HOLIDAY WINTER 2018-2019

Florida's #1 Visitors Guide™

# DESTINATION!

TOP TABLES

The Best Places to Eat, Drink & Party

enwoleggelt

Faire

-+ Dozens of Other Fun Happenings

TRIBUTE
A Great Ol Gator

A Great Ol Gator Goes Home

TAMPA ST. PETERSBURG CLEARWATER SARASOTA GAINESVILLE OCALA CEDAR KEY

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# DESTINATION FLORIDA

TAMPA • ST. PETE • CLEARWATER SARASOTA • GAINESVILLE OCALA • CEDAR KEY

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#### **ABOUT THE COVER**

Destination Tampa Founder, Mark L. Wodlinger played Left End for the Florida Gators from 1940-42 and at the age of 96 years old, was believed to have been the oldest living former UF football player before his recent passing on July 17. Please see who's who in the world to learn more about this wonderful great gentleman!!

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TAMPA BAY STORM

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# —Concierge— TOP PICKS

#### **BEST RESORT FOR AGES 2-12** Legoland

If there's anything that makes you long to be a kid again, it's this totally awesome 150-acre interactive theme park specifically designed for kids 2-12 years old. With more than 50 unique rides, 10 theme zones and all kinds of really cool attractions, it is the absolute bomb! Lots of special events here, too. FYI: The water ride, "Quest For Chi" is an absolute blast! Find it at 1 Legoland Way in Winter Haven. 877-350-5346; legoland.com.

#### **BEST SOUTHERN COOKING**

lvy On The Square

6 DESTINATION FLORIDA

Southern food is synonymous with comfort food so it's not surprising that great Southern recipes, passed down from one generation to the next, are cherished and protected. And that brings us to Marjorie "Mimi" Hale - the matriarch of the award-winning "Ivy House Restaurant & Catering" in Williston as well as the new, hip "Ivy On The Square" in downtown Ocala. Two restaurants, two different vibes but both share the same authentic Southern specialties created from Mimi's cherished family recipes. You'll find perennial favorites like homemade Pimento Cheese, Fried Green Tomatoes, Shrimp & Grits and Mimi's signature Baked Krispy Chicken.

Everything here is outrageously good! In Ocala at 53 S Magnolia (352-622-5550); and in Williston at 106 NW Mail St (352-528-5410). ivyhousefl.com.

#### BEST SHARK ENCOUNTER

The Florida Aquarium

Ok, Ok, so maybe going nose-tonose with a 600 lb Great White is not your idea of a great day at the beach, especially when it flashes those pearly whites at you. But fear not. At Tampa's Florida Aquarium you can actually swim or dive with sharks as well as with 1600 other colorful fish including sting rays, barracudas, sea turtles and more — all without being a certified SCUBA diver! It's all part of the Aquarium's special "Shark Swim"program — an in-water reef experience that is truly an adventure of a lifetime (must be age 9 or older to participate). The Aquarium's Coral Reef Gallery simulates an just off of Key West. While you get up close and personal with the fishes, friends and family can watch from the exhibit pathway.

#### BEST ATTRACTIONS DEAL

Tampa Bay City Pass

With the Tampa Bay City Pass, you can save a whopping 53% off combined admission to Busch Gardens Tampa Bay along with four additional attractions in the Tampa Bay area including The Florida Aquarium, Lowry Park Zoo, Clearwater Marina Aquarium (home to Winter, star of the popular Dolphin Tale movies) and your choice of either the Museum Of Science and Industry (MOSI) or the Chihuly Collection. City Pass Booklets are valid for nine consecutive days beginning with the first day of use. Such a deal! Find it at citypass.com/tampa.

#### BEST CLASSIC **BURGER**

Shula's Steak House

If you love Don Shula's famous steaks, you'll really flip over his fresh, juicy char grilled burgers. The legendary NFL Coach raises the bar with a big beefy patty that is always made fresh from his own signature blend of Premium Black Angus Chuck, Short Rib and brisket, perfectly seasoned and served with lettuce, tomatoe, pickle and your choice of cheese on a brioche style bun. Once you've tackled one of these bad boys, you'll never suffer another "Mac-Attack" again. Two locations: Westshore Grand Hotel, 4860 West Kennedy Blvd, Tampa (813-286-4366); Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, 1714 SW 34th St., Gainesville (305-664-2321). Info: shulas.com.



#### **BEST OF BROADWAY**

STRAZ Center

If you love Broadway musicals, the STRAZ Center is just the ticket. This extraordinary 335,000 square foot performance center stages some of Broadway's greatest hits Including Cabaret, Wicked, An American In Paris, and other Tony Award-winners, as well as grand opera and a variety of concerts, performances and events. With five halls, three restaurants, a coffee shop and the Patel Conservatory, it's the second largest performing arts center in the U.S. Find it at 1010 N.W. C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Info 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.



#### **BEST SUSHI WITH A VIEW** Jackson's Bistro Bar & Sushi

Amazing sushi, fantastic water views and a large outdoor dining patio/tiki bar make this happening harbor front spot the perfect place to click your chopsticks and revel in an extensive lineup of fresh sashimi, sushi appetizers and all kinds of signature specialty rolls. Some of our favorites: the Maine Lobster Tempura Roll with eel sauce and spicy mayo along with the Happy Sumo Roll (blue crab, spicy tuna, cream cheese & cucumber topped with eel and tempura chips - yum!). There are plenty of American options, as well, including succulent Point Judith Calamari Rings with sweet chili spicy mayo and some of the biggest and tastiest coconut shrimp on the planet. Find it at 601 S Harbour Island Blvd., Tampa. Info: 813-277-0112; JacksonBistro.com.

#### **BEST CIGAR EMPORIUM**

Davidoff Of Geneva

With 5,000 square feet of humidified space, this smoking-hot cigar emporium showcases a unique collection of premium cigars, must-have accessories and curated pieces. But what really puts it over the top are the added amenities which include multiple indoor-and-out smoking lounges, private lockers and an elegant full service bar with top shelf libations. Yowza! Find it at the Metwest International Shopping Center, 4142 Boy Scout Blvd. near Tampa's International Mall and Airport. Info: 813-513-7560; davidofftampa.com.

HOLIDAY WINTER 2018-2019 7

#### BEST RIB EYE

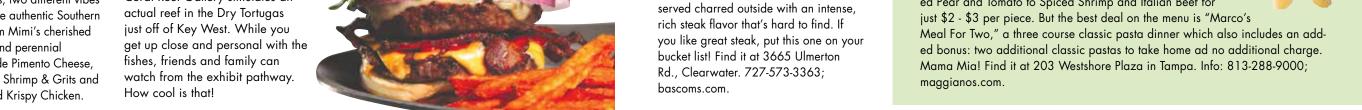
Bascom's Chop House

It's hard not to love everything on Bascom's menu. The seafood which is delivered daily and beautifully prepared, is always top drawer and the center cut prime chops are as good as they get. But it's the glorious, 16 oz bone-in Ribeye that has us hooked. Hand cut from Certified Angus midwestern grainfed steer, this rich, well marbled steak is

#### **BEST FAMILY ITALIAN**

Maggianos Family Italian

Big portions of terrific scratch-made Italian classics, along with authentic Italian recipes with an American twist, dominate a huge menu that also features "light" versions of perennial favorites like Chicken Piccata, Veal Marsala, Chicken Francese and Veal Parmesan. With the "Bruschetta Bar," you can sample an array of unique toppings from Canadian Smoked Bacon, Toasted Pear and Tomato to Spiced Shrimp and Italian Beef for



# What's Up



#### Sunsets at Pier 60 Festival

Clearwater: This fun, nightly sunset celebration features all kinds of artisans, crafters, street performers, live music and entertainment. Takes place nightly starting two hours before sunset until two hours after sunset at Pier 60, 1 Causeway Blvd., Clearwater. Info: 727-449-1036; sunsetpier60.com.

#### **Monthly**

#### First Friday

St. Petersburg: A dancing-in-the-street block party that happens on the first Fri of the month and features live music, food and drink vendors, restaurants and more. Takes place from 5:30 - 10pm on Central Ave between 2nd and 3rd St. Info: FirstFridayStPete.com.

#### **Monthly**

#### **Fourth Friday**

Tampa: Enjoy this monthly celebration f the local arts and cultural scene with errific live music, food, drinks and special discounts. Takes place from 4-10pm at Tampa Riverwalk. Info: fourthfridaytpa.com.

#### **Monthly**

#### Second Saturdays at Williams Park

St. Petersburg: Celebrate the weekend with live music, food trucks, beer and wine garden and festival marketplace. Takes place from 6 - 10pm at Williams Park, 350 2nd Ave N, St. Pete. Info: secondsaturdays 13.com.

#### **Monthly**

#### Second Saturday Art Walk

St. Petersburg: St. Pete's "After Hours" Arts

#### October 27 & 28 43rd Annual

#### **International Folk Fair**

St Petersburg: This cultural extravaganza includes exhibits, festival marketplace, ethnic foods, dancing and international music. Takes place on Sat from 10 am - 8pm and on Sun from 10am - 6 pm at Vinoy Park, 701 Bay Shore Dr NE, St. Pete. Info: 727-552-1896; SPIFFS.org

#### November 4

#### Straz Live! In The Park

Tampa Bay: This new annual family-friendly mash-up kicks off the Straz Center's new season with an afternoon picnic, concert in the park and block party featuring live entertainment of popular Broadway tunes, favorite opera arias and surprise guests. Food trucks on site. Takes place from 2 - 6pm at Curtis Hixon Park, 600 N Ashley Dr, Tampa. Info: 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.

#### **November 17 - 18**

#### Craft Art 2018

St. Petersburg: Enjoy artist demos, food trucks, make-n-take, craft brews and more as some of the nation's best craft artists showcase their work. Takes place on Sat from 10am - 5pm and on Sun from 10am - 4pm in St Pete's downtown Arts District along Central Avenue's 400 - 700 blocks. Info: floridacraftart.org.

#### November 17 & 24

#### Shopapalooza

St. Petersburg: Get special discounts, prizes and surprises from over 130 local shops, art galleries, restaurants, artists, food trucks and community organizations. Bargains from 10am - Sunset at South Straub Park, 198

Bayshore Dr, St. Pete. Free admission. Info: 727-893-7335: shopapaloozafestival.com.

#### October 20 - 21

Happening includes over forty galleries and

studios who stay open late including Duncan

Central Arts District and EDGE District from 5 -

map of galleries, go to stpeteartsalliance.org.

Oldsmar: Roll out the barrels for a festive party

that includes German food, drinks, music and

dancing plus lots of wacky games. Kicks off on

Fri from 5 -11pm, continues on Sat from 11am -

11pm and wraps up on Sun from noon to 6pm.

Takes place at Tampa Bay Downs, 11225 Race

Track Rd. Westchase. nfo: visitstpeteclearwater.

**Upper Tampa Bay Oktoberfest** 

9pm on the 2nd Sat of the month. For a list and

McClellan Glass and Morean Arts Center.

Takes place in the Waterfront Arts District,

October 19 - 21

Pops in the Park St. Petersburg/Tampa: Enjoy a relaxing evening of popular film scores, Broadway hits and more during The Florida Orchestra's annual free music festival under the stars. Pre-concert festivities at 4pm, performance at 7pm. Free admission. Takes place in St. Pete on Oct 20 at Vinoy Park, 701 Bay Shore Dr NE and in Tampa on Oct 21 at River Park Tower, 401 E

Bird St. Info: floridaorchestra.org

#### November 24 **Tree Lighting** Ceremony St. Petersburg:

Kick off the holidays during this festive tree lighting ceremony with live entertainment. Takes place from 5 - 7pm in North Straub Park, 400 Bayshore Dr. NE. St Pete. Info: 727-893-

7441; stpeteparksrec.org.

# Gypsies, Knights And Magicians!

#### 33rd Annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire

mmerse yourself in a world of medieval magic where jugglers, knife throwers and gypsy dancers perform in the street, jousting knights charge across fields on horseback and spellbinding magicians captivate your imagination during the 33rd Annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire.

For two consecutive weekends, on Saturday, January 26 and Sunday, January 27, as well as on Friday, February 1 through Sunday, February 3, the Alachua County Fairgrounds in Gainesville morphs into a virtual "Medieval Marketplace."

More than 160 talented artisans journey to the Faire from across the country to showcase their medieval wares including one-of-a-kind jewelry, stone and wood carvings, blacksmithing and weaving,

hand-blown glassware beautiful leather goods and clothing.

You can also engage in traditional medieval games, shoot arrows. hurl battle axes, navigate your way through a winding maze and even look into the future with a mystical fortune teller

If you get hungry after all of this action, just head on over to the Food Court where you can feast like a king on giant turkey legs, succulent ribs, blooming onions and an assortment of other goodies.

You can experience all of this medieval magic on

Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm and on "Discount Friday" February 1 from 9:30am - 3pm when General Admission tickets are reduced and larger discounts are available to school groups who register in advance

at HoggetowneFaire.com. Find the Hoggetown Medieval Faire at the Alachua County Fairgrounds in

Gainesville, 3100 NE 39th Avenue. Info: 352-334-ARTS.



#### What's Up



Snowfest

stpeteparksrec.org.

December 14 - 16

**Holiday Pops** 

The Florida Orchestra:

Tampa/St Pete/Clearwater

Enjoy pure holiday magic

that you can't buy at

Idol star and St Pete

native Michael Lynche.

Showtime 8pm on Fri,

Dec 14 at Tampa's Straz

and 8pm on Sat Dec 15

Showtime 2pm and 7:30pm on

Center; Showtime 2pm

the mall, featuring the

velvet voice of American

**December 9** 

St. Petersburg: An estimated sixty-five tons of

snow take center stage at this annual holiday

an art tent, karaoke, moonwalks, "glice" ice

skating and more. Revel in the magic from

10:30am - 3pm t North Straub Park, 400

**Old Northeast Candlelight Tour of** 

St. Petersburg: Welcome the holidays with a

seasonal stroll through one of St. Pete's oldest

neighborhoods. Festive decorations show off

place from 3 - 8pm in St Pete's Historic Old

Northeast neighborhood. Info: honna.org

the distinctive historic architectural flavor. Takes

Bayshore Rd, NE, St Pete. Info: 727-893-7441;

celebration that includes toboggan slides,

#### November 24 & 25

#### Seaboard Seafood Festival

St. Petersburg: Feast on a fabulous stone crab and shrimp boil backdropped by live music, craft beer, games and more. Takes place from 11am - 4 pm. Location: TBD. Info: 813-251-0500; seaboardseafoodfestival.com.

#### **November 30**

#### St. Pete Wine Experience

St. Petersburg: Sample over 100 varietals of wine and champagnes from around the world and nibble on gourmet hors d'oeuvres during this premier wine tasting event. Takes place from 6:30 - 9:30pm on the terrace level of the St Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr, St Pete. Info: stbeachfestivals.com.

#### December 1 - 2

#### **Downtown Festival & Art Show**

Gainesville: North Florida's art scene swings into high gear when historic downtown Gainesville transforms into a celebration of art and creativity replete with live music. performing arts and a fabulous array of food. Takes place from 10am - 5pm. nfo: 352-393-8536; gainesvilledowntownartfest.org.

#### December 1 - 2

#### 24th Annual Corey Area Craft Festival

St Pete Beach: Over 100 of the nation's most talented artisans showcase a collection of handmade contemporary American crafts including jewelry, pottery, ceramics, photography, painting, clothing and more. Takes place from 10am - 5pm at 595 Corey Ave, St Pete. Free admission. nfo: artfestival.com

Sun, Dec 16 at Clearwater's Ruth Eckerd Hall. Tickets and info: 727-892-3331; floridaorchestra.org.

#### December 4 - 9

#### Hello, Dolly!

Tampa: Tony Award®-winning Broadway leaend. Betty Buckley stars in this universally acclaimed smash hit. Showtime 8pm at the Straz Center, 1010 N W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets and info: 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.

#### **December 22**

#### **Illuminated Boat Parade**

St. Petersburg: Enjoy live music, food and more as a flotilla of twinkling boats glides along St. Pete's waterfront. Takes place from 5 - 7pm on St Pete's downtown waterfront. Info: stpeteboatparade.org/

#### **December 22 - 23**

#### **Next Generation Ballet's Nutcracker**

Tampa: This alittering, star-studded production includes principal dancers from powerhouse companies like the New York City Ballet, Miami Ballet and American Ballet Theatre. Showtime: Sat, Dec. 22 at 2pm and 7pm; Sun, Dec 23 at 1pm and 6pm. akes place at the Straz Center, 1010 N W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets and info: 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.

#### **December 26 & 27**

#### Moscow Ballet's **Great Russian Nutcracker**

St. Petersburg: Delight in Tchaikovsky's magical holiday tale brought to life by world-class Russian dancers, playful puppets and dazzling holiday costumes. Takes place on Dec 26 at 7 pm; and on Dec 27 at 3 and 7 pm at the Mahaffey Theater, 400 1st St. S. Info: themahaffey.com

#### **December 31**

#### New Year's Eve Parade

Tampa: This festive New Year's parade includes elaborate floats, over twenty marching bands, a Pep Rally and a special"Battle Of The Bands." arade starts at 5:30pm and runs along 7th Ave. Info: outbackbowl.

# at St Pete's Mahaffey Theater;



www.stpete.org/stpetearts



For more information or to purchase tickets please visit MoreanArtsCenter.org

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Sunken Gardens is a botanical paradise in the midst of a bustling city. As St. Petersburg's garden is home to some of the oldest tropical plants in the region.

#### HOURS

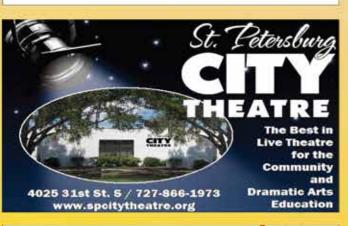
Monday to Saturday . 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday • Noon to 4:30 p.m.

#### ADMISSION

Adults \$8 • Seniors (62+) \$6 Children (2-11) \$4

Tel (727) 551-3102 Rental Information (727) 551-3106 www.stpete.org/sunken

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E-mail: info@stpeteartsalliance.org



# Here's One For the Gipper

#### A Great Ol Gator Goes Home

ootball season is in full swing and our local Florida Gators have fielded a team every season since 1906, with the exception of 1943.

In all, the Florida Gators have played 1,145 games in its 109 seasons of play, and has compiled an all-time record of 701 wins, 404 losses, and 40 ties.

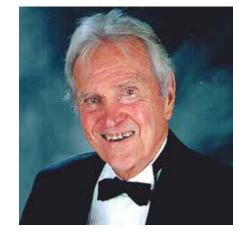
And that brings us to our Founder, Mark L. Wodlinger, who graduated from the University Of Florida while serving in the Naval Air Corp in WW II. The Greatest Generation.

At the time of his sudden recent passing this summer he and his wife were attending meetings with partners. Mark was 96, sharp as a tack and the oldest living former UF football player. He played Left End for

the Gators from 1940-42 and although he never pursued a professional football career after graduating, he still brought his passion for the game and the University of Florida to everything he did.

Before launching DESTINATION Tampa with his loving wife, Marilyn of 25 years, Mark's involvement and influence in both the television and radio industry is legendary, and he enjoyed a distinguished career in broadcast media that spanned several decades. Mark was a visionary and a man for all seasons who lived life to its fullest.

But most importantly, Mark will be remembered as a friend to all, and a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Mark will be dearly and forever missed by all who were lucky

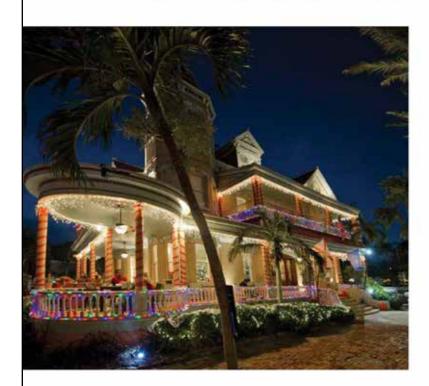


enough to know him.

As Ronald Regan once said in his role as a star All American football player: "Sometime when the team is up against it, and the breaks are beating the boys, tell them to go out there with all they've got and win just one for the Gipper."

Will do. Dear Old Friend, will do.

#### Deck the halls and everything else.



Here in Key West, we've been known to get into the spirit of things. The annual Key West Holiday fest is no exception. While you'll find plenty of lights and trimmings on display, you'll also discover an endless variety of family festivities along the way. From the Holiday Historic Inn Tour to the Key West Bight Before Christmas to the Schooner Wharf Bar Lighted Boat Parade, come experience a holiday that's far from the norm.



keywestholidayfest.com

#### Tampa Bay's hidden gem: The Florida Örchestra

By Kelly Smith

One of the perks of visiting the Tampa Bay area is The Florida Orchestra, the premier and largest professional orchestra in the state. The vibrant orchestra, under the leadership of charming Music Director Michael Francis, offers a wide variety of high caliber concerts - from Gershwin to Queen to Disney – at affordable prices at three venues in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater. Here are

The Music of Queen (Oct. 19 at Mahaffey in St. Pete) From Bohemian Rhapsody to Another One Bites the Dust, epic riffs blend with soaring strings - exactly how Queen's greatest hits should be performed. Brent Havens conducts the orchestra and a full rock band, with fan favorite Brody Dolyniuk on vocals.

Disney in Concert: Tale as Old as Time (Nov. 2-4 with Saturday matinee): Be TFO's guest for a magical journey into Disney, with music from Frozen, Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, The Little Mermaid. Tangled, The Lion King and many more. Enhanced with high-resolution film sequences. Stuart Malina conducts. Come dressed as your favorite Disney

A Child of Our Time (Nov. 9-11) For the first time, TFO performs Tippett's powerful call for unity written decades ago, featuring The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay. Also: Selections from Gershwin's Porgy and Bess. Michael Francis conducts. This concert commemorates the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht in partnership with The Florida Holocaust Museum. Free tickets for kids and teens for all Tampa Bay Times Masterworks concerts (in advance).

Holiday Pops (Dec. 14-16): Pure holiday magic you can't find at the mall, featuring the velvet voice of American Idol star and St. Pete native Michael Lynche along with a gospel choir. A perfect gift for the whole family, with two matinees. Jeff Tyzik conducts.

Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue (Jan. 4-6): A jazzy wail. A sweet sigh. Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue comes to life with Cuban jazz pianist Aldo López-Gavilán. Also: Still's jazz-inspired Symphony No. 1, "Afro-American," and Dvorak's Symphony No. 7. Thomas Wilkins conducts. Free tickets for kids and teens in advance.

The Music of Tom Petty (Jan. 25): Born in Gainesville, the late Tom Petty grew into an American legend. TFO pays tribute to one of Florida's own with sonas like Free Fallin', Mary Jane's Last Dance. American Girl and many more. Brent Havens conducts the orchestra and a full rock band. with Tony Vincent on vocals.

The Planets (Feb. 15-17): The Planets alian with NASA images on the big screen for the 100th anniversary of Holst's supersonic trip through the galaxy. Also: Debussy's Nocturnes. Featuring The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay; Michael Francis conducts. Free tickets for kids and teens in advance.

The Florida Orchestra: Performs regularly at the Straz Center in Tampa, Mahaffey in St. Petersburg and Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. The orchestra offers affordably priced tickets to a variety of concerts, though prices vary depending on demand. See floridaorchestra.org or call 727.892.3337 and 1.800.662.7286.

#### THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA

#### Disney in Concert: Tale as Old as Time

Be our guest for a magical journey into Disney, with music from Frozen, Beauty and the Beast, Cinderella, The Little Mermaid, Tangled, The Lion King and many more. Enhanced with high-resolution film sequences! Stuart Malina conducts.

Fri, Nov 2, 8 pm, Straz Center Sat, Nov 3, 2 pm & 8 pm, Mahaffey Theater - Matinee

Sun, Nov 4, 7:30 pm, Ruth Eckerd Hall





A Child of **Our Time** 

Nov 9 - 11

With The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay



**Holiday Pops** Dec 14 - 16

With Two Matinees! Featuring American Idol Michael Lynche



Vaughan Williams'

**A London Symphony** 

Nov 16 - 18 Sunday Matinee!



**Home Alone In Concert** 

Dec 21 With The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay



**Mozart & Sibelius** 

Dec 7 - 9

Sunday Matinee!

**Unforgettable:** 100 Years of **Nat & Natalie** Jan 11 & 12

LISTEN LOCAL | Concerts in Tampa, St. Pete & Clearwater FloridaOrchestra.org | 727.892.3337 or 1.800.662.7286



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#### What's Up

#### **December 31**

#### Light Up Tampa Bay & Aqua Eve

Tampa Bay: Tampa "Lights Up" with entertainment, a midnight fireworks display and ball drop over the downtown waterfront during this annual New Year's Eve bash. Takes place at The Florida Aquarium, 701 Channelside Dr, Tampa. Info and tickets: 813-273-4000; flaquarium.org.

#### **December 31**

#### First Night St. Petersburg

St. Petersburg: This 25th annual celebration rings in the New Year with with music, lights, dance, fire, bubbles, fireworks and more. tarts at 4pm throughout downtown with fireworks at 8pm and midnight. Info: 727-823-8906; firstnightstpete.com.

#### **December 31**

#### Swingin' the New Year

St. Petersburg: Swing into 2019 with live music, dancing, a vintage fashion photo shoot, midnight countdown, balloon drop and midnight champagne toast. Takes place from 9pm - 1 am at the Historic Coliseum, 535 4th Ave. N., St. Pete. Info: stpete.org/coliseum; newyearswing.com



#### January 15 - 20

#### Les Miserables

Tampa: Direct from an acclaimed twoand-a-half-year return to Broadway, this breathtaking new production has left both audiences and critics awestruck. Showtime 8pm at the Straz Center, 1010 N W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets and info: 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.

#### January 26 - 27 & February 1 - 3

#### 33rd Annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire

Gainesville: For two consecutive weekends, the Alachua County Fairgrounds transforms into "Hoggetowne" — a medieval marketplace where you can immerse yourself in the rich culture of the Middle Ages. Open Sat and Sun from 10am - 6pm and from 9:30am - 3pm on "Discount Friday," Feb 1 when General Admission tickets are reduced. Find it at 3100 NE 39th Ave. in Gainesville. Info:HoggetowneFaire.com.

#### January 29 - February 3

#### A Bronx Tale

Tampa: Broadway's hit crowd-pleaser is bursting with high-energy dance numbers and original doo-wop tunes from the songwriter of Beauty and the Beast. Showtime 8pm at the Straz Center, 1010 N W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa. Tickets and info: 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org.







#### OTHER FLORIDA HAPPENINGS

#### Monthly

#### "Climb to the Moon" at Ponce de Leon Lighthouse

Daytona: Once a month, you can toast the setting sun and rising of the full moon with a sparkling beverage at the top of Florida's tallest lighthouse. Climb 203 steps to the top of the 175' tower and enjoy magnificent views of Daytona Beach - the "World's Most Famous Beach," Ponce Inlet and surrounding inland waterways from the lighthouse gallery deck of this National Historic Landmark. FYI: Advance reservations a must! Find it at 4931 South Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet. Info: 386.761.1821 ext. 10; ponceinlet.org

#### **January 23 - 27**

#### **Key West Food & Wine Festival**

Key West: Celebrate the local culinary arts community and enjoy lots of lively events all over the island including a Welcome Beach Party, Wine Dinners, Shrimp Boil, Wine and Food Seminars, Bad Ass Brunches, "Duval Uncorked," Neighborhood Wine Strolls, Grand Tasting and much more. Info: 305-292-1622; keywestfoodandwinefestival.com.



#### February 2 - 3

#### **ArtFest Ft. Myers**

Fort Myers: ArtFest kicks off with a Fri Night Opening Party on Feb 1 from 6 - 10pm featuring over 65 festival artists. On Sat and Sun you can enjoy the works of 200 outstanding national artists, as well as art demos, high school art competition, children's craft area and a sidewalk chalk extravaganza. Free admission and plenty of parking. Takes place from 10am - 5pm in the Downtown River District. Info: ArtFestFortMyers.com



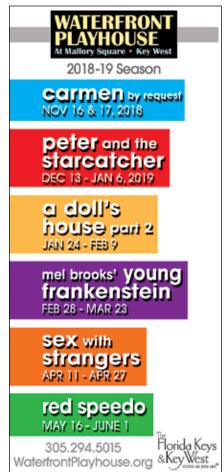














# **XPLORE**

#### TAMPA AREA

#### **AMALIE ARENA**

401 Channelside Dr., Tampa, FL 33602 813-301-6500: amaliearena.com World-Class Experience At Every Game The Tampa Bay Times Forum recently reinvented itself with over \$40 million in improvements that have clearly revolutionized the industry. Come enjoy Florida's premier entertainment venue, home of the 2004 Stanley Cup Champion Tampa Bay Lightning and Tampa Bay Storm - five-time Arena Football Champion.

#### **CRUISE PORT TAMPA BAY**

1101 Channelside Dr., Tampa, FL 33602 800-741-2297; porttb.com Year 'Round and Seasonal Cruises Embark on a cruise from downtown Tampa to exotic locations in the Western Caribbean such as Belize, Honduras, Grand Cayman and Mexico. Select an itinerary from 4 to 14 days that meets your schedule on one of the top cruise lines in the world. Enhance your stay in Tampa Bay with a cruise that will create a lifetime memory. Give Tampa a try and see what the area has for you!

#### **EBOATS TAMPA**

333 South Franklin St Tampa, FL 33602 M-Su 8am - 10pm 813-767-2245; eboatstampa.com Relaxina And Eco-Friendly Virtually silent, easy to operate, environmentally friendly, comfortable and a unique way to enjoy Tampa. Rent one of our electric boats today and experience Tampa in a whole new way. Our boats are very easy to operate and we provide a brief orientation to make sure you are comfortable. Our guests have described it "like driving a golf cart on the water." We also offer Captains at \$30.00 an hour.

#### THE FLORIDA AQUARIUM

701 Channelside Dr., Tampa, FL 33602 M-Su 9:30am - 5pm 813-273-4000; flaquarium.org Getting Involved Accredited by the Association of Zoos &

Aquariums. this large scale 250,000 square foot aquarium is publicly operated as a 501 not-for-profit organization. Come see why it is ranked as one of the Top 10 Aquariums in the country by Trip Advisor as well as one of the Top 5 "Kid-Friendly Aquariums" by Parents Magazine!





9 SHOWS ONLY! TENNESSEE WILLIAMS THEATER

NUTCRACKERKEYWEST.COM

#### **X**PLORE

#### **FOX HOLLOW GOLF CLUB**

10050 Robert Trent Jones Parkway
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Call For Hours
727-376-6333; golfthefox.com
Tampa's Finest Semi-Private Golf Country Club
Designed by the world-famous golf course
architect Robert Trent Jones Sr. Fox Hollow Golf
Club has hosted local qualifiers for the
US Open as well as qualifying

Club has hosted local qualifit US Open as well as qualifying for the PGA Tour's Valspar Championship. The par 71 championship layout winds through gently rolling terrain, large oaks and many lakes. Excellent course conditions, competitive prices and friendly service.

#### **LEXINGTON OAKS**

26133 Lexington Oaks Blvd. Wesley Chapel, FL 34747 Call For Hours 813-907-7270; lexoaks.com

Best Golf Value in Tampa Bay
Located just 25 minutes from downtown Tampa in Wesley Chapel, Lexington Oaks is known for its great course conditions and reasonable prices. The challenging layout includes a multitude of lakes and wetlands. The tough par three holes and great finishing holes gives this course its hole-in-one character. A great course for every level of player. Enjoy the beautiful club house and restaurant.

#### MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY (MOSI)

4801 E Fowler Ave.
Tampa, FL 33617
M-F 10am - 5pm; Sa-Su 10am - 6pm
813-987-6000; mosi.org
Museum For All
MOSI is a non-profit, community-based
institution and educational resource that
is dedicated to advancing public interest,
knowledge and understanding of science,
industry and technology. MOSI's core
ideology is to make a difference in people's
lives by making science real for people of
all ages and backgrounds. MOSI seeks to
meet the needs of a growing and vibrant

#### STRAZ CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

1010 N W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa, FL 33602 813-229-7827; strazcenter.org Anything Can Happen!

community.

The STRAZ Center inspires audiences and artists to dream and discover, to create and celebrate. The beauty and importance of the STRAZ Center has been that it's bigger than any one performance or genre. It's a stunning community destination that offers a gamut of live performances.

#### TAMPA BAY DOWNS

11225 Race Track Road Tampa, FL 33626 Call For Hours 813-855-4401;

tampabaydowns. com Live Racing

Live Racing
- Simulcast
Action Poker - Golf
A Premier multientertainment
destination on
Florida's West Coast

for thoroughbred racing. Visit The Silks Poker Room with high stakes

action to test out your real "poker face." Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner are available throughout the facility. Families can hang out in the picnic area during the races. There truly is something for everybody at Tampa Bay Downs.

#### **TAMPA BAY CITY PASS**

Participating Attractions 888-330-5008; citypass.com/tampa Get up to 53% Off Tampa's Top Attractions! Save 53% on combined admission to Bush Gardens Tampa Bay and four additional area attractions including The Florida Aquarium, Tampa's Lowery Park Zoo, Clearwater Marine Aquarium and your choice between the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) or the Chihuly Collection. CITYPASS is valid for 9 consecutive days beginning with the first use.

#### WHISPERING OAKS WINERY

in Florida!

10934 N. CR 475, Oxford, FL 34484
Open Daily 11am - 7pm
352-748-0449; winesofflorida.com Blueberry
Wine - Delicious and Healthy!
Creating all natural wines with the freshest
Florida blueberries to make a great blend
of delicious nectar that tantalizes and teases
the taste buds. Blessed with a pioneering
spirit, we are creating a unique blend of
vino. Our product is created with fresh
blueberries harvested and fermented with
care to create a unique table wine that is far
from ordinary. A "must stop" for wine tasting

#### ST. PETERSBURG AREA

#### CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER

14th St N, St Petersburg, FL 33701
727-893-7171; stpete.org
Sun And Fun!
Along with beautiful beaches, St. Petersburg
attracts visitors with the Salvador Dali
Museum, the Chihuly Collection, and Fort De
Soto Park. The city, which glimmers between
the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay, is known
for its warm weather and delightful breezes.
It offers an array of interactive, art, science
and natural attractions while its beaches offer
major fun in the sun.

#### FLORIDA HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

55 5th St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Open Daily 10am - 5pm
727-820-0100 flholocaustmuseum.org
Remember. Educate. Empower.
The Florida Holocaust Museum honors the
memory of millions of innocent men, women
and children who suffered or died in the
Holocaust. The Museum is dedicated to teaching
the members of all races & cultures the inherent
worth & dignity of human life in order to prevent
future genocides. Many of the Museum's public
programs, exhibition openings & events take
place in Kane's Furniture Hall.

#### **MOREAN ARTS CENTER**

400 Beach Dr. St., Petersburg, FL 33701 M-Sa 10am - 5pm; Su Noon - 5pm 727-896-4527-7872; moreanartscenter.org It's A Gallery, Gift shop and Classroom. Founded in 1917, this 35,000 square foot art center provides opportunities to all, irrespective of age and cultural background and offers six galleries of art space. Many award-winning artists like Dale Chihuly, Arturo Rodriguez, Luis Vega, Thomas Murray and more have been a part of this non-profit organization. Featuring paintings, drawings, ceramics, photography and lots more.

#### ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

14700 Terminal Blvd. Clearwater, FL 33762 Call For Hours 727-453-7800; fly2pie.com The Bright Side of Flight

The Bright Side of Flight
It was originally called the Pinellas International
Airport and given the airport call letters, PIE.
When you fly to PIE, you're right in the heart
of Tampa Bay-just a quick drive whether
you're headed to Tampa, St. Petersburg, or
Clearwater. The airport is a breeze for coming
and going, for travel that truly feels like part of
your vacation. The St. Pete-Clearwater area is
the perfect place to escape to for fun in the sun.

#### ST. PETERSBURG CITY THEATER

4025 31st Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33704
Call For Dates And Times
727-866-1973; spcitytheatre.org
More Than Community Theatre
This "Classic Icon of Community Theatre" is the
the oldest, continuously operating community
theatre in the state of Florida. We have
been providing quality entertainment since
1925 and we're still setting the bar for live
community theater excellence! We provide
top entertainment while developing and
encouraging local non-professional talent.

#### ST. PETERSBURG ARTS ALLIANCE

100 2nd Ave. N., Suite 150
St Petersburg, FL 33705
Call For Hours
727-518-5142; stpeteartsalliance.org
The Community Voice for the Arts Communities is a breakthrough strategy for providing artists and non-profit arts organizations with critical operating support. Founded in 2012, the St. Petersburg Arts Alliance has taken on that challenge by implementing a shared vision among city and community leaders to make a serious investment in our local arts organizations, artists and creative businesses.

#### - T

**SUNKEN GARDENS** 

gardens and more

1825 4th St. N. St., Petersburg, FL 33704 M-Sa 10am - 4:30pm Su Noon - 4:30pm 727-551-3102; stpete.org.

Discover The Beauty
Sunken Gardens is a botanical paradise in
the midst of a bustling city. As St. Petersburg's
oldest living museum, this 100 year-old
garden is home to some of the oldest tropical
plants in the region. Unwind as you stroll
through meandering paths, lush with exotic
plants from around the world. Explore
cascading waterfalls, beautiful demonstration

than 50,000 tropical plants and flowers.

#### THE FLORIDA ORCHESTRA

244 2nd Avenue N. Suite 420
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Call For Dates And Times
727-892-3331; floridaorchestra.org
Nothing Beats Live Music
The Florida Orchestra is recognized as Tampa
Bay's leading performing arts institution, one o

The Florida Orchestra is recognized as Tampa Bay's leading performing arts institution, one of the leading professional symphony orchestras in Florida and one of the best orchestras in America. TFO performs nearly 100 concerts annually around Tampa, Clearwater and St. Pete. Concert series include Tampa Bay Times Masterworks, Raymond James Pops, educational Youth Concerts & more.





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Or Online At foxhollowgolfclub.com

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Best Golf Value in Tampa Bay

• 18 Hole Championship Golf Course

• Driving Range • Restaurant/Bar

for Tee Times Call (813) 907-7270

or Online at lexoaks.com

18 DESTINATION Tampa bay

#### XPLORE CEDAR KEY

#### CEDAR KEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

3030 N. McMullen Booth Rd. 609 2nd St., Cedar Key, FL 32625

Su - F 1 - 4pm; Sa 11am - 5pm 352-543-5549;

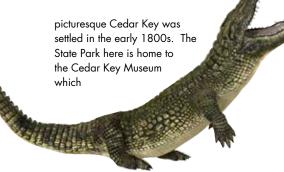
cedarkeyhistoricalmuseum.org
Explore Cedar Key's Rich History
This lovely small town museum is home to
several exhibits detailing the picturesque
village's history dating back to prehistoric
times. Exhibits include Native American
artifacts, the 2nd Seminole Indian War, John
Muir's Journey, Cedar Pencil Industry, Seafood
and Clam Industry, Florida Railroad and
Donax Broom Manufacturing.

#### CEDAR KEY MUSEUM STATE PARK

12231 SW 166 Ct., Cedar Key, FL 32625 Th - M 10am — 5pm 352-543-5350;

stareparks.com

Home of the historical Whitman House Once a thriving port city and railroad connection during the 19th century,



contains exhibits that depict its colorful history during that era. Part of the museum's collection include Indian artifacts collected by Saint Clair Whitman, the founder of the first museum in Cedar Key. Whitman's house is located at the park and has been restored to reflect life in the 1920s. FYI: Be sure to walk the short nature trail where you can see wildlife and birds, as well as native vegetation.

#### LOWER SUWANNEE & CEDAR KEYS

National Wildlife Refuge 347 Country Road Cedar Key, FL 32626 352-493-0238; fws.gov Perfect for wildlife & bird watching This 53,000-acre wildlife refuge which protects one of the largest undeveloped river delta systems in the US, includes 20 miles of the Suwannee River estuary and 20 miles of coastline. The constant influx of nutrients from the Suwannee River combined with numerous off-shore islands and tidal creeks makes it the perfect place to observe birds and other wildlife. There is also a wildlife driving tour here as well as fishing, canoeing and hunting

#### **CLEARWATER AREA**

#### WESTFIELD COUNTRYSIDE MALL

27001 US Hwy. 19, N. Clearwater, FL 33761; Call For Hours; 727-796-1079 westfield.com/countryside
Visit any one of our fantastic new
Restaurants located at the mall entrance on the 1st Level between Sears and Macy's on Countryside Blvd. With the new Cobb Theater, families can plan an entire day at Westfield Countryside beginning with shopping, followed by a tasty snack, lunch or dinner, and topped off with catching the latest releases from Hollywood.





## Waves Of Wonder!

#### The Florida Aquarium

lue blubber jellyfish, a giant Pacific octopus, clownfish and king crabs top the list of the hundreds of mesmerizing animals you'll meet at The Florida Aquarium's new "Waves Of Wonder" Gallery.

At the center of it all, is the 100,000-gallon Heart of the Sea, an astounding exhibit where bonnet head sharks, a nurse shark, southern stingrays and two endangered sea turtles (rehabilitated by The Florida Aquarium) swim around the exhibit and glide through a set of PVC coral trees.

In all, the Aquarium's second largest exhibit is home to more than 400 animals including goliath grouper,

tarpon, Spanish hogfish, rooster hogfish, squirrelfish and grunts.

One of the exhibits most aweinspiring experiences is the Heart of the Sea Swim where you can actually immerse yourself in the 100,000 gallon tank and go face-to-face with the hundreds of fascinating and compelling animals.

By utilizing multi-camera interactive technology, live programs and inwater experiences, Heart of the Sea also shares the story of the Aquarium's conservation work and its ongoing efforts to protect and restore our Blue Planet.

In addition to this and the many other exhibits, The Florida Aquarium features



a 4D theater and an outdoor plaza that includes "The Splash Pad" and a wet and dry kids play area as well as Fins Cantina, where you can enjoy a drink and a bite.

You can find The Florida Aquarium at 701 Channelside Dr. in Tampa. Open daily 9:30am — 5pm. Info: 813-273-4000; flaquarium.com.

# live it up at the downs!

Live Thoroughbred Horse Racing from November 24 through May 5:



Tampa Bay Downs is *the* Gulf Coast destination for fun and excitement. You will enjoy live Thoroughbred horse racing at one of the top-four most popular winter tracks In North America. Saturday, March 9 marks the date of the track's premier race - the Grade II, \$350,000 Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby. This race has produced two winners of the Kentucky Derby, Street Sense in 2007 and Super Saver in 2010. Admission is FREE on weekdays and only \$3.00 on weekends. It's fun for the whole family. We invite you to spend a day at the track and Live it up at the Downs!

OWNS! ♠ RACING ♥ POKER ♣ GOLF ♦

TAMPA RAY

11225 Race Track Rd., Tampa, FL 33626 - 813-855-4401 - www.tampabaydowns.com

20 DESTINATION FLORIDA 21

#### **X**PLORE



#### **GAINESVILLE AREA**

#### **CITY OF GAINESVILLE PARKS**

306 NE 6th Ave. Thomas Center Building B Gainesville, FL 32601 Call For Hours; 352-334-5067 cityofgainesvilleparks.org Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department manages over 3,200 acres of parkland with numerous cultural, recreational, and natural areas and facilities. In October of 2013, the Department became one of 119 agencies in the country to be fully accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. One of the loveliest city parks you will ever visit.

#### **HAILE EQUESTRIAN**

Haile Plantation 7680 SW 46th Blvd Gainesville, Fl 32608 352-665-7433; haileequestrian.com Open T - Sa

Gainesville's Premiere Horse Facility Nestled in the prestigious Haile Plantation, Regina Esterman's beautiful new Equestrian Center provides quality instruction in hunt seat, dressage and western riding. No experience is necessary and there are horses to suit every level. You can also enjoy a 30 - 60 minute casual guided horseback ride in the Center's large riding arena. During the summer and on school holidays, kids ages 7 - 16 are invited to enroll in Horse Camp where they'll learn basic horse handling, safety and care and also be able to ride twice a day in both a lesson and fun ride. Additionally, Haile Equestrian offers an elite selection of Warmbloods and Riding horses for sale, as well as horse boarding and leasing.

#### KANAPAHA BOTANICAL GARDENS

4700 SW 58th Dr Gainesville, FL 32608 352-372-5892; kanapaha.org Cited as Best Attraction in Gainesville If you love horticulture, Kanapaha is an absolute must-see! With 62 acres and 24 collections, it's a delight for the senses from the Butterfly Garden to the largest display of bamboos and largest herb garden in the Southeast. FYI: Bird life abounds so be sure to bring your binoculars!

#### **SANDERS JEWELERS**

Haile Plantation 9119 SW 52nd Ave, Gainesville, Fl 32608 352-331-6100; sandersjewelers.net Open Tu - F 10am - 6pm; Sa 10am - 5pm, Closed Su & M Gainesville's Home for Custom Jewelry Old world craftsmanship with a dramatic vintage flair is the hallmark of Master Jeweler Rick Sanders. In addition to his stunning, highly sought after designs, Sanders also showcases fine diamond iewelry by Allison Kaufman; beautiful bridal jewelry from Benchmark; modern day heirloom jewelry in 18K gold and platinum from Dove's: a spectacular collection of cultured pearls from Imperial and many other special creations by some of the best designers in the business.

#### **SARASOTA**

#### **MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS**

1811 S Palm Ave Sarasota, FL 34236 941-366-5731; selby.org Daily 10am - 5pm A Quiet & Spectacular Oasis Nestled on the shores of beautiful Sarasota Bay, this tropical, urban oasis showcases unparalleled horticulture displays and is a world-class center for education, research and education. There is just so much to see here including a Conservatory that looks and feels like a tropical forest, Fern Garden, Bamboo Garden, Banyan Grove, Mangroves and Baywalk, Bromeliad Garden, Butterfly Garden, Children's Rainforest and more.

#### MOTE MARINE LABORATORY & AQUARIUM

1600 Ken Thompson Pkwy Sarasota, FL 34236 706-453-2920; mote.org Daily 10am - 5pm Immerse Yourself In Discovery This independent marine research institution is staffed by world-class marine scientists committed to the conservation and sustainable use of our oceans. The working aquarium here gives you an up-close experience with a variety of marine animals and fish including two touch tanks and a 135,000 gallon shark habitat. You can also witness our scientific research—as it happens—in viewable working laboratories. Really cool!

#### THE RINGLING

5401 Bayshore Rd Sarasota, FL 34243 941-359-5700; ringling.org Daily 10am — 5pm The Greatest Show On Earth The Ringling Circus may be gone but it is certainly not forgotten. This State Art Museum is home to one of the preeminent art and cultural collections in the US which John Ringling, in the spirit of America's wealthiest Gilded Age, began acquiring in the 1920s. The museum now houses a treasure trove of paintings and art objects as well as a Circus Gallery which showcases performers wardrobes. beautifully carved parade wagons, lithographic circus posters, a cannon which shot fearless

performers across the big top and so much more. FYI: Check out the interactive Tibbals Learning Center where you can experience the excitement of a day at the circus.

#### **WINTER HAVEN**

#### **LEGOLAND®**

1 Legoland Way, Winter

Haven, FL 33884 M 10am -5pm; Th-F 10am - 5pm; Sa & Su 10am - 6pm; 877-350-5346; leaoland.com/Florida 365 Days Of Awesome! Dedicated to families with children between the ages of 2 and 12, this amazing 150-acre interactive theme park is just 45 minutes from downtown Tampa and features more than 50 unique rides, engaging shows and really cool attractions. Imaginations soar at the "DUPLO Village" where kids can fly a plane, drive a car and explore a "kid-sized" town. At "LEGO Kingdom," they can travel back to Medieval Times where they'll meet brave knights, beautiful damsels and fiery dragons. In the "Land Of

Adventure," they can hunt for hidden treasure

and explore buried tombs. And that's only the

beginning!



# EARLY BIRD SPECIAL \$20 OFF Electric Boat Rental

8am-4pm Mon-Fri, Holidays Excluded







#### Reservation **Hotline**

813-767-2245 eBoatsTampa.com

#### **Boats Available 7 Days** 8am-10pm

- Stop At Up To 5 Different Restaurants
- Take Up To 12 Passengers For One Low Hourly Rate
- No Boaters License Required

#### **Rental Rates**

Fri-Sun Mon-Thu 1 hr \$90 \$70 per hr \$80 per hr \$60 per hr \$70 per hr \$50 per hr \$60 per hr

# Tampa At A Glance

#### So much to see and do!

ampa — the second largest metro area in Florida — is just a short 30 minute drive to some of the world's best beaches and a hub of activity with lots of interesting things to see and do.

The city's rich Latin heritage, historic architecture and beautiful waterways



backdrop a thriving downtown punctuated by restored turn-of-the-century buildings, hip bars, innovative restaurants, world-class theater and not-to-bemissed attractions.

Downtown Tampa's gorgeous Riverwalk takes you on a beautiful stroll past the Tampa Museum of Art, Curtis Hixon Park and the

> city's gleaming business district. Less than a minute away is the Ybor City Historic District.

Created in the late 1800s around the Cuba cigar-rolling industry, the former cigar factories have

now morphed into trendy restaurants and nightclubs rocking the old red brick buildings with lively music, cocktails and late-night
dancing.
Nearby
Hyde Park,
an upscale
shopping and
dining district, hums

with specialty boutiques and national shops, as well as a number of excellent restaurants and lively bars.

Tampa's many museums including the Museum of Art and Glazier Children's museum are an adventure unto themselves and the area's world renowned theme parks provide plenty of rides, shows and attractions to fill up a whole weekend.

Whatever your age, whatever your taste, this is one city that has it all.

# Hyde Park

# Hyde Park Village today is a charming area with locally owned national boutiques and restaurants.

historic neighborhood and district located within the city limits of Tampa. It includes
Bayshore Boulevard, Hyde Park Village and SoHo.

Hyde Park is located adjacent to the University of Tampa and Downtown. The neighborhood history begins back in the 1880s when railroad financier Henry B. Plant built the first bridge across the Hillsborough River at Lafayette Street (now John F. Kennedy Blvd). The first house was built by James Watrous in 1882.

Growth occurred rapidly and a street car line was put in on Swann Ave and

Rome Ave. This is the reason for the wideness of the two streets, while most in the neighborhood are much narrower. The area where Old Hyde Park Village is today was originally called Cork Ave.

Dakota Ave., Cork

Ave., and Inman Ave. all intersected near where the British pay phone sits today. The only portion left of Cork

Ave. today is called Snow Ave. Hyde Park Village today is a charming area with locally-owned and national boutiques and restaurants.

### Make your next event, a "Vineyard Event"

Whispering Oaks Winery is not short on charm.

Backdropped by a panorama of blueberry fields, massive oak trees, rustic barns and gorgeous sunsets, this 58-acre working "farm winery" is a gem of a venue for all kinds of special events: from weddings, bridal showers and rehearsal dinners to private parties, corporate events and everything in between.

The vineyard blossomed a few years ago when it began creating unique, all-natural wines with the freshest local blueberries.

Each bottle contains a whopping 2.2 pounds which are harvested, fermented and bottled right on premises.

On weekends from noon to 5pm, you can sample flights of the various blueberry vino in the winery's rustic tasting room.

Free 20 minute tours take place every hour on the hour.

The winery also has a full commercial kitchen and is well renowned for the week-end steak night dinners where you can feast on wood fire grilled Porterhouse and Ribeye Steaks or fresh Salmon Filets accompanied by some tasty side dishes and terrific live music.



Blueberry wine tastes delicious, is anioxidant rich and is also healthy for you! Find Whispering Oaks Winery at 10934 N. County Rd 475 in Oxford, Florida.

Find Whispering Oaks Winery at 10934 N. County Rd 475 in Oxford, Florida. For more info or to make your next event a "Vineyard Event," call 352-748-0449 or go winesofflorida.com.





24 DESTINATION FLORIDA HOLIDAY WINTER 2018-2019 25

# Good Fats



TAMPA AREA

**JACKSON'S BISTRO** 

Tampa, FL 33602

Sunday Brunch

601 S Harbour Island Blvd.

Voted Best Sushi In Tampa

Open Daily For Lunch & Dinner

813-277-0112 jacksonbistro.com

Jackson's view alone makes it worth the visit

and gives new meaning to the phrase "The Art Of Entertaining". Professional service, wonderful food and a warm ambiance creates a true cultural experience. Whether you come for lunch, dinner or just relax at the famous waterfront bar, Jackson's always delivers a memorable dining experience that you won't want to miss.

#### **MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY**

Westshore Plaza 203 Westshore Plaza Tampa, Fl 33609 813-288-9000; maggianos.com M-Th 11am -10pm; F 11am - 11am; Sa 10:30am-11pm; Su 10:30am - 10pm Terrific Italian Food That Won't Disappoint Simplicity and rich, natural flavors are at the core of this wildly popular Tampa favorite

where scratch-made soups and pastas, signature flatbreads and hearty Old World family recipes rule the day. n addition to the classic Italian-American fare, there are also lots of great vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Top Picks: Braised Beef Contadina, Chicken Francese and the zesty Rigatoni Arrabbiata with Italian sausage, spinach and spicy tomato cream sauce.

#### TAMPA AIRPORT MARRIOTT 4200 George J. Bean Parkway

Tampa, FL 33607 Call for hours 813-879-5151 tampamarriottairport.com Your Oasis Awaits Delicious dining options. A sparkling outdoor pool. And all the comforts of home in the tranquil peace and quiet of your guest room. Located a short indoor walk down the terminal to our front desk, Tampa Airport Marriott gives you everything you need to relax and unwind when you're in town. It's everything you need when you want to get away, and it's all perfectly

located inside Tampa International Airport.

#### TAMPA MARRIOTT WATERSIDE HOTEL/ **MARINA**

700 South Florida Ave., Tampa, FL 33602 813-221-4900 tampamarriottwaterside.com Gateway To Tampa's Waterfront Enjoy innovative cocktails and tasty bites around the cozy fire pit on our outdoor patio, catch the big game at Champions Sports Bar or enjoy fresh seafood and house-smoked signature items at Waterside Grill. Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina's premier location on Tampa's pedestrian-friendly Riverwalk connects you to downtown's dynamic cultural venues, city parks and vibrant nightlife. Rooms feature picturesque bay views or the city skyline.

#### **WINE EXCHANGE BISTRO & WINE BAR**

1609 W. Snow Avenue, Tampa, FL 33606 S 11:30am-9pm M-Th 11:30am -10pm F-S 11:30am -11pm 813-254-9463 wineexchangetampa.com Taste The Quality The Wine Exchange Bistro & Wine Bar in Hyde Park Village has been dishing out great food

and exceptional wines since 1990. With a reverential nod to the streetside cafés of Europe, the Wine exchange offers a welcoming and relaxing respite from the everyday toil. Taste wines from all over the alobe in our crystal stemware, while sitting on the patio, or take in the surrounding scenery sipping martinis at our fully stocked bar.

#### ST. PETERSBURG **AREA**

#### **360 ROOFTOP**

At Hotel Zamora 3701 Gulf Blvd. St Pete Beach, Fl 33706 M-Th 3:30 - 10pm; F 3:30 - Midnight; Su 3:30 - 9pm 727-456-8660 thehotelzamora.com

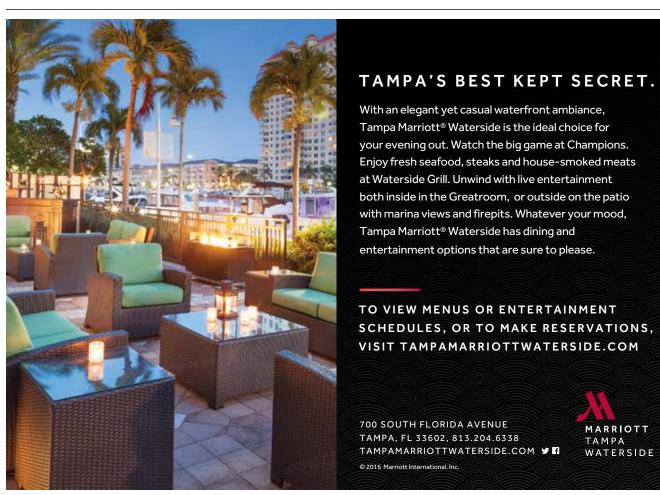
Cocktails Garnished With Glorious Sunsets Enjoy panoramic views of the Gulf of Mexico and the Intracoastal Waterway at this hip rooftop hot spot where you can mingle at the bar or cozy up on a plush couch for a frontrow seat the St. Pete's famous, breathtaking sunsets. For real VIP treatment, rent one of the cozy cabanas.

MARRIOTT

WATERSIDE

TAMPA





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#### Good Eats



#### **CASTILE RESTAURANT**

At Hotel Zamora 3701 Gulf Blvd St Pete Beach, Fl 33706 727-456-8660: thehotelzamora.com Open Daily Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Happy Hour M-F 3:30 - 5:30pm Sidewalk Cafe Meets Seaside Grill Breezy and elegant, Castile Restaurant merges the atmosphere of a stylish sidewalk cafe with the sunny sensibility of a modern seaside grill. With seating indoors and outdoors on an expansive ocean view terrace, the restaurant serves contemporary cuisine influenced by the culinary traditions of Spain, Mexico and the Mediterranean.

#### THE VINOY RENAISSANCE

501 5th Ave. St. Petersburg, FL 33701 727-894-1000 vonoyrenaissanceresort.com Celebrating 90 Years Of History
Step into our newly renovated lobby blending historic charm and a rich past with modern luxuries and amenities. Indulge your palate with our distinctive restaurants. Savor farm-fresh plates beneath 90 year old, exquisitely restored murals at Marchand's, share moments on the veranda with specialty cocktails and small plates or relish in the golden-era of jazz at our exclusive Speakeasy.

#### CIFARWATER AREA

#### **BASCOM'S CHOP HOUSE**

3665 Ulmerton Rd., Clearwater, FL 33762 Lunch M-F 11:30am-2:30pm Dinner M-Sa 5-10pm; Su 4-9 pm 727-573-3363 bascoms.com

Exceeding Expectations...

Do you believe in love at first sight or should we post this again? May the only work you do today be lifting your fork! There isn't even a word in the dictionary for how good you look. Yeah, there might be one place in town where you can get Grouper that's fresher than this: the ocean. Be true to your stomach: Follow the snacks.

#### GAINESVILLE AREA

6500 SW Archer Rd.

#### BACKSTREET BLUES CHOPHOUSE AND OYSTER BAR

Gainesville, FL 32608 352-363-6795; backstreetblueschophouse.com Closed Mon, Open Tues - Sat 5 - 10pm; Su 5pm - 9pm Presidential Fine Dinina Former White House Executive Chef, Ed Lyons brings his Presidential fine dining wizardry and award-winning culinary magic to this chic Chophouse and Oyster Bar. USDA Prime dry and wet aged steaks, premium Gulf seafood and fresh oysters from Cedar Key and all over the world top a menu that raises the bar for dining in Gainesville. Grilled at 1100° the signature 36 oz Tomahawk Ribeye is absolutely fabulous and the large, pan-seared Hokkaido Japanese Sea Scallops over pesto butter sauce are orgasmic!

#### FRESCO PIZZA & PASTA

loaded with a

huge selection

of appetizers

and salads along

with dozens of

sandwiches and entrees. When it comes

Haile Village Center
5212 SW 91st Terrace
Gainesville, Fl 32608
352-872-5005; frescopizzaandpasta.com
Open Nighly M - F 5 - 10pm;
Sa & Su Brunch 9am - 1pm
Urban Italian
Traditional Italian flavors fused with a 21st
century flair result in sophisticated,
fresh crafted dishes that are
all made from scratch.
Fresco's big menu is

to their pizza and pasta, you're the architect: start with a hand tossed pie or choice of pasta and then add all your favorite toppings and sauces. Bravissimo!

#### LIMEROCK ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD

9158 SW 51st Rd Haile Village Center Gainesville, Fl 32608 352-240-6228: limerockroad.com Open M - Th 11:30am - 10pm; Sa 9am - 11pm; Su 9am - 10pm Crafted, Casual Comfortable Cuisine Burgers and beer. Ribs and rum. Whatever you put together from the diverse menu at this casual neighborhood grill will be right on point. You'll find over two dozen juicy burger options here all served with a side of addictive hand-cut fries. Main Plates - just like the kind mom used to make - include a BBQ Combo Platter (ribs, pulled pork and chicken), traditional Pot Roast Dinner, Shrimp & Fried Grits Cake and lots of other old time favorites that are all made from scratch.

#### **VOLCANIC SUSHI + SAKE**

Haile Village Center 5141 SW 91st Way Gainesville, Fl 32608 352-363-6226: volcanicsushisaki.com Open Su - Th 11am - 9pm; F & Sa 11am - 10pm Gainesville's Iron Chef Winner Winner of Gainesville's 2018 Iron Man Chef Competition, owner Nestor Espartero is a master at creating fabulous Fusion dishes which reflect his passion for Asian. Latin and French cuisine. The food at his small, unassuming eatery is deliciously fresh, beautifully plated and artistically arranged (the wasabi is sculpted to resemble leaves). Chef Nestor's flavors are often complex resulting in sensational dishes like the Sweet Salmon Teriyaki, Shaken Beef Tenderloin and Duck Curry. His signature rolls are also off the chart especially the crunchy Haile Roll with tuna tartare and lotus root drizzled with eel sauce. Simply the best.

#### **CEDAR KEY**

#### **83 WEST**

310 Dock St Cedar Key, Fl 32625 352-543-5070; 83westcedarkey.com Open Su - W 11am - 8pm; F - Sa 11am - 10pm; Closed Th A Local Take On Southern Seafood Southern-style dishes inspired by fresh local seafood, seasonal produce and Cedar Key's heritage are the signature of this charming dockside restaurant that boasts spectacular water views from every seat. Executive Chef/Owner, Jordan Keeton sources fresh, local seafood, meats and produce to create old Florida favorites with a thoroughly modern twist. The Shrimp & Anson Mills Grits with andouille sausage is just wonderful; the Fried Green Tomatoes are absolutely delicious and beautifully plated; and the house-made Key Lime Cake is unique and delicious. Florida brewed beers, and craft distilled spirits, too!



#### **OCALA**

#### **IVY ON THE SQUARE**

53 S. Magnolia
Ocala, Fl 34471
352-622-5550;
ivyhousefl.com
Open Tu 11am - 2pm; W 11am - 9pm;
Th 11am - 10pm; F & Sa 11am - 11pm;
Sunday Brunch 10:30am - 2pm
Southern Cooking At Its Best
Marjorie"Mimi" Hale and her family are
the epitomy of "Southern Hospitality."
Owner of the hip Ivy On The Square in
Ocala and the the landmark Ivy House
Restaurant & Catering in Williston, Mimi

is renowned for her delicious, yet simple meals, most of which are created from cherished family recipes. Mimi's signature Baked Krispy Chicken tops the list of house favorites which includes other southern specialties like Fried Green Tomatoes, Cheese Fritters and BBQ Shrimp & Grits. There's also a wide selection of seafood and steak dishes along with an extensive gluten-free menu. FYI: They have a great Happy Hour with 2-4-1 drinks every Weds - Sat from 3 - 7pm as well as Late Night Tapas & Cocktails on Fri & Sat from 9 - 11pm. In Ocala at 53 S Magnolia (352-622-5550) and in Wiliston at 106 NW Mail St. (352-528-5410).



MAGGIANO'S IS AN ITALIAN-AMERICAN RESTAURANT WITH A PASSION FOR

# Making People Feel Special.

OUR SCRATCH KITCHEN, ENSURES EVERY DISH IS MADE FRESH TO ORDER.

Enjoy our Happy Hour Monday-Friday from 3-6 in our Cocktail Lounge, Main Dining Room or Beautiful Outside Patio. Our Banquet Ballroom hosts up to 200 guests for any Private Dining Events, and our Off-Site Catering is offered in most of the Tampa Bay Area. We hope to see you soon!

203 WESTSHORE PLAZA TAMPA, FL 33609 | 813.288.9000

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#### THE PLACE THE LOCALS GO.

Elegant farm to fork menu and the freshest sushi in town at Marchand's. Cozy fireside, waterfront dining at The Veranda Patio. And opening this April, Speakeasy in the basement, serving up classic cocktails and live entertainment. Dine with us and receive complimentary parking.

fΣ

THE VINOY RENAISSANCE RESORT & GOLF CLUB 501 5th Ave NE, St Petersburg, FL 33701, t: 727.894.1000, vinoyrenaissanceresort.com © 2015 Renaissance Holdings, Inc.

RENAISSANCE'



#### MINUTES FROM THE GATE. MILES FROM THE ORDINARY.

Located in the main terminal of the Tampa International Airport, the Tampa Airport Marriott® offers easy access the fantastic shopping, dining, entertainment, and some of the world's finest beaches. Indulge at Skyye Bar & Grille with an eclectic sushi menu, local craft brews, and a plethora of barrelaged bourbons. Tampa Airport Marriott is the perfect place to unwind after a full day of travel, meetings or sightseeing.

FOR RATES & RESERVATIONS, CALL 813.879.5151 OR VISIT TAMPAAIRPORTMARRIOTT.COM

4200 GEORGE J. BEAN PARKWAY, TAMPA, FL 33607 💆 🖪

MARRIOTT TAMPA AIRPORT 66 St. Pete's support of craft brewing has allowed local brewing to take root and produce some great social interaction, as well as tasty beverages. This is

# our sunshine?



# Surprising St. Pete

Your Sunshine City



ecently, the New York Times named St. Petersburg as one of the "52 must see places in the world". Yes, the world!

Touting its museums and rich cultural scene, a thriving craft beer industry, and its ranking as one of America's Top 10 most beautiful cities, St. Petersburg's a must-see stop on any traveler's Tampa Bay itinerary.

Just a half hour from Tampa or Clearwater, St. Petersburg – once known as a retirement destination was just ranked as Florida's No. 1 spot for relocation among millennials.

As the gateway to the I-4 high-tech corridor, St. Petersburg can hang its hat as a great spot for new business and tech start-ups, a thriving arts climate, one of North America's largest and most beautiful downtown waterfronts and a climate that holds a world record for the most consecutive days of sunshine!

The city hops after dark. A thriving craft beer industry and a 24/7 downtown attracts the region's largest clusters of bars and entertainment spots in the Tampa Bay area. Along Beach Drive, stylish open air cafes line a European-style promenade overlooking a ribbon of green city parks and the

sparkling waters of Tampa Bay. In between, discover great shopping at Sundial or throughout downtown, or the eclectic homegrown businesses in the Grand Central District.

Ranked as America's No.1 Arts Destination, and its No. 1 crafts town, the Sunshine City is home to a surprising number of museums, including the world famous Dali

Museum, Dale Chihuly's only permanent collection of his glass art, and an acclaimed Museum of Fine Arts. Add to that a rich performing arts scene, including the home of the Florida Orchestra, and the cultural lover will be captivated by what's on exhibit or on stage.



Don't miss a trip to downtown St. Petersburg, and discover for yourself the warm hospitality that has made the Sunshine City famous.









#### **MODERN MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE AND RELAXING ROOFTOP VIBES IN ST. PETE BEACH**

HOTEL | ROOFTOP | BRUNCH | HAPPY HOUR | DINNER | SPECIAL EVENTS







3701 Gulf Blvd. | St. Pete Beach, FL 33706 | 727.456.8900 | thehotelzamora.com | #HotelZamora

# Clearwater

#### For Everything Under the Sun

rom its renowned white sand beaches, amazing marine life and glorious weather, to fabulous dining, shopping, cultural attractions and festivals, Clearwater has it all. Lots of sports and recreational activities also make it a perfect place to stay and play.

So it wasn't surprising when USA Today readers named this popular year-round destination as "Best Beach Town," and "Best Place To Watch A Sunset," and also voted the Clearwater Marine Aquarium as "Best Florida Attraction."

Remember Winter, the dolphin with a prosthetic tail made famous in the blockbuster movie, "Dolphin Tale?"Well, you can see her here at the Marine Aquarium whichfocuses on rehabilitation and education.

And speaking of dolphins, you may be greeted by anynumber of six-foot tall dolphins - 115 of them in fact, that comprise the Clearwater Dolphins Trail which extends from Tarpon Springs to St. Petersburg.

If shopping's your bag (and even if it's not) head on over to Westfield Countryside Mall. With 180+ retailers, twelve movie theaters, an indoor ice-skating rink and Restaurant Row, it has just about everything you need for a day of fun

Another "Must-See": the free nighty Sunset Celebration at Pier 60 which



includes local artisans, street performers, musicians and terrific live entertainment.

For true world-class entertainment, check out the performance lineup at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Long a mainstay of the Tampa Bay Cultural scene and downtown Clearwater's beautifully restored Capitol Theatre, it hosts some of hottest acts in the US.

So come see for yourself because Clearwater really does have it all!



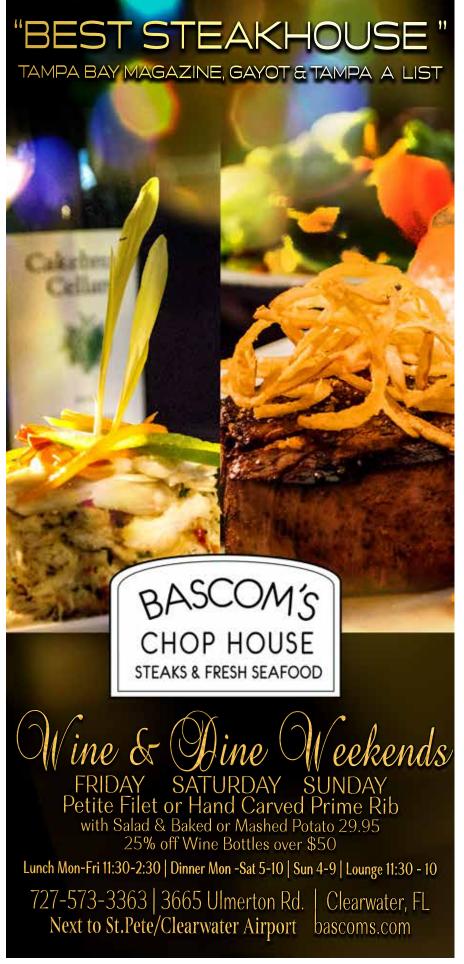


#### Pack Your Bags! New Lux Hotel On THe Horizon

here is a new luxury boutique hotel on the horizon in Pinellas County. Just this week local business leader and hotelier Fred B. Bullard announced plans to construct a brand new \$25,000,000.00 luxe hotel with 122 rooms at Ulmerton Rd. in the space formerly occupied by The Venue in the Feather Sound area.

The contemporary Spanish style hotel will be full service with ample meeting and conference space as well as separate full service restaurant and lounge/bar. This opulent new hotel will be the only one of its kind in the area offering a level of grandeur not experienced by locals, tourists and business travelers alike. We are all looking forward to the completion of this property as it raises the bar for all Tampa Bay area hotels.





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# A WONDERFUL MEAL FOR A BEAUTIFUL MAN

# Creamed Spinach Au Gratin

#### From Bascom's Chop House

ometimes there is perfection in simplicity, and that's true at Bascom's Chop House when they pair your favorite Filet Mignon with their signature Creamed Spinach Au Gratin.

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

(Yields 4 Servinas)

2 lb Fresh Spinach (mature crinkly leaves, not flat baby leaves), stems removed

1/2 Cup Whole Milk

1/2 Cup Heavy Cream

2 Large Cloves Garlic, peeled and minced

1 Tbs Unsalted Butter

1 Tbs plus 1 Tsp All-Purpose fFour

1/3 Cup Freshly Grated

Parmigiano-Reggiano

Crumbled Danish Blue Cheese

Shredded Cheddar Cheese

Freshly Grated Nutmeg

Kosher Salt

Freshly Ground Black Pepper

#### PREPARATION:

Wash the spinach thoroughly using 2 or 3 changes of water, but don't dry the leaves. Set a 6- to 8-quart Dutch oven over medium-high heat and add half of the wet spinach. Season with



1/4 tsp salt, cover and steam, tossing frequently, until wilted, 3 to 4 minutes. Transfer to a colander in the sink and repeat with the remaining spinach.

Using a folded dish towel, press down on the spinach to remove as much water as possible. Transfer the spinach to a cutting board, blot again and chop very coarsely.

Put the milk, cream and minced garlic into a 1-quart saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat: then immediately remove from stove and transfer to a measuring cup with 1/2tsp salt, a few grinds of pepper, and a big pinch of nutmeg.

Wipe out the saucepan. Melt the butter in the pan over mediumlow heat. Add the flour and cook, whisking constantly, until pale and smooth, about one minute.

Whisk in the cream mixture in a slow. steady stream. Increase the heat to medium and simmer the sauce, whisking constantly, until it thickens and reduces slightly, about 2 minutes.

Add the spinach and stir to combine. Add the Parmigiano and mix well. Continue to stir constantly until the spinach is hot, one to two minutes. Season with more salt and pepper and serve with broiled cheese crust of Danish Blue and Cheddar Cheese.

You can enjoy this and many more award-winning recipes at Bascom's Chop House, 3665 Ulmerton Rd in Clearwater. Reservations: 727-573-3363; bascoms.com.

# Gainesville

#### Where Nature and Culture Meet

ome to both "real" gators and the University of Florida's "Fightin' Gators." Gainesville is where nature and culture meet.

Alligators, bison and wild horses freely roam the 22,000 acres of Paynes Prairie State Park, a National Landmark which has lots of walking trails and platforms that provide fantastic views of the prairie and the 100 - 270 bird species that regularly visit here.

And then there are the museums. The Florida Museum of Natural History hosts fascinating exhibits about Florida and also features a Butterfly Rainforest with hundreds of free-flying butterflies and birds from around the world.

lust next door is the Harn Museum of



Art - one of the country's largest university owned art museums. The Harn's impressive collection totals more than 10,000 objects including an extensive collection of Asian Art, as well as modern and contemporary art, photography and more.

For foodies, Gainesville's vibrant downtown delivers a plethora of excellent local restaurants that range from sushi to steak to everything in between. After dark, lively nightclubs and a professional theater keep things even more interesting.





Prime Steaks · Local Gulf Seafood · Fresh Oyster Bar International Wines • Craft Beer & Cocktails

> 6500 SW Archer Rd., at Kanapaha Station, Gainesville 352.363.6792 | backstreetblueschophouse.com Tuesday-Saturday 5-10 Sundays 5-9



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# Haile Village Center

#### Small Town Charm In Gainesville

rip on down to southwest Gainesville and you'll discover one of the area's most charming communities.

Located just a short five miles from the University of Florida and a few miles from I-75 Exits Archer or Newberry Road, Haile Plantation boasts 17,000 acres of walking and biking trails, swaths of green space, dozens of lovely neighborhoods and the Haile Plantation Golf and Country Club - an 18 hole Gary Player Signature golf course.

At the center of it all is the Haile Village Center, a diverse collection of restaurants, boutiques, spas, gift shops and a supermarket interwoven with gracious homes, tree-lined brick

sidewalks and pedestrian-friendly streets

Each Saturday morning, Haile Village hosts a bustling Farmers' Market where you can shop for locally grown organic produce, fresh baked goods and a variety of crafts. The market is open from 8:30am until noon and is also a

performance venue for local musicians.

Throughout the year, the Village is also a hotspot for fun community events and festive holiday celebrations.



If you're in the Gainesville area, make sure to put this one on your itinerary. For more info, hit up hvcoa.com.



# Eat. Shop. Play. Gainesville's Haile Village Center



#### **FRESCO PIZZA & PASTA**

Traditional Italian flavors fused with a 21st century flair result in sophisticated, fresh crafted dishes that are all made from scratch. Find it at 5212 SW 91st Terrace, Gainesville. 352-872-5005; frescopizzaandpasta.com

#### LIMEROCK ROAD **NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL**

Burgers and beer. Ribs and rum. Whatever you put together from the diverse menu at this casual neighborhood grill will be right on point. Find it at 9158 SW 51st Rd, Gainesville. 352-872-5005; limerockroad.com



#### **VOLCANIC SUSHI + SAKE**

Winner of Gainesville's 2018 Iron Chef Competition, owner Nestor Espartero is a master at creating fabulous Fusion dishes which are deliciously fresh, beautifully plated and artistically arranged. Find it at 5141 SW 91st Way, Gainesville. 352-363-6226; volcanicsushisake.com



#### **SANDERS JEWELERS**

Old world craftsmanship with a dramatic vintage flair is the hallmark of Master Jeweler Rick Sanders custom jewelry. Sanders also showcases a spectacular creations by other top designers. Find him at 9119 SW 52nd Ave, Gainesville. 352-331-6100; sandersjewelers.net



#### **Special Events At Haile Village Center**

**Every Saturday** Farmer's Market Friday, November 30 **Light The Village** 

Saturday, April 20 2019 Easter Egg Hunt

# Cedar Key

#### A taste of "Old Florida"

f you want to visit a piece of "Old Florida," tell Siri to take you to the tiny enclave of Cedar Key.

Rich in small town flavor, this quaint, old-fashioned vacation town, with its lovely beaches, great fishing and lush

natural preserves, is a haven for artists and writers who find inspiration from the unspoiled environment.

Located
about 60 miles
southwest of
Gainesville and three
miles out into the Gulf of

Mexico, it's an island whose out of the way location helps keep it authentic and where time seems to stand still.

This is a place where houses and stores stand like herons

perched on stilts above the Gulf and where the

police greet you from spiffed up golf carts.

As one of the nation's top sources of farm-raised clams, it's easy to find tasty clam chowder here along with some of the best

"Cracker Cuisine" in Florida.



# Southern Style Seafood & Craft Cocktails On Historic Cedar Key Acclaimed southern-style dishes inspired by fresh local seafood and seasonal produce overlooking the spectacular waters of the Gulf. Florida Brewed Beer • Craft Distilled Spirits 83 West • 310 Dock St. Cedar Key, Fl 32625 352-543-5070; 83westcedarkey.com

## Sarasota

#### America's Happiest Seaside Town

s one of Florida's primary Gulf
Coast cities, Sarasota is an
eclectic blend of big city culture,
great dining and exceptional white-sand
beaches including Siesta Key Beach cited as the #1 Beach in America.

Whether your taste in art leans more



352-380-1675 · www.bankscarrollgroup.com

toward Ringling Bros. circus memorabilia, seashell creations and sand sculptures to works by Old Masters like Rubens and Poussin, you'll find it all right here.

Home to the Foreign Film Festival, there is plenty of theater in and around Sarasota too, and if you want to

your itinerary,
the Florida West
Coast Symphony,
Key Chorale and
Sarasota Ballet are
just a few of the many
groups who have
stage performances
throughout the
season.



Revered as one of the "Best Food Cities" in the US, there's no shortage of great spots to eat in Sarasota which attracts some of the best culinary talent in the industry.

There's also plenty of fine shopping, as well, including St. Armand's Circle close to the coast and the Mall at University Town Center which has many distinctive retailers not found anywhere else in the area.



Wealth Management Advisors



tapas

#### **Pork Belly Croquetas**

plantain mash, cilantro, roasted red pepper, queso fresco, ancho pepper

#### Pulpo Gallego

grilled portuguese octopus, yukon gold fingerling potatoes, crispy chorizo, popcorn capers, key lime beurre blanc

#### **Lollipop Lamb Chop**

serrano, mint, chimichurri

#### **Lobster Ajillo**

maine lobster, saffron, tomato, chorizo, 3 daughter's key lime cider reduction

#### **Burrata and Avocado Toast**

french baguette, smoked prosciutto, honey balsamic drizzle

**CASTILE Restaurant • Lounge • 360 Rooftop** 3701 Gulf Blvd St Pete Beach. Fl 33706 727-456-8660; castilerestaurant.com

#### entreés

#### Conejo Castellano

confit half rabbit, white bean cassoulet, brandied apricot, soppressata, wild mushrooms, tomatoes, onions, pine nuts

#### Linguine Bottarga

lobster butter poached argentinian shrimp, shaved bottarga

#### **Pistachio Crusted Salmon**

spicy tomato jam, arugula paste, duck fat fingerling potatoes

#### Paella Valenciana

saffron valencia rice, octopus, cuttlefish, argentinian shrimp, PEI mussels, little neck clams, roasted red pepper, english peas, ancho chili aioli

#### dessert

#### **Buttermilk Vanilla Pana Cotta**

passion fruit soup slow roasted pineapple

#### **Chocolate Terrine**

maldon smoked salt | pistachio spanish olive oil



STEAKS & FRESH SEAFOOD

#### appetizers

#### **Crab Cakes**

with remoulade sauce

#### **B** Garlic Jumbo Shrimp

sautéed with garlic, herbs, butter & chardonnay

#### **Escargot En Croute**

Sautéed snails, mushrooms, garlic and herb butter in puff pastry

#### **Chilled Oysters on the Half Shell** with cocktail sauce

#### **Lump Crab Martini**

with house-made remoulade

#### **BASCOM'S CHOP HOUSE** 3665 Ulmerton Rd Clearwater, Fl 33762 727-573-3363; bascoms.com

#### **Black Sesame Tuna**

seared rare with wasabi, pickled ginger, Asian dipping sauce

#### dinner

#### 24 OZ B Porterhouse

Certified Angus Midwestern Grain Fed steer aged, cooked to taste

#### 16 OZ Veal Chop

thick cut milk fed veal

#### Chicken Marsala

pounded cutlets sautéed in homemade marsala wine sauce

#### **Pan-Seared Atlantic Salmon**

white bean cassoulet, asparagus tips, lemon thyme beurre blanc

#### **Pistachio-Crusted Grouper**

rice pilaf, asparagus, citrus cream sauce

#### **Shrimp Scampi Pasta**

jumbo shrimp sautéed with garlic, white wine and olive oil



#### SAMPLE MENUS —



#### sushi

#### **Yellowfin Tuna Carpaccio**

with ginger dressing

#### **Red Dragon Roll**

California roll topped with yellowfin

#### **Hollywood Roll**

lump crab, avocado, cucumber, massage

#### appetizers

#### **Crisp Calamari Rings**

tossed with sweet chili peanut sauce

#### JACKSON'S BISTRO • BAR • SUSHI 601 S. Harbour Island Blvd, Tampa, Fl 33602 813-277-0112; jacksonsbistro.com

#### **Jumbo Lump Blue Crab Cake**

topped with citrus Ke Lime beurre blanc butter sauce

#### **Flatbread Filet Mignon**

zeta pesto sauce, caramelized onions, smoked gouda

#### New Orleans Po' Boys

choose crab cake, fried clam strips, catfish, oysters, or shrimp

#### dinner

#### 12 OZ Center Cut Ribeye

rich, flavorful demi glace, creamy au gratin potatoes, seasonal vegetables

#### **Duroc Pork Chop**

premium French cut, pan-seared, creamy au gratin potatoes, seasonal vegetables

#### **Zesty Marinated Brick Chicken**

demi glace, creamy au gratin potatoes, grilled asparagus spears

#### **Macadamia Crusted Swordfish**

thick cut, pan-seared with crisp potato pancake, sautéed spinach



# SAMPLE MENUS —



#### salads/starters

#### Maggiano's Salad

crispy prosciutto, red onions, blue cheese, house dressing

#### **Bruschetta Bar Tour**

a world of different toppings to sample and enjoy

#### **Prince Edward Island Mussels**

steamed tuscan style or Diavolo

#### steak & veal

#### **Chicken Saltimbocca**

fresh sage, prosciutto, provolone

#### **Grilled Salmon Lemon & Herb**

white wine butter sauce, spinach

#### **MAGGIANO'S**

203 Westshore Plaza, Tampa, Fl 33602 813288-9000; maggianos.com

#### Mignon & Asparagus Risotto

shiitake mushrooms, garlic, red wine jus

#### **Veal Piccata**

capers, spinach, lemon butter chicken & seafood

#### Chicken Francese

parmesan crust, lemon butter, arugula, tomatoes

#### **Shrimp Scampi**

tomatoes, garlic, lemon butter

#### specialty pastas

#### Maggiano's Famous Rigatoni "D"

herb-roasted chicken, mushrooms, caramelized onions, marsala cream sauce

#### Johnny's Carbonara

chitarra pasta, smoked, peas, poached



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## Extras

#### **ATTORNEYS**

#### **ARG: ATTORNEY REFERRAL GROUP**

5745 SW 75th St #295 Gainesville, FL 32608 Call For Hours 877-901-5342; arglegal.com Specialized Attorney Referral Services ARG is a unique entity; comprised of several targeted attorney referral and legal marketing services. We assists attorneys, businesses, and individuals locate and retain competent legal counsel in highly specialized fields of law via our printed legal directories; extensive marketing efforts; and industry-leading web sites. Our job is to connect businesses with attorneys and attorneys

#### LODGING

with attorneys.

#### **BUNGALOW BEACH RESORT**

2000 Gulf Dr. N., Bradenton Beach, FL 34217 Open 24/7

800-779-3601; bungalowbeach.com Old Florida Charm

This beautiful place has bungalows that range from one room studio to three-bedrooms, and feature white wicker furniture, and the original architectural design of hardwood floors, bead-board walls and wood-beamed cathedral ceilings. Stepping inside one differs from most hotels. The white and beige interiors convince you immediately that the place is impeccably clean and fresh.

#### **SIESTA KEY BUNGALOWS**

8212 Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key, FL 34242 Open 24/7

888-574-3782; siestakeybungalows.com A Tropical Island Getaway

Come and enjoy Siesta Key's water-front getaway. Siesta Key Bungalows is a cozy Siesta Key lodging located on Florida's Gulf Coast and sitting directly on pristine Heron Lagoon. Our boutique Siesta Key accommodation offers 10 one-bedroom bungalows, some overlooking the tranguil, blue salt waters of Heron Lagoon, and others overlook the tropical courtyard of Siesta Key Bungalows.

#### **RFAITORS**

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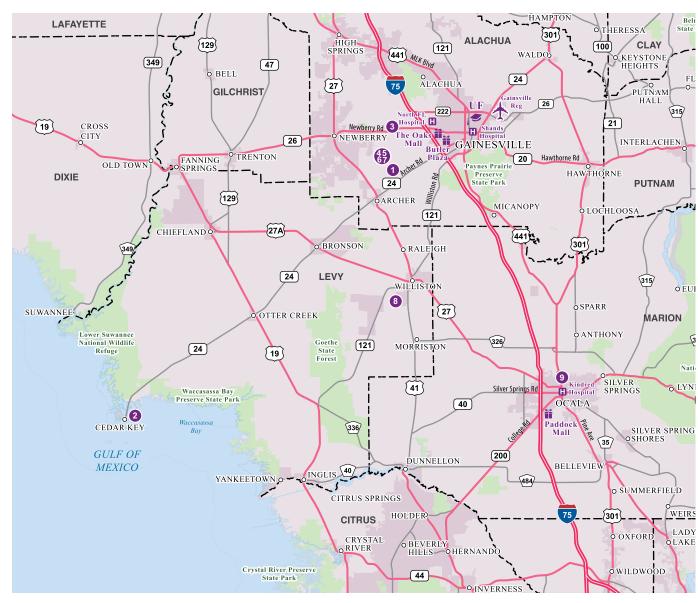




England had written in the guestbook at Bungalow Beach Resort.

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44 DESTINATION FLORIDA HOLIDAY WINTER 2018-2019 45



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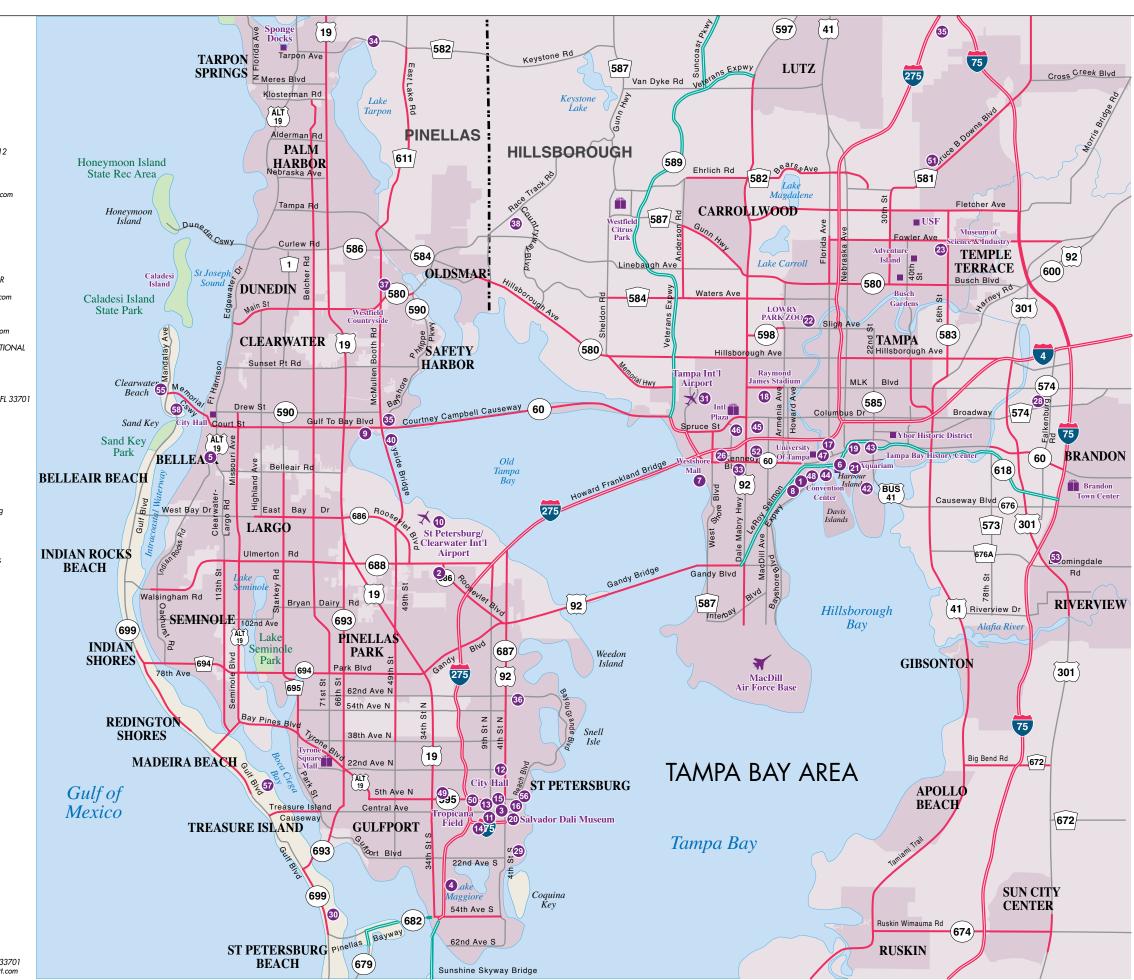
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