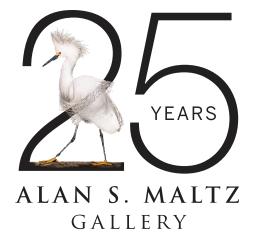


Paradise Found, 40" x 30" Oil on Linen

PETER VEY – Summoning the Light Opening February 17th, 2024, 5-8pm

606 GREENE STREET - KEY WEST, FLORIDA, USA | 305.294.1669 | fax 305.294.7747 galleryongreene@gmail.com | www.galleryongreene.com





STORM ON THE HORIZON

A TRUE CALLING REALIZED...

Alan Maltz Gallery Celebrates 25 Years









Few small businesses can make claim to an impressive 25 year stretch in the highly competitive Key West market. The Alan S Maltz Gallery is one of those chosen few. When Maltz first opened his Duval Street gallery in 1999, he didn't know what to expect. To everyone's delight, it was an instant hit.

And while Maltz's work is exceptional, he humbly attributes much of his success to his wife, Leslie, his incredible staff, and to his expression of gratitude & appreciation.

Alan and Leslie recently completed a major installation for the prestigious Trivest Partners in Coral Gables.

The project adorns much of the 20,000 square foot space, showcasing 150 large to mural-size aluminum works of art.

The couple also collaborated with Southwest Florida's Phelan Family Brands to expand Maltz's presence in many upscale restaurants throughout the region.

On top of it all, Maltz just released 150 stunning new images, including over 30 aerial pieces and a masterful collection of images from the Sarasota area.

To celebrate the gallery's 25th Anniversary, Maltz is launching an impressive new website set to debut this spring.

Take a personal tour or contact:

Alan S Maltz Gallery, 1210 Duval Street. Info: 305-294-0005; alanmaltz.com





DESTINATI⊕N™ FLORIDA

Florida Keys & Key West

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ABOUT THE COVER

Gracing DESTINATION FLORIDA'S Spring cover is "Rooster In A Haystack," by featured artist Thomas Easley. Rich hues, kinetic energy, and deep, luxurious pigments are the hallmarks of Easley's stunning paintings. But it's Easley's freedom from constraint that makes his art especially powerful. You can read more about him on page 10 and see his wonderful originals at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval Street, Key West; info: 954-232-7248; seasisterislandgallery.com.



Noteworthy Art Galleries



International influences, a laid-back atmosphere and unrivaled natural beauty have made the Florida Keys and Key West a magnet for creative spirits.

Alan S Maltz Gallery

1210 Duval St Key West, Fl 33040 305-294-0005: alanmaltz.com Daily 10 am Florida's Official Wildlife & Fine Art Photographer Author of five award-winning coffee table

books, fine arts photographer Alan S. Maltz uses his camera as both brush and palette. Whether photographing wildlife or daily life, this self-taught artist follows the light and creates masterpieces.

Gallery On Greene 600 Greene St Key West, Fl 33040 305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com Open Daily 10 am - 6 pm Key West's Premier Art Gallery "Miami has Art Basel; Key West has the Gallery on Greene." This premier gallery showcases a mind-blowing collection of authentic, historic, museum-quality regional art. Gallery Director Nance Frank is a

powerhouse curator and handpicks works from 37 listed artists. Including Pulitzer Prize-winners Jeff MacNelly and Annie Dillard; legendary painters and sculptors Mario Sanchez and Suzie DePoo; master impressionist Peter Vey, and many other highly acclaimed Key West names. The works here span a wide variety of mediums and attract both casual buyers and serious art collectors. Frank also arranges art tours to Cuba.

Jag Gallery

1075 Duval St C23 Key West, Fl 33040 305-407-6202: jaggallery.art Daily Noon - 5 pm

Great Works by Renowned Local Artists Founded by acclaimed painter Letty Nowak, Jag Gallery represents many of Key West's most known and relevant contemporary artists. In addition to Nowak's work, you'll find Key West greats, including John Martini, Rick Worth, Lincoln Perry, Carol Munder, B. Lucy Stevens, Aase May, Sharon McGauley & Cathy Rose. The gallery also exhibits guest artists and hosts the annual Small Works Exhibit, which takes place through November 26. If you're in the market for exceptional local art, this is a "must-see" gallery.

The Studios of Key West

533 Eaton St Key West, Fl 33041 305-296-0458; tskw.org Open Tu-Sa 10 am - 4 pm Live The Creative Life

TSKW stages an extraordinary line-up of contemporary art and rotating gallery exhibits, workshops, classes, and performances. They also provide in-house residency opportunities for artists worldwide. Many world-renowned artists and Pulitzer Prize-winning authors unite with local audiences and art practitioners at all stages of their creative careers. Be sure to check out their website for upcoming events and late-breaking updates.

Sea Sister Island Gallery

303 Duval St Key West, Fl 33040 954-232-7248; seasisterislandgallery.com

A Unique Artist Boutique You'll find a captivating and ever-changing collection of local and international art from around the globe at this unique artist boutique. Owner Racheal Garreau specializes in all mediums of high-end contemporary visual art and world-class creations. Her curations include everything from original oils watercolors, and photography, to bronze and steel sculptures and unique salvaged historical island Folk Art from restored shutters.

Art & Cultural Happenings

Please confirm details with event organizers or venues in case of changes or cancellations.

Mario Sanchez Original Works &

Key West: Learn about the real "Old Key West" from Mario Sanchez, Florida's most important folk artist. Nance Frank has curated multiple exhibits of famed Cuban artist Mario Sanchez with catalogs for his exhibition presented by The American Folk Art Museum, The Museum of the City of New York, and Cuba's National Museum. Takes place daily at 2 pm at Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com.

Daily

The Alan Maltz Collection

Key West: As the official wildlife and fine art photographer for the State of Florida, Alan Maltz' evocative studies of birds, animals, and landscapes hang in public and private collections worldwide, including the Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta. You can see



his vibrant collection of cutting-edge fine art photography and limited edition prints on aluminum, canvas, and glass at his beautiful multi-level gallery and studio at 1210 Duval Street in Key West. Open daily at 10 am. Info: 305-294-0005; alanmaltz.com.

WEEKLY Monday & Tuesday

Glow Hours: Rooftop Happy Hour on **Hugh's View**

Key West: For a headier Happy Hour, head up to Hugh's View, where the bar is open, admission is free, and everyone looks great in the golden twilight. The Studios of Kev West's rooftop bar is an ideal spot to catch the sunset with friends and enjoy panoramic vistas from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic. Takes place from 6 - 8 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: tskw.ora.

Tuesday - Saturday

Movies at the Museum

Islamorada: This ongoing series of fascinating "Shorts" runs throughout the day and includes films about Henry Flagler's Overseas Railroad, the Keys 1935 Hurricane, and an overview of Islamorada area State Parks. Films begin at 10:30 and continue throughout the day, with the last showing at 4 pm. Takes place at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy (on the grounds of the Islander Resort) in Islamorada. Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

MONTHLY Third Wednesday

Immerse Yourself!

Islamorada: Islamorada/Virtual: This free monthly presentation takes place both on-site and virtually. Come by the museum or tune in from wherever you are as experts share fascinating information related to maritime history, archeology, diving, and marine science. Coming up: John Date Pioneer Helmet Maker, Unique Oculina Coral, and Octopus Behavior.

> To learn about each month's topic, call 305-664-9737 or visit divingmuseum. org. Virtual registration: programs@ divingmuseum.org.

First Thursday

Open House At The Studios

Key West: Friends, new and old, are invited to this First Thursday Open House event when the lights stay on late to celebrate the newest work in the TSKW galleries. See what's new, enjoy a drink with a view on the rooftop terrace and explore three floors of exhibition space. Takes place from 6 - 8 pm at The Studios

of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458: tskw.ora.

Third Thursday

Art Walk Key West

Key West: Take an intimate two-hour walking tour of our local galleries and studios in Key West's Historic Seaport District and get an inside look at the island's vibrant culture. Leaves at 9:30 am from the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-850-8343; artwalkkeywest@gmail.com

Third Thursday

Walk On White Gallery Walk

Key West: One of Key West's original Art Walks includes exhibitions and receptions at galleries and shops in the White Street Arts District from Southard to United. Takes place from 5 - 8 pm. Info: walkonwhitekeywest.com.

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JAG GALLERY





B. Lucy Stevens





Michel Delgado

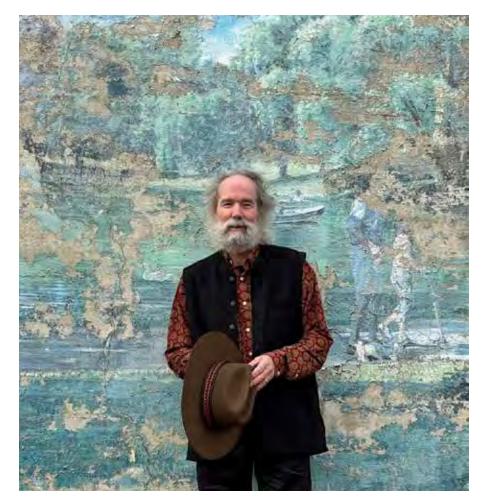
Distinctive, contemporary art featuring prominent artists from Key West and beyond

1075 Duval Street Duval Square C23 305-407-6202 www.jaggallery.art



The Man Behind Our Cover:

Artist Thomas Easley Opens at SeaSister Island Gallery



ne of the things we love most about The Florida Keys & Key West is the fact that there are so many wonderful galleries stretching from Key Largo to Key West.

SeaSister Island Gallery, a cool new boutique art gallery, recently opened in the heart of Key West's diversely celebrated 300 Block of Duval Street.

Owner Rachel Garreau has been part of Key West's cultural fabric for over forty-five years and curates a terrific upscale contemporary visual art collection.

Right now, Rachel is showcasing a fantastic group of local and international artists from around the globe.

And that brings us to DESTINATION

FLORIDA's featured cover artist, Thomas Easley, whose painting, "Rooster In A Haystack," graces our Spring cover.

Rich hues, kinetic energy, and deep,

luxurious pigments are the hallmarks of Easley's paintings. But as much as Easley is an artist of color, texture, and movement, his work is also multidimensional and an ongoing exploration of his creative self. Freedom from constraint is what makes Easley's art

especially powerful.

Easley is exhibiting his new works at SeaSister Island Gallery on Friday, February 23, and Saturday, February 24, from 10 am - 7 pm. Another top talent to check out is contemporary artist David Miller, who opens on Saturday, April 20, and Sunday, April 21, from 10 am - 7 pm. Miller's unique body of work depicts various seascape and beach views from the vantage point of looking through an open window. His intriguing paintings make you feel as if you, too, are in the room sneaking a peek at what's outside.

Garreau is committed to making art accessible to everyone. Maybe that's why her space feels more like someone's living room than some highbrow art gallery. And why she features artwork by both well-known and not-sowell-known artists. Believe it or not, you can score original pieces here for under \$100. Now, that's what we call "the Art of the Deal!"

SeaSister Island Gallery is open daily from 10 am - 7 pm. You can find it at 303 Duval St, Key West. Info 954-232-7248; seasisterislandgallery.com



A CAPTIVATING & EVER-CHANGING ARRAY OF FINE ART IN **ALL MEDIUMS**

SeaSisterIslandGallery.com 954-232-7248



KEY WEST Stop in on your way to Sunset tonight!

FINE LOCAL &

INTERNATIONAL ART

303 DUVAL STREET

IN OLD TOWN

























Art & Cultural Happening

Third Thursday

Morada Way Arts & Cultural District Art Walk

Islamorada: Fine arts, live music, and "culinary art" are the hallmarks of this festive local happening from 6 - 9 pm along the Morada Way Arts District on Old Hwy, MM 81.5, Oceanside. Info: 305-664-2471; moradawayarts.org.

First Fridays

Upper Duval Street Stroll

Key West: Galleries, boutiques, and cafes open late for exhibitions and receptions on Duval St from Truman to United. Starts at 6pm.

First Fridays

First Fridays On Fleming

Key West: "The Fabulous 500 Block of Fleming Street" showcases boutiques, galleries, and eateries with all kinds of cool events, including jewelry trunk shows, art openings, book signings, tastings, and libations. It takes place from 6 - 9 pm. Info: 305-304-9001; shoplocalkeywest.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS Now - February 11

Our Working Waterfront

Key West: Key West boasts a hardy and diverse maritime history. Lauding the island's protracted maritime history, this exhibition explores the various industries and people that have operated from Key West's Historic Seaport district. Takes place daily from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

Now - February 12

Earthly Bodies: Two Decades of Nudes

Key West: One of the island's preeminent artists, Eric Anfinson, is celebrated for his figurative works. This exhibition focuses on the unclothed female form. Takes place daily from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

Now - March 3

Christine Fifer: It's A Charmed Life

Key West: Artist Christine Fifer is renowned for her elaborate costume-making and is celebrated for her amazing "Art Stories." These original paintings and sculptures

integrate renderings of first-edition classic books, universal human themes, and detailed historical research to produce didactic and socially engaging creations. Takes place daily from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616: kwahs.ora.

Now - April 17

History of Diving Museum Presents: Dive Into Art - Coral Creations

Islamorada: This limited-time exhibit features artistic creations throughout the Florida Keys, including students from twelve schools and pieces from skilled members of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles. The works focus on coral conservation, with educational interpretive provided by coral restoration practitioners in the Keys. Takes place daily from 10 am - 5pm. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

February 1 - 29

Exhibition: Faces of Old Key West 1918 - Richard McGarry

Key West: This fantastic collection of portrait paintings and personal histories of ordinary and mostly forgotten

Key West men and women of a hundred years ago, based on their World War I Navy waterfront pass photos. Opens on Thursday, February 1, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458: tskw.com.

February 1 - 29

Exhibition: Key West Reflections Mary Jean Connors

Key West: Connors' oil paintings capture the feel of Key West through the moments she glimpses people at the corner ice cream joint, angels at the cemetery, bikes, boats, dogs and their walkers, palms, bananas, pools, and patios. Opens on Thursday, February 1, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

February 9

29th Annual Ann McKee Fine Art

Key West: Art lovers and collectors unite for one of the year's most popular, passionate, and artsy parties. Proceeds help fund the vital grant program for Keys artists. Doors open at 6:15 pm, and the event starts at 7 pm at The Studios Of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org or mckeefund.org.

February 10

OPENING: Priscilla Coote

Key West: Priscilla Coote immerses herself in the saturated hues of the Florida Keys and distills something entirely different from the common perception. Takes place from 5 - 8 pm at The Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com.

February 14

42nd Wesley House Valentine's Day

Key West: This "Keys Formal" doubles as a fundraiser for Wesley House Family Services includes top entertainers, the island's largest silent auction, an open bar, dancing, and an elegant dinner designed and prepared by Catered Affairs. Takes place from 6:30 - 9:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Reservations and info: 305-809-5000; keystix.com.

February 15

Happy Hour with the Historian: Vintage Postcard History of the Florida

Key West: Join Museum Curator and Historian Cori Convertito for a nostalgic visual tour of Florida Keys' history from the Gilded Age to the 1970s through beautiful vintage postcards. She takes you on a trip that spans the length of the archipelago for a unique look at Florida's history as tourism became the main economic engine of Florida, Takes place from 5 - 6 pm at the Comedy Club, 218 Whitehead St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

February 16

Associate Member Art Show Opening

Key West: Don't miss this annual showcase of original art by Key West Art Center associate members. Reception and show take place from 5 - 7 pm in either the main gallery or the courtyard behind the Key West Art Center, 301 Front St. Info: 305-294-1241; kevwestartcenter.com.

February 16 - 17

64th Annual Key West Home Tours™

Key West: One of America's oldest and longest-running home tours features five lovely homes and gardens on each day's self-guided tour. Each stop reflects the varied tastes and originality of its owners. Takes place from 1 - 4 pm. Tickets and schedules are available online at OIRF.org; Info: 305-294-9501.

February 17

OPENING: Peter Vey

Key West: Peter Vey paints the effortless elegance of the Keys from its secret backcountry nooks to Key West's proud Victorian architecture. Takes place from 5 - 8 pm at The Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com.

February 17

Garden Walk 2024

Tavernier: Tour several spectacular private outof-sight gardens, then enjoy a complimentary fabulous Garden Market and groovy art show. Takes place from 10 am - 4 pm (rain or shine) and kicks off from the Francis Tracy Garden Center, 94040 Overseas Hwy. Info: gardenclubupperkeys.org.

February 21

Immerse Yourself!

John Date: Pioneer Helmet-Maker

Islamorada: Dive Historian Mike Babinski shares the fascinating life and history of Canadian helmet-maker John Date. The only helmet manufacturer in Canada then. This pio-neer's creations were used extensively during the late 19th century. This live presentation takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum,

82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

February 23 - April 28

EXHIBITION: Shadow & Light

Key West: This juried exhibition celebrates how people and nature inspire art. The exhibit includes fine art or fine craft medium or technique in two or three dimensions: representational, abstract, or nonrepresentational. Takes place daily from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

February 23 - 24

Opening: Artist Thomas Easley

Key West: Meet Thomas Easley, Destination Florida's featured cover artist! Rich hues, kinetic energy, and deep, luxurious pigments are the hallmarks of Easely's paintings. But as much as Easley is an artist of color, texture, and movement, his work is also multi-dimensional and an ongoing exploration of his own creative multi-self. It is precisely this freedom from constraint that makes Easlev's art so powerful. Takes place daily from 10 am - 7 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIslandGallery.com.



February 24 - 25

59th Annual Key West Art & Craft Festival

Key West: This nationally juried fine art show attracts nearly 100 fine artists nation-wide and includes painters, sculptors, photographers, collage artists, and other non-functional fine arts. Takes place from 10 am - 5 pm at Old Key West's Truman Waterfront Park. Info: 305-294-1241; keywestartcenter.com.



Art & Cultural Happenings

March 1 - 26

Key West Tennessee Williams Festival

Key West: Celebrate the Pulitzer-prize-winning literary icon who resided here for 34 years. The annual month-long festival includes screenings

BURT

LANCASTER MAGNANI

THE ROSE

of films adapted from Williams' works, prose, poetry contests, walking tours, Happy Hour with the Historian, curated museum tours, and a big birthday bash. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 1

Curator Tour of the Tennessee Williams Museum: The Rose Tattoo

Key West: This lively curator-led tour by Museum Curator Dennis Beaver is part of Key West's Tennessee Williams Birthday Celebration.

The tour features a detailed look into the filming of William's screenplay, "The Rose Tattoo," in Key West. You'll also have an opportunity to learn more about the objects on display in the museum and how they relate to Williams, his play, and filming on the island. Takes place from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Tennessee Williams Museum, 513 Truman Ave. Info: 305-204-4527; kwahs.org.

March 2

Tennessee Williams Plein Air Contest and Show

Key West: Local and national painters take to the streets with paint and easels in hand during this special Plein Air Painting Contest. As part of Key West's annual Tennessee Williams Festival, this professionally juried art show and reception takes place from 5 - 7 pm at the Key West Lighthouse, 938 Whitehead St. Info: 305-204-4527; kwahs.org.

March 2

23rd Annual Schooner Wharf Open Air Art & Music Affair

Key West: This eclectic one-of-a-kind show features award-winning local and national artists and crafters whose work isn't shown anywhere else. The Art Show takes place from 10 am to sunset; Live music from 10 am - 11:30 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in the Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-9520; schoonerwharf.com.

March 3

ANNA

Hal Wallis

Tennessee Williams Rose Tattoo Garden Party & Fundraiser

Key West: This kick-off event for Key West's Annual Tennessee Williams Festival includes

> an open bar, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and an exciting silent auction. Cast members from the Waterfront Playhouse will also present an excerpt from the play "Suddenly, Last Summer," which takes to the stage at the Playhouse on March 12 and 13. Takes place from 5 - 7 pm at the residence of Dennis Beaver and Bert Whitt, 1207 WhiteheaD St. Info & tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 3 -September 15

Exhibition: Flora & Fauna - Naturalists in Florida

Key West: Artists often accompanied explorers to uncharted and unblemished areas teeming with natural beauty. These artists painted the curious new landscapes, replete with distinct flora and fauna largely unknown to Americans. This special exhibition introduces you to some of the amazing naturalists working in the Florida Territory in

the early nineteenth century. Takes place daily from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 4

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: The Rose Tattoo

Key West: Tennessee Williams' classic drama centers on a widowed Sicilian woman living in the American South. Devastated by her husband's death, grief turns her into a recluse until she learns of her late husband's infidelities, and the arrival of a new lodger offers hope of a new love in her life. Takes place from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 4 - 5

Exhibition: Wildlife of the Keys

Tavernier: View original artwork depicting the rich and varied wildlife of the Keys during this annual show by members of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles. It is on display from 10 am - 5 pm M - Sa at Our Place in Paradise Gallery, 88711 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-916-5828; ourplaceinparadise.com.

March 5

Papa's Pilar Cocktail Class: Tennessee Williams Edition

Key West: Imbibe in world-class rum cocktails inspired by "Papa" Hemingway during this special Tennessee Williams themed cocktail class. Takes place from 4 - 6 pm at the Hemingway Social Club, 201 Simonton St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 6

Tennessee Williams Outdoor Screening: A Streetcar Named Desire

Key West: Based on the play by Tennessee Williams, this renowned drama follows troubled former schoolteacher Blanche DuBois as she leaves small-town Mississippi and moves in with her sister, Stella Kowalski, and her husband, Stanley, in New Orleans. Takes place outside from 7-9 pm in front of the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 7 - 28

Dan Bar

Key West: At first glance, Dan Bar's canvases are filled with what appear to be brightly colored shapes. But if you look closer, you'll see cartoon-like creatures in constant pursuit of each other. Opens on Th, March 7, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

March 7 - 28

Exhibition: Vessel Series - Immigration Lauren P McAloon

Key West: McAloon is known for transforming found materials, wood, metal, and ceramics into exquisitely balanced compositions. The abstracted shapes of boats are a recurring theme, evoking the near universality of immigration stories and a scorching critique of historical and contemporary politics. Opens on Thursday, March 7, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

March 7 - 28

Exhibition: Magic Tree House Book Series - Salvatore Murdocca

Key West: Dive back into the time-traveling adventures in the "Magic Tree House" book series through the original sketches by Sal Murdocca in all their vivid detail. Opens on Thursday, March 7, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

continued on page 16

See What's Inside!

64th Annual Key West Home Tours

ey West's renovated cigar-makers' cottages, historical restorations, and lavish Victorian mansions create an intriguing architectural fusion unlike anywhere else.

The fact is Key West's historic Old Town contains what is believed to be the largest predominantly wooden historic district in the US, featuring almost 3,000 structures.

And while it's always fun to stroll by the doorsteps of these beautiful buildings, it's even better when you can go inside and see the fantastic interiors.

Now in its 63rd year, Key West Home Tours unlocks the mystery of what's behind many of Key West's most intriguing front doors.

Presented by the nonprofit Old Island

Restoration Foundation(OIRF), these annual tours are some of America's oldest and longest-running tours. The tours are also an integral component of OIRF's ongoing mission to promote the restoration and preservation of Key West's historically significant buildings.

Each tour features five lovely homes and gardens reflecting their owners' varied tastes and originality.

These tours spotlight a group of homes decked out for the New Year. Upcoming tours take place from 1-4 pm on Friday and Saturday, February 16 and 17, and on March 15 and 16.

If you want to look inside some of Key West's most intriguing homes, this selfguided tour is a "must-do!"



You can purchase tickets online at OIRF. org or at The Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval Street. More Info at 305-294-9501.



If you want to open doors to some of Key West's most intriguing homes, this special self-guided tour is a must-do!

Tours take place 1-4pm:

February 16 & 17, 2024 March 15 & 16, 2024

Advance tickets: OIRF Members \$45, Non-Members \$55 online at OIRF.org or at the Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval St. At the door \$60. Info: 305-294-9501



*/ II TO W



Art & Cultural Happenings

March 7 - 28

Exhibition: Gone Fishin' - Dave Dunn

Key West: Using repurposed tools, found metal pieces and modern steel implements, Dave Dunn creates metal constructions with whimsy and primordial mystery. Opens on Th, March 7, from 6 -8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

March 9

OPENING: WB

Thompson

Key West: With a nod to Matisse and Van Gogh Willam Bradley Thompson has created an impressionistic voice all his own. Utilizing acrylic paint and oil sticks, he creates colorful, multi-layered mixed-media pieces. Takes place from 5 - 8 pm at The Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com.

March 9

16th Annual Plein Air Key West Competition

Key West: This annual non-juried event is open to artists in all media. Check-in and register at the Key West Art Center to get your paper or canvas stamped between 8:30 and 9:30 am. At 10 am, you can head out to your favorite location and start painting. Finished work needs to be submitted at the Art Center by 1:30 pm. Show and reception take place from 5 - 7 pm at the Key West Art Center, 301 Front St. Info: 305-294-1241; keywestartcenter.com.

March 11

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: Baby Doll

Key West: Based on a play by Tennessee Williams, "Baby Doll" centers on a failing cotton gin owner who is married to a 19-yearold childlike beauty whose father arranged the marriage for financial reasons. As Archie awaits the arrival of Baby Doll's 20th birthday, the day that they are supposed to consummate their marriage, he faces business rival Silva Vacarro, who plots to seduce Baby Doll away. Takes place from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 14

Happy Hour with the Historian: **Tennessee Williams in Key West**

Key West: Historian Cori Convertito, Ph.D., gives you the fascinating backstory of Tennessee Williams, one of the most admired playwrights of the twentieth century. Williams wrote fiction and motion picture screenplays, but is most widely known for his plays which are considered among the finest of the

> American stage. This fun historical lecture is part of Kev West's Tennessee Williams

Festival and includes a complimentary drink (beer, house wine, or soft drink). Takes place from 5 - 6 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St #5. Info: 305-295-6616: kwahs.org.

March 15

A Trolley Tour Named

Key West: Join Tennessee Williams Museum Curator Dennis Beaver onboard Key West's version of a 'streetcar' for a tour of places associated with the famous playwright. Dennis will share stories of Williams as you view his Duncan Street house, the Sands Beach Club, the Tennessee Williams Theater, the Pier House, and more! The tour begins and ends at the Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616;kwahs.org.

March 15 - 16

64th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: One of America's oldest and longest-running home tours features five lovely homes and gardens on each day's self-guided tour. Each stop reflects the varied tastes and originality of its owners. Takes place from 1 - 4 pm. Tickets and schedules are available online at OIRF.org. Info: 305-294-9501.



March 16

Historic Seaport Sail On S/V Argo Navis: History of the Florida Keys **Marine Sanctuary**

Key West: Maritime Heritage Coordinator Brenda Altmeier explores the background of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Marine Sanctuary. The two-hour sailing tour includes Bloody Marys, Mimosas, non-alcoholic beverages, and a light breakfast. Shoves off at 9 am on the luxury catamaran, S/V Argo Navis docked at 0 Margaret St in Key West's Historic Harbor. Info: 305-295-6616. Tickets online at kwahs.org.

March 16 - 17

Opening: Artist Rodel Gonzalez

Key West: Known for his interplay of light and shadow details in expressions and structures, Rodel depicts a mood to which every viewer can relate. He's a world-renowned Disney artist, a Star Wars artist, and a master of seas and ships. Takes place from 10 am - 7 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIslandGallery.com

March 18

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: Period of Adjustment

Key West: Hilarity ensues in Tennessee Williams' first comedy when Veteran George Haverstick meets nurse Isabel while in the hospital and soon marries her. Things sour quickly after the groom falls asleep drunk on their honeymoon. Takes place from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616: kwahs.ora.

March 19

Tennessee Williams' Key West Walking Tour

Key West: Part of Key West's Tennessee Williams Festival, this fun, 1-1/2-hour tour takes you to some of the most beloved spots that helped to make Tennessee Williams America's greatest playwright. You'll visit theaters, bars, and hangouts where he lived, worked, and returned to throughout his adult life. It starts at 10 am in front of the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St, in Mallory Square. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 20

Immerse Yourself! Unique Oculina Coral

Islamorada: Learn about the unique lives of these incredibly intelligent invertebrates from a researcher who has worked with them first-hand. This live presentation takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

continued on page 18

Key West's Wackiest Parade

Papio Kinetic Sculptures Are a Sight to See

rtists, builders, assemblers, and aficionados of the wild and wacky are busily preparing for Key West's Annual Papio Kinetic Sculpture Parade, which magically takes off from Key West's Custom House Museum (281 Front St) at noon on Saturday, April 6.

A Pocket Park Block Party and Awards Ceremony follows from 12:30 - 3pm in the park next to the Southernmost Mansion at the end of Duval Street.

Inspired by and named for the late Keys' "junkyard" artist Stanley Papio, the event pays homage to the humorous metal artist who artfully welded together discarded car parts, appliances, pipes, and wire into extraordinary sculptures -

long before it was hip to be rusty.

Spearheaded by the Key West Art & Historical Society, the parade includes colorful sculptural floats, tricycles with exotically costumed riders, fantastically decorated bicycles, and other moving works of art all powered by human

effort alone. And while none of Papio's original sculptures were intended to move, the parade reflects his rebel approach to art and life.

In addition to the parade, you can enjoy many of Stanley Papio's works at Key West's Fort East Martello Museum,

3501 S Roosevelt Blvd.

The permanent exhibition includes more than 100 restored sculptural objects and other three-dimensional constructions from the whimsical to the dramatic. Open daily from 9:30 am - 5pm. Info: 305-296-3913; kwahs.org.



Art & Cultural Happenings



Alternating Currents, John Black, The Studios Key West

March 25

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: The Fugitive Kind

Key West: When drifter Valentine Xavier arrives in a southern town, he catches the eye of the married Lady Torrance and the oversexed alcoholic, Carol Cutrere. Both women vie for his attention, with Lady Torrance emerging victorious. After impregnating Lady Torrance, Xavier must make a crucial decision. Takes place from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

March 26

Tennessee Williams Birthday Party

Key West: Champagne corks pop and birthday cake take center stage at this special celebration that honors what would have been Tennessee Williams' 113th birthday. First and second-place winners of the short story and poetry contests will also be revealed. Winners will read their poems or selected pages from their manuscript. Takes place from 5 - 7 pm at the Tennessee Williams Museum 513 Truman Ave. Info: 305-204-4527; kwahs.org.

April 4 - 25

Exhibition: Neon Pastoral Valerie Perreault

Key West: Drawing on the language of geometric abstraction, Perreault weaves fragments of her life experiences into a story through painting, cutting, and layering textured paper and canvas. Opens on Th, April 4, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458: tskw.com.

April 4 - 25

Exhibition: Alternating Currents John Black

Key West: With the perspective of a young Black man in America, John's charged, abstract artworks have developed into a coded language that relays energy and emotion as a way to connect the self with ancestral energy. Opens on Th, April 4, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

April 4 - 25

Exhibition: Spot Dots A Study of Color & Shapes

Key West: The K-8 students of May Sands Montessori School use 2-dimensional dots and 3-dimensional orbs and balls to create a sensory installation inspired by Yayoi Kusama. Opens on Th,

April 4, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.com.

April 4 - 25

Exhibition: The Back Lynn Retson

Key West: Retson's richly-hued black and white figure drawings offer up an unexpected perspective, capturing her subjects from behind and serving up reminders of how the bodies we think we know can still surprise us. Opens on Th, April 4, from 6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw. com.

April 6

Annual Papio Kinetic Sculpture & Art Bike Parade

Key West: Artists, builders, assemblers, and aficionados of the wild and wacky take to the streets for a parade unlike anything you have ever seen. Spearheaded by the Key West Art & Historical Society, the parade pays homage to the late "junk-yard" artist Stanley Papio. Kicks off at noon from the Custom House Museum (281 Front St) and winds down Duval St. A Pocket Park Block Party and Awards Ceremony follows from 12:30 - 3pm in the park next to the Southernmost Mansion at the end of Duval Street. Info: 305-295-6616; papiokineticparade.com.

April 20 - 21

Opening: Window With A View Artist David Miller

Key West: "Window With a View," a unique collection by contemporary artist David Miller, is a genre all his own. This unique body of work depicts various sea-scape and beach views from the vantage point of looking through an open window. Amazing work! Takes place from 10 am - 7 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIslandGallery.com.

Cuba, Here We Come!

This Personalized Art Tour Takes You There

How would you like to visit the most cutting-edge artist studios in Cuba; have an opportunity to meet with local artists and discuss their work?

Meet Nance Frank. Owner and Director of Key West's renowned Gallery on Greene. Nance knows Cuba like the back of her hand. She is fluent in Spanish and has curated two exhibits at the National Gallery of Fine Art in Havana. She also arranged for the first museum-to-museum exhibit in 56 years.

Her personalized tours focus on collecting original art, immersing you in Havana's friendly culture, and exploring the island's unique architecture. Along the way, you'll enjoy fabulous food, luxurious transportation, and charming accommodations in Havana.

Upcoming tours, which are coming up on April 22 and November 15, typically range from 3 - 5 days and can accommodate two to thirty people. The comprehensive package includes airfare, hotel, and visas. Some meals are also included in an average-size group tour.

If you want to meet some of the most fascinating artists the world has produced and see the long-forbidden UNESCO World Heritage Site, this intimate trip may be right up your alley.

To find out more, contact Nance Frank, at Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com.

MUSEUMS



UPPER KEYS

Florida Keys History & Discovery Center

On the Property of the Islander Resort MM 82 Oceanside Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com Open Tu - Su 10 am - 5 pm Where the "Old Keys" Come to Life This fascinating educational attraction encapsulates what living in the "Old Keys"

was like through a series of engaging exhibits that include the infamous Labor Day Hurricane of 1935, Henry Flagler's Railroad, the Overseas Highway, legendary anglers and fishing guides along with a host of other unique displays.

History Of Diving Museum

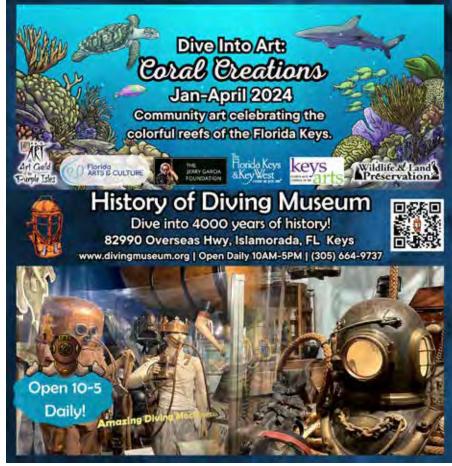
882990 Overseas Hwy, MM83, Bayside Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org Open Daily 10 - 5 pm The Quest to Explore Under The Sea Dedicated to telling the story of the quest to explore under the sea, this fascinating museum contains 4,000 years of diving history: from breath-holding diving to modern SCUBA. You'll get to see exhibits like Improbable Early Diving Inventions, Deep Sea Diving in the Abyss, and revolving exhibits (currently Dive Into Art: Coral Creations), along with much more. The Parade of Nations is an international collection that displays helmets from every country that ever made one. Kids, families, and adults can also participate in a fun scavenger hunt throughout the exhibits!

MIDDLE KEYS

Crane Point Museum & Nature Center

5550 Overseas Hwy, MM 50, Gulfside
Marathon, Fl 33050
305-743-9100; cranepoint.net
M - F 9 am - 5 pm; Sa 9am - 5 pm;
Su Noon - 5 pm
Take a Walk Back in Time
Tucked away in the heart of Marathon lies
this historic 63-acre tropical oasis of
hardwood trees, 2.5 miles of beautiful nature







MUSEUMS

trails, and a Museum of Natural History. Initially, the site of an Indian village. The reserve also contains evidence of a Pre-Columbian civilization where a Bahamian immigrant family set up a homestead in the early twentieth century. One trail takes you by the Marathon Wild Bird Center, a hospital for injured pelicans, cormorants, egrets, and other Keys birds.

KEY WEST

East Martello Museum & Gallery

3301 South Roosevelt Blvd Key West, FL 33040 305-296-3913; kwah.org Open Daily 9:30 am - 5 pm Home Of Robert The Haunted Doll Built in 1862 by the US Army to protect Key West's Ft. Zachary Taylor from Confederate attack, this historic military fort is filled with unique artifacts and memorabilia. You can tour the grounds and see displays of Florida Keys' history, meet Robert the Haunted Doll, view junkyard sculptures by Stanley Papio, and the painted wooden carvings of acclaimed artist Mario Sanchez.

Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum

907 Whitehead Street Key West, FL 33040 305-294-1136; hemingwayhome.com Open Daily 9 am - 5 pm Retrace The Footsteps Of Hemingway A registered Historic Landmark and one of Key West's most historic and unique legacies where the late Nobel Prize winner, Ernest Heminaway, was motivated to write some of his best works, including "To Have and Have Not," a novel about Key West during the Great Depression. Take a leisurely stroll through his studio, home, and gardens and meet some furry descendants of Hemingway's legendary six-toed cat.

Key West Custom House

281 Front Street Key West, FL 33040 305-295-6616: kwahs.ora Open Daily 9:30 am - 4:30 pm National Landmark & Museum Originally home to the island's customs office, postal service, and district courts, this architectural marvel was built to keep pace with the increasing population and wealth generated by Key West's lucrative trade routes and maritime industries. Today, this beautifully restored national landmark is home to an award-winning museum and the official headquarters of the Key West Art & Historical Society.



Key West Firehouse Museum

fires changed the course of history. Located in one of Florida's oldest firehouses, the historic artifacts and vintage fire gear. Don't miss the and much more

938 Whitehead Street Key West, FL 33040 305-294-0012; kwahs.org Open Daily 9:30 am - 4:30 pm A Tribute To Key West's Maritime Heritage Initially "manned" by a woman Keeper when it opened in 1848, the Key West Lighthouse is now one of the island's most iconic attractions. Where you can walk up 88 steps to the top of the light for a birds-eye view of Key West and explore the belongings, photographs, and words of the lighthouse Keepers who bravely kept the light burning

Mel Fisher Maritime Museum

200 Greene Street Kev West, FL 33040 305-294-2633; melfisher.org Open M - Su 10 am - Last Visitor 4 pm A Bounty Of Shipwreck Treasures The legendary Mel Fisher and his team of treasure hunters come to life at this fascinating maritime museum. It displays a bounty of precious loot salvaged from the Spanish Galleon, Atocha, which sunk off Key West over 400 years ago. Treasure coins, gold, emeralds, swords, and more are all on display here, along with special historical exhibits that explore maritime history.

Oldest House Museum

322 Duval St Key West, FL 33040 305-294-9501; oirf.org Open 10 am - 4 pm; Closed Weds & Sun Built in 1829, Key West's oldest house

was home to the wrecker Captain Francis B. Watlington, his wife Emeline, and their nine daughters. The former estate includes three buildings: the main house, the kitchen house, and the exhibit pavilion. The property showcases a treasure trove of family portraits, original furnishings, maritime artifacts, a gift shop, and works by Key West's famous Cuban American Folk Artist, Mario Sanchez. In the rear of the house is the spacious, peaceful "Lily's Garden," where you can see the only surviving Cook House in South

Tennessee Williams Museum

513 Truman Ave Kev West, Fl 33040 305-842-1666; kwahs.org Open Daily 9:30 am - 4:30 pm One of America's Foremost Playwrights Learn about Tennessee Williams' literary accomplishments and life in Key West through this extensive collection of photographs, first-edition plays, books, and rare newspaper and magazine articles and videos. A typewriter used by the author while writing in Key West and many other artifacts are also on display.

Truman Little White House

111 Front Street Kev West, Fl 33040 305-294-9988; trumanlittlewhitehouse.org Open M-Su 9 am - 5 pm; Guided Tours until 4:30 pm Florida's Only Presidential Site Originally constructed in 1890 as naval officers' housing, this historical compound became the winter White House for President Harry S. Truman. He spent 175 days of his Presidency here from 1946 to 1952. It has also been used by six other Presidents, including William Howard Taft, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, and Bill Clinton. Tours take place every 15 -20 minutes throughout the day.

Key West Turtle Museum

200 Margaret Street Kev West, Fl 33040 305-294-0209; keywestturtlemuseum.org Open Th - Su 11am - 5pm A Piece of Key West History Located next to a former turtle cannery building, this former fish house is now home to the Key West Turtle Museum. Here you can explore the history of the green sea turtle fishing industry and see a burgeoning collection of archeological objects and turtle bones. Opened by Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, the Turtle Museum focuses on turtle conservation efforts, including promoting awareness, protecting habitats, and tagging for research and study.









305.294.2633

People are talking ...

> "Spectacular museum"

"So interestina"

"Huge fan of this place"

"So many artifacts to view"

"Well done and great story"

"One of our Top Three in Key West

"A must see"

New Exhibition "Flashpoint"





1024 Grinnel St Key West, Fl 33040 305-849-0678 keywestfire.com Tu - Sa 10 am - 3 pm Key West's Firefighting Legacy This Key West treasure boasts an incredible collection of artifacts from an island where 1907 Firehouse No. 3 displays historical last remaining steamer coal pit in America, rare fire badges and antique call boxes, a 1906 cemetery fire bell, 9/11 Memorials,

Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters

through threats of war and weather.

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SPRING 2024 21

Mark Your Calendars!

The Tennessee Williams Festival Is Coming



ark your calendars because starting on Friday, March 1, Key West will roll out the red carpet for a month-long birthday celebration honoring Pulitzer Prizewinning playwright Tennessee Williams.

Hosted by the Key West Art & Historical Society, the annual Tennessee Williams Festival pays homage to one of the world's most famous literary giants with a series of art and cultural events staged at various venues around the island.

Events honoring Williams include a museum fundraiser, Plein Air painting, poetry and short story writing contests, museum tours, film showings, and a birthday party with cake and bubbly.

Born on March 26, 1911, Williams visited and lived in Key West from 1941 until 1983, when he inhaled an eyedropper bottle cap in a freak accident and choked to death. During his storied life, Williams' awardwinning classics, like "A Streetcar Named Desire" and "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof," earned him two Pulitzer Prizes, Tony Awards, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and many other literary awards. The Academy Award-winning film adaptation of his play, "The Rose Tattoo," was filmed here in 1954.

And here's a little tidbit you might not know: Tennessee Williams was also a prolific painter.

While his award-winning stories often explored the dynamics of the American South and his tumultuous upbringing, he turned to painting to express other private thoughts. Struggling with alcohol and drug abuse as well as depression, the tormented Williams used writing and then painting as a coping mechanism. His paintings and sketches span over 50 years, including portraits, landscapes, caricatures, compositions, a still-life, and several self-portraits.

In 2008, local resident Dennis Beaver began curating Tennessee Williams memorabilia and exhibiting a very small collection of artifacts. Over the years, his collection expanded and has evolved into the acclaimed Tennessee Williams Museum, showcasing photographs, artwork, first edition plays and books, rare newspaper and magazine articles, videos, a typewriter, and other fascinating artifacts.

You can visit Key West's Tennessee Williams Museum every Monday

Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm at 513 Truman Avenue

For more details of the upcoming Festival events, see pages 16 & 18 or go to kwahs.org.

FESTIVAL EVENTS

March 1, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Curator Tour of the Tennessee Williams Museum: The Rose Tattoo Tennessee Williams Museum, 513 Truman

March 2, 5 - 7 pm

Tennessee Williams Plein Air Contest and

Key West Lighthouse, 938 Whitehead St.

March 3, 5 - 7 pm

Tennessee Williams Rose Tattoo Garden Party Dennis Beaver and Bert Whitt's residence, 1207 Whitehead St.

March 4, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: The Rose Tattoo Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.

March 5, 4 - 6 pm

Papa's Pilar Cocktail Class: Tennessee Williams Edition Hemingway Social Club, 201 Simonton St.

March 6, 7 - 9 pm

Tennessee Williams Outdoor Screening: A Streetcar Named Desire Outdoor screening at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.

March 11 6:30 - 8:30 pm Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.

March 14 5 - 6 pm

Happy Hour with the Historian: Tennessee Williams in Key West Comedy Club, 218 Whitehead St.

March 15 11 am - 1 pm

A Trolley Tour Named Desire Hop onboard at Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St.

March 178 pm

Tennessee Williams: Ten Blocks On The Camino Real Staged reading at Waterfront Playhouse,

March 18 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: Period of Adjustment Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.

March 19 10 - 11:30 am

Tennessee Williams' Key West Walking Tour Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square

March 25 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tennessee Williams Classic Movie Night: The Fugitive Kind Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.

March 26 5 - 7 pm

Tennessee Williams Birthday Party Tennessee Williams Museum 513 Truman Ave

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS MUSEUM 513 TRUMAN AVENUE | KEY WEST presents

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS KEY WEST FESTIVAL

March 2024



information & event schedule twfest.org







FOOTLIGHTS

Please confirm details with event organizers or venues in case of changes or cancellations.

ONGOING

Randy Roberts Live!

Key West: Spotlighted on television's hit series "America's Got Talent," Randy Roberts shines in this live, multi-media tribute to some of the world's most beloved performers. His uncanny impersonations of Cher, Bette Midler, and Mae West are spot-on. He'll have you rolling in the aisles when he performs a titillating striptease as the bawdy Gypsy Rose Lee. Live on stage at La Te Da, 1125 Duval St. Tickets and info: 305-296-6706; lateda.com.

Christopher Peterson

Key West: With all the glitz and glamour of a Las Vegas headliner, Christopher Peterson is one of North America's foremost female impressionists — visually and vocally. Often compared to the legendary Jim Bailey, master of impersonations, Christopher's new hit show is one of the hottest tickets in town. Live on stage at the Aquaplex, 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

The Aquanettes

Key West: Key West's talented female impressionist troupe transforms into a bevy of beauties using elaborate costuming, makeup, and lip-sync. Renowned for its outrageous and comic numbers, this adult-oriented, interactive show is a hoot. Showtimes: M - W at 9 pm and Th - Su at 7 pm and 9 pm at the Aquaplex, 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

Cabaret @ D'Vine Wine Gallery

Key West: Kick back with a fine glass of wine and settle in for an intimate cabaret performance by some of Key West's favorite performers. Takes place from 5 - 7 pm at The Gardens Hotel, 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.

Jazz at Tavern N' Town

Key West: Some of Key West's top talent, including "Island Chanteuse" Carmen Rodriguez and Michael Thomas, perform nightly from 5 - 7 pm at Marriott Beachside Resort, 3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Info: 305-296-8100: tavernntown.com.

Wednesday - Saturday

Cabaret in The Gardens

Key West: The perfect "chill" features outstanding live piano music, stellar wines, and classic cocktails every W - Sa from 5 - 7 pm. The luxe Gardens Hotel at 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

Every Sunday

Jazz in the Gardens

Key West: Kick back with terrific jazz amidst lush flora and fauna during this free hang that draws Key West's top jazz cognoscenti. Full bar, champagne, and fabulous wines from 5:30 - 8 pm at the Gardens Hotel, 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

Now - February 17

Singin' In the Rain

Key West: The "greatest musical of all time" is filled with every memorable moment from the film and a downpour of unforgettable songs. Showtime: 8pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info and tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org

Now - February 24

Potus: Or Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying To Keep Him

Key West: This hilarious and outrageous skewering of today's political landscape boasts a "Who's Who" cast of Key West's top actresses. On stage at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info and tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

February 4

Impromptu Concerts: Ensemble Schumann

Key West: Heralded for creating "the most blissful sound this side of Nirvana," this trio of soloists present works by their name-sake Robert Schumann and by Brahms, Saint-Saëns, Loeffler, Poulenc, Shostakovich, and others, Showtime: 4 pm at St Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

February 6 - 7

Old Town New Folk Series: Dar Williams

Key West: Dar Williams' lyrics contain bouquets

of optimism, delivered on melodies alternating February 13 - 14 between beguiling lightness and understated

Old Town New Folk Series: Rodney

Key West: Crowell gracefully blends his mainstream success with a prolific catalog of songs recorded by Emmylou Harris, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Keith Urban, and more. Takes place on Tu, February 13, at 7 pm in the





gravity. Takes place on Tu, February 6, at 7 pm

in the Helmerich Theater and on W, February

7, at 6 pm on Hugh's Rooftop — both located

at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info:

305-296-0458; tskw.org.











24 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West SPRING 2024 25



Lip Gloss and Pumps... Or Not-

Randy Roberts Shines

andy Roberts has alwavs been a bit of a ham.



Thanksgiving

he famously said, "Turkey

spotlight.

tableau, where

again, Oy!" he has

been addicted to the

From Las Vegas to

San Juan, New York

City to Madrid, Randy

has dragged his drag

entertaining audiences

for the past 35 years (that's a lot of lip gloss)

in casinos, cabarets,

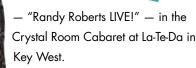
clubs, and theaters.

decades performing

his one-person show

He's spent the last two

around the world,



"I call it a tribute to the most famous and infamous ladies of the stage, screen, and in my mind, I bring 'Bette Midler,' 'Cher,' and my own character, 'Randy Roberts," to life."

No lip-synching here: Randy sings all the songs live. And he does it very, very well. He did so well that he made it to NBC's hit show, "America's Got Talent," and also appeared on ABC's award-winning daytime drama, "One

And while Randy hasn't made it to Broadway yet, he has co-starred with Alan Cumming in the indie film "Any Day Now" and has appeared on nearly every stage in Key West - in and out of drag.

Life to Live."

"I used to sing a song from the Broadway show 'Pippin' called 'Corner of the Sky.' I can honestly say that I've found mine in Key West!"

You can catch "Randy Roberts LIVE" in the Crystal Room Cabaret at La-Te-Da in Key West, 1125 Duval St. Tickets and info: 305-296-6706; lateda.com.



FOOTLIGHTS

Helmerich Theater and on W, February 14, at 6 pm on Hugh's Rooftop - both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

February 15

Libby York: Stories That Swing

Key West: Celebrated vocalist Libby York presents the best of the Great American Songbook and a few Bossa Nova gems with her jazz quartet. Showtime: 5:30 pm on Hugh's View rooftop at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

February 15

Donavon Frankenreiter Featuring Good Night, Texas: Special Full Band Tour

Key West: Singer/songwriter Frankenreiter is renowned for "funkified jams, stylish stomps, and feel-good grooves." Showtime: 6 pm at Fort East Martello, 3301 S Roosevelt Blvd. Info: 305-296-3913; kwahs.org.

February 18

Impromptu Concerts: Lomazov-Rackers Piano Duo

Key West: Praised for "demon precision and complete dedication," this highly acclaimed piano duo garnered wide attention as the second prize winner of the sixth Biennial Ellis Duo Piano competition. Showtime: 4 pm at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

February 22 - 23

Key West Characters: True Stories

Key West: Enjoy this fun evening of short plays, monologues, and musical tributes celebrating Key West.
Produced by Art House,
Fringe at Williams Hall,
729 Fleming St. Doors
open 6:30 pm. Showtime:
7pm. Info: 305-731-0581;
fringetheater.org.

February 29 - March 1

Amanda McBroom: Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues

Key West: Golden Globe Winner Amanda McBroom has been described as "one of the greatest nightclub performers of all time." Showtime: 8 pm in Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 3

Impromptu Concerts: Keila Wakao

Key West: Impromptu's 2024 "Rising Star" is an award-winning violinist who performed her

first solo with a full orchestra at age nine. Showtime: 4 pm at St Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

March 5 - 30

The Thanksgiving Play

Key West: A group of terminally "woke" teaching artists scramble to create a pageant that somehow celebrates both Turkey Day and Native American Heritage Month. Showtime: 8pm. On stage Tu - Sa at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info and tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

March 6

Libby York: Stories That Swing

Key West: Celebrated vocalist Libby York presents the best of the Great American Songbook and a few Bossa Nova gems with her jazz quartet. Showtime: 5:30 pm on Hugh's View - located on the rooftop at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 8

Irie Monte: From Bach to The Beatles

Key West: Irie Monte and her string quartet present Bach to The Beatles – a mix of your favorite Beatles tunes and classical

music that inspired them.
Showtime: 8 pm in the
Helmerich Theater at The
Studios of Key West,
533 Eaton St. Info:
305-296-0458;
tskw.org.

March 12 - 13

Patty Larkin In Concert

Key West: Larkin has captured audiences for over 30 years with an imagination, enchantment, and

technical artistry that has redefined the boundaries of the guitar-driven singer-songwriter. Takes place on Tu, March 12 at 7 pm in the Helmerich Theater and on W, March 13 at 7 pm on Hugh's Rooftop - both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 13 - 23

The Last Five Years

Key West: A poignant and devastatingly honest look at love and loss between two artists whose



first date and last goodbye occur over five years. Showtime: 7pm.Produced by Art House, Fringe at the Armory, 600 White Street. Info: 305-731-0581; fringetheater.org.

March 13 - April 6

Murder on the Orient Express

Key West: Ken Ludwig's new adaptation of Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express is an absolute "must-see!" Showtime: 8pm with a Sa matinee on March 23. Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info and tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

March 15

Tearing Out My Hair: Moriah Joy

Key West: Up-and-coming creative powerhouse Moriah Joy presents a work-in-progress comedy with a series of monologues that peek behind the closed doors of the service industry. Showtime: 8pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 16

Artist Studio Tours

Key West: Hop on a bike or carpool with friends and spend an art-filled afternoon exploring the homes and studios of Key West artists. Produced by The Studios of Key West, the annual Artist Studio Tour takes you on a self-guided journey through Old Town's secret lanes and hidden alleys. Takes place from 11 am - 3 pm. Locations TBA. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 16

French Connection: Jeffrey Chappell and Karen Kevra

Key West: Pianist Jeffrey Chappell and Grammy-nominated flutist Karen Kevra return with a showcase evoking the styles of Austrian, Spanish, Greek, Japanese, and Brazilian music, all written by French composers. Showtime: 8pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 17

Tennessee Williams Ten Blocks on the Camino Real

Key West: This staged reading is part of Key West's annual Tennessee Williams Celebration. Williams described "Ten Blocks" as a foray into "plastic theatre" that expanded on the "poetic naturalism" of his better-known work of the era. Showtime: 8 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St. Info and tickets: Info and tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

March 17

Impromptu Concerts: Merz Trio

Key West: This award-winning Trio has been lauded for its "stunning virtuosity...fresh and surprising interpretations...and perfection of intonation and ensemble." Showtime: 4 pm at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

March 19 - 20

Darrell Scott In Concert

Key West: Darrell Scott is an acclaimed multiinstrumentalist/singer-songwriter and session musician with four Grammy nominations and a Nashville Songwriter Hall of Fame nomination. On stage Tu, March 19, at 7 pm in the Helmerich Theater and on W, March 20, at 7 pm on Hugh's Rooftop - both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 22 - 23

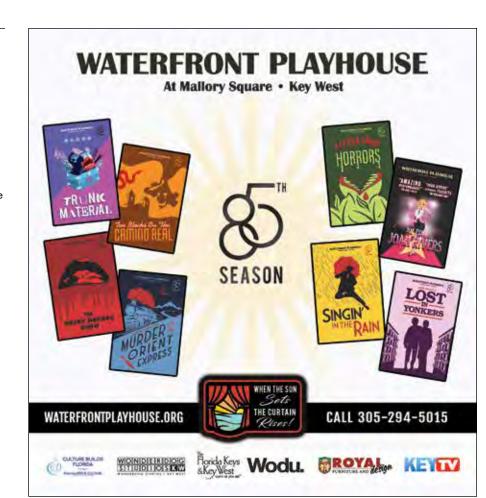
Adam and Paul: Dueling Pianos

Key West: 4-Hands! 176-Keys! 1 Champion! Get ready for a rib-tickling showdown: Broadway's dueling pianists/singers Adam La Salle & Paul Rigano will have you on your toes and doubling over laughing. Showtime: 7 pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

March 22 - 23

Salon Concert With Derek Lassiter

Key West: A captivating performer and storyteller, Derek Lassiter fuses elements of soul, jazz, R&B, and gospel. Showtime: 8 pm in the Sanger Gallery at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.





continued on page 34

From Tacos to Tutu's –

Aquaplex Shakes Up Key West



hen Tennessee transplants and former Taco Bell franchisees Mike and Jon Barrett recently moved to Key West, they decided to buy the whole enchilada. The late architect Michael Ingram sold the famed Aquaplex complex to the new owners. They are determined to make Aquaplex the largest drag bar in Florida and elevate the status of Gay Key West to new heights.

After assuming ownership last August, many complex changes have already been made. The Sidebar and the Aqua Mainstage have been completely remodeled with new floors, bars, lighting, staging, and world-class sound.

The back bar has been refurbished, and a Food Truck called Aquabelle has been added with a full Cajun and local menu. It is open to the public from 7 am to 1 am (2 am on Fridays and Saturdays.)

If you want a good laugh, pop into the 22&Co Bar. Renowned for its tutu-wearing clientele, unicorns, neon flamingo décor, and unique craft cocktails, it is truly a sign to behold, and a party is always going on!

Plans are underway to have the Aquaplex work with other Key West bar owners to stage a rotating drag contest to attract even more visitors. During the Christmas season, the Sidebar presented "Holly Follies," a first-ever collaboration with the Crown and Anchor drag and entertainment staff from Provincetown, MA (often called Key West's Sister City) and the local Key West Aquanettes.

The first of the year brought the news that famed Key West entertainer Christopher Peterson was relocating to oversee the Sidebar room. He will produce, direct, and star in his show and rebrand the Sidebar stage as the "Bird Cage Cabaret" of Le Cage Aux Folles

Christopher is undoubtedly one of North America's

foremost female impressionists-visually and vocally, often compared to the legendry Jim Bailey, master of impersonations. Christopher's hit show EYECONS is one of Kev West's hottest tickets. It is incredible how he can transform himself into more than a dozen famous women with the help of his "magic closet."

He also plans to showcase rotating guests from the Aquanettes and present local Key West talent.

At the Agua Mainstage next door, the world-famous Aquanettes' "Reality Is A Drag" reigns supreme as the best drag show on the island. This adult-oriented, interactive show features the Aquanettes, Key West's own troupe of dragsters renowned for their outrageous numbers.

Now, with an expanded performance budget and elaborate costumes, dramatic make-up, and a state-of-the-art sound system, the group transforms into a bevy of beauties who all look the real deal.

Two of them, Beatrix Dixie and Epiphany, are known as the "Singing Aquanettes" and deliver marvelous

live vocal renditions during their

You will be wowed by their amazing impersonations of Cher, Celine Dion, Lady Gaga, and Barbra Streisand. Heading up the cast is Roger Hultman, whose rendition of a Swedish bombshell named Inga will have you rolling. For the latest in all of the exciting happenings at the Aquaplex, go to their website at aquakeywest.com





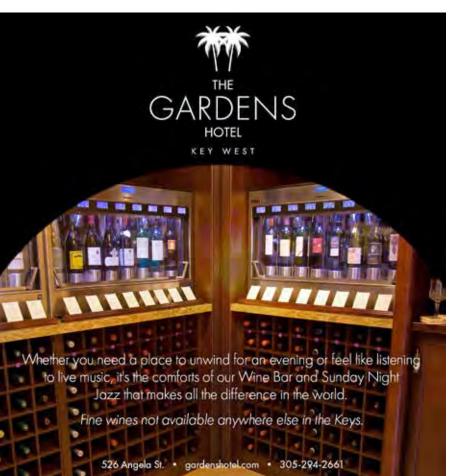


COMING SOON SPRING 2024

504 Angela Street | Key West







FOOTLIGHTS

March 31

Trunk Material

Key West: The 5th installment of this fabulous music evening features local and out-of-town talent singing some of their favorite show tunes from their "trunk material." Showtime: 8pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St. Info and tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

April 3

Libby York: Stories That Swing

Key West: Celebrated vocalist Libby York presents the best of the Great American Songbook and a few Bossa Nova gems with her jazz quartet. Showtime: 5:30 pm at Hugh's View on the rooftop at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

April 5 - 7

The Papers: A Musical

Key West: This staged reading of a musical adaptation of Henry James' novella "The Aspen Papers" is set in contemporary Key West. The piece asks how we contend with the art and accomplishments of flawed people. Showtime: 8 pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.ora.

April 9 - May 4

The Lifespan of Fact

Key West: With a deadline looming, a talented writer, a desperate magazine editor, and a young, aggressive fact-checker go head to head in this oh-so-funny and gripping dispute over factual truth vs the beauty of literary dishonesty. Showtime: 8 pm Tu - Sa at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info, and tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

April 17 - 27

Death and the Maiden

Key West: An award-winning, white-knuckle thriller and riveting tug-of-war. Who do you believe: your distraught spouse or your new persuasive friend? Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7 pm at the Armory, 600 White St. Info: 305-731-0581; fringetheater. ora.

April 24 - May 11

Lost in Yonkers

Key West: Neil Simon's story, set in 1942 Brooklyn, of two brothers who must learn to live with their stern Grandma, Aunt Bella, and Uncle Louie, a henchman for some gangsters. Showtime: 8 pm with a Sa matinee at 2 pm on May 4. Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St. Info and tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

WHAT'S UP

Please confirm details with event organizers or venues in case of changes or cancellations.

ONGOING

Daily

Mini Golf

Ramrod Key: Come play the southernmost minigolf course in the Florida Keys. This kid-friendly 18-hole course is a perfect family adventure. It boasts a fun caveman theme with two giant waterfalls and four fountains. And get this: If you're 21+, you and your friends can have a cocktail or glass of wine while you putter around. Happens daily from 10 am - 10 pm at Boondocks Grille & Draft House at 27205 Overseas Hwy (MM 27.5) on Ramrod Key. Be sure to check out their special party packages and tournaments. Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksus.com.

Daily

Miniature Golf

Marathon: The Keys' newest and largest minigolf attraction is a full size 18 hole course that challenges the best of the best. A fun tropical theme, lush landscaping and an amazing local coral rock waterfall makes it one of the Middle Keys' "Must See" destinations. Top it all off with a variety of snacks, slushies, frozen daiquiris or cold beers and you've got yourself a great day — not at the beach! Special event packages and tournaments, too! Open daily 10am - 10pm at Porky's Bayside, 1410 Overseas Hwy in Marathon. Info: 305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebbq.com.

Daily

Green Pineapple Key West Yoga

Key West: Whether you're a beginner or seasoned practitioner, this Hatha-based yoga studio offers daily classes designed for every skill level. Based on the foundations of traditional yoga practices, categories include Vinyasa, Yin, Restorative, Gentle, Breath and Mindful Movement, Pilates, and Meditation. The Green Pineapple Yoga Shala also offers workshops to feed your body

offers Pineapple Yoga Shala also offers workshops to feed your body, mind, and soul. Private or Group Classes are also available. Come early or stay after class for a fresh juice, a cup of tea, or a super healthy Zen-Bite in the plant-based Wellness Cafe. Find it nestled inside The Green Pineapple Wellness Center, 1130 Duval Street, Key West. Info: 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com.

Snooks Bayside Sunset Celebration, Key targe

Nightly

Key West Sunset Celebration

Key West: Each evening, about two hours before sunset, flocks of people gather at Key West's Mallory Square and on the pier behind the Opal Resort & Marina on Front Street to watch the sun slowly sink into the Gulf of Mexico and to revel in the colorful street performers, local artists, psychics and food vendors who have made Key West's Sunset Celebration a world-famous, multicultural happening.

Nightly

Snook's Bayside Sunset Celebration

Key Largo: Kick back with a rum punch on Snook's 5,000 square foot waterfront patio, listen to some great live music and enjoy an unobstructed panoramic view of the sun sinking into the Florida Bay. Happy Hour prices from 4 - 6 pm on a variety of libations

and appetizers. The nightly event is ceremoniously marked by the bellowing of the "Sunset Horn," just before the fiery ball disappears into the horizon.

disappears into the horizon.
Takes place at Snooks
Bayside & Grand Tiki at
MM 99.8, southbound lane
behind the Sandal Factory
Outlet in Key Largo. Info:
305-453-5004; snooks.com.

Nightly

Aquaplex

Boondocks Mini Golf,

Key West: With three reimagined venues all under one roof, Key West's state-of-theart entertainment complex is where it's all happening. SideBar, a world-class dance club with high-tech lighting and an industrial vibe, connects each venue, including a lovely outdoor garden bar called the Back Bar. There's also

the original Aqua Nightclub, renowned for its outrageous drag shows. Find it all at 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest. com.

WEEKLY

Every Monday & Tuesday

Glow Hours: Rooftop Happy Hour on Hugh's View

Key West: For a headier Happy Hour, head up to Hugh's View, where the bar is open, there is free admission, and everyone looks great in the golden twilight. Hugh's View sits on the roof of The Studios of Key West. It offers panoramic vistas across the rooftops of Old Town, from the Gulf of Mexico on one side to the Atlantic on the other. Takes place from 6 - 8 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

Every Saturday

Open-Air Market

Ramrod Key: Forget about driving miles to find local Florida Keys art, handmade jewelry, one-of-a-kind creations, fresh organic produce, greens, and flowers. You'll find all that and more right at Boondocks. Takes place from 9 am - 2 pm in the parking lot of Boondocks Plaza at MM 27.5 on Ramrod Key. Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksus.com.

Every Sunday

Jazz in The Gardens

Key West: Enjoy some hot jazz amidst lush flora and fauna during this free hang that draws Key West's top jazz cognoscenti. Full bar, champagne, and fabulous wines. Takes place from 5:30 - 8 pm at the Gardens Hotel, 526 Angel St, Key West. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

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SPRING 2024 35

WHAT'S UP

Every Sunday

Sunday Concerts in the Park (Now thru March 24)

Key Colony Beach: Kick back for a lazy seaside concert with great live music, free hot dogs and loads of fun with the locals. Takes place from 4-6 pm in beautiful Sunset Park at the end of West Ocean Dr. Info: kcbca.org.

MONTHLY

Third Wednesday

Immerse Yourself!

Islamorada: This free monthly presentation occurs on-site at the History of Diving Museum or virtually so you can tune in from wherever you are. Experts cover maritime history, archeology, diving, and marine science topics. Coming up: Coral Creations; John Date - Pioneer Hemet-Maker; Unique Oculina Coral; and Octopus Behavior. The on-site presentation takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

First Saturday

Market on the Green

Key West: Shop some amazing local arts at this fun artisan market. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at the Sunset Green Event Lawn located between the Gates Key West Hotel and 24 North Hotel, 3852 N Roosevelt Blvd. Info: 305-400-4117; thekeyscollection.com.

Third Saturday

Native Plant Sale

Key West: Peruse over 2,000 native, rare, and endangered plants from the Keys, Cuba, and the Western Caribbean at this terrific monthly plant sale. Takes place from 9 am - Noon at the Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest. garden.

SPECIAL EVENTS

February 11

Super Bowl LVIII Tailgate Party

Key West: Watch the NFL Championship on multiple screens, imbibe in tasty shooters when your team scores and enter to win prizes. Kicks off at 1 pm, at Schooner Wharf Bar 202 Williams St inn Key West's Historic Seaport. Info:305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

February 14

Valentine's Day Champagne & Aphrodisiacs Sunset Sail

Key West: Celebrate Valentine's Day aboard the romantic Schooner America 2.0 with an oh-so-special Champagne and Aphrodisiacs Pairing Sunset Sail. You and your true love can sail along Key West's beautiful turquoise green waters, sipping luscious champagnes and sparkling wines from around the world paired with a titillating selection of gourmet hors d'oeuvres. Ooh-La-La! Find it on the docks behind Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of William St. Info and reservations: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

February 14

Wesley House 42nd Valentine's Day Gala

Key West: The "Keys Formal" doubles as a fundraiser for Wesley House Family Services and includes top entertainers, the island's largest silent auction, an open bar, dancing, and an elegant dinner designed and prepared by Catered Affairs. Takes place from 6:30 - 9:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Reservations and info: 305-809-5000; keystix.com.

February 16 - 17

64th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: The annual Key West Home Tours[™] is one of America's oldest and longest-running home tours and features five lovely homes and gardens on each day's self-guided tour.

Each stop reflects the varied tastes and originality of its owners.

Takes place from 1 - 4 pm.

Tickets and schedules are available online at oldesthousekeywest.com.

More info: 305-294-9501; oirf.org.

February 17

Garden Walk 2024

Tavernier: Tour several spectacular private out-ofsight gardens, then enjoy a complimentary fabulous Garden

Market and groovy art show. Takes place from 10 am - 4 pm (rain or shine) and kicks off from the Francis Tracy Garden Center, 94040 Overseas Hwy. Info: gardenclubupperkeys.org.

February 24 - 25

59th Annual Key West Art & Craft Festival

Key West: This nationally recognized juried fine art show attracts over a hundred artists from across the country and includes painters, sculptors, photographers, collage artists, and



other non-functional fine arts. Takes place from 10 am - 5 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd (at the end of Southard). Info: 305-294-1243; keywestartcenter.com.

February 24 - 25

Annual Gigantic Nautical Flea Market

Islamorada: Get great deals on new and used boats, marine equipment, electronics, fishing tackle, dive gear, nautical arts & crafts, and more from over 200 vendors. Takes place from 8 am - 3 pm at Founders Park, 87000 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-712-1818; keysrotary.com.

February 26

Wrecker's Cup Race Series

Key West: Watch the second leg of the spirited 7-mile race to Sand Key, where bragging rights are the top prize. The race kicks off at 1 pm, followed by an Awards Party & Ceremony at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

March 2

24th Annual Schooner Wharf Open Air Art & Music Affair

Key West: This eclectic one-of-a-kind show features award-winning local and national artists and crafters whose work isn't shown anywhere else. The Art Show takes place from 10 am to sunset; Live music from 10 am - 11:30 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in the Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-9520; schoonerwharf.com.

March 2

Gardenfest & Green Market Place

Key West: This annual native plant sale also features arts and crafts, green products, healthy living vendors, and a special Kids Science Corner. You can also enjoy food and music in the Beer Garden. Free garden tours at 11am and 2 pm. Takes place from 10 am - 4 pm at Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest.garden.

Long Live the Conch Republic!

The Conch Republic Celebrates 42 Years

ey West's hilarious Conch Republic Independence Celebration, which honors our community's "secession" from the US, happens April 19 - April 28.

The birth of our "nation" began in March 1982 when the Feds put up a roadblock in Florida City, so the Border Patrol could search every car leaving or entering the Keys for illegal drugs.

Reports of this unprecedented action and the traffic jams that ensued circumvented the world. Community leaders soon realized that the Keys' budding tourism was at stake. A failed injunction filed against the government's blockade prompted Key West's

Mayor to proclaim: "We are going

to secede." And just like that, the Conch Republic was born.

On April 23, a new Conch
Republic flag flew above Key
West's City Hall and graced the
30' mast of the Schooner Western
Union. Armed with an arsenal of
water balloons, Conch fritters, and
stale Cuban bread, the schooner
set sail to attack the US Coast
Guard Cutter DILIGENCE, who
then decimated the crew with
water cannons.

The Mayor (now the "Prime Minister" of the Conch Republic) immediately surrendered and demanded foreign aid from the US. The Feds ignored the demand but did remove the blockade.



Today, the Conch Republic exists as a sovereign state of mind. It signifies our vision of an America we are proud to be part of.

More info: conchrepublic.com.

Declare Your FUN-Dependence!



Join us April 19 thru 28, 2024 in Key West for 10 days of legendary zany & wacky events for all ages.



Where else can you rub shoulders and party with Conch Republic Admirals, Generals, Ambassadors, Island Royalty and Real-Life Pirates?

Take to the sea aboard majestic Luxury Catamarans, Sloops and even Historic Schooners!

Visit ConchRepublic.com for the schedule of all the events that you just won't want to miss!

Tickets and also available.

Get your "Official Couch Republic" Citizen Passports, Event Tickets and Merchandise at all Festivities and at ConchRepublic.com Sponsorships also available.

WHAT'S UP

Key Colony Beach Day

Key Colony Beach: This old-fashioned, annual event draws a local island crowd who gather for a lazy day of good food, drinks, and music. Start with the Shriners' Pancake Breakfast at 8 am, stroll the art and crafts booths, try your luck at the world-famous barracuda races, or bet on your favorite plastic ducky in a "swim" against all odds across the 7th Street Canal. Free admission and parking. Takes place from 8 am - 4 pm at City Hall Park, 600 West Ocean Dr. Info: KCBCA.org.

March 9

61st Annual Conch Shell Blowing

Key West: Watch enthusiastic contestants pucker-up as they demonstrate their shellblowing talents and attempt to make "music" on fluted conch shells during this favorite Old Island Days tradition. Conch shells for blowing on sale in the gift shop. Entry is free and open to all ages. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm in the garden of the Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval St. Info: 305-294-9501; oirf.org.

March 9 - 10

Original Marathon Seafood Festival

Marathon: What began as a small gathering in the Publix parking lot has grown to a popular fresh seafood extravaganza drawing more than 20,000 attendees each year. Open Sa from 10 am - 9 pm and Su from 11 am - 5 pm at Marathon Community Park, 9805 Overseas Hwy., Oceanside. Info: 305-743-5417; floridakeysmarathon.com.

March 15 - 16

64th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: The annual Key West Home Tours™ is one of America's oldest and longest-running home tours and features five lovely homes and gardens on each day's self-guided tour. Each



stop reflects the varied tastes and originality of its owners. Takes place from 1 - 4 pm. Tickets and schedules available online at oldesthousekeywest.com. More info: 305-294-9501; oirf.org.

March 17

Schooner Wharf Bar's St Patrick's Day

Key West: Get your Irish up at this wild celebration that includes live music, a traditional beersteeped corned beef and cabbage dinner, and plenty of Black & Tan, Guinness, Irish Car Bombs, and green beer. Kicks off at 1 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

March 17

St Patrick's Day Parade

Key Colony Beach: No place in the Middle Keys rocks St Patrick's Day like Key Colony Beach. It's a full day of fun starting this throwback hometown parade. Time TBD but usually takes place around 11 am at City Hall Park, 600 West Ocean Dr. Info: KCBCA.org.

March 23 - 24

Islamorada 32nd Annual Island Fest

Islamorada: This lively hometown festival is a local favorite and always draws a fun crowd who take to the street for a day of yummy fresh seafood, culinary delights, fine art, crafts, and jammin' entertainment. Takes place from 10 am - 5 pm in the Morada Way Arts & Cultural District at MM 81 on Old Hwy. Info: 305-664-8120; islamoradaseafoodfestival.com.

March 31

Wrecker's Cup Race Series

Key West: This is the third leg of the spirited 7-mile race to Sand Key, where bragging rights are the top prize. Race kicks off at 1 pm with an Awards Party & Ceremony at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

April 1 - 24

42nd Annual Conch Republic Independence Celebration

Key West: This raucous annual event commemorates the founding of our Conch Republic. The celebration includes a ton of fun events.

including a big Kick-Off Party, a reenactment of the Great Sea Battle of the Conch Republic, sunset Boat Parade, Art & Craft Fair, Pirate's Ball, Red Ribbon Bed Races, a wacky "Drag Queen" Race, and much more. Info: 305-296-0213; conchrepublic.com.

April 6

Annual Papio Kinetic Sculpture & Art Bike **Parade**

Key West: Artists, builders, assemblers, and aficionados of the wild and wacky take to the streets for a parade unlike anything you have ever seen. Spearheaded by the Key West Art & Historical Society, the parade pays

homage to the late "junkyard" artist Stanley Papio. Kicks off at noon

from the Custom House Museum (281 Front St) and winds down Duval St. A Pocket Park Block Party and Awards Ceremony follows from 12:30 - 3pm in the park next to the Southernmost Mansion at the end of Duval StreetInfo: 305-295-6616; papiokineticparade.

April 19 - 28

42nd Annual Conch Republic Independence Celebration

Key West: This raucous annual event commemorates the founding of our Conch Republic. The celebration includes a ton of fun events, including a big Kick-Off Party, Conch Republic Music Party, Boat Parade, Art & Craft Fair, Pirates' Ball, Red Ribbon Bed Races, a wacky "Drag Queen" Race, and much more. Info: 305-296-0213; conchrepublic.com.

Conch Republic Independence Celebration: Kick-Off Party

Key West: Enjoy great live music, a fun Conch Shell Blowing Contest and stories about how Key West's Conch Republic was born. Festivities kick off at 7 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

April 25

Conch Republic Independence Celebration:

Post Parade Party

Key West: Follow the Conch Republic's annual parade back to the Historic Seaport for a party that rocks the docks. Takes place at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

Conch Republic Independence Celebration: Great Battle Victory Party & Surrender Ceremony

Key West: Celebrate the Conch Republic's raucous sea battle victory over the US Coast Guard. Kicks off at 9pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

April 27

Conch Republic Independence Celebration: Pirates' Ball & Costume Contest

Key West: Arghh - don your best pirate threads and get ready for the biggest pirate bash in the Keys. Prizes for best costume. The fun starts at 7pm at Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

April 26 - 28

47 Mile Offshore Grand Prix

Marathon: Race World Offshore returns to Marathon with exciting offshore racing that showcases the world's best and fastest boats. Race boats will navigate a new course in the Gulf of Mexico, close to shore, alongside the recently renovated Old 7 Mile Bridge. You can get a great view of the action from the Old 7 Mile Bridge. Info: 305-800-RACE; raceworldoffshore. com.

April 28

Wreckers Cup Race Series

Key West: Catch the last leg of the spirited 7-mile race to Sand Key, where bragging rights are the top prize. The race kicks off at 1 pm, followed by an Awards Party & Ceremony at 7 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar, 200 Williams St in Kev West's Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.

OTHER FLORIDA HAPPENINGS

MONTHLY Every Third Friday

Music Walk

Fort Meyers: The streets of the Historic River District come alive for this terrific one-night-only concert. Enjoy great music from a wide variety of performers. Free to attend and it's fun for all ages. Info: myriverdistrict.com. **February 23 - 25**

St Petersburg Seafood & Music Festival

St Pete: Enjoy a fabulous array of fresh local seafood cooked on site; stellar performances by local and regional musicians; and a great artisans market. Open Fr from 4 - 10pm; on Sa from 11am -

10pm; and on Su from 11am - 6pm. Takes place at Vinoy Park, Bayshore Dr, NE. Info: 941-487-8061; seafoodfestivals.com.

March 1 - 10

83rd Annual Daytona Beach Bike Week

Daytona: This 10-day high-octane party is considered the "World's Largest Motorcycle Event" and attracts over 500,000 motorcyclists and enthusiasts who make the annual pilgrimage. Celebrations occur all over town and include street festivals, concerts, motorcycle races at Daytona International Speedway, bike shows, rallies, manufacturer showcases, and much more. Info: 386-255-0415 officialbikeweek.com.





From secluded beaches and waterways to unforgettable eco-tours and attractions, an outdoor wonderland awaits your discovery. Come find your outside - and share moments you'll always cherish. Plan your escape at PureFlorida.com.



Our Best Side is Outside."







XPLORE

UPPER KEYS

HURRICANE MONUMENT

MM 82, On The Median Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-4503 Open 24/7 National Historic Site

Created in 1937, this national historic site memorializes the hundreds of World War I veterans and civilians who lost their lives in the Florida Keys' worst natural disaster - the infamous Labor Day Hurricane of 1935. As part of the National Register of Historic Places, the monument marks a crypt which contains the skeletal bones and cremated remains of more than 400 victims.

INDIAN KEY HISTORIC STATE PARK

Offshore Island, MM 78.5 Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-2540; floridastateparks.org Open Daily 8 am - Sunset Historic Indian Site



This tiny island once housed the largest population between St. Augustine and Key West and was also home to one of the Keys' most lucrative ship wrecking empires. In 1840, Indian warriors burned all the structures and killed most of the residents. Accessible only by boat, it's a fantastic spot to swim, kayak and hike. Boat shuttle and kayak rentals available from Robbie's Marina at MM 77.5, Gulfside.

99701 OVERSEAS HWY

KEY LARGO, FL 33037

JOHN PENNEKAMP CORAL REEF PARK

MM 102.6, Oceanside Key Largo, FL 33037 305-451-6300; pennekamppark.com Open Daily 8 am - Sunset America's First Underwater Park Approximately 21 miles long and four miles wide, this national treasure is famous for its

spectacular coral gardens, 600+ species of

continued on page 42



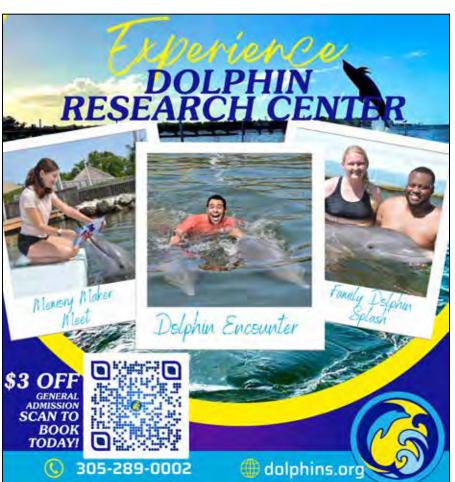
At Sunset! January 5:50 pm February 6:12 pm 6:29 pm March April 7:43 pm May 7:56 pm 8:12 pm June July 8:20 pm 8:11 pm August September 7:46 pm 6:56 pm October 5:47 pm November 5:38 pm December



40 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West

GLASS BOTTOM BOAT





XPLORE

exotic fish, turtles and old sailing wrecks. Plenty of activities throughout the park so there's lots to do and see. There are also two beaches, campsites, picnic areas, a Visitors Center, Gift Shop, Dive Shop and Concession Stand.

KEY LARGO PRINCESS

99701 Overseas Hwy Key Largo, Fl 33037 305-451-4655: keylargoprincess.com Cruising Daily at 10 am, 1 pm & 4 pm The Keys Favorite Glass Bottom Boat Cruise Hop aboard this 75-foot luxury, Coast Guardcertified, glass bottom boat for an eye-popping two-hour tour around the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park - the only undersea park in the United States. Not only will you be able to get an up-close and personal view of the beautiful underwater world of the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, you'll also be able to peer into the depths of Key Largo's spectacular Molasses reef. Best of all, you can view it all from the comfortable air-conditioned cabin or outside on the spacious sun deck. With room for 140 passengers, you'll have plenty of elbow room.

LIGNUMVITAE KEY BOTANICAL PARK

Offshore island, MM 78.5, Gulfside Islamorada, FL 33036; 305-664-2540 Open Th - M 8am - 5:30 pm; Tours F - Su The Real Florida Keys

With its thriving virgin tropical hardwood hammock, this nature preserve has been called "the last place that truly represents the Florida Keys." In 1919, a wealthy Miami chemist bought the tiny island and built a caretaker's home which is now a Visitor Center for the island forest. Ranger-guided tours. Accessible only by boat. Boat shuttle and kayak rentals available from Robbie's Marina at MM 77.5. Bayside, Islamorada.

MIDDLE & LOWER **KEYS AREA**

BOONDOCKS MINI GOLF

27205 Overseas Hwy Ramrod Key, Fl 33042 Daily 10 am - 10 pm 305 - 872-4094; boondocksus.com The Keys' Premier Miniature Golf Course Wandering through the Boondocks 18-hole mini golf course is like traversing through a lush garden...with a putter in your hand. This kid-friendly course is a perfect family adventure with a fun Caveman theme, two giant waterfalls, four fountains, and a full bar. Fore!



BAHIA HONDA STATE PARK

MM 37, Oceanside, Big Pine Key, FL 33043 305-872-2353, bahiahondapark.com Open Daily 8 am - Sunset One Of The Nation's Top Beaches Often cited as one of the nation's "Top 10 Beaches," this glorious palm-studded beach, with its beautiful crystalline water, offers superb swimming and snorkeling close to shore. In addition to the beach, the Park's 524 acres of subtropical flora and fauna, nature trails, cabins, campsites, and boat ramps make it a nature lover's dream. Snorkeling and windsurfing rentals available. Admission fee.

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

MM 59, Gulfside Grassy Key/Marathon, FL 33050 305-289-1121; dolphins.org Open Daily

9 am - 4:30 pm One Of The Keys Oldest Dolphin **Facilities**

Founded in 1984 as a non-profit marine mammal education and research facility, the DRC is one of the oldest dolphin facilities in the Keys. There are several sensational opportunities here for up-close introductions with many

exciting interactive programs available daily, as well as educational narrated sessions. Advance reservations are usually required for dolphin swims.

HISTORIC PIGEON KEY

Offshore Island, Marathon, FL 33050 305-743-5999; pigeonkey.net Open Daily 10 am - 4 pm Step Back In Time

This tiny coral island was the original work camp for workers who built the Key West extension of the Flagler Railway and once housed a thriving village of more than 400

people until the railroad's demise in 1935. Today you can tour the island's historic buildings, picnic on the lawn or snorkel in the shallow bay. Ferry departs from Faro Blanco Marina, check in at the Visitors Center, 2010 Overseas Hwy, Marathon. The Ferry departs 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm and 2 pm.

MILLION AIR

Marathon International Airport 8800 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050 305-743-1995 millionair.com

Daily 7 am - 7 pm

The World's Premiere Aircraft Concierge Centrally located between Key Largo (the Diving Capital of the World) and Key West (the Southernmost Point of the Continental US), Marathon's premiere aircraft concierge offers a hassle-free gateway to The Florida Keys and beyond. Whether you're flying into the Keys, the Bahamas, Caymans, Belize or one of your other favorite regional destinations, rest assured that you'll be taken care of by a top-of-the-line concierge staff who will also provide streamlined Customs services.

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XPLORE

PORKY'S BAYSIDE MINI GOLF

Marathon, Fl 33050 1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050 305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebbq.com Daily 10 am - 10 pm (weather permitting) Eighteen Holes of Fun for the Whole Family The Keys' newest and largest mini golf attraction is a full-size 18-hole course that challenges the best of the best. A fun tropical theme, lush landscaping, and an amazing local coral rock waterfall make it one of the Keys' "Must See" destinations. Top it all off with a variety of snacks, slushies, frozen daiquiris, or cold beers, and you've got yourself a great day - not at the beach! Special event packages and tournaments,

TURTLE HOSPITAL

MM 48.5, Gulfside Marathon, FL 33050 305-743-2552; turtlehospital.org Open Daily 10 am - 4 pm The World's Only Certified Sea Turtle

The only state-certified veterinary hospital in the world for sea turtles. This unique non-



profit organization is also the only facility that rehabilitates injured sea turtles (up to 70 per year) and releases them back into the wild. You can engage in educational discussions, get a behind-the-scenes look at the hospital and enjoy a fascinating guided tour through the turtle rehab area. Reservations required.

KEY WEST

BAREFOOT BILLY'S

Island-Wide Locations Key West, Fl 305-735-2241; barefootbillys.com Open Daily 8 am - 8 pm Home Of The Original Island Jet Ski Tour Billy Mosblech loves being on the water. For the last 20 years, he has owned and operated Key West's premium jet ski company. But jet skis aren't his only gig. Billy can also hook you up with snorkel gear, kayaks, paddleboards, Hobie Cats, and more. He also offers a Dolphin Watch & Snorkeling Tour, Morning Island Cruise, and a Sunset Harbor Cruise. His Seabreeze Boat Cruises leave from Garrison Bight Marina off of Palm Ave. Looking for a bike or scooter? Billy rents those, too! FYI: If you book directly online, you can save yourself 10% on any of Barefoot Billy's special tours. Call 305-900-3088 or hit up barefootbillys. com and use coupon code "BAREFOOT." You can find Barefoot Billy's at four convenient Key West locations: Casa Marina Resort at 714 Seminole St; the Reach Resort at 1435

High Seas Romance In Key West?

You Betcha!

hould Leonardo Dicaprio and Kate Winslet ever cruise across the ocean together again, let it be aboard the breathtaking Schooner America 2.0.

With her sleek teak decks, elegant mahogany trim, and 3,600 feet of billowing white sheets, this classic-style tall ship looks as if she sailed straight out of a romance novel.

Winner of the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race and Schooner Wharf Wrecker's Cup Race, the America 2.0 is regaled as Key West's most stunning sailing schooner.

And while she may look classic from the waterline up, this eco-friendly boat is equipped with state-of-the-art

Sails!

Wreckers Race Series

2024 Schedule

Last Sunday of the Month:

February 25

March 31 April 28

Race starts at 1pm;

Schooner Wharf Bar, 202 Williams St

305-292-9520

schoonerwharf.com

carbon fittings, c lightweight hull and an electric propulsion system that enables it to slice through waves at an amazing speed even at full capacity with 75 passengers.

Make no mistake. Sailing aboard Schooner America 2.0 is unlike Key West's typical party boats. It's not about free beer (although there's that, too), or about snorkeling, or about listening to glib descriptions of Sunset Key.

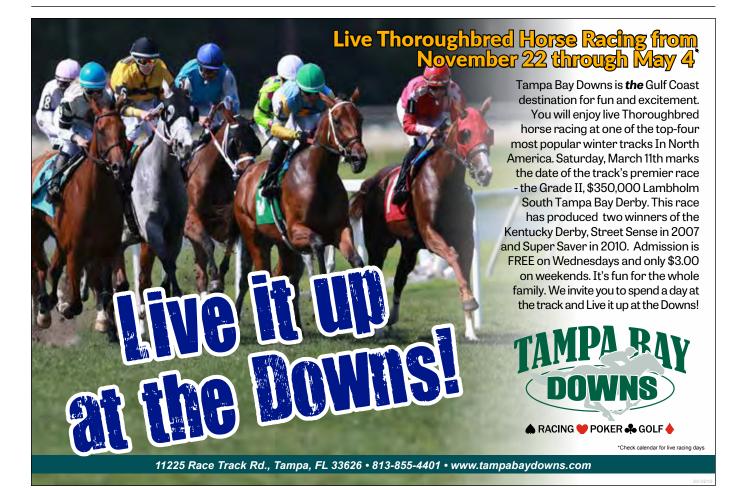
It's about "burying the rail" (a term that describes how the boat tips when the sails

are loaded with power). It's about that primal "Ah-ha" sensation. It's about sailing. Real sailing. This 105' beauty is the pride and joy of Classic Harbor Line, who also commands five ships in NYC

and another in Newport, Rhode

The Schooner 2.0 sails in Key West from November through April, and her sister boat, the 80' Adirondack III, a 1890's-style pilot schooner, hoists her sails here year-round.

Find them both at 202 William Street on the docks fronting Schooner Wharf Bar. Info: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.





XPLORE

Simonton St; the Marriott Beachside Resort, 3841 N Roosevelt Blvd; and the Garrison Bight Maring, 719 Palm Ave.

CLASSIC HARBOR LINE

Departs Schooner Wharf 292 William Street Key West, FL 33040 305-293-7245 sail-keywest.com Call For Sailing Schedule

"Best Romantic Schooner Sail"

This elegant, 105' eco-friendly schooner with her cutting edge construction, fine teak decks and 3600 square feet of billowing white sails, sets a daily course for a Classic Day Sail, romantic Champagne Sunset Sail and brilliant Full Moon Sail. It also sets a stunning stage for Nautical Destination Weddings and special celebrations for up to 76 people.

FYI: Climb aboard this beauty for Schooner Wharf Bar's monthly Wrecker's Race, a fast-paced and exciting nine-mile race offshore to the famed Sandy Key Lighthouse and back. Such a blast!

FORT ZACHARY TAYLOR

End Of Southard Street Off Whitehead Key West, FL 33040 305-295-0037; fortzacharytaylor.com
Open Daily 8 am - Sundown;
Tours of The Fort Daily @ Noon
Home Of Key West's Famous Civil War Fort
Designated as a National Historic Landmark
in 1973, this state park is anchored by a
famous Civil War fort. The beach is shaded
by several acres of Australian pine trees
so it's always a bit cooler than the rest of
the island. Good deep water swimming,
chair rentals, grills, restrooms and a
concession stand.

KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & BOTANICAL GARDEN

5210 College Road
Stock Island/Key West, FL
33040
305-296-1504; keywest.
garden
Open Daily 10 am - 4 pm
Not To Be Missed
The only frost-free botanical
garden in the continental
U.S. is home to many
endangered flora and fauna
and includes 200 species
of tropical trees and plants,
over 100 species of butterflies

and rare birds and two of the Keys' last remaining fresh water ponds. Four self-guided tours take you through a lush canopy of tropical palms and trees in a meandering 7-acre setting. Visitors Center and free parking.

SOUTHERNMOST POINT MONUMENT

SOUTHERNMOST

POINT

CONTINENTAL U.S.A.

KEY WEST, FL

Corner of Whitehead & South Streets Key West, FL 33040 305-294-2587

Open 24/7
A True "Kodak Moment"

A Irue "Kodak Moment"
"The most photographed
icon in the Keys" does,
indeed, provide a true

"Kodak Moment" for virtually everyone who visits here. The larger-than-life buoy commemorates the southernmost spot in the continental U.S and stands next to a plaque memorializing the Cuban refugees who drowned in their attempts to reach America.







SHOP

hopping in the Florida Keys and Key West is an adventure unto

Florida's final destination boasts hundreds of interesting shops, stores, and over 90 eclectic galleries spread over 43 islands. Keep your eyes peeled as you travel along the Overseas Highway — the Florida Keys version of "Main Street, USA" — because you'll discover all kinds of unique shops in places you would least expect!

In Key West, eager shoppers have been combing the island for treasured goods since the mid-1800s. Back then local wrecking captains auctioned off highly coveted goods salvaged from merchant ships grounded on nearby



reefs. Today, it's much easier to get your hands on unusual handcrafted gifts, custom jewelry, unique clothing,

collectibles, local art, and more.

Turn the page for some of our favorite shops to get you started.



Not Your Ordinary Pawn Shop!

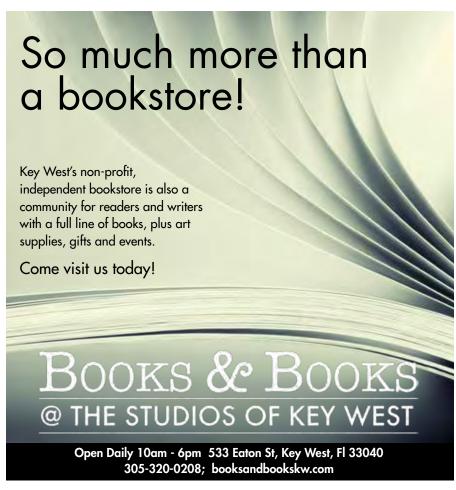
For over 40 years, we've been supplying dealers with the World's finest watches, jewelry, diamonds and collectibles at the lowest prices.

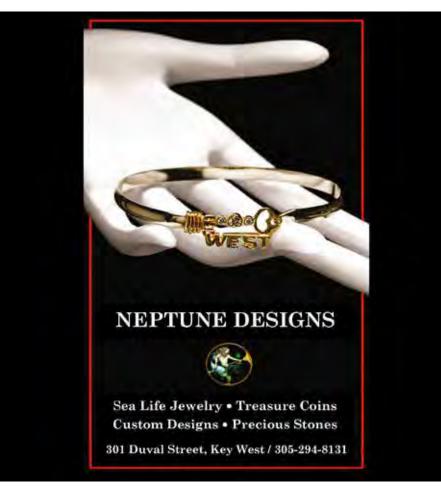
Now you can get these exclusive items at the same dealer prices.

Keys Pawn

82681 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada, Fl 33036 305.962.1956 | keyspawn.com | Mon-Fri 10-5

Highest prices paid for gold, watches, diamonds and jewelry! Best interest rates on loans!





SHOP FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST

AQUA D' KEYS

1075 Duval St Key West, Fl 33040 305-676-5620; AquaDKeys.com Daily 10 am - 9 pm The Scent of the Keys

Who knew that someone would figure out how to capture the true essence of the Keys and put it in a bottle? Enter Key Westers, Dominik, Ron, Maurizio, and Todd. After futilely searching for affordable gifts symbolic of Key West, the four long-time friends created their own: a proprietary line of signature scents inspired by the Florida Keys. Their new fragrance boutique includes uniquely crafted home scents, unisex perfumes, and body care products that embody the fresh, adventurous, and romantic lifestyle of the Keys. If you're looking for a unique gift for yourself, your house guests, or the folks back home, this may be the perfect way to go!



BLISS JEWELERS

269 Front St
Key West, Fl 33041
305-998-4839; BlissJewelers.com
Daily 10 am - 7 pm
Key West's Ultimate Shopping Experience
A walk through Bliss Jewelers is like walking
through the "Who's Who" of brand name
designer jewelry. You'll find lots of innovative
collections from today's top fashion icons
including John Hardy, Kabana and Pandora.
Bliss also stocks a terrific selection of luxury
watches including Omega, Breitling, Tag Heuer,

continued on page

What's That You're Wearing?

AQUA D' KEYS - The Scent of the Keys

ho knew that someone would finally figure out how to capture the true essence of the Florida Keys and put it in a bottle? Enter Key Wester's, Dominik, Ron,

Maurizio, and Todd. After futilely

searching for affordable gifts symbolic of Key West, the four long-time friends created their own: a proprietary line of signature scents and the only locally produced Eau De Parfum inspired by the beauty of the Florida Keys.

Their new Key West fragrance boutique, AQUA D' KEYS, features six uniquely crafted home scents, unisex perfumes, and body care products that embody the fresh, adventurous, and romantic lifestyle of the Keys. With

names like Tortuga,
Marquesas, West,
Summerland, Islamorada,
and Largo, they are truly an
emblematic reminder of how
wonderful our tropical island
chain really is.

If you're looking for a unique gift for yourself, your house guests, or the folks back home, this may be the perfect way to go!

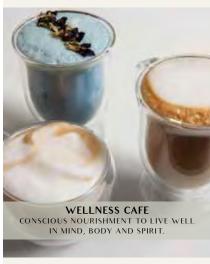


You can find AQUA D' KEYS in Key West at 1075 Duval St in Duval Square and The Shops at Mallory Square, 291 Front Street. They're open daily from 10 am — 9 pm. You can also order securely online at AquaDKeys.com. For more info, give them a ring at 305-676-5620.









KEY WEST, FLORIDA

DUVAL STREET

1130 DUVAL ST. - 305-509-7378

BAHAMA VILLAGE 310 PETRONIA ST. - 305-509-7065









SHOP

Rado, Longines and Tissot, as well as a sensational array of diamonds, engagement rings, and precious gems. With two additional locations in St Thomas, Virgin Islands and another one in Bar Harbor, Maine, this family run business is Key West's official dealer of worldrenowned jewelry.

BOOKS & BOOKS @THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST

533 Eaton St Key West, Fl 33040 305-320-0208; booksandbookskw

Daily 10 am - 6 pm More Than Just a Bookstore! Key West's own local, independent bookstore is also a spacious community center for readers and writers of all ages and interests. They curate all the newest books with a strong representation of recent literary fiction and nonfiction. You can also pick up art supplies and unique gifts, as well. Check out their website for special events.

EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL

104 Duval St

Key West, FL 33040 305-294-2060: emeraldsinternational.com T - Sa 11 am - 6 pm Our Emeralds Make Diamonds Green with Envy® World renowned emerald and conch pearl authority, Manuel Marcial de Gomar, began mining emeralds in 1955 on horseback in the mountains of Colombia. His passion for emeralds spilled over to conch pearls after traveling throughout the Caribbean. This passion and a love for unique design shaped



his legacy and imprints the stunning collection on display in his Key West retail boutique. Shop online at emeraldsinternational.com and get 10% Off when you enter code SPARKLE10 at checkout!

JEFF'S GEMS & **NAUTICAL DESIGNS**

Jeff's Gems,

906 F Kennedy Drive (Behind Kennedy Plaza) 305-296-4367; jeffsgems.com Open Tu - F 10 am - 5 pm; Sa 10 am - 4 pm Elegant Handcrafted

> Jewelry Famous for creating the rings for the royalty of Key West's Annual Fantasy Fest, Master iewelry designer Jeff Woessner started making jewelry at the tender age of five.

His prolific talent garnered him multiple awards and a loyal clientele who revel in his meticulously handcrafted rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and one-of-a-kind custom pieces made from authentic treasure coins. Jeff can tackle all jewelry and watch repairs, and his small shop also stocks a great selection of nautical designs & gifts.

KEYS PAWN

82681 Overseas Hwy. Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-962-1956 keyspawn.com Tu - Fr 10:30 am - 5:30 pm Sa 10:30 am - 2:30 pm Mon By Appointment Only

Not Your Ordinary Pawn Shop! Get terrific deals on an exclusive collection of luxury watches like Audemars Piquet, fine jewelry, high quality diamonds, unusual antiques, vintage Louis Vuitton bags, rare guitars and more. The inventory is always changing so you never know what you're going to find. They also offer the best interest rates on loans and pay the highest prices for gold, watches, diamonds and jewelry

"Today Is the Day!"

Mel Fisher's Treasures Pays Homage the World's Greatest Treasure Hunter



ormer chicken farmer turned treasure hunter Mel Fisher hunted doggedly for years in search of the treasurepacked Spanish galleon, Nuestra Señora de Atocha, which sank in a hurricane off the Florida Keys in 1622 en route back to Spain from Cuba.

Finally, on July 22, 1985, just three years before Mel's death, and after 16 years of proclaiming "Today Is The Day," Fisher's crew hit pay dirt. The Atocha's "Mother Lode' came out of hiding about 35 miles offshore from the Florida Keys.

Although Fisher initially found the

first artifact from the ship in 1971, discovering the location of the main wreck along with its sister ship, the Santa Margarita, netted his crew more than forty tons of silver and gold. The incredible haul included over 100,000 Spanish silver coins known as "Pieces of Eight," gold coins, silver and gold artifacts, Columbian emeralds, and over one thousand silver bars.

The cache totaled over \$450 million, but that's only about half of what the family business has since recovered.

Although Mel Fisher suffered many personal losses to keep his dream alive during his 16-year search and endured over 100 court battles, his incredible treasure hunt ended in victory in the US Supreme Court.

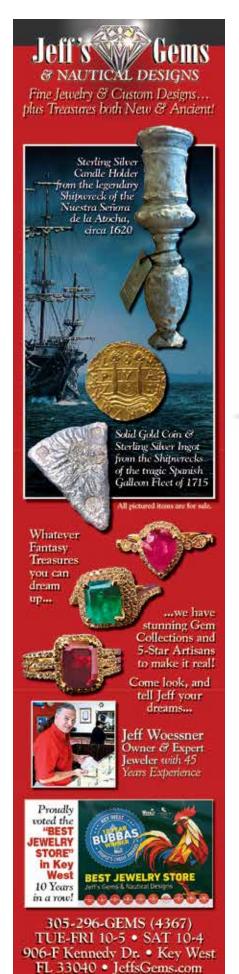
Today, you can see many of the artifacts from the Atocha and Margarita at Key West's Mel Fisher Maritime Museum at 200 Greene Street.

> You can also purchase your own genuine treasure coins and treasure

jewelry at Mel Fisher's Treasures, 613 Duval Street. And get this: for a limited time. Mel Fisher Treasures is giving away a FREE CHARM with any purchase when you use the code: DESTINATION. Info: 305-295-9555; store.melfisher.com

Today is the day!





Enjoy Fabulous Food from the Florida Keys –

Without Leaving Home



f you want to find out what's cooking in the Florida Keys & Key West,

grab yourself a copy of Keys Eats - a fun and lively tribute to the island chain's top local restaurants.

This humorous
cookbook reflects the
Florida Keys' fun, tropical
flavor and shares popular island
recipes from some of the island
chain's top chefs.

From signature starters and lite bites to tropical mainstays and decadent desserts, it's a flavorful romp that will keep you hungry for more!

Whether you're a beginner in the kitchen or a skilled chef yourself, this "Keepsake Cookbook" includes easy to read recipes that will stay with you long after the dishes are done.

Distributed through Ingram
Publishing and Amazon, KEYS

EATS is also available throughout the Keys at local chambers, restaurants, and gift shops.

Looking for the perfect gift? Pick up a copy of KEYS EATS. Your friends and family will love you for it!



SHOP

MEL FISHER TREASURES

200 Greene Street 613 Duval Street Key West, FL 33040 305-296-6533; melfisher.com

Open Daily 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Authentic Atocha Coin and Treasure Jewelry

Here is where you can find genuine, one-ofa-kind shipwreck jewelry and artifacts from
the \$450 million dollar treasure cache of the
1622 shipwreck "Nuestra Senora de Atocha"
which was discovered off of Key West in
1985 by the world's most famous treasure

NEPTUNE DESIGNS

301 Duval Street Key West, FL 33040 305-294-8131 neptunedesignskeywest.com Open Daily 10 am - 9 pm Custom Jewlery & Gold Coin Creations This family-owned-and-operated boutique jeweler has been meticulously creating 14 karat solid gold creations for over 30 years and specializes in unique custom jewlery designs. You'll find a huge selection of nautical designs, orginal charms, pendants, single 14 karat gold hoops and cut coin jewelry, as well as rare Tahitian Black Pearls and an exclusive line of Orchid jewlery fashioned from real orchid flowers.

OLD ISLAND GENERAL STORE

at the Oldest House Museum
322 Duval St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-294-9501; oirf.org
Daily 10 am - 4pm; Closed Su & W
A Celebration of Authentic Key West
You'll feel like you've stepped back in time when
you visit this charming little shop celebrates Key
West from both yesterday and today. Located
in Key West's Oldest House Museum, the
General Store features original art and jewelry,
unusual glassware, books by local authors and
more - all backdropped by historic photos and
authentic items from the nineteenth century.

PROMOTIONS GUY

844-279-5628 promotionsguy.com

Gets Your Company Noticed

Ryan Schraffenberger and his cracker-jack staff are the go-to guys when you need advertising specialties and printing that get you noticed. Screen printing, promotional products, signs, business cards, trophies, banners - you name it. If it can be customized, Ryan and company will do it. Great one-on-one service makes working with them a total breeze.





WE PRINT T-SHIRTS

ARE YOU A RESTAURANT/BAR/TOURIST ATTRACTION?
WE CREATE RETAIL SOLUTIONS AND
WE AVERAGE A 40% INCREASE IN SALES.



844.279.5628 // INFO@PROMOTIONSGUY.COM

CALL OR EMAIL FOR A FREE ASSESSMENT



Need to take them on the plane? Now available in

Available at fine establishments throughout the Keys. Order online at TheKeysSaltScrub.com 305-852-9499

Free Shipping on Orders over \$35 LIMITED TIME ONLY

SHOP

THE GREEN PINEAPPLE WELLNESS CENTER

1130 Duval Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com Daily 8 am - 6 pm Mind. Body. Soul.

With two locations in world-famous Key West, The Green Pineapple Wellness Center offers a lovely array of goods and services to help you feel happy and healthy. The Green Pineapple lifestyle boutiques features men's and women's apparel, chic yoga apparel, handmade jewelry, accessories, home goods and so much more. The flagship location at 1130 Duval Street also has a Wellness Café and Yoga Shala.

THE GREEN PINEAPPLE BAHAMA VILLAGE

310 Petronia Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-509-7065 greenpineapplewellness.com M - Sa 9 am - 6 pm Su 9 am - 4 pm

Fun & Trendy
Situated in the funky and hip Bahama Village
neighborhood, this eco-friendly boutique offers
fun and trendy clothing for the whole family,
locally made jewelry, and a vast collection of
custom "Made in the Keys" artwork. Find it right
across from Blue Heaven on historic Petronia
Street.

THE KEYS SALT SCRUB™

40 High Point Road #101
Tavernier, FL 33070
305-852-9499
TheKeysSaltScrub.com
Hours Vary By Location
Transforms Your Skin In Just 60 Seconds
The Locals' #1 favorite is handcrafted in small batches right here in the Keys using the unique "Secret Lessoily™ Formula" which will transform your skin in just 60 seconds. Massage onto your hands, feet or over your entire body to exfoliate, refresh and rejuvenate. A great gift or perfect keepsake. Available at local restaurants and shops throughout the Keys and online at TheKeysSaltScrub.com.



Keys Eats

UPPER KEYS

ATLANTIC'S EDGE RESTAURANT

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa
81801 Overseas Hwy, (MM 82)
Islamorada, FL 33036
305-517-4447; cheeca.com
Breakfast 7am - 11am; Lunch 11:30am 5pm; Dinner 5 - 10pm
A Taste of Land & Sea
Renowned for it's tropically inspired cuisine
and spectacular ocean views, the classically

and spectacular ocean views, the classically modern Atlantic's Edge offers freshly caught seafood, Prime hand-cut steaks, locally grown organic produce, and over 100 select hand-picked wines. Cited as one of "Florida's 500 Best Places to Dine" and honored with Wine Spectator's Award Of Excellence.

BUZZARDS ROOST

21 Garden Cove Dr, MM 106.5 Just Off U.S. 1 at Card Sound Rd. Key Largo, FL 33037 305-453-3746; buzzardsroostkeylargo.com M - Sa 11:30 am - 9 pm; Su 10:30 am - 9 pm
Terrific Waterfront Hideaway
Discover some of the best food
around at this intimate Keys
hideaway overlooking Garden
Cove Marina. The fresh sauteed
Lobster Rueben and Corny
Blue Crab Cakes are truly Blue
Ribbon worthy and you just
can't go wrong with any of the
fresh seafood selections or Prime
steaks. FYI: The Champagne
Sunday Brunch is also
outstanding.

FISH HOUSE & SEAFOOD MARKET

102401 Overseas Hwy, MM 102.4 Key Largo, FL 33037 305-451-4665; fishhouse.com Open M - Su 11:30 am - 10 pm Featured On The Food Network Heralded by Fodor's, Zagat, Southern Living and Travel & Leisure, this local landmark is

Snooks Bayside, Key Largo

famous for its "Conch-style" cooking and casual, "Old Keys" vibe. Fresh fish is the trademark here, brought in the back door

famous for its "Conch-style" cooking and casual, "Old Keys" vibe. Fresh fish is the trademark here, brought in the back door daily by local fishermen and filleted on premises. FYI: The Baked Stuffed Catch with homemade blue crab stuffing is excellent and the Key Lime Pie is as good as it gets.

continued on page 56

The Fish House Restaurant & Seafood Market in Key Largo

Featured on the Food Network with Celebrity Chef's Bobby Flay and Guy Fieri's Diners, Drive Ins and Dives.



Fresh Seafood is our trademark for over 30 years!

Fresh fish filleted on premise daily from local commercial fishermen.

Dig into authentic "Conch Style" cooking and casual Keys atmosphere.

Fresh raw bar menu and an array of seafood specialties.

Seafood Market open daily 10 am to 10 pm

Open Daily Lunch: 11:30 am to 4 pm Dinner: 4 pm to 10 pm

TO SE

MM 102.4, Oceanside, Key Largo | fishhouse.com | 305-451-4665

LAZY DAYS

MM 79.9, Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-5256 lazydaysislamorada.com Open Daily 11 am - 10 Award-Winning **Favorite** Here's a place where you can enjoy awardwinning Keysstyle dishes in a spectacular oceanfront setting. Boat-to-table seafood, certified Black Angus steaks, innovative pasta

and chicken dishes, along

with some terrific house specialties

headline a large menu that consistently

wins rave reviews. Lots of seating options, including an outside waterfront patio,

covered seaside porch, cozy indoor dining

room or beachside bistro with tables nestled

absolute "Must!" Happy Hour from 4 - 6pm.

in the sand. FYI: The fish sandwich is an

MIA CUCINA

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa 81801 Overseas Hwy (MM82) Islamorada, Fl 33036

> 305-517-4447; cheeca.com

> > Daily 5 - 10 pm Authentic Neapolitan

> > > This authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria creates made-to-order artisanal pizzas, pastas, salads and other Italian specialties like Mama Mia's

Chicken Primavera Fettuccini; and Insalata Di Mare; as well as many other reimagined Italian classics.

Segreta Bolognese;

MORADA BAY BEACH CAFÉ & BAR

81600 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-664-0604; moradabay.com Daily 11 am - 9 pm

Bar 11 am - 11:30 pm (and often later) Innovative, Eclectic American/Caribbean

Fare Super fresh, local seafood and produce are the stars of the show at this casually chic beachfront bistro. Enjoy toes-in-the-sand, outdoor dining on the glorious palm studded beach, or inside surrounded by a curated collection of vintage surfboards, longboards. sail and kite boards. For a relaxing, kicked back meal in a picture perfect setting, you found your place in the sun.

NIKAI SUSHI BAR & RESTAURANT

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa 81801 Overseas Hwy (MM 82) Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-517-4447; cheeca.com Open Nightly 5 - 10 pm The Keys Premier Spot for Sushi Using locally and internationally sourced fish, spices and vegetables, Nikai's beautifully crafted Japanese-inspired dishes melds the art of sushi and Japanese cooking with the flavors of the Florida Keys. Must Haves: the Wahoo Tataki, Tuna Poke Bowl, and Scallop Shooters. Signature sushi rolls like the "Big Kahuna," made with tuna, avocado, lobster salad, pineapple ginger glaze and toasted macadamia are also outrageously good. Big selection of hot and cold Sakes, boutique

even more info about the Keys' very best restaurants?



305-453-3746 • BuzzardsRoostKeyLargo.com



bite

Chipotle Glazed Mahi-Mahi with Fresh Mango & Strawberry Salsa



Named for Key Largo's high ground, called "Wachula," which mean's "buzzard's roost" in the native Seminole language, this intimate Keys hideaway overlooking Garden Cove Marina has some of the best food around. The Sunday Brunch here is also just as outstanding.

Ingredients for Fish

(Yield 2 Servings)

2 - 8 Oz Mahi-Mahi Fillets

1 Tbl Chipotle/Roasted Garlic Seasoning (available in grocery stores)

1/2 Cup Chipotle Glaze (available in grocery stores)

1/2 Tbl Extra Virgin Olive Oil Fruit Salsa (recipe follows)

Ingredients for Salsa

(Yield 1-1/2 Cups)

1 Mango, cubed

3-4 Strawberries, diced

1 Tbl Red Onion, finely chopped

1 Tbl Cilantro, finely chopped

2 Tbl Sugar

½ Fresh Jalapeño, seeded and minced

Preparation for Salsa

Add the diced strawberries to a bowl and cover with sugar. Mix together and let stand for 30 minutes. Add remaining

ingredients and mix thoroughly. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Preparation for Fish

Heat a non-stick skillet with 1/2 Tbl olive oil over medium-high heat. Season fillets with chipotle/roasted garlic seasoning and add to skillet when oil begins to smoke. Reduce heat and turn fish after 3 minutes; cook until flakey. Drizzle 1 Tbl of the chipotle glaze on fish while in pan to warm up. Remove fish and serve over your favorite beans and rice recipe. Top fish with salsa and drizzle remaining chipotle sauce around plate and on top of plated fish.

You can find The Buzzard's Roost at 21 Garden Cove Dr, just off the Overseas Hwy at Card Sound Road in Key Largo. 305-453-3746; buzzardsroostkeylargo.com

56 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West SPRING 2024 57



PIERRE'S LOUNGE & RESTAURANT

81600 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-664-3225; moradabay.com/pierres Nightly 6 - 10pm Lounge Nightly 5 - 10pm French-Inspired Island Elegance Nestled on the second floor of a magnificent plantation-style house, this "Islamorada Stunner" is renowned for its regionally influenced French fusion cuisine. Everything on the menu is beautifully prepared and served in a romantic candlelit, nineteenth century "Indian Arcade" which is walled with extraordinary artifacts from Morocco and Africa. You can also enjoy a bite downstairs in the Green Flash Lounge or outside on the beautiful wrap-around veranda overlooking the beach and bay. Really spectacular!

SNOOK'S BAYSIDE RESTAURANT & GRAND TIKI

MM 99.9, Bayside Key Largo, FL 33037 305-453-5004; snooks.com Open for Lunch & Dinner M - Su Noon - 10 pm Daily Sunset Celebration/ Happy Hour/Live Music One Of The Keys Top Picks Hidden away at the end of a private lane, just off US 1, this exotic tropical oasis with its flickering torches, beautiful orchids and SOBE-style lounges is oh-so-chic! A stunning bar, gorgeous, open-air dining area and lounging space offer unobstructed views of the Bay, giving you a ringside seat to one of the best sunset celebrations in the Keys. As seen on South Florida's popular TV show, "Check Please," the fresh, island-inspired seafood dishes and Prime steaks won high fives from the show's panel of judges and

are all made to order. Truly a great place to kick back with a crafted tropical cocktail and grab yourself a piece of paradise.

SOL BY THE SEA Playa Largo Resort

97450 Overseas Hwy Key Largo, FL 33037 305-853-1001; playalargoresort.com Open Daily 11 am - 10 pm Sunday Brunch 10 am - 3 pm Sunday Dinner 5 pm - 10 pm Rustic, Romantic Beach Shack "Rustic Beach Shacks" don't get any better than this. With its white-washed tables, pastel fabrics, and driftwood benches, the charming decor at this dockside restaurant embraces

a dash of Bohemian culture. The menu here is compact but very diverse, focusing on American and Coastal dishes prepared with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Feast on Lobster & Shrimp Cakes, Tuna Poke, Seafood Mac-N-Cheese, Bayside Wings, Fresh Day Boat Catch, Caribbean Jerk Chicken, the 18oz Bone-In Ribeve or a Wasabi Tuna Burger. Add one of their tropical craft cocktails and you've found your perfect beach

SQUARE GROUPER

80460 Overseas Hwy (In the Islamorada Marina, MM 80.4 Bayside) Islamorada, Fl 33061 786-901-5678; squaregrouper islamorada.com

W - Su 11 am - 2:30 pm; 5 - 10 pm; Closed M & Tu

Heralded Keys Landmark Eatery Comes to Islamorada

Good news for Square Grouper fans at MM 22.5 on Cudjoe Key: the heralded Lower Keys landmark has opened a new waterfront location within the Islamorada Marina complex. The innovative and eclectic menu mirrors the original site with a comprehensive offering of fresh seafood, prime steaks, craft cocktails, and a fantastic wine list and full bar. Local favorites include the Ahi Tuna Egg Rolls, Flash Fried Conch, homemade Smoked Fish Dip, and lots of signature Land and Sea dishes. If you haven't had an opportunity to make it to the original Lower Keys location, now's your chance to see what everyone's been raving about!

SQUARE GROUPER SUNSET LOUNGE

80460 Overseas Hwv MM 80.4 Bayside Islamorada, Fl 33061 786-901-5678; sunsetloungeislamorada.com W - Su 4:20 pm - Close My Kind of Joint Renowned Florida Keys Chef, Lynn Bell, has added yet another great hang to Islamorada's stellar restaurant scene. Located above her popular Square Grouper Bar & Grill is her newest incarnation: The Sunset Lounge where "the higher you get, the better the view." But gorgeous sunsets are not the only brag here. Innovative and eclectic dining are still the star of the show.

> The Sunset Lounge menu is lighter than her downstairs gig and includes lots of great tapas, fresh seafood,

and a raw bar as well as craft cocktails and a fantastic wine

TIKI BAR

Amara Cav Resort 80001 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-664-0073;

amaracayresort.com

Su - W 11 am - 11 pm Th - Sa 11 am - 12 am Breezy Poolside Eats

Enjoy casual eats and tropical cocktails against a breathtaking backdrop of open ocean, blue skies and swaying palms. Fresh tacos, grilled jerk shrimp, burgers, coconut



Great Food • Cool Cocktails • Nightly Music • Cruisin' Tikis • Sunset Celebrations



tripadvisor 305-453-5004 • www.snooks.com • Key Largo MM 99.5 Southbound Lane at Traffic Light • Behind the Sandal Factory Outlet



Award-Winning Keys-Style Food Right On The Beach!



Voted Best Waterfront Dining & Best Seafood Restaurant



Boat-to-table seafood, Certified Black Angus® steaks, innovative pasta and chicken dishes all served in a casual oceanfront setting.

Bring your fresh catch and we'll cook that, too!

Lunch Daily 11am - 4pm Dinner Nightly Su-Th 4 - 10pm | Fi & Sa 4-11pm MM 79.9 Oceanside, Islmaorada, Florida Keys 305-664-5256 | lazydaysrestaurant.com

60 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West



Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended 305.664.3391

83000 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada ziggieandmaddogs.com





fried shrimp and fried chicken sliders make this tropical oceanside spot a fun place to chill. Live music on the weekends.

TIDES BEACHSIDE BAR & GRILL

Islander Resort 82100 Overseas Hwy (MM 82.1 Oceanside) Islamorada, Fl 33061 305-664-2031; islanderfloridakeys.com Daily 10:30 am - 10:00 pm Casual Beach Hang

A casual, Keysey menu and spectacular oceanfront setting make this poolside hang a perfect spot for chillin' with your favorite tropical libation. The all-day menu includes standard favorites including soups, salads, pizzas, burgers, and sandwiches along with signature plates like Mango Shrimp Tacos, House Smoked Wahoo Pate, Brick-Roasted Chicken, and Steak Frites.

ZIGGIE & MAD DOG'S

Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended 8300 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada 305.664.3391 ziggieandmaddogs.com Best Porterhouse Steak Revived in 2005 by former Miami Dolphins' tight end and sports broadcaster, Jim "Mad Dog" Mandich and longtime business partner Randy Kassewitz, the legendary Ziggie's Crab Shack is now a sleek and sophisticated steak, chops, and seafood restaurant that feels more like Tommy Bahama than Ernest Hemingway. The current, and now famous incarnation is better than ever and has become THE place for fine dining in the Keys. Orchid garnished cocktails, international wines, an outstanding a-la-carte menu and nightly specials make it one of the Keys' top dining spots which

always draws a colorful celebrity clientele

MIDDLE & LOWER KEYS

BOONDOCKS GRILLE & DRAFT HOUSE & MINIATURE GOLF

27205 Overseas Hwy Ramrod Key, Fl 33042 Daily 11 am - 10 pm 305 - 872-4094; boondocksfloridakeys. com

The Keys' Premiere Miniature Golf Course!Whether you're a Shot-Guy, a

Martini-Girl, or a Beer-Man, this monster Tiki Hut is always a fun place to hook up with other party lovers. Consistently good food is also a draw. The restaurant has a vast selection of sandwiches and dinner entrées, including fresh-catch baskets, artisan-crafted pizzas, crisp salads, two-fisted burgers, and more. Live music on the open-air patio seven days a week, lots of special events, and the Keys' tropical mini-golf course guarantee you'll never have a dull moment.

HAVANA JACK'S OCEANSIDE

401 E Ocean Dr (MM 53.5)
Key Colony Beach, FL 33051
305-743-4849; HavanaJacksOceanside.com
Daily Happy Hour 4 pm - 6 pm
Mon & Wed 4 pm-11 pm
Thurs - Sun 11am - 11 pm
(Last seating for the kitchen 9:30pm)
Spectacular Oceanfront Restaurant & Bar
With the relaxed mood of the Caribbean, this dramatic oceanside tiki restaurant and bar serves up tasty American/Caribbean fare and tropical libations against the panoramic backdrop of the Atlantic. You'll find a friendly

crowd, high-energy entertainment, indoor and outdoor dining, and an elegant outdoor patio great for kickin' back. Call for free pickup and drop-off anywhere on Key Colony Beach!

ISLAND FISH CO 12648 Overseas Hwy

Marathon, Fl 33050
305-743-4191; islandfishco.com
Daily 8 am - 10 pm
Waterfront Cheeky Tiki
Kick back with a frozen cocktail at the Keys'
longest tiki bar where an intoxicating view
of the Gulf transports you to Margaritaville.
Open-air dining and a "Keysy" menu
including items like Crabmeat Stuffed Shrimp,
Crab Cakes, Conch Fritters, Burgers, and
locally caught seafood. FYI: On Sunday,
there's a special Mexican lunch menu.

KIKI'S SANDBAR BAR & GRILLE

183 Barry Ave (Gulfside) Little Torch Key, Fl 33042 305-872-4500: Kikissandbar.com Daily 11 am - 11 pm Daily Happy Hour M - F 4 - 6 pm Toes in the Sand, Drink In Hand Come by land or sea to this spectacular waterfront chilling station where tropical drinking and eating on the beach or upstairs in the new Bayfront dining room is not just for locals. The vibe here is always upbeat. The people are super friendly, and the live music sets the stage for Kokomo good times. An all-new menu features fresh seafood, great casual fare, and daily specials. Lots of lite bites, too, like their famous Ahi Tuna Nachos, Coconut Shrimp, Smoked Fish Dip, Conch Fritters, and other goodies. There's also a great selection of burgers & sandwiches, salads, tropical tacos, and fried baskets. A great place to kick back and enjoy a little piece of paradise in the Lower Keys. Live music daily and a pet-friendly doggie beach (leashes required).

continued on page 64













Cheeca's Famous Flagship
Restaurant with superb
Ocean View.
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
7AM - 10PM





The Premier Spot for Sushi. Japanese inspired cuisine. The art of sushi with the flavors of the Florida Keys. 5PM - 10PM





Transporting Naples, Italy, to the Heart of Islamorada.
Made-to-order artisanal
Italian classic dishes.
5PM - 10PM

Islamorada's Best Places to Dine! 81801 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, FL

Reservations: 305 517 4447 and 305 394 1609



LIGHTHOUSE GRILL

Faro Blanco Hyatt Resort 1994 Overseas Hwy Marathon, FL 33050 305-743-9018; lighthousegrillmarathon.com Lunch Daily 11 am - 5 pm Dinner Nightly: 5 - 10 pm Happy Hour Daily 3 - 6 pm Outstanding Food & Views Breathtaking views, gorgeous sunsets, and an eclectic menu of fresh seafood, local favorites, and inspired daily specials make this unique waterfront restaurant and tranquil veranda bar an excellent retreat for a casual lunch, generous cocktails, or romantic dinner. Located at Marathon's historic landmark, the Faro Blanco Resort, the Lighthouse Grill raises the bar for great dining in the Middle Keys.

MAHINA

Isla Bella Beach Resort Overseas Hwy Marathon, FL 33050 786-638-8106; islabellabeachresort.com Breakfast Daily: 7 - 10:30 am Dinner Nightly: 6 - 10 pm World-Class Polynesian-Inspired Cuisine If you're looking for a special night out that doesn't include "Tiki," this tony Polynesian-Inspired restaurant may be just the elegant respite you had in mind. Perched directly on the beach with sweeping views of the Atlantic, Mahina serves a perfect blend of Pacific Rim cuisine using fresh Florida Keys seafood. Classic favorites include Hawaiianstyle Ahi Poke, Hoisin Chicken, Misoyaki Salman, Lobster-Crusted Mahi-Mahi, Whole Garlic Prawns, Seafood Pasta, and many other intriguing plates. The Kurobuta Pork Chop with Thai herb marinade is especially good, as is the Filet Mignon with a garlicedamame potato and Chinese Broccoli. Excellent addition to the Middle Keys dining

MY NEW JOINT 420 LOUNGE

(Located above the Square Grouper Bar and Grill) 22658 Overseas Hwy MM 22.5 Oceanside Cudjoe Key, FL 33042 305-745-8880; mynewjoint420lounge.com Tu - Sa 4:20 - 11 pm Happy Hour 4:20 - 6:30 pm Because Two Joints are Better Than One! Located above the Square Grouper, this swanky bar and lounge is a hip spot to kick back with your favorite libation. You can also indulge in an innovative tapas/ bar menu, Raw Bar with Fresh Shucked and Grilled Oysters, and some insanely delicious desserts! You'll also find one of the BEST specialty cocktail menus in The Keys and a unique tap system with 15 rotating draft beers and a whopping 150 canned and bottled beers. Fantastic wine list sure to please everybody. A great place to bring your buds!

PORKY'S BAYSIDE

town, live entertainment,

and the most challenging

1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon, FL 33050 305-289-2065; porkysbaysidebba.com Daily M - Su 8 am - 10 pm Happy Hour 3 - 6 pm Real Deal Southern BBQ, Boat Rentals & Miniature Golf An old Keys island vibe, "real deal" house-cooked BBQ, fresh oysters & sushi, and local seafood are the hallmark of this funky open-air waterfront hangout that always draws a big local crowd. There are terrific nightly specials and homemade desserts, a great daily Happy Hour with the best mojitos in

18-hole miniature golf course in the Keys. FYI: You can even rent a boat, jet ski or book an Eco-Tour here. Pet friendly, too!

SQUARE GROUPER BAR & GRILL

M22658 Overseas Hwy MM 22.5 Oceanside Cudjoe Key, FL 33042 305-745-8880; squaregrouperbarandgrill.

W - Su for Lunch 11 am - 2:30 pm; Dinner 5 - 10 pm, Cocktail Lounge 4:20 - 11 pm A Keys Top Pick

A well-executed, innovative menu makes this unassuming roadside spot one of the Keys' Top Picks. Three cozy dining rooms and a massive fish tank set the stage for beautiful dishes like the Ahi Tuna and Avocado Egg rolls, Flash-Fried Cracked Conch, Seafood Pasta with Key Lime Butter Sauce, and other heavenly delights. Don't miss their desserts and award-winning Key Lime Martini! Raw Bar, Tapas Bar Menu & Cocktail Lounge with live music is located upstairs and is open until 11pm.

KEY WEST

BISTRO 245

Opal Resort & Marina 245 Front St., Key West, FL 33040 305-294-4000 Opalkeywest.com Open M - Su 7 am -9 pm Best Sunday Brunch Bistro 245's top culinary team creates exceptional Caribbean cuisine on Key West's scenic harbor front. You can enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner comfortably indoors or dine casually outside on Opal Resort's Sunset Pier which comes alive each evening with entertainment by the famous sunset performers. Award-winning Sunday Brunch from 10am - 2pm continued on page 66











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PIERRE'S

Morada Bay
ISLAMORADA, FLORIDA KEYS

Best sunsets in the Florida Keys





1029 Southard St., Key West, FL 33040 305-294-0230; cafesole.com Open Nightly 5 - 10 pm Innovative, Award-Winning Menu You'll think you've stumbled off the sidewalk and into Provence when you step inside Cafe Sole and catch the scents of fresh herbs and sauteing garlic. Chef/Owner, John Correa is a master of seafood & French sauces and his food is a whoop of earthy, sun-drenched flavor. Must-Tries: the Conch Carpaccio and Hog Fish Snapper.

THE GREEN PINEAPPLE WELLNESS CAFE

1130 Duval Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com Daily 8 am - 5 pm Plant-Based, Gluten-Free Cafe Nestled inside The Green Pineapple Wellness Center in the heart of Upper Duval Street, this wonderful plant-based, gluten-free cafe serves up conscious nourishment throughout the day. Power up with a smoothie after yoga or grab one of their fresh juices to go. Try one of Chef Layla's delicious baked goods

or indulge in a nutritious and delicious salad. Bring a friend and raise a glass or share a bottle of their worldly selection of organic, biodynamic and sustainable wines all with a window view of world-

LATITUDES AT SUNSET

famous Duval Street.

245 Front St., Key West, FL 33040 305-292-5394; sunsetkeycottages.com Open Daily for Breakfast, Lunch & Stunning Beachfront Restaurant Within minutes, the free boat launch at The Opal Resort & Marina transports you to this spectacular restaurant on the island of Sunset Key. Enjoy outstanding island cuisine in the ultra luxe indoor dining room overlooking the Gulf of Mexico or outside in the sand surrounded by flickering tiki torches. Reservations required. Major credit cards.

Present ticket while dining for free parking.

MANGIA MANGIA PASTA CAFE

900 Southard St., Kev West, FL 33040

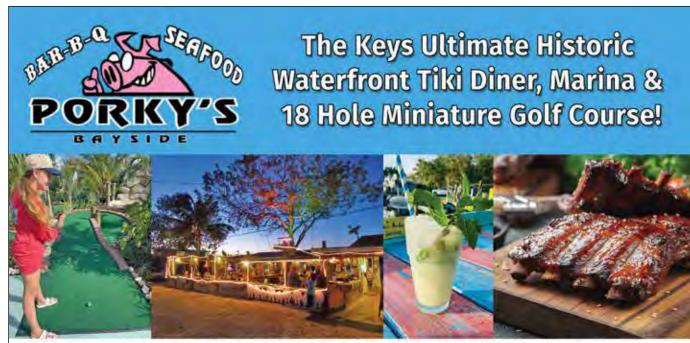
305-294-2469;

mangia-mangia.com Open Daily

5:30 - 10 pm Good Friends.

Good Food, Good Wine. Renowned for impeccable, fresh homemade pasta & madefrom-scratch. herb-spiked sauces, this cozy trattoria is one of the Keys' best values and serves up simple, full flavors that are intoxicatingly good. Lots

of grilled specialties, too, along with beef, seafood, chicken and vegetarian dishes. Excellent gluten/egg-free pasta options including "Zucchini Zoodle Noodles." Seductive wine list features vintages dating back to the 1950's.



Lip-Smackin' House Smoked BBQ • Fresh Local Seafood • Signature Sushi Award-Winning Deep Fried Key Lime Pie & Other Homemade Desserts Open Daily 8am - 10pm for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. Daily Specials • Happy Hour 3 - 6 pm • Live Entertainment 6 - 9 pm Pet Friendly!

Full Service Marina, Eco-Tours & The Keys Only Waterfront 18 Hole Miniature Golf Course! 1400/1410 Overseas Hwy, Marathon • On the Waterfront at MM 47.5 Bayside 305-289-2065 | porkysbaysidebbg.com





Key Colony's Oceanfront Oasis

Havana Jack's Sweeps You Away



h, how we love our Keys' Chiki Tiki Bars. And lord knows we have a lot of them down here.

But occasionally, it's fun to put a different spin on "getting your Tiki on." and That's when we head over to Havana Jack's.

Tucked away on a secluded oceanfront beach on Key Colony, Hayana Jack's breaks the mold by combining Tiki good times with inspired American/ Caribbean food. spectacular ocean views, and a lively island vibe that's a

tad more upscale than the usual Tiki Bar experience.

Whether you pull up a stool at the "always happening" thatched roofed bar, park yourself on one of the plush patio couches, or slip inside the cozy

& Great Casual Fare

indoor lounge, you'll be treated to the relaxed mood of the Caribbean.

In addition to the romantic oceanfront dining, Havana Jack's offers an inventive menu of craft cocktails, top-shelf spirits, fine table-side cut cigars, and live entertainment by some of the best local musicians and deejays.

You might say it's for fun-loving people who like their Tiki shaken, not stirred.

Havana Jack's is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 am - 11 pm, with an exceptional Happy Hour from 4 - 6 pm. It is at 401 East Ocean Drive, Key Colony Beach, just off Marathon's Overseas Highway. Info: 305-281-0071; havanajacksoceanside.com



401 E Ocean Dr on Key Colony Beach

305-743-4849 | havanajacksoceanside.com







Kick back with one of Kiki's signature tropical cocktails, listen to great live music and enjoy spectacular dining on the beach or upstairs in Kiki's new bayfront dining room. All new menu features the Keys' freshest seafood, great casual fare and daily specials!

Open Daily - 11am - 11pm | Daily Happy Hour 4 - 6pm

183 Barry Ave (MM28.5 Gulfside) Litle Torch Key, Fl 3304 305-872-4500; KikisSandbar.com

SQUARE GROUPER BARNDGRILL

My Favorite Soint

мм 22.5 = Cudjoe Key, FL = www.squaregrouperbarandgrill.com Lunch 11-2:30 & Dinner 5-10 • Open Tuesday - Saturday

My New Joint ... **BECAUSE TWO JOINTS**

ARE BETTER THAN ONE



мм 22.5 = Cudjoe Key, FL = www.mynewjoint420lounge.com



BECAUSE THREE **JOINTS ARE BETTER THAN TWO**



Raw Bar/ Lounge Open 4:20-11

MM 80.4 - ISLAMORADA, FL

www. squaregrouperislamorada.com

Lunch 11-2:30 & Dinner 5-10 • Open Wednesday - Sunday • Waterfront dining!

THE BEST OF KEY WEST



With Chef John Correa's award-winning cuisine and extensive wine list, (Wine Spectator Award since 2004) this hidden gem is an absolute "must" for foodies.

Open Daily from 5 - 10 pm



1029 Southard Street, Key West Reservations - 305-294-0230 • www.cafesole.com

Keys Eats

At The Perry Hotel Key West

MATT'S STOCK ISLAND KITCHEN &

70001 Shrimp Road Key West, FL 33040 305-294-3939 mattsstockisland.com Breakfast Daily 8 - 11:30 am Dinner Nightly 5:30 pm - 9 pm Sunday Brunch 8 am - 1 pm American Coastal Comfort Food "Simple, comfortable and delicious" food is the mantra at this popular Stock Island Waterfront eatery serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. From dock to dish, seafood is the star of the show with House Specialties that include Crab Beignets, Matt's Smoked Fish Dip, and Snapper On The Half Shell Tacos. Meat lovers can also rejoice with Matt's Southern favorites including their famous Fried Chicken with Citrus Dust, Smoked Bone-In Ribeye, and Espresso Braised Short Rib. BTW: \$3 specialty drafts, \$5 cocktails, 50% off signature wines, and \$5 crudo and tapas style apps every night for Happy Hour from

RED SHOE ISLAND BISTRO

411 Petronia Street Kev West Fl 33040 305-509-7271 redshoeislandbistro.com M - Sa 6 - 9pm

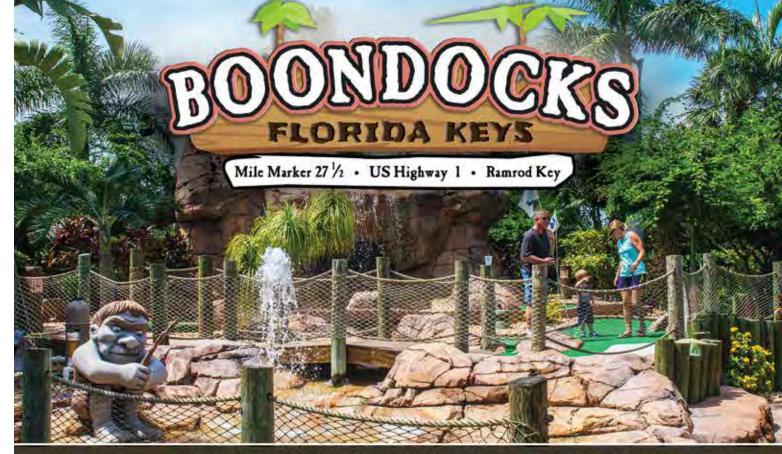
A Delectable Find in Old Town This small unpretentious restaurant in the heart of Old Town Key West is a favorite destination for locals. Renowned for its fresh local seafood, unique salads, beef stroganoff, and award-winning key lime pie, it's just steps off the beaten path but far from the maddening crowds. The compact menu includes stellar items like Shrimp Mango Toast, Lobster Roll Profiteroles, and the signature Yellowtail Snapper with lemon and parsley sauce, risotto topped with parmesan, and sautéed asparagus. Absolutely

SALTY OYSTER DOCKSIDE BAR & GRILL

At The Perry Hotel, Key West 70001 Shrimp Road, Key West, FL 33040 305-294-3939 perrykeywest.com Open Daily 11 am - 9 pm Just Steps From The Dock This a perfect spot to enjoy a casual lunch dockside or a frozen concoction at sunset. A short, simple menu does the trick with

perennial favorites like fresh Oysters, local

Key West Pink Shrimp, Blackened Mahi



THE FIRST MINI-GOLF IN THE KEYS

Come play 18 holes of fun in our lush, tropical mini-golf course, then hangout for lunch at the largest tiki in the Florida Keys!







OPEN-AIR RESTAURANT, BAR & SPACIOUS PATIO

GIFT SHOP: T-SHIRTS, SOUVENIRS, LOCAL ART

LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY ON OUR PATIO STAGE



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BOONDOCKSFLORIDAKEYS.COM

A Last Little Piece of Old Key West

Schooner Wharf Bar & Grill



t was in November 1984 when Paul and Evalena Worthington quietly sailed into the Key West Bight on their classic 1926 Alden Schooner Defiance. Anchored by sea battered shrimp boats and buffered by wooden shanties selling nautical wares, the rough and ramshackle harbor front was a sight to behold.

Entrepreneurs that they were, the seafaring couple immediately got to work on establishing the largest marine fuel dealership south of Miami. They also set their sights on an even bigger challenge: transforming the Key West Bight into a thriving Historic Seaport District. Their sheer resolve and hard work paid off. Schooner Wharf is now home to the largest working fleet of Schooners on the East coast.

But that's only the back story.

In 1986 - just a short two years after they arrived in Key West - they also opened the now-infamous Schooner Wharf Bar. Originally located aboard the Brigantine Diamonte, it became a floating "living room" for the colorful waterfront community.

Eventually, the Worthington's moved their boat bar ashore where a diving board served as the bar top, a filing cabinet housed the top-shelf liquor, and local marine salvage became "eclectic" decor.

Today, this last little piece of old Key West keeps getting better with time. The funky open-air bar – located on the site of the old Singleton Shrimp factory – is a beacon for both locals and visitors.

But don't be fooled by the looks of this rustic dockside "dive."

The food here may not be fancy, but it's sure damn good.

Fresh stone crab claws, peel-andeat shrimp, fresh-shucked oysters, and, of course, conch chowder and fritters headline the no-frills menu.

You can also get Schooner Wings with a choice of sauces, big chargrilled burgers, grilled or blackened fish sandwiches, and lots of other handhelds, as well as several hearty Galley Plates.

Good food, exceptional live local entertainment, and a colorful cast of customers keep this last little piece of Key West one of the island's coolest hangs.

You can find SWB at 202 William Street, on the historic Key West Harbor Front's docks, in Old Town Key West. Info: 305-292-9520; schoonerwharf.com.



Keys Eats

Sandwich and the famous "Squealer" Burger, filled with cheese and bacon. FYI: You can get 50% off straight pour premium cocktails, house wines & drafts, plus enjoy food specials during the daily 4 - 6pm Happy

SCHOONER WHARF BAR

200R Williams St.,
Key West, FL 33040
305-292-9520
schoonerwharf.com
M - Th 8 - 2 am; F - Su 7:30 - 2 am
A Last Little Piece Of Old Key West
This funky, open-air waterfront bar sits on the
docks overlooking the marina. The food and
mood are Key West casual, and the menu
has all your island favorites, including wings,
nachos, burgers, fish tacos, seafood platters,
conch fritters, pink shrimp, and more. Great
live music and two daily Happy Hours from
opening until Noon and then again from
5 - 7 pm.

STONED CRAB

Ibis BayResort 3101 N. Roosevelt Blvd, Key West, Fl 33040 305-296-1043; stonedcrab.com M - Su 11 am - 10 pm Everybody Must Get Stoned

This is the only seafood restaurant in Key West that specializes in stone crab and actually has two private fishing boats that deliver their catches straight to the restaurant's dock each day. Executive Chef and renowned foodmeister, Paul Menta, takes it from there, creating spectacular "Seafood Towers," Blackened Key West Shrimp & Grits, Stoned Lump Crab Cakes, Seafood Pastas and an array of other incredible plates. One of Key West's best.

TAVERN N' TOWN

Marriott Key West Beachside Resort 3811 N. Roosevelt Ave., Key West, FL 33041 305-296-8100 tavernntown.com Open M - Su 5 - 10 pm World-Class Dining & Entertainment

World-Class Dining & Entertainment
Key West notables dine on a fusion of
globally-inspired tapas (small plates),
designer pizzas, grilled meats, plancha
seared fish and nightly specials. Two Daily
2-4-1 Happy Hours from 5 - 7 pm and again
from 9 - 11 pm along with special Tapas
Nights every Tues & Thurs from 5 - 7 pm.
Nightly entertainment.





Jonesing for Terrific Pasta?

Mangia Mangia is a Key West Favorite

hese days, it seems like going out for a really, really good affordable dinner in Key West has become an oxymoron. In fact, for many people, the price for a night on the town can be pretty staggering.

Not so at Mangia Mangia Pasta Cafe. Renowned for the impeccable fresh homemade pasta, Old Town's cozy, unassuming corner storefront is one of Key West's best values and has been making headlines with its intoxicating preparations since 1989.

There are always several fresh daily pasta on the menu (including gluten-free). Pair your favorite with one of Mangia Mangia's made-from-scratch, herb-spiked sauces (meat, marinara, pesto, seafood,

or Alfredo), and you can't go wrong.

Or you can kick things up a notch with one of Mangia Mangia's Seafood Specialties. We especially like the Spaghettini with green-lipped New Zealand Mussels in a garlicky marina sauce; the heavenly Seafood Scampi with Maine lobster, shrimp, and lump blue crab or the fabulous Rigatoni with Jumbo Shrimp.

On top of all this are lots of House Specialties like Chicken or Mahi Piccata, Cheese Ravioli, Chicken Parmesan, and a whole lot more. The list goes on and on.

Winner of Wine Spectator's Award of Excellence, Mangia Mangia also has an impressive

wine list (over 350 bottles) with a terrific



selection under \$20.

This little gem of a restaurant has seating in its retro air-conditioned dining room or outside in the beautiful open-air, brick-floored garden. FYI: They don't take reservations, and they are one of the island's most popular restaurants, so best to get there early!

Find it at 900 Southard Street, just a few blocks from Key West's Historic Seaport.

Open nightly 5:30 - 10pm. Info: 305-294-2469; mangia-mangia.com.

Key West's Favorite Place to Get Happy

Tavern N' Town Restaurant, Bar & Tapas

here are Happy Hours and then nods from top food aficionados. The there are really "Happening" creative delectables are always changing Happy Hours. and you can easily make a meal For anyone who enjoys fine wine, out of several small plates. spirited cocktails and great food, the BTW: Dinner here is just as wonderful Happy Hour at Key West's acclaimed Tavern N' Town Stewarded by Executive is all that. Locals flock here Chef, James Jernigan, the nightly from 5 - 7 pm for the restaurant is a regular recipient of Key West's Master Chef generous 2 for 1 cocktails, and the revolving lineup of top notch Competition. A graduate of Le Cordon entertainment which regularly features Bleu, Jernigan previously traveled the island chanteuse, Carmen Rodriguez. country learning from world-renowned But what really rocks the boat is the Chefs such as Daniel Boulud, Wolfgang "7 Tapas for \$7" special. These globally Puck, and Joachim Splichal. inspired small tasting plates of gourmet Jernigan's curated menu showcases

appetizers are all artfully

prepared and elicit appreciative

chowder, as well as his own personal creations which may include local catch scampi, roast chicken breast, and prosciutto pizza. You can find Tavern N' Town at the Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel, 3811 North Roosevelt Blvd, Key West. Info: 305-296-8100; tavernntown.com.



Getting Hitched: Who Pays for What?

BRIDE & FAMILY:

- Flowers for church & reception; corsages for bridesmaids & flower girls
- Photography
- Bridesmaid Luncheon
- Reception
- Groom's Ring
- Stationery
- Wedding Transportation for bridal party

GROOM AND FAMILY

- Bride's bouquet & going away corsage; men's boutonnieres; corsages for mothers & grandmothers
- Rehearsal Dinner, Bachelor's Dinner
- Bride's Ring
- Complete Honeymoon

BRIDAL PARTY & FRIENDS

- Bridal Shower
- Bachelor Party



several Tavern N' Town originals

including prime rib, and conch



appetizers

Shrimp Bundles

large shrimp marinated in garlic, honey & lemon juice wrapped in a fresh basil leaf & prosciutto, then baked

Fried Calamari

lightly breaded with marinara sauce

Oysters On The Half Shell

Raw or steamed

Spicy Tuna Nachos

diced raw tuna marinated in soy, ginger, sesame oil & lime juice with red pepper flakes, sesame seeds and green onions. serve with

Fish House MM 102.4 Oceanside, Key Largo 305-451-4665; fishhouse.com

fried flat bread, topped with spicy mayo, avocado & seaweed salad

Steamed Mussels

in white wine and garlic butter sauce

Angels on Horseback

large sea scallops wrapped in bacon and

entrees

Fresh Catch Matecumbe

baked & topped with fresh tomatoes, shallots, basil, capers, olive oil & lemon juice

Pan Sautéed Fresh Catch

dusted with flour, dipped in egg wash & sautéed in butter, lemon & sherry

Black & Blue Fresh Catch

bleu cheese sauce with a dash of Cajun blackening seasoning, wine & garlic

Broiled or Fried Combo

catch of the day, shrimp, scallops, oysters & clam strips

Shrimp & Scallops Key Lime

large shrimp & scallops sautéed with lime juice, white wine, garlic butter, mushrooms, scallions, touch of hot sauce and served over

Chicken Breast & Baby Back Ribs Char-grilled with a 1/2 rack

Rib Eve

boneless USDA black angus grilled to taste



Grilled 16oz Certified Angus Ribeye

with onion & peppers or rosemary garlic blue

thai sweet chili butter sauce, spinach &

cheese butter

Jasmine Rice Bowl

chopped cashews

SAMPLE MENUS



starters

Yellowfin Tuna & Avocado Eggrolls with dipping sauce

Chicken Wing Lollipops

buffalo style or thai sweet chili

Roasted Heirloom Cauliflower

with green curry aioli

raw bar

fresh shucked oysters, shrimp, seasonal stone crab and lobster tail Square Grouper Islamorada MM 80.4, Gulfside Islamorada 305-745-8880; squaregrouperbarandgrill.com

sandwiches

House Specialty Burger

house onion rings & BBQ sauce

Square Grouper Sandwich

pan-sauteed, topped with house onion rings & key lime tartar

Filet Mignon Sliders

horseradish sauce, house onion rings

house specialties

Seared Sea Scallops

roasted acorn squash, warm bacon mushroom vinaigrette

Square Grouper Seafood Stew

sautéed local fish, scallops, shrimp, calamari, sweet & spicy tomato broth

Pepita & Parmesan Encrusted **Chicken Cutlet**

with basil vinaigrette & lemon

SAMPLE MENUS —



to share

Morada Bay Chicken Wings

island guava chipotle bbq sauce, crispy onions, cojita cheese, pickled sweet peppers, cilantro

Tuna Tataki

seared & sliced atlantic yellowfin tuna, sesame wakame salad, shaved white daikon, sweet sesame ponzu

Thai Mahi Fingers

flat crispy panko atlantic mahi mahi, sweet chile glaze, tropical fruit salsa, sriracha, sesame seeds

from land to sea

"Fish & Chips" Morada Style

crispy tempura catch of the day, mandarin coconut slaw, crispy chip

Morada Bay Keys Beach Cafe & Bar 81600 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 305-664-0604; moradabaykeys.com

Big Boy BBQ Beach Burger

ground ribeye, brisket, short rib blend, buttery kaiser bun, crispy dill house pickle chips, hydroponic leaf lettuce, heirloom beefsteak tomato, aged white cheddar, applewood smoked bacon

Turkey Club

roasted turkey breast, havarti, alfalfa sprouts, applewood smoked bacon, avocado smash, spiced chipotle aioli, wheat bread.

Lobster Sliders

kings hawaiian bun, green papaya "kimchee," frisee lettuce, zesty fruit salsa, lemon aioli

Key West Pink Shrimp Scampi

key west pinks, shaved sweet garlic, key lime butter sauce over al dente linguine

Day Boat Local Fish Sando

blackened fish of the day, crispy shaved iceberg, ripe tomato, red onion, creole remoulade, soft hoagie roll

Herb Garlic Marinated Churrasco Steak

chimichurri sauce, coconut rice, black beans, crispy yucca, chipotle aioli, aguacate mash



SAMPLE MENUS —



Atlantic's Edge at Cheeca Lodge & Spa 81801 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada 305-517-4447; cheeca.com

starters

Maryland Jumbo Crab Cakes

whole grain mustard aioli

Colossal Shrimp Cocktail

poached jumbo gulf shrimp, coconut cocktail sauce, creole mustard caper remoulade, tropical salsa

Crispy Brussels Sprouts

crushed marcona almonds, toasted coconut, sriracha lime glaze

Broiled Octopus

garlic & cuttlefish ink hummus, local roasted tomato, new potato, lemon olive oil

Suma Spiced Duck Breast

mixed berry gastrique, crushed pistachio, sour green apple chip, cocoa nibs

Hand-Cut USDA

Prime Beef

12oz NY Strip Loin peppercorn burgundy reduction

10oz Filet Mignon classic demi-alace

14oz Rib-Eye sauce bordelaise

entrees

Broiled Warm Water Lobster Tail

silky yellow potato puree, braised cipollini onion, chargrilled lemon, key lime beurre blanc, seasonal vegetable, drawn butter

Seared Jumbo Shrimp & Scallops

pan-fried seared chorizo, lime zest, mango, butter sauce, shaved chiles

Seared Fennel-Dusted Mahi With Clams

coconut cilantro rice, saffron fumet, butter poached littleneck clams, sweet southern florida tomatoes with shaved fennel bulb salad

Pan Roasted Chicken Breast

young fingerling potato rosti, citrus chicken jus, grilled asparagus



SAMPLE MENUS



to share

Deviled Eggs with Scallops

island topped with seared scallops & signature lobster sauce

Shrimp Mango Toast

key west shrimp, fresh garlic, scallion & caper aioli with fresh parsley, and a touch of red chili, crispy toasted mango bread

Key West Shrimp With Lobster

key west shrimp with Maine lobster stuffing & key lime, tamarind and honey sauce

Lobster Roll Profiteroles

classic lobster roll filling served inside delicate house made profiteroles

Red Shoe Island Bistro 411 Petronia Street Key West, Fl 305-509-7271; redshoeislandbistro.com

entrees

Seared Scallops

wild caught cold water scallops, key lime ginger sauce, roasted walnuts. Served with a baked ricotta and feta spinach torte with pine nuts

Yellow Tail Snapper

sautéed tender filet with lemon & parsley sauce, risotto topped with parmesan, and sautéed asparagus.

Key West Pink Shrimp In Red Chili Pepper Sauce

sautéed with fresh, sweet & spicy red chili pepper sauce & fresh basil over a bed of risotto

Seafood Medley

fresh pasta, scallops, Prince Edward Island mussels, and Key West Pink shrimp. Served with a tomato, shallot, and boursin sauce

Fish of the Day with Grilled Key West Pink Shrimp on Arepa

local sautéed filet, sherry lobster sauce & Key West pink shrimp on arepa

Beef Stroganoff

certified black Angus skirt steak in a reduction sauce with a touch of sour cream with baby portobello mushrooms over fresh pasta



NEST

K, so here you are, ready to snatch up your own little piece of Paradise. But here's the big question: "Which Key is right for you?"

Our 125 mile-long subtropical island chain consists of more than 1700 islands, many of which offer unique opportunities for investing in real estate.

Known as "The Dive Capital Of The World," **Key Largo** is the first and northernmost Key of the Florida Keys and although it's only about an hour's drive from South Florida's two major airports, this funky spot is a world away and a perfect Key to hang your flip flops.

Just south of Key Largo is Islamorada, aka "The Sportfishing Capital of The World" where backcountry sport fishing and saltwater fly fishing were pioneered. Quiet and upscale, it's also one of the Keys' top dining destinations.

Often referred to as "The Keys Boating & Family Destination," Marathon, boasts homey resorts, luxury accommodations, marinas and the conveniences of a modern community, airport, golf course and plenty of shops while retaining the charm of its roots as a 19th-century fishing village.

Big Pine & The Lower Keys is the Keys' "Eco-Destination" and home to two national wildlife refuges including the National Key Deer Rescue - a safe haven for the miniature Key deer. Things are very laidback here and it's a perfect place to live

Located closer to Cuba than to Miami, **Key West** is Florida's irreverent

the "Old Keys" lifestyle.

southernmost subtropical paradise where Gingerbread mansions share palm-studded streets with tin-roofed "Conch" houses. It's unique confluence of history, climate, natural beauty, cultural diversity, architecture and unabashed romantic appeal makes it a colorful place to set

down roots.

SAMPLE MENUS



starters

Sweet to Heat Island Mussels

coconut red curry sauce,tomato, onion,crispy leeks, french baguette

Seared Peppercorn Tuna

char grilled sliced oranges, orange balsamic glaze, green onion garnish

Havana Wings

with your choice hot, mild, guava, bbq,or special sauce

"House Favorite" TNT Shrimp

tempura beer battered with boom boomsauce

Havana Jack's Oceanside Restaurant & Bar 401 E. Ocean Dr Key Colony Beach MM 53.5 305-281-0071; havanajacksoceanside.com

handhelds

HJ Beach Burger

8 oz usda choice ground beef patty, LTO &choice of cheese on brioche bun

Captain's Fish Sandwich

grilled, blackened or fried with LTO on brioche bun

Pollo Caribbean Sandwich

caribbean spiced grilled chicken breast, spinach, red peppers, onion, brioche bun

signature entrees

Citrus Beurre Blanc

fresh pan-seared fish or chicken, lemon caper beurre blanc sauce

Char-Grilled 140z Ribeye

grilled to taste with truffled herb butter

Coconut-Mango Mahi

coconut encrusted, tropical salsa, rice, spinach

Chicken Havana

sautéed chicken breast, white wine citrus butter, tomato, red onion, capers, penne

Shrimp Jacques Entree

caribbean jerk shrimp, cilantro mango broth, citrus cilantro gremolata







The Lisa Ferringo Group **Coldwell Banker**

Schmitt Real Estate Co 29967 Overseas Hwy Big Pine Key, Fl 33042 305-797-1221 UniqueKeysHomes.com Call for Hours

#1 Agent in the Keys #1 Office Broker/Associate Lisa Ferringo is the Kevs #1 Real Estate Agent for residential properties and has been bringing buyers and sellers together for almost 30 years. From Prime building lots and single family homes to duplexes, investment properties and luxury waterfront estates, Lisa and her team of real estate professionals never stop moving.

Rent Key West Vacations

1075 Duval Street, C-11 Kev West, FL 33040 305-294-0990 rentkeywest.com Curated Vacation Properties This is who to call when you're searching

for that perfect Key West vacation rental. Rent Key West Vacations can hook you up with some of Key West's most discriminating condos, cottages, and historic homes. Their curated collection of top properties have fully equipped kitchens, linens and laundry facilities. Many also come complete with private pools, hot tubs and tennis courts. For the lowest rates possible, book directly with Key West's vacation rental experts.

Terri Spottswood **Truman & Company**

1205 Truman Ave. Kev West, Fl 33041 305-587-3407 terrispottswood.com Call for hours Winner of Key West's Top Producer Award Key West's preeminent real estate professional, Terri Spottswood and her team have been setting new records each year and have consistently earned the "Top Producer" Award for several years. Nationally recognized, Terri has also achieved the most distinguished awards of "Chairman's Circle" and "Leaend." She and her associates continue to break new ground by providing top rated services.

OTHER AREAS

Haley Rose Team KEY

Edge Realty

1007 Boston Neck Rd. Narragansett, RI 02882 508-930-8317 haleyroserealtor@gmail.com Discover Another Piece of Paradise Haley Rose can introduce you to another wonderful piece of paradise where sweet summer breezes and over 400 miles of coastline make it a top destination for beach lovers. The Keys are a wonderful place to hang your flip flops but if you're looking for a unique summer community in one of the most

beautiful states in New England, Haley can

show you lots of great options.







With 400 miles of coastline, Rhode Island boasts some of the most beautiful properties in New England. Whether looking for a part-time getaway or permanent move, I can help you find the perfect place. Let me hustle so you don't have to!

> **Contact Haley Rose** 401-783-1007 | HaleyRoseRealtor@gmail.com Edge Realty 1007 Boston Neck Rd., Narragansett, RI 02882

Presented by The Lisa Ferringo Group



1055 122nd St Ocean, \$10,900,000

Palatial Modern Masterpiece with Ocean Views and incomparable amenities! The Ocean Front 6BR/6. 5BA 8,919 sq. ft. home features 90' dock, 20k boat lift, and kayak launch. Turquoise Ocean Views are the focal point of the massive great room. Sunset Views from several verandas, overlooking the resort-style pool and the Open Ocean beyond!



17024 Green Turtle Lane W., Sugarloaf Key \$4,495,000

Captivating 25,000 sq. ft. point lot boasting stunning sunsets over Open Water! The property comprises a 3/3 plus loft main house, 1/1 Guest House, and a detached 2-car garage. Large boat basin with two boat lifts just steps from gorgeous lagoon-style waterfront heated/chilled pool and waterfall. Open Floor Plan with ample turquoise water views



1008 Calico Jack Cir., Cudjoe Key \$3,199,000 Waterfront modern paradise with Open Water Views! This immaculate home has been expertly updated with exceptional finishes and amenities, Enjoy 65' of dockage on a deep-water canal with immediate access to world-class fishing. Bright open concept floor plan boasts stunning panoramic Ocean Views and masterfully designed chef's kitchen.



4500 Filer Cove Rd, Big Torch Kev \$5,999,000 This private 4 BR/4BA Estate with over 2,000 ft. of waterfront epitomizes Luxury Living in the Florida Keys. Situated on over 12 picturesque acres, featuring guest house, separate boat house and 65' concrete dock, a true boater's paradise!



57805 Morton St., Marathon \$4,999,000 Tropical Bayfront Estate on 2 Jushly landscaped private acres. Main House, Guest House, Pool, Pool Apartment, Storage Building, Dock, Boat Basin, Boat Ramp, and UNBELIEVABLE never-ending turquoise sea views! Ideal location and superb Open Water boating access!



82 Tingler Lane, Marathon \$3,999,000 Sprawling retreat on an oversized lot, with pool, private sandy beach, and Open Water Views! Expansive dock for deep-draft boating adventures, just minutes to excellent fishing and diving. Impressive split floorplan, generous tiki hut and spacious covered patio, ideal for entertaining!



58618 Overseas Hwy., Marathon \$3,395,000 Nestled on over a half an acre lot, this spectacular property encompasses an elevated island lifestyle, boasting a endless Open Water Views! Inside, the sprawling interior features 4 generous bedrooms and 4.5 bathrooms. An expansive veranda on the second level offers spectacular views of the sparkling pool, private beach, and turquoise water beyond!



948 Gulf Dr., Summerland Key \$2,399,000 Stunning retreat on a picturesque, deep-water canal with no bridge access to world class boating! Move-in ready with high end finishes throughout, this home is flooded with natural light and features a breathtaking chef's kitchen, spacious covered patio, and two observation decks. 75' of concrete dock space with boat lift and davits!



19527 Indian Mound Dr., Sugarloaf Key \$2,399,000

Stunning Retreat with private sandy beach, sparkling pool, and sprawling dockage! Enjoy elevated seaside living with a resort feel and jaw-dropping Views of the Open Water. Dine al fresco and take in the sea breezes from the screened-in patio or relax in the back yard oasis, complete with in-ground pool, private beach, and lush tropical landscaping.



The Lisa Ferringo Group 305-797-1221 LisaFerringo.com

Specializing in Luxury **Water Front Properties!**





Amazing double lot property offers a harmonious blend of sophistication & comfort! Huge 3BD/3BA Main House meticulously updated throughout, chef's kitchen, impact windows, + 2BD 2BA Guest House, huge lush yard, pool w/ waterfall.

5BD/5BA | 3,130sf | 9,409sf Lot \$3.900.000



Terri Spottswood Broker

Truman & Co. 305-587-3407 terrispottswood.com



2600 PATTERSON AVENUE

Looking to retire in KW? Buy now & lease it for 3-5 years! This property offers a private tropical retreat w/ elegant dining room, 2nd floor sundeck, poolside loggia, pool w/ orchid laced rock waterfall, storage shed. Close to all the attractions! 3BD/2BA | 1,673sf | 5,000sf Lot \$1,425,000



1300 SEMINARY STREET

Tropical luxury! Spacious 2 story open concept with a seamless indoor/ outdoor flow, huge covered lanai overlooking waterfall pool & lush landscaping, 1st floor primary, cathedral ceiling, renovated kitchen. 3BD/3.5BA | 1,485sf | 5,002sf Corner Lot \$2,200,000



410 LOUISA STREET

Best location for Old Town KW living near the Southernmost Point! Built in 2002, tastefully appointed, huge primary suite, tropical backyard w/ covered lanai, heated/chilled pool, tiki hut, fully fenced w/ off St. pkg

3BD/3BA | 2,002sf | 3,017sf Lot \$2,945,000



5 AMARYLLIS DRIVE

A home for you & your boat! Well appointed turnkey canal front home in desirable Key Haven. One level, FL room, gazebo w/ full outdoor kitchen & Lynx grill, heated saltwater pool w/ waterfall. Quick access to Atlantic & Gulf! 3BD/3BA | 1,802sf | 6,000sf Lot \$1,799,000



408 WILLIAM STREET

Newly renovated historic home on a coveted Old Town street! Character rich 3 story w/ versatile floor plan, new kitchen & appliances, heart pine floors, 4 porches, jacuzzi. True KW landmark, awarded 2 stars from the Historical FL Keys Foundation.

4-5BD/3BA | 1,943sf | 2,700sf Lot \$3,100,000



3820 EAGLE AVENUE

Exquisitely appointed residence on huge lushly landscaped lot! One level w/ in-law's quarters, gourmet kitchen w/Viking appliances, granite & walnut floors, floor to ceiling windows overlooking pool, waterfalls, entertainment gazebo.

5BD/5.5BA | 4,202sf | 18,000sf Lot \$3,950,000



Terri Spottswood Experience... the difference Terri@terrispottswood.com Terrispottswood.com

305-587-3407

1205 Truman Avenue, Key West FL 33040



Relax · Indulge · Return



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explore historic landmarks
take in fun tourist favorites
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UNICOM 122.975 MARATHON, FL 305-743-1995

https://www.millionair.com/locations/mth

