





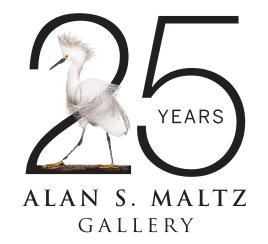
COLLECTING KEY WEST

THE WORK OF MARIO SANCHEZ



A MAJOR RETROSPECTIVE ON DISPLAY DECEMBER 6 TO MAY 18







HISTORIC SAND KEY LIGHTHOUSE

ALAN S. MALTZ

SHOWDOWN AT SUNDOWN

Alan Maltz Unveils New Solar Series



From April to September of 2024, renowned fine art photographer Alan S. Maltz embarked on a visual journey, capturing the otherworldly beauty of sunsets from his personal hotspot, MM13, located right on US1 in the lower Florida Keys.

Each evening revealed a new symphony of color and light, transforming the horizon into a celestial masterpiece.

In mid-July, the sun itself morphed into a massive red orb, slowly descending into the ocean like a cosmic apparition.

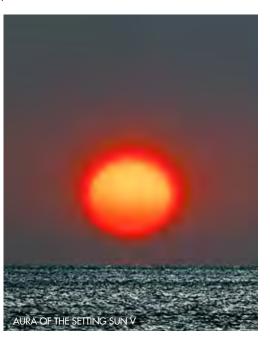
These rare and mystical encounters, captured so vividly through Maltz's lens, are now part of an upcoming solar series that bridges both the natural and supernatural realms.

"I am both delighted and grateful to have witnessed so many spectacular moments in nature over the last six months, and it is a true honor to present this new body of work to you," Maltz explains. For an intimate look at these captivating images and his remarkable 40-year collection, visit the acclaimed Alan S. Maltz Gallery, located at 1210 Duval Street in Key West.

To learn more, please visit: ALANMALTZ.COM or call (305) 294-0005.















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Florida Keys & Key West

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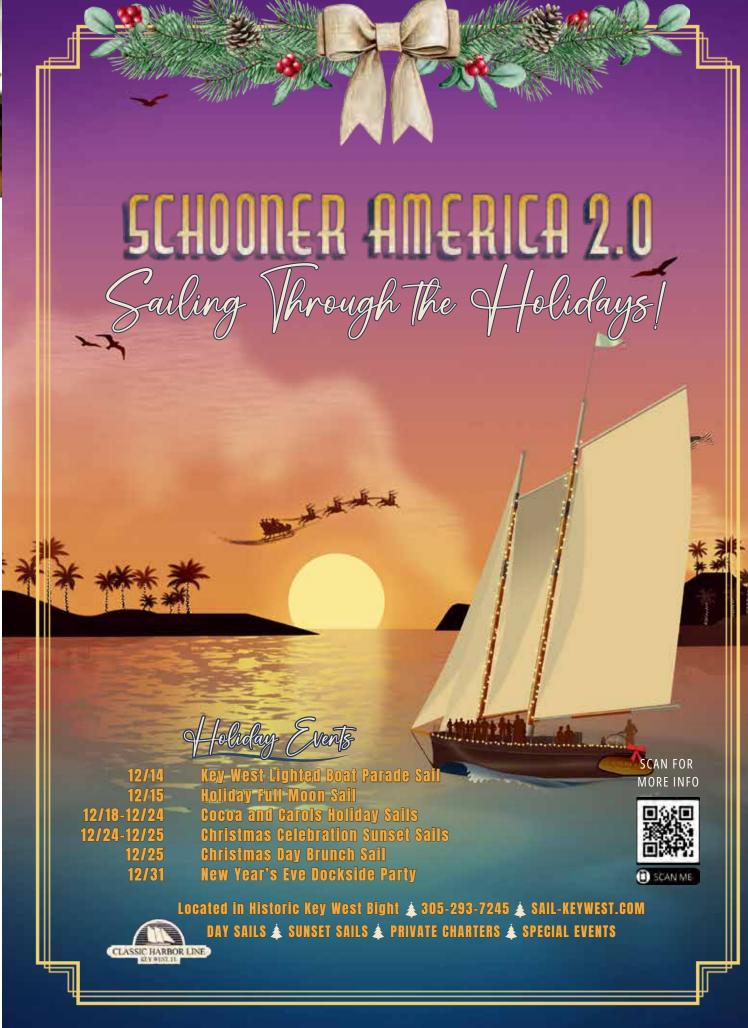
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ABOUT THE COVER

"Reach Back," the mind-blowing image gracing the cover of DESTINATION FLORIDA's Holiday/Winter issue is the brain child of master artist, Debra Hill. As part of her "Submerged Serenity" Exhibition on display at the Studios of Key West through November 28, Hill pulls out all the stops. Her imagination literally runs wild in a show that is bold, whimsical, colorful and symbolic. See more of her work every Tuesday – Saturday, from 10 am – 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton Street. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org. You can read more about her on page 14.



Tropical Spirits!

The Magic of Key West Holiday Fest

s one of America's top tropical holiday destinations, Key West is a small town that's big on holiday cheer. Nothing embraces its holiday spirit more than Key West Holiday Fest.

This annual month-long celebration which spreads good cheer all over our small island, kicks off on Wednesday, November 27 at 5 pm with the highly anticipated "Lighting of the Bight."

Every night, starting on Thanksgiving
Eve, Key West's Historic Harbor Walk hits
the switch for a breathtaking display of
holiday lights. This spectacular "Harbor
Walk of Lights" stays lit nightly through
New Year's Eve and stretches along the
Key West Historic Seaport and Key West
Bight Marina.

The entire harbor area, including a Fishing Buoy
Tree, fresh pine Nautical
Christmas Tree and the original Key West Lobster
Trap Tree, shimmer and shine with hundreds of thousands of festive holiday lights.
This year, the island-wide celebration also includes a special tribute to the late
Jimmy Buffet.

Things really kick into high gear starting on Saturday, November 30 when The Studios of Key West stages its annual **Holiday Market** from 9 am – 2 pm. The weekend culminates with a fun Tree **Trimming Party & Toy Drive** at



Schooner Wharf Bar which starts at 6 pm. On Friday, December 6, Wesley House launches it's annual **Holiday Village & Belighted Bike Ride** at Truman Waterfront Park from 5 – 9 pm. On Saturday, December 7, Key West's very own **Hometown Holiday Parade** rolls out

cheer starting at 7
pm from the intersection of
Truman Avenue and White Street.
On Sunday, December 8, it's time for the
Eaton Street Christmas Stroll which begins
at 3:30 pm at St Paul's Episcopal Church.
The 8th Annual Holiday Concert & Bazaar
draws a fun crowd on Friday, December
13 and takes place from 5 – 9 pm at Key
West's Custom House Museum. Also notto-be-missed: Key West's famous Schooner
Wharf Lighted Boat Parade which shoves
off on Saturday, December 14 at 8 pm
from the Historic Seaport.

During the entire month of December, there will be lots of other merry events, as well, including the oh-so festive **Key West**

Historic Home Tours on Friday, December 6 and again on Friday, December 13; the Annual Key West Holiday Home Tours on December 27 - 28; holiday island lights tours via the Conch Tour Train and Old Town Trolley; seasonal artisan markets and bazaars; and multiple New Year's Eve "Drops" that spoof New York City's annual Times Square Ball Drop. Topping it all off is a plethora of live concerts, art openings, and theatrical performances including a sensational production of **Nutcracker** Key West. This island interpretation of the fabled holiday ballet opens on Thursday, December 5, and plays for two festive weekends: Friday, December 6 - Sunday,



December 13 – Sunday, December 15 (read more about it on page 28).

If a balmy tropical get-away adorned with twinkling lights and fun festivities popping up all over the island is your idea of a fun way to spend the holidays, then Key West is your place in the sun!

For more information on individual events, see pages 12 – 44. Late-breaking details at keywestholidayfest.com

Happy Holidays!



DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West

Deck the halls at the Inns.

On two enchanted Friday nights in December, take part in the spectacular Historic Inns Tours and navigate yourself through a holiday universe. These self-guided tours feature some of Key West's most charming Inns and Guesthouses all decorated for the season. Whether you bike, walk, or ride the trolley to each destination, these tours will certainly transport you to a more enchanting time. Visit keywestholidayfest.com for more details.



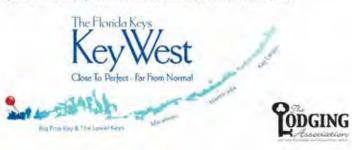




December 8; and then again on Friday,

'Tis the season. And once again we're lighting up Old Town with a dazzling display of holiday decorations, twinkling light, food and family fun. It all begins with the spectacular lighting of the Harbor Walk on Wednesday, November 27 at 6 PM with a special Jimmy Buffett tribute, and continues with Historic Inns Tours and the celebrated Lighted Boat Parade.

For holiday schedules throughout December, visit keywestholidayfest.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

606 Greene St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com
Open Daily 10 am – 6 pm
Key West's Premier Art Gallery
"Miami has Art Basel; Key West has the
Gallery on Greene." This premier gallery
showcases a mind-blowing collection of

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

Jag Gallery

1075 Duval St C23
Key West, Fl 33040
305-407-6202; jaggallery.art
Daily Noon – 5 pm
Great Works by Renowned Local Artists
Founded by acclaimed painter Letty Nowak,
Jag Gallery represents many of Key West's
most known and relevant contemporary artists.
In addition to Nowak's work, you'll find Key
West greats, including John Martini, Rick
Worth, Lincoln Perry, Carol Munder, B. Lucy
Stevens, Aase May, Sharon McGauley & Cathy
Rose. The gallery also exhibits guest artists
and hosts the annual Small Works Exhibit,
which takes place through November 26.

If you're in the market for exceptional local art, this is a "must-see" gallery.

The Studios of Key West

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

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

Sea Sister Island Gallery

303 Duval St
Key West, Fl 33040
954-232-7248; seasisterislandgallery.com
Call for Hours
A Unique Artist Boutique
You'll find a captivating and ever-changing

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 Key West, Fl 33040 305-767-3769 shadeandshutterkeywest.com Open M – Sa 11 am – 5 pm Contemporary Artisan Ceramics & Fine Art Photography

This sleek, contemporary gallery and working studio is home to celebrated potter, Mark Klammer and acclaimed nature photographer, Sarah Carleton. The two award-winning 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.



Mario Sanchez

Critically acclaimed as the most important Cuban American Folk Artist of the 20th Century, he received one-man exhibitions in major museums from New York's American Folk Art & Museum of the City of New York, Bacardi Museum & Cuba's National Museum of Fine Art. His work resides in the Smithsonian, Whitney & American Folk Art Museums.

His motto was "One Race, the Human Race". He believed in the Great American Dream with a humorous twist. Mario Sanchez's passion was depicting the people of Key West & Tampa. His unique technique of sketches and intaglios of Florida's and Cuba's treasured history involve the humanistic values of a rich cultural community filled with the traditions of immigrants of diverse geographic and ethnic origins.



Barrel of Fish, 22" x 31" Intaglio



Cookoo Doing the ChooChoo, 16.5" x 35" Intaglio

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

From Barber Shop Art to the Smithsonian Museum:

The Story of Mario Sanchez

hat does a local Key West Barber Shop have world's largest museum? Answer: Mario Sanchez, regaled as the greatest living Cuban-American folk artist of the twentieth century, whose art tells the unwritten story of Key West.

Believe it or not, Key West's selftaught artist started by hawking his simple pencil sketches at local barber shops. Originally rendered on brown paper grocery bags from Fausto's Market, Mario's simple drawings included local scenes and real characters easily recognized by the native island folk.

Mario Sanchez, born in the Key West Cuban cigar community known as "Gatoville" in 1908, grew up in America's Southernmost City during WWI and the Great Depression. The son of a cigar maker, Mario spent most of his life on the island.

Despite hard times, Mario Sanchez

firmly believed in the Great American Dream. He went on to attend business school and after graduating, accepted a clerk's job in Tampa's Ybor City. However, it wasn't long before he realized that a desk job was not for him. Key West was calling his name and he took heed.

It was the early 1930s when everything changed. Now married and back in his beloved Key West, young Mario fully embraced his creativity. His small

yard became "Mario's Studio Under the Trees," designated by a hand-painted sign nailed to a mango tree outside his Old Town home. Having never formally studied art, Mario cleverly used carbon



paper to transfer his rudimentary paper bag sketches onto pine and white cedar boards. He then chiseled the wood into fantastical bas-relief carvings and used dime store brushes to apply house paint

To further bring his colorful carvings to life, Sanchez assimilated other unusual materials into his intaglios: clean kitty litter to provide texture for the streets, egg yolks, and Elmer's glue to make the windows shiny. More often than not, Mario's work incorporated a humorous twist, and his cherished memories of growing up in Key West were at the heart of his work.

Today, those intricately detailed images of flying kites, spinning tops, festive parades, and smiling neighbors rocking on their front porches reveal the humanistic values of a rich cultural

community. A community filled with diversity and cherished traditions.

Sanchez's images also embrace his motto of "One Race, the Human Race," as they document the lives of the people who helped shape our local landscape during turbulent times. Yet, even in the darkest days, every scene Mario Sanchez created — including the traditional island funeral processions is filled with exuberance.

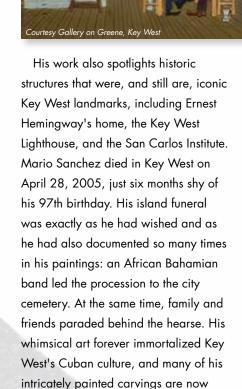
Sanchez's first major public showing was in 1961 at Key West's Fort East Martello Museum. This exhibition enriched his reputation as a wellrespected artist and member of the Key West Cuban-American community.

During his seventy-plus-year career, Sanchez produced over 600 paintings and woodcarvings. His memory of events was precise, and he adamantly believed that "every generation should tell the next one about its ancestors." Mario often confessed that he could not carve a scene that was not accurate because "you can't just invent history."

depicts the artist's father reading to cigar makers at Key West's Gato Cigar Factory. Not only does this piece reflect Sanchez's personal heritage, but it also offers a unique view of an industry that helped shape Key West. His work is also part of the permanent collection of the American Folk Art & Museum in New York.

Sanchez's regaled one-man exhibitions appeared in other major museums, including the Bacardi Museum & Cuba's National Museum of Fine Art. But here is the most wonderful part of this story: From December 6 through May 18, you can see an absolutely fantastic collection of Mario Sanchez's original sketches and intaglios during a special Key West exhibition entitled "The Collecting of Key West: The Works of Mario Sanchez." This limited-time event takes place daily from 9:30 am -4:30 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front Street. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

Collectors Take Note: Several of Mario Sanchez's original works are actually available for purchase at Nance Frank's acclaimed Gallery On Greene at 606 Greene Street in Key West. Info: 305-294-1669; galleryongreene.com



In 2018, local curator, collector, and

valued at more than \$50,000.







Wow, Just Wow!!!

The Wonder of Artist Debra Hill's Magic



The mind-blowing image gracing the cover of DESTINATION FLORIDA's Holiday/Winter issue is the brainchild of artist Debra Hill. As part of her "Submerged Serenity" Exhibition on display at the Studios of Key West throughout the month of November,



Hill pulls out all the stops. Her imagination literally runs wild in a show that is bold, whimsical, colorful, and symbolic.

Barefoot and curious, Hill spent her

youth immersing herself in nature She often draws inspiration from those memories — especially from the vibrant flora and bird life of her native Sydney, Australia. For Debra Hill, the joy of painting comes from creating colorful new worlds that narrate a fantastical "micro" moment in life. Her magical conceptual paintings are infused with an almost carnival-like quality that weaves metaphor and whimsey into a tapestry of vibrant color.

But what makes her work so mesmerizing is how she incorporates unnatural juxtapositions of images and fantasy. In DESTINATION FLORIDA's cover image, Hill's enchanted, surreal, underwater world of swirling nature is a morphism of tropical birds, exotic flowers, and young girls striding like a pair

> of beautiful sea ballerinas across a sandy ocean floor. Like all of Debra Hill's work, it's a transfixing image that keeps you riveted.

We are proud to have Debra Hill as our featured cover artist for our mega Holiday/Winter issue. She regularly exhibits her work in numerous group and solo shows throughout the United States, as well as in her native Australia. Hill's paintings are also showcased in private

collections internationally and online at Debrahillstudio.com.

But for a real treat, and for a very limited time, you can see Debra Hill's



surreal images up close and personal right here in Key West. Her fantastical "Submerged Serenity" Exhibition opens Thursday, November 7 from 6 – 8 pm and continues through November 28, every Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm in the Sangar Gallery at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton Street. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

It's a flight of fantasy that you'll never



Art & Cultural Happenings

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

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. It is open daily at 10 am at 1210 Duval Street in Key West. Info: 305-294-0005.

Mario Sanchez Original Works &

Key West: Learn about the "Real Old Key West" from Mario Sanchez, Florida's most important folk artist. Nance Frank has curated multiple exhibits of famed Cuban artist Mario Sanchez with catalogs for his

exhibition presented by The American Folk Art Museum. The Museum of the City of New York, and Cuba's National Museum. Takes place daily at 2 pm at Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com.

Daily

EXHIBITION

Origin of the Mark V Helmet and **Military Diving**

Islamorada: How many parts does it take to build a helmet? How do divers use a Bear Paw to traverse the side of a ship or submarine? Recently updated, this fascinating exhibit explores the dangerous work of salvage divers after the attack on Pearl Harbor and much more! Takes place daily from 10 am - 5 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

Daily

EXHIBITION

William Beebe and the Bathysphere

Islamorada: Discover how William Beebe, one of history's first naturalists, used a



diving helmet to record marine animals in their natural habitats. You can also see the actual scale model of his deep-sea submersible, the Bathysphere, created by engineer Otis Barton. Used to transport Beebe and Barton to a depth of 3,028' in 1934, the Bathysphere shattered all diving records of the time. It also introduced them to never-before-seen sea creatures. Takes place

continued on page 17



Shade Ceramics and Shutter Photography

Contemporary artisan ceramics and fine art photography Crafted in Key West





1102 White St, Key West

305-767-3769

shadeandshutterkeywest.com

JAG GALLERY KEY WEST

Michel Delgado **AGITATED CURIOSITY**

December 7-29

Opening reception December 7 5:30-7:30



mixed media on panel 62 x 52 in.



THE PLACE WE GROW THE MOST mixed media on panel 48 x 48 in.



This Season at Jag

November 2-27 - SMALL WORKS 2024 juried exhibition January 4-19 – David Wegman and Cayman Smith-Martin

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



From the Streets of Senegal to EMPIRE

Artist Michael Delgado Paints Stories

ow does a self-taught artist from West Africa get his work showcased on the hit TV drama **EWbikes**

Meet Michael Delgado, a visionary artist whose unlikely journey inspires anyone who dreams of bigger and better

Born in Senegal's seaport capital of Dakar, Michael Delgado started his career as a young boy. Brimming with art, culture, music, and dance, the city of Dakar was a major launching pad for many African artists, including Delgado.

Enraptured by the vibrancy of Dakar's iconic African fabrics, the fourteen-year-old Delgado began creating loud, colorful cloth bags painted with his original artwork. Unfortunately, making a living as an artist in Dakar proved next to impossible. So, like many others before him, the aspiring young artist moved to Paris. Immersing himself in the local

art scene, his new works exploded with intense colors, crisply painted shapes, and meticulous details conjured through the lens of his life in Dakar.

In 1988, Delgado emigrated to the United

States, eventually landing in Key West where his work was an immediate hit.

Today, the internationally celebrated and award-winning artist is regaled for his daring, bold, and bright works that literally jump off the canvas. Taken individually, each one of his paintings is fresh and compelling. Shown together, the prolificacy is all-encompassing.



His impressive body of work is now being snapped up by many private collectors and is regularly exhibited at museums and galleries throughout the

And that brings us back to the American music drama, EMPIRE. As luck would have it, one of Delgado's patrons was a stylist for the hit show. Because of that connection, his paintings, along with works by iconic artist Andy Warhol and other famous masters, became part of a staged art collection belonging to the

> show's main protagonist, "Lucious Lyon." That unlikely break forever changed the trajectory of Delgado's career.

A recent recipient of the 2024 prestigious Gottlieb Foundation Individual Support Grant, Michel Delgado

will reveal his new collection of abstract paintings at Key West's acclaimed Jag Gallery. The exhibit, entitled "Agitated Curiosity," opens with a special reception on December 1 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm and continues through December 29 every Tu - Su from Noon - 5 pm. You can find Jag Gallery at 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

Art & Cultural Happenings

daily from 10 am - 5 pm at The History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

DAILY

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.

WEEKLY

Tuesday - Saturday

Movies at the Museum

Islamorada: This ongoing series of fascinating "Shorts" runs throughout the day and includes films about Henry Flagler's

Overseas Railroad, the Keys 1935 Hurricane, and an overview of Islamorada area State Parks. Films begin at 10:30 am 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). 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.

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 & libations, local musicians, authors, and glorious ocean views. It takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at Indigenous Park on

Higgs Beach. Info: 305-731-3385; keysartisanmarket.com

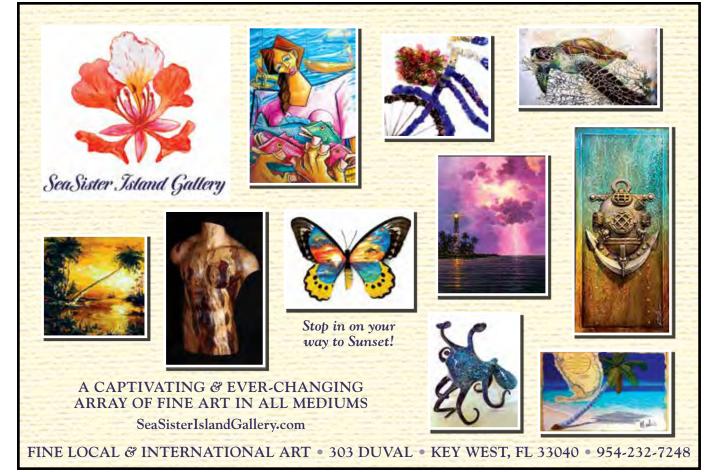
MONTHLY

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, archaeology, diving, and marine science topics. Takes place at 7 pm

continued on page 18





at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737 or hit 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: This fun two-hour walking tour of our local galleries and studios in Key West's Historic Seaport District gives you an inside look at the island's vibrant culture. It leaves at 9:30 am from the Key West Art & Historical Society, 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 Friday

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 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. Takes place from 6 – 9 pm. Info: 305-304-9001; fabflemingkw.com.

Second Saturday

I Love Stock Island Art Stroll

Key West/Stock Island: Local artists showcase original works at several locations around Stock Island. Takes place from 11 am - 5 pm in the Stock Island Arts District. Info: 305-731-5780: ILoveStockIsland.ora.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Now - November 24

Small Works Exhibit

Key West: This annual juried exhibit is one of the Keys' most highly anticipated art events and showcases the works of over 200 artists from across the globe. You'll be absolutely fascinated by the scope of these original works (painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, and textile) that do not exceed ten inches in any one direction — including the frame! Takes place Tu - Su from noon to 5 pm at Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval Street, in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

Now - November 24

EXHIBITION

The Antic Humor of Richard Weatherwax

Key West: Master photographer Richard Weatherwax shares his amusing view of life in Key West. This limited-time show is guaranteed to evoke lots of chuckles. It takes place daily from 10 am - 5 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

Now - November 30

Scarecrows in the Forest

Key West: This lighthearted outdoor exhibit showcases scarecrows crafted from natural and recycled materials by local artists, residents, and students. The scarecrows are freestanding and no more than six feet tall. They are on display daily from 10 am - 4 pm at the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd. Info: 305.296.1504; keywest.garden.

Now - December 31

EXHIBITION Salvaging the Deep

Islamorada: This special limited-time exhibit explores some of the ocean's deepest wrecks and tells the incredible story of finding,

researching, and salvaging them. Takes place daily from 10 am – 5 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas

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

Now -January 26

EXHIBITION Monkey in Paradise: A Norbert Szilagyi

Retrospective Key West: Since arriving in Key West in the late 1980s. Norbert Szilagyi's art embraces his own unique concept of 'tropical

primitivism.' His work crosses all mediums, from sculpture to high gloss house paint on wood, but it always stays unmistakably Norbert. Takes place daily from 10 am - 5 pm at the Key West Art & Historical Society, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

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MONKEY IN PARADISE

A NORBERT SZILAGYI RETROSPECTIVE

On Display November 1 to January 26



Key West Museum of Art & History 281 Front Street | Key West | kwahs.org







November 7

Holiday Artisan Market

Key West: Enjoy cookies and coffee as you stroll through a friendly, festive indoor market where over a dozen artisans showcase unique and locally produced aifts. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

November 7 - 26

EXHIBITION

Summer Solstice Student Show

Key West: This past summer, watercolor enthusiasts joined Key West/New York artist Susan Sugar to learn new ways of observing the ephemeral shapes and transitory moods of the evening sky. This special exhibition includes a selection of their works, as well as one of Susan's own originals. Opens Th, Nov 7 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu – Sa from 10 am – 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org

November 7 - 28

EXHIBITION

Submerged Serenity by Debra Hill

Key West: Featured on DESTINATION FLORIDA's current Holiday/Winter cover, acclaimed artist Debra Hill creates powerful narrative works drawn from her imagination and her native Australia. Her work is bold. whimsical, colorful, and symbolic. Opens Th, Nov 7 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

November 7 - 28

EXHIBITION

It Only Hurts by Emma Maclean

Key West: A chronically ill and disabled artist, Emma Maclean visualizes pain through 78 meticulously crafted textile pieces. Her interactive exhibition also fosters a deeper connection and understanding of chronic pain. Opens Th, Nov 7 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu - Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

November 7 - 28

EXHIBITION

Memory Lane by Catherine Solmo

Key West: Inspired by old photographs and by her grandfather's vivid stories, Catherine Solmo creates nostalgic paintings that pay tribute to past generations of Conchs and

their traditions. Opens Th, Nov 7 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu – Sa from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

November 13 - 17

2024 Key West Film Festival

Key West: Named one of the top 25 coolest film fests, this annual event showcases films that exhibit excellence in storytelling. Enjoy screenings, visiting filmmakers, workshops, and special events at landmark venues throughout Key West. Info: keywestff.com.

November 20

Immerse Yourself!

Alligator Lighthouse Restoration

Islamorada: This free monthly presentation features an array of experts covering maritime history, archaeology, diving, and marine science topics. Presented in person by Captain Rob Dixon, this month's topic covers the history, conservation, and restoration of Islamorada's iconic Alligator Lighthouse. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM 83 Bayside). Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.



November 27 - December 31

Key West Holiday Fest

Key West: A merry range of celebrations during Key West's busy holiday season includes the Harbor Walk of Lights, Holiday Historic Inn Tours, a spectacular lighted boat parade, and lots of good cheer. Other events include the annual hometown holiday parade, festive island lights tours via the

Conch Tour Train and Old Town Trolley, seasonal artisan markets, bazaars, and multiple New Year's Eve "drops" that spoof New York City's annual Times Square Ball Drop. Info: keywestinns.com/holiday-fest.

November 30

Big Pine & The Lower Keys Island Art

Big Pine: This fun annual holiday event always draws a big crowd and includes live music, exhibits, arts and crafts, food vendors, and more. Takes place from 9 am - 3 pm at the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce, MM 31, oceanside. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkevschamber.com.

December 1 - December 29

Exhibition Agitated Curiosity New Works from Michael Delgado

Key West: A recent recipient of the 2024 prestigious Gottlieb Foundation Individual Support Grant, Michael Delgado reveals his new collection of abstract paintings. The exhibit, entitled "Agitated Curiosity," opens with a special reception on Sa, December 1 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm and continues every Tu - Su from noon - 5 pm at Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

December 5 - 26

Winter Member's Show

Kev West: This annual kickoff event celebrates the launch of The Studios of Key West's upcoming season catalog. A perpetual crowd favorite, it also includes a special exhibition of over 100 artworks. Opens on Tu, Nov 5 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu - Su from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

December 6 - May 18

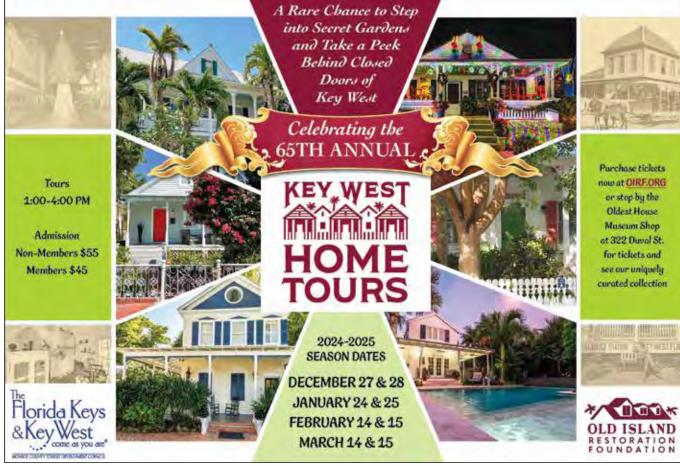
Mario Sanchez

EXHIBITION Collecting Key West: The Works of

Key West: Key West native the late Mario Sanchez, is among this country's finest and most-recognized folk artists. In hundreds of intricately painted wood carvings created in a lifelong labor of love, Sanchez has provided a better history of Key West in the first part of the 20th century than any annals or academic texts. His work also hangs in Washington DC's Smithsonian Museum

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Assembled to honor the artist twenty years after his death, this extraordinary exhibit incorporates never-before-seen works, as well as many personal effects. Takes place daily from 10 am – 5 pm at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.ora.

December 6 & 13

Holiday Historic Inn Tours

Key West: This enchanted self-quided tour takes you to ve different decorated inns for a sampling of holiday treats and cheer at each property. Takes place from 6 - 8 pm. Info and tickets: 305-296-4959; keywesthistoricinns.com.

December 7

Celebrate the Season Holiday Event

Key West: Each December the Key West Art Center changes out its entire collection in anticipation of the upcoming busy season. The new collection will be unveiled at this special holiday-themed reception and will be available — both for viewing and purchasing. Takes takes place from 5 – 7 pm and also includes refreshments. On view daily from 10 am - 5 pm at The Key West Art Center, 301 Front St. Info: 305-294-1241; kevwestartcenter.com.

December 7

EXHIBITION Military Divers

Islamorada: In commemoration of the 83rd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, this special auided tour pays tribute to military divers. Takes place at 11 am and 2 pm and is included with regular admission at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

December 7

Holiday Artisan Fair The Studios of Key

Key West: With a full hall of artists and artisans showcasing their work, you're sure to discover something wonderful for every person on your list. BTW: TSKW is also launching their new line of merchandise in the museum store and will be offering over 100 works of art at the annual Winter Members Exhibit: "Gardens." (Dec 5 – 26). Takes place from 9 am - 2 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

December 8

Eaton Street Christmas Stroll

Key West: Keys Choral Arts presents a short program of sacred and secular music for this festive season at 3:30 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 401 Duval St. Group Stroll follows at 4 pm along Eaton Street in Old

December 8

Eaton Street Holiday Stroll at The Studios of Key West

Key West: This annual holiday tradition includes various neighborhood venues hosting short Christmas-themed performances. At The Studios of Key West, you can sip on Christmas cocktails on the rooftop of Hugh's View and do some holiday shopping at the special Member's Show. Takes place from 3:30 pm -7:30 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: tskw.org.

December 8 -**December 15**

Festival of Trees

Key West: Crafted and decorated by local students, a festive forest of holiday trees takes center stage on the porch of Key West's historic Custom House before being donated to families through the Housing Authority of Key West. Takes place daily from 10 am - 5 pm at the Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

December 13

8th Annual Holiday Concert & Bazaar

Key West: One of Key West's most popular holiday celebrations boasts some of the island's finest artisans, musicians, and choirs; lots of areat food, eaanoa, and other festive libations; as well as a holiday light show projected on the face of the Custom House. You'll also have an opportunity to shop for lots of unique gifts and handcrafted items. Takes place from 5 - 9 pm on the historic porch of the Custom House Museum and spills out onto the street at 281 Front St. Info & tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

December 17

Film Screening: Florida On Film With Brittany Reeber

Key West: Reeber presents a survey of Sunshine State cinema that spans 70 years of filmmaking and ranges from Hollywood studio classics to oddball documentaries and contemporary independent stunners. Takes place at 6 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org

December 18

Immerse Yourself! The Journey of the "Christ of the Deep"

Islamorada: This free monthly presentation features an array of experts covering maritime history, archaeology, diving, and marine science topics. This month, Elena Muratori of the Florida Park Services shares the fascinating history of the Florida Keys' iconic Christ of the Deep statue, which is

> submerged in the waters of John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. Takes place both in person and virtually at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwv. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

December 27 -December 28

Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens

take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The selfguided tours take place from 1 – 4 pm and benefit the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info: 305-294-9501; Tickets & schedules at OIRF.org.

January 2 - 30

EXHIBITION

Duke Riley

Key West: Renowned for his inventive style that seamlessly blends the richness of history with the vibrancy of urban life. Duke Riley is a powerhouse in the art world. His diverse repertoire encompasses mixed media, performance, and site-specific installations. Opens Th, Jan 2 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu - Su from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

January 2 - 30

EXHIBITION

Object Permanence by Mena Ganey

Key West: A self-proclaimed "artistic weirdo" inspired by nostalgia and personal reflection, Mena Ganey adeptly blends the familiar and the contemplative. Her art often features bizarre animals and characters that are equal parts adorable and comical. Opens Th, Jan 2 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu – Su from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

January 2 - 30

EXHIBITION

On the Reef by Jeffery Cardenas

Key West: Key West resident Jeffrey Cardenas travels from Polynesia to the Mediterranean and Caribbean Sea. photographing vibrant coral reef ecosystems. His work reveals the beauty and essential role of coral reefs in supporting diverse marine life.. Opens Th, Jan 2 from 6 – 8 pm and continues every Tu - Su from 10 am – 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

January 2 - 30

EXHIBITION Parallels by Pamela Kostmayer and Jane Beck

Key West: Pamela Kostmayer's wood sculptures and Jane Beck's glass creations come together in this captivating showcase, highlighting intriguing parallels in their artistic visions. Opens Th, Jan 2 from 6 – 8 pm and

continues every Tu - Su from 10 am - 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

> **January 4 - 19 Exhibition** David Wegman & **Cayman Smith** Martin

Key West: Local artist, musician and aroundthe-world sailor. David

Wegman's work reflects a visual journey of his life. A creative builder, welder, musician and muralist, Cayman Smith Martin has travelled the world as both a renegade and a professional artist. This exhibit brings them together for a mind-blowing exhibit that showcases their amazing talents and versatility. Opening Reception on Sa, January 4 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. The exhibit continues every Tu -Su from noon - 5 pm at Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.



January 15 - April 16

EXHIBITION

Dive Into Art: Fintastic Fish of Florida

Islamorada: In collaboration with the Art Guild of the Purple Isles, this unique, limited-time exhibit celebrates the diverse fish of coastal Florida. The show also includes works by students throughout the Keys. On display daily from 10 am – 5 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

January 18

EXHIBITION TOUR

Dive Into Art: Fintastic Fish of Florida

Islamorada: This special tour celebrates the opening of this new featured exhibit. Takes place at 11 am and 2 pm and is included with regular admission at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

January 18

Art Under the Oaks

Tavernier: This annual outdoor fine arts and crafts show is literally held "under the oaks" with a variety of live music, refreshments, a Bake Sale, and raffles. Takes place from

9 am – 4 pm at the San Pedro Church Gardens, 89500 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-852-5372; artundertheoaks.com.

January 24 - 25

65th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The self-guided tours take place from 1 – 4 pm and benefit the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info: 305-294-9501; Tickets & schedules at OIRF.org.

January 25 - 26

21st Annual Big Pine & Lower Keys Nautical Expo

Big Pine: Get great deals on all things nautical as well as on local arts and crafts, clothing, and jewelry. Live music, food, and beverages, too. Free admission and parking. Takes place on Sa from 8 am – 4 pm and on Su from 8 am – 2 pm at the Lower Keys Chamber, MM31, Oceanside grounds. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com

COMING SOON

February 14 - 15

65th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The self-guided tours take place from 1 – 4 pm, benefiting the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Tickets and schedules are available online at OIRF.org. More info: 305-294-9501.

February 22 - 23

60th Annual Key West Art & Craft Festival

Key West: This nationally recognized juried fine art show attracts over 100 fine and skilled artists from across the country and includes painters, sculptors, photographers, collage artists, and other non-functional fine arts. Takes place from 10 am – 5 pm along the Quay at Truman Waterfront Park, 100 Southard St. Info: 305-294-1243; keywestartcenter.com.

History of Diving Museum Dive into 4000 years of history. Salvaging the Deep May - Dec 2024 Discover some of the world's deepest wrecks and learn about how we got there. Bive Into Arts Fintastic Fish of Florida Jan-April 2025 Community art celebrating the diverse fish of the Florida coast and sustainable fishing. 82990 Overseas Hwy | Islamorada, FL Keys | (305) 664-9737 Don't drive by, dive in! | Open 10-5 Daily | www.divingmuseum.org



MUSEUMS

UPPER KEYS

Florida Keys History & Discovery Center

On the Property of the Islander Resort MM 82 Oceanside Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com Open Tu – Su 10 am – 5 pm Where the "Old Keys" Come to Life This fascinating educational attraction encapsulates what living in the "Old Keys" was like through a series of engaging exhibits that include the infamous Labor Day Hurricane of 1935, Henry Flagler's Railroad, the Overseas Highway, legendary anglers and fishing guides along with a host of other unique displays.

History Of Diving Museum

82990 Overseas Hwy,
Islamorada, FL. MM 83, Bayside N 305-6649737; 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, as well as the South Florida connection to this untold story. Venture through a timeline of exhibits that include 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 featured exhibits, scavenger hunts, special events and more.

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MUSEUMS MIDDLE KEYS

Crane Point Museum & Nature Center

5550 Overseas Hwy, MM 50, Gulfside Marathon, Fl 33050 305-743-9100; cranepoint.net M - F 9 am - 5 pm; Sa 9 am - 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 Keys birds.

KEY WEST

East Martello Museum & Gallery

3301 South Roosevelt Key West, FL 33040 305-296-3913; kwah.org Open Daily 9:30 am - 5 pmHome Of Robert The Haunted

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 leaendary six-toed cat.

Key West Custom House

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

Key West 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, first-edition plays, books, and rare newspaper and magazine articles and videos. A typewriter used by the author while writing in Key West and many other artifacts are also on display.

Truman Little White House

111 Front Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-294-9988; trumanlittlewhitehouse.ora 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

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

Key West Turtle Museum

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





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 Exhibitions "A Wealthy World" "Spirits of the Passage"



1952. It has also been used by six

Toy Sailors Battle The Rooster King!

Nutcracker Key West Is Back!

utcracker Key West is back!
This Christmas spectacular is one of the largest, most elaborate stage productions ever to hit the Florida Keys and a perfect way to ring in the holidays.

Set to the music of Tchaikovsky, this island interpretation of the fabled holiday ballet was written and originally produced by Key West arts patron Joyce Stahl, an accomplished, classically trained dancer who performed with the American Repertory Ballet Theater for 35 years.

With over a dozen international professional dancers and a large cast of local actors and children, this over-thetop production is rich with original Key West tropical imagery and familiar island icons.

Expect to see legions of toy sailors battling the Rooster King and his army of chickens, along with a Sea Star and Swordfish Cavilierî, a flock of snowy egrets, an underwater Kingdom ruled by King Neptune, and yes, even a Conch Shell Nutcracker!

Now produced by Key West's highly acclaimed Tennessee Williams Theater, the production incorporates elaborate sets and custom-made costumes enhanced with revolutionary fiber-optic and LED lights. Because they are specially crafted to be nearly weightless, the dancers alide

the dancers glide across the stage like magic.

This sumptuous theatrical experience has various showtimes with special matinees on Saturday, December 7 and

14 at 1 pm.

Catch it at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Road on Stock Island/Key West. For showtimes and tickets, call 305-295-7676 or visit keystix.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, multimedia 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 Tu – Sa at 8 pm. The

Aquanettes perform separately on M and Tu at 9 pm with two shows on W – Su at 7 and 9 pm. You can catch the lively Drag King show on Sunday nights at 7:30 pm. The bar is open Su – Th from 2 pm – 2 am and F and Sa 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, 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 M – Tu at 9 pm and W – Su at 7 and 9 pm. See it at the Aquaplex, 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

NIGHTLY

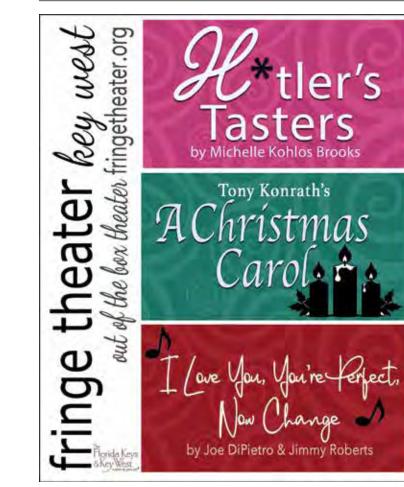
Cabaret @ D'Vine Wine Gallery

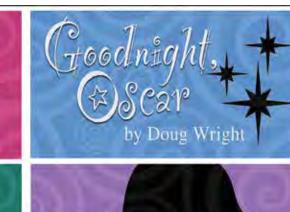
Key West: This is an excellent hang if you want to kick back with a fine glass of wine and settle

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: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

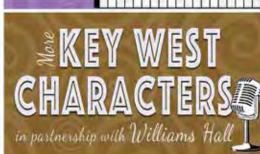
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fringe theater tix









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NIGHTLY

Jazz at Tavern N' Town

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

Every Tuesday

Glow Hours

Key West: This hip rooftop terrace offers the best views in town and is an ideal spot to catch the sunset and a drink with friends. The bar is open, admission is free, and everyone looks great in the golden twilight. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm at Hugh's View on the rooftop located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

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 show is one of the hottest tickets in town. See him perform live, backed up by the outrageous Aquanettes Drag Queens, at his new digs every Tu – Sa at 8 pm. On stage at the Birdcage Cabaret, 504 Angela St, in the Aquaplex. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.

Every Wednesday Renee Breslin

Key West: Performing modern covers and vintage hits, local favorite Renee Breslin always gets the crowd going! Takes place from 5:30 - 7:30 pm 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 W – Sa, 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 gras. Find the Gardens Hotel at 526 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.

Every Sunday Jazz in the Gardens

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.

Every Sunday

Flip the Bird Jazz Cabaret

Key West: Billed as "a musical comedy show that doesn't suck," this original one-of-akind comedy show swirls together stand-up, sketch comedy, and live music into one big rumble of a night. Takes place from 7 – 9 pm at the Birdcage Cabaret, 504 Angela St, in the Aquaplex. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.





Impromptu has been bringing world class Classical Chamber Music to Key West audiences for over 50 years. In keeping with our Mission, our 2025 season will bring outstanding classical chamber music performers to our St. Paul's Church venue with programs that reflect a dedication to the classics which has made Impromptu a vital and enduring part of the Key West cultural scene since 1972.



Jan 12 Thomas Mesa & Greg Zelek



Feb 23 Avery Gagliano



Jan 26 Simone Porter



Feb 9 **Dover Quartet**



Mar 9 Poulenc Trio



Mar 23 Duo Beaux Arts



www.keywestimpromptu.org





SPECIAL EVENTS

November 7 - 9

Stand Up If You're Here Tonight

Key West: Written by Olivier Awardnominated playwright John Kolvenbach, this love letter to the theatrical experience almost defies description. Showtime: 8 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

November 12

Midnight Mirage with Sarah Dahnke

Key West: Join Sarah Danke for a special reading of scenes from her screenplay, "Midnight Mirage." This hyper-realistic film explores intense parties, teenage turmoil, and misunderstood religious traditions, all through the lens of a transracial adoptee's journey. Takes place at 7 pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

November 19 - 23

H*tler's Tasters

Key West: Times change, but tyrants and teens don't. This compelling production by Michelle Kohlos Brooks turns a historical footnote into provocative theater. Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7 pm at the Armory, 600 White Street. Info & tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

November 20 - December 14 Into the Woods

Key West: The original production of this musical on Broadway won ten Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Original Score, and Best Book. The journeys of a young maiden, a sad young man, a baker, and his wife, combined with the genius of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, make for a brilliant holiday production. Takes place at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

November 22

Gratitudes: A Thanksgiving Concert with Libby York, Tom Vaitsas, & Jeff

Key West: Celebrate the season of gratitude and generosity with this special holiday iazz concert starring celebrated vocalist Libby York, with Tom Vaitsas on piano and Jeff Dalton on bass. Takes place at 8 pm in the Helmerich Theater at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org. continued on page 34





December 5 - 8 **December 13 - 15**

Nutcracker Key West

Key West: Performed every other year, this Christmas spectacular is one of the largest, most elaborate stage productions ever to hit the Florida Keys and a perfect way to ring in the holidays. Set to the music of Tchaikovsky, this island interpretation of the fabled holiday ballet was written and originally produced by Key West arts patron Joyce Stahl. Various showtimes. Takes place at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd on Stock Island/Key West. Info & tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

December 9

Classic Holidays with a View: with Irie Monte & Crispin Campbell

Key West: Let the music get you into the holiday spirit when Irie Monte is joined by Crispin Campbell on cello for an evening of beautiful string music on the roof. Takes place at 5:30 pm at Hugh's View, on the rooftop of The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

December 10 - 14

Tony Konrath's Christmas Carol

Key West: 'Tis the season! Get into the holiday "Spirit" with this fresh take on the Charles Dickens ghost story of holiday transformation and redemption. Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7 pm at the Armory, 600 White Street. Info & reserved tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

December 12 - January 11 The Foreigner

Key West: An American classic, this awardwinning comedy is set in a rural Georgia fishing lodge, where a pathologically shy man adopts the persona of a Non-English speaking foreigner in an attempt to avoid conversation.

Hilarity ensues as an outrageous group of characters reveal secrets and scandals. On stage Tu - Sa at 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911: redbarntheatre.com.

January 2 - 4

The Vagina Monologues

Key West: Cited in 1999 by the New York Times as "probably the most important piece of political theatre of the last decade," and then reiterated in 2018 that "No recent hour of theatre has had a greater impact worldwide." Not to be missed! Showtime: 8 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Sauare. Info & tickets: 305-294-5015;

waterfrontplayhouse.org.

January 7 - 8

Old Town New Folk: Susan Werner & Jonathan Brooke In Concert

Key West: Acclaimed folk rock artists Susan Werner and Jonathan Brooke team up for a night of innovative songwriting, captivating harmonies, and masterful musicianship. Takes place on Tu, Jan 7, in the Helmerich Theater at 7 pm and on W, Jan 8 at 6 pm on Hugh's Rooftop — both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-

January 12

0458; tskw.org.

Impromptu **Concerts:** Thomas Mesa & **Greg Zelek** Key West: One of

the most charismatic,

innovative, and engaging performers of his generation, Thomas Mesa is the recipient of the Sphinx Organization's 2023 Medal of Excellence, its highest honor. Greg Zelek is the principal organist of the Madison Symphony Orchestra and Curator of the Overture Concert Organ, where he regularly performs and oversees all the MSO's organ programming. Showtime 4 pm at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info:

January 14 - 15

keywestimpromptu.org.

Old Town New Folk: **Dom Flemons In Concert**

Key West: Grammy-winner Dom Flemons "The American Songster" revives forgotten folk songs with masterful storytelling and musicianship.

Takes place on Tu, Jan 14, in the Helmerich Theater at 7 pm and on W, Jan 15 at 6 pm on Hugh's Rooftop — both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

January 14 - 25

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Chanae

Key West: This musical exploration of the epic truths and challenges of modern love and romance are both hilarious and insightful! Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7 pm at the Armory, 600 White Street. Info & reserved tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

January 21

Menopause, The Musical

Key West: It's impossible not to laugh at this hysterical musical that follows four mature women shopping for lingerie at a Bloomingdale's sale. The tongue-incheek lyrics parody popular music from the baby boomer era to reflect symptoms of menopause. Showtime: 8 pm at The Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd, Stock Island/Key West. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

January 27

Puppy Pals, Live!

Key West: This action-packed show stars adopted and rescued dogs who perform spectacular canine stunts, breathtaking feats, and laugh-outloud canine comedy! Showtime: 8 pm at The Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd, Stock Island/Key West. Info & tickets: 305-

296-1520; keystix.com

January 15

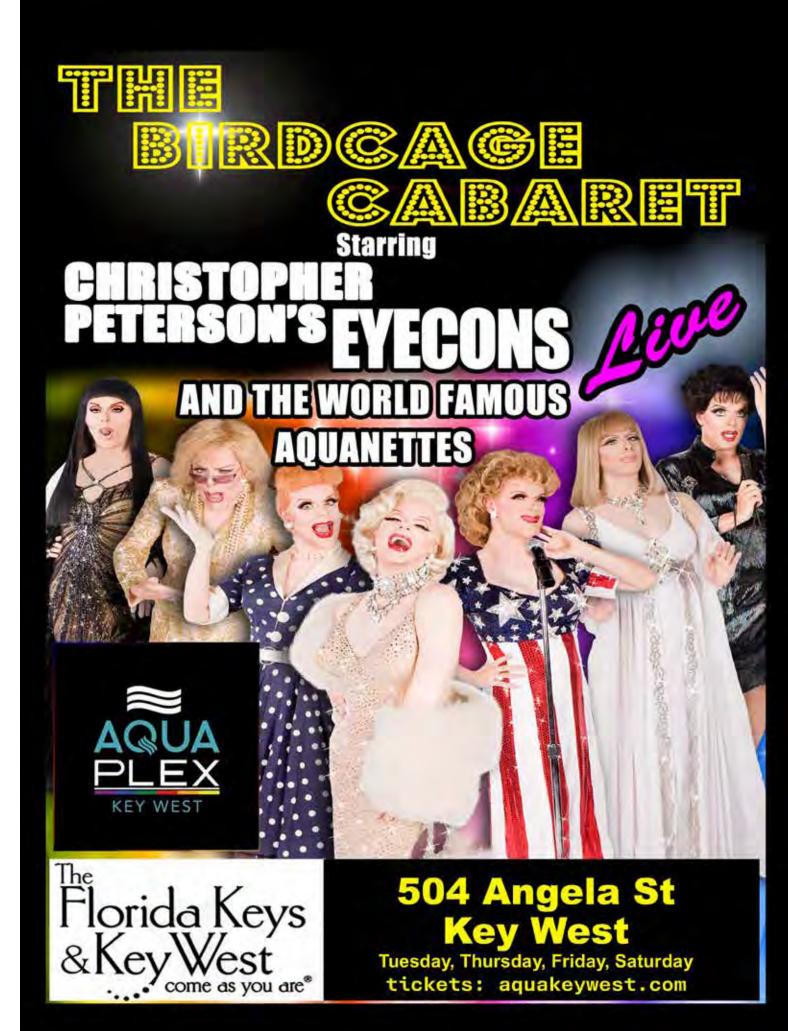
A Little Bit of Country, A Little Bit Rock N' Roll

Key West: Christine Mild returns with a new knockout show featuring the women who sing Country and Rock n Roll. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911: redbarntheatre.com.

January 20 - February 22

Ms Holmes and Ms Watson, Apt 2B

Key West: A satirical take on the Sherlock Holmes series, Kate Hamill's original screenplay cheerfully desecrates the stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. On stage Tu – Sa at 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.



AQUAPLEX

"IT'S NOT EASY HAVING A GOOD TIME..."





ACTORES

DRAG SHOWS NIGHTLY

MON/TUES - 9PM WED-SUN - 7PM & 9PM

Karaoke
Thurs•Fri•Sat
7 @11pm

Reservations



711 DUVAL STREET . WWW.AQUAKEYWEST.COM . 21+

January 26

Impromptu Concerts: Simone Porter

Key West: An emerging artist of impassioned energy, interpretive integrity, and vibrant communication, Violinist Simone Porter has performed with the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Porter first made her professional solo debut at age 10 with the Seattle Symphony and her international debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London at age 13. Showtime 4 pm at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

January 22 - February 8

The Angel Next Door

Key West: The Florida Premiere and only the fourth production of this recently published new farce, is sheer joy, sophistication, and wit of a1940's screwball comedy. Brace yourself for what a critic called "a perfect storm of comedic chaos, irresistible charm, and rapid-fire banter." Showtime: 8 pm with a 2 pm matinee on Sa. Feb 1. Takes place at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

February 4 - 5

Old Town New Folk: Will Kimbrough In Concert

Key West: A Nashville-based multi-instrumentalist and 2004's 'Instrumentalist of the Year' by the Americana Music Association, William Kimbrough has co-written songs with Jimmy Buffett and collaborated with Rosanne Cash, Emmylou Harris, and Mark Knopfler. Takes place on Tu, Feb 4, in the Helmerich Theater at 7 pm and on W, Feb 5 at 6 pm on Hugh's Rooftop — both located at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

February 8

A Blonde, Brunette & Some Duets

Key West: Eric McCormack, celebrated for his Emmy-winning TV career (Will and Grace), and Laura Bell Bundy, a Tonynominated powerhouse, bring their magnetic chemistry from Broadway's "The Cottage" to the stage. It's an unforgettable night of Broadway hits, cinematic charm, and chart-topping tunes. Showtime: 8 pm at The Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd, Stock Island/Key West. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

February 9

Impromptu Concerts: Dover Quartet

Key West: Named one of the greatest string quartets of the last 100 years by BBC Music Magazine, the two-time Grammy-nominated Dover Quartet is one of the world's most in-demand chamber ensembles. Showtime 4 pm at St. Paul's Church, 401 Duval St. Info: keywestimpromptu.org.

February 9 - 10

Vail Johnson Is BASSically Incorrect

Key West: Star Bassist Vail Johnson has performed with some of the top names in music for over 40 years, and he's bringing a career full of behind-the-scenes stories and almost every note of the great music he's had a hand in his new one-man show. It doesn't matter what style of music or what particular artist you like. There's a very good chance Vail Johnson will tell you a story about touring with them, or play something you've heard by them in his one-man show. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

WHAT'S UP

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

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). 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 impressive local coral rock waterfall make it one of the Middle Keys' "Must See" destinations. Top it all off with a variety of snacks, slushies, frozen daiquiris, or cold beers, and you'll have 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. Info: 305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebbq.com.

DAIL

Green Pineapple Key West Yoga

Kev 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 plant-based Wellness Cafe. Find it nestled inside The Green Pineapple Wellness Center, 1130 Duval St. Info: 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com



MICHTIV

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

ontinued on page 40

Contemporary art center, steps off Duval Street. With art, theater, concerts, classes, artist studios & the best rooftop view in Key West. Free to visit.



EXHIBITIONS

SUBMERGED SERENITY by Debra Hill

Drawing inspiration from the vibrant flora and birdlife of her native Australia, Hill delves into the intricate relationship between humans and nature.

ON VIEW NOV 7-28, 2024



PERFORMANCES

Dom Flemons in Concert

Join GRAMMY-winning Dom Flemons, "The American Songster," as he revives forgotten folk songs with masterful storytelling and musicianship.

TUE JAN 14, 7PM - \$50, \$40 MBRS. WED JAN 15, 6PM - \$60, \$50 MBRS.



WORKSHOPS ENJOYABLE ASTRONOMY

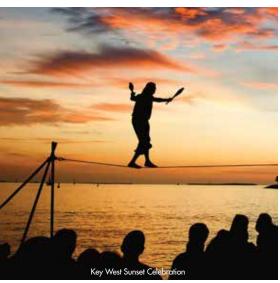
with Larry Halstead

Witness a spectacular view of the planets and stars after learning enjoyable ways to identify elements of the outer world.

TUE & WED NOV 12-13, 7:30-9:30PM \$55, \$45 MBRS.







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. Info: 305-453-5004: snooks.com.

NIGHTLY

Lor-E-Lei Sunset Celebration

Islamorada: As that big ball of fire starts to sink into the horizon, the live music kicks in, and the bar crowd spills onto the beach for some serious toes-in-the-sand revelry. On most nights just after sunset, magician Michael Trixx, who was featured on America's Got Talent, performs a "Rock-N-Roll Magic Show" that will blow your mind. Daily Happy Hour from 4 – 6 pm. You can find the Lorelei Restaurant & Cabana Bar at 81925 Overseas Hwy. (MM 82, Bayside). Info: 305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.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

Aguaplex

Key West: With three reinvented 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 as well as 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

Glow Hours: Rooftop Happy Hour on Huah'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.

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. It takes place from 2 pm - 7 pm at the Truman Waterfront (end of Southard St). FYI: Bring your own bags. Info: 305-731-3385: keysatisanmarket.

Every Saturday

Open-Air Market

Ramrod Key: Forget about driving miles to find local Florida Keys Key West World Championship Offshore Races art, handmade jewelry, one-of-a-kind creations, fresh organic produce, greens, and flowers. You'll see 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). Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksus.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

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. Takes place from 6 - 9 pm. Info:305-304-9001: fabfleminakw.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. It takes place from 9 am to noon at the Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest.garden.

SPECIAL EVENTS

November TBD **Bacon Fest & Vendor**

Show Islamorada: Take

a Sunday stroll on Islamorada's historic Old Highway, where you can shop local and regional artists and vendors and indulge in lots of tasty bacon creations. Takes place from 8am - 2pm outside the Islamorada Moose

Lodge, 81573 Old Highway (MM 81) oceanside. Info: 305-664-8120.

November 3 - 10

Key West World Championship Offshore Races

Key West: High-speed offshore powerboats race in Key West Harbor and surrounding waters during this breathtaking annual challenge, known internationally as the Indianapolis 500 of powerboat racing. A portion of the 6.5-mile course runs directly

through Key West Harbor, meaning smooth water where racers can achieve speeds above 140 mph. Info: 305-296-6166; raceworldoffshore.com.

November 7

Holiday Artisan Market

Key West: Enjoy cookies and coffee as you stroll through this festive indoor market. Over 20 artisans showcase unique and locally produced gifts, jewelry, textiles, home accessories, and quality crafts. Takes place from 10 am - 2 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: tskw.org.

November 8

13th Annual Spayghetti & No Balls

Key Largo: This annual fundraiser for MarrVelous Pet Rescues is one of the Upper Keys's most popular events. Enjoy a complimentary drink from the champagne bar, followed by appetizers, a fabulous dinner, live music, silent and live auctions, and a mega dance party! Dress is Keys Formal and is for Humans Only. Takes place from 6:30 - 11:30 pm at Snook's Bayside Restaurant & Grand Tiki, 99470 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-453-1315; mprescues.org.

November 13 - 17

2024 Key West Film Festival

Key West: Named one of the top 25 coolest film fests by Moviemaker magazine, this annual "must-see" event showcases films that exhibit excellence in storytelling. Enjoy screenings, visiting filmmakers, workshops, and special events at landmark venues throughout Kev West. Info: kevwestff.com.

November 23

Annual Light Up Key Largo!

Key Largo: For one magical night, you can ice skate in the "Diving Capital of the World" as Key Largo lights Monroe County's tallest Christmas tree. The celebration includes an Ice Skating Rink, Santa's Workshop, Carolers, lots of Holiday goodies, and more. Tree Lighting at 6 pm. Takes place from 4-8pm at the Murray Nelson Government Center, 102050 Overseas Hwy, MM 102 Bayside. Info: 305-451-1414; keylargochamber.org.

November 27 - December 31

Key West Holiday Fest

Key West: A merry range of celebrations during Key West's busy holiday season includes the Lighting of the Key West Bight, The Harbor Walk of Lights, Holiday Historic Inn Tours, a spectacular lighted boat parade, and lots of good cheer. Other events that you won't want to miss: the annual hometown

holiday parade, festive island lights tours on the Conch Tour Train and Old Town Trolley, seasonal artisan markets, bazaars, and multiple New Year's Eve "drops" that spoof New York City's annual Times Square Ball Drop. Info: keywestholidayfest.com.

November 27

Lighting of the Bight

Key West: The Key West Harbor lights up the waterfront with a dazzling display that includes a 16' fresh pine Nautical Christmas Tree, a Fishing Buoy Tree, the original 20' Key West Lobster Trap Tree, and a special

continued on page 42

WEATHER IN PARADISE

NOVEMBER

Average Temperature: 74° Sunset: 5:47 p.m. Average Rainfall: 2.45"

DECEMBER

Average Temperature: 71° Sunset: 5:38 p.m. Average Rainfall: 1.8"

JANUARY

Average Temperature: 74° Sunset: 6:01 p.m. Average Rainfall: 1.5"

FEBRUARY

Average Air Temp: 76° Sunset: 6:16pm Average Rainfall: 1.5"



40 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West

tribute to Jimmy Buffet. Stays lit nightly through New Year's Eve, stretching along the Key West Historic Seaport and Key West Bight Marina. Festive music starts at 5 pm, with the lighting at 6 pm. Gather on the Harbor Walk Plaza at Greene and Elizabeth St. for the best viewing. For more

details on other holiday events happening in Key West, go to keywestholidayfest.

November 27 - December 31

Key West Harbor Walk of Lights

Key West: This "Harbor Walk of Lights" honors the

maritime history of the Key West waterfront and stays lit nightly through New Year's Eve. Stretches along the seawall past Greene, William, and Margaret Streets to the Key West Ferry Terminal. For more details on other holiday events happening in Key West, go to keywestholidayfest.com.

November 29

Black Friday Shopping Extravaganza

Key West: Find one-of-a-kind gifts, unique handmade items, exquisite art, as well as delicious culinary delights, yummy beverages, and views you won't find at any mall. Takes place from 10 am - 6 pm along Weech Way at Truman

> Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd. Info: 305-731-3385; kevwestartisanmarket.com.

November 30

Bia Pine & The Lower Keys Island Art Festival

Big Pine: This fun annual holiday event always draws a big crowd and includes live music, exhibits, arts and crafts, food vendors, and more. It takes place from 9 am to 3 pm at the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce,

MM 31, oceanside. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.

December 1

Schooner Wharf Bar's Annual Tree Trimming Party & Toy Drive

Key West: Bring your nautical ornament

for Schooner Wharf Bar's big beautiful 8' Christmas Tree or an unwrapped kids' gift and enjoy a complimentary holiday cocktail — rum eggnog, Swedish Glog, or hot applejack. Prizes for most original, most nautical, and most popular with the crowd. Schooner Wharf's annual Toy Drive benefits a variety of children's organizations. FYI: Be sure to visit Santa's Southernmost Schooner Workshop, where local artists and authors sign and sell original works for holiday gift-giving. Local musicians are also on hand playing festive holiday tunes, Reggae, and Calypso with the island sound of Steel Drums. Takes place at 6 pm at the Schooner Wharf Bar at the foot of Williams St in Key West's Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-3773: schoonerwharf.com.

December 5 - 8 **December 13 - 15**

Nutcracker Key West

Key West: Performed every other year, this Christmas spectacular is one of the largest, most elaborate stage productions ever to hit the Florida Keys and a perfect way to ring in the holidays. Set to the music of Tchaikovsky, this island interpretation of the fabled holiday ballet was written and initially produced by Key West arts patron Joyce Stahl. Elaborate

costuming, national and local dancers, and an imaginative assortment of Key West icons make it a major highlight of the holiday season. Showtimes vary. Takes place at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Road on Stock Island/Key West. Tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

December 6

20th Annual Islamorada Holiday **Festival**

Islamorada: A 35' holiday tree blows magical snow at this spirited night of holiday fun, which includes a snow mountain, festive parade, community tree lighting, caroling, holiday gift bazaar, delicious food, live music, and a silent auction of masterpiece ornaments created by local artists. Takes place from 4 – 10 pm on the Great Lawn at Founders Park, MM 87, Bayside. Info: 305-664-4503; islamoradachamber.com

December 6

4th Annual Wesley House Holiday Village & BeLighted Bike Ride

Key West: This fun annual "pre-party" kicks off Key West's annual BeLighted Bike Ride. A magical Holiday Village includes photos with Santa, community booths, games, crafts,

food vendors, music, local performances. and more! The year's event also features rides and large holiday-themed inflatable obstacle courses for the kids! Takes place from 5 – 9 pm with the festively creative "Best Bike Contest" at 7:30 pm. The BeLighted Bike Ride follows at 8pm from the Coffee Butler Amphitheater. It all takes place at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd. Tickets & info: 305-809-5000; wesleyhouse.org.

December 6 & 13

Holiday Historic Inn Tours

Key West: Enjoy two enchanted self-guided tours of five different decorated inns and a sampling of holiday treats and cheer at each property. Takes place on Friday and Saturday from 6 - 8 pm. Info and tickets: 305-296-4959.

December 7

Key West Hometown Holiday Parade

Key West: The most charming hometown parade you'll ever see, with lots of holiday floats and tons of kids of all ages. Of course, Santa will make a guest appearance! The festivities kick off at 7 pm on Truman Ave at White St. The parade then proceeds down to Duval and ends at Eaton. Info: 305-809-3881; keywesthistoricseaport.com.

December 8

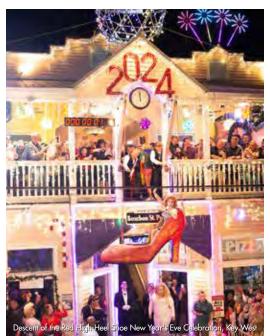
Eaton Street Christmas Stroll

Key West: Keys Choral Arts presents a short program of sacred and secular music for this festive season at 3:30 pm at St Paul's Episcopal Church, 401 Duval St. Group Stroll follows at 4 pm along Eaton Street in Old Town. Info: stpaulskeywest.org



the heart of The Florida Keys





Annual Holiday Tree Lighting

Key Colony Beach: Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater and high-tail it over to the annual lighting of Key Colony's giant Christmas Tree "Under the Tiki." Make a donation to "Presents in Paradise" and add an ornament to the tree. There is lots of egg nog and hot chocolate to get you into the spirit, live music, a 50/50 raffle, food, drinks, and a visit from Santa himself. Kicks off at 5 pm with a tree lighting at 7 pm at Havana Jack's Oceanside, 401 E Ocean Dr, Key Colony Beach. Info: 305-743-4849; HavanaJacksOceanside.com.

December 8

Eaton Street Holiday Stroll at The Studios of Key West

Key West: During this holiday tradition on Eaton Street, neighborhood venues host short Christmas-themed performances. At The Studios of Key West, you can sip on Christmas cocktails on the rooftop of Hugh's View and do some holiday shopping at the Member's Show, displayed throughout all four gallery spaces. It takes place from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: tskw.org.

December 13

8th Annual Holiday Concert & Bazaar

Key West: One of Key West's most popular holiday celebrations boasts some of the island's finest artisans, musicians, and choirs: lots of great food, eggnog, and other festive libations, as well as a holiday light show projected on the face of the Custom House. You'll also have an opportunity to shop for lots

of unique gifts, including handcrafted jewelry, clothing, textiles, home decor, and more. FYI: Santa will be on hand for last-minute requests and "selfie" photos. Takes place from 5 – 9 pm on the historic porch of the Custom House and spills out onto the street in front of the Museum at 281 Front St. Info and tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

December 14

Schooner Wharf Bar Lighted Boat Parade

Key West: A magical nautical display of lights and creativity is the hallmark of this enormous holiday maritime event in Key West's Historic Seaport. The boats come very close to the docks of the Schooner Wharf Bar, where the Judge's Stand is located, which makes it a great vantage point. Festivities kick off at 6 pm; the parade starts at 8 pm, followed by a big Awards Party at Schooner Wharf Bar, located at

the foot of William St. Info: 305-292-3773: schoonerwharf.com.

December 14

Key Largo Lighted Boat Parade

Key Largo: The waters of Blackwater Sound in Key Largo shimmer as decorated boats put on "A Cartoon Christmas" along the shoreline to celebrate the holiday season. Boats line up at 6:30; the parade kicks off at 7:30 pm. The top spots for viewing are between MM 103 and 104. Info: 305-451-4502; keylargoboatparade.com.

December 14

Boot Key Harbor Lighted Boat Parade

Marathon: Marathon

gets all decked

out with their own festive Lighted Boat Parade. It sets sail at 6 pm from the West end of Boot Key Harbor (7 Mile Bridge side) and slowly winds its way east into the harbor towards Sombrero Marina Dockside. The parade continues until 8 pm. Best views include the Marathon Marina, Lazy Days South, Burdines, and Dockside Lounge.

December 15

Key Colony Beach Lighted Boat

Key Colony Beach: Key Colony's Lighted Boat Parade shoves off at 6 pm from the 7th Street Canal and makes three passes by the Judges'

Stand before heading up and down the 8th - 12th Street canals. Info: 305-743-7214;

December 15 - 30

Waterfront Winter Wonderland

Key West: Coffee Butler Amphitheater transforms into an amazing winter wonderland with ice skating, rides, games, music, holiday lights, a vendor village with food and local artisans, and more. Takes place at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 Quay Rd.

December 25

Christmas Day Brunch Sail

Key West: Dreaming of a crystal clear, blue Christmas? Then, spend Christmas morning aboard the Schooner America 2.0 for a brunch sail that you'll never forget! This two-hour sail includes a fully catered brunch starting with complimentary Mimosas and Bloody Marys or champagne. Departs from Key West's Historic Seaport. Info & tickets: 305-292-7245; sail-keywest.com.

December 27 - December 28

Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The self-guided tours take place from 1 – 4 pm and benefit the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info: 305-294-9501; Tickets & schedules at OIRF.org.

December 31

New Year's Eve Fireworks on **Blackwater Sound**

Key Largo: The Back Bay is the setting for the annual midnight New Year's Eve fireworks extravaganza that's set to live music performed at Sundowners, MM 104 bayside. Info: 305-664-

December 31

New Year's Eve Celebrations in Key West

Key West: Ring in 2025 with a "Conch Shell Drop" at Sloppy Joe's Bar, 201 Duval St; the descent of a super-sized red high-heel shoe (replete with a renowned local female impersonator) at the Bourbon St Pub/New Orleans House Complex, 724 Duval St; a big New Year's Eve Bash at the Schooner Wharf Bar, 202 William St; and a massive replica of a Key lime wedge splashing down into a larger-than-life margarita glass at Ocean Key Resort & Spa, O Duval St. continued on page 46



CELEBRATION OF LEGACY

FEBRUARY 1& 2.2025 OPENING NIGHT JANUARY 31 Downtown Fort Myers Riverfront

Honoring 25 Years of Artistic Excellence: Southwest Florida's Premier Art Festival Join the Tradition This Year. Enjoyment For All Ages.













December 31

New Year's Eve at Cheeca Lodge & Spa

Islamorada: This ultra-chic beachside resort hosts a midnight fireworks display over the Atlantic Ocean with tasty libations and live music. Takes place at Cheeca Lodge & Spa at MM 82 oceanside. Info: 305-664-4651; cheeca.com.

January 11 - 12

Annual Florida Keys Celtic Festival

Marathon: Break out your kilts and dancing shoes because this festive Gaelic celebration will have you kicking up your heels. Enjoy top acts by international Celtic bands, Celtic food and beer, Highland Athletics, a Children's Glen, and a Celtic Marketplace. The festival begins on Sa from 10 am – 7 pm and on Su from 11 am – 5 pm at Marathon Community Park, MM 49. Tickets & info: 305-743-6412; floridakeyscelticfestival.com.

January 24 - 25

Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The self-guided tours take place from 1-4 pm and benefit the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info: 305-294-9501; Tickets & schedules at OIRF.org

January 25 - 26

21st Annual Big Pine & Lower Keys **Nautical Expo**

Big Pine: Get great deals on all things nautical and local arts and crafts, clothing, and jewelry. Live music, food, and beverages, too. Free admission and parking. Takes place on Sa from 8 am - 4 pm and on Su from 8 am - 2pm at the Lower Keys Chamber, MM31, Oceanside grounds. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.

Annual Schooner Wharf Wrecker's Cup Race

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

January 26

Wrecker's Race Aboard Schooner America 2.0

Key West: If you really want to enjoy the thrill of the Wrecker's Cup Race, then climb aboard the fastest schooner in Key West: Schooner America 2.0. It starts at 1 pm with their firing of the cannon. Tickets include a round of beer, wine, champagne, and a boxed lunch. Info & tickets: 305-292-7245; sail-keywest.com.

COMING SOON

February 14 - 15 March 14 - 15

Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens take center stage during this much anticipated annual event, which showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors. The self-guided tours take place from 1 – 4 pm and benefit the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info: 305-294-9501; Tickets & schedules at

February 15 - 16

OIRF.org.

19th Annual Florida **Seafood Festival**

Key West: Lots going on for adults and kids, from feasting on fresh local seafood and shopping for marine-related crafts to facepainting, kids' hands-on activities, raffles, and live music. Takes place on Sa from 11am – 8 pm and on Su from 11 am – 5 pm in Bay View Park at 1320 Truman Ave. Info: 305-619-0039: floridakeysseafoodfestival.com

February 22 - 23

60th Annual Key West Art & Craft

Key West: This nationally recognized juried fine art show attracts over 100 fine and skilled artists from across the country and includes painters, sculptors, photographers, collage artists, and other non-functional fine arts. Takes place from

10 am to 5 pm along the Quay at Truman Waterfront Park, 100 Southard St. Info: 305-294-1243; keywestartcenter.com.

OTHER FLORIDA HAPPENINGS

January 25 - 26

Hoggetowne Medieval Faire

Gainesville: For one magical weekend, Depot Park transforms into "Hoggetowne" - a medieval marketplace where you can immerse yourself in the rich culture of the Middle Ages. A bastion of medieval revelry, this fantastical Faire showcases Olde World demonstrations and breathtaking staged combat shows, as well as Medieval music and dance, a living chessboard, royal knighting ceremonies, feasting on turkey legs and lots more! Takes place, rain or shine, from 10 am - 6 pm at Depot Park, 874 SE 4th Street in Gainesville. Tickets & info: 352-334-5084; HoggetowneMedFaire.com.

January 23 - 26

The 63rd Rolex 24 At DAYTONA Weekend

Daytona Beach: From sunrise to sunset and all through the night, witness North America's most prestigious sports car race in this twicearound-the-clock marathon that kicks off the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship season. The Rolex 24 also features a

pre-race grid and garage access, the famous Ferris wheel and fireworks, autograph sessions, live entertainment, and displays from the top manufacturers. Takes place at Daytona International Speedway, the "World Center of Racing" at 1801 W International Speedway Blvd. Info: 800-748-7467:

daytonainternationalspeedway.com.

January 31 - February 2

Artfest Fort Myers

Historic Downtown Fort Myers: Southwest Florida's Premier Art Festival celebrates its 25th anniversary on the spectacular downtown waterfront and showcases the works of 200+ outstanding professional artists from across the country. Also includes a high school art competition, children's craft area, sidewalk chalk extravaganza and yummy food and beverage. Plenty of parking and trolley service. Opening Night Party kicks things off on F from 6 – 9 pm and includes a special Pops Concert; The weekend-long festival continues on Sa from 10 am - 5 pm and on Su from from 10 am - 4pm at Edwards Dr and Hendry St. Get lots of extra perks when you sign up for VIP Club tickets. More info at ArtFestFortMyers.com.

XPLORE

UPPER KEYS

INDIAN KEY HISTORIC STATE PARK

Offshore Island, MM 78.5 Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-2540; floridastateparks.org Open Daily 8 am - Sunset Historic Indian Site This tiny island once housed the largest population between St. Augustine and Key West and was also home to one of the Keys' most lucrative ship wrecking empires. In 1840, Indian warriors burned all the structures and killed most of the residents. Accessible only by boat, it's a fantastic spot to swim, kayak and hike. Boat shuttle and kayak rentals available from Robbie's Marina at MM 77.5, Gulfside.

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

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:

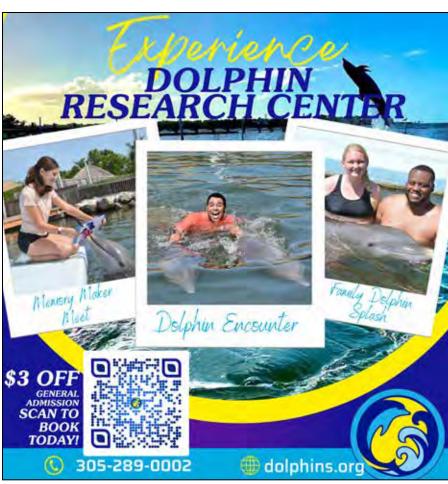
keylargoprincess.com Cruising Daily at 10 am, 1 pm & 4 pm,

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



46 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West





XPLORE

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

BAHIA HONDA STATE PARK

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

DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER

MM 59. Gulfside Grassy Key/Marathon, FL 33050 305-289-1121; dolphins.org Open Daily 9 am - 4:30 pm

One Of The Keys Oldest Dolphin Facilities Founded in 1984 as a non-profit marine mammal education and research facility, the DRC is one of the oldest dolphin facilities in the Keys. There are several sensational

opportunities here for up-close introductions with many exciting interactive programs available daily, as well as educational narrated sessions. Advance reservations are usually required for dolphin swims.

HISTORIC PIGEON KEY

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

This tiny coral island was the original work camp for workers who built the Key West extension of the Flagler Railway and once housed a thriving village of more than 400 people until the railroad's demise in 1935. Today you can tour the island's historic buildings, picnic on the lawn or snorkel in the shallow bay. Ferry departs from Faro Blanco Marina, check in at the Visitors Center, 2010 Overseas Hwy, Marathon. The Ferry departs 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm and 2 pm.

MILLION AIR

Marathon International Airport 8800 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050 305-743-1995 millionair.com Daily 7 am - 7 pm

The World's Premiere Aircraft Concierge With 36 world-wide locations and centrally located between Key Largo and Key West, Marathon's premiere aircraft concierge offers a hassle-free gateway to The Florida Keys and beyond. Whether you're flying into the Keys, the Bahamas, Caymans, Belize or one of your other favorite regional destinations, rest assured that you'll be taken care of by a top-of-the-line concierge staff who will also provide streamlined customs services.

PORKY'S BAYSIDE MINI GOLF

Marathon, Fl 33050 1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050

305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebba.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,

continued on page 50





XPLORE

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

KFY WFST

BAREFOOT BILLY'S

Island-Wide Locations Kev West, Fl 305-735-2241; barefootbillys.com Open Daily 8 am - 8 pm Home Of The Original Island Jet Ski Tour Billy Mosblech loves being on the water. For the last 20 years, he has owned and operated Key West's premium jet ski company. But

jet skis aren't his only gig. Billy can also hook you up with snorkel gear, kayaks, paddleboards, Hobie Cats, and more. He also offers a Dolphin Watch & Snorkeling Tour, Morning Island Cruise, and a Sunset Harbor Cruise. His Seabreeze Boat Cruises leave from Garrison Bight Marina off of Palm Ave. Looking for a bike or scooter? Billy rents those, too! FYI: If you book directly online, you can save yourself 10% on any of Barefoot Billy's special tours. Call 305-900-3088 or hit up barefootbillys.com and use coupon code "BAREFOOT." You can find Barefoot Billy's at four convenient Key West locations: Casa Marina Resort at 714 Seminole St; the Reach Resort at 1435 Simonton St: the Beachside Resort & Residences, 3841 N Roosevelt Blvd; and the Garrison Bight Marina, 719 Palm

FORT ZACHARY TAYLOR

End Of Southard Street Off Whitehead Key West, FL 33040 305-295-0037; fortzacharytaylor.com Open Daily 8 am - Sundown; Tours of The Fort Daily @ Noon Home Of Key West's Famous Civil War Fort Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1973, this state park is anchored by a famous

Civil War fort. The beach is shaded by several acres of Australian pine trees so it's always a bit cooler than the rest of the island. Good deep water swimming, chair rentals, grills, restrooms and a concession stand.

KEY WEST EXPRESS

100 Grinnell Street Key West, FL 33040 239-463-5733; keywestexpress.net Hours Vary Getting There & Back Is Half The Fun! Why fly or drive to Fort Myers or Marco Island when you can alide through the alistening Gulf waters to one of Florida's most popular dsinations? More affordable than flying and faster than driving, these air conditioned, jet powered catamarans deliver you to Southwest Florida so you can chill out and enjoy the ride. Boats depart year-round from 100 Grinnell Street in Key West and only take about 3.5

KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & BOTANICAL GARDEN

hours to Fort Myers Beach or Marco Island.

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 aarden 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

SOUTHERNMOST POINT MONUMENT

and free parking.

Corner of Whitehead & South Streets Key West, FL 33040 305-294-2587 Open 24/7 A True "Kodak Moment"

meandering 7-acre setting. Visitors Center

"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.

> **GREATER** MIAMI/ **SOUTH FLORIDA**

HOMESTEAD-MIAMI SPEEDWAY

1 Speedway Blvd Homestead, Fl 33035 866-409-7223:

homesteadmiamispeedway.com Hours Vary

Home of NASCAR Racing in South Florida There's always something going on at this action-packed 600-acre attraction. With an accessible location just north of the Florida Keys, the track has both a 1.5 mile oval course with 18 – 20 degree variable banking in the turns and a challenging 2.21 mile road course. It also boasts a premier go-kart track with a kart

shop, rentals and races. In addition to thrilling NASCAR racing action, the Speedway hosts car shows, motorcycle events, concerts and special events throughout the year. You can also enjoy race cars rides, fan drag races and fishing in an 18 acres lake stocked with rare Peacock Bass. Tent and RV camping facilitates,

PORTMIAMI

1015 North America Way Miami, FL 33132 portmiami.biz Hours Vary Home Cruise Capital of the World Cited by Porthole Cruise & Travel Magazine as "The Best Homeport in the US," this state-of-the-art cruise port is the departure of choice for the world's major cruise lines. As a premier hub for sailing to the Bahamas, Mexico, and the Caribbean, the Port is home to world-class cruise lines including Carnival, MSC, Norwegian, Royal Caribbean, and Virgin Voyages. If you're ready for your next adventure, visit the cruise line of your choice for all the deets on cruise schedules, destinations, and more.









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 54





SHOP

FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST

AQUA D' KEYS

1075 Duval St Key West, Fl 33040 305-676-5620: AquaDKeys.com Daily 10 am - 9 pm The Scent of the Keys Who knew that someone would figure out how to capture the true essence of the Keys and put it in a bottle? Enter Key Westers, Dominik, Ron, Maurizio, and Todd. After futilely searching for affordable gifts symbolic of Key West, the four longtime 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

EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL

Kev West, FL 33040 305-294-2060: emeraldsinternational.com T - Sa 11 am - 6 pm

104 Duval St

Our Emeralds Make Diamonds Green with Envy®

World renowned emerald and conch pearl authority, Manuel Marcial de Gomar, began mining emeralds in 1955 on horseback in the mountains of Colombia. His passion for emeralds spilled over to conch pearls after traveling throughout the Caribbean. This passion and a love for unique design shaped his legacy and imprints the stunning collection on display in his Key West retail boutique. Shop online at emeraldsinternational.com and

JEFF'S GEMS & NAUTICAL DESIGNS

get 10% Off when you enter code SPARKLE10

906 F Kennedy Drive (Behind Kennedy Plaza) 305-296-4367; jeffsgems.com Open Tu - F 10 am - 5 pm; Sa 10 am - 4 pmElegant 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 loyal clientele who revel in his meticulously handcrafted rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and one-of-a-kind custom pieces made from authentic treasure coins. Jeff can tackle all jewelry and watch repairs, and his small shop also stocks a great selection of nautical designs & gifts.

KEYS PAWN

at checkout!

82681 Overseas Hwv. Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-962-1956 keyspawn.com Open M - F 10 am - 4 pm And By Appointment Not Your Ordinary Pawn Shop! Get terrific deals on an exclusive collection continued on page 56

It's Like Having a Friend in the Business

Keys Pawn Is Such a Deal

sed to be that when someone said "Pawn Shop," a little voice in my head would say, "Eh, maybe not."

But that all changed when I popped into Keys Pawn and met a very charismatic English chap named Melvyn Franks. Melvyn originally started out as a jewelry manufacturer before morphing into a wholesaler of luxury watches, jewelry, and diamonds. Before landing in the Florida Keys, he worked out of Miami where he became a trusted source for dealers around the world. He was, and still is, the "go-to-guy" for the finest vintage Rolexes, high-end jewelry, rare antiques, and collectibles at super-low prices.

With over forty years under his belt,

Melvin now has a nifty little gig in Islamorada and knows every part of the business inside and out. In 2016, he and his wife, Rebecca Nachlas, opened their first brick-and-mortar in Tavernier before moving to larger digs in Islamorada. Today, the inventory is more extensive than ever before and is constantly changing. You'll discover all kinds of stellar products all available at well below retail. FYI: If something catches your eye, grab it. Otherwise, it could be here today and aone tomorrow.

And here's the thing: you don't have to be a high-roller to shop here. The price points work for just about everyone and the selection is always phenomenal. So, if you're into snagging great deals, this



Pawn's for you!

You can find Keys Pawn at 82681 Overseas Highway Islamorada. Melvyn is there Monday – Friday from 10 am – 4 pm. If you're looking for something special or have a question, just buzz him at 305-962-1956 or shop his excellent website at keyspawn.com. It really is like having a friend in the business!

- Pamela Childs



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 - 4 or by appointment

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

SHOP

of luxury watches like Audemars Piguet, fine jewelry, high quality diamonds, unusual antiques, vintage Louis Vuitton bags, rare guitars and more. The inventory is always changing so you never know what you're going to find. They also offer the best interest rates on loans and pay the highest prices for gold, watches, diamonds and jewelry.

NEPTUNE DESIGNS

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

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 aifts 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

RON JON SURF SHOP

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

each day which makes it a fun

place to sample some of their tasty

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

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 Greeen 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 House 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.

Looking for treasure?

great find.

shoreline.

Walk along the high-tide line

where the sand is softest and sift

tumble right onto the beach. Look for areas with more shell

objects and deposit them on the

THE GREEN PINEAPPLE **BAHAMA VILLAGE**

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

Su 9 am - 4 pmFun & Trendy Situated in the funky and hip Bahama Village neighborhood, this ecofriendly boutique offers fun and trendy clothing for the whole family, locally made jewelry, and a vast collection of custom "Made in the Keys" artwork. Find it right across from Blue Heaven on historic Petronia Street.

THE KEYS SALT SCRUB™

40 High Point Road #101 Tavernier, FL 33070 305-852-9499 TheKeysSaltScrub.com Hours Vary By Location Transforms Your Skin In Just 60 Seconds

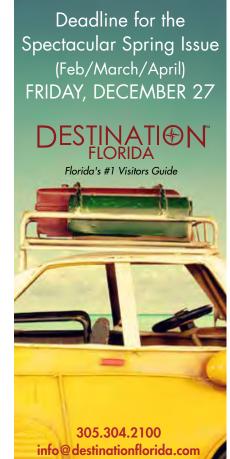


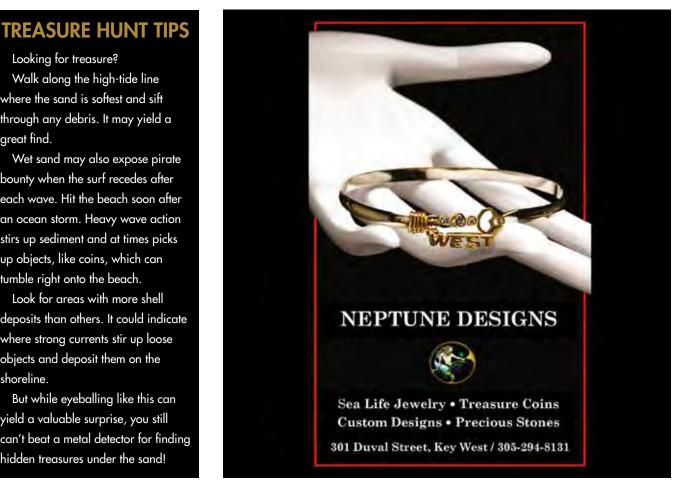
The Locals' #1 favorite is handcrafted in small batches right here in the Keys using the unique "Secret Lessoily™ Formula" which will transform your skin in just 60 seconds. Massage onto your hands, feet or over your entire body to exfoliate, refresh and rejuvenate. A great gift or perfect keepsake. Available at local restaurants and shops throughout the Keys and online at TheKeysSaltScrub.com.



Order online at TheKeysSaltScrub.com 305-852-9499

Free Shipping on Orders over \$35 LIMITED TIME ONLY





56 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide HOLIDAY WINTER 2024-2025 57

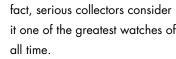
World Class Shopping

Bliss Jewelers Is All About Luxury

If you think that you have to jaunt off to the Caribbean to get "island" prices on brand name jewelry, diamonds, and precious stones, think again.

Bliss Jewelers, one of St Thomas' preeminent luxury jewelers, has a location right here in Key West, as well as in Bar Harbor, Maine. As one of the Keys' few fine jewelry stores, it's your go-to shop for fabulous prices on some of the most coveted names in jewelry and watches.

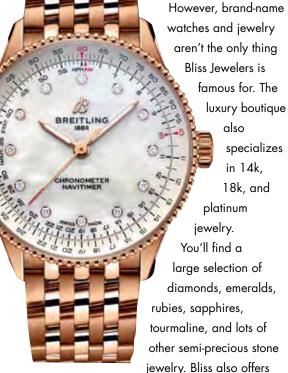
David Yurman, John Hardy, Kabana,



Recently, Breitling introduced the Navitimer in two new slender 36- and 32-mm sizes for people who love the look and feel of a smaller-diameter watch. But these showstoppers have much more to boast about than just

new trim
sizes. Pops
of pastel,
mother-of-pearl,
and traceable
18k red gold
combine with
the Navitimer's
distinct beaded bezel to
create timepieces with
a jewelry-like appeal
— all of which add a
versatile elegance to the

legendary navigational



watch, which is available

for both men and women.

wedding bands, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and bangles.

an array of anniversary and

You can find all these head-turning collections at Bliss Jewelers, 269 Front Street, in Key West. Info: 305-998-4839; blissjewelers.com.

Pandora, Omega, Tag Heuer, Rados, Longines, and Tissot are just some of the world-class brands you'll find here.

Oh, and let's not forget *Brietling* — a brand that has been creating seriously exquisite, innovative watches since 1884. The company is renowned for the *Navitimer* — one of the most recognizable watches ever made. What began in 1952 as a tool for pilots has morphed into a highly coveted piece of workmanship for anyone who appreciates the finer things in life. In



What's That You're Wearing?

AQUA D' KEYS - The Scent of the Keys

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

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

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

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

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

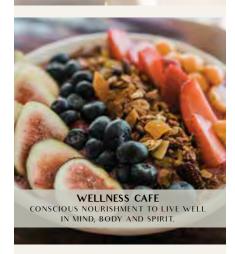


Find your unique scent at AQUA D' KEYS, located at two convenient Key West locations: 1075 Duval St in Duval Square; and 291 Front St in The Shops At Mallory Square. Open daily from 10 am - 9 pm. You can also order securely online at AquaDKeys.com. For more info, give them a ring at 305-676-5620.



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DUVAL STREET

1130 DUVAL ST. - 305-509-7378

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







THEGREENPINEAPPLE.COM



t first, it's not easy to wrap your head around The Green Pineapple.

Is it hip Boutique? A Cafe & Wine Bar? A Wellness Center & Yoga

Studio? The answer is a resounding "YES" to all of the above.

The Green Pineapple is all about living consciously — mind, body, and soul. With two Key West locations (Bahama Village and Duval Street), it's all about "conscious consumerism."

Both sustainable and eco-conscious boutiques feature brands based on a respect for the environment and on ethical practices and considerations.

In Key West's oh-so-hip Bahama Village neighborhood, The Green



Pineapple offers fun and trendy ecofriendly clothing for the whole family, as well as locally-made jewelry, and a vast collection of custom "Made in the Keys" artwork.

Step inside the Green Pineapple's Flagship location over on Duval Street and you'll discover a fabulous curated collection of authentic eco-conscious clothing, jewelry and accessories for men and women, as well as one-of-akind home accessories and gifts with

an island flair.

The Green Pineapple's downtown location is also home to a Hathabased Yoga Studio that welcomes all yogi levels. This warm sanctuary



offers classes in Pilates & Yoga Flow, Vinyasa, Power, Yin, Restorative, Gentle, Breath and Mindful Movement, Meditation, and lots of events

and workshops.

Also sharing the Duval Street location is the highly acclaimed Wellness Cafe, where Chef Layla whips up terrific plant-based, organic and whole foods that will blow you away. There's also a healthy selection of breakfast drinks, smoothies, "To-Go" Juices, Elixirs, and Immunity Shots, as well as a worldly collection of organic, biodynamic and sustainable wines. The Wellness Cafe is open daily from 9 am - 4 pm and also hosts special dinner and wine events throughout the

The Green Pineapple Boutique is open daily from 9 am - 6 pm at 1130 Duval Street. (305-509-7378); The Green Pineapple in Bahama Village is open daily from 9 am - 3 pm at 310 Petronia Street. (305-509-7065). More info: greenpineapplewellness.com.

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

It All Started With The "Green Fever"

The Intoxication of Emeralds International



t's 1955, and 19-year-old Manuel Marcial de Gomar slowly reins his horse along a rugged trail high in Colombia's dangerous Eastern Andes.

Exploring the mountains' emerald-

bearing areas are intoxicating, and it's not long before de Gomar is stricken with "Green Fever" — the rush of seeing a flash of "emerald green" following the strike of a handpick.

After years of hands-on field mining, de Gomar evolves into an emerald wholesaler, gem consultant, and prolific jewelry designer.

His Columbian travels take him to the Caribbean coast, where his intoxication is further piqued by the locally harvested queen conch pearls. Eventually, de Gomar morphs into one of the world's foremost authorities on both emeralds and Conch Pearls.

In 1980, he opens Emeralds International in Key West, where his intriguing designs receive world acclaim

Today, Emeralds International is still renowned for its spectacular emeralds, queen conch pearls, Swiss watches and innovative designs, but treasure buffs also flock here for the authentic bounty salvaged from sunken Spanish galleons. Discover it all at Emeralds International, 104 Duval St in Key West. Info: 305-294-2060; emeraldsinternational.com.

Born in Havana. Crafted in Switzerland.

emeralds







The Art of Cannabis Curation —

The Greeen House Dispensary Gets High Fives!



Pelcome to the Greeen
House — a hip Florida THC
dispensary that redefines
the art of cannabis curation.

Actually, the Greeen House is a whole lot more than just a dispensary; it's a community hub where cannabis users and even the "cannabis curious" can enjoy the benefits associated with the "forbidden plant," including THC and CBD

— legally and

legally andin a safe andenjoyable way.

As Florida's #1 retailer of high-end "alternative products", the Greeen House Dispensaries are a "home away from home" for cannabis users and anyone looking to explore and use cannabis responsibly. From edibles to supplements, you'll discover new and exciting ways to incorporate these products into your daily routine, whether you're seeking relief from pain, reducing stress, or simply enhancing your well-being.

And here's a tip for cannabis
"newbies:" Do not, we repeat, do not
hesitate to ask questions! Connecting
with the highly trained staff here is just
so easy. The associates are all super
approachable, knowledgeable, and

engaged. They know how to listen, assess

your needs, and recommend just the right items. They can also introduce you

to the latest products and innovations available at the Greeen House.

FYI: No worries if you're not near a Greeen House retail dispensary. You can also order the "Monthly Box," a unique Greeen 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, prerolls, flowers, and more.

The Greeen House has several Florida Keys locations in Key West at 431 Front Street and 211 and 532 Duval Street; 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.

BTW: If you happen to be in Southwest Florida, you can also find additional locations on Marco Island at 719 Bald Eagle Drive, in Naples at 89 9th Street South, and at 1803 Tamiami Trail North.

"Stop On By and Stay High!"





- 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

DESTINATION DINING SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

eading to the mainland? Here are a few restaurants worth checking out. BTW: The Key West Express, a high speed ferry can get you to Ft Myers or Marco Island in approximately 3.5 hours and departs from 100 Grinnell St in Key West. More info: 239-463-5733; keywestexpress.net.

THE BOAT HOUSE TIKI BAR & GRILL

17101 St Rd 31 Fort Myers, Fl 33905 239-332-2628; theboathouseusa.com

A Great Waterfront Jam
Featured on the Travel Channel's "Food
Paradise," this local landmark is renowned
for the spectacular sunset views of the
Caloosahatchee River large saltwater
swimming pool and its award-winning food.
Top Picks: Authentic Cuban Sandwich, Fried
Baskets, Fresh Catch, Steaks and more.

CABOS CANTINA TACO & TEQUILA BAR

2226 First St Fort Myers, Fl 33901 239-332-2226;

caboscantinafl.com

Modern, Scratch-Made Mexican Fare If you crave "Real Deal" Tex-Mex food and South of the Border Margaritas crafted with 100% Blue Agave Tequila, you have found your nirvana. Top Picks: Handcrafted Signature Tacos with interesting fillings like flank steak, chorizo or buttermilk-fried chicken. Huge selection of inventive Latin-Fusion dishes, too.

FIRESTONE

2224 Bay St Fort Myers, Fl 33901 239-334-3473;

firestonfl.com

Grill Room, Martini Bar & Sky Bar Located in the ultra cool 1920's Firestone Building, this unique dining and entertainment venue is anchored by the Grill Room, a wood-fired kitchen renowned for its Prime Steaks & Chops, Sushi and Chef Specialties. Upstairs at the Martini Bar, you can kick back with great sips, light bites, and top live entertainment. Way up top is the Sky Bar — a rooftop oasis with more great live entertainment, a special Chef's Bar Menu and the best waterfront view in town.

IZZY'S FISH & OYSTER

2282 First St Fort Myers, Fl 33905 239-337-4999:

izzysftmyers.com

A Terrific Taste of New England

The menu at this downtown favorite screams "New England!" In addition to a big selection of starters, you can get your fix with both hot and cold Maine lobster rolls, Beer Battered Fish & Chips, Pan-Seared Scallops, Linguine & Clams, Butterfish Piccata and more. There's also an excellent Steak Frites for hard-core carnivores.



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.

CROOKED PALM CABANA

90184 Overseas Hwy (MM 90) Islamorada, FL 33070 305-741-7104; crookedpalmdistillery.com

M – W 3 – 9 pm; Th & F 3 – 11 pm; Sa Noon – 11 pm; Su Noon – 9 pm Inventive Craft Cocktails & Inspired Island Eats

Tavernier: Part upscale cocktail lounge, part neighborhood social club, this polished, playful hang gets high fives for an inventive lineup of tasty craft cocktails, exceptional wood-fired pizzas, signature small bites, fresh salads, and a rotating selection of inspired

Snooks Bayside, Key Largo

entrees. Vibe to live music, kick back on the lush outdoor patio or grab a seat in the hip

entrees. Vibe to live music, kick back on the lush outdoor patio or grab a seat in the hip air-conditioned cocktail lounge. It's really a fun, local roost and a welcomed addition to the Upper Keys social scene.

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

ontinued on page 66

DISCOVER SWFL'S BEST DINING DESTINATIONS

















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



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.

ISLAMORADA PIZZA CO

Three Waters Resort & Marina 84001 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-847-4992; slamoradapizzaco.com Open Daily Noon - 11 pm A Slice of Paradise Backdropped by retro art and a beautiful ocean palette, Islamorada's newest indoor/ outdoor pizzeria fires up a signature selection of hand-tossed pies, snacks and salads. If you're a meat lover, you may want to opt for the classic Carnivore. This monster red sauce pizza is piled high with Italian sausage, pepperoni, Italian beef, bacon and smoked provolone. Think out of

the box with bold creations like the locally inspired "Islander Pizza." Topped with white sauce, Scottish Bonnet sauce, fresh conch, and tomato-cucumber, it's a delicious tribute to our tropical roots. Other standouts include the "Nonna" — the restaurant's take on a classic white pizza as well as the spicy "Pepe" Pizza with red sauce, mozzarella,

pepperoni cups and hot honey. For dessert, you can indulge in the over-the-top "Nutella Pizza" topped with hazelnut praline, banana, whipped cream, cherries and caramel, or simply enjoy a refreshing Italian Ice. Beer and wine, too. FYI: Locals can enjoy 15% off of menu prices — available exclusive for Monroe County residents. Order online and get it delivered!

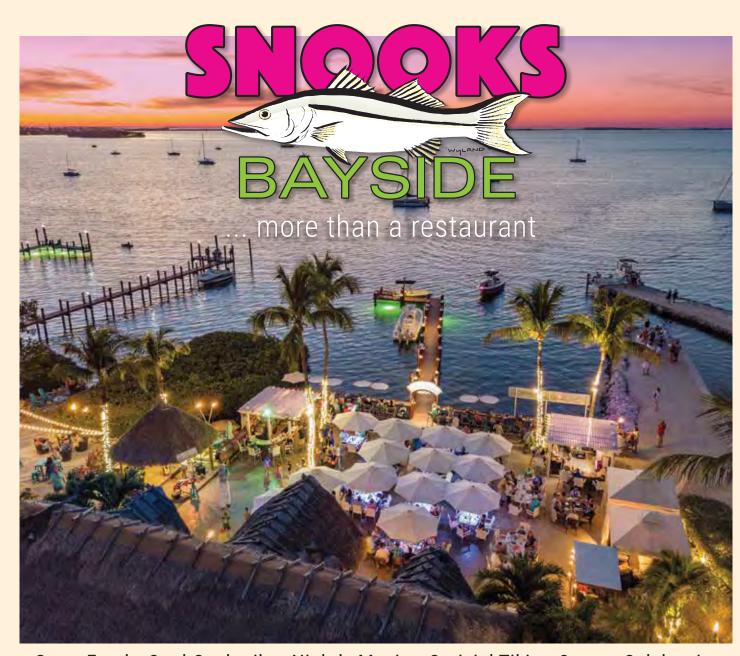
ITALIAN FOOD COMPANY **WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA**

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

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







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

92330 Overseas Hwy

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 handpainted Italian ceramics). If you appreciate "real deal" Italian, you've found your nirvana. Wine and beer, too!

ITALIAN FOOD COMPANY EXPRESS WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA

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

ITALIAN FOOD COMPANY WOOD FIRED PIZZERIA

own kitchen. Wine & beer, too!

82779 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-780-7127; italianfoodcompany.com Su - Th 5 - 9 pm; F & Sa 5 - 10 pm;Closed Tu

delights. There's also a full menu of other

signature dishes that all originate from their

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 dancina Su from 5-6 pm.

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 limeliaht with a larger,

more elevated menu showcasing 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.

KINDLER WOOD FIRED FARE

Three Waters Resort & Marina 84001 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-5300; islamoradaresortcollection.com Dinner W - Su 5 - 10 pm; Happy Hour W - S from 5-6 pm Wood-Fired Regional Specialties It's all about "WOW" moments at this new signature restaurant, which recently opened at the oh-so-fabulous oceanfront Three Waters Resort & Marina in Islamorada. A massive open-hearth kitchen takes center stage where master chefs sear, grill, and char inventive regional dishes from land and sea. Indulge in wood-roasted seafood towers, dry-aged meats, and a daily selection of fresh-caught fish. For the ultimate sea-to-table experience, bring your catch, and Kindler's Culinary Kings will create a custom dish tailored to your taste. A robust wine list is the topping on the cake. FYI: Great Happy Hour every W -

LAZY DAYS

MM 79.9. Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036 305-664-5256 lazydaysislamorada. Open Daily

11 am - 10 pmAward-Winning Favorite Here's a place where you can enjoy award-winning 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 the bar.

LITTLE LIMON

Three Waters Resort & Marina 84001 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-433-9943; islamoradaresortcollection.com Dinner: F - Tu 5 pm - 10 pm Elevated Cocktail & Raw Bar Vibrant Latin flavors backdropped by sweeping 270-degree vistas of the Atlantic are a major draw at Islamorada's new elevated cocktail and raw bar. Squeeze lemon over just-shucked oysters, ceviche, and crudo, or pony up for an enticing selection of shareable small plates. High Fives go to the Lobster Tostada, Smoked Fish Dip, Spicy Tuna Tacos, and Shishito Peppers. A great lineup of creative cocktails is the coup d'gras.

LOR-E-LEI RESTAURANT & CABANA

96 Madeira Rd (MM 82, Bayside) Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.com Daily 7 am - 10 pm; Happy Hour 4 - 6 pm The Local Pulse of Islamorada What began as a rustic 1940s Fishing Camp with only a dock, two folding chairs, and an "honor system" beer cooler is now one of Islamorada's most notorious waterfront restaurants and watering holes. Home to the world-famous Lor-e-lei Back Country Fishing Guides, this casual, family-friendly hang has also been voted "Best Sunset" year after year. It boasts a rockin' nightly sunset celebration that always draws a lively crowd. You can get breakfast, lunch, and dinner here seven days a week with nightly specials, fresh local seafood, and a variety of other delicious dishes. Live entertainment by local bands often inspires dancing on the beach. Just look for the Mermaid! continued on page 72





Voted Best Waterfront Dining & Best Seafood Restaurant

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

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

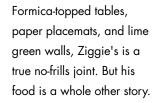
Lunch Daily 11am - 4pm Dinner Nightly Su-Th 4 - 10pm | Fi & Sa 4-11pm MM 79.9 Oceanside, Islmaorada, Florida Keys 305-664-5256 | lazydaysrestaurant.com

Legendary Food With A Storied Past

Ziggie & Mad Dog's Has It All

he Keys' storied past is ripe with colorful tales and locations worthy of a Mickey Spillane novel. Islamorada's highly acclaimed Ziggie & Mad Dog's restaurant is no exception.

Originally built as an outbuilding on a local pineapple plantation in the 1930s, the property first grabbed headlines in 1948 when the Miami Herald reported on a police shootout with gamblers and shady characters referred to as "The New Capone Gang." Chicago Mob Boss Al Capone was rumored to be involved in the



Ziggie's "New World Fusion Cuisine," which combined fresh local seafood with Caribbean-Asian recipes, is way ahead of its time. Soon, Ziggie's small roadside

> digs becomes the hottest ticket in town, attracting all kinds of celebrities, including famous actors

> > In the thirty years of operation, "Ziggie The Conch" was worldrenowned as one of

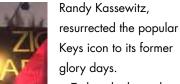


Fast forward to 1962. Sigmund

"Ziggie" Stocki, an alleged drifter, gambler, and former casino maître d', opens "Ziggie The Conch Restaurant." A curved sign over the restaurant's entrance promises "Fine Food" with "Ziggie Your Host" scripted below in neon. With its

experiences in the Florida Keys, and his culinary influence is still evident today in many of the Keys' best restaurants.

In 2005, the late Jim "Mad Dog" Mandich, a former tight end for the Miami Dolphins' undefeated 1972 Super Bowl team, along with radio broadcaster



Today, the legend lives on. You can still rub elbows with an eclectic crowd of celebrities, sports stars, notorious fishing captains, and local A-Listers who alam to this sleek and

sophisticated steak, chops, and seafood house for orchid-garnished cocktails, international wines, and outstanding preparations by a cracker-jack team of award-winning chefs.

Although all of the local boat-to-table seafood at Ziggie & Mad Dog's is absolutely sensational, (especially the Crabmeat Stuffed Snapper and Lobster Tail with White Truffle Mac & Cheese) it's the steak and chops that really make the All-Star list. Truth be told, you've never really had a steak until you've had a Ziggie's perfectly grilled Filet, Ribeye, or the 28 oz mega Porterhouse. Team these big boys up with some nutty Pistachio and Parmesan Creamed Spinach sided with a loaded, linebackersized baked potato, and you've got yourself a hands-down winner.

Ziggie & Mad Dog's is open nightly at 5 pm, and reservations are strongly recommended. Find at 83000 Overseas Hwy (MM 83) in the heart of Islamorada.

Info: 305-664-3391; ziggieandmaddogs.com. FYI: Get there early if you want to grab a coveted seat at the bar. I'll be the one sipping the French 75.

- Pamela Childs



Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended 305.664.3391

83000 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada ziggieandmaddogs.com



MERCADO MORADA

Three Waters Resort & Marina 84001 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-433-9949;

islamoradaresortcollection.com Breakfast: M - Su 7 am 11 am: Lunch: F — Su 11:30 - 5 pm; Dinner: M - Sa 5 - 10 pmFestive Outdoor Street Market & Eatery At "the epicenter' of Islamorada's new

luxe Three Waters Resort & Marina is this unique outdoor street market celebrating Latin flavors from across Central

America. The shaded oceanfront pavilion is perfect for strolling the caravan of food trucks serving up easy eats all day long. Kick back with an Agua Fresca or Agave Cocktail and enjoy some hip-swiveling live music. It's "inthe-moment" social dining right on the water, with spectacular views of the Islamorada Sandbar.

MIA CUCINA

At Cheeca Lodge & Spa 81801 Overseas Hwy (MM82) Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-517-4447;

cheeca.com

Daily 5 - 10 pmAuthentic Neapolitan

Pizzeria This authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria creates made-toorder 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

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)

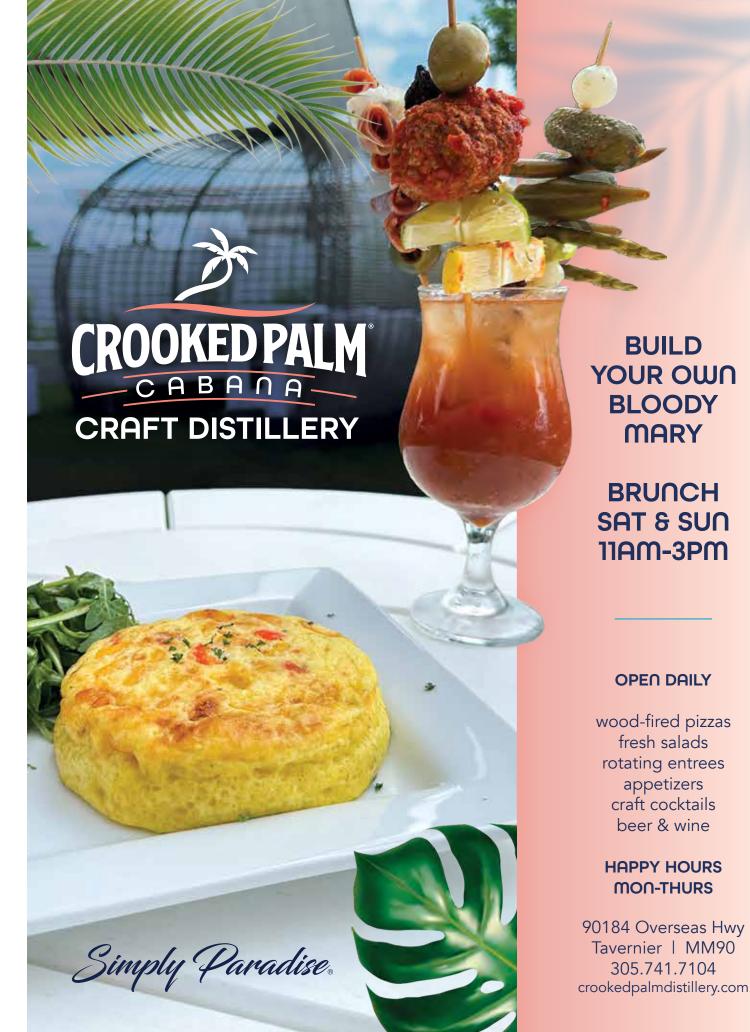
Innovative, Eclectic American/Caribbean Fare Super fresh, local seafood and produce are the stars of the show at this casually chic beachfront bistro. Enjoy toes-in-the-sand, outdoor dining on the glorious palm studded beach, or inside surrounded by a curated collection of vintage surfboards, longboards, 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

continued on page 80





The Pulse Of Islamorada

Lorelei Restaurant & Cabana Bar

hat began as a rustic 1940s Fishing Camp with only a dock, two folding chairs and an "honor system" beer cooler, is now one of the Keys' most notorious restaurants and watering holes.

Located in the heart of Islamorada and marked by a ainormous roadside mermaid, Lor-e-Lei Restaurant & Cabana Bar is where flip flops, fish tales and spectacular sunset celebrations are de rigueur.

The crowd here is eclectic so you never know who you'll run into - especially during the daily Happy Hour from 4 -6 pm when Well Drinks are just three dollars and domestic drafts go for a buck and a half.

A little eavesdropping at the bar may net you tall tales by a local back country fishing boat captain who is flanked by a Manhattan stockbroker on the left, and a local school teacher on the right.

But the real entertainment starts during the nightly "Sunset Celebration." As that big ball of fire starts to sink into the horizon, the live music kicks in and the bar crowd spills onto the beach for some serious toes-in-the sand revelry. On most nights, just after sunset, magician Michael Trixx, who was featured on America's Got Talent, performs a "Rock-N-Roll Magic Show" that will blow your mind.

Partying aside, the Lor-e-Lei also serves up some damn good fare. Topping the seafood-centric menu: Tuna Nachos, a



"World Famous" Fish Sandwich, Pulled Pork Sliders, the Alaskan Snow Crab Platter, fresh Local Catch, and Twin Cold-Water Lobster Tails. The New York Strip and Key Lime Peppercorn Snapper are also especially good. BTW: Save room for the Lor-e-Lei's award-winning Frozen Key Lime Pie — it literally takes the cake! You can find this fun Keys institution at 96 Madeira Road in Islamorada, Just Look for the Mermaid on the Overseas Hwy at MM 82. Info: 305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.com.

Come for the Beachfront Dining — Stay for the Nightly **Sunset Celebration!**





Home of the Upper Key's most spectacular sunset celebration, Islamorada's world famous Lor-e-Lei dishes up some of the Keys' best local seafood and cuisine, as well as a big selection of delicious appetizers, hearty meals and signature cocktails.

- Open Daily 7 am 10 pm
- Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
- Home to the Island's Best Margaritas
- Live Local Entertainment
- Daily Happy Hour 4 6 pm

Just Look for the Mermaid!

On the Overseas Hwy at MM 82 96 Madeira Rd, Islamorada 305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.com

ESCAPE TO PARADISE AT CHEECA LODGE & SPA



MULTIPLE OCEANFRONT **DINING OPTIONS**

WEDDINGS & **EVENTS**

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Plan Your Event



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Q

bite

Tajin & Butter Basted Florida Lobster Tail

from the Award-Winning Pierre's Restaurant

f you truly appreciate elegant "island chic" dining, you must, must, must put the legendary Pierre's Restaurant in Islamorada on your Bucket List. Here, Chef Stuart Dove shares his signature recipe for this unforgettable lobster dish, which includes lobster tails and truffle fingerling potatoes.

Ingredients for Lobster

(Yield Two Servings)

2 Large Fresh Florida Lobster Tails

1 Tsp Tajin Spice

1/2 Lemon

3 Oz Butter

Fresh Baby Basil Leaves for garnishing

Lobster Preparation

Carefully remove the shell of the lobster tail. And lightly dust with Tajin. Pan sear in butter.

Truffle Mayo for Potatoes

1/2 Cup Mayonnaise

1 Tbsp Truffle Paste

1 Tsp Sherry Vinegar

Preparation: Mix together well with a whisk. Set aside.

Fingerling Potatoes

1/2 Lb Fingerling Potatoes

1 Oz Olive Oil

3 Oz Manchego Cheese, finely grated

1 Tsp Salt

Preparation: Bring a medium pot of water to a boil. Add salt and potatoes. Cook the potatoes for approximately



10 minutes or until they can be easily pierced with a fork. Remove from pot and peel; cut the potatoes in half and sauté in olive oil until golden brown. Toss with the Truffle Mayo and top with the Manchego cheese.

Red Pepper & Tomato Vinaigrette

1 Red Pepper

1 Large Ripe Tomato 1/2 Lemon, juiced

1/4 Cup Olive Oil

Pinch of Salt

Preparation: Char the outside of the red pepper under a hot grill. Remove and place into a small plastic bag until cooled. Quarter the tomato and then dice. Set. Reserve the centers of the tomato. Once cooled, peel and seed the charred pepper. Place in a blender with the tomato centers, lemon juice, olive oil, and a pinch of salt. Blend until smooth and then strain. Use the diced tomatoes for plating.

Plating: Place the cheesy roasted fingerling potatoes on each plate. Place the lobster on top. Add diced tomatoes around the plate and drizzle with the Red Pepper & Tomato Vinaigrette. Garnish with baby basil leaves. Voila!

You can enjoy more delicious dishes like this at the legendary Pierre's Restaurant, 81600 Overseas Highway in Islamorada. Info and reservations: 305-664-3225; moradabaykeys.com.

Best sunsets in the Florida Keys



PIERRE'S Fine Dining Experience

EVENTS Lifetime Celebrations

BEACH CAFE Mediterranean Bistro







Inspired Island Dining

Islamorada's Three Waters Resort & Marina



o, just what happened to
Islamorada's former Post Card Inn
Beach Resort?

A lot. A whole lot.

Now boasting 214 island-inspired guest rooms, suites, cottages, and several terrific restaurants, it recently morphed into the spanking new Three Waters Resort & Marina.

The re-imagined oasis spans a whopping 15 acres of spectacular oceanfront property and is quickly becoming one of Islamorada's most distinctive new dining destinations.

At the top of the list is the resort's impressive signature restaurant, **Kindler Wood-Fired Fare**, Serving wood-fired regional specialties, it's all about the "WOW" moments here. A massive openhearth kitchen takes center stage where master chefs sear, grill, and char inventive regional dishes from land and sea. Indulge in wood-roasted seafood towers, dry-aged meats, and a daily selection of freshcaught fish.

If you appreciate an elevated cocktail and raw bar, **Little Limon** may be just the spot for you. Backdropped by sweeping 270-degree vistas of the Atlantic, it's all about fresh flavors and Latin savors.

Squeeze a lemon over just-shucked oysters, nibble on fresh ceviche and crudo, or pony up for an enticing selection of shareable small plates.. A great lineup of creative cocktails is the coup de gras.

At the epicenter of this luxe new resort is **Mercado Morada**. This unique outdoor "Street Market" celebrates Latin flavors from across Central America.

The shaded ocean front pavilion is perfect for strolling the caravan of food trucks serving up easy eats all day long. Kick back with an Agave Cocktail and vibe to some intoxicating, hipswiveling live music.

It's "in the moment" social dining with spectacular views of the Islamorada Sandbar.

Looking for a slice of Paradise? **The Island Pizza Co** is Three Water Resort's answer to inventive island pie. Outfitted with retro art and a beautiful ocean palette, Islamorada's newest indoor/outdoor pizzeria fires up a unique

selection of hand-tossed pies, snacks, and salads. Arguably one of the Keys' most "think out of the box" pizzerias, you can order bold creations like the locally inspired "Islander Pizza." Topped with white sauce, Scottish Bonnet sauce, fresh conch, and tomato-cucumber, it's a delicious tribute to our tropical roots.

Oh, here is a special "heads up" for our Locals:

You'll be happy to know that the

Original Tiki Bar — home of the Keys
"Rum Runner," is still in the picture. Once
known as "The Hapi Hula Hut," this iconic
beachfront landmark has been a popular
stomping ground since 1969. It's also
where the original Rum Runner cocktail
was invented by a local bartender known
as "Tiki Jon." The now famous concoction
has become a Keys-wide staple. However,
the legendary Tiki Bar still reigns supreme

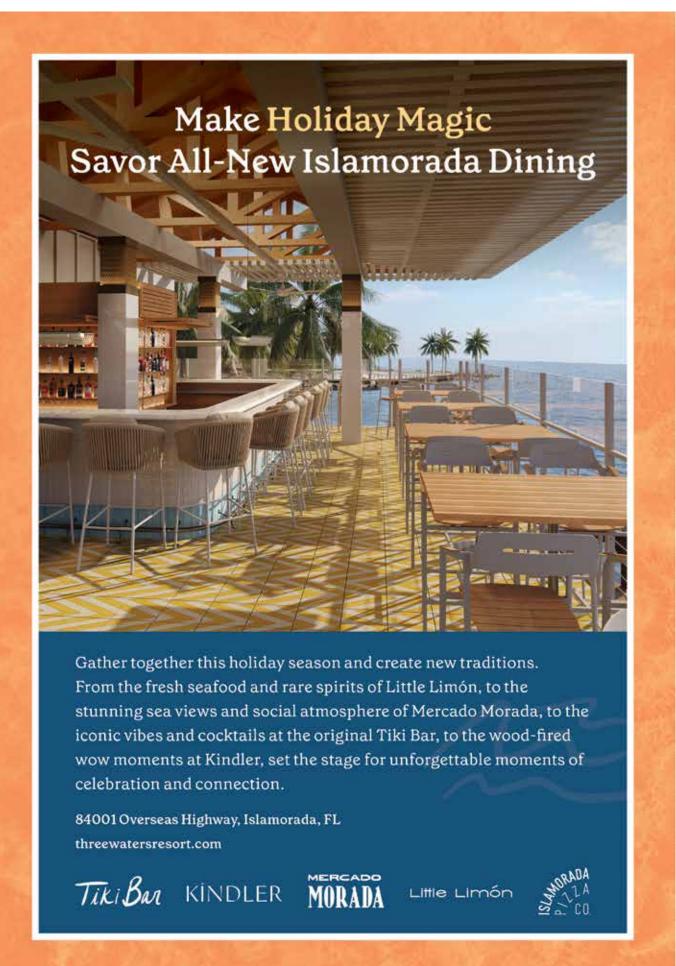
as the place to go for the real deal. With lots of lite bites,

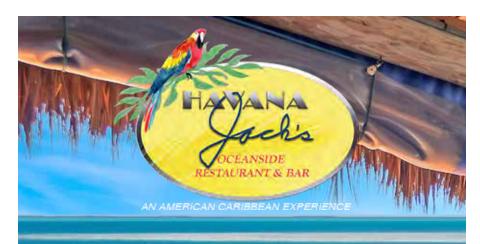
burgers, sandwiches, tacos and more, the casual Keys-inspired menu is better than ever. Epic sunsets,

ever. Epic sunsets, an island vibe and great live music what more could you ask for?

On top of all these dining options (there are

actually nine in all), Three Waters
Resort & Marina also boasts a Rum Library
where guests can enjoy tastings throughout
their stay. Sounds pretty enticing, doesn't
it? Find it all at the new Three Waters
Resort located at 84001 Overseas
Highway in Islamorada. Info: 855-8685172; islamoradaresortcollection.com/
three-waters-resort.





American Caribbean Cuisine Spectacular Ocean Views

Daily Happy Hour 4 - 6pm Live Entertainment Tree Lighting - December 8, 7pm Open Thanksgiving Christmas Eve Christmas, New Year's Eve 8 New Year's Day Make your holiday reservations now!

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 305-281-0071 | havanajacksoceanside.com



My Favorite Soint



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

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

ARE BETTER THAN ONE



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



BECAUSE THREE JOINTS ARE BETTER THAN TWO



Open 4:20-11

MM 80.4 = ISLAMORADA, FL

www. squaregrouperislamorada.com

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

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 Kev Largo, FL 33037 305-453-5004: snooks.com Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner M - Th 8 am -9:30 pm; F -Su 8 am - 10 pm Daily Sunset Celebration/Happy Hour/Live Music

One Of The Keys Top Picks

Hidden away at the end of a private lane, iust off US 1, this exotic tropical oasis with its flickering torches, beautiful orchids and SOBE-style lounges is oh-so-chic! A stunning bar, gorgeous, open-air dining area and lounging space offer unobstructed views of the Bay, giving you a ringside seat to one of the best sunset celebrations in the Keys. As seen on South Florida's popular TV show, "Check Please," the fresh, island-inspired seafood dishes and Prime steaks won high fives from the show's panel of judges and are all made to order. Truly a great place to kick back with crafted tropical cocktail and grab yourself a piece of paradise. Breakfast, too!

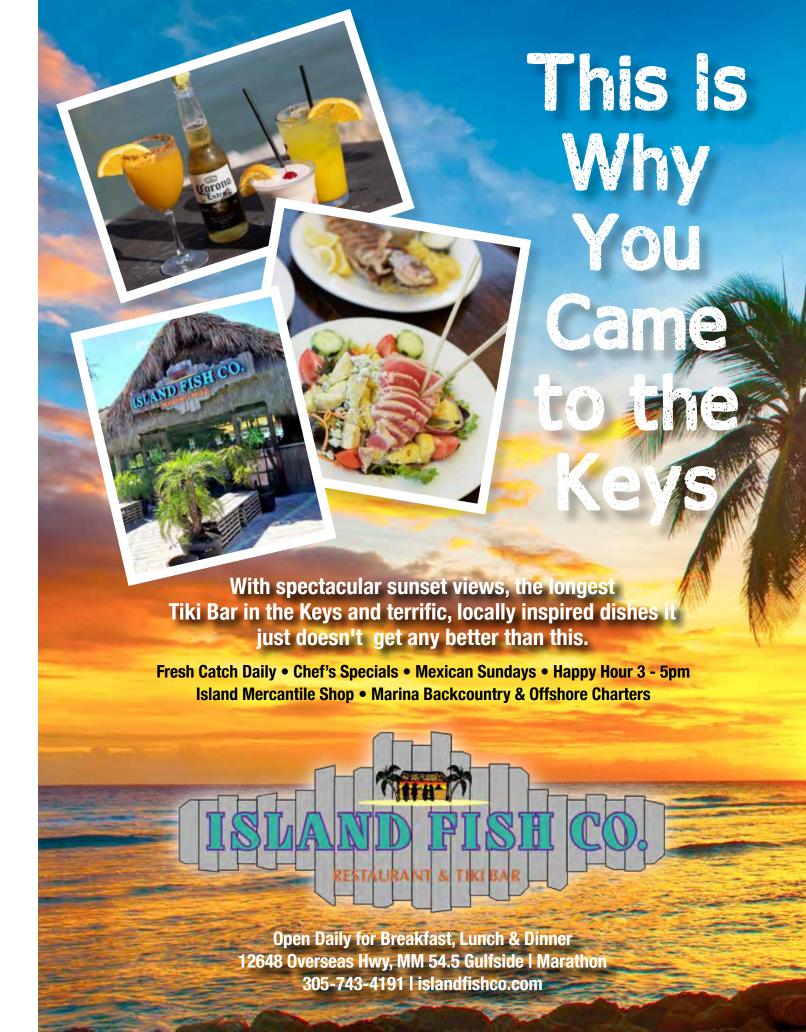
SQUARE GROUPER ISLAMORADA

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

Good news for Square Grouper fans at MM



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

SQUARE GROUPER SUNSET LOUNGE

80460 Overseas 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

THE ORIGINAL TIKI BAR

Three Waters Resort &

Marina 84001 Overseas Hwy Islamorada, Fl 33036 305-433-9949: islamoradaresortcollection.com Lunch Daily: 11 am - 5 pm Dinner Nightly: 5 - 11 pm Bar Nightly 11 am - 1 am Home of the Original Rum Runner Once known as "The Hapi Hula Hut," this iconic beachfront landmark has been a popular stomping ground since 1969. Legend has it that this is where the original Rum Runner cocktail was invented by a local bartender known as "Tiki Jon." The now famous concoction has become a Florida Keys staple. However, The Original Tiki Bar still reigns supreme as the place to go for the real deal. All your favorite tropical libations,

along with some new crafted takes on classic cocktails, remain on the menu. With lots of light bites, burgers, sandwiches, tacos, and more, the casual Keys-inspired menu is

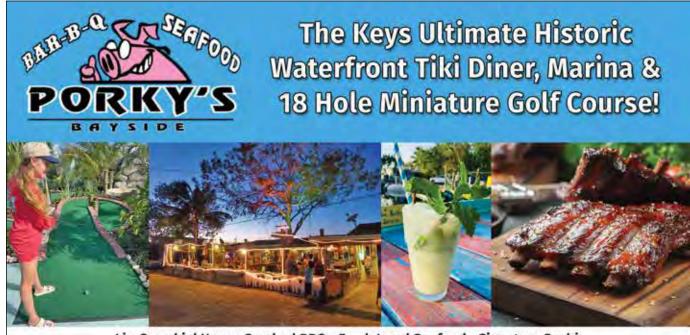
> better than ever. Epic sunsets, an island vibe, and areat live music - what more could you ask

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 amBreezy 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.



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

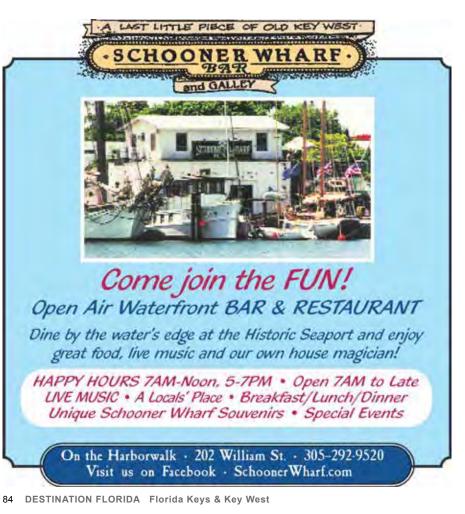


Kick back with one of Kiki's signature tropical cocktails, listen to great live music and enjoy spectacular dining on the beach or upstairs in Kiki's new bayfront dining room. All new menu features the Keys' freshest seafood, great casual fare and daily specials!

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

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





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

MIDDLE & LOWER KEYS

dining spots which always draws a colorful

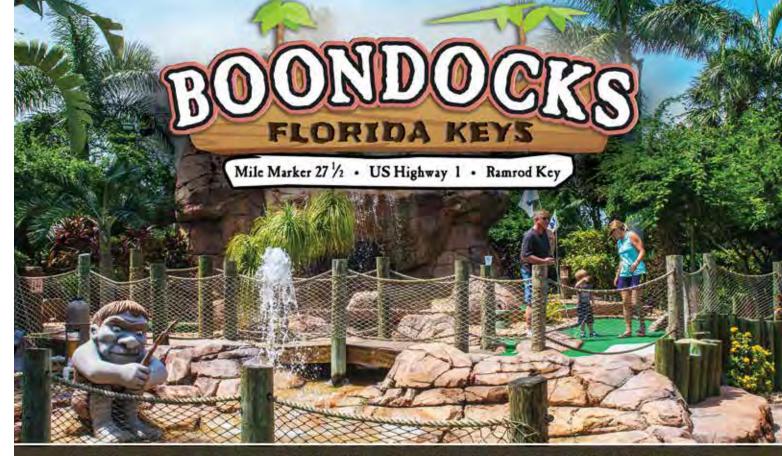
celebrity clientele.

BOONDOCKS GRILLE & DRAFT HOUSE & MINIATURE GOLF

27205 Overseas Hwy Ramrod Key, Fl 33042 Daily 11 am - 10 pm 305-872-4094; boondocksfloridakeys.com The Keys' Premiere Miniature Golf Course!Whether you're a Shot-Guy, a Martini-Girl, or a Beer-Man, this monster Tiki Hut is always a fun place to hook up with other party lovers. Consistently good food is also a draw. The restaurant has a vast selection of sandwiches and dinner entrées, including fresh-catch baskets, artisan-crafted pizzas, crisp salads, two-fisted burgers, and more. Live music on the open-air patio seven days a week, lots of special events, and the Keys' tropical mini-golf course guarantee you'll never have a dull moment.

HAVANA JACK'S OCEANSIDE

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



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

THE BEST OF KEY WEST

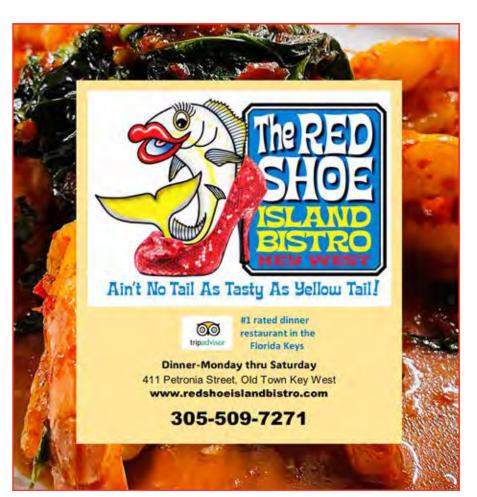


With Chef John Correa's award-winning cuisine and extensive wine list, (Wine Spectator Award since 2004) this hidden gem is an absolute "must" for foodies.

Open Daily from 5 - 10 pm



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



Keys Eats

patio great for kickin' back. Call for free pickup and drop-off anywhere on Key Colony

ISLAND FISH CO

12648 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050 305-743-4191; islandfishco.com Daily 8 am - 10 pm Waterfront Cheeky Tiki Kick back with a frozen cocktail at the Keys' longest tiki bar where an intoxicating view of the Gulf transports you to Margaritaville. Open-air dining and a "Keysy" menu including items like Crabmeat Stuffed Shrimp, Crab Cakes, Conch Fritters, Burgers, and locally caught seafood. FYI: On Sunday, there's a special Mexican lunch menu.

KIKI'S SANDBAR BAR & GRILLE

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

MY NEW JOINT 420 LOUNGE

(Located above the Square Grouper Bar and Grill) 22658 Overseas Hwy MM 22.5 Oceanside Cudioe Kev. FL 33042 305-745-8880; mynewjoint420lounge.com Tu - Sa 4:20 - 11 pmHappy 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 170 canned and bottled beers. Fantastic wine list sure to please everybody. A great place to bring your buds!

PORKY'S BAYSIDE

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

homemade desserts, a great daily Happy Hour with the best mojitos in town, live entertainment, and the most challenging 18hole miniature golf course in the Keys. FYI: You can even rent a boat, jet ski or book an Eco-Tour here. Pet friendly, too!

SQUARE GROUPER BAR & GRILL

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

> squaregrouperbarandgrill.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 Key Lime Martini! Raw

Bar, Tapas Bar Menu & Cocktail Lounge with live music is located upstairs and is open until 11pm.

KFY WFST

BIG CHEEZEES PUB AND GRUB

404 Southard St Key West, FL 33040 305-741-7113: bigcheezeespubandgrubkw.com M – W 11 am -11pm; Th 8 am – 11 pm; F & Sa 8 am - Midnight; Su 8 am - 11 pm Crave-Worthy Comfort Food There's nothing like a genuine Coney Dog loaded with onions and mustard to satisfy your comfort food cravings. Located next to the famous Green Parrot Bar, this popular downtown pub and grub is the perfect place to satisfy your real food hankerings. Dogs, Burgers, BBQ, Wings, and gobbling good sandwiches headline a big menu of seriously good casual eats that really fill the bill when you're hungry. You can also feast on almost a dozen different hand-tossed pizza options. Eat in or take out. Breakfast, too!. Best of all -

they even deliver. Yeah, baby!

continued on page 88



1029 Southard St., Key West, FL 33040 305-294-0230:

cafesole.com

Open Nightly 5 - 10 pm

Award-Winning French Caribbean Cuisine 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 Hoa Fish Snapper.

THE GREEN PINEAPPLE WELLNESS CAFE

1130 Duval Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-509-7378; greenpineapplewellness.com

Daily 9 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 Street.

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-fromscratch, herb-spiked sauces, this cozy trattoria is one of the Keys' best values and serves up simple, full flavors that are intoxicatingly good. Lots of grilled specialties, too, along with beef, seafood, chicken and vegetarian dishes. Excellent gluten/ egg-free pasta options including "Zucchini Zoodle Noodles." Seductive wine list features vintages dating back to the 1950's.

RED SHOE ISLAND BISTRO

411 Petronia Street Key West Fl 33040 305-509-7271 redshoeislandbistro.com M - Sa 6 - 9pmA Delectable Find in Old Town This small unpretentious restaurant

> in the heart of Old Town Key West is a favorite destination for locals. Renowned for its fresh local seafood, unique salads, beef stroganoff, and award-winning key lime pie, it's just steps off the beaten path but

far from the maddening crowds. The compact menu includes stellar items like

Shrimp Mango Toast, Lobster Roll Profiteroles, and the signature Yellowtail Snapper with lemon and parsley sauce, risotto topped with parmesan, and sautéed asparagus. Absolutely 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.

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.



Cheapest Bottomless Drinks in Town! *Food Order Required for Bottomless Drinks*

404 Southard Street in Key West | (305) 741-7113 bigcheezeespubandgrubkw.com



Crooked Palm Cabana 90184 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier, Fl 33070 305-741-7104; crookedpalmdistillery.com

appetizers

Garlic Knots

wood fired pizza dough knots tossed in savory garlic herb and parmesan infused butter served with house made marinara

Yia Yia's Meatballs

topped with creamy whipped feta mousse and

Keys Smoked Fish Dip

smoked mahi and wahoo, served with kalamata olives, bell peppers, fresh diced jalapeño, and house made dough bites

salads

Caprese

crisp field greens, cherry tomatoes burrata with strawberry infused balsamic vinaigrette and a balsamic drizzle

1920's Cabana Salad

fresh field greens, cherry tomatoes red onion, black olives, feta cheese & croutons dressed with creamy house vinaigrette

Strawberry Fields

crisp arugula, red onion, strawberries, cherry tomatoes, candied walnuts, feta cheese with balsamic infused vinaigrette

wood fired pies

Prosciutto Fig

evoo, roasted garlic, mozzarella, arugula, fig, prosciutto, caramelized red onion, balsamic

Neapolitan

blistered cherry tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, fresh basil & house made sauce with a drizzle of balsamic glaze

Fire Roasted Veggie

Chicken Pesto

diced grilled chicken, pesto, mozzarella, ricotta, caramelized onions

Meatatarian

meatballs, pepperoni, italian sausage, bacon & house made sauce



seasonal grilled veggies, caramelized onions, sautéed mushrooms, mozzarella, & house made sauce



SAMPLE MENUS —



appetizers

Peppercorn-Crusted Tuna

lightly seared with sweet soy reduction, wasabi & sriracha sauces, seaweed salad

Santa Fe Chicken Egg Rolls

seasoned chicken, corn, black beans, roasted red peppers, lime cilantro aioli

Sunset Conch Fritters

ground conch in seasoned batter lightly fried with Out Island Sauce

Fried "Or" Coconut Shrimp

hand battered, lightly fried with orange horseradish sauce

Nachos

beef, chicken or pork, crafted cheese, pico de gallo, sour cream, guacamole, fresh tortilla chips

Lor-e-lei Restaurant & Cabana Bar 81924 Overseas Hwy, MM 82, Bayside Islamorada 305-664-2692; loreleleicabanabar.com

Breakfast, Too, Daily From 7 - 10:30 am

sandwiches

World Famous Fish Sandwich

grilled, fried or blackened with lettuce, tomato, onion on brioche bun

Hand Formed Cabana Burger

certified angus beef, lettuce, tomato, onion arilled to taste on brioche bun

Caprese Chicken Sandwich

grilled chicken breast, basil pesto, beefsteak tomato, fresh mozzarella, balsamic glazed on a ciabatta roll

entrees

Catch of the Day

grilled, fried, or blackened

Seafood Tacos

mahi, shrimp, grouper or snapper, grilled, fried or blackened

Alaskan Snow Crab Platter

Full pound with fries, fisherman's slaw

Key Lime Peppercorn Catch/Chicken fresh snapper, mahi, grouper or chicken

Twin Lobster Tails

two cold-water lobster tails, chargrilled

Choice12 oz New York Strip Steak Chararilled to taste



SAMPLE MENUS



Island Fish Co Restaurant & Tiki Bar 12648 Overseas Hwy Marathon, Fl 33050 305-743-4191; islandfishco.com

starters

Raw Bar

cold water oysters, clams on the half shell, gulf oysters, stone crab claws, shrimp, seafood

Fried Calamari

flash fried with banana peppers, onions, tomato, cilantro & key lime mustard aioli

Mango Crab Cakes

loaded with blue crab, pan-seared & served with key lime mustard sauce

Coconut Encrusted Shrimp

with mango chutney

Shrimp & Lobster Egg Roll

with mango chutney

Seared Ahi Tuna Tataki

wasabi, pickled ginger, seaweed salad, sesame ginger vinaigrette

sandwiches/wraps/tacos

New England Lobster Roll

hot buttered poached lobster on a brioche roll

Grouper or Mahi Mahi Sandwich fried, grilled, or blackened

Baja Fish or Grilled Shrimp Tacos

soft tacos, cabbage, green chili, our cream, tomatoes, jack cheddar

Island Cheesesteak

thinly sliced sirloin, sautéed peppers, mushrooms, onions, cheddar

Angus Premium or Veggie Burger choice of toppings

entrees/pasta

Fresh Catch

grilled, pan-seared, blackened, broiled, stuffed, almandine, française

Key West Shrimp Fra Diavlo

cajun spiced shrimp, spicy marinara over linguini

White Little Neck Clam Linguini

olive oil, garlic, white wine

Petite Surf & Turf

grilled filet mignon & 1/2 florida lobster with mango crabmeat stuffing béarnaise sauce, drawn butter



SAMPLE MENUS —



appetizers

citrus marinated

Key West Jumbo Crab Cakes with remoulade

Famous House Smoked Fish Dip with tortilla chips

Baked Oysters Rockefeller spinach, parmesan, breadcrumbs, pernod

Gulf Shrimp Ceviche

Smoke House Chicken Wings buffalo, bbq, or spicy thai peanut

Golden Fried Green Beans horseradish dipping sauce

Fresh Sushi & Signature Rolls

made to order

Porkys Bayside Restaurant & Marina 1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon 305-289-2065; porkysbaysidebbq.com

Breakfast, Too, Daily From 8 – 11 am!

sandwiches & burgers

Famous Smokehouse BBQ

bbg pulled pork, bbg pulled beef brisket, north carolina pulled pork, mojo cuban pork or bba pulled chicken on a toasted brioche bun

Catch Of The Day

mahi, yellowtail, grouper, cobia grilled, cajun, fried or beer-battered

Monzter House Burgers

1/2 lb hand made, fresh ground beef:plain, mesquite, black & blue, or pizza

New Orleans' Po' Boys

crab cake, fried clams, catfish, fried oysters, or shrimp

land & sea dinners

NY Strip Steak 10 oz grilled to taste

Fresh Catch Of The Day grilled, cajun of fried

Fresh Seafood Dinners

country fried catfish, key west crab cakes, sesame seared sashimi tuna, oysters, or catch of the day

BBQ Sampler

choose bbg pork, north carolina pork, cuban pork, mojo marinade cuban pork, smokehouse bba pulled chicken, bbq pulled beef brisket, quarter rack of spare ribs or 1/2 rack of baby back ribs





Tayern N' Town Restaurant Bar Tapas Beachside Resort & Marina 3841 N Roosevelt Blvd Key West, Fl 33040 305-296-8100; tavernntown.com

Breakfast, Too, Daily 8 am - 11am

tapas

Charcuterie Board

meats & assorted cheeses, truffle honey, dried fruit, macron almonds, focaccia

Ribeye Steam Buns

wakami, soy ginger cabbage, sesame, shiso, pickled thai chili

Shrimp Cocktail & Lobster Ceviche

house cocktail sauce, tavern aioli

Tuna Tostada

yellowfin tuna, guacamole, soy ginger, pickled chili, crispy white corn tortilla

pizza

Tavern

house-made fennel sausage, oregano, mozzarella, mushrooms

Margherita

heirloom tomato, basil, mozzarella

Prosciutto

burrata cheese, arugula, parmesan, lemon olive oil

entree

Prime Rib

yukon mashed potatoes, fire-roasted brussels sprouts, au jus, horseradish cream

Sea Scallops

corn salsa, parsnip, key lime beurre blanc, herb oil

Local Catch

heirloom tomato, asparagus tips, mushrooms, lemon-caper butter over linguine

Ora King Salmon

king salmon filet, roasted curry cauliflower florets, coconut carrot cream sauce, micro mint & cilantro

Parmesan Crusted Chicken

pan seared chicken breast & thigh, hearts of palm, artichoke, lemon butter, basil

Tavern Burger

1/2 lb australian wagyu, caramelized onion, white cheddar, smoked ketchup on brioche

A La Carte

duroc bone in pork chop; australian wagyu ny strip; australian wagyu filet mignon; or australian wagyu ribeye — grilled to taste



SAMPLE MENUS



breakfast

Shrimp & Grits

with creole sauce

Stuffed French Toast

with ranch or bleu cheese

Monte Cristo

melted ham & swiss between french toast with egg and berry compote

Cheezesteak Omelette

shaved smoked beef, caramelized onions, swiss, beer cheese

Big Cheezees 404 Southard St, Key West, FL 33040 305-741-7113; bigcheezeespubandgrubkw.com

Get It Delivered!

Breakfast Th - Su from 8 am - 11 am!

Biscuits & Chorizo

chorizo gravy, salsa verde, crema

barbecue/mains

1/2 or Full Rack Ribs

French Dip/Pit Beef Sandwich/ Or Smoked Reuben

with one side

Smash Burger

two 1/4 pound patties, with with onions, mustard

pizzas

Deluxe

ham, pepperoni, sausage, mushrooms, greer peppers, onion, cheese

Chicken Bacon Ranch

Chicken, bacon, cheese, ranch dressing BBQ Chicken bbg sauce, chicken, bacon, onion,

Big Daddy

extra cheese, ground beef, pepperoni, onion, green peppers, banana peppers



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

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

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

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

Often referred to as "The Keys Boating & Family Destination," Marathon,

boasts homey resorts, luxury accommodations, marinas and the conveniences of a modern community, airport, golf course and plenty of shops while retaining the charm of its roots as a 19th-century fishing village.

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

Located closer to Cuba than to Miami, Key West is Florida's irreverent southernmost subtropical paradise where Gingerbread mansions share palm-studded streets with tin-roofed "Conch" houses. It's unique confluence of history, climate, natural beauty, cultural diversity, architecture and unabashed romantic appeal makes it a colorful place to set down roots.

Brenda Donnelly Real Estate

1119 White Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-304-1116;

brendadonnellyrealestate.com From Dream Homes to Dream Getaways

Local real estate guru Brenda Donnelly knows something about luxury living in Key West, and she has the track record to prove it. As one of the island's top Real Estate Brokers and the owner of Brenda

Donnelly Real Estate, Historic Key West Vacation Rentals, and At Home Annual Rentals, she's got the keys

to some of the best properties available. Whether you're looking for a permanent residence, a relaxing escape, or a company to take care of your investment, she has it all under one roof.

continued on page 94





Brenda Donnelly offers a complete luxury experience in Key West from dream homes to dream getaways. As the owner of Brenda Donnelly Real Estate, Historic Key West Vacation Rentals and At Home Annual Rentals, Brenda provides seamless access to the best of Key West living. Whether you're looking for a permanent residence, relaxing escape, or a company to take care of your investment, Brenda has everything under one roof!

305-304-1116 | brendadonnellyrealestate.com

92 DESTINATION FLORIDA Florida Keys & Key West

NEST



The Lisa Ferringo Group **Coldwell Banker**

Schmitt Real Estate Co 29967 Overseas Hwy Big Pine Key, Fl 33042 305-797-1221 lisaferringo.com Call for Hours #1 Agent in the Keys #1 Office

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

Key West Luxury Finders Preferred Properties

520 Southard Street Key West, Fl 33040 305-240-0355; keywestluxuryfinders.com Your Florida Dream Starts Here As one of Key West's leading real estate teams, Cory Held, Jeffrey Grosky, and Rikki Shea Gage always go the extra mile for their clients. Their local expertise, exceptional service, and solid reputation for consistently surpassing their clients' expectations are what make them a top choice for both buyers and sellers. If you're looking for an A+ team who truly knows the ins and outs of our local real estate market, these "Luxury Finders" will hook you up.

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

Terri Spottswood **Truman & Company**

1205 Truman Ave. 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 services.

Over 34 years of trusted **Key West** Real Estate and Vacation Rental expertise. KWres .com BEACH CLUB BROKERS rentkw

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!



24 Floral Avenue, Kev Haven \$4,999,999

Nestled on a lushly landscaped lot this exquisite Open Water estate seamlessly blends modern elegance with Caribbean charm. This gem boasts a resort-style pool, concrete dock with boat lift, and stunning indoor/outdoor integration. Breathtaking views of the turquoise water from almost every room!



231 East Shore Drive, Summerland Key \$3.899.000

Oceanfront, New Construction home with 5BR/5.5 BA, and sparkling infinity pool, and nightly rentals are allowed! Private boat basin with assigned dock space to convey with home purchase. Enjoy resort-style amenities within a quiet, gated community but just minutes from shops and restaurants in town!



437 Harbour Drive, Duck Key \$7,499,000

Nestled on a lush gated lot, this elegant Oceanfront



4500 Filer Cove Road, Marathon \$5,999,000 This private 4 BR/4BA Estate with over 2,000 ft. of waterfront epitomizes Luxury Living in the Florida Keys. Situated on over 12 picturesque acres,

featuring guest house, separate boat house and

65' concrete dock, a true boater's paradise!

Estate epitomizes resort-style seaside living. Sprawling 56' dock, pool, and sandy beach! Every detail has been considered with expertly curated aesthetics blending relaxed sophistication with the surrounding turquoise waters, beckoning the outdoors in!



2030 Avenue H, Marathon \$4,890,000

Endless Sunset Views over a deep draft lagoon, with enviable no-bridge, deep-water access to the Ocean! Nestled on nearly a half-acre, this updated retreat offers 300' of waterfront with boat lift, boat ramp, and composite dock, just steps away from a resort-style pool, spa and tiki hut.



137 Mockingbird Lane, Marathon \$3,900,000

Luxurious, Modern masterpiece with incomparable boating just minutes to Sombrero Beach! Sprawling dock and resort-style pool boasting heater, chiller, and sun deck! Built for elevated waterside entertaining with 1000 Sq. Ft. of covered verandas, and unrivaled views of the harbor.



14 Avenue F, Marathon \$3,850,000

Angler's Paradise with unmatched deep-draft boating Ocean access from 200' wide canal! 100' dock, two 40' boat slips, davits, and two floating docks, this property is expertly outfitted for the avid boater! Featuring an airy open concept, flooded with natural light and soaring ceilings, and boasts resort-like finishes



1507 Sombrero Boulevard B, Marathon \$3,499,000

Brand New CBS Construction Pool Home with gorgeous Harbor Views and excellent boating! Every detail has been considered in this turnkey gem! Openconcept Great Room is bright and spacious and leads out to a full-length covered veranda overlooking the pool, boasting stunning Open Water Views!



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

Specializing in Luxury **Water Front Properties!**



Buying & Selling Real Estate **5 Valuable Tips**

#1. Sellers: Redefine "Market Value"

Your home's value isn't what the tax assessor says. It's not what a similar-size home that sold across town. It's what a buyer is willing to pay today. To arrive at that sum, you must factor in foreclosures and short sales along with the average value of seller concessions in your submarket.

#2. Sellers: Extend The Selling Season

Spring is the best time to find the broadest universe of buyers and sellers. Parents don't want to uproot their kids from schools mid-term and would like to settle in a new neighborhood by mid-summer. These days, "spring" really means late winter. So if you're going to sell in 2025, get your house ready for showings by late February.

#3. Buyers: Check The Seller's Addition

Check for illegal additions. Revenue-starved cities are cracking down on unpermitted work. Unpermitted room additions, kitchen remodels, and garage conversions are

just a few areas that can haunt an unsuspecting buyer. Especially beware if square footage doesn't match tax assessor records. If you buy unwittingly, you'll be responsible for bringing the work up to code.

4. Sellers: Feel What The Buyer Feels

Neutral colors allow buyers to picture themselves in your house. Convey an inviting atmosphere by de-cluttering and stowing away your inexpensive or tattered furniture and cherished mementos. Employ the age-old tactic of baking fresh cookies before a showing or lighting a candle or two.

5. Buyers: Keep The Dream Alive After **Foreclosure**

Foreclosure doesn't necessarily mean you can't finance another home for a long, long time. Yes, it may remain on your credit record for up to seven years, but governmentbacked mortgage guarantors Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and FHA typically impose a minimum of just three years before they'll back another home loan - if your foreclosure was due to extenuating circumstances such as job loss, relocation, or illness. Next time, you might be asked for a bigger down and slightly higher interest rates. So start saving now.

Preferred

-Steve McLinden, Bankrate.com



Historic Old Town home transformed to a luxury estate designed for family, friends & entertaining! Beautiful main house & 2 brand new guest houses surround the waterfall pool creating a private tropical oasis. 2 stories, outdoor living/dining pavilion, gourmet kitchen, huge AC attic, garage, carport. 5BD/5.2BA | 3,998sf | 12,478sf Lot \$7,950,000



Terri Spottswood **Broker** Truman & Co. 305-587-3407 terrispottswood.com



Newly renovated home in the coveted Meadows neighborhood delivers unmatched elegance & comfort. Coastal design, gourmet kitchen, impact windows/doors, waterfall pool. Perfect family home, vacation home or investment property. 3BD/2BA | 1,456sf | 2,594sf Lot \$2,085,000



1006 SEMINARY STREET

Wonderful Casa Marina home offers incredible indoor/ outdoor living! 2 stories, updated throughout, loggia w/ hot tub, pool, sun deck, generator, fully fenced, X flood zone. Potential for a great monthly vacation rental! 3BD/3.5BA | 3,049sf | 3,977sf Lot

\$3,599,000



1229 5TH STREET

Expansive 2 story pool home on a huge corner lot in a great Midtown location. Large gourmet kitchen, tile flooring, utility room, sundeck, new roof, kid/ pet play area, storage shed, privacy wall, RV/trailer

6BD/3BA | 3,197sf | 9,500sf Lot \$1,995,000



408 WILLIAM STREET

\$2,550,000

Newly renovated historic home on a coveted Old Town street! Character rich 3 story w/ versatile floor plan, new kitchen & appliances, heart pine floors, 4 porches, jacuzzi. True KW landmark, awarded 2 stars from the Historical FL Keys Foundation.. 4-5BD/3BA | 1,943sf | 2,700sf Lot

408 GRINNELL STREET

Stunning home near Historic Seaport! Built 2005, 2 stories, reclaimed pine throughout, tall ceilings, gourmet kitchen, wet-bar, impact windows/doors, composite decking, pool, front & rear porches & balconies, Chicago brick pathways, off St. pkg. 4BD/4BA | 2,475sf | 3,908sf Lot \$3,290,000



811 FLEMING STREET

Perfect spot to live/work! 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.

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



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

305-587-3407

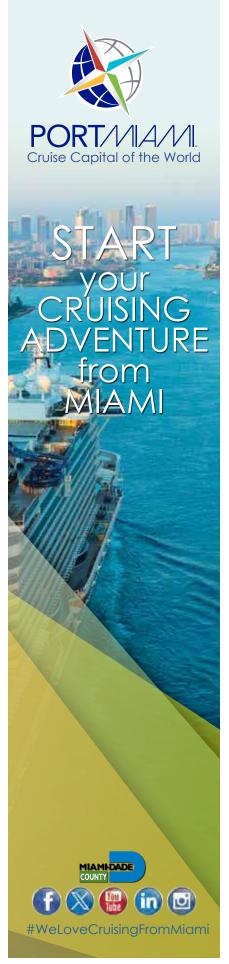
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Hit the Decks from PortMiami

The Cruise Capital of the World

ascinating twists,
moves and controversy
played a critical role
in the history of PortMiami.
From finger piers in the
Miami River, to the world's
premier passenger cruise
port, the Port is, in many
ways, a microcosm of
Miami's development.

It all started in 1895 when landowners Julia Tuttle and William and Mary Brickell persuaded Henry Flagler to extend his Florida East Coast Railroad south and build a port city.

Flagler immediately jumped onboard. His first passenger train reached Miami a year later in 1896 and the city of Miami, with its whopping population of 300 residents, was officially incorporated.

But Flagler was just getting started. In 1897, he dredged a 12' channel in this same area and began regular passenger service between Miami and Key West. Flagler's Peninsular and Occidental (P&O) Steamship Company soon began the first regular shipping service between Miami, Grenada, and Nassau.

Located in the midst of beautiful, but very shallow Biscayne Bay, no pioneer, not even Flagler himself, could possibly have envisioned what the Port's future held. Now a Florida Heritage Landmark, today's PortMiami is world renowned as the "Cruise Capital of the World," and welcomes more cruise passengers to its terminals than any other port in the world.

The Port accommodates the largest cruise ships in the world, and is one of an



elite group of international ports that cater to both cruise ships and containerized cargo vessels.

The modern Port of today is also home to major cruise lines from around the globe including *Carnival*, *MSC*, *Norwegian*, *Royal Caribbean*, and *Virgin Voyages*.

The city's unique geographic position makes PortMiami extremely accessible to the Caribbean and Latin American, as well as to Asia and Europe by way of the Panama Canal.

You can easily reach some of the most popular Ports of Call including Key West, the Eastern and Western Caribbean, Mexico, South America and beyond.

Between the Port's convenience and the incredible array of itineraries, PortMiami is a top pick with cruising aficionados.

If you're ready for your next adventure, visit the cruise line of your choice for all the deets on cruise schedules, destinations, and more. You can find PortMiami at 1015 North America Way in Miami's Biscayne Bay. More info at portmiami.biz. Smooth sailing!

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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.

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- Direct stop from Latin America
- Custom Clearing Services from the Bahamas, Caymans & Belize
- Private charters and so much more!

