**SUMMER 2024** 

Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide

# DESTINATION IN FLORIDA

# ART + CULTURE

Award-Winning Photographer, Alan Maltz Captures the Magic

> Splash & Rock! 40th Annual Underwater Music Festival

# **KEYS EATS**

The Islands' Top Tables, Restaurant Reviews, Recipes & More!

**FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST** 

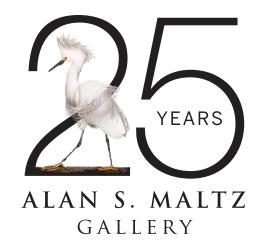


# FLORA & FAUNA

Early Artists/Naturalists in Florida









BLUE HEAVEN ALAN S. MALTZ

# 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 by this Fall.

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**

Created by award-winning photographer, Alan Maltz, "Dramatic Ending" captures the magic and romance of the Keys. Renowned for his style and vision, Maltz has been designated as the Official Fine Art Photographer by Visit Florida and as the Official Wildlife Photographer of Florida by the Wildlife Foundation of Florida. You can see more of Maltz's astounding work on pages 6 and 7; and read more about him on page 10. But for a real treat, stop by his amazing gallery and studio in Key West. Now celebrating 25 years, the Alan S Maltz Gallery showcases his 40 year collection of Florida imagery. Discover it all at 1210 Duval Street. Info: 305-294-0005; alanmaltz.com.





Race Ready, 50" x 40" Oil on Linen

### **PETER VEY**

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

# Noteworthy Art Galleries



| nternational 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

### **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 Kev West, Fl 33040 954-232-7248; seasisterislandgallery.com Call for Hours

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.

### **Shade Ceramics and Shutter** Photography

1102 White St 305-767-3769 shadeandshutterkeywest.com Open M - Sa 11 am - 5 pm Contemporary Artisan Ceramics & Fine Art Photography

Key West: This sleek, contemporary gallery and working studio is home to celebrated potter, Mark Klammer and acclaimed nature photographer, Sarah Carleton. The two awardwinning artists share a vision for simplicity in each of their own unique designs. Klammer creates modern functional ceramics which are so very unique and deliciously different from traditional pottery. Carleton's vibrant nature photography artfully captures her distinctive interpretation of what some may consider to be ordinary. Her large format prints preserved on recycled aluminum are especially stunning.

# Art & Cultural Happenings

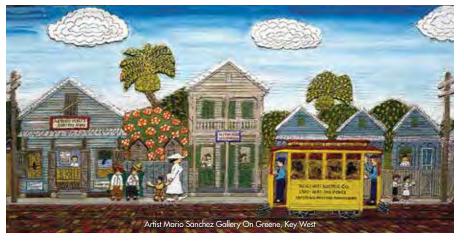
Please confirm details with event organizers or venues in case of changes or cancellations.

# 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.

### The Alan Maltz Collection

Key West: As the official wildlife and fine art photographer for the State of Florida, Alan Maltz's 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.

### **ONGOING**

### Daily EXHIBITION: The 1622 Tierra Firme Fleet - An Account of the Disaster and the People

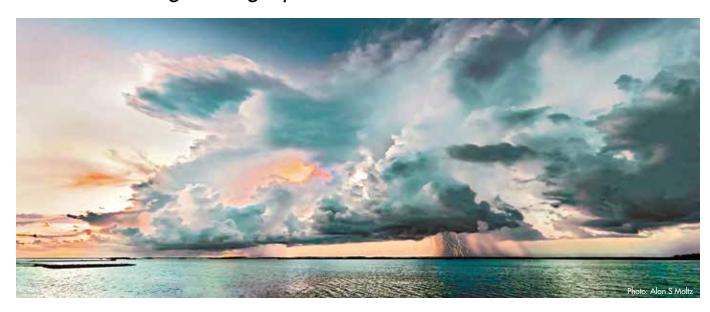
Key West: This fascinating exhibit centers on the Spanish Tierra Firme fleet, struck by a hurricane in 1622 - one day after it had left Havana, Cuba. You'll learn all about the details of the disaster and the people on the galleons, Nuestra Señora de Atocha and Santa Margarita. The ship's sinking resulted in hundreds of people being killed and valuable cargo dashed to the bottom of the sea. On view daily from 10 am - 4 pm at the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St. Info: 305-294-2633; melfisher.org.

continued on page 12



# The Artist Behind Our Cover -

# Award-Winning Photographer Alan Maltz



ere's the thing about awardwinning photographer Alan Maltz: He's a total romantic.

Take a closer look at his stunning photograph, "Dramatic Ending," gracing the cover of our summer issue of DESTINATION FLORIDA. Or, for that matter, peruse any of Maltz's other works. His photographs effuse deep emotion and envelope you with the artist's visionary magic.

Whether capturing nature's allure or everyday life's subtleties, this self-taught prodigy never uses shortcuts to achieve virtuosity.

Instead, he simply follows the light.

The funny thing is that becoming a professional photographer never crossed Alan Maltz's mind. But then, something extraordinary happened at his college graduation.

He heard this "Voice." A Voice that resonated from deep within and whispered four simple words: "Pick up a camera."

The message was clear and insistent.

The young Maltz was awe-stricken. Having just graduated with a degree in psychology, Maltz had absolutely no inclination toward art. Heck, he had never even taken a photo in all of his young life. Still, the "Voice's" message continued to resonate: "Pick up a camera."

Maltz and his friends headed overseas the following day for a celebratory graduation trip. Carefully stowed in his carry-on bag was a shiny new Miranda Sensorex camera.

During the long transatlantic flight to France, Maltz tutored himself on the camera's inner workings. By the time his plane touched down in Paris, Maltz was eager to start shooting. His first photo, "Meeting in Marseilles," marked the official start of a four-month "Photo Safari."

Once he returned stateside, Maltz reviewed the collection of photos from



his journey. That moment changed the trajectory of his life forever. The now budding photographer suddenly understood the mystical instruction propagated by "The Voice." It was an epiphany that revealed Maltz's true calling

Early in his career as a photographer,
Alan Maltz made a critical decision
to make Florida his life's work. Today,
he is "Florida's Official Wildlife & Fine
Art Photographer". He has nearly four
decades of images in his expanding
collection of Florida Art.

Working from his Duval Street Gallery & Studio in the heart of Old Town, Key West, Alan Maltz oversees all aspects of business operations, including gallery management, corporate and residential projects, and the never-ending creation of new works of art. Quality control is paramount for Maltz, who credits much of his success to his wife, Leslie, his talented staff, and the "Higher Power" within us all.

Now celebrating 25 years, the Alan S Maltz Gallery is a sight to behold. See for yourself at 1210 Duval Street. Info: 305-294-0005; alanmaltz.com.

# A Life Changing Trip to Key West

# Shade Ceramics and Shutter Photography

// want to go on a trip that will change my life." That simple, decorative sentence forever changed the lives of Mark Klammer and Sarah Carleton.

It was over a decade ago in the dead of winter. The couple's tiny hamlet in upstate NY lay draped in icicles when Sarah suggested a trek to Key West.

suggested a trek to Key West. And, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

Soon thereafter, these two award-winning artists laid down their island roots and opened a working art gallery.

Specializing in contemporary artisan ceramics and fine art photography, Mark and Sarah aptly named their new digs *Shade Ceramics*  and Shutter Photography.

Mark, a celebrated potter, now focuses on sculpting functional ceramics. Modern shapes and rustic finishes are his hallmarks. One of his most popular designs is the eclectic Key West mug. Crafted by hand,

each piece is uniquely
its own, with
slight variations
in color and size.
The mugs are food-safe,
microwave-safe, oven-safe,
and dishwasher-safe.
Sarah, an acclaimed nature

photographer, is renowned for her vibrant nature photography. Her distinctive interpretations artfully turn the ordinary

into the extraordinary. Especially stunning are Sarah's large format prints, which she preserves on recycled aluminum.

Shade Ceramics and Shutter Photography is open M - Sa from 11 am - 5 pm at 1102 White St, Key West. Info: 305-767-3769; shadeandshutterkeywest.com.



Contemporary artisan ceramics and fine art photography

Crafted in Key West





1102 White St, Key West

305-767-3769

shadeandshutterkeywest.com

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### Art & Cultural Happenings

### **EXHIBITION: Beneath the Surface -**People of the Spanish Fleet of 1622

Key West: Comprised of the Nuestra Señora de Atocha, Santa Margarita, Buen Jesús, and the Nuestra Señora del Rosario, the Spanish Fleet of 1622 carried people from various populations and castes — both free and enslaved. This diverse group of travelers paints a vivid picture of the communities and relationships being formed in the Americas. This exhibit explores their stories, and many objects on display can be linked to specific individuals. On view daily from 10 am - 4 pm at the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, 200 Greene St. Info: 305-294-2633; melfisher.org.



### Monday - Tuesday (Now - June 25)

### 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 Key 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. Call for July schedule. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

### **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 beain at 10:30 and continue throughout the day, with the last showing at 4 pm. Takes place Tu - Sa 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.

### Tuesday - Sunday

### **EXHIBITION: Florida Keys First People**

Islamorada: Utilizing a mixture of artifacts and firsthand early European accounts, this intriguing exhibit tells the story of a people who called these islands home more than

> 1,000 years ago. Takes place Tu - Su from 10 am -5 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy, on the property of the Islander Resort. Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

### Tuesday - Sunday

### **EXHIBITION: 1733 Spanish Fleet**

Islamorada: Ravished by a September hurricane off the coast of the Upper Keys, the 1733 Spanish treasure fleet was one of the famous wrecks that sank in the shallows from Key Largo to Key Vaca. Here, you can explore the routes used by Spanish sailors and learn about the backstories of the doomed ships. Original artifacts, including Spanish coins from 1732, are also

on display. Takes place Tu - Su from 10 am - 5 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy, on the property of the Islander Resort. Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com

### Tuesday - Sunday

### **EXHIBITION: Pirates, Wreckers and** Salvagers

Islamorada: From the alleged exploits of Black Caesar, the Keys' most famous pirate, to Captain Ben Baker, the King of the Florida Wreckers, this engaging exhibit delves into the facts and fiction of those men who plied their trade along the dangerous Florida Reef. See it Tu - Su from 10 am - 5 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy on the Islander Resort property. Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

### **MONTHLY**

### **Third Wednesday**

### **Immerse Yourself!**

Islamorada: Islamorada/Virtual: This free monthly presentation occurs 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. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

### First Thursday

### **Open House At The Studios**

Key West: See the newest works in TSKW galleries, 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.org.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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

### **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. Takes place from 6 - 9 pm. Info: 305-304-9001; shoplocalkeywest.com.

### **Second Saturday**

### I Love Stock Island Art Stroll

Key West/Stock Island: Local artists showcase sculptures, woodworking, mosaics, screen printing, soaps, fabric art, and more at several locations around Stock Island. It takes place from 11am to 5 pm at the Stock Island Arts District. Info: 305-731-5780; ILoveStockIsland.org.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS** Now - May12

### **Exhibition: Adam Russel & Kelly Lever**

Key West: The creative power couple behind Key West Pottery takes a few steps off Duval Street for their annual gallery outing with collaborative works in mixed media. Takes place daily from noon - 5 pm at Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

### Now - May 30

### **Exhibition: Old Town Revival - Andy** Thurber and Sean P Dwyer

Key West: Beloved Conch artist Andy Thurber and relative newcomer Sean Dwyer employ their distinct styles for an exhibit of local scenes dripping with color and charm. See it every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

### Now - May 30

# **Exhibition: Florida Room - Anthony**

Key West: Artist Anthony Mancuso focuses on how domestic spaces fit into Florida's light and landscape, distorting and rendering them with unnatural colors to convey the

psychological experience of the Sunshine State. On display every Tu - Sa from 10 am -4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

### Now - May 30

### **Exhibition: Intricate Emotion - Chelsi**

Kev West: Artist Chelsi Smith's silkscreens begin with photographs of the human face, abstracting the images with paint and gilding to evoke the complexity and universality of human emotion. See it every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458: tskw.org.

### Now - May 30

### **Exhibition:** Immersed, Implanted, and Submerged - Renee Lai

Key West: A multimedia artist and endurance swimmer, Renee Lai traces her body navigating water onto paintings to evoke where the body meets the world as a metaphor for boundary blurring. On display every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

### Now - July 30

### 14th Annual Art In the Garden

Key West: This unique outdoor exhibit intertwines original art with local flora and fauna. Showcasing thirty large pieces from local artists, each piece is made from recycled materials and fits seamlessly into the natural beauty of the forest. Takes place daily from 10am - 4pm at the Key West Tropical Forest

& Botanical Garden. 5210 College Rd. For more info and a complete list of events, call 305-296-1504; Keywest.garden.

### **Now - 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 unique exhibition introduces you to some 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.

### Happy Hour with the Historian: **Crossing the Florida Straits: 150 Years** of Cuban Migration to South Florida

Key West: Historian Cori Convertito, Ph.D., explores Cuban immigration to the US beginning in the middle and latter part of the 19th century. During this time, workers moved freely between Florida and the island, and the trade in tobacco, sugar, coffee, and rum was lucrative. When Fidel Castro led a revolution

in 1959, he launched a new era of mass emigration from his country

to the US. The event 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.

### May 15

### **OPENING: Immerse** Yourself! Salvaging the

Islamorada: World-record-holding aguanaut and retired US Navy CDR Dr. Joe Dituri shares stories of his life as an aquanaut and of living underwater for an incredible 100 days. His compelling presentation kicks off the new limited-time exhibit. Salvaging the Deep. The exhibit delves into some of the deepest wrecks in the oceans and tells the incredible story of finding, researching, and salvaging them. The in-person talk is at 7 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org. continued on page 14

Art In The Garden, Key West Tropical Forest

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### Art & Cultural Happenings



set the stage for many movies. Even after most

films still included some scenes shot in Florida.

studios had agne to the West Coast, many

Today, Florida is the third largest movie

industry in the country. It is home to major

studios like Universal, Disney, and MGM.

See this fun exhibit daily from 9:30 am -

4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum,

281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616;

**Exhibition: Mango Madness -**

**Annual Members Exhibition** 

Key West: Mangoes fill our trees

with their weight, thumping to the

ground in summer to be gathered,

like golden currency. This annual

summer exhibition is a bounty of

creativity in every form and style

imaginable - from the artists who

them. Opens on Th, June 6 from

inspire us and the island that inspires

6 - 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa

from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios

of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info:

**Opening: Rodel Gonzalez** 

Key West: Tropical Seascape

- Coastal & Oceanic

Surrealism artist Rodel

Gonzalez is known for

shadows, details in

As a world-renowned

Disney and Star Wars

artist, Gonzalez is also

a master of depicting

seas and ships. Takes

his interplay of light and

expressions and structures.

305-296-0458; tskw.com.

July 12 - 14

**Collections** 

enjoyed, and shared with neighbors

each spring until they grow pregnant

kwahs.org.

June 6 - July 25

### May 15 - December 31

### Salvaging the Deep

Islamorada: This new limited-time exhibit. which focuses on diving history, explores the world's deepest wrecks and how they got there. You'll have an opportunity to explore some of the world's deepest wrecks and discover what is needed to recover and study them. This exhibit also delves into some of the deepest wrecks in the oceans and tells the incredible story of finding, researching, and salvaging these wrecks. Takes place daily from 10 am - 5 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

### May 17 - June 9

### **Exhibition: Cathy Rose**

Key West: Delighting collectors from coast to coast and a Key West favorite for over 20 years, New Orleans-based artist and gallerist Cathy Rose returns with her signature work in assemblage along with paintings inspired by Southern Primitive and Outsider art. The opening reception is on Friday, May 17, from 5-7pm. It takes place daily from noon to 5 pm at Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

### May 18 - 19

### **Opening: Alicia Zemanek**

Key West: An international award-winning artist, Alicia Zemanek is renowned for her riveting wildlife, marine, and coastal oil paintings. Her masterful brush strokes exude depth and transparency, while her classic age-old alazing techniques add an unusual jewel-like finish, making her pieces all the more unique. Takes place from 11 am - 6 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIsland-Gallery.com.

### June - September

### **Exhibition: Beaches, Creatures & Cowboys - Florida's Movie Posters**

Key West: In the early days of movie-making,

place from 11 am - 6 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIslandGallerv.com.

### June 14 - 16

### Opening: Michael DeWulf — Floating In

Key West: Sensual hyper-realism is the hallmark of Florida artist Michael DeWulf, who is a man of many mediums. Beautifully orchestrated, his airbrush, acrylic, gouache, and oil paintings evoke feelings of sensuality, love, unity, hope, and eternity. Takes place from 11 am - 6 pm at SeaSister Island Gallery, 303 Duval St. Info: 954-232-7248; SeaSisterIslandGallery.com.

### June 19

### **Immerse Yourself! Hunting the Invasive** Lionfish

Islamorada: Captain Tony Young, lionfish hunter and diver extraordinaire, talks about the effects of the invasive lionfish on the Florida Keys and the success of the conservation efforts to control their population. This in-person presentation takes place at 7 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.

### **Immerse Yourself! Scientific Exploration: Diving Into** Volcanoes

Islamorada: Host Eric Wartenweiler Smith, the scientific diver, and explorer, shares his adventures of diving into crater lakes high in the Andes Mountains to research the origins of life. This in-person presentation takes place at 7 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

### November 22 - 26

### **Cuba Art Tour**

Key West: Owner and Director of Key West's renowned Gallery on Greene. Nance Frank knows Cuba like the back of her hand. Her personalized tours to Cuba take you the most cutting-edge artist studios in Cuba where you'll have an opportunity to meet with local artists and discuss their work. The comprehensive package includes airfare, hotel, and visas Some meals are also included in an averagesize group tour. Info: 305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com.

# Worth the Stop - Rain or Shine!

# Immerse Yourself at the History of Diving Museum



ome to the world's most extensive collection of diving helmets, hand-operated air pumps, armored suits, lights, and other accessory gear, The History of Diving Museum is a treasure trove of

memorabilia. prints, photos, books, film, video, and more

The Museum has 14 permanent exhibits reflecting over 4.000 years of "the quest to explore under the sea." With interactive

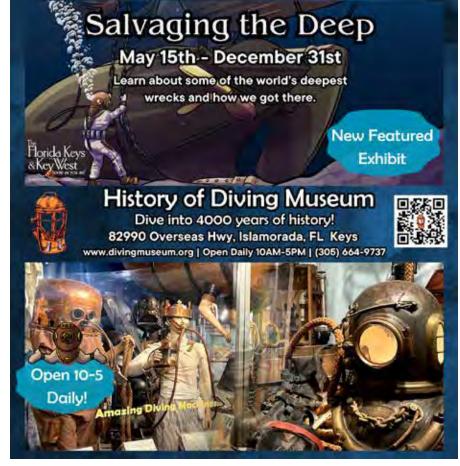
displays, a fun scavenger hunt, and an international collection that showcases equipment and pioneers worldwide, The History of Diving Museum will keep you riveted for hours.

Oh, and get this: the Museum stages its highly popular "Immerse Yourself!" series on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. This free presentation features guest speakers covering topics from all aspects of the diving industry and marine environment. Coming up: Salvaging the Deep (May 15), Hunting the Invasive Lionfish (June 19), and Diving Into Volcanoes (July 17).

Whatever the weather, the History of Diving Museum belongs on your Florida Keys' Bucket List — rain or shine!

You can find The History of Diving Museum at 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83 Bayside) in Islamorada. Open daily, 10 am - 5 pm. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.





The Studios, Key West 14 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide SUMMER 2024 15



# **MUSEUMS**

### **UPPER KEYS**

# Florida Keys History & Discovery

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**

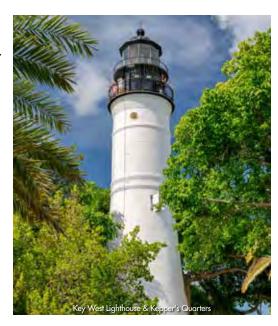
82990 Overseas Hwy,

Islamorada, FL. MM 83, Bayside N 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org Exhibits and Museum Store Open Daily 10 am - 5 pm A "Must-See" for Divers & Non-Divers Alike Dedicated to telling the international story of "the quest to explore under the sea," this fascinating museum contains 4,000 years of diving history: from breath-hold diving to modern SCUBA and the South Florida connection to this untold story. You'll get to see permanent exhibits like Improbable Early Diving Inventions, Deep Sea Diving In the Abyss, and The Parade of Nations, an international collection that displays helmets from every country that ever made one. There's also an extensive line-up of many limited-time revolving exhibits, scavenger hunts, special events and more.

### MIDDIF 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 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 Kevs birds.

### KFY WFST

### **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 Hemingway, 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

### **Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's** Quarters

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 through threats of war and weather.

### Mel Fisher Maritime Museum

200 Greene Street Key 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 Florida.

### **Tennessee Williams Museum**

513 Truman Ave Key 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, firstedition 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 Key West, Fl 33040 305-294-0209; keywesturtlemuseum.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.



# Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Museum

200 GREENE STREET KEY WEST, FLORIDA WWW.MELFISHER.ORG 305.294.2633







"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"





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# From Flora & Fauna to Beaches, Creatures & Cowboys:

Creativity Abounds at The Custom House Museum



nchoring Mallory Square's historic seaport, the Key West

Museum of Art

& History at the Custom House is as stunning a sight today as it was when it opened in 1891. Originally home to the island's customs office, postal service, and district courts, this four-story architectural marvel now boasts two floors of exhibitions that weave

together two centuries of history, art, people, and events.

In addition to the many fascinating permanent exhibits on display, you can also treat yourself to two exceptional temporary exhibitions that are particularly outstanding

Now through Sunday, September 15, **Flora &** 

Fauna is a unique exhibition that introduces you to some amazing naturalists working in the Florida Territory in the early nineteenth century. 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.

Starting on Friday, May 31, the Custom House Museum is also exhibiting a "fun in the sun" exhibit entitled "Beaches, Creatures & Cowboys: Florida's Movie Posters."

In the early days of moviemaking, Florida's sunshine, palm

trees, and beaches set the stage for many movies. Even after most studios had gone to the West Coast, many films still included some scenes shot in Florida.

Today, Florida is the third largest movie industry in the country. It is home to major studios like Universal, Disney, and MGM. This temporary exhibit of Florida's film posters runs through Friday, August 30.

Opening on Thursday, June 6, from 6 - 8 pm and running through Thursday, July 25 is the highly anticipated "Mango Madness." Mangoes fill our trees each spring until they grow pregnant with their weight, thumping to the ground in summer to be gathered, enjoyed, and shared with neighbors like golden currency. This annual Members Exhibition is a bounty of creativity in every form and style imaginable: from the artists who inspire us and the island that inspires them.

The museum also includes several other permanent exhibitions, including Tennessee Williams - The Playwright and the Painter, Overseas to The Keys-Henry Flagler's Overseas Railway, Depicting Hemingway, and many more.

You can flip-flop on over to see all of these fantastic exhibits from 9:30 am -4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.





# Key West's Coolest Cats

Jazz In The Gardens



f you're looking for a night of great music, fabulous wines, stylish

cocktails and
hanging out with
the most interesting
people, you need
to check out "Jazz In The
Gardens."

A "favorite hang for the local jazz cognoscenti" this free weekly music series takes place every Sunday from 5:30 - 7 pm (October - June) at Key West's luxe Gardens Hotel.

Once the largest private estate in Key West, the Gardens Hotel is now home to 17 luxurious guest suites, along with the D'vine Wine Gallery, a state-of-the art automated wine bar.

Nestled in a magical, greenery filled courtyard, the hotel's Gazebo Stage draws some of the island's top local musicians and singers as well as visiting musical artists who perform time honored ballads, newly created tunes and astonishing jam sessions.

When you can't stop tapping your toes, dancing on the brick courtyard is always a welcomed option.

The music is even sweeter when you add a flavorful pour from the wonderful wine selection of the D'Vine

Wine Gallery or choose your favorite

cocktail from the Tiki Bar outside by the tropical pool. There's no better way to end your weekend on a high note.

BTW: You can also listen to the keyboard prowess of assorted musicians several other nights per week as they tickle the ivories of the baby grand piano inside the Gardens Hotel lobby.

When great music is on your mind, just pop into the Gardens Hotel. You can find it at 525 Angela St between Duval and Simonton. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.



# **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. Catch this fantastic show at La Te Da's Crystal Room Cabaret, 1125 Duval St. Tickets and info: 305-296-6706; lateda.com.

### **Daily**

### The Birdcage Cabaret

Key West: Home of North America's foremost female impressionist, Christopher Peterson and Key West's famous drag queens, The Aquanettes and the Birdcage Cabaret are a great hang any time, day or night. Peterson's lavish new show, backed by the Aquanettes, takes place every Tuesday - Saturday at 8 pm. The Aquanettes perform separately on Monday and Tuesday at 9 pm with two shows on Wednesday -Sunday at 7 and 9 pm. You can catch the lively Drag King show on Sunday nights at 7:30 pm. The bar is open Sunday - Thursday from 2 pm - 2 am and on Friday and Saturday from 2 pm - 4 am. The all-day Happy Hour doesn't stop until showtime. You can find the Birdcage Cabaret at 504 Angela St in the Aquaplex. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com

### Nightly

### The Aquanettes

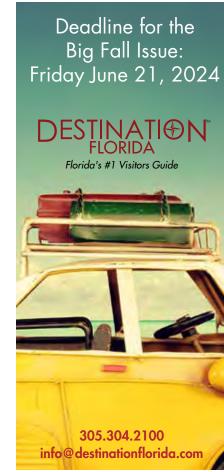
Key West: Key West's talented female impressionist troupe transforms into a bevy of beauties using elaborate costuming, makeup,

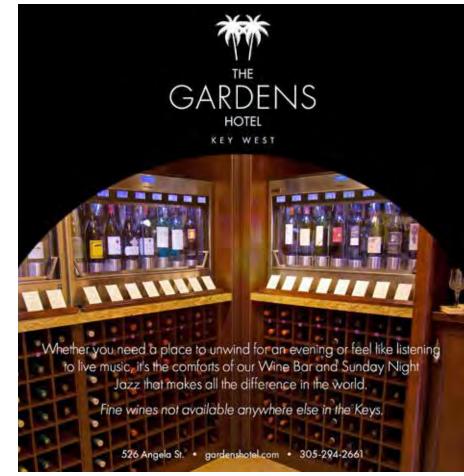
Randy Roberts Livel Key West

and lip-sync. Renowned for its outrageous and comic numbers, this adult-oriented,

and lip-sync. Renowned for its outrageous and comic numbers, this adult-oriented, interactive show is one of the hottest tickets in town. Takes place Monday - Tuesday at 9 pm and Wednesday - Sunday at 7 and

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### **FOOTLIGHTS**

9 pm. See it at the Aquaplex, 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555 aquakeywest.com.

**Nightly** 

Cabaret @ D'Vine Wine Gallery

Key West: This is an excellent hang if you want to kick back with a fine glass of wine and settle in for an intimate cabaret performance by some of Key West's favorite performers, like classical guitarist Matteo Jampol and pianist Bobby Green. Takes place from 5 - 7 pm at The Gardens Hotel and Cottages, 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-

### **Nightly**

### Jazz at Tavern N' Town

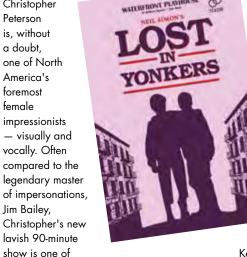
2661; gardenshotel.com.

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

### **Tuesday - Saturday**

### **Christopher Peterson's Birdcage Cabaret**

Key West: Christopher Peterson is, without a doubt, one of North America's foremost female impressionists visually and vocally. Often compared to the legendary master of impersonations Jim Bailey, Christopher's new lavish 90-minute



live, backed up by the outrageous Aquanettes Drag Queens, at his new digs every Tuesday - Saturday at 8 pm. On stage at the Birdcage Cabaret, 504 Angela St., in the Aquaplex. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

### Wednesday -**Saturday**

### **Cabaret in The Gardens**

Key West: Key West's Gardens Hotel is one of the most luxe boutique hotels on the island. Every Wednesday through Saturday, from 5 - 7 pm, you can enjoy outstanding live piano music in the Hotel's intimate Cabaret, Full bar and stellar wines are the coup de aras. Find the Gardens Hotel at

### **Every Sunday**

gardenshotel.com.

### Jazz in the Gardens

526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661;

Key West: Enjoy 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. This popular Sunday happening takes place from 5:30 - 8 pm at the Gardens Hotel, 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

### Now - May 11

### Lost in Yonkers

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

### May 1 - 5 28th Annual Key West Songwriters Festival

Key West: This annual showcase of musical magic is the world's largest festival of its kind and features America's foremost performing songwriters. Up close and personal concerts are staged at various venues throughout Key West. Info: 305-304-0814; keywestsongwritersfestival.com.

### **May 17**

### **Author Craig Foster: Amphibious Soul**

Key West: From the creator of the beloved Academy Award winning documentary "My Octopus Teacher" comes Amphibious Soul, Craig Foster's thrilling memoir of a life spent exploring the most incredible places on Earth. From the Great African Seaforest to the crocodile lairs of the Okavango Delta, Foster reveals how we can attend to the earthly beauty around us and deepen our love for all living things: whether we make our homes in the country, the city, or anywhere in between Showtime: 7 in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

### June 1

### **16th Annual Pride Follies**

Key West: A precursor to Key West's famous Pride Week, this original variety show includes an array of unforgettable comedy, singing, and dancing. Acclaimed performer Destiny Montgomery,

> Fantasy Fest Queen 2017, returns to direct another outrageous production. Full bar service. Doors open at

7pm; Showtime at 8pm. FYI: This show always sells out, so get your tickets early. Takes place at the Key West Theater,

512 Eaton St. An After Party follows at Mangoes, 700 Duval St. Info and tickets: 305-985-0433;

### July13

### **One Night Stand**

keywesttheater.com

Key West: One of the summer's most popular happenings, One Night Stand calls on creative thinkers to develop five brand-new theater pieces from start to finish in only 24 hours. With the clock ticking, dozens of people work together wickedly fast to make the project come to fruition. Showtimes: 7 and 9 pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.



the hottest tickets in town. See him perform

# The Cat's Out of the Bag –

Key West's New Birdcage Cabaret is a "Sing-ular" Hit!



ith a name inspired by Broadway's smash hit musical, "La Cage Aux

Folles," Key West's new Birdcage

Cabaret has the island all aflutter.

Tucked inside the totally revamped Aquaplex, Duval Street's entertainment epicenter, this lavish new live performance venue is the brainchild of world-renowned female impressionist Christoper Peterson.

A "Master of Impersonations," Peterson recently teamed up with Aquaplex's new owners, Mike and John Barrett. The creative trio worked together to transform the former "SideBar" space into a "Big City Club" with a Key West vibe. The new Birdcage Cabaret now boasts a spacious stage framed with swanky theater curtains, a stateof-the-art sound system, intimate cabaret-style seating, and a signature cocktail bar.

Peterson's new 90-minute, threeact show marquees his notorious impersonations of famous divas like Marilyn Monroe, Bette Midler, Tina Turner, Barbara Streisand, Judy Garland, Cher, Lady GaGa, and other Red Carpet icons.

Backing up Peterson's live vocals is a rotating cast of "Aquanettes," the complex's

group of lip-synching drag queens. You can also expect to see a variety of local performers, female singers, and Lord knows what else: maybe even jugglers or synchronized bowling? When Christopher Peterson is directing a stage production, nothing is off the

table, so come

prepared for an unforgettable night.

You can catch Christopher Peterson's new show on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 8 pm.

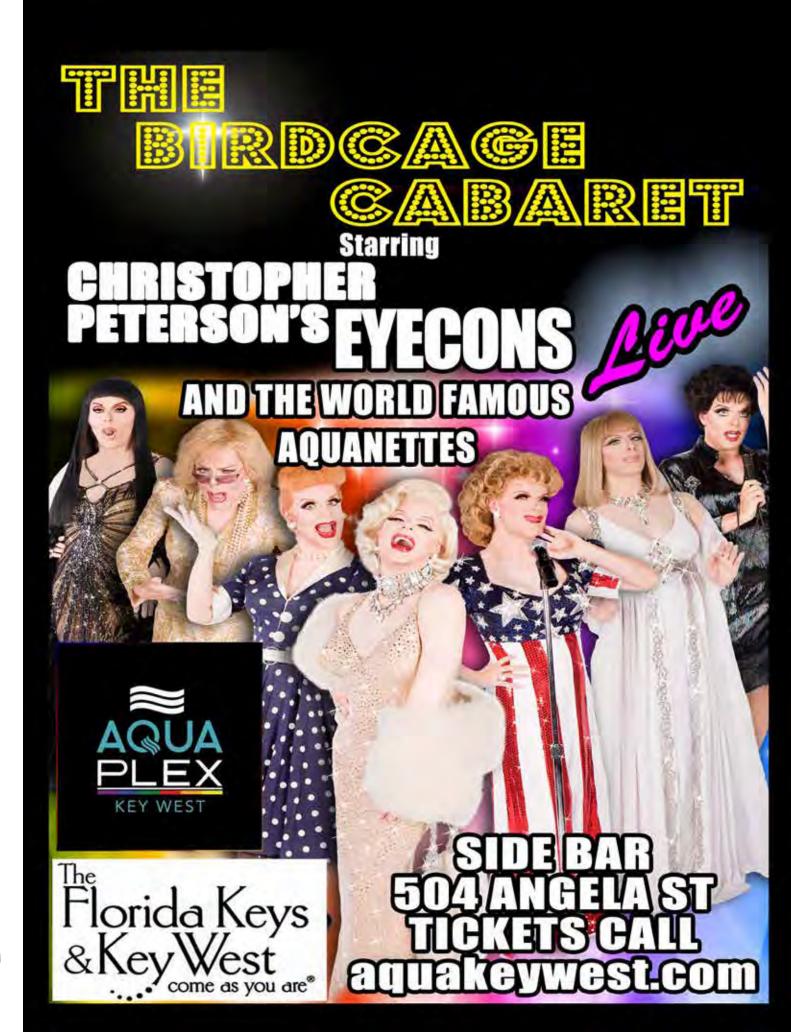
In addition to performing at The Birdcage, the Aquanettes also appear in their own hit show on Monday and Tuesday nights starting at 9 pm and on Wednesday through Sunday with two nightly shows at 7 and 9 pm.

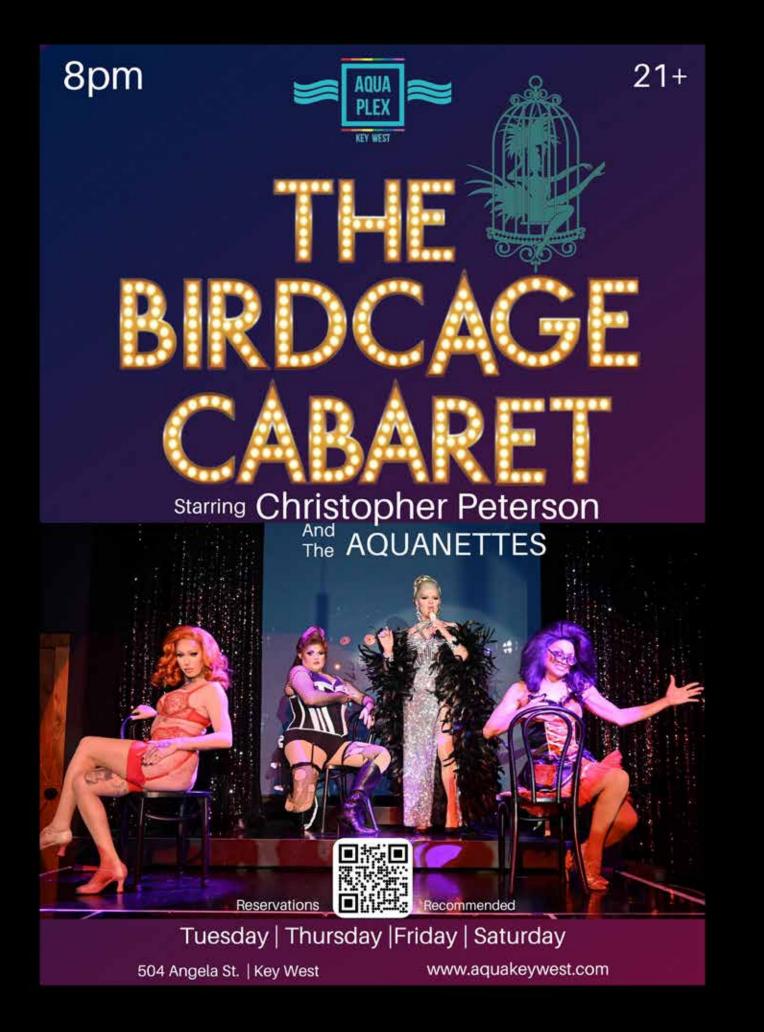
On Sunday nights, our local Drag Kings (women dressed in male Drag) take to the stage for a phenomenal 7:30 pm show. FYI: Stay tuned for even more great live entertainment on Monday and Wednesday nights.

The Birdcage bar is open Sunday through Thursday from 2 pm - 2 am and on Friday and Saturday from 2 pm - 4 am. Enjoy Happy Hour prices and no cover charge when performances aren't taking place.

You can find the Birdcage Cabaret entrance on the side of









# Oh, The Folly of It All!

# 16th Annual Pride Follies Hits the Stage

eminiscent of an old-fashioned variety show and the brainchild of a local icon, Peter Arnow, the 16th Annual Pride Follies returns to Key West for a one-night-stand on Saturday, June 1.

As the annual prelude to Key West Pride (June 5 - June 9), the show tributes the late Ed Sullivan's hit show, "Toast of Town." FYI: For those of you under sixty, this was once considered "Must See TV" from 1948 to 1971.

Whatever your age, it really doesn't matter. Great entertainment never gets old, and everyone gets a big kick out of this high-energy extravaganza.

Acclaimed performer and Fantasy Fest Queen 2017, Destiny Montgomery, returns to host and directs another outrageous production. The show typically runs 1-1/2 hours and showcases over a dozen performers rarely performing in Key West. Expect a fabulous array of unforgettable comedy, singing, and dancing. BTW: This show always sells out, so get your tickets early.

Pride Follies takes to the stage at 8 pm (doors open at 7 pm with full bar service) at the Key West Theater, 512 Eaton St.



An After Party follows at Mangoes, 700 Duval St.

Info and tickets: 305-985-0433; keywesttheater.com.



# WHAT'S UP

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

### **ONGOING**

### Daily

### Mini Golf

Ramrod Key: Renowned as the southernmost mini-golf course in the contiguous United States, 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 make it one of the Middle Kevs' "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 10 am - 10 pm at Porky's Bayside, 1410 Overseas Hwy in Marathon. Info: 305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebbg.com.

### Daily

### **Green Pineapple Key West Yoga**

Key West: Whether you're a beginner or a 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, mind, and soul Private or Group Classes are also available. Come early or stay after class for fresh juice, tea, or a super healthy Zen bite in the plantbased Wellness Cafe. Find it nestled inside

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### WHAT'S UP



The Green Pineapple Wellness Center, 1130 Duval Street, Key West. Info: 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com.

### **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. You can also get Happy Hour prices from 4 - 6 pm on various libations and appetizers. The nightly event is ceremoniously marked by the "Sunset Horn" bellowing just before the fiery ball disappears

into the horizon. The celebration continues well after dark with live entertainment and dancing under the palms. 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

### **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 Key

Resort & Marina on Front Street to watch the sun slowly sink into the Gulf of Mexico and 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

### **Aquaplex**

Key West: With three reimagined venues all under one roof, Key West's state-of-theart entertainment complex is where it's all happening. This world-class dance club, with high-tech lighting and an industrial vibe, also boasts a lovely outdoor garden bar called the Back Bar, replete with Aqua Belle, a fusion food truck serving breakfast, lunch, dinner, and late-night bites. There's also 22&Co, heralded as the best drag bar in the Keys. But the crowning jewel of it all is the Birdcage Cabaret featuring the world-renowned female impressionist and singer Christopher Peterson, backed by The Aquanettes, an outrageous troupe of talented drag queens who sing and dance the night away. This is THE place to go for "not-to-be-missed" entertainment. Find it all at 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

### WEEKLY

### Monday & Tuesday (Now – June 25)

# 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: tskw.org.

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# One Human Family!

Key West's Gay Summer Sizzlers



ith more and more of our human rights being usurped by far-right politicians, it's more important than ever that we stand together and celebrate our diversity.

Created by Key West artist and human rights activist JT Thompson, our "One Human Family" ethos is more than just a slogan. It's a philosophy that we locals (gay, trans, straight, binary, or whatever) proudly live by daily.

Renowned as one of the most harmonious and welcoming communities in America, our little piece of paradise is not only a top vacation destination that draws visitors from around the

PRIDE SHIPE

world, but it's also a famous "Come As You Are" mecca that attracts thousands of LGBTQ+ visitors to our shores. Especially in the summer, three significant events keep the tiny two-mile by four-mile island hopping.

Key West Pride, which takes place Wednesday, June 5 - Sunday, June 9, is always one big party. In addition to the lively bar scene, there are lots of other events going on, starting with the notorious Pride Follies on Saturday, June 1. Now in its 16th year, the fabulous Follies is a precursor of all the of fun things to come. Highlights include a Kick Off Disco Party, "We Are Family" Street Fair, Drunken' Drag Brunch, and a colorful Pride Parade down Key West's famous Duval Street. In between you can enjoy plenty of pool and beach parties, water activities, and a whole lot more.

The action continues when **Tropical** 

**Heat**, Key West's hottest event for men, cranks up the temperature on Wednesday, August 7 - Sunday, August 11. With all-male theme activities, pool parties, and adult-oriented entertainment, it's a steamy four days — rain or shine.

Just as the last rays of summer start to fade, Key West explodes with

WomenFest which runs from Wednesday,

September 4 Sunday, September
8. One of the
largest gatherings
of lesbians and
friends in North
America, this
four days of revelry
includes pool parties,

water excursions, late-night parties, and more. And here's the best part: you don't have to be gay to go!

So come as you are — everyone here is always welcome! Get more deets and a full schedule of events at 305-294-4603; gaykeywestfl.com.

30 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide

### WHAT'S UP

### **Every Thursday**

### **Key West Waterfront Farmers Market**

Key West: This traditional farmer's market includes produce, seasonal fruits, cheese, pickles, nuts, honey, seafood, fresh bread, hot sauces, and more. You can also shop for local arts & crafts, flea market goods, jewelry, clothing/t-shirts, cigars, and CBD. Takes place from 2 pm - 7 pm at the Truman Waterfront (end of Southard St). FYI: Bring your own bags. Info: 305-731-3385; keysartisanmarket.com.

### **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, 27205 Overseas Hwy (MM 27.5) on Ramrod Key. Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksus.com.

### **Every Sunday**

### **Jazz in The Gardens**

Key West: Enjoy 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.

### **Every Sunday**

### **Key West Artisan Market**

Key West: Shop a curated outdoor market offering fine crafts and art from talented Florida Keys makers, a wide variety of food and libations, and local musicians and authors. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at Higgs Beach, 1801 White St. Info: 305-731-3385; kwartisanmarket.com.

### **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: Salvaging the Deep, Hunting the Invasive Lionfish, and Diving Into Volcanoes. The on-site presentation takes place

at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. To learn about each month's presentation, call 305-664-9737 or hit divingmuseum.org.

### First Friday

### 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.

### **First Saturday**

### Market on the Green

Key West: Shop some fantastic local arts at this fun artisan market. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at the Sunset Green Event Lawn 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**

### Now - December 31

### Aquanauts to

### **Astronauts**

Islamorada: This limited-time featured exhibit examines the connections between space and

underwater exploration. The exhibition features stories and artifacts from NASA, including how they use diving to train future astronauts. Takes place daily from 9 am - to 5 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

### May 5

### Cinco de Mayo Celebration

Key West: Grab your salt shaker and party with Margarita during this fun, annual



celebration that includes live Salsa music, a Taco Eating & Hot Pepper Eating Contest, and prizes for Best Mexican Hat. The action starts at 7 pm at the Schooner Wharf Bar in Key West's Historic Seaport at the foot of Williams St. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

### **May 26**

### 33rd Annual Schooner Wharf Bar **Minimal Regatta**

Key West: Known as "the only boat race you can view from start to finish from shore," this wacky regatta is also a race to stay afloat. Savvy sailors use minimal materials, including plywood and duct tape, to build their tiny vessels. Races begin at Noon at Schooner Wharf Bar, 202 William St in Key West's Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-3302; schoonerwharf.com.

### June 1

### 17th Annual Pride Follies

Kev West: A precursor to Kev West's famous Pride Week, this original variety show includes an array of unforgettable comedy, singing, and dancing. Acclaimed performer Destiny Montgomery, Fantasy Fest Queen 2017, returns to direct another outrageous production. Full bar service. Doors open at 7 pm; Showtime at 8 pm. FYI: This show always sells out, so get your tickets early. Takes place at the Key West Theater, 512 Eaton St. An After Party follows at Mangoes, 700 Duval St. Info and tickets: 305-985-0433; keywesttheater.com.

### June 5 - 9

### **Key West Pride**

Key West: Key West shows its Pride daily, and this is your chance to participate in the celebration! The five-day schedule includes daytime pool and beach parties, late-night drag shows, on-the-water adventures ranging from snorkeling and kayaking to glass-bottom boat tours, a "70's Disco" Street Fair, wine tastings, a parade, and more. Complete schedule at gaykeywestfl.com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### **Key West Pride Kick-Off Disco Party**

Key West: Don your best "Saturday Night Fever" disco garb and go downtown for this throwback party where everyone shines. It takes place from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at Hard Rock Cafe, 313 Duval St. A complete schedule is available at gaykeywestfl.com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### June 7 - 9

### **41st Annual Lower Keys Chamber Dolphin Tournament**

Lower Keys: Anglers contend for over \$35,000 in cash prizes and awards. A special cash prize of \$20,000 is awarded for the largest dolphin over 50 pounds. Additional prizes await winners in the open ladies and youth divisions. You can register for the tournament and enjoy appetizers and a cash bar on Friday starting at 5 pm at KOA Sugarloaf Key, 251 State Rd 939 FL 20. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.

### Key West Pride 70's Retro Disco Party

Key West: Get ready to boogie the night away at Mangoes' exclusive Ricky Ricardo Room. Prizes for best 70s-themed attire. FYI: Space is limited, and tickets are going fast. Grab 'em

while you can. The party starts at 9 pm at Mangoes, 700 Duval St. A complete schedule is available at gaykeywestfl.com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### June 8

### Key West Pride's "We Are Family" Street Fair & **Disco Party**

Key West: This year's blockbuster Street Fair is more festive than ever, with vendors galore and a drag show to boot. It's also a perfect opportunity to break out your favorite pridethemed outfit and strut your stuff! Takes place from 4 - 8 pm on the 700 - 900 block of Duval St, followed by a raucous disco party led by DJ Mr. Enjoy. Complete schedule at gaykeywestfl. com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### June 9

### **Key West Pride Drunken' Drag Brunch**

Key West: Celebrate "Sunday Funday," Key West style, at this wild Drag Brunch Show, which has been voted as one of the Top 10 Drag Brunch Shows in the USA by the Miami Herald. FYI: After the show, stick around for the After Party, where you can get your picture taken with the beautiful drag queens and dance the day away to DJ Jeff's tunes. This 21+ event kicks off at Noon at Mangoes, 700 Duval St. Complete schedule at gaykeywestfl. com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### June 9

### Disco Tea Dance: Key West Pride Edition

Key West: Key West's legendary Sunday Tea Dance rocks poolside with great music from local radio star DJ Rude Girl. Starts at 4 pm at La Te Da, 1125 Duval St. Complete schedule at gaykeywestfl.com. Info: 305-294-4603.

### June 9

### **Key West Pride Parade**

Key West: This annual "out-and-proud" Pride Parade celebrates the 70's Disco Era and tops off a week-long celebration. Kicks off at 5 pm from Quay Road at the Truman Waterfront. The parade then proceeds to Whitehead St, takes a left onto Front St, then right onto Duval. The parade finally ends on United St (ultimately Tea Dance). Complete schedule at gaykeywestfl. com. Info: 305-294-4603.



# Citrus. Eccentrics. People & Pie!

# Key West's Annual Key Lime Festival



t's all about love and limes when citrus, eccentrics, people, and pie take center stage during Key West's Annual Key Lime Festival.

This wacky five-day celebration, which runs from Wednesday, July 3 through Sunday, July 7, is packed with culinary events for every taste.

Birthplace of the original Key Lime Pie, Key West is renowned for serving up some of the best Key Lime Pies in the world.

During this long, limey holiday weekend, you'll be able to indulge in a full menu of activities, including perennial favorites like the Key Lime Cocktail Sip & Stroll, Key Lime Pie Hop, Key Lime Scavenger Hunt, and for those with a taste for limey libations, a Key Lime rum tasting.

Of course, there are all kinds of other fun culinary happenings, too, including several delicious Key Lime-centric dinner and brunch events, as well as a gravity-defying Key Lime pie drop competition — from the top of the Key West Lighthouse.

Festival co-founder and "Key West Key Lime Pie Cookbook" author David Sloan officially gets the party started on Wednesday, July 3, with an Autographed Cookbook Signing & Champagne Reception at Key West's historic Curry Mansion at 511 Caroline Street.

The Festival's undisputed "limelight," however, is the World Famous Key Lime Pie Eating Championship at the Southernmost Beach Cafe on the 4th of July. Brave contestants must attempt to devour an entire pie, topped with mounds of whipped cream, without using their hands — all while trying to outpace their rivals and beat the pieeating record of 52 seconds. The event is free for the watching, but if you're up to the task, the entry fee is just \$25,

### **KEY LIME FESTIVAL 2024 SCHEDULE**

including notoriety, a Key Lime Pie, and a

chance to be crowned World Champion.

For a complete schedule hit up keylimefestival.com.

Here are just a few highlights:

Wednesday, July 3rd Key Lime Kick Off! Cookbook Signing & Champagne Reception.

5 - 6:30 pm | Curry Mansion, 511 Caroline St. Sip Champagne on the

veranda of the 1869 mansion where Key Lime Pie was first created and meet Key Lime Festival co-founder and Key West Key Lime Pie Cookbook author, David L Sloan.

### THURSDAY, JULY 4TH

### 4th of July 5K!

7:30 am | Edward B. Knight Pier, 1801 White St. Proceeds benefit the Edward B Knight Scholarship Fund.

### Key Lime Vendor Village

11 am - 2 pm | Southernmost Resort, 508 South St. Shop all things Key Lime from beauty products and jewelry to local art and more. Great Pig Roast, too!

# World Famous Key Lime Pie Eating Championship

11 am - 2 pm | Southernmost Beach Café, 1405 Duval St. Lots of fun and games! Contest at 1:30 pm. Contestant Entry Fee: \$25. Register at keylimefestival.com.

### 4th of July Pool Party!

Noon - 6 pm | Dante's, 955 Caroline St. Tropical cocktails, live music and more!

### **Patriotic Dinner Under the Fireworks**

7 pm Seating | Indigenous Park, 1801 White St. Enjoy food, music, cash bar and great fireworks! Reservations:

keylimefestival.com.

### FRIDAY, JULY 5TH

### **Key Lime Sip & Stroll**

3 - 6 pm | First Flight
Restaurant, 301
Whitehead St. Multiple
bars compete for the
finest key lime margaritas
and cocktails. Sample
them all and vote for the
best!



4 - 5 pm | MARC Plant
Store, 1401 Seminary St.
Learn how to care for
and grow your very own
key lime tree. Key lime
tree included with ticket
purchase. Four Flamingos
Chef Demo/Dinner 5:30
pm - 6:30 pm | Hyatt Centric,
601 Front St. Executive Chef,
Pietro Consorti showcases his s

Pietro Consorti showcases his signature Black Key Lime Crusted Swordfish. Reservations: keylimefestival.com.

### SATURDAY, JULY 6TH

### **Key Lime Pie Drop**

11 am - 2 pm | Key West Lighthouse, 938 Whitehead St. Creative minds try to outsmart gravity by finding a way to drop a Key Lime Pie from the top of the lighthouse — without damaging the pie. Contestant registration: keylimefestival. com.

### Key Lime Scavenger Hunt

3 - 5:30 pm | Conch Republic Seafood Co, 631 Greene St. Check in @

2:30 PM. Tickets: keylimefestival.com.

### Wheeling & Dealing Hot Wheels Race

4 - 6 pm | Mary Ellen's Bar, 420 Applerouth Ln. Test your driving skills on our Applerouth Track.

### Key Lime In The Keys Dinner @ Bagatelle

5 - 10 pm | Bagatelle, 115 Duval St. A curated Tasting Menu showcasing Key

West's most popular fruit. Registration: keylimefestival.com

### **Key Lime Unity Table Dinner**

7 pm | William's Hall, 729 Fleming St. William's Hall and Great Events Catering present a delectable 5-course Key Lime Dinner. Reservations: keylimefestival.com.

### SUNDAY, JULY 7TH

### Red, White & Brunch

10 am - 4 pm | First Flight, 301 Whitehead St. Enjoy House Brews, Bloody Marys, and a Brunch Menu with a key lime flair. Reservations: 305.293.8484.

### **Key Lime Pie Hop**

Conch Republic Seafood Co, 631 Greene St. Check-in 20 minutes prior to Tour Start Times: 11 am, 11:30 am, Noon, 12:30 pm, 1 pm, 1:30 pm. Reservations: keylimefestival.com.



Key Lime Pie Cookbook" author David

34 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West

# Splash & Rock! The 40th Annual Underwater Music Festival



ystical mermaids and creatively costumed musicians playing artistsculpted instruments are gearing up for the Lower Keys' notorious 40th Annual Underwater Music

Festival on Saturday, July 13.

**Festivities** for the quirky underwater concert kick off on Friday, July 12, from 6 - 8 pm with an opening reception at Mote Marine (24244 Overseas Hwy, Summerland Key). Enjoy live music, nibble on light bites, wet your whistle with a variety of tasty libations, and get a first-hand look at Mote's outstanding efforts to

restore our endangered reefs.

On Saturday, July 13, it's time to put on your favorite costume, grab your fins, and hit the deck for a wild and wacky underwater concert

you'll never forget.

Staged by Keys radio WWUS 104.1 FM, the wave of music resonates from

10 am - 2 pm at Looe Key Reef, an area of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, which is approximately six miles south of Big Pine Key. The station broadcasts its specially curated hit list underwater via Lubell Laboratory speakers suspended under boats positioned above the reef.

It's a lot of fun, but on a more serious note, the concert also promotes preserving the Keys' unique coral reef ecosystem by incorporating diver awareness announcements that offer tips on ways to enjoy the reef while minimizing environmental impacts.

You can launch your boat from one of the public ramps and marinas in the area, or you can reserve space on boats run by Lower Keys dive operators who have their own onboard costume

It truly is an underwater concert that will blow your fins off! Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.



# FRIDAY, JULY 12 + SATURDAY, JULY 13 **40TH ANNUAL UNDERWATER MUSIC FESTIVAL** Proudly Presented By The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce

This world famous submerged songfest for divers, snorkelers, and the occasional mermaid is the only one of its kind and literally takes place underwater! Now celebrating 40 years, its guaranteed to be bigger and better than ever before!

### LET THE FESTIVITIES BEGIN!

Friday, July 12 · 6 - 8 pm

Enjoy light bites, beverages, great live music and learn all about our precious reef Takes place at MOTE Marine 24244 Overseas Hwy, Summerland Key

### TIME TO DIVE IN!

Saturday, July 13 · 10 am - 2 pm Photographers and videographers from all over the globe will be on hand to fill this world famous concert and to important into and footage about delicate oceanic environment in the Lower Keys.

### BE PART OF THE FUN!

To participate, just hook up with any of the local Lower Keys Dive Shops and hitch a ride out to Looe Key Reef (about 5 miles south of Big Pine) Enjoy onboard costume parties, contests and a whole lot more Reserve Early -Boats fill up fast!



Activities occur under permit within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary



















### WHAT'S UP

### July 3 - 7

### **Annual Key Lime Festival**

Key West: Enjoy five days of fun Key Lime culinary events for every taste. The long limey holiday weekend includes a full menu of activities, including a Key Lime Sip & Stroll, Key Lime Pie Hop, a gravity-defying Key Lime Pie Drop from the top of the Key West Lighthouse, and the World Famous Key Lime Pie Eating Championship. It's one tasty, lip-smacking 5-day fest! Complete event schedule at keylimefestival.com.

### July 4

### Independence Day Celebration

Keys-Wide: There are lots of 4th of July happenings going on all over the Keys, so here's a quick view of what's happening: Key Largo: Celebrate Independence Day with an annual 4th of July Parade, which rolls out at 9:45 am from MM 98 -100, followed by a picnic. Enjoy a fireworks display at 10 pm on Blackwater Sound, MM 104, Bayside. Marathon: The holiday parade begins at 10 am on Sombrero Blvd. (MM 50, Oceanside), followed by free day-long festivities at Sombrero Beach, culminating with a massive fireworks display at 9 pm. Big Pine & The Lower Keys: The celebration

### July 4

White St Pier.

### Annual Hospice & VNA July 4th Picnic

starts at 5 pm at Big Pine Community Park with

music, food, and fun, followed by a fireworks

Fireworks light up the Atlantic at 9 pm off the

extravaganza after sunset. Key West:

Key West: This annual family-friendly, beachside picnic is also a fundraiser for Monroe County's Hospice with an endless supply of hot dogs and hamburgers, top entertainment, a silent auction, children's activities and a giant fireworks display off of the White Street Pier by Higgs Beach. VIP seating on the beach is available. Festivities start at 5 pm on the lawn and beach of the historic Casa Marina Resort, 1500 Reynolds St. Info: 305-294-8812.

### July 12 - 13

### **40th Annual Underwater Music Festival**

Big Pine & The Lower Keys: The big 40th anniversary of this quirky underwater concert for divers, snorkelers, and the occasional mermaid is guaranteed to be bigger and better than ever! The annual shindig, which promotes

reef preservation, kicks off on Friday from 6 - 8 pm with live music, light bites, and beverages at Mote Marine, 24244 Overseas Hwy on Summerland Key. The submerged songfest, also broadcast on US 104.1 FM, takes place on Saturday at Looe Key Reef in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, approximately 5 miles south of Big Pine Key. Transportation is available from local dive shops. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.

### July 12 - 13

# 4th Annual Florida Keys Brew-BQ & Craft Beer Festival

Marathon: Mouth-watering
BBQ and tons of delicious
craft beers for washing
it down are the stars
of this annual shindig
sponsored by the
Marathon Chamber.
Highlights include
an amateur BBQ
cooking competition,
vendors, boats, live
music, kids' games,
and more. It takes place
on F from 5 - 9 pm, on Sa
from 11am - 8 pm, and on

Su from Noon - 5 pm at Marathon Community Park, 3911 Overseas Hwy (MM 49), Marathon. Info: 305-743-5417; keysbrewbq.com.

### July TBD

### **Mel Fisher Days Celebration**

Key West: This annual charity event tributes the rum-and-coke drinking, gold chain-adorned Keys character remembered as "the world's greatest treasure hunter" whose discovery of the Nuestra Señora de Atocha shipwreck and whose life and motto, "Today's the Day," inspired people worldwide to follow their dreams. The event includes live music, Mel Fisher trivia games, a 50/50 raffle, the ever-popular "X Marks the Spot Cupcake" game of chance where one

rollow their areams. The event includes live music, Mel Fisher trivia games, a 50/50 raffle, the ever-popular "X Marks the Spot Cupcake" game of chance where one lucky winner scores a piece of authentic treasure, a vast online silent auction, a live on-stage auction for a piece from the "Taffi's Treasures" jewelry line, and presentation of the annual Mel Fisher Lifetime Achievement Award. Festivities start at 4 pm at Schooner Wharf Bar, 202 William St in Key West's Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-3302;

schoonerwharf.com.

### July 16 - 21

### **Hemingway Days**

Key West: Writers, anglers, and fans of the late author Ernest Hemingway's work converge on Key West for the annual Hemingway Days celebration. The festival honors the legacy of the American literary giant who lived and wrote on the island for most of the 1930s. This celebration includes a three-day Marlin Tournament, the raucous Hemingway® Look-Alike Contest, the wacky Running of the Bulls down Duval St, and a 5K run that salutes his sporting interests. Info: 305-294-0320; fla-keys.com.

### July 20

# Hemingway 5K Sunset Run/Walk & Paddle-Board Race

Key West: Fitness walkers and paddle board enthusiasts test their skills and celebrate Hemingway's sporting lifestyle in Key West's hottest race (literally). The 3-mile ocean course Paddle Board Race kicks off on Sa at 5:30 pm from Higgs Beach, followed by the 5K Run/Walk at 7:30 pm at Key West's Southernmost Point. Register between 3 - 7 pm on the beach outside the Southernmost Cafe, 1405 Duval St. Stick around after the race for a great awards beach party from 8 - 10:00 pm with live music, free food, libations, and raffles. Info: 305-240-0727; keywesthalfmarathon.com.

### July 24 - 25

### **Lobster Mini-Season**

Florida Keys: Every Lobster mini-season, the coastal areas of Florida are flooded with lobster hunters trying to get their share of this year's bounty. There are two Florida Lobster Seasons, the two-day mini-season and the 8-month regular lobster season. The Lobster Mini-Season is always the last consecutive W and Th in July.



### **COMING SOON**

### August 7 - 11

### **Tropical Heat**

Key West: This All-Male-All-Adult fever-pitched festival includes more than a dozen intriguingly decadent events ranging from drag shows to themed pool parties and gatherings at island clubs. Not for the faint-hearted! Info: 305-294-4603; gaykeywestfl.com.

### September 4 - 8

### **Key West Womenfest**

Key West: This blockbuster four-day festival celebrates freedom and diversity and is a magnet for thousands of women from around the world who come to Key West for non-stop fun, parties, live performances, and lots of activities. Info: 305-294-4603; gaykeywestfl.com.

### October 18 - 27

# Key West Fantasy Fest: "It's A 90's Neon Cosmic Carnivale"

Key West: This outrageous ten-day costuming and masking celebration showcases flamboyant masquerade competitions (including one for pets!), a Headdress Ball, exuberant promenades, street fairs, and a grand parade that stars marching groups, island-style bands, and lavish floats. A complete schedule of events at Fantasyfest.com.

# 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.

### May 26

### Annual International Cuban Sandwich Festival

Tampa: Bite into the "official sandwich of Tampa Bay," handcrafted by Florida Cuban sandwich artisans, and enjoy live entertainment, Cuban art, culture, and the world's biggest Cuban sandwich contest. Takes place from Noon - 6 pm at Centennial Park, 1800 E 8th Ave in historic Ybor City. Info: 813-319-5850; CubanSandwichFestival. com.

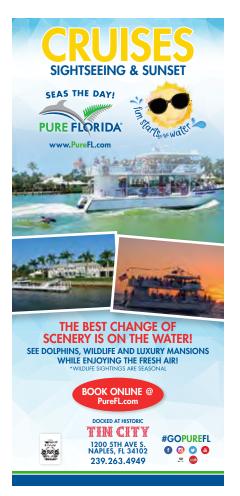


### August 23 - 24

### **Annual Coke Zero Sugar 400**

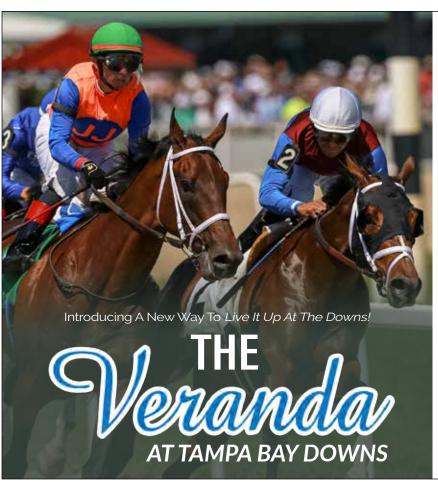
Daytona: One of NASCAR's most anticipated events brings together NASCAR racing under the lights at the world's only motorsports stadium, with pageantry and patriotism to make for an unforgettable July 4th weekend. This fan-favorite event includes some of the most exciting racing of the season as drivers battle three-wide for a coveted DAYTONA victory. The race is followed by a spectacular fireworks display! Takes place at 7 pm at the Daytona International Speedway, 1801 W International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach. Info: 800-748-7467; DaytonaInternationalSpeedway.com.











### The Veranda

Located on the second floor of the **Clubhouse**, the Veranda provides spectacular views of the racing action. This outdoor covered area places your party directly across from the Winner's Circle and offers some of the best seats in the house! The Veranda package offers a bar set up to complement your dining experience.





11225 Race Track Road • Tampa, Florida 33626 (813) 855-4401 • www.tampabaydowns.com

# Mask & Fins Not Required-

# Underwater with The Key Largo Princess



've always wanted to explore the Keys magical underwater world, but truthfully, the thought of snorkeling or diving scares the fins off of me.

That's why I was thrilled to hop aboard the Key Largo Princess - a 75' luxury glass-bottom motor yacht. She swept me off for an eye-popping, two-hour tour of John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and the exciting underwater world of

the adjacent Key Largo Marine Sanctuary.

The Marine Sanctuary is home to Molasses Reef, renowned for its clear water, many fish, and numerous boulder corals. Masses of fish ranging from moray eels, parrotfish, turtles,

rays, and even sharks, are all residents of this awe-inspiring underwater world.

It only takes about 45 minutes to get there, giving you plenty of time to kick back with a tropical cocktail in the air-conditioned main cabin or up top on the sundeck.

Once there, you'll be able to observe the coral reef through several large, flat viewing windows which provide a ringside seat to all the underwater action.

The Key Largo Princess holds up to 140 passengers, but truthfully, it never felt crowded, and we always seemed to

have plenty of elbow room.

Cruising daily at 10 am, 1 pm, and 4 pm, you can find her moored dockside next to the Holiday Inn at 99701 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo. FYI: You can check

in online, electronically dockside, or in the Holiday Inn Lobby Gift Shop. Info: 305-451-4655; keylargoprincess.com.

# **WEATHER** IN PARADISE

### MAY

Average Air Temp: 80° Average Water Temp: 83° Sunset: 7:58 p.m. Average Rainfall: 3.5"

### JUNE

Average Air Temp: 88° Average Water Temp: 86° Sunset: 8:15 p.m. Average Rainfall: 5.1"

### JULY

Average Air Temp: 89° Average Water Temp: 87° Sunset: 8:22 p.m. Average Rainfall: 3.6"



# **X**PLORE

### **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

### INDIAN KEY HISTORIC **STATE PARK**

than 400 victims.

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.

### 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 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

### 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 aiant waterfalls, four fountains, and a full bar.

### **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

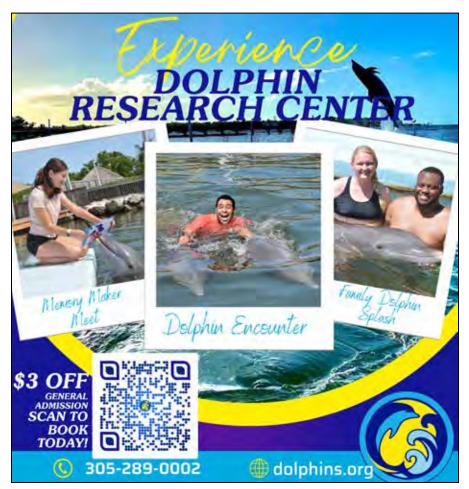
### **DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER**

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.

continued on page 44







# **X**PLORE

### 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

**MILLION AIR** 

Marina, check in at

am, 1 pm and 2 pm.

the Visitors Center, 2010

Overseas Hwy, Marathon.

The Ferry departs 10 am, 11:30

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

### **PORKY'S BAYSIDE MINI GOLF**

streamlined customs services.

assured that you'll be taken care of by a top-

of-the-line concierge staff who will also provide

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 daiguiris, or cold beers, and you've got yourself a great day not at the beach! Special event packages and tournaments, too!

### **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 Hospital 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, aet a behind-the-scenes look

at the hospital and enjoy a fascinating guided tour through the turtle rehab area. Reservations required.

### **KEY WEST**

Marina off of Palm

Ave. Looking for a

bike or scooter? Billy

rents those, too! FYI:

If you book directly

online, you can save

vourself 10% on any

of Barefoot Billy's

special tours. Call

305-900-3088 or

hit up barefootbillys.

**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 Kev West's premium iet 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 Biaht

90 Miles to CUBA SOUTHERNMOST POINT CONTINENTAL U.S.A. KEY WEST, FL

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

### **FORT ZACHARY TAYLOR**

End Of Southard Street Off Whitehead Kev 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

### **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

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

Open 24/7 A True "Kodak Moment" "The most photographed icon in the Keys" does, indeed, provide a true "Kodak Moment" for virtually everyone who visits here. The largerthan-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

# How Fast Do You Want to Go?

# High-Octane Fun At Barefoot Billy's

t Barefoot Billy's, it's all about how fast you want to go. If zipping around Key West going 40mph is your idea of a day in the sun, then Billy's high-octane jet ski experience is your ticket to ride. Go it alone or jump on Barefoot Billy's original two-hour, 28-mile guided jet ski tour where you can zoom from the Atlantic to the Gulf, explore the Backcountry, and stop at lots of fun places along the way.

Too fast?

Ok, then maybe the Ocean Discovery Tour with clear bottom kayaks and paddleboards, a Dolphin Watch & Snorkeling Tour to Key West's Back Country, or the Sunset Harbor Cruise might be more your speed.

If captaining your own ship whets your appetite, try renting one of Barefoot Billy's Hobie Cats and create your own adventure along the Key's pristine

Feeling a bit lazy? Then you may want to opt for one of his "Fun Cats." These all-electric, motorized chaise lounge catamarans are a breeze to operate and perfect for, shall we say, the "laid-back" sailor.

But top-notch toys for water play aren't Barefoot Billy's only gig. In addition to all the cool water sports rentals he can also hook you up with bicycles and scooters for getting around the island.

Barefoot Billy's is open daily from 8 am - 10 pm with four Key West locations:



Casa Marina Resort: the Reach Resort: Beachside Resort & Residences, and at Garrison Bight Marina.

FYI: Save 10% by booking directly online and using code "BAREFOOT" at barefootbillys.com. Info: 305-900-3088.

# See You At Sunset!

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







# SHOP

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

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.

continued on page 48



# **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!

46 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide SUMMER 2024 47

# 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 Kev 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, 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 world-renowned jewelry.

# BOOKS & BOOKS @THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST

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

continued on page 50

# NEPTUNE DESIGNS Sea Life Jewelry • Treasure Coins Custom Designs • Precious Stones 301 Duval Street, Key West / 305-294-8131

### TREASURE HUNT TIPS

Looking for treasure?

Walk along the high-tide line where the sand is softest and sift through any debris. It may yield a areat find.

Wet sand may also expose pirate bounty when the surf recedes after each wave. Hit the beach soon after an ocean storm. Heavy wave action stirs up sediment and at times picks up objects, like coins, which can tumble right onto the beach.

Look for areas with more shell deposits than others. It could indicate where strong currents stir up loose objects and deposit them on the shoreline.

But while eyeballing like this can yield a valuable surprise, you still can't beat a metal detector for finding hidden treasures under the sand!

# Think Outside the Salad Bowl!

# Olive Morada Mixes Things Up

f you haven't noticed, olive oil and balsamic vinegar are not just for salads anymore. In fact, with the right combination of infused oil and balsamic, you can genuinely enhance any culinary creation — including cocktails!

And that brings us to a nifty little shop called Olive Morada.

Located in the heart of Islamorada,
Olive Morada carries 42 flavors
of infused oils and vinegar — all
handcrafted from the freshest imported
Extra Virgin Olive Oils and aged
vinegars.

Believe it or not, vinegar, specifically balsamic vinegar, is processed like wine. A variety of quality grapes and a specific aging method result in an elegant yet sour and tart condiment.

Extra virgin olive oil is considered the best or premium of olive oils. A unique mechanical cold-pressing method produces the "extra" in its production as long as the oleic acid is less than one percent free.

Now imagine taking these two beautiful condiments and adding an array of aromatic and delicious infusions that can be paired in hundreds of different ways.

So, how can you unleash your own culinary genius? Enter Olive Morada, owner and master mixologist Jen White. Jen can show you infinite combinations of olive oil and balsamic vinegar for robust salads, marinades, desserts, beverages, and more.

FYI: Besides selling full-size bottles of her infused oils and balsamic, Jen also stocks sample packs and an exciting collection of gourmet foods and spices, gift baskets, and accessories

So next time you feel like mixing things up, stop by Olive Morada at 82245 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada. Info: 305-735-4375: olivemorada.com.





# **SHOP**

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

906 F Kennedy Drive (Behind Kennedy Plaza) 305-296-4367: ieffsaems.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 jewelry designer Jeff Woessner started making jewelry at the tender age of five. His prolific talent garnered him multiple awards and a loval 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 Hwv... 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 Piguet, fine jewelry, high quality diamonds, unusual antiques, vintage Louis Vuitton bags, rare auitars 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.

### **NEPTUNE DESIGNS**

301 Duval Street Key West, FL 33040 305-294-8131 neptunedesianskeywest.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 iewelry, as well as rare Tahitian Black Pearls and an exclusive line of Orchid jewelry fashioned from real orchid flowers.

### **OLD ISLAND GENERAL STORE**

at the Oldest House Museum 322 Duval St Kev 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 that 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.

### **OLIVE MORADA** 82245 Overseas Hwy

Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-735-4375 olivemorada.com Open M - S 10am - 5pm The Olive Oil & Vinegar Store Owner/Curator, Jen White brings her love of all things "super cute" to this small Islamorada shop where fine imported olive oils, specialty oils, balsamic vinegars and unique island gifts are the main attraction. You'll be amazed at how many delicious possibilities you can whip up in your kitchen using their unique line of gourmet products. Jen offers a new in-store tasting each day which makes it a fun place to sample some of their tasty recipes.

### **RON JON SURF SHOP**

533 Front St (Next to the Conch Tour Depot) Kev West, Fl 33040 305-293-8880; ronjonsurfshop.com Open Daily

The World's Most Famous Surf Shop This iconic lifestyle shop carries the best apparel and accessories for the surf, skate and beach crowd. Whether you're looking for relaxing island wear, the latest surf fashion or Ron Jon souvenirs, this is your place in the sun.

### THE GREEN HOUSE **DISPENSARIES OF THE FLORIDA KEYS**

Key West, Big Pine, Marathon, Islamorada, Key Largo 305-363-1081; thegreeenhouse.com Open Daily 10 am, Closing Hours Vary No Medical Card Needed



- Real THC
- No Medical Card Needed
- No Purchase Limits
- Money-Back Guarantee



**KEY WEST:** (3 Locations) 211 Duval St., 431 Front St., 532 Duval St. **BIG PINE KEY: 30964 Overseas Highway MARATHON:** 10875 Overseas Highway **ISLAMORADA:** 82751 Overseas Highway **KEY LARGO:** 99304 Overseas Highway



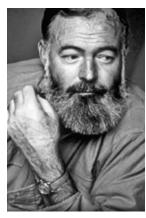


# Ernestly Cool

# Time to Celebrate Hemingway Days

hroughout the years, loyal international A-Listers, including Ernest Hemingway, Clark Gable,

Winston Churchill and even Albert Einstein. have proudly sported timepieces by the worldrenowned watchmaker



Cuervo y Sobrinos.

As part of the watchmaker's ongoing 142nd Anniversary, Cuervo y Sobrinos has created the Historiador Hemingway Limited Edition. An elegant watch with a sporty touch, this

Hemingway Limited Edition is an absolute magnificent timepiece with classic 1940s styling, elegant looks and a sapphire crystal. With a rugged 10 ATM water resistance and stainless steel case, it's emblematic of the man who inspired it.

Like so many other special releases from Cuervo y Sobrinos, the Historiador Hemingway Limited Edition is destined to become another collector time piece and is only available at Key West's exclusive retailer. Emeralds International at 104 Duval Street.

If you really want to celebrate this summer's legendary Key West Hemingway Festival, time is of the essence. Get it while it lasts. Info: 305-294-2060; emeraldsinternational.com.

# SHOP

Keys-Wide: You can stop by and stay high 365 days a year at this hip THC dispensary that redefines the art of cannibis curation. From edibles to supplements, you'll discover new and exciting ways to incorporate these products into your daily routine. In addition to shopping at the local retail stores, you can also order the "Monthly Box," a special Green Box subscription service that delivers a curated selection of premium, organic products straight to your door. The box includes a variety of products including chocolates, vapes, gummies, pre-rolls, flowers, and more. Find the Greeen Box at three locations in Key West at 431 Front St; 211 and 532 Duval St; in Big Pine Key at 30964 Overseas Hwy; in Marathon at 10875 Overseas Hwy; in Islamorada at 82751 Overseas Hwy; and in Key Largo at 99304 Overseas Hwy. Additional locations on Marco Island and in Naples.

### 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 feature 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 Lessoilv™ 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.









# Call The Mad Brit!

# The Keys Salt Scrub

nown as the "Mad Brit," Laura
Maddison has a "thang" for salt
scrubs. That salty passion inspired
her to create her own line of locally
made scrubs.

Crafted in small artisan batches, The Keys Salt Scrub, is made with Laura's proprietary blend of salts, coconut oil and essential oils that are all-natural, chemical and cruelty-free.

Don't be surprised to see her darting in and out of our local restaurants



and shops. She's
an absolute stickler about keeping
their restrooms stocked with her
complimentary scrub. It makes it easier
for everyone to sample and purchase
their own jars right on the spot.

Available in Tropical Key Lime, Coconut, Lavender, Mango Coconut and Plantation Pineapple, The Keys Salt Scrub can literally transform your skin in just 60 seconds.

See for yourself the next time you stop in at one of our local restaurants and shops. Dollars to donuts you'll pick up a jar or two before you leave.

For more info, call the "Mad Brit" at 305-852-9499 or hit up theKeysSaltScrub.com.

# The Perfect 10

# Making Waves with Ron Jon

t was 1959 when young Ron DiMenna, began selling fiberglass surfboards out of his parent's attic on the Jersey Shore.

Surfing was just catching on in the US, and it was making big waves with teens all over the country. Amplified by Hollywood movies and freewheeling music from The Beach Boys, The Surfaris, and Jan & Dean, it soon became a pop-culture phenomenon

Initially, the West Coast was the epicenter of it all. Just about every major surf brand and surfboard maker waxed their boards there. California was the place to go if you wanted one of the newest fiberglass surfboards.

And that's exactly what Ron DiMenna did. The enormous demand for custom

surfboards in the East inspired Ron to haul back not one, but three, fiberglass boards. He sold the extra two boards in a Jersey minute and suddenly found himself at point break.

In 1961, Ron opened his first Ron Jon Surf Shop at a trailer park on Long Beach Island, New Jersey. The tiny shop not only sold fiberglass surfboards but also supplied customers with boards to sell out of their own East Coast surf shops.

Two years later, the spirited entrepreneur headed to Florida to launch a "one of a kind" Ron Jon Surf Shop in Cocoa Beach. It was an instant hit.

Ron Jon Surf Shop is now the world's most renowned surf shop and has locations around the globe, including right here in Key West. So if you're



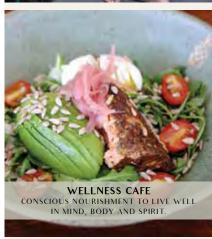
looking to kick back in some relaxed island threads, the latest surf fashion, or collect some cool Ron Jon souvenirs, this place is your Perfect 10.

Catch your wave at Ron Jon Surf Shop, 533 Front St, next to the Conch Train Depot. Info: 305-293-8880; ronionsurfshop.com.









LIFESTYLE

KEY WEST, FLORIDA

**DUVAL STREET**1130 DUVAL ST. - 305-509-7378

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







THEGREENPINEAPPLE.COM



enowned for its fabulous food, great restaurants, and awardwinning Food & Wine Festival, Key West is a celebrated foodie's paradise. But as great as the food scene is here, it's not always, shall we say, "mindful."

For those of us searching for conscious nourishment without sacrificing deliciousness, there's the Green Pineapple Wellness Cafe.

Nestled inside The Green Pineapple Boutique on Upper Duval Street, this excellent plant-based, gluten-free cafe creates intentional food that nourishes your body, mind, and spirit. Food that makes you strong, keeps you healthy, and brings joy to your tastebuds.

The Cafe is open daily from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm but also stages special monthly events. Twice a month, you can enjoy complimentary Wine Tastings as well as monthly Farm-to-Table Dinners that celebrate their locally sourced ingredients. These special four-course dinners showcase Chef Layla's acclaimed culinary skills and feature organic produce from South Florida farms. Each one is thoughtfully paired with a beautiful selection of organic, biodynamic, and sustainable wines or craft, zero-alcohol cocktails.

HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP:

MAY 15  $\bullet$  7 - 9 PM SOUTH FLORIDA FARM DINNER WITH WINE PAIRINGS

Save the date for a beautiful evening that includes a fabulous four-course dinner with paired wines. Prepared by acclaimed Key West Chef Layla Barr. Limited seating so reserve early.

MAY 22 • 4 - 6 PM
COMPLIMENTARY WINE TASTING
Enjoy a delectable selection of refreshing
Whites & Roses throughout the Summer.
Sample from five featured wines
backdropped by some great live music.
Enjoy 20% off any wine bottle purchase
or a case the day of the event.

JUNE 7 • 4 - 6 PM
FIRST FRIDAY WINE TASTING
Sample five refreshing featured wines
backdropped by some great live music.
Enjoy 20% off any wine bottle purchase
or a case the day of the event.

JULY 5 • 4 - 6 PM
FIRST FRIDAY WINE TASTING
Sample five refreshing featured wines
backdropped by some great live music.
Enjoy 20% off any wine bottle purchase
or a case the day of the event.



Open daily from 8:30 am - 3 pm. Discover it at 1130 Duval Street in Key West. Info & Reservations: 305-509-7378 ext. 2; greenpineapplewellness.com

# **KEYS EATS**

### **UPPER KEYS**

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa

### **ATLANTIC'S EDGE RESTAURANT**

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
modern Atlantic's Edge offers freshly caught
seafood, Prime hand-cut steaks, locally grown
organic produce, and over 100 select handpicked 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 Reuben 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 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.

### ITALIAN FOOD COMPANY WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA

98070 Overseas Hwy Key Largo, Fl 33037 305-440-2700; italianfoodcompany.com M - Th 4 - 9 pm; F 4 - 10 pm; Sa Noon -10 pm; Su Noon - 9pm; Closed Tu Authentic Award Winning Italian & Neapolitan Pizza

continued on page 58

# 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



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

# **Keys Eats**



Owners Tony and Isis Wright have a true passion for everything Italian. Their authentic preparations may be simple and straight forward, but boy oh boy are they incredible! Original recipes, including the slow simmered sauces, Mama Maria's handrolled meatballs, traditional meat lasagna, classic parmigiana, and hand-tossed Neapolitan pizza — all originate from their own kitchen. Even the restaurant's decor has been thoughtfully curated with beautiful pieces from Italy (check out the gorgeous

Sicilian lava tables and imported hand-painted Italian ceramics). If you appreciate "real deal" Italian, you've found your nirvana. Wine and beer,

### **ITALIAN FOOD** COMPANY EXPRESS WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA

92330 Overseas Hwy Tavernier, Fl 33070 305-707-0164; italianfoodcompany.com M - Sa 11 am - 9 pm; Closed Su

Authentic Award Winning Italian, Roman-Style Pizza & Sandwiches Hand-tossed Roman-style pizza takes center stage at Tony and Isis Wright's "Express" location. It may look like pan pizza but don't be fooled. Distinguished by the added hydration and fermentation, their Roman style pie is crispy outside and buttery soft inside. But like its Neapolitan cousin, here it comes layered with authentic San Marzano tomato sauce and a variety of fresh toppings. With

almost a dozen options to choose from, you'll be hard-pressed to pick just one. In addition to the fabulous Roman-style pizza here, you can also enjoy a big selection of "swoonworthy" sandwiches, and lots of grab-and-go delights. There's also a full menu of other signature dishes that all originate from their own kitchen. Wine & beer, too!

### **ITALIAN FOOD COMPANY WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA**

82779 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-780-7127;

italianfoodcompany.com

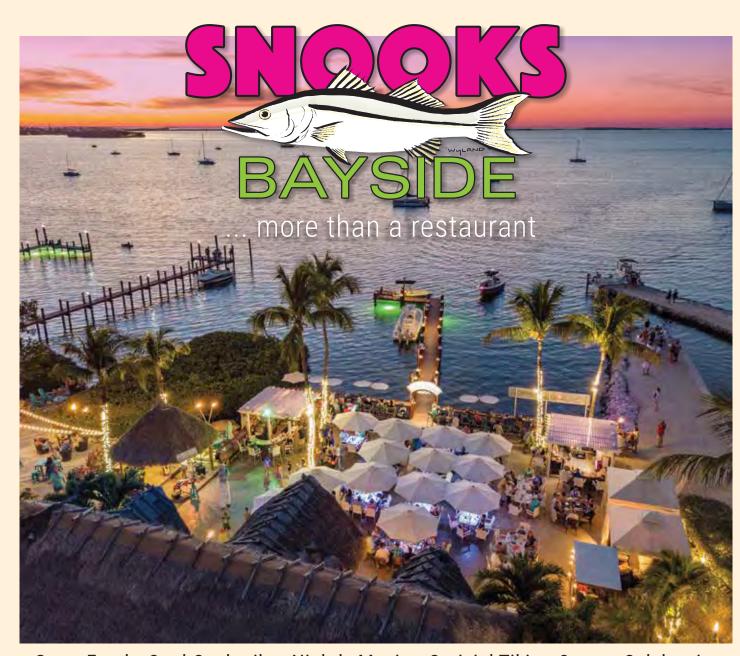
Su - Th 5 - 9 pm; F & Sa 5 - 10 pm;

Award-Winning Italian, Pizza, Seafood &

Tony and Isis Wright's 4,000' large-scale trattoria is just down the road from their Key Largo and Tavernier locations. With two spacious levels, a lively full service bar, live entertainment and even dancing, their passion for everything Italian goes full throttle. You'll still find many of the same award-winning Italian dishes that the IFC is renowned for. But here, authentic wood-fired Roman-style pies share the limelight with







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



# **Keys Eats**



a larger, more elevated menu showcasina many meat and fish dishes. In addition to a bevy of risottos, pasta, salads, and of course, Mama Maria's famous hand-rolled meatballs, you'll find sensational items like Grilled Lamb Chops, a 36 oz Porterhouse Steak, freshly Grilled Mediterranean Octopus and lots of inventive seafood preparations. FYI: A seat here in season is as prized as catching a record-breaking marlin, so be sure to make reservations.

### LAZY DAYS MM 79.9, Oceanside

305-664-5256

Islamorada, FL 33036

lazydaysislamorada.com Open Daily 11 am - 10 pm Award-Winning Favorite Here's a place where you can enjoy awardwinning Keys-style 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 in the sand. FYI: The fish sandwich is an absolute "Must!" Happy Hour from 4 - 6pm. with specially-priced appetizers at

### **MIA CUCINA**

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa

81801 Overseas Hwy (MM82) Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-517-4447; cheeca.com Daily 5 - 10 pm Authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria This authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria creates made-to-order artisanal pizzas, pastas,

salads and other Italian specialties like Mama

Mia's Segreta Bolognese; Chicken Primavera Fettuccini; and Insalata Di Mare; as well as many other reimagined Italian classics.

### **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 wines and tropical cocktails, too.

### 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





Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended 305.664.3391

83000 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada ziggieandmaddogs.com

# bite

# Fish With Key Lime Butter Sauce

# Lazy Days Restaurant, Islamorada

azy Days Restaurant is a place where you can kick up your feet and enjoy award-winning Keysstyle dishes in a spectacular oceanfront setting. This lovely dish is one of the most popular on the menu. Serve it with garlic mashed potatoes and a nice Pinot Grigio for a dinner that's made to impress!

### Ingredients

(Yield 4 Servings) 2 Lbs Fish Fillets, like Yellowtail Snapper or other white fish

- 1 Tbl Key Lime Juice
- 2 Cups Panko Breadcrumbs
- 2 Tbs Fresh Parsley, chopped
- 1 Cup Scallion, chopped
- 1 Cup Tomato, chopped
- 2 Large Eggs
- 1/2 Tsp Garlic powder
- 3 Tsp Cornstarch
- 1 Cup Flour
- 1/8 Tsp White Pepper, fresh ground
- 1/4 Lb Butter
- 1/2 Cup Parmesan Cheese, grated
- 1/4 Cup Dry White Wine
- 1 3/16 Cup Water





### **Preparation:**

Place the water, wine and key lime juice in a large saucepan over a high heat and reduce by half, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic powder. Add pepper to taste. Cut the butter into pats about the size of 1 tablespoon. Reduce the heat to low. Add one pat butter and whisk until the butter is incorporated. Add another pat and continue until all of the butter is used. Mix the water and cornstarch together and add to the sauce. Raise the heat to medium and stir until the sauce thickens and a few bubbles appear. Set aside while the fish

Mix the eggs and water together in a small bowl (whisk vigorously, until combined). Place the flour on a plate

and dip the fish fillets into flour, coating both sides. Dip the fish into the egg wash. Place the bread crumbs on a second plate and coat the fish with bread crumbs, making sure both sides are coated. Heat 4 tablespoons of the Key lime butter sauce over medium-high heat in a skillet large enough to hold the fish in one layer. Add the fish and sauté for 4 minutes until golden. Use a little olive oil for sautéing, if necessary. Turn the fish and sauté for 4 minutes for 1 inch-thick fillets. Sauté 2 minutes longer for thicker fish or 2 minutes less for thinner fish. The fish is cooked when the flesh is opaque, not translucent. Place the fish on 4 dinner plates. Spoon the sauce over each piece and sprinkle with the tomatoes, scallions, parmesan cheese and parsley.

You can find Lazy Days right on the beach at 79867 Overseas Hwy (MM 79. Oceanside) in Islamorada. 305-664-5256; lazydaysislamorada.com.





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











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



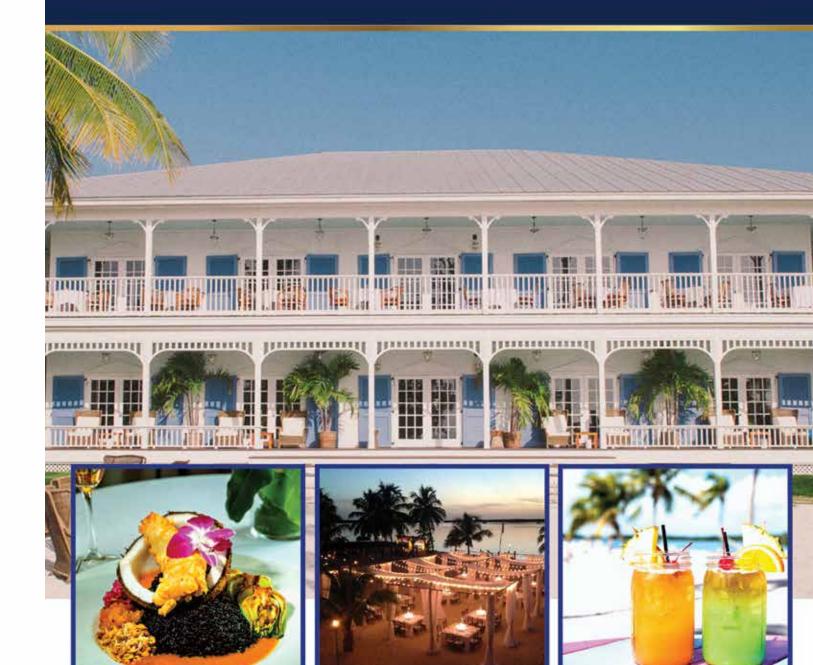


The Premier Spot for Sushi. Japanese inspired cuisine. The art of sushi with the flavors of the Florida Keys. 5PM - 10PM





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



PIERRE'S

**WEDDINGS & EVENTS** 

**BEACH CAFE** 



# For The Love of Meatballs

# The Keys' Italian Food Co Keeps On Rollin'

very Tuesday, Mama Maria spends the entire day rolling meatballs for a family that can't seem to stop growing. With so many mouths to feed, that's "a lotta" polpette.

Her son, Tony Wright, and daughterin-law, Isis, are also on a roll. Now boasting three restaurants, each with its own distinct style, their family-owned and operated Italian Food Company is going gangbusters.

This food-obsessed couple recently opened their flagship Key Largo location at 98070 Overseas Highway.

Despite it being their first foray into the restaurant business, the avid foodies felt right at home. Together with Tony's Sicilian mother, Maria, an incredible home cook with a repository of authentic recipes, they launched the Italian Food Company.

Their original Key Largo location is anchored by a mammoth wood-burning oven, which, like everything else in the restaurant, is imported from Italy.

This is where Grand

"Pizzaiolo," Simone

Calemme, skillfully spins
his soft, airy dough into
masterful works of art. Fresh
from the oven and piping
hot, his perfectly rendered Neapolitan pies
lineup includes favorites like Margherita



with fresh garden basil, Diavola with spicy Calabrian salami, and the four cheese Quattro.

The rest of the menu at this popular
Southern Italian cookery is simple and
straightforward. The soulful homestyle
preparations exceed expectations and
feature slow, simmered sauces, Mama
Maria's famous hand-rolled meatballs,
traditional meat lasagna, classic
parmigiana, and so much more.

Not to be missed: the Boccas — IFC's own unique twist on a Panini. Crafted with freshly made pizza dough, these addictive handhelds come stuffed with all kinds of deliciousness, ranging from mozzarella and meatballs to eggplant parmesan and sliced Prosciutto di Parma.

Just down the road is the Italian Food Company Express at 92330 Overseas Highway in Tavernier. Opened in 2023, this is THE place
to go for the
Wright's
extraordinary
Romanstyle pizza,
"swoon-worthy"
sandwiches, and
lots of grab-and-go
delights for folks on the
run. There's also a full menu
of signature specialties.

Both the Key Largo and Tavernier locations also serve wine and beer.

In Islamorada, Tony and Isis managed to snag 4,000' of prime Village space at 82779 Overseas Highway. With two spacious levels, this large-scale trattoria

> has a lively full-service bar, live entertainment, dancing, and unique event space.

But here's the best part: You'll still find many of the same award-winning Italian dishes that the IFC is renowned for. Here, authentic wood-fired Roman-style pies share the limelight with a larger, more elevated menu.

In addition to a bevy of risottos, pasta, salads, and, of course, Mama Maria's famous handrolled meatballs, you'll find sensational meat and seafood items like Grilled Lamb Chops, a 36 oz Porterhouse Steak, freshly Grilled Mediterranean Octopus, several inventive Mahi - Mahi preparations

breaking marlin, so be sure to make reservations.

And now for more Breaking News: Tony and Isis are planning to open a fourth Islamorada eatery. Rumor has it that this "Lido Beach style" waterfront restaurant will have boat access and an extensive menu of fresh focaccia sandwiches, grilled fish, and meat dishes. Watch this space for more deets. Who knows, maybe they'll even cook up a

and much

more.

FYI: A

seat here

in season

is as prized

as catching

a record-

More info at italianfoodcompany.com.

Italian twist, of course!

new kind of fish sandwich — one with an



Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide



# **Keys Eats**



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.

### **SQUARE GROUPER ISLAMORADA**

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 Kevs 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 Hwy 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 list.

### **TIKI BAR**

Amara Cay 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 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

### **ZIGGIE & MAD DOG'S**

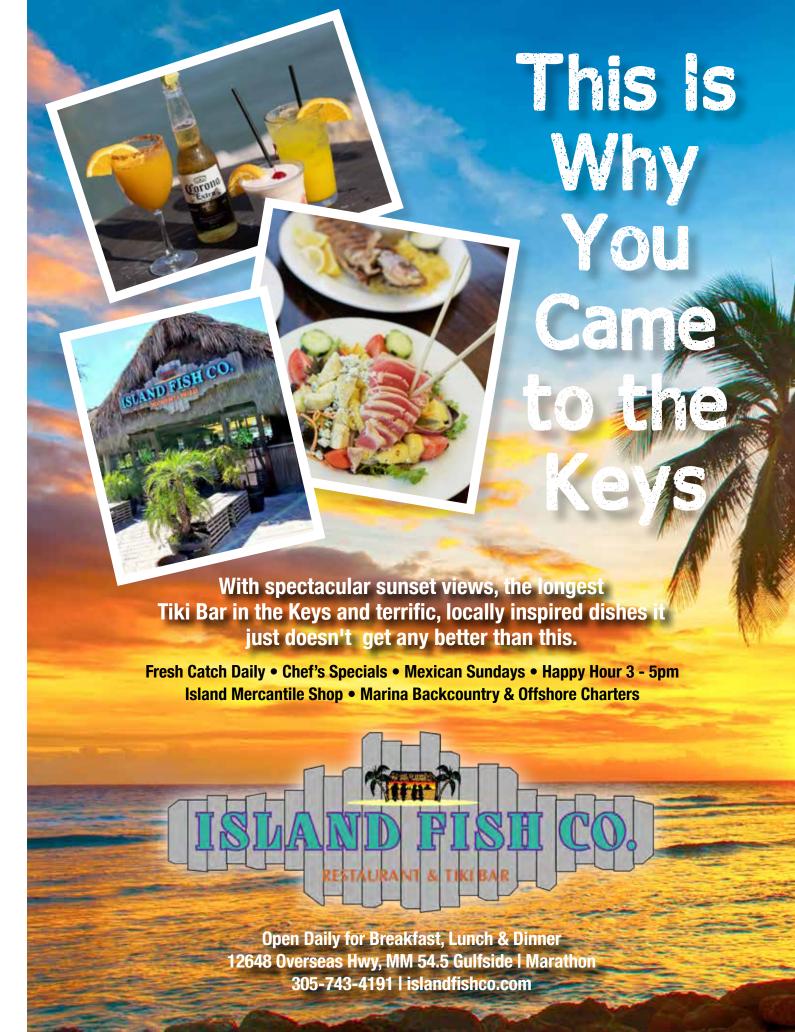
Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended 8300 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada 305.664.3391 ziggieandmaddogs.com Best Porterhouse Steak Revived in 2005 by former Miami Dolphins' tight end and sports broadcaster, Jim "Mad Dog" Mandich and longtime business partner Randy Kassewitz, the legendary Ziggie's 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.





# **Keys Eats**

### **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 pick-up 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

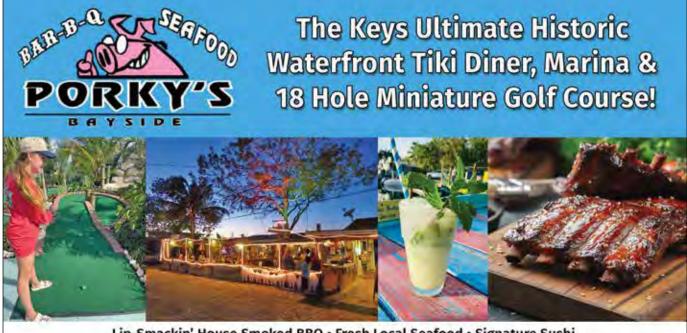
Daily Happy Hour M - F 4 - 6 pm Toes in the Sand, Drink In Hand Come by land or sea to this spectacular waterfront chilling station where tropical drinking and eating on the beach or upstairs in the new Bayfront dining room is not just for locals. The vibe here is always upbeat. The

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 acodies. 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).

### 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



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





The Lower Keys Most Spectacular Waterfront Restaurant & Bar



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, FI 3304 305-872-4500; KikisSandbar.com



# **American Caribbean Cuisine Spectacular Ocean Views**

Daily Happy Hour 4pm-6pm Mon 4 - 11pm **Closed Tues** Wed 4pm-11pm Thurs -Sat Ilam - Ilpm (Last seating for the kitchen 9:30pm) Live Entertainment!

An ever-evolving menu, lively Tiki Bar and outdoor patio backdropped by stunning views of the Atlantic capture the cool mood of the Caribbean, and transport you to another place and time. Indoor & Outdoor Seating.

> **Fresh Local Seafood** & Great Casual Fare

401 E Ocean Dr on Key Colony Beach 305-743-4849 | havanajacksoceanside.com



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** 



MM 80.4 = ISLAMORADA, FL

www. squaregrouperislamorada.com

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

# **Keys Eats**

Faro Blanco Resort, the Lighthouse Grill raises the bar for great dining in the Middle Keys.

### MAHINA

Isla Bella Beach Resort Overseas Hwv 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**

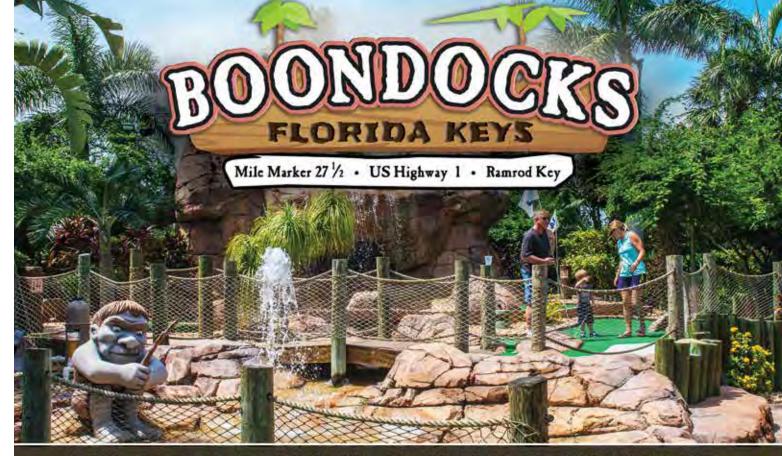
(Located above the Square Grouper Bar 22658 Overseas Hwy MM 22.5 Oceanside Cudjoe Key, FL 33042 305-745-8880: mynewjoint420lounge.com Tu - Sa 4:20 - 11 pm Happy Hour 4:20 - 6:30 pm Because Two Joints are Better Than One! Located above the Square Grouper, this swanky bar and lounge is a hip spot to kick 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

### **PORKY'S BAYSIDE**

your buds!

1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon, FL 33050 305-289-2065; porkysbaysidebbg.com Daily M - Su 8 am - 10 pm Happy Hour 3 - 6 pm Real Deal Southern BBQ, Boat Rentals & Miniature Golf continued on page 74

please everybody. A great place to bring



# 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



FOLLOW US TO STAY UP ON FOOD SPECIALS & EVENTS!

BOONDOCKSFLORIDAKEYS.COM

# **Keys Eats**

An old Keys island vibe, "real deal" housecooked 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 town, live entertainment, and the most challenging 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,

### **SQUARE GROUPER BAR & GRILL**

M22658 Overseas Hwy MM 22.5 Oceanside Cudjoe Key, FL 33042 305-745-8880:

squaregrouperbarandgrill.com

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 Kev Lime Martini! Raw Bar, Tapas Bar Menu & Cocktail Lounge with live music is located upstairs and is open until 11pm.

### KFY WFST

### **BISTRO 245**

Opal Resort & Marina 245 Front St., Key West, FL 33040 305-294-4000 Opalkevwest.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



1029 Southard St., Key West, FL 33040 305-294-0230: cafesole.com Open Nightly 5 - 10 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 Kev 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-famous Duval

### **LATITUDES AT SUNSET KEY**

245 Front St., Key West, FL 33040 305-292-5394; sunsetkeycottages.com Open Daily for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner 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., Key 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 & made-from-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

"Zucchini Zoodle Noodles." Seductive wine list features vintages dating back to the 1950's.

### **RED SHOE ISLAND BISTRO**

411 Petronia Street Key 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







# Intoxicating Food Worthy of 5 Stars

# Key West's Red Shoe Island Bistro

f you've done your research, you already know that there are lots of dining options in

Key West. But it can be overwhelming for someone who hasn't been around the block. Especially around Duval Street, which can oftentimes be hit or miss. And because every vacation day is precious, the last thing you want to do is to pick the wrong restaurant.

So here's an inside tip and a sure bet you will never regret: Red Shoe Island

Located on Petronia Street, just steps away from the madness of Duval, this cozy, offbeat restaurant is heralded for its terrific seafood-centric menu; house specialties like the extraordinary Certified Black Angus Beef Stroganoff; and sensational greens like the Pear and Blueberry Vanilla Goat Cheese salad with fresh watercress and toasted walnuts.

Owners John Bobon and husband Chip Junod recently took over the reins at this local hideaway and continue to raise the bar for great food.

For starters. you don't have to be a big fan of deviled eggs to revel in the Deviled Eggs and Scallops appetizer. Topped with four perfectly seared scallops balanced on a pool of signature lobster sauce, it's a great

Another "can't miss" appetizer: the Lobster Roll Profiteroles with a classic

prelude to more beautiful things to



lobster roll filling served inside delicate house-made profiteroles. The Crispy Pork Belly Crostinis, with ginger and sesame coleslaw and an avocado with lemon sauce, is also noteworthy.

For entrees, we're totally hooked on the Seafood Medley: scallops,

Prince Edward Island

mussels, and Key West Pink shrimp, all served over fresh fettuccine with house-made tomato, shallot, and Boursin sauce.

If you've never tasted fresh yellow tail snapper, Red Shoe Island

Bistro is the place to order it. This signature Bistro dish is a lovely melange of sautéed snapper filet with lemon and parsley sauce, paired with creamy parmesan topped risotto and sautéed asparagus.

The inventive menu also shines with the Bistro's Stuffed Poblano Pepper. Bursting with six Key West Pink

Shrimp surrounded by House grits, the pepper amazes with other surprising ingredients, including cheddar cheese, dried capers, spinach, and a fabulous bed of Boursin cheese sauce.

BTW: Save room for the absolutely divine creamy lavender cheesecake. The sublime flavor and delicate, flaky crust make for a perfect ending.

The Red Shoe Island Bistro is open Monday through Saturday from 6 - 9 pm. Find it at 411 Petronia Street in Key West. Info: 305-509-7271; redshoeislandbistro.com.

Trust me, this one's a winner!



# **Keys Eats**

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 scrumptious!

### **SCHOONER WHARF BAR**

200R Williams St., Key West, FL 33040 305-292-9520 schoonerwharf.com

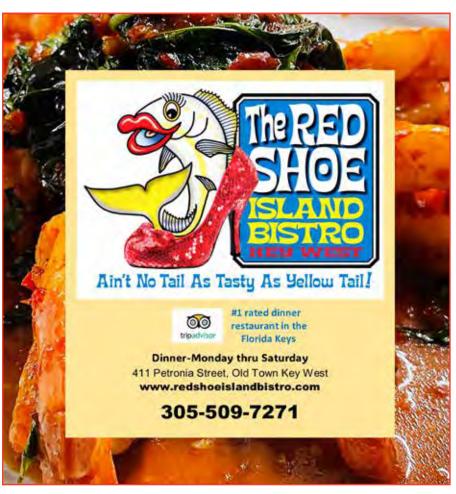
M - Th 8 - 2 am; F - Su 7:30 - 2 am A Last Little Piece Of Old Key West This funky, open-air waterfront bar sits on the docks overlooking the marina. The food and mood are Key West casual, and the menu has all your island favorites, including wings, nachos, burgers, fish tacos, seafood platters, conch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

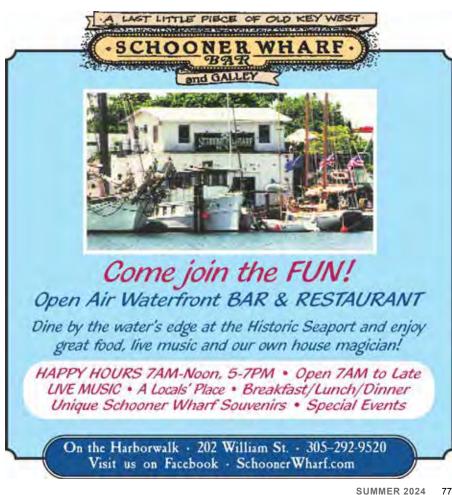
### STONED CRAB

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

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





# Award – Winning Food At Its Best

# Key West's Cafe Sole Steals the Show

ohn Correa loves, loves, loves food.

As Chef/Owner of Key West's awardwinning Cafe Sole he's got his hands on the pots of some of the island's best dishes.

Boat-to-table seafood is the order of the day, and by combining his French mastery of sauces with

locally caught fish, Chef Correa creates Caribbean fusion plates that are unlike any other restaurant on the island.

Perennial favorites like Snapper Sole – a sautéed Yellowtail filet with mango salsa; Shrimp Romesco fresh shrimp with spicy roasted red

pepper and hazelnut sauce; and Chef Correa's signature, awardwinning Hog Snapper with roasted red pepper zabaglione, top Cafe Sole's extensive menu. Also not to be missed: Correa's

authentic French classics like Duck L'Orange, Rack of Lamb with

herbs de Provence, and his outrageously delicious Bouillabaisse French stew with homemade broth.

There are lots of intriguing vegetarian and pasta dishes here, as well. The Baked Artichokes Aphrodisiac stuffed with garlic and

topped with Hollandaise makes a delicious starter. Another show stopper: the full-flavored Baby Clams with garlic, white wine, parsley, and crushed red pepper served over Angel Hair pasta.

BTW: If you're a fan of Gazpacho,

Chef Correra makes the

best chilled Andalusian soup you never had.

Put this one on your Key West Bucket List, You can find Cafe Sole tucked away in Old Town at 1029

305-294-0230; cafesole.com.

# Southard Street. Info: C'est très bien!

# NEST

### 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 Keys #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

### **Rent Key West Vacations**

1075 Duval Street, C-11 Key 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.

estate professionals never stop moving.

Rent Key West Vacations can hook you up with some of Key West's most discriminatina 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.

Key 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 "Legend." She and her associates continue to break new ground by providing top rated

### **OTHER AREAS**

### **Haley Rose 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.

# 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





78 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide SUMMER 2024 79



Historic Old Town home transformed to a luxury estate designed for family, friends & entertaining! Main house & 2 guest houses surround the waterfall pool creating a private oasis. 2 stories, outdoor living/dining, gourmet kitchen, huge attic, garage, carport, X flood zone.

5BD/5.2BA | 3,998sf | 12,478sf Lot \$7,950,000



Terri Spottswood Broker

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



### **15 BAY DRIVE**

Breathtaking ocean & sunrise views minutes from KW! Spacious 2 story, open floor plan, multiple porches, updated kitchen, new roof & AC system, impact windows/ doors, generator, dock w/ davits, boat launch, storage, carport.

3BD/2BA | 2,028sf | 7,500sf Lot \$1,999,750



### **1205 VON PHISTER STREET**

\$3,750,000

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



### **1500 IOHNSON STREET**

Exquisite double lot property newly renovated to perfection! Coastal design, gourmet kitchen w/ Fisher & Paykel appliances & quartz counters, vaulted Cypress ceiling, laundry room, pantry, covered lanai, pool, carport, lush landscaping.

3BD/3.5BA | 1,884sf | 9,064sf Lot



### **811 FLEMING STREET**

Rare opportunity to own a fantastic mixed-use building in the heart of Old Town! Commercial unit downstairs with 1/2 bath & rear patio & residential unit upstairs with spacious deck. Lots of upgrades. Perfect spot to live/work!

IBD/I.5BA | 2,252sf | 2,324sf Lot
\$2,500,000



### 908 FLEMING STREET

Magnificent estate offers complete tranquility in Old Town! Main house, guest house, artist/yoga studio, poolside pavilion w/ chef's kitchen, lagoon pool, lush tropical gardens, 500 bottle teak wine cabinet, top of the line finishes.

4BD/4.2BA | 3,440sf | 18,050sf Lot \$8,350,000



### **419 AMELIA STREET**

Well established Guesthouse + parking lot in Old Town w/ 15 transient licensed rooms/suites & special 5COP liquor license. Pristine condition, updated rooms & furnishings, pool, bar area, lobby/office. Prime location, steps from Duval St.! 15BD/15.5BA | 7,616sf | 15,969sf Lot \$13,500,000



305-587-3407

1205 Truman Avenue, Key West FL 33040



# Presented by The Lisa Ferringo Group



### 1355 Coury Drive, Key Colony Beach \$14,900,000

Extraordinary custom home that epitomizes luxury and boasts open ocean views! Immaculate double lot, private beach, lush landscaping, and resort-style amenities! Opulent great room overlooks an infinity pool with breathtaking views of the Ocean. Included is a lot across the street boasting 62' dock!



116 Avenue G, Marathon \$4,900,000
Remarkable custom estate epitomizing luxury waterfront living! Open floor plan and cathedral ceilings give way to a wall of windows and pristine views.

Chef's kitchen, 450-bottle walk-in wine closet and expansive deck area perfect for entertaining! Sparkling pool and outdoor kitchen overlook 60' dock granting superb boating access.



### 1507 Sombrero Boulevard, Marathon \$3,850,000

New Contruction with gorgeous Boot Key Harbor Views and excellent boating! Open-concept Great Room is bright and spacious and a full-length covered veranda boasting stunning Open Water Views! An opulent primary suite offers sweeping views of Boot Key Harbor and overlooks sparkling pool and generous T-dock.



### 201 West Seaview Drive, Duck Key \$14,500,000

Monumental Oceanfront estate! Enveloped in tropical landscaping, the oversized lot boasts stunning Open Water views, and elevated amenities! 200' dock and two lifts, resort-style infinity pool, luxurious hot tub, and show-stopping ceilings throughout. This is the epitome of serene luxury!



### 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!



### 281 West Indies Drive, Ramrod Key \$3,499,000 Spectacular Oceanfront pool home with panoram-

ic Ocean Views! Boating, kayaking, and paddle boarding from a concrete dock and endless ocean breezes on your private sandy beach. over 2,900 Sq. Ft. of luxurious living space. Beautifully landscaped ½ acre lot features a circular driveway and carport with ample covered parking.



57805 Morton St., Marathon \$4,999,000
Tropical Bayfront Estate on 2 lushly 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!



### Lot 2 Gulf of Mexico Boulevard, Marathon \$3,899,000

Stunning Open Water Views from this expansive 39,301 Sq. Ft. lot! Build your dream Oceanfront retreat on your timeline as this property conveys with a deeded building right. Plans and renderings drafted, with permit in process for a gorgeous modern home. Boat slip included in a protected marina with quick access to open water.



### 58618 Overseas Hwy., Marathon \$2,999,000

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!



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

Specializing in Luxury Water Front Properties!





TRUMAN & CO.

# Pink Cadillacs to Aircraft Concierge

It's All About the Million Air Experience



ary Kay Ashe loved the color pink. So much so that she used it everywhere: from the product packaging on her proprietary Mary Kay cosmetic line, to the signature pink Cadillacs she rewarded her top-earning

consultants. The cosmetics mogul died in 2001,

but her business legacy lives on.

In 1984, the Mary Kay Cosmetics family launched Million Air — a first-class Airport Welcome Center that provided luxury and exceptional customer service for Mary Kay customers and sales representatives.

In subsequent years, this "Million Air Experience" morphed into what is now considered the world's premier aircraft concierge. Today, with thirty-six locations throughout the United States (including Marathon in the Florida Keys), Canada, and the Caribbean, Million Air's VIP Aviation Service Centers (FBOs) are a welcome respite for private air travelers.

Because Million Air has an FBO centrally located in Marathon, it offers fast, easy access to all of The Florida Keys & Key West. Plane-side transportation options, from personal rentals to car

services and special onboard catering for departing flights, are just a few of the services included in the Million Air Experience.

Step onto the tarmac after you touch down, and you'll be greeted by an award-winning staff who provides

full concierge services

(even a welcome Maraarita from the beverage cart)! In Marathon,

Million Air provides

aviation gasoline and related services on the airport's East End; on the airport's West End, you'll have access to Jet A fuel and other associated services.

Another big plus: Marathon is a straight arrival from Miami Airway UG448. And because it's also a direct stop from Latin America, private aircraft can easily reposition here and avoid the hassle of Miami's heavy air traffic.

And get this: With convenient, less congested gateways and Million Air's premier FBO Customs Clearing Service, traveling back from the Bahamas, Caymans, Belize, and other popular regional destinations is a total breeze. Million Air literally

takes the headache out of international

It's no secret that the summer season is one of the best times to visit The Florida Keys & Key West. Fewer crowds translate into a more laid-back experience with better lodging rates.

BTW: Million Air works closely with many of the Keys' top lodging properties so it can obtain preferred pricing for overnighting pilots and crews, well as other first-time visitors.

And here's something else you probably didn't know: With Million Air, booking a private flight to or from Marathon (or from any one of their other locations), may be more affordable than you ever imagined.

To learn more about the Millionaire Experience, call 305-743-1995, email: info.mth@millionair.com, or hit up: millionair.com/locations/mth.

Now, where's that shaker of salt?



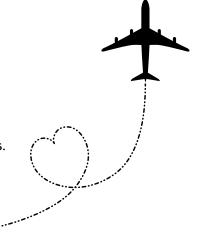
# The World's Premier Aircraft Concierge Has Landed At Marathon Airport!



With thirty-six locations throughout the US, Canada and the Caribbean, Million Air's VIP Aviation Service Centers (FBOs) are a welcome respite for private air travelers.

### Now It's Your Turn to Enjoy The Million Air Experience.

- Fast, easy access to the Florida Keys & Key West
- Fly directly into the heart of the Keys and avoid highway congestion
- Aviation fuel & other pertinent services
- Plane-side transportation options, from personal rentals to car services
- Special onboard catering for departing flights
- Preferred lodging rates for overnighting pilots, crews & first time visitors.
- Direct stop from Latin America
- Custom Clearing Services from the Bahamas, Caymans & Belize
- Private charters and so much more!



EXPERIENCE. MILLION AIR.

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MARATHON, FL

305-743-1995

