic Streetcar** will carry you to Ybor City. The Tampa Riverwalk and The Florida Aquarium are steps from the gangway. In 2017, Port Tampa Bay will host the **Monsters of Rock** series of cruises as well as cruises to Cozumel and Cuba.

With a mix of professional and amateur sports teams, there’s nearly always a day with a game in Tampa Bay. You be the thunder at a **Tampa Bay Lightning** hockey game at Amalie Arena or join the crew aboard the pirate ship when the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers** play at Raymond James Stadium. The **Tampa Bay Storm** play indoor arena football at Amalie Arena. Since the mid-1990s, the New York Yankees have made Tampa Bay’s Steinbrenner Field their Spring Break home. Just across the bay, in St. Petersburg, the Tampa Bay Rays play ball in Tropicana Field and the **Tampa Bay Rowdies** hit the pitch at the waterfront Al Lang Field. College sports are available at the University of Tampa and University of South Florida.

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Sports



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Ybor City



A century ago, **Ybor City** (“EE-bore”) was the Cigar Capital of the World. Today, skilled tabaqueros still roll cigars by hand along Seventh Avenue. Smoke one while sipping a café con leche before enjoying Ybor City’s restaurants or nightclubs. Sample a **Cuban sandwich**, which was invented in Ybor City. Then visit Cuba without leaving the U.S. by stepping through the gates of José Martí Park owned by the Cuban people since 1953 and honoring the famed Cuban writer and freedom fighter. Walking tours bring Ybor City’s history alive, including the Prohibition-era gangsters portrayed in Ben Affleck’s 2017 film **“Live by Night.”** Author Dennis Lehane was inspired by Ybor City’s mafia tour.

The 2.4-mile (4 km) **Tampa Riverwalk** links popular downtown attractions like gems on a string. You’ll find hotels, restaurants, museums, and festival parks. After dark, the Riverwalk becomes a canvas for shifting colors of light, joining downtown’s bridges and the **Tampa Museum of Art** in the nightly display. If you would rather ride than walk, rent a ride from **Coast Bike Share**, which has stations along the Riverwalk, in downtown, Ybor City and Hyde Park. **Fourth Friday** festival includes discounts, tours or free admission to Riverwalk attractions.

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Tampa Riverwalk



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Casino



Try your luck at Tampa Bay’s **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino**. With 190,000 square feet of gaming, it’s among the largest casinos in the world. The casino features thousands of the most popular slot machines and more than 100 table games, including blackjack and poker. When it’s time for a break dine at **Grey/Salt**, developed by New York chef/restaurantur Mark Murphy, or the famed **Council Oak Steak & Seafood**.

Situated where the river meets the bay, downtown abounds in ways to get around on the water. See the city from a new angle when you rent a paddleboard, **water bike**, **biyak** or **e-boat** for a self-guided and in some cases self-propelled trip on the sparkling waterfront. Reserve a trip with **iTrekks** and set out in search of fantastic fishing in sight of downtown’s towers. Or leave the city behind and paddle with **Canoe Escape** among moss-draped cypress trees minutes from downtown. The **Cross Bay Ferry** links Tampa and St. Petersburg from November to May. **Pirate Water Taxi** stops at downtown’s popular spots on its daily runs up and down the Hillsborough River.

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Outdoor Adventures

