Holiday Winter 2026-2027

Florida's #1 Visitors Guide©

DESTINATION FLORIDA™



Nutcracker Key West

+ 147 Other Fun Holiday Events

EAT, SHOP, PLAY

Tops Picks from Miami to the Florida Keys

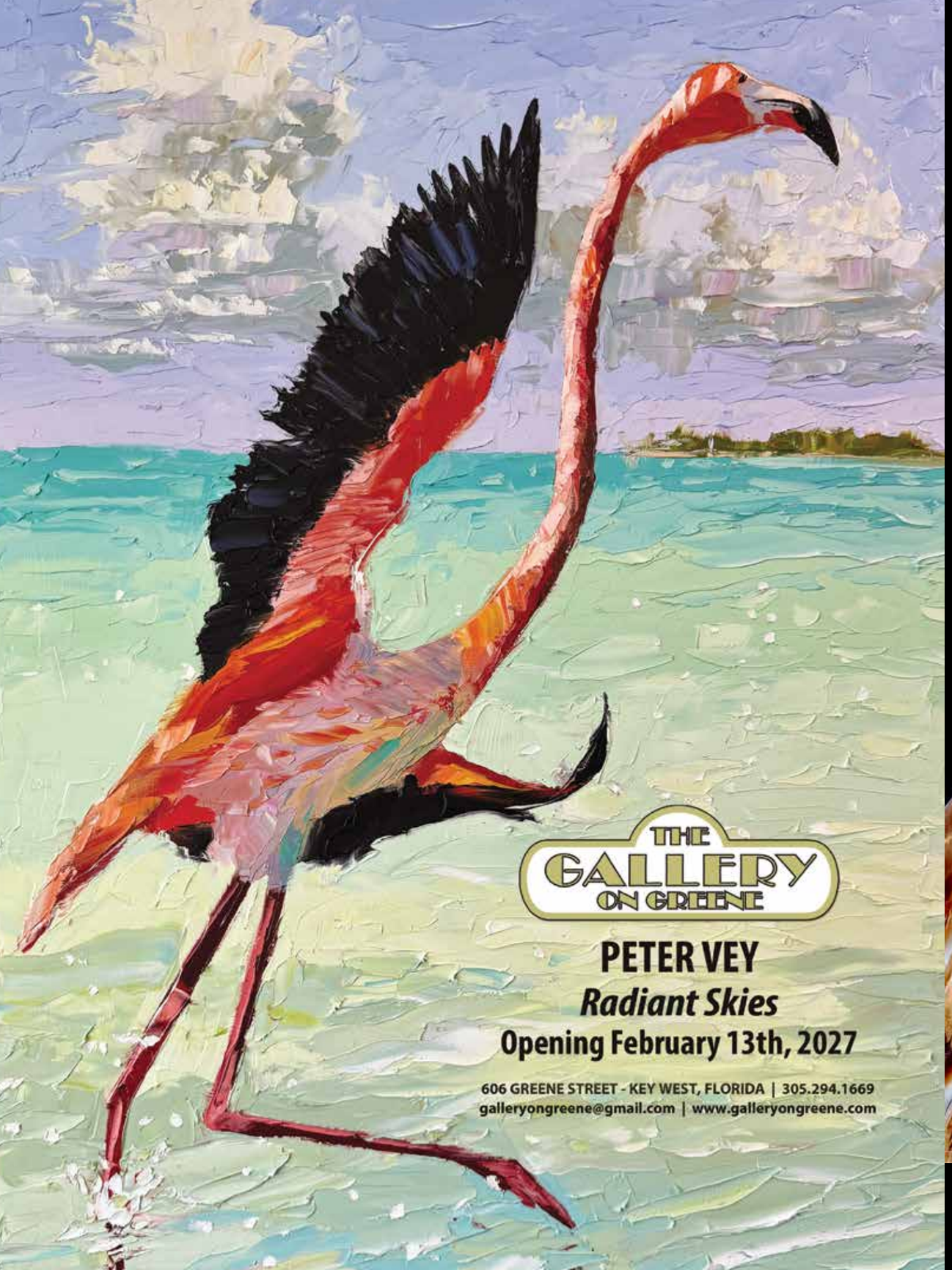
BOTTOMS UP!

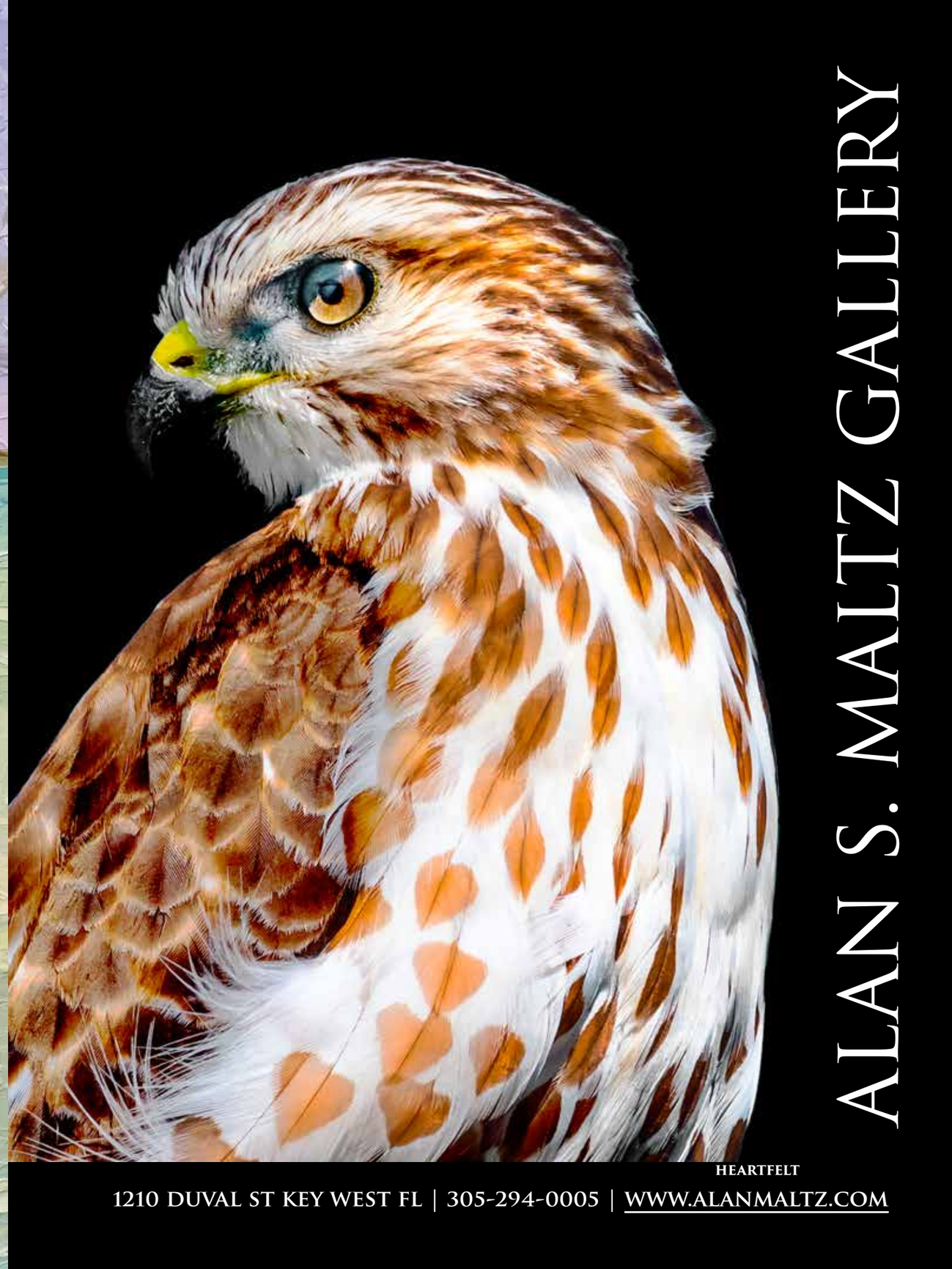
Key West Food & Wine Festival

10 YEARS ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

Keepsake Edition

FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST
GREATER SOUTH MIAMI-DADE


THE GALLERY ON GREENE
PETER VEY
Radiant Skies
Opening February 13th, 2027
606 GREENE STREET - KEY WEST, FLORIDA | 305.294.1669
galleryongreene@gmail.com | www.galleryongreene.com


ALAN S. MALTZ GALLERY
HEARTFELT
1210 DUVAL ST KEY WEST FL | 305-294-0005 | WWW.ALANMALTZ.COM

OLD FLORIDA

AN ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION

A Step Back In Time--A Step Forward In Perception.



The moment OLD FLORIDA...An Artistic Interpretation was unveiled at the 2026 Governor's Conference

A Distinctive Gift for That Special Client or Colleague.
Scan the QR code to explore the book, preferred pricing, personalization options, and ordering information.







Alan S. Maltz turns his artistic vision toward Florida's past, inviting you to travel back in time through an evocative visual journey celebrating the state's enduring beauty, mystique, history & heritage. OLD FLORIDA... An Artistic Interpretation was unveiled by VISIT FLORIDA on September 10, 2026 at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in West Palm Beach before approximately 800 industry professionals. This landmark moment sets the stage for the book's official Florida Keys & Key West launch, in partnership with VISIT FLORIDA KEYS.

For almost three decades, the Alan S. Maltz Gallery, located on historic Duval Street, has been a cornerstone of Key West's vibrant artistic heritage, reflecting the artist's vision--and passion for Florida.



ALAN S. MALTZ GALLERY | 1210 DUVAL STREET | (305) 294-0005 | ALANMALTZ.COM

5 Continents ~ 5 Oceans

Key West Food & Wine Festival 2027



Prepare yourself: From Wednesday, January 27 – Sunday, January 31, the Key West Food & Wine Festival is launching a spectacular culinary journey across five continents.

For five felicitous days, you can imbibe in fine wines; immerse yourself in evocative art, indulge in delectable, curated experiences; and discover a world of global flavors and culinary traditions from Europe, South Africa, North America, South America, and Oceania.

This year's concept, *"Connected by the Oceans,"* takes a deep dive into the historical role that our oceans have played in what we eat. For centuries, our oceans have served as pathways for ingredients, spices, cooking techniques, wine traditions and cultures moving from one shore to another.

With Key West positioned at the junction of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, our tiny piece of paradise provides the perfect backdrop for a festival built around the idea that water connects rather than divides us.

Instead of focusing on a single festival venue, the 2027 celebration uses the island itself as its setting so you'll have an opportunity to experience different restaurants, historic properties and gathering places.



It's a culinary globe trot like no other and the best part of it all — you can enjoy it all without ever leaving our tiny island.

The international culinary lineup includes Chef David Fuhrman representing Oceania, Chef Juan Cuadro representing South America, Chef Martin Liz representing South Africa and Chef Jennifer Cornell representing Europe and five continents. Chef Karl Stahl also brings a Key West perspective to the celebration, connecting the international program back to Key West and its own distinctive culinary identity.

Expect a collection of intimate dinners, wine experiences, tastings, chef-driven dishes, and collaborations, storytelling, and lots of special events held at a variety of cool locations around Key West.

Art plays an important role in this year's festival, as well. Contemporary Cuban artist, Humberto Castro brings a visual interpretation to the "Connected by the Oceans" theme, with the festival's artistic presentation curated by Alaen Ledesma Fernández. Castro's work adds another creative layer to the festival's exploration of migration, geography, culture and the relationship between people and the sea.

FYI: Reserve early. Individual events, participating chefs, menus, locations and ticket requirements vary throughout the five-day festival, and many experiences have limited capacity. Festival events are intended for guests age 21 and older. For tickets, a full schedule and event details, hit up keywestfoodandwinefestival.com.

Bon Appétit!

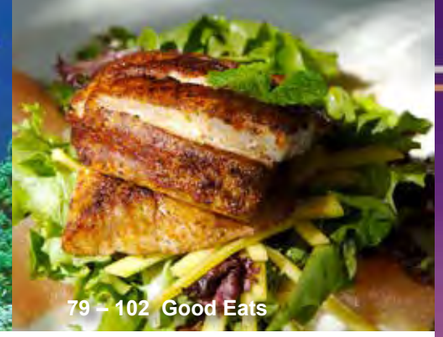


REALTYONEGROUP DESTINATIONS PRESENTS KEY WEST FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL 2027

ART CREATED BY HUMBERTO CASTRO
"OCEAN EYES"
STUDIO FINE CUBAN ART TO COLLECT







DESTINATION™ FLORIDA
Florida Keys & Key West | South Miami-Dade
Florida's #1 Award-Winning Visitors Guide

Publishers
Karen L. Davis/Pamela Childs

Comptroller
Karen Davis
305-849-3482; **floridakeysbilling@gmail.com**

Marketing/Creative Director
Pamela Childs
305-304-2100; **destinationflkeys@aol.com**

Senior Art Director/Brand Manager
Marsha Michaels

Account Manager Key West
Peter Arnow
305-923-9645; **peterarnow@gmail.com**

Regional Account Manager
Kathy Paula
561-789-6948; **advertisingoptions@earthlink.net**

Photographer At Large
Peter Arnow

Webmaster
Lance Belew

Distribution Manager
Fernando Marca

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY
P.O. Box 1233, Key West, FL 33041

Online Edition @
destinationfloridakeys.com
facebook.com/destinationfloridakeys
X.com/destinationkeys
destinationflorida.com

Member of the Lodging Association of the Florida Keys and the official in-room visitors guide for the Keys' top lodging properties. Additional distribution at high traffic areas throughout Monroe County and South Miami-Dade including Key West Chamber of Commerce, Key West Business Guild, Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce, Marathon Chamber of Commerce, Islamorada Chamber of Commerce, Key Largo Chamber of Commerce.

2021 fma CHARLIE AWARDS AWARD WINNER
2022 fma CHARLIE AWARDS AWARD WINNER

$9.95

Copyright 2026. All rights reserved.

What's Inside...

4 ART + CULTURE
4 – 5 A New Collection from Alan S Maltz
6 Key West Food & Wine Festival 2027
10 –11 Key West Holiday Fest
12 Noteworthy Art Galleries
13 – 26 Art & Cultural Happenings
15 Think Small Exhibition Makes a Big Splash!
23 Living the Creative Life at The Studios
27 – 32 Museums That Take You There
28 Absolutely Fascinating: Keys History & Discovery Center

33 FOOTLIGHTS
33 – 48 What's On Stage
34 Nutcracker Key West — Re-imagined
40 Two Comedians Walk Into a Bar...
45 The Magic of Fringe

49 WHAT'S UP
49 – 60 Event Happenings
53 High Seas Holidays
54 Glam + Ham — Key West's Red Shoe Drop
57 Ring in 2027 Island-Style

61 XPLORE
57 – 62 "Must" Things to See & Do
66 Key West's Scent-i-mental Journey!

67 IN THE BAG
67 – 77 Where to Shop 'Till You Drop
68 Call the Mad Brit!
70 – 71 Holiday Shopping — Island Style
74 World Class Shopping: Bliss Jewelers
77 What's That You're Wearing?

79 GOOD EATS
79 – 99 Restaurant Reviews
88 Island Chic Dining in Islamorada
100 – 102 Sample Menus

103 NEST
103 Find Your Own Piece of Paradise
103 – 104 Top Realtors

ABOUT THE COVER: Nutcracker Key West

Shot by Key West's own, Roberta Dipiero, DESTINATION FLORIDA'S stunning cover photograph is a fitting tribute to Key West's acclaimed tropical take on the original holiday extravaganza. Orginally written and produced by renowned arts patron, Joyce Stahl, this re-imagined. magical production is a unique holiday experience and the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season in paradise! On stage Wednesday, December 3 — Monday, December 7 at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Road on Stock Island/Key West. Tickets & info: 305-295-7676; **keystix.com**. Read all about it on page 34.

SCHOONER AMERICA 2.0
Sailing Through the Holidays!
Holiday Events
12/12 Key West Lighted Boat Parade Sail
12/21-12/24 Cocoa and Carols Holiday Sails
12/24-12/25 Christmas Celebration Sunset Sails
12/25 Christmas Day Brunch Sail
12/31 New Year's Eve Dockside Party
Located In Historic Key West Bight 305-293-7245 SAIL-KEYWEST.COM
DAY SAILS SUNSET SAILS PRIVATE CHARTERS SPECIAL EVENTS
CLASSIC HARBOR LINE
KEY WEST, FL

Key West Holiday Fest

The Keys' Southernmost Celebration!

Quaint New England Villages, frozen snowmen, and the scent of wood-burning stoves may be some people's idea of the holiday season.

But not here in the Keys and certainly not in Key West, where we celebrate the holidays in true island style.

Key West Holiday Fest, our festive, month-long celebration, kicks things off at the Historic Seaport (keywesthistoricseaport.com) on **Wed, November 25** at 5 pm with the jingle-jangling **"Lighting of the Bight."**

This lively season opener includes a traditional Tree Lighting Ceremony, Classic Auto Show, Pet Pictures with Santa, and the spectacular **"Harbor Walk of Lights"**, which is lit nightly through New Year's Eve.

On **Fri, November 27**, the Key West Artisan Market launches the annual **Black Friday Shopping Extravaganza** filled with locally made and island-inspired finds. Takes place from 10 am – 6 pm at Truman Waterfront, 21 E Quay Rd.

On **Sat, November 28**, The Studios of Key West stages its annual **Holiday Makers Market**. With over 20 merry makers showcasing locally produced items, it's the perfect place to pick up a unique, handcrafted gift. Takes place from 10 am – 2 pm at 533 Eaton St.

Also not to be missed: **Nutcracker Key West**, a stunning island interpretation of the original classic holiday ballet. This


Lighting the Bight, Key West, Photo Carol Teldesco

special biennial production runs from **Wed, December 3 — Mon, December 7** at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd on Stock Island, (keystix.com).

On **Fri, December 4**, Wesley House Family Services unveils its annual **Holiday Village & Belighted Bike Ride.** This magical Holiday Village includes lots of fun rides, games, crafts, food vendors, local performances, Santa photo ops, and more. Takes place from 5 – 9 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 Quay Rd.

On **Sat, December 5**, at 7 pm, Key West's **Hometown Holiday Parade** rolls out more holiday cheer starting at the intersection of Truman Ave and White St before swinging onto Duval. For a great view, head on over to the Oldest House Museum at 322 Duval St for a festive **Holiday Porch Party** that kicks off at 6 pm.

On **Sun, December 6** at 5 pm, Schooner Wharf Bar (202 William St) hosts its annual **Tree Trimming Party & Toy Drive**. Bring your own nautical ornament and enjoy a free holiday cocktail. The event also includes Santa's Southernmost Schooner Workshop, where local artists and authors sign and sell original works for holiday gift-giving.

The **10th Annual Holiday Concert & Bazaar** draws a fun crowd on **Fri, December 11**, and boasts some of the island's finest artisans, musicians, and a truly amazing holiday light show. Takes place from 5 – 9 pm at the Key West Art & Historical Museum at 281 Front St.

On **Sat, December 12**, the Key West Bight dazzles with a magical nautical display of lights during Schooner Wharf Bar's spectacular **Lighted Boat Parade**, which sets sail at 8 pm in the historic Key West Seaport. There will be lots of other merry events as well, including the oh-so festive **Key West Historic Inn Tours (December 6 & 12)**; the **Annual Key West Holiday Home Tours (December 29 – 30)**; **Holiday Island Lights Tours**, on the Conch

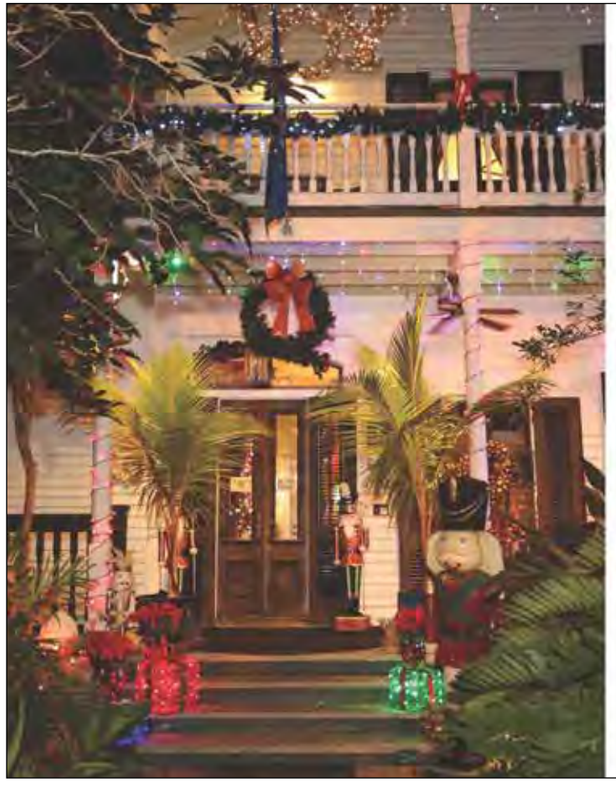

Schooner Wharf Lighted Boat Parade, Key West, Photo: Carol Teldesco

Tour Train and Old Town Trolley; and so much more!!

The celebration wraps up on **New Year's Eve** with wild events all over the island, including the lowering of a Pirate Wench from the soaring mast of the tall ship, Schooner America 2.0 at Schooner Wharf Bar (202 William St); and the world-renowned descent of a super-sized, red high-heel shoe commandeered by an outrageous drag queen at Bourbon Street Pub (724 Duval).

And that's the half of it. For late-breaking details, hit up keywestholidayfest.com

Happy Holidays!



Deck the halls at the Inns

On two enchanted Friday nights, December 11th and 18th, take part in the spectacular historic Inns Tours and navigate yourself through a holiday universe. These self auided 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 tranport you to a more exciting time. Visit **keywestholiday-fest.com** for more details.

The Florida Keys
Key West
Close To Perfect - Far From Normal

The Lodging Association



'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 of Lights on November 25 th and continues with the Historic Inn Tours, the celebrated Lighted Boat Parade and so many more holiday events.

For the complete holiday event schedule, visit keywestholidayfest.com

The Florida Keys
Key West
Close To Perfect - Far From Normal

The Lodging Association

Noteworthy Art Galleries

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


Gallery On Greene, Key West

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
305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com
Open Daily 9:30 am 'til Close
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
M – Su 10 am – 5 pm; M by Appointment
Fine Contemporary Art
Founded by master artist Letty Nowak, Jag Gallery is a top Key West destination for fine contemporary art in a variety of mediums. Carefully curated exhibits showcase works from the studios of prominent and award-winning artists from Key West and beyond. In addition to Nowak's big, bold images, you'll also find works by other highly acclaimed artists, including John Martini, Cathy Rose, Rick Worth, Carol Munder, Sharon McGauley, Kaline Carter, B. Lucy Stevens, Tory Mata, and others. The gallery is also home to guest art makers, artist talks, and a highly acclaimed online gallery, as well as two annual international juried exhibits: "Poolside" and Small Works." For exceptional contemporary art, this truly is a "must-see" gallery.

Key West Art Center
301 Front Street
Key West, Fl 33041
305-294-1241
Keywestartcenter.com
Open Daily 10 am – 5 pm
The Florida Keys Oldest Art Gallery
This non-profit community art center is one of the best places to discover inspiring originals by both established and emerging local artists. Housed in a historic building from the late 1890's, the Art Center has been at the forefront of the Key West art scene since 1960 when the building was lovingly restored by a group of local artists. Today, it's home to some of the island's top talents, including *Martha DePoo, Andy Thurber, Barbara Hann, Norbert Szilagyi, Maggie Ruley, Marc Hacker, Lucy Paige,* and *Fran Drecker*, as well as dozens of other regaled local artists who capture the essence of island life in their own unique way. Prices here are surprisingly affordable and you can also discover a great selection of unframed prints, watercolors, oils, acrylics and pen and ink, as well as striking sculptures created from wood, clay and metal. The Art Center also hosts monthly artist demos and special events during high season including the annual "Plein Air" Competition in March.

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.

Art & Cultural Happenings

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

FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST

DAILY

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 around the world, 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. Open daily at 10 am at 1210 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0005; alanmaltz.com.

Mario Sanchez Original Works & Lecture
Key West: Cited as the most important Cuban-American Folk Artist of the 20th Century, Mario Sanchez's whimsical art forever immortalized Key West's eclectic, multi-cultural community. Many of his intricately carved and painted intaglios are now valued at more than $50,000. Nance Frank, owner of Key West's acclaimed Gallery on Greene has curated multiple exhibits 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. Her fascinating presentation takes place daily at 2 pm at Gallery on Greene, 606 Greene St. Info: 305-304-2323; galleryongreene.com.

EXHIBITION: Art, Music, Baseball — One Key West Story
Key West: Key West's storied baseball history comes to life through original works by acclaimed Cuban-American artist, Julia Arroyo, and Cuban contemporary caricaturist, Reynerio Tamayo. The exhibit also includes original artifacts, and amazing baseball bat art by local artists. Takes place daily from 10 am – 4 pm at the Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval St. Info: 305-294-9501; OlKF.org.


Walk On White, Key West. Photo: Carol Teldesco

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

continued on page 14



diverse group of travelers paints a vivid picture of the communities and relationships being formed in the Americas. 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

Glow Hours: Rooftop Happy Hour On Hugh's View

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

TUESDAY – SATURDAY

Movies at the Museum

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



TUESDAY – SATURDAY

EXHIBITION: Mote Marine Coral Reef Exploration

Islamorada: Boasting three aquariums, educational storyboards, interactive kiosks and video monitors, this immersive new exhibit provides both a beautiful and educational view of our unique coral reef ecosystem, as well as the challenges it faces. Major themes include the 1935 Labor Day Hurricane, Henry Flagler's Overseas Railway, and our fishing and maritime heritage. Takes place on Tu – Su from 10 am – 5 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy (on the grounds of the Islander Resort). Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

MONTHLY

THIRD WEDNESDAY

Immerse Yourself!

Islamorada: This free monthly presentation occurs on-site at the History of Diving Museum, as well as virtually, so you can tune in from wherever you are. Experts cover maritime history, archeology, diving, and marine science topics. Coming up: Wild Dolphins in the Florida Keys (Nov 18); Prohibition, Rum Running & Al Capone in the Florida Keys (Dec 16); and Treasures of the Sea (Jan 20). Exhibits and the Museum Store also have special extended hours. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-664-9737. divingmuseum.org.

continued on page 16



Think Small!

SMALL WORKS Makes a Big Splash at Jag Gallery



Artist Letty Nowak may be renowned for her powerfully large five-by-six-foot portraits, but she also knows that small works of art can have just as big an impact.

Owner of Key West's acclaimed Jag Gallery, Nowak launched the island's first SMALL WORKS exhibit back in 2005 at her former Lemonade Stand art gallery in historic Bahama Village.



Now in its 19th year, SMALL WORKS pays homage to small original works of art and has become an artistic tradition in Key West. The juried exhibit includes up to 200 mesmerizing pieces by artists worldwide whose works must not exceed ten inches in any direction.

Expect to see everything from ceramics/pottery, photography, and textiles, to drawings/illustrations, and paintings — some no larger than a postage stamp.

With the holidays now in full swing, SMALL WORKS 2026 is a perfect opportunity to find a unique gift for that special someone, and also offers an easy and affordable way to start collecting or adding to existing collections.

SMALL WORKS 2026 opens with a special Holiday Gallery Reception from 5:30 – 7:30 pm on Saturday, December 5 and continues through Sunday, January 10.

Considered one of the Keys' top destinations for fine, contemporary art showcasing prominent artists from Key West and beyond, JAG Gallery is open Tuesday – Sunday from Noon to 5 and always by appointment.

Discover it at 1075 Duval Street, Space C23 (between Duval and Simonton Streets) or shop online at jaggallery.art — more info: 305-407-6202.



Art & Cultural Happenings

FIRST THURSDAY
Open House at The Studios
Key West: Art, conversation, and community come alive after hours! See the newest works in TSKW galleries, sip wine under the stars on the rooftop terrace, explore three floors of exhibition space, and discover hidden gems at Books & Books. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

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. Enjoy late-night gallery openings, chat with Keys' artists, and shop for eclectic boutiques, backdropped by some really great live music. Takes place from 6 – 9 pm along the Morada Way Arts District on Old Hwy, MM81.5, Oceanside. Info: 305-664-2471; moradawayarts.org.

THIRD THURSDAY
Walk On White
Key West: The newly re-energized Walk on White is not just a celebration of art, but also a celebration of more than 25 local businesses. The monthly stroll through White Street's art and business district takes place from 6 – 8 pm. Info about monthly themes, featured artists, and events at 305-767-3769; walkonwhitekeywest.com.

FIRST FRIDAYS
First Fridays on Fleming
Key West: "The Fabulous 500 Block of Fleming Street" showcases boutiques, galleries, antique stores, artist studios, eateries, and more. Lots of cool events, too! Takes place from 6– 9 pm. Info: 305-304-9001; fabflemingkw.com.

SELECT SUNDAYS
Key West Artisan Market
Key West: This juried market celebrates the best of the Keys creative community with a curated selection of fine crafts, art, jewelry and more. Rotating themes feature local non-profits, live remotes, musicians, and local authors, as well as food and drink options. Takes place from 10 am – 2 pm on select Sundays at the Sony McCoy Indigenous Park, 1801 White St. Info: 305-731-3385; keysartisanmarket.com.



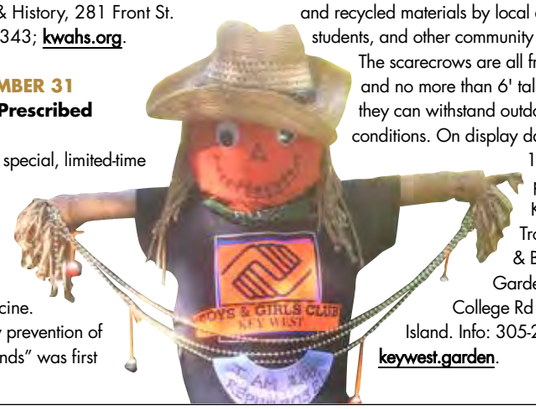
SPECIAL EVENTS

NOW – JANUARY
EXHIBITION: From Soil to Sea — A Celebration of Florid Keys Culture & Cuisine
Islamorada: This limited-time exhibit celebrates the foods, flavors, and traditions that tell the story of the Florida Keys. Bringing together historic recipes, archival materials, paintings, photography, ceramics, and contemporary stories, the exhibition explores how generations of Keys residents have made the most of what was grown, caught, traded, and shared. Takes place Tu– Th from 10 am – 5 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy (on the grounds of the Islander Resort). Info: 305-922-2237 keysdiscovery.com.

NOW – JANUARY 3
EXHIBITION: FOOD — Celebrating Conch Cuisine
This landmark Smithsonian exhibit celebrates the powerful role food plays in shaping human culture, identity, and society. This Key West Edition brings a regional focus to the story, and takes a deep dive into the culinary traditions of the Florida Keys. It's a totally immersive experience that provides a fascinating insight into how food has defined life in our unique island chain. On view daily from 10 am – 4:30 pm at the Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St. Info: 305-850-8343; kwahs.org.

NOW – DECEMBER 31
EXHIBITION: Prescribed Pressure
Islamorada: This special, limited-time featured exhibit explores the fascinating world of undersea and hyperbaric medicine. Learn about how prevention of the dreaded "bends" was first discovered in people who were not divers at all; how high pressure can both harm and heal the body; and how hyperbaric oxygen treatments are used to treat illness today. On view daily from 10 am – 5 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM 83). Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

NOW – NOVEMBER 31
Scarecrows in the Forest: Art Exhibit & Contest
Key West: This lighthearted outdoor exhibit showcases scarecrows crafted from natural and recycled materials by local artists, students, and other community members. The scarecrows are all freestanding and no more than 6' tall so that they can withstand outdoor weather conditions. On display daily from 10 am – 4 pm at the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd on Stock Island. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest.garden.



NOVEMBER 5 – 25
EXHIBITION: Billy Kearns — Losing Control: The Balance of Opposites
Key West: This evolving series is built on one control image: an orange circle hovering right of a blue square. Chosen for its simple balance of opposites — square/circle, cool/warm, static/moving — each work keeps color and relative orientation consistent while exploring new media. The exhibition spans drawings, fiberglass sculpture, screen prints, furniture, film, textiles, and typography from small scale to larger works. Opens Th, Nov 5with a special reception 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 5 – 25
EXHIBITION: Jo-Ann Morgan — Blessed Are Those Who Weep
Key West: Created with appliqué and quilting techniques, Jo-Ann Morgan's elegantly stitched fabric is a platform for her original images. Her amazing creations include flowers, toys, and other icons, as well as featured figures, recalling spontaneous tributes constructed after untimely deaths. Morgan offers her art as activism,

continued on page 18

The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce Proudly Presents

THE 40TH ISLAND ART FESTIVAL



Sat, November 28, 2026 9am – 3pm

Artists from throughout the Florida Keys showcase an incredible array of one-of-a-kind and handcrafted wares, original art and crafts, specialty items and lots of fun holiday gifts.

Food & Beverages | Live Music | Free Admission

Takes place on the grounds of The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce
31020 Overseas Highway • MM 31, Oceanside, Big Pine Key
305-872-2411 • 800-872-3722 • www.lowerkeyschamber.com

Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce
First State Bank · Triton · The Florida Keys & Key West · Time Out Magazine · Lower Keys Medical Center · DestinationFlorida Florida Keys & Key West · Big Pine Key Resort · The Weekly · Keys Federal · Keys Medical Group · The UPS Store

The Florida Keys & Key West

Free
KEY WEST artisan market
@HIGGS BEACH
ART • FOOD • FULL BAR • SHOPPING • ENTERTAINMENT









SELECT SUNDAYS • 10am - 2pm *Where the locals meet*
WWW.KEYSARTISANMARKET.COM KWARTISANMARKET

honoring grieving mothers, women and children at borders and victims of gun deaths, police violence and mass shootings. Opens Th, Nov 5 with a special reception 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 5 – 25

EXHIBITION: Lindsay Liang — Underwater

Key West: A native islander, Liang sees the world through water: reflected, distorted and always shifting. Her intimate oil paintings bring that perspective indoors, where figures, animals, mirrors, aquariums and everyday objects take on a dream-like quality. The exhibition explores how a life lived near water shapes memory, perception and the way we see ourselves. Opens Th, Nov 5 with a special reception 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 5 – 25

EXHIBITION: Shannon Martin Perkins — Making the Ordinary Extraordinary

Key West: Using bold, unexpected colors, dramatic light, and expressive brushwork, Florida Keys Artist, Shannon Martin Perkins transforms familiar objects into energetic contemporary Still Lifes. Her larger-than-life series of vibrant oil paintings includes everything from beer caps, golf balls, and vinyl records to worn shoes and crumpled cans. Her powerful works invite you to see the beauty in things you might otherwise overlook. Opens Th, Nov 5 with a special reception 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 11

America's 250 in the Florida Keys: The 14th Colony: The American Revolution's Best Kept Secret

Islamorada: Hosted by Dr. Roger Smith, this special commemorative presentation explores the important role East and West Florida played as Loyalist strongholds during the Revolution. The evening kicks off with a fun Social Hour at 5 pm, followed by a special presentation at 6 pm. Takes place at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy (on the grounds of the Islander Resort). Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

NOVEMBER 14

2026 Key West Film Festival Award Reception

Key West: Celebrate the winning films of the festival in a spirited ceremony, followed by a rooftop cocktail reception. Awards will be given in numerous categories, including costume design, artistic excellence, documentary filmmaking, and emerging talent. Takes place from 9 – 11 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

NOVEMBER 18

Immerse Yourself! Wild Dolphins of the Florida Keys

Islamorada: Internationally recognized marine mammal health and welfare specialist, Steve McCulloch, speaks about local dolphin populations and their behavior and what can be done to ensure they have a future in the vital waters of the Florida Keys. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83). Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

NOVEMBER 18 – 26

2026 Key West Film Festival

Key West: Named one of the top 25 coolest film fests, this regaled 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 27

Black Friday Shopping Extravaganza

Key West: The largest market event of the year brings together regular Truman Waterfront Farmers Market vendors and artists from the Key West Artisan Market to create an expanded open-air shopping experience filled with locally made and island-inspired finds. Takes place from 10 am – 6 pm at Truman Waterfront, 21 E Quay Rd. Info: 305-731-3385 keysartisanmarket.com

NOVEMBER 28

Big Pine & The Lower Keys Island Art Festival

Big Pine: Kick off the holiday season with some gorgeous, one-of-a-kind items that even the Grinch will appreciate. 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; lowerkeyschamber.com.


Key West Film Festival

NOVEMBER 28

Holiday Makers Market The Studios of Key West

Key West: With a full hall of artists and artisans showcasing their work, you're sure to discover something extraordinary for every person on your holiday list. BTW: Lots of cool merch in the museum store, too, as well as over 100 works of art during the annual Winter Members Show (Dec 3 – 31). Takes place from 10 am – 3 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

DECEMBER 3 – 31

EXHIBITION: Winter Members Exhibit - Let the Light In

Key West: A perpetual crowd favorite, this themed season kick-off showcases TSKW's amazing troupe of member artists. This year's exhibition, "Let the Light In," features over 100 outstanding artworks in all mediums. Expect tropical sunsets, sunlight dappling through palms, and galleries filled with bright ideas. The Opening Night Reception on Th, Dec 3 celebrates the launch of TSKW's 2027 20th Anniversary Season Catalog, and includes a lively reception from 6 – 8 pm. The exhibit continues every Tu - Sa from10 am – 4 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

DECEMBER 5 – JANUARY 10

EXHIBITION: Small Works 2026 — A Juried Exhibition

Key West: Now in its 19th year, this annual homage to small original works of art has become an artistic tradition in Key West. The juried exhibit includes up to 200 mesmerizing pieces by artists worldwide whose works must not exceed ten inches in any direction — including the frame! Expect to see everything

continued on page 20





from crafted mosaics, bold metal sculptures, and artful collages to impressionist paintings — some are no larger than a postage stamp. Opens on Su, December 5 with a special reception from 5:30 – 7:30 pm and continues every Tu – Su from Noon – 5 pm at Key West's acclaimed Jag Gallery, 1075 Duval St in Duval Square. Info: 305-407-6202; jaggallery.art.

DECEMBER 6

Celebrate the Season!

Key West: Each December, the Key West Art Center changes out its entire collection in anticipation of the upcoming busy season. This is the first time this new collection will be available — both for viewing and purchasing. The opening reception takes place from 5 – 7 pm and will then be on exhibit daily from 10 am – 5 pm at The Key West Art Center, 301 Front St. Info: 305-294-1241; keywestartcenter.com.

DECEMBER 6 – 11

Annual Festival of Trees

Key West: Crafted and decorated by local students, a festive forest of holiday trees takes center stage on the porch of the Key West Art & Historical Museum before being donated to families through the local Housing Authority. 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 6 & 12

Holiday Historic Inn Tours

Key West: This enchanted self-guided tour takes you to five gorgeously decorated inns for a sneak peek of what's inside, as well as a sampling of holiday treats and cheer at each property. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm. Info & tickets: 305-296-4959; keywestinns.com.

DECEMBER 9 – 10

The Florida Sponge War: Conflict Between Key West & Gulf Towns

Islamorada/Key West: Historian Dr. Rina Bousalis chronicles the conflict between Key West and the Florida Gulf Towns during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her compelling account reveals how a battle over the sea shaped a community, an industry, and a legacy. Kicks off on W, December 9 with a Social Hour at 5 pm followed by a special presentation at 6 pm at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, 82100 Overseas Hwy (on the grounds of the Islander Resort). Info & tickets: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com. On Th, December 10, the presentation moves south with a second 6 pm presentation by the Key West Art & Historical Society at Williams Hall, 729 Fleming St. Info & tickets: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

DECEMBER 11

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; and a mind-blowing holiday light show. FYI: Santa will also be on hand for last-minute requests and "selfie" photos. Takes place from 5 – 9 pm at the Key West Art & Historical Museum, 281 Front St., and spills out onto Front St. Info: 305-295-6616; kwahs.org.

DECEMBER 14

Under the Stars — Welcome Back Party

Key West: This annual fan-favorite event kicks off the 2026-2027 season with a night of great music, open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and some of the Keys' most interesting people. Takes place from 6– 9 pm. Location, info & tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

DECEMBER 16

Immerse Yourself! Prohibition, Rum Running & Al Capone in The Keys

Islamorada: Back in the 1920s, the US banned all alcohol. No beer, no wine and definitely no rum. It was called Prohibition, and Florida did not take it well — especially here in the Florida Keys! Local author and historian Brad Bertelli explores Prohibition's impact on the Florida Keys, rum-running, the shenanigans that ensued, and even an appearance or two by Al Capone. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83). Also available virtually. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.


Holiday Historic Inn Tours, Key West

DECEMBER 29 – 30

67th 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 & tickets: 305-294-9501; OIRF.org.

JANUARY 7 – 28

EXHIBITION: Manuel Mendive — MENDIVE

Key West: This major exhibition tributes internationally acclaimed Afro-Cuban artist, Manuel Mendive — one of the Caribbean's most influential contemporary artists. Deeply rooted in Yoruba traditions and Afro-Cuban culture, Mendive's richly symbolic works blur the boundaries between people, animals, spirits, and the natural world. His powerful, vivid visual narratives are showcased in museums and private collections around the world. Opens on Th, Jan 7 with a special reception 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 7 – 28

EXHIBITION: Jennifer Golbeck — Spy Blimp

Key West: Hovering above the skyline off Cudjoe Key, the blimp known locally as "Fat Albert" has been a topic of rumor and speculation for decades. Goldbeck's photo series highlights the tension between stunning skies and a lurking, quiet tool of government monitoring. Isolating the blimp re-contextualizes it as evidence of modern surveillance's ominous scale and becomes an accidental love letter to the Keys' showy Gulf Coast sunsets. Opens on Th, Jan 7 with a special reception 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

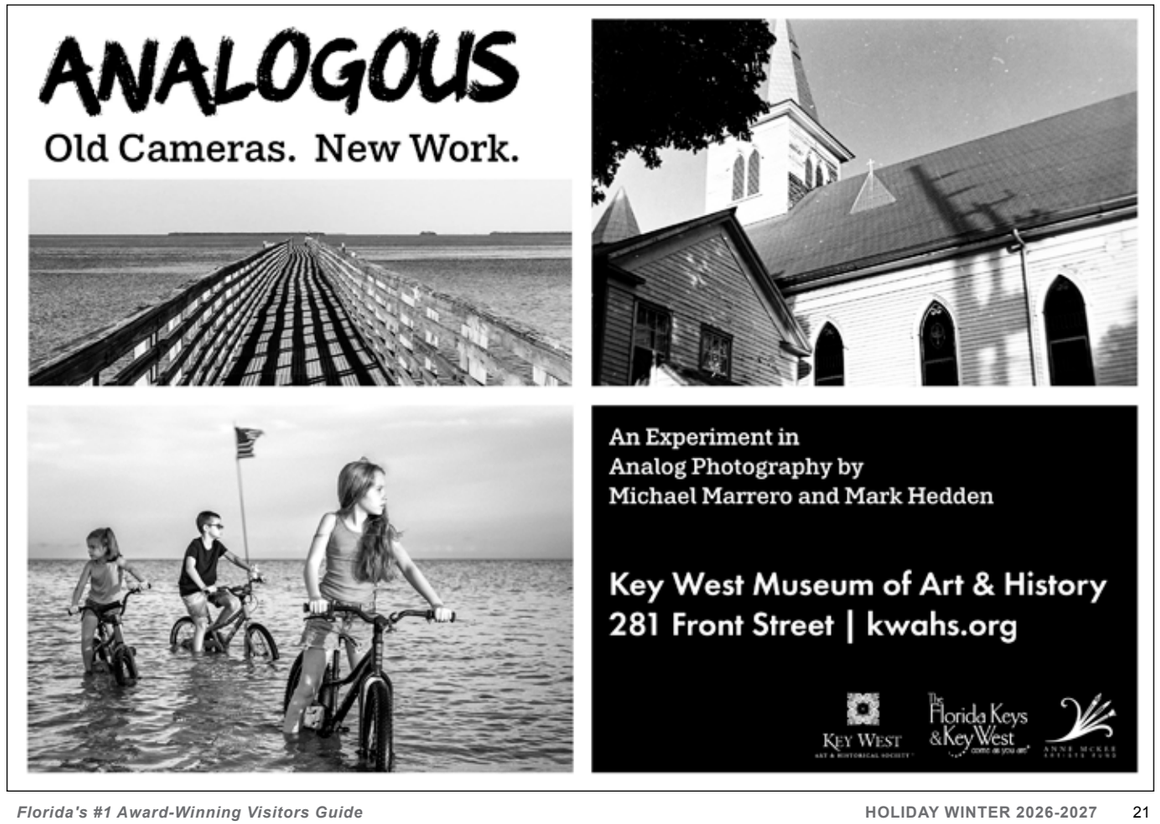
JANUARY 7 – 28

BENEFIT EXHIBITION: Susan Sugar — Illuminated Skies

Key West: Having begun her artistic life as a dancer, the late Susan Sugar approached painting with the same grace and sense of movement, allowing each brushstroke to echo the rhythms of wind, water, and air.

continued on page 22





Sugar returned again and again to the same stretches of shoreline, discovering endless variation in clouds, light, and weather, which she captured in luminous watercolors and oil paintings. Following Susan's passing in 2026, her remaining work was donated to benefit The Studios of Key West. Proceeds from the exhibition will help fund programs serving local artists. Opens on Th, Jan. 7 with a special reception 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 8 – FEBRUARY 15

EXHIBITION: Analogous Old Cameras. New Work

Key West: This experiment in analog photography by Key West artists, Michael Marrero and Mark Hedden explores new works using pre-digital photographic techniques: ones that rely on chemicals reacting to light. On view daily from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm at the Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St. Info: 305-850-8343; kwahs.org.

JANUARY 14

Back In Time: Key "Wild" West

Key West: History meets high-spirited fun at the Key West Art & Historical Society's annual fundraiser when the museum grounds morph into a live frontier town! Enjoy a Key Wild West evening featuring live music, an Open Bar at the Saloon, a Silent Auction, and a hearty dinner fit for any Cowhand. Takes place from 6– 9 pm at the Key West Museum of Art & History, 281 Front St. Info & tickets: 305-850-8343; kwahs.org.

JANUARY 20

Immerse Yourself! Treasures of the Sea

Islamorada: The Florida Public Archaeology Network and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary join specialists from the History of Diving Museum for an immersive panel discussion about "treasures of the sea" and what is in our local Florida Keys waters. Takes place at 7 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83). Also available virtually. Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

JANUARY 20 – APRIL 21

EXHIBITION: Treasures of the Sea

Islamorada: This special limited-time featured exhibit showcases artistic creations from students across the Keys, as well as from members of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles. These works focus on what artists and students treasure the most. From coral and creatures to ecosystems and shipwrecks. On view daily from 10 am – 5 pm at the History of Diving Museum, 82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83). Info: 305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org.

JANUARY 22 – 23

67th 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 & tickets:305-294-9501; OIRF.org.

JANUARY 27 – 31

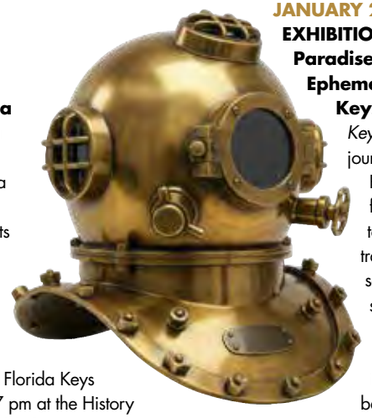
Key West Food & Wine Festival 2027

Key West: This award-winning series of wine and food-themed events showcases a diverse range of wines and inventive cuisine, hosted by their passionate creators at iconic Island locations. Over twenty unique happenings, including waterfront tastings, Winemaker/Chef collaborations, and local funky events, present an authentic taste of Key West, Florida. This is truly THE place to be in January, and the festival attracts thousands of culinary explorers from around the country who descend on the tropical island to escape the winter and delight their senses. Info: keywestfoodandwinefestival.com.

JANUARY 29 – MAY 31

EXHIBITION: Collecting Paradise: Souvenirs & Ephemera of the Florida Keys

Key West: This nostalgic journey through the Florida Keys explores the fascinating history of tourism and the enduring tradition of collecting souvenirs. The exhibit showcases an exceptional collection of vintage Florida Keys memorabilia, including iconic textiles; beautifully crafted decorative items; rare postcards and travel brochures; advertising pieces, maps, and souvenirs; as well as countless other artifacts that tell the story of the Keys as one of America's most beloved vacation destinations. On view daily from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm at the Key West Museum of Art &History, 281 Front St. Info: 305-850-8343; kwahs.org.




Annual Key West Home Tours

FEBRUARY 4 – 17

PREVIEW: 32nd Annual Ann McKee Fine Art Auction:

Key West: A beloved Key West tradition, the Anne McKee Fine Art Auction brings together an extraordinary cross-section of the Keys' creative community for one lively night of art, generosity, and a little friendly competition. During this special preview, you'll discover original works spanning painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics and more. Half of each sale goes directly to the participating artist, while the remainder supports grants from the Anne McKee Artists Fund — helping local artists bring new work and ideas to life. Live Auction takes place on W, Feb 17. Doors open at 4:15 pm; Bidding starts at 5 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org or mckeefund.org

FEBRUARY 4 – 25

EXHIBITION: Reflections — A Snapshot of Twenty Years

Key West: Over the last twenty years, The Studios of Key West have showcased work by artists that local audiences may never have seen otherwise, and work that resonates in the particular context of Key West. With over 400 exhibitions and thousands of participating artists, this special exhibit brings our local history into focus. Opens on Th, Feb 4 with a special reception 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.

FEBRUARY 4 – 25

EXHIBITION: Fedra Yazdi — Notes On Non-Arrival

Key West: Yazdi's large-scale acrylic, gouache and oil paintings on un-stretched linen draw on the visual language of ancient Persian textiles, telling stories in which past, present and a hopeful future intersect. Figures act as ciphers, and the picture plane ultimately serves as the necessary architecture of home. Opens on Feb

continued on page 24

Living the Creative Life—

The Studios of Key West Celebrates 20 Years!

Where does the time go? It's already been 20 years since The Studios of Key West burst onto the scene with an amazing roster of art, music, and creativity.

Founded in 2006 by a group of art-loving locals, TSKW's mission has always been to support artists, inspire creativity, and build community.

And today, there's plenty to celebrate.

With several galleries, studios, classrooms, and an artist residency program, TSKW is now the epicenter of the local art and cultural scene. Around 30 exhibitions and installations rotate through its galleries each year. Iif you wander up to the third floor, you can peek into working artist studios where both local and international artists bring new works to life.

The sprawling 14,000-square-foot space is also home to a hip bookstore, as well as a 200-seat theater which stages singer-songwriter shows, concerts, dance, theater, and even burlesque and circus arts!

And then there's Hugh's View — one of the island's best-kept secrets. With sweeping views and spectacular sunsets, this local hot spot is the island's only rooftop terrace with no cover charge, and no drink minimum.

If you really want to experience the creative heartbeat of Key West, and also support the nonprofit that keeps



Key West's creative spirit alive, there's no better time to toast 20 years of art, music, and community.

Located at 533 Eaton St, the Studios of Key West is open Tu – Sa from 10 am – 4 pm. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

Cheers to another great year!!




Mark Hedden

EXHIBITIONS

LET THE LIGHT IN
Winter Members' Show

For twenty years, The Studios has empowered artists to illuminate the world, and we invite our member artists to do so again this winter.

ON VIEW DEC 3-31, 2026



PERFORMANCES

Ray Benson in Concert

A self-taught guitarist and lifelong champion of Western swing, Benson has earned nine GRAMMY Awards and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Americana Music Association.

TUE FEB 9, 7PM - $88 (THEATER)
WED FEB 10, 6PM - $96 (ROOFTOP)



WORKSHOPS

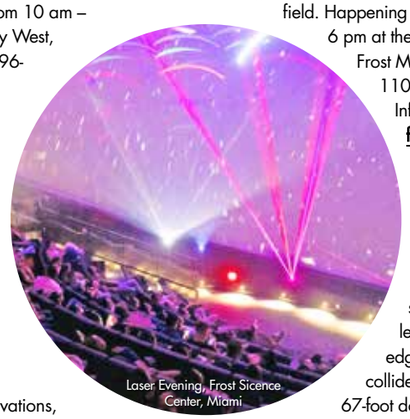
Stargazing 101 with Larry Halstead

The night sky gets personal in this two-evening intro to astronomy. Enjoy a friendly, beginner-focused lecture, then return for stargazing with telescopes and guidance.

TUE & WED NOV 16-17, 7PM-9PM - $55

Join us for Glow Hours on Hugh's View for drinks, sunset, and fun – with the best view in town! Mondays (beginning Dec 7) and Tuesdays, 5pm til sunset.

4 with a special reception 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.


Laser Evening, Frost Sicence Center, Miami

FEBRUARY 12 – 13

67th Annual Key West Home Tours

Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens are the stars of the show during this highly anticipated annual event. The self-guided tour showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors of some of the island's most stunning homes. Takes place from 1 – 4 pm and benefits the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info & tickets: 305-294-9501;OIRF.org

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

DAILY

Exhibition: Feathers to the Stars

Miami: Follow the astounding story of flight — from feathered dinosaurs to brilliant feats of human ingenuity, to the adventure of future space travel. You'll come face-to-face with a 30-foot dinosaur; meet daredevil inventors who risked their lives pioneering human aviation; and actually, build and launch your own air rockets. And that's just the beginning! Takes place daily from 10 am – 6 pm at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, 1101 Biscayne Blvd. Info: 305-434-9600; frostscience.org.

Exhibition: Power of Science

Miami: Explore how science pushes the boundaries of possibility as you step into the shoes of researchers, explorers, and inventors who made some of the world's most groundbreaking discoveries. Your exploration continues with a series of hands-on exhibits, cutting-edge interactive, rare specimens, and so much more. Takes place daily from 10 am – 6 pm at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, 1101 Biscayne Blvd. Info: 305-434-9600; frostscience.org.

Exhibition: The Dig

Miami: This fascinating exhibit explores how scientists use the fossilized remains of prehistoric creatures to discover and study the ancient life that once roamed Earth. Interactive displays allow you to explore what it's like to be a real paleontologist, and you'll actually see them working in real time on fossils collected in the field. Happening daily from 10 am – 6 pm at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, 1101 Biscayne Blvd. Info: 305-434-9600; frostscience.org.

MONTHLY

Laser Evenings

Miami: Get ready for a spectacular show where music legends and cutting-edge laser visuals collide under a massive 67-foot dome. From Led Zeppelin to Lady Gaga, these concerts fuse music from some of the greatest artists of our time with old-school laser light visuals. Monthly dates vary. Takes place from 6:30 – 10 pm at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, 1101 Biscayne Blvd. Info and tickets: 305-434-9600; frostscience.org.

FIRST FRIDAYS

Gallery Night

Coral Gables: This monthly open house celebrates the Coral Gables gallery scene with live music, wonderful exhibitions, and a cocktail bar. Takes place at the Coral Gables Museum from 6 – 9 pm at 285 Aragon Ave. Info: 305-603-8067; coralgablesmuseum.com.

SECOND SATURDAYS

Family Day on Aragon

Coral Gables: Uncover the wonders of history and culture; enjoy interactive exhibits and creative activities; and more! Takes place from 10 am – 6 pm at The Coral Gables Museum, 285 Aragon Ave. Info: 305-603-8067; coralgablesmuseum.org.

SECOND SATURDAYS

The Wynwood Art Walk

Wynwood: This funky Art District boasts one of the largest open-air street art installations in the world and is home to over a dozen galleries, museums, and art collections. This diverse neighborhood art scene really heats up during the monthly Art Walk, when you can catch local street artists in action as you dine, drink, and shop along the way. Takes place in the Wynwood Art District between North 36th St and North 20th St. Tour Info: 305-814-9290; info@wynwoodartwalk.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS

NOW – AUGUST 1, 2027

EXHIBITION: Anina Major — The Sacred Mangrove

Miami: Bahamian-born artist Anina Major works at the intersection of ceramics, sculpture, and installation, using clay to eternalize the cultural practice of weaving — a tradition that holds stories of labor and ancestry. Her latest installation includes Water Tower (2024), which features towering woven clay sculptures, bottle trees, and a path of crushed conch shells—materials that ground the installation in the cultural and ecological history of the Caribbean. On display Th – M at the Pérez Art Museum, 1103 Biscayne Blvd. Info: 305-375-3000; pamm.org.

NOW – DECEMBER 7

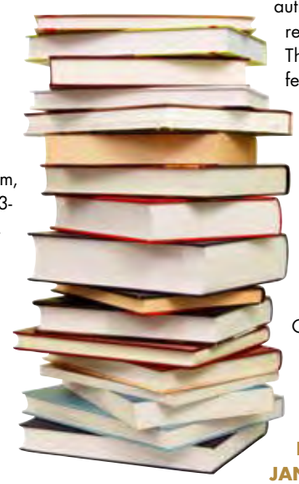
Fall for the Arts

Miami: This annual precursor to Miami Art Week showcases the city's best art fairs, public installations, film festivals, and performances. Highlights include the Miami Beach Classical Music Festival, III Points Music Festival, Miami City Ballet performances, and the Miami Book Fair. Info: miamiandbeaches.com.

NOVEMBER 15 – 22

Miami Book Fair

Miami: As one of the biggest literary festivals in the US, this annual eight-day "Bookie-Fest" draws over 400 critically acclaimed authors and thousands of avid readers to downtown Miami. The literary wonderland features readings, an author meet-and-greet, diverse programming, and a massive weekend Street Fair brimming with hundreds of new and old books, stationery, puzzle books, journals, and more. Takes place daily from 8 am – 5 pm on the Wilson Campus at Miami Dade College, 300 NE 2nd Ave. Info: 305-237-3258; miamibookfair.com.



NOVEMBER 27 – JANUARY 6

Historic Holidays: Tides & Tidings

Miami: Charles Deering's former residence sparkles with the spirit of a coastal Holiday celebration. From maritime touches to festive scenes celebrating South Florida's coastal beauty, it's a warm, whimsical wonderland filled with nautical elegance, ocean-inspired décor, and holiday magic. Takes place daily from 10 am – 4 pm at the historic Deering Estate, 16701 SW 72nd Ave. Info: 305-235-1668; deeringestate.org.

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 6

Miami Art Week

Miami: With over 20 art fairs, 1,200 galleries, and thousands of artists, this heralded annual event attracts collectors, art lovers, and cultural influencers from around the world. Events include a VIP Kickoff Party, the annual Pop-Up Show, Aqua Art Miami, African Art Fair, and photoMIAMI — the week's only photo-centric fair. Takes place from Noon – 8 pm at the Art Miami Pavilion, One Herald Plaza, NE 14th St & Biscayne Bay. Info: miamiartweek.org.

DECEMBER 1– JANUARY 3

A Very Merry Garden

Miami: Celebrate the holidays with a fun Reindeer Round-Up, Letters to Santa, and a mesmerizing story time with hot cocoa and thrilling tales shared by Mrs. Claus. Takes place daily from 10 am – 5 pm at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd. Info: 305-667-1651; fairchildgarden.org.

DECEMBER 2 – 6

Art Basel Miami

Miami Beach: Over 285 galleries from 38 countries display modern and contemporary works. You'll also find pop-up events, panels, and exclusive parties throughout the city. The main event takes place from 11 am – 6 pm at the Miami Convention Center, 1901 Convention Center Dr. Info & tickets: 305-674-1292; artbasel.com.

DECEMBER 11

9th Annual Mistletoe & Martinis

Palmetto Bay: Celebrate the season with a coastal twist! This heartfelt fundraiser includes handcrafted martinis, coastal-inspired cocktails, delicious bites, live music, and dancing. Takes place from 7:30 am – 11 pm at the Deering Estate, 16701 SW 72nd Ave. Info and tickets: 305-680-5219; deeringestate.org.

JANUARY 13 – 28

Miami Jewish Film Festival: 30th Edition

Miami: Cited as one of the "50 Best Film Festivals in the World," MJFF showcases the work of the world's best emerging and established filmmakers. This year's festival screens films from more than 25 countries, including 134 feature narratives, documentaries, and short films of all genres. Takes place at various venues throughout the city. Info: 305-573-7304; miamijewishfilmfestival.org.

JANUARY 15 – 17

50th Annual Art Deco Weekend

South Beach: Created by the Miami Design Preservation League, this beloved annual event showcases the architecture and style of Miami's historic Art Deco District. Enjoy guided tours, classic car shows, films, antique displays, and more during this long weekend event that spans Ocean Drive and Lummus Park between 5th St. and 14th Place. Takes place on Sa & Su from 10 am – 8 pm and on M from 10 am – 6 pm. Info: 305-672-2014; artdecoweekend.org.

FEBRUARY 6

Family Fun Festival

Miami: Immerse yourself in the wonders of science when the vibrant outdoor Knight Plaza comes alive with interactive exhibits, live shows, captivating entertainment, and more — all designed to ignite curiosity and inspire a love for science. Takes place from 11 am – 4 pm at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, 1101 Biscayne Blvd. Info and tickets: 305-434-9600; frostscience.org.



Find what moves you.
Southwest Florida's Premier Art Festival
ArtFest
FORT MYERS
fort MYERS
ISLANDS, BEACHES & NEIGHBORHOODS
FEBRUARY 6-7, 2027
Opening Night, Feb. 5 Downtown Fort Myers River Front
ArtFestFortMyers.com

MUSEUMS

UPPER KEYS

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

History Of Diving Museum
82990 Overseas Hwy (MM83),
Islamorada, FL
305-664-9737; divingmuseum.org
Exhibits & Museum Store
Open Daily 10 am – 5 pm
A "Must-See" for Divers & Non-Divers Alike!
Dedicated to telling the international story


History of Diving Museum, Islamorada

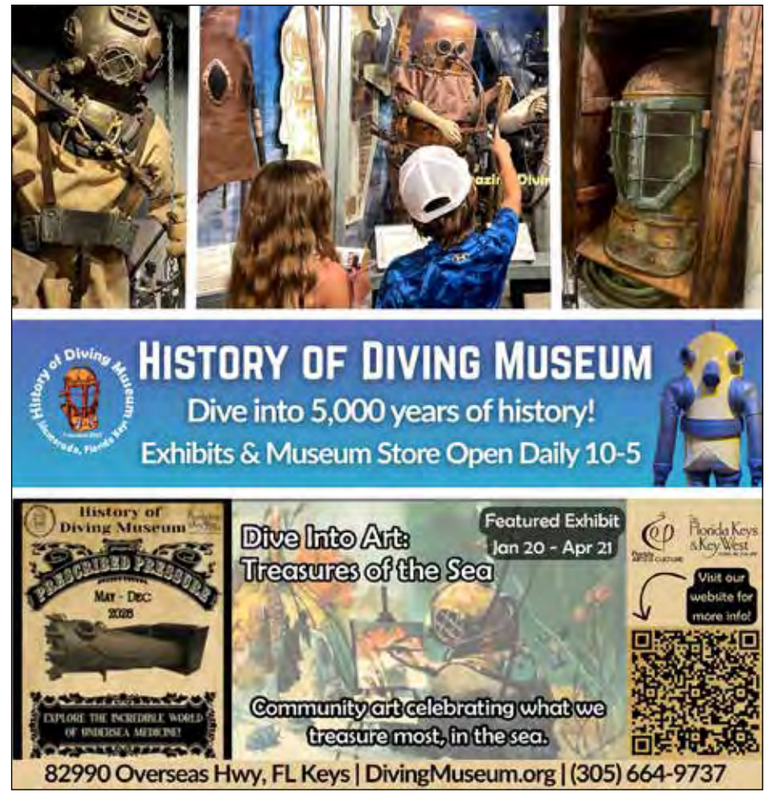
of "the quest to explore under the sea," this fascinating museum contains 5,000 years of diving history — from breath-hold diving to modern scuba and also explores the unique South Florida connection to this untold story. Venture through a timeline that includes *Amazing Diving Machines*, *Deep Sea Diving into the Abyss* and *Parade of Nations*, an international collection that displays helmets from every country that ever made one. There's also an extensive line-up of limited-time featured exhibits, guided tours, scavenger hunts, special events and more. More details at divingmuseum.org.

MIDDLE KEYS

Crane Point Museum & Nature Center
5550 Overseas Hwy, MM 50, Gulfside
Marathon, Fl 33050
305-743-9100; cranepoint.net
M - S 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

continued on page 29







Absolutely Fascinating...

Keys History & Discovery Center

So just how did Islamorada become the *"Sportsfishing Capital of the World?"*

Find out at Legends of the Line - one of the fascinating permanent exhibits on display at the Keys History & Discovery Center in Islamorada. You'll get the complete lowdown on just how fishing in the Florida Keys morphed from a relaxing past time into a booming tourism industry.



Florida Keys History & Discovery Center, Islamorada

In addition to a very cool collection of historical photographs, the exhibit also includes two fishing poles used by President George HW Bush and his grandson "Jebby." At the Center of it all, is a 46-inch touchscreen monitor where you can explore an intriguing list of famous anglers who frequented the Keys from 1915 through the 60s and beyond. Here's where men like the prolific author Zane Grey, baseball Hall-Of-Famer Ted Williams, and President Herbert Hoover come to life. You'll also meet many legendary fishing captains and local characters who were instrumental in turning the Upper Keys into the *"Sportsfishing Capital of the World."*

In addition to the Legends of the Line exhibit, you can also view many other permanent exhibits including *Florida Keys First People, 1733 Spanish Fleet, Pirates, Wrecker and Salvagers, Coral Reef Exploration*, and more.

The Keys History & Discovery Center also boasts a state-of-the-art, 35-seat movie theater with "4-K Technology," which displays four times the detail of typical high-definition devices. Movie producer, Jon Landau (Avatar and Titanic) had a hand in the theater's design which screens an ongoing series of fascinating "Shorts" that run throughout the day.

You can watch films about Henry Flagler's Overseas Railroad, the Keys 1935 Hurricane, and get 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.

If you want to explore the area first hand, just download the free Florida Stories app and you can enjoy self-guided walks of historic Islamorada and nearby Indian Key.

The Keys History & Discovery Center is open every Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am until 5 pm. Find it at 82100 Overseas Highway, mile marker 82.1 oceanside, on the property of the Islander Resort. Info: 305-922-2237; keysdiscovery.com.

MUSEUMS

continued from page 27

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.

Historic Pigeon Key Offshore Island
1090 Overseas Hwy (Visitors Center)
Marathon, FL 33050
305-743-5999
pigeonkey.net
Open Daily 9 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. The open-air train service runs four times a day and gives you an up close and personal view of the historic Old 7 Mile Bridge. Departs from the Pigeon Key Visitors Center, 1090 Overseas Hwy (Gulfside) at 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm and 2:30 pm.

KEY WEST

East Martello Museum & Gallery
3501 South Roosevelt Blvd
Key West, FL 33040
305-296-3913;
kwahs.org
Open Daily
10 am – 5 pm
Home Of Robert The Haunted Doll
Built in 1862 by the US Army to protect Key West's Ft. Zachary Taylor from Confederate attack, this historic military fort is filled with unique artifacts and memorabilia. You can tour the grounds and see displays of Florida Keys' history, meet Robert the Haunted Doll, view junkyard sculptures by Stanley Papio, and the painted wooden carvings of acclaimed artist Mario Sanchez.

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

Key West Custom House
281 Front St
Key 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 Firehouse Museum
1024 Grinnell St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-849-0678
keywestfire.com
W – Sa 10 am – 2 pm
Key West's Firefighting Legacy
This Key West treasure boasts an incredible collection of artifacts from an island where fires changed the course of history. Located in one of Florida's oldest firehouses, the historic 1907 Firehouse No. 3 displays historical artifacts and vintage fire gear. Don't miss the last remaining steamer coal pit in America, rare fire badges and antique call boxes, a 1906 cemetery fire bell, 9/11 Memorials, and much more.

continued on page 30


Robert The Haunted Doll, East Martello Museum & Gallery, Key West





Pérez
Art
Museum
Miami

Art &
Culture

Downtown Miami

pamm.org

MUSEUMS


Pérez Art Museum Miami

Key West Lighthouse & Keeper's Quarters
938 Whitehead St
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-0012; kwahs.org
Open Daily
10 am – 5 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 lighthouse 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 St
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2633;
melfisher.org
Open M – Su 10 am – 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 Tu – W
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
604 Whitehead St
Key West, FL 33040
305-842-1666; kwahs.org
Open Daily 10 am – 5 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 newspapers and magazine articles and videos. A typewriter used by the author while writing in Key West and many other artifacts are also on display.

Key West Turtle Museum
200 Margaret St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-294-0209; keywestturtlemuseum.org
Open Th – Sa
10 am – 4 pm
A Piece of Key West History
Located next to a former turtle cannery building, this former fish house is now home to the Key West Turtle Museum. Here you can explore the history of the green sea turtle fishing industry and see a burgeoning collection of archeological objects and turtle bones. Opened by Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, the Turtle Museum focuses on turtle conservation efforts, including promoting awareness, protecting habitats, and tagging for research and study.

continued on page 32



Plan your day at
frostscience.org

EXPLORE
OUR WORLD AT
MIAMI'S SCIENCE
MUSEUM.

FROST
SCIENCE

PHILLIP & PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
1101 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33132 | 305-434-9600 | frostscience.org | @frostscience

The Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is supported by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County. This project is supported by the Building Better Communities Bond Program and the City of Miami. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers.

MUSEUMS


Vizcaya Museum & Gardens, Miami

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA)
61 NE 41st St
Miami, FL 33137
305-901-5272
icamiami.org
W – Su 11 am – 6pm
The Cultural Hub of the Miami Design District
ICA's recent expansion to the previous home of the de la Cruz Collection is a huge leap for this regaled admission-free museum. Now, with over 30,000 square feet of added space, this cultural hub is home to a much larger permanent collection, special exhibits, lecture space, and performance programming. It also boasts a dedicated lab for digital and audio-visual art creation and classrooms for educational community events.

Lowe Art Museum
1301 Stanford Dr
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305-284-3535
lowe.miami.edu
W – Sa 10 am – 4 pm
An Astounding Visual Arts Museum
Located in the heart of the University of Miami campus, this extraordinary visual arts museum is lauded as one of the most prominent art museums in the region. Opened in 1952, Lowe is also regaled as Florida's very first art museum. Today, with more than 19,000 objects in its permanent collection, you can literally spend several days here exploring a wide variety of exhibits from around the world. Important collections include several significant Renaissance and Baroque pieces from Europe, an impressive collection of Greek and Roman antiquities, a diverse trove of contemporary Latin American works, and the Barton Collection of Native American art, considered one of the finest in the country.

Phillip & Patricia Frost Museum of Science
At Maurice A Ferré Park
1101 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
305-434-9600
frostscience.org
Open Every Day
Starting At 10 am
World Class Planetarium, Aquarium & Science Museum!
With six floors of interactive exhibits, this beautiful bay-front complex is one of the only museums in the world that boasts a stunning three-story, 500,000-gallon aquarium (including a touch exhibit where you can pet a stingray!) The Frost Planetarium houses an impressive 250-seat auditorium powered by an 8K visual system. Using six 3D-capable projectors with 16 million colors and surround sound, the auditorium provides a nearly 360-degree virtual experience within a 67' span. Whether you're tumbling through space, exploring the ocean's depths, or stargazing space, it's an immersive and exciting experience. FYI: The planetarium hosts Laser Evening events with eye-popping laser graphics set to popular music on select dates.

Pérez Art Museum Miami
Maurice A Ferré Park
1103 Biscayne Blvd
Miami FL 33132
305-375-3000
pamm.org
Th 11 am – 9pm;
F – M 11 am – 6 pm
Miami's Most Popular Art Museum
With a legendary award-winning design and a jaw-dropping location on Biscayne Bay, "PAMM" is renowned for its exceptional collection of 20th and 21st century modern and contemporary art. The museum's expansive 120,000-square-foot space boasts over 3,000 international works, spanning fifteen galleries. It also showcases an array of fabulous art by Cuban, Caribbean, Latin, and African diaspora artists. Outside, you'll find the museum's iconic hanging gardens and large-scale sculptures, backdropped by a stunning panorama of the bay. Sharing the view is a really great restaurant serving seasonal specialties. FYI: Don't skip the Gift Shop here. Curated with quirky t-shirts, handmade goods, decorative objects, books, and lots of fun novelties, it's the perfect place to pick up some great memorabilia.


Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, Miami

Vizcaya Museum & Gardens
3251 S Miami Ave
Miami, FL 33129
305-250-9133
vizcaya.org
W – M 9:30 – 4:30 pm
The "Hearst Castle of the East"
This National Historic Landmark is the former villa and waterfront home of businessman James Deering of the Deering-McCormick International Harvester fortune. Located on Biscayne Bay in Miami's Coconut Grove neighborhood, this magnificent 20th Century estate was built between 1914 and 1922 at a whopping cost of $15 million. Boasting magnificent Italian Renaissance gardens, native woodland landscape, and a historic village compound, the Vizcaya Museum is a treasure trove of Gilded Age technology, including that was the first of its kind in Miami-Dade County.

WYNWOOD

Wynwood Walls & Art District
2516 NW 2nd Ave
Miami, FL 33127
thewynwoodwalls.com
Daily 10:30 am – 6:30 pm
Miami's Museum of the Streets
What was once considered a "storeroom neighborhood" is now an awe-inspiring outdoor art gallery. Anchored by a vast stock of warehouses, massive walls have now been transformed into giant "canvases." As Wynwood's only outdoor museum, the Walls showcase murals from some of the world's most famous street artists, painters, and young inventors. Not only is the Wynwood District a major platform for significant global artists, but it also boasts over 75 exhibition spaces and is home to the internationally famous Art Basel Fair and several world-renowned art galleries. Truly a "must-see" whenever you're in the South Miami area.

FOOTLIGHTS

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

ONGOING

Randy Roberts Live!
Key West: Spotlighted on television's hit series "America's Got Talent," Randy Roberts shines in this live, multi-media tribute to some of the world's most beloved performers. His uncanny impersonations of Cher, Bette Midler, and Mae West are spot-on. Randy will 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. Info & tickets: 305-296-6706; lateda.com.

NIGHTLY

The Aquanettes: Reality Is A Drag
Key West: Key West's acclaimed troupe of female impressionists transform themselves into a bevy of beauties using elaborate costuming, makeup, lip-sync and live singing. Renowned for its outrageous and comic numbers, this adult-oriented, interactive show is one of Key West's most popular shows. Takes place on M – Tu at 9 pm and on W – Su at 7 and 9 pm at Aqua Bar & Nightclub, 711 Duval St. Info: aquakeywest.com.

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, including classical guitarist Matteo Jampol and pianist Bobby Green. Takes place from 5 – 7 pm at The Gardens Hotel and Cottages, 26 Angela St. Info: 305-294-2661; gardenshotel.com.

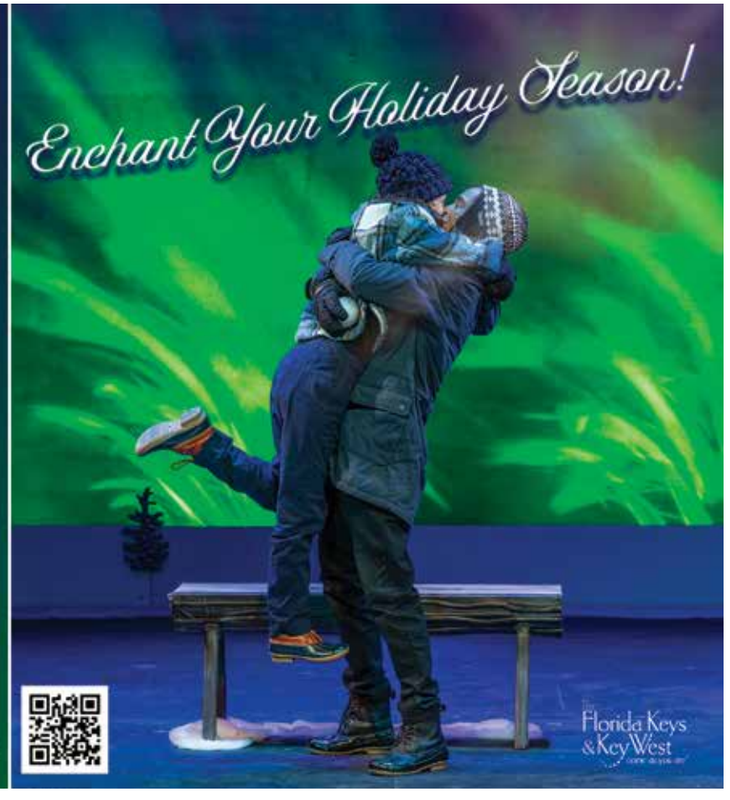

The Aquanettes, Key West

EVERY MONDAY (JAN 25 – MAR 15)

AQUA IDOL
Key West: Keys West's own hometown version of the hit TV show, "American Idol," is a fierce Karaoke competition that benefits Key West's Waterfront Playhouse. See over a dozen local performers sing their hearts out all to raise

continued on page 36





Nutcracker Key West

A Re-imagined Magical Holiday Celebration!



Sugarplum fairies trade tutus for sea fans; snowy egrets replace snowflakes; and the Land of Sweets transforms into a breathtaking underwater coral reef Kingdom ruled by King Neptune.

Welcome to *Nutcracker Key West*, a true Christmas spectacular and one of the largest, most elaborate stage productions ever to hit The Florida Keys.



Set to the music of Tchaikovsky, this stunning island interpretation of the original classic holiday ballet was originally produced and written by Key West's renowned arts patron, Joyce Stahl. An accomplished, classically trained dancer, Stahl performed with the American Repertory Ballet Theater for 35 years, and her enchanting tropical take on this famous production captures the vibrant spirit of Key West while embracing the essence of the original story.

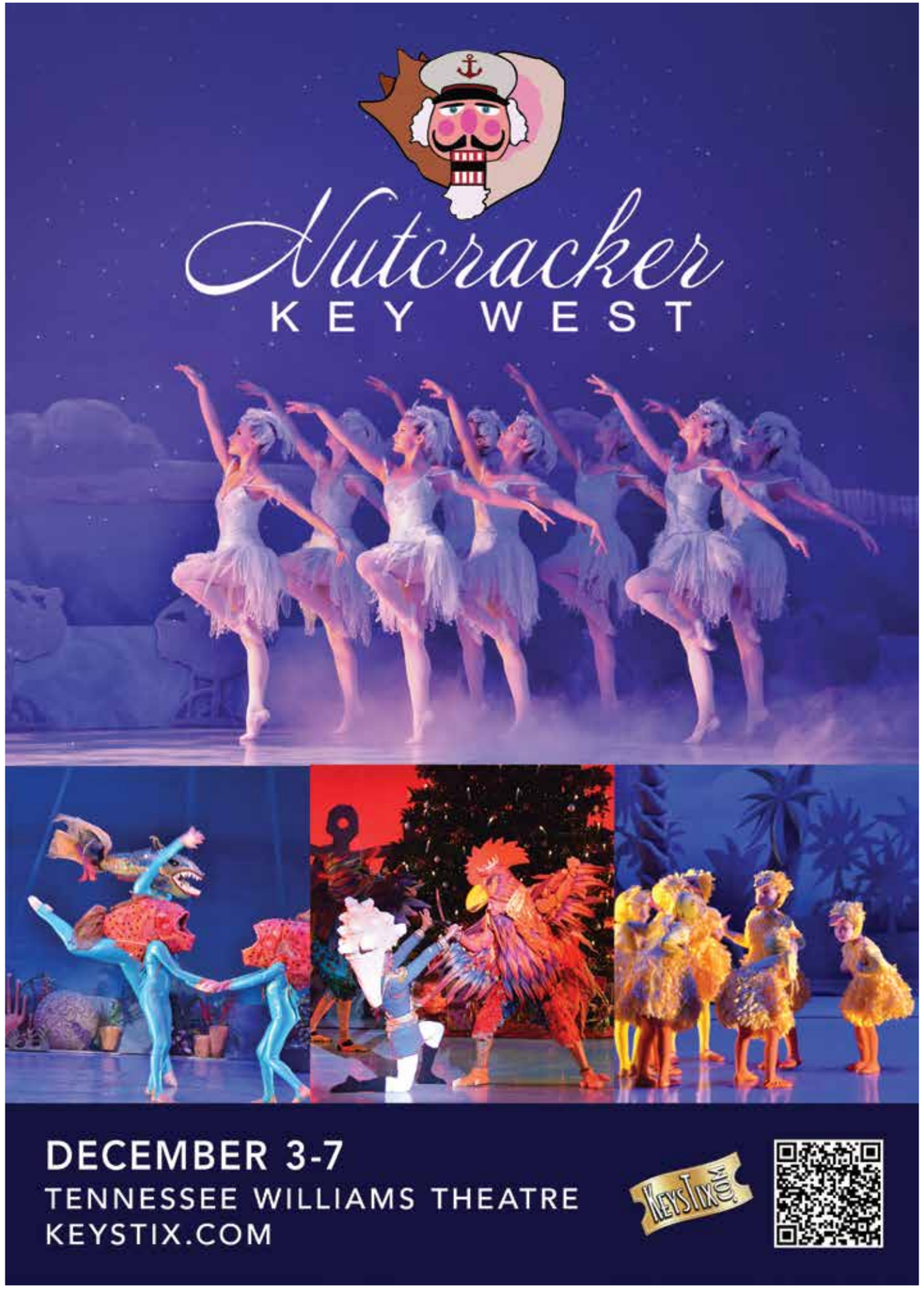
With over a dozen professional and principal dancers, and a large cast of local children, this visual spectacle also showcases elaborate sets with tropical imagery and familiar island icons, as well as museum-quality costumes. Expect to see a Sea Star and Swordfish Cavaliere, as well as a Rooster King and his army of chickens battling legions of toy soldiers. And get this: There's even a Conch Shell Nutcracker!

With breathtaking visuals, captivating choreography, and infectious energy, this whimsical, not-to-be-missed production is a unique holiday experience and the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season in paradise!

Nutcracker Key West opens on Wednesday, December 3 at 7 pm and plays through Monday, December 7. There are also special weekend matinees on Saturday, December 5, and on Sunday, December 6, at 1 pm.

You can catch this limited-time production of Nutcracker Key West at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Road on Stock Island/Key West. Tickets & info: 305-295-7676; **www.keystix.com**.

FYI: Reserve early — always a sell-out!





FOOTLIGHTS

continued from page 33

money for a great cause. Not to be missed! Showtime: 6 pm at Aqua Bar & Nightclub 711 Duval St. Info: aquakeywest.com.

EVERY MONDAY

Jazz Jam

Key West: Hosted by acclaimed Key West pianist Larry Smith, this lively jam session brings together talented local and visiting musicians for an evening of classic jazz, spontaneous improvisation, and relaxed island energy. Takes place from 8:30 – 11:30 pm at the William Weech American Legion Post 168, 803 Emma St. Info: 305-440-3714; https://www.facebook.com/legionpost168/.

TUESDAY – SATURDAY

Christopher Peterson Live!

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 lavish 90-minute show is one of the hottest tickets in town. Backed up by the outrageous Aquanettes Drag Queens, it's one show you don't want to miss. Various times at Aqua Bar & Nightclub, 711 Duval St. Info: aquakeywest.com.

WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY

Comedy Magic Bar: The Magic of Frank Everhart

Key West: Key West comedian and master magician, Frank Everhart, never ceases to amaze. Regaled as one of the country's top comedians and magicians, Everhart's "Chicago-style, close-up magic show" not only showcases his awe-inspiring magic, but it's also absolutely hilarious. every W – Su at the notorious Schooner Wharf Bar, 202 William St in Key West's Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-9520; schoonerwharf.com.

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.



Christopher Peterson, Aqua, Key West

SPECIAL EVENTS

ONGOING

A Pirate Looks Back — Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show

Key West: Part lunch theater, part tribute concert, and part educational adventure, this one-of-a-kind musical celebrates Jimmy's songs, spirit, and the island where the legend began. Acclaimed musician, actor, and Buffett historian, Caleb Hogan, appears in character as the man himself in a show that blends live music, storytelling, humor, and of course... cheeseburgers! Enjoy a journey back in time to a place where artists and misfits lived the eclectic Bohemian dream, and our favorite "grandson of a sailor" roamed the land. Takes place on various days from 12:30 – 2 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St, Unit 5. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

NOW – DECEMBER 29

Comedy Key West Open Mic

Key West: So you think that you're really that funny? Well here's your chance to find out during Key West's only open mic for comedy, music, variety and impropriety. Performers of all stripes welcome — comedians, musicians, poets, and those who don't know it. Takes place every Tu with Sign-ups starting after 7 pm; Showtime: 8 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St, Unit 5. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

NOVEMBER 11–14

ON STAGE: Nat Baimel

Key West: Standup comedian, upbeat problem solver, awkward philosopher, and optimistic nihilist, Nat Baimel has a knack for always looking on the bright side. Both smart and dark, Baimel's hilarious show delivers a poignant social commentary that seeks to unite rather than divide. Showtime: 8 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St, Unit 5. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

NOVEMBER 13 – 15

Key West International Dance Company: Murder & Mutiny

Key West: Set in the early 1800's, this high energy show traces Captain Samuel's precarious voyages as a sea trader in the days of the spice route. Was what befell him while

continued on page 38



FOOTLIGHTS

running opium to China a tragedy at the hands of pirates or disgruntled crew members? With thrilling aerial dance, it's a night where the performance is only the beginning. Call for times. On stage at the Tennessee Williams Theater, 5901 College Rd on Stock Island/ Key West. Info & tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

NOVEMBER 15

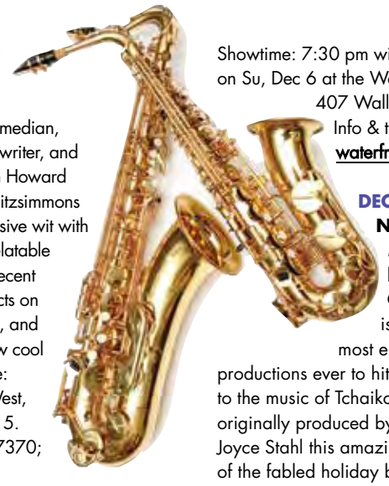
Southernmost Youth Orchestra

Key West: From classical favorites to contemporary selections, this concert showcases the rising stars of our southernmost community. Takes place from 5 – 7 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: tskw.org.

NOVEMBER 17 – 21

Our Town

Key West: This groundbreaking fresh take on Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning theatrical classic strips away the elaborate spectacle of the stage to focus on what truly matters: human connection, love, and the fleeting nature of time. Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7 pm at the Armory, 600 White St. Info & reserved tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.



NOVEMBER 18 – 21

ON STAGE: Greg Fitzsimmons

Key West: A standup comedian, four-time Emmy-winning writer, and host of Fitzdog Radio on Howard Stern's SiriusXM, Greg Fitzsimmons seamlessly mixes an incisive wit with scathing sarcasm and relatable storytelling. In his most recent shtick, Fitzsimmons reflects on sobriety, getting married, and showing his kids just how cool he used to be. Showtime: 8 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St, Unit 5. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

DECEMBER 2 – 17

It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Key West: This holiday classic, transforms the theatre into a 1940s radio studio, complete with live Foley effects, a jazz trio, and original jingles created for local Key West businesses. It's a playful, inventive reimagining of a beloved story–one that celebrates both theatrical craft and the spirit of the season. Showtime: 7:30 pm with a 2 pm Matinee on Su, Dec 6 at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

DECEMBER 3 – 7

Nutcracker Key West

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

DECEMBER 8

It's A Beautiful Wound

Key West: Written and performed by Rich Orloff, this riveting true story follows Rich's adventures in underground therapy using

continued on page 42



Indulge & Unwind

Fine wines & live music in an elegant setting, every night.

THE GARDENS HOTEL
KEY WEST

gardenshotel.com • 526 Angela St. • 305-294-2661





Two Comedians Walk into a Bar and....

Comedy Key West Rocks the House!



Ya gotta laugh. Only in Key West would a funny five-week experiment morph into one of Key West's hottest entertainment venues.



Welcome to ***Comedy Key West,*** the Keys' one-and-only comedy club this side of Havana.

Launched by acclaimed comedian, Joe Madaus, the small, intimate club originally started as a "pop-up" gig at Key West's former Bottle Cap Lounge before moving to its current location on Whitehead Street.

Today, the thriving venue boasts different headliners every week and no two shows are ever the same.

The roster of top-tiered talent, curated by hilarious comedian and co-owner, Tom Dustin, is absolutely stellar. Winner of the *Great Canadian Laugh-Off,* and *Comedy Central*, Dustin is often cited as "one of the best-kept secrets in comedy," and is revered by famous comedians around the globe.

Needless to say, these two "laugh-aholics" know their comedy. Many of Tom's hand-picks include comedians who have appeared on *HBO, CBS, Netflix*, and *Comedy Central,* as well as in major motion pictures.

With an electric atmosphere and a wonderful vibe, the hip club also nurtures Key West's best "Hometown Heroes," along with many new and quite impressive "Up & Comers."

"Open Mic Night", which regularly takes place on Tuesday starting at 8 pm, is all about comedy, music, variety and impropriety. Always a hoot, it's also the only place in the Keys that throws down the gauntlet for performers of all stripes: from comics and musicians to poets and even those who don't know it.

Whether it's World-Class Comedians, Open Mic Nights, or the weekly Key West "Game Show," Comedy Key West ALWAYS rocks the house!

Join Joe, Tom, and the rest of the gang for some really big belly laughs nightly from 7 pm – 10 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 White Street in Key West.

For a complete line-up of events, info & tickets, call 305-985-7370 or visit comedykeywest.com.



COMIC RELIEF!

Laugh-Out-Loud Stand-Up Comedy

(Just About Every Night of the Week!)

COMEDY KEY WEST

Comedy Key West delivers the country's best stand-up on an intimate stage in the heart of Old Town. National headliners, local favorites, and pure island energy, just steps from Duval St.

Big Laughs. Good Vibes. Cool Venue.

BEER, WINE, THC DRINKS, LIGHT SNACKS

DOORS OPEN 7PM • SHOWTIME 8 PM



NAT BAIMEL
NOV 11 - 14



GREG FITZSIMMONS
NOV 18 - 21



COLUM TYRRELL
NOV 25 - 28



RAN BARNACLO
JAN 6 - 9



LUIZ J GOMEZ
JAN 13 - 16



DANA GOULD
JAN 20 - 23

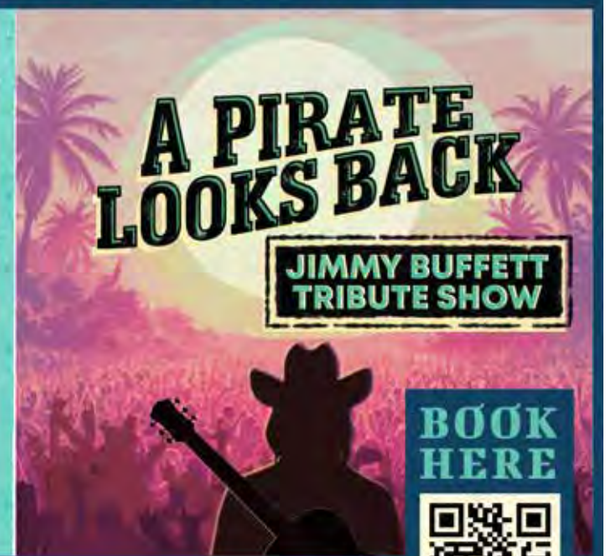
YOU DON'T KNOW KEY WEST UNTIL YOU KNOW HIS STORY.

This is not your ordinary Buffett tribute. It's a recollection of **one of the greatest Key West tales ever told.**

Travel back to 1971 and celebrate the stories and songs that made a Key West legend. Filled with heart, humor and the hits, this LIVE show is a MUST for Parrot Heads and newcomers alike.

Weekdays | 12:30pm
Check calendar for show dates
218 Whitehead St

Air-Conditioned Venue
Cheeseburger Lunch Option Available
Reservations Recommended



AN INDEPENDENT TRIBUTE ACT. NOT AFFILIATED WITH OR ENDORSED BY JIMMY BUFFETT OR MARGARITAVILLE HOLDINGS, LLC.

INFO + TICKETS 305-985-7370 COMEDYKEYWEST.COM

218 WHITEHEAD ST, KEY WEST

FOOTLIGHTS

continued from page 38

MDMA (a.k.a. Ecstasy) and psilocybin mushrooms. Inspired by the autobiographical monologues of Spalding Gray, the show explores psychedelic-assisted therapy in an honest, amusing, and deeply compelling way. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

DECEMBER 8 – JANUARY 2

Shooting Star

Key West: Snowed in overnight at a middle American airport, college lovers have an unexpected reunion. This romantic comedy starts bright and doesn't fade. On stage Tu – Sa at 7 pm (no performances on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve) at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

DECEMBER 12

December Duo Holiday Concert

Key West: Let the music get you into the holiday spirit! Violinist Irie Monte and cellist Crispin Campbell present a special rooftop concert featuring classic holiday tunes and contemporary favorites. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm at Hugh's View on the roof of The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

DECEMBER 12 – 14

Florida Premiere: Destroying David

Key West: Set in Florence, this funny and engaging tour-de-force follows one man's poignant exploration of Michelangelo's famous statue of David. His deeply emotional journey examines art, humanity, the ephemeral nature of beauty, and what it means to truly see. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.



DECEMBER 13

Snowy Day: Children's Winter Concert

Key West: Cited as one of the Key's best holiday events for kids, this lyrical afternoon includes music, holiday activities, and more in an exquisite garden setting. Takes place from Noon – 2 pm in the Courtyard of the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd on Stock Island. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest.garden.



Susan Warner, The Studios of Key West

DECEMBER 14 – 15

Here's to Life: Ann Hampton Callaway

Key West: This new, uplifting show by Tony®-nominated singer-songwriter Ann Hampton Callaway, dazzles with a night of gorgeous songs that celebrate life's richness, despite our challenges and because of them. She breathes wisdom and passion into Arlen, Porter, Rodgers, and the Bergmans, as well as contemporary writers and her own originals. Takes place from 7 – 9 pm at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

DECEMBER 19

Cayo Hip Hop Reunion

Key West: Tantra Grillo and the Key Rhyme Collective host an old school reunion show with two classic Key West rap crews. Regaled as some of the oldest and most respected Cayo Hueso hip hop artists, it's a show you don't want to miss. Takes place from 8 – 10 pm at Hugh's View on the roof of The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

JANUARY 5 – 10

For the Love of Country

Key West: The incredible and very popular Christine Mild brings her new show and dynamite band back to the Barn. A heartfelt tribute to the best of country music! On stage Tu – Sa at 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Limited availability! Info & tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

JANUARY 7 – 9

Blanche & Beyond

Key West: This stage sequel to Tennessee William's "A Distant Country Called Youth," spans the peak of Williams' career and explores a no-longer obscure playwright facing the seismic shock of international fame. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets: 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

JANUARY 9

Paradise Big Band: Big Band Universe 1

Key West: Led by legendary local musician and director Joe Dallas, this new high-energy production transports you on a sonic journey through the stellar galaxy of big band arrangements. From the timeless, swinging classics of the Golden Era to vibrant modern charts, Joe Dallas and his powerhouse ensemble deliver an unforgettable night of music. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

JANUARY 10

Impromptu Concerts: Chooi Brothers

Key West: Celebrated violinist brothers, Nikki and Timothy Chooi, combine virtuosity, expressive depth, and unmistakable musical chemistry in this powerful season opener. Showtime: 4 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

JANUARY 12 – 13

HOWLEY SESSIONS CONCERT SERIES: Susan Werner & Flamy Grant

Key West: Renowned as one of the country's most compelling performers, Susan Werner knocks it out of the park with her repertoire of songs that are noted for their poetry and sharp wit. Joining her is the shame-slaying, hip-swaying, chart-topping drag queen, Flamy Grant — a powerhouse vocalist and award-winning songwriter who blends country, folk, gospel, and roots music to deliver a theatrical, therapeutic, and wholly original experience of intrepid storytelling. On stage at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info, times & tickets: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

JANUARY 13 – 16

ON STAGE: Luis J Gomez

Key West: New York-based comedian, author and popular podcaster, Luis Gomez, is heralded for his bold, unapologetic humor. He has also been featured on NBC's Last Comic Standing, Comedy Central's Roast Battle, TruTV's Comedy Knockout, and on two seasons of NBCs What's Your F@% king Deal?!? Showtime: 8 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

continued on page 44



FOOTLIGHTS



Waterfront Playhouse, Key West

JANUARY 13 – 23
The Revolutionists
Key West: This sassy, comedic fantasy brings together a playwright, an assassin, a rebel, and a queen during the 1793 French Revolution. A meta exploration of honor, rage, and legacy in a rapidly changing world posits "how do we choose to be remembered?" Sometimes a Revolution needs a woman's touch. Produced by Art House, Fringe. Showtime: 7pm at the Armory, 600 White St. Info & reserved tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com.

JANUARY 18
The Doo-Wop Project
Key West: Cited as "America's Premiere Doo Wop Group," this smokin' hot band captures and delivers the classic sounds of bygone days. Their fun renditions also include "Doo-Wopping" some of today's biggest hits. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

JANUARY 18
Randy Roberts' Spotlight Cabaret: Liberace & Liza — A Tribute
Key West: Curated by local showbiz icon, Randy Roberts, this lively entertainment series showcases a revolving lineup of top notch performers and colorful storytelling. The "Liberace & Liza: A Tribute" show is a vibrant performance that imagines a collaboration between the legendary entertainer, Liberace and the iconic Liza Minnelli, featuring a mix of music, humor, and theatrical flair. On stage at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info, times & tickets: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

JANUARY 19 – FEBRUARY 20
Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors
Key West: A fast-paced, gender-bending comedy, this love child of Mel Brooks, and Monty Python is a FANG-tastic high-camp spoof! Bloody good fun! On stage Tu – Sa at 7:30 pm at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St. Info & tickets: 305-296-9911; redbarntheatre.com.

JANUARY 20 – 23
ON STAGE: Dana Gould
Key West: Critically acclaimed for his clever writing and poignant delivery, Dana Gould's humor and insightful commentary is entertaining and thought-provoking. Between Comedy Central, HBO and Showtime, Dana is now credited for having six solo stand-up comedy specials. Showtime: 8 pm at Comedy Key West, 218 Whitehead St, Unit 5. Info & tickets: 305-985-7370; comedykeywest.com.

JANUARY 21
NoGravity: Defying the Boundaries of Art and Imagination
Key West: Showcasing gravity-defying choreography and mesmerizing stage illusions, this ground-breaking Italian performing arts company blends dance, theater, and visual artistry into breath-taking harmony. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.


Karla Bonoff, The Studios of Key West

JANUARY 24
Impromptu Concerts: Thomas Mesa
Key West: As one of the most charismatic, innovative, and engaging performers of his generation, Cuban American cellist Dr. Tommy Mesa is the recipient of several awards and has wowed audiences as soloist with major orchestras in the US and Brazil. Showtime: 4 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

JANUARY 25
HOWLEY SESSIONS CONCERT SERIES: Karla Bonoff
Key West: One of the country's most popular folk singers, Karla Bonoff is also renowned for writing several hit songs for some of the music's industry's biggest icons (Bonnie Raitt, Wynona Judd, and Linda Ronstadt). On stage at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info, times & tickets: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

JANUARY 28 – FEBRUARY 6
Unnecessary Farce
Key West: This fast-paced comic shtick is an expertly constructed comedy of errors: two cops, three crooks, eight doors, a relentless cascade of mistaken identities and perfectly timed chaos. Showtime: 7:30 pm with a 2 pm matinee on Sa, Jan 30 at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

FEBRUARY 2 – 3
HOWLEY SESSIONS CONCERT SERIES: Chicago Farmer & Rucksack Rebels
Key West: "You can smell the dirt in the fields, hear the wind as it blows across the plains, and see the people" when singer/songwriter Cody Diekhoff, aka Chicago Farmer, breaks out his classic guitar. His original folk music is both powerful and soulful. Joining Chicago Farmer, is Omaha's acclaimed country cover band, Rustic Rebels whose lineup of original songs are inspired by the stories and experiences of everyday people. On stage at The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. Info, times & tickets: 305-296-0458; tskw.org.

FEBRUARY 7
Impromptu Concerts: Cavatino Duo
Key West: Spanish flutist, Eugenia Moliner and Bosnian guitarist, Denis Azabagi are widely widely recognized as one of the world's foremost flute and guitar duos. Celebrated for their virtuosity, expressive depth, and profound musical rapport, their performances have captivated audiences across the globe. Showtime: 4 pm at the Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Rd. Info & tickets: 305-296-1520; keystix.com.

continued on page 46

The Magic of Fringe—

Key West's Cutting-Edge Black Box Theater



Rebecca Tomlinson likes to think out of the box. And it shows. As the Managing Director of Key West's cutting-edge Fringe Theater, Tomlinson is always hunting for works that bring unexpected drama, laughs, and community-centered performances to life.

Inclusive theater at an affordable price is the mantra here, and Fringe's innovative and intimate "Black Box" theater always delivers. With few props and a simple backdrop, the small, flexible performance space at the historic Key West Armory totally immerses you in the action and makes you feel like you're actually part of the story.

Fringe's upcoming 2026 – 2027 season showcases an exciting lineup of short-run award-winning plays including *"Our Town,"* Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama. Widely celebrated as "the greatest American Play ever written," Fringe's season opener plays Tue, Nov 17 – Sa, Nov 21.

The new year kicks off with *"The Revolutionist,"* a sassy comedic fantasy that brings together a playwright, an assassin, a rebel, and a queen during the 1793 French Revolution. This meta exploration of honor and legacy in a rapidly changing world; plays Wed, Jan 13 – Sa, Jan 23.

The Tony Award-winning *"Red,"* which takes a deep dive into the brilliant mind of tormented artist Mark Rothko, takes to the stage on Wed, Feb 17 – Sa, Feb 27. Showtimes: 7:30 pm at the Key West Armory, 600 White St.

FYI: Like all of Fringe Theater's stellar productions, expect the unexpected. For more info and a complete schedule of upcoming shows, hit up fringetheater.org.

Tickets: 305-295-7676; keystix.com



FOOTLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 11 – 13
Call Me Elizabeth
Key West: Set over the course of a single morning, the play offers an intimate and revealing portrait of a woman navigating fame, identity, and survival with wit, resilience, and remarkable clarity. Showtime: 7:30 pm at the Waterfront Playhouse, 407 Wall St in Mallory Square. Info & tickets 305-294-5015; waterfrontplayhouse.org.

SOUTH MIAMI DADE


Call Me Elizabeth, Waterfront Playhouse, Key West

SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 14
A Charlie Brown Christmas
Miami: Ring in the season with award-winning pianist Dr. Zach Bartholomew and his trio in a jazzy take on "A Charlie Brown Christmas." Featuring the timeless music of Vince Guaraldi, this uplifting concert brings holiday charm, warm melodies, and nostalgic cheer to life. Showtime: 5 pm in the Black Box Theater at Dennis C Moss Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211 St. Info & tickets: 786-573-5300; mosscenter.org.

NOVEMBER 20 – DECEMBER 20
True Art
Coral Gables: Deception, champagne, and Michelangelos collide in this suspenseful, sharp and bitingly funny comedy. Jessica Provenz's regional premiere takes place at the GableStage at the Wolson Family Theater 1200 Anastasia Ave. Info, tickets & times: 305-445-1119; gablestage.org.

NOVEMBER 21
Buena Vista Orchestra
Miami Beach: Get ready for a night of living-legacy music in a rare full-orchestra format. Rooted in Afro-Cuban tradition, this renowned ensemble rocks the stage with an assortment of scores that create a living legacy of Cuba's Black musical heritage. Showtime: 8 pm at he Miami Beach Bandshell, 7275 Collins Ave. Info & tickets: 786-453-2897; miamibeachbandshell.com.

NOVEMBER 21 – 22
MOMIX Botanica
Miami: This larger-than-life spectacle fuses world-class athleticism with an eclectic score ranging from birdsong, to the elegance of Vivaldi. Regaled as a restorative "herbal remedy" for the senses, this feast for the eyes pairs the superb energy of its performers with gravity-defying props, cinematic projections, and whimsical puppetry. Various times at Dennis C Moss Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211 St. Info & tickets: 786-573-5300; mosscenter.org.

DECEMBER 1 – 20
A Christmas Carol — The Musical
Coral Gables: This lively musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' holiday classic is a joyful musical take on the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge's journey toward rediscovering the true meaning of the season. Created especially for family audiences, it's sure to warm your heart and spark your holiday spirit. Various times at the Miracle Theater, 280 Miracle Mile. Info & tickets: 305-444-9293; actorsplayhouse.org.

DECEMBER 5; JANUARY 9; FEBRUARY 13
Ballet of Lights: Sleeping Beauty in a Sparkling Show
Miami: This sparkling and spectacular new staging of Sleeping Beauty combines live percussion, visual storytelling, and dancers adorned in glow-in-the-dark costumes leaping across the stage. Showtimes: 4 and 6 pm at Miami Theater Center, 9806 NW 2nd Ave. Info & tickets: 305-751-9550; miami-theater.com.

DECEMBER 11 – 13; DECEMBER 17 – 27
Miami City Ballet: George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®
Miami: Celebrate the holiday season with George Balanchine's heralded production of this iconic holiday favorite. Battling mice, toy soldiers, dancing candy canes, and Tchaikovsky's enchanting score make for memorable moments. FYI: No performances on December 25. Various times at the ZIFF Opera House, 1300 Biscayne Blvd. Info & tickets: 305-949-6722; arshtcenter.org.



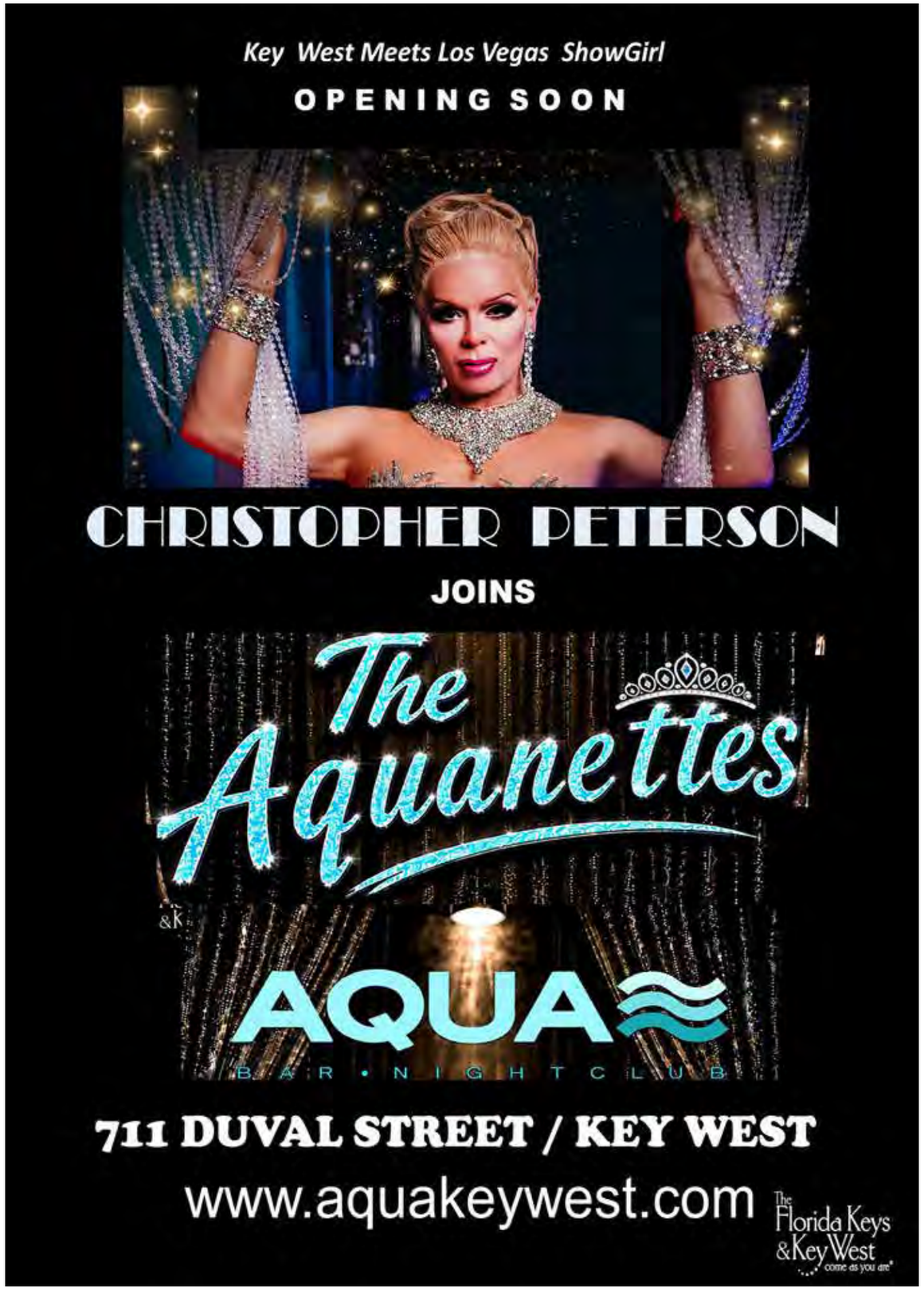
DECEMBER 22
United European Ballet Company: Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs
Miami Beach: Experience the magic of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in a beautiful Broadway-style ballet for the whole family. This beloved fairytale comes to life with expressive choreography, colorful characters, hand-painted sets, exquisite costumes, and the beautiful music of Bogdan Pavlovsky. Showtime: 7 pm in the Jackie Gleason Theater at the Fillmore Miami Beach, 1700 Washington Ave. Info & tickets: 800-745-3000; fillmore-miami.com.

JANUARY 14 – 17
11th Annual South Beach Jazz Festival
Miami Beach: World-renowned and emerging artists representing an entire spectrum of jazz, unleash cutting edge acts to promote disability inclusion through music. Many of the performances are free and held outdoors. Takes place at various times and at several Miami Beach locations. Info: 754-800-4512; sobejazzfestival.com.

JANUARY 22 – FEBRUARY 14
We Had a World
Coral Gables: In this deeply funny and moving love letter to complicated families, Joshua Harmon (Bad Jews, Prayer for the French Republic) unravels thirty years of family history, with a little Rashomon-style assistance from his mother. Various times at the GableStage at the Wolson Family Theater, 1200 Anastasia Ave. Info & tickets: 305-445-1119; gablestage.org.

FEBRUARY 6
Yesterday and Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience
Miami: More than a just another Beatles Tribute concert, this one-of-a-kind show that changes with every performance because the audience gets to choose the entire playlist! Created by brothers Billy, Matthew and Ryan McGuigan, the interactive format invites you to relive their memories through the timeless music of The Beatles, making each night a deeply personal and emotional experience. Showtime: 8 pm on the Main Stage at Dennis C Moss Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211 St. Info & tickets: 786-573-5300; mosscenter.org.

FEBRUARY 12
The Electric Light Orchestra Experience Featuring Evil Woman
Miami: Classic rock intersects with pop during an immersive multimedia concert that celebrates the music of Jeff Lynne's ELO. Headlined by the twelve piece Evil Woman Band and backdropped by unique videos, the vocal harmonies and string arrangements are astonishingly similar to ELO's original recordings. Showtime: 8 pm on the Main Stage at Dennis C Moss Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211 St. Info & tickets: 786-573-5300; mosscenter.org.



IMPROMPTU
CLASSICAL
Concerts
2027 Season
Key West

Impromptu has been bringing world class Classical Chamber Music to Key West audiences for over 50 years. In keeping with our Mission, our 2027 season will bring outstanding classical chamber music performers to our Tennessee Williams Theater 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 10
Chooi Brothers



Jan 24
Thomas Mesa



Feb 7
Cavatina Duo



Feb 21
Dover String Quartet



Mar 7
Jeffrey Chappel



Mar 21
Jacques Forestier

Season subscriptions can be purchased at www.keywestimpromptu.org

WHAT'S UP

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

FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST

ONGOING

DAILY

Mini Golf
Ramrod Key: This kid-friendly 18-hole course 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). Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksfloridakeys.com.

Miniature Golf
Marathon: The Keys' newest and largest mini-golf attraction is a full-size,18-hole course that challenges the best of the best. 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 beer. Open daily from 10 am – 10 pm at Porky's Bayside, 1410 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-731-7592; porkysbaysidebbq.com.

NIGHTLY

Snook's Bayside Sunset Celebration
Key Largo: Kick back with a rum punch on Snook's 5,000-square-foot waterfront patio, listen to some great live music, and enjoy an unobstructed panoramic view of the sun sinking into the Florida Bay. The nightly event is ceremoniously marked by the "Sunset Horn" bellowing just before the fiery ball disappears into the horizon. The fun continues well after dark with live entertainment and dancing under the palms. Daily Happy Hour from 4 – 6 pm. Takes place at Snooks Bayside & Grand Tiki at MM 99.8, Southbound Lane, behind the Sandal Factory outlet. Info: 305-453-5004; snooks.com.


Snooks Bayside Sunset Celebration, Key Largo

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 with Well Drinks for just $4, Domestic Drafts for $3, and the island's best Margarita menu. It all

continued on page 50



WHAT'S UP

happens at Lorelei Restaurant & Cabana Bar, 96 Madeira Rd. FYI: Look for the giant mermaid at MM 82, Bayside. Info: 305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.com.

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 docks behind the Opal Resort 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 spectacular Sunset Celebration a world-famous, multicultural happening.

Key West Champagne Sunset Sail
Key West: It's all about romance on the high seas when you board Key West's most elegant sailboat. The 105,' 1851 revival, Schooner America 2.0. is an absolute "MUST DO" when you're here. This memory-making, two-hour, sunset sail includes complimentary champagne, wine, beer, soft drinks, water, and hors d'oeuvres. Departs form the docks behind Schooner Wharf Bar, 202R William St. Info, times & tickets: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

Aqua
Key West: This world-class club, with high-tech lighting and an industrial vibe, also boasts a lovely outdoor garden bar as well as the best drag bar in the Keys. Not to be missed: the world-renowned female impressionist and singer, Christopher Peterson, and The Aquanettes, a bawdy troupe of talented drag queens that rock the House nightly. Find it all at 711 Duval St. Info: 305-294-0555; aquakeywest.com.


Key West Sunset Celebration

WEEKLY

MONDAY – TUESDAY

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



Hugh's View, Key West

EVERY THURSDAY

Key West Waterfront Farmers Market
Key West: This traditional farmers' market includes a huge variety of seasonal produce and other goodies. You can also shop for local arts & crafts, flea market finds, jewelry, clothing, cigars, and CBD products. Takes place from 2 pm – 7 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd at the end of Southard St. BYOB: Bring your own bags! Info: 305-731-3385; keywestfarmersmarket.com.

EVERY SATURDAY

Open-Air Market
Ramrod Key: Discover a great selection of local art, handmade jewelry, and one-of-a-kind creations, as well as fresh organic produce, greens, and flowers. Takes place from 9 am – 2 pm in the parking lot of Boondocks Plaza, 27205 Overseas Hwy (MM 27.5). Info: 305-872-4094; boondocksfloridakeys.com.

EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Big Pine Flea Market
Big Pine: You'll find everything from local produce to vintage treasures, tools, crafts and antiques at this bustling community favorite. Lots of great food vendors, too! BTW: don't pass up the fresh, hot mini donuts made to order! Takes place from 8 am – 2 pm at 30250 Overseas Highway, Info: 305-872-4103; bigpinefleamarket.com.

EVERY SUNDAY

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

MONTHLY

THIRD WEDNESDAY

Dolphin Sunset Celebration
Marathon: What's better than a margarita at sunset? How about sharing an alcohol-free Jello shot with a dolphin! This totally unique Sunset experience is your opportunity to interact with dolphins, chat with experts, and discover what it means to build meaningful relationships with these special animals. As the sky turns gold, you can enjoy a champagne toast to the setting sun, surrounded by playful dolphins, an ocean breeze, and unforgettable island beauty. FYI: Reserve early — space is limited! Upcoming dates: November 25 (4:15 pm); Dec 16 (4:15 pm); Jan 27. (4 pm). Takes place at the Dolphin Research Center, 58901 Overseas Hwy (MM 59 Gulfside) on Grassy Key. Info: 305-289-1121; dolphins.org.

FIRST FRIDAY

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

FIRST & THIRD SATURDAY

Junk in the Trunk: Key West's Community Garage Sale
Key West: Part treasure hunt, part neighborhood meet-up, and part "early-morning excuse" to hang out on the harbor, "Junk In The Trunk" is everything a truly great Garage Sale should be. Discover an eclectic mix of household goods, vintage pieces, collectibles, and unexpected finds — the kind of items that make you stop, look twice, and say "I'LL TAKE IT!" Takes place from 8 am – 1 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd. Info: 305-731-3385; keysartisanmarket.com.

THIRD SATURDAY

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 7

Bayside Grille's 30th Birthday BBQ & Beach Bash
Key Largo: Blow up the balloons and break out the bibs as acclaimed Bayside Grille celebrates it's 30th Anniversary. Enjoy a massive Beachside BBQ, for just $19.96 per person to commemorate the year this family-owned favorite opened one of the Keys' most popular beachside hangs. Takes place from 4 – 8 pm at Bayside Grille & Sunset Bar, 99540 Overseas Hwy (MM 99.5 Bayside behind DiGiorgio's Café Largo). Info & reservations: 305-451-3380; baysidegrille.com; keylargorestaurants.com.

NOVEMBER 7

4th Annual Tails On the Trails
Key West: Dog owners and lovers can enjoy 15 acres of mulched and boardwalk trails meandering through forests and meadows during this special fundraising event. Also includes games and prizes in the meadow. Takes place from 10 am – 2 pm at the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd (Stock Island). Info: 240-381-9282; keyestgarden.com.

NOVEMBER 13

Spayghetti & No Balls Gala
Key Largo: This annual fundraiser for MarrVelous Pet Rescues is one of the Upper Keys' most popular events. Enjoy a complimentary drink from the champagne bar, yummy appetizers, and a fabulous dinner, as well as great live music, silent and live auctions, and a mega dance party! FYI: Dress is Keys Formal and is for "Humans Only." Takes place from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Snook's Bayside Restaurant & Grand Tiki, 99470 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-453-1315; https://mprescues.org/spayghetti-no-balls/.

NOVEMBER 21

17th Annual Light Up Key Largo!
Key Largo: Key Largo lights Monroe County's tallest Christmas tree during this festive annual celebration which also features an Ice Skating Rink, Santa's Workshop, Carolers, lots of holiday goodies, and more. Takes place from 4 – 8 pm, with the Tree Lighting at 6 pm. It all happens at the Murray Nelson Government Center, 102050 Overseas Hwy (MM 102). FYI: Parking is available at the Key Largo School (104801 Overseas Hwy) with free shuttle service provided. Info: 305-451-1414; keylargochamber.org.

NOVEMBER 22

Lighting of the Lighthouse
Marathon: Kick off the holiday season in style with a waterfront evening of magical lights, live music, and a special appearance from Santa. The festivities also include the annual "Sip & Shop" experience where you can score some great holiday gifts from local vendors while you imbibe on seasonal cocktails. Takes place from 6 – 9 pm at Faro Blanco Resort, 1996 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-204-7365; faroblancoresort.com.

continued on page 52



WHAT'S UP

NOVEMBER 22

4th Annual Rum Infused Scavenger Hunt & Costume Contest

Key West: Dust off your pirate and mermaid costumes for this fun 21+ Scavenger Hunt that doubles as a fundraiser for the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden. Takes place from 5 – 9 pm at the Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden, 5210 College Rd on Stock Island. Info: 305-296-1504; keywest.garden.

NOVEMBER 25 – JANUARY 1

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. For a full event schedule, hit up Info: keywestchristmas.org.

NOVEMBER 25

21st Annual Bight Before Christmas — Lighting of the Bight

Key West: The Key West Harbor kicks off the holidays and lights up the waterfront with a dazzling display that includes a 16-foot fresh pine Nautical Christmas Tree, a 20' Fishing Buoy Tree, and the original 20' Key West Lobster Trap Tree. The Harbor Walk is 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. Best viewing is on the Harbor Walk Plaza at Greene and Elizabeth Sts. Info: keywestchristmas.org.



Key West Holiday Fest. Photo: Carol Teldesco

NOVEMBER 25 – JANUARY 1

Key West Harbor Walk of Lights

Key West: This festive annual celebration 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 holiday happenings in Key West, hit up keywestchristmas.org.



Key West Holiday Fest

NOVEMBER 27

Black Friday Shopping Extravaganza

Key West: The largest market event of the year brings together regular Truman Waterfront Farmers Market vendors and artists from the Key West Artisan Market, to create an expanded open-air shopping experience filled with locally made and island-inspired finds.With so many vendors gathered in one waterfront location, it's an ideal opportunity to get a head start on holiday shopping and discover gifts you won't find at a typical shopping center. Takes place from 10 am – 6 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Road. Info: 305-731-3385; keysartisanmarket.com.

NOVEMBER 30

City of Key West Tree Lighting

Key West: Kick off the holiday season with this festive annual event that includes seasonal music, the lighting of a giant holiday tree, special activities an a special appearance by Santa. Takes place from 6 – 8 pm in Bayview Park, 1300 White St. Info: 305-809-3868; cityofkeywest-fl.gov.

DECEMBER 2

13th Annual POSH (Paws Often Steal Hearts) Gala

Key West: This year's fun annual gala which benefits our local SPCA, is totally over-the-top! Experience the Vintage Remix Orchestra's 10-piece band, refreshing drinks, a silent auction, raffles, and more. Dress to the nines and don your favorite 'Fascinator Hat' headpiece (a large head decoration on a band or clip with elaborate trimmings and decorations).At the end of the night you can join the Second Line Parade to continue the party!are encouraged. Takes place from 6 – 9:30 pm at the Audubon House & Tropical Garden, 205 Whitehead St. Tickets & info: 305-304-1232; fkspca.com.

DECEMBER 4

22nd Annual Islamorada Holiday Festival

Islamorada: A 35-foot holiday tree blows magical snow at this spirited night of holiday fun, which includes a snow mountain, a festive parade, community tree lighting, caroling, a holiday gift bazaar, delicious food, live music, and a silent auction of masterpiece ornaments created by local artists. Takes place from 4 – 10 pm at Founders Park, 87000 Overseas Hwy, MM 87, Bayside. Info: 305-664-4503; islamoradachamber.com.

DECEMBER 4

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. The magical Holiday Village includes photos with Santa, rides, games, crafts, food vendors, music, local performances, and more! This year's event also features 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 8 pm. Takes place at the Coffee Butler Amphitheater in Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd. Info: 305-809-5000; wesleyhouse.org.

DECEMBER 5

Lignumvitae Christmas

Islamorada: A Celebrate the season with a Ferry Ride to historic Lignumvitae Key State Park for a festive day of holiday music, games, crafts, tours, picnic lunch and more. The annual "Friend Raiser" takes place, rain or shine, from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm at Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park. Ferry shoves off from Robbies Marina, 77522 Overseas Hwy (MM 77.5 Bayside). Info & tickets: 305-664-4339; https://friendsofkeysparks.org/

DECEMBER 5

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. Festivities kick off at 7 pm on Truman Ave at White St. The parade then proceeds down Duval and ends at Eaton. Info: 305-809-3881; keywesthistoricseaport.com.

continued on page 56

High Seas Holidays

Lighted Boat Parades Celebrate the Season!



While the Florida Keys may never experience a traditional white Christmas, we still have a passion for celebrating the season in high island style. Lots of fun holiday events fill the season, but nothing screams "glitz" like the Keys-wide Holiday Lighted Boat Parades.

The maritime merriment kicks off on **Saturday, December 12th**, when **Schooner Wharf Bar's 34th Annual Lighted Boat Parade** sets sail in Key West's Historic Harbor. The magic, creativity, and originality of this parade is totally over the top and makes it a favorite holiday tradition.

Headquartered at Schooner Wharf Bar, the festivities kick off at 6 pm with live music and lots of holiday revelry. The boat parade follows at 8 pm when vessels of all shapes and sizes dazzle the crowd with Christmas creativity.

The festive fleet struts its stuff past the Judging Stand at Schooner Wharf for a shot at $40,000 in prize money. It's a world-renowned holiday event that you won't want to miss!

But why watch the festivities as a landlubber when you can be right in the center of all the action? Hop onboard **Schooner America 2.0** for a festive three-hour parade sail replete with libations, music, and festive revelry. Departs from the dock behind the Schooner Wharf Bar, located at the foot of William St. in the Historic Seaport. Info & tickets: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

Saturday, December 12th, also marks the date for **Marathon's Boot Key Harbor Parade**, which 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. Best views include the Marathon Marina, Burdines Restaurant, and Dockside Lounge.

Also, shoving off on **Saturday, December 12**, is **Key Largo's Lighted Boat Parade**. Blackwater Sound shimmers and glimmers as costumed mariners promenade along the shoreline in vessels embracing this year's "Holidays Under the Sea" theme. Kicks off at 7:30 pm with best viewing between MM 103.5 — 104.5.

On **Sunday, December 13th**, it's time for the **Stock Island Lighted Boat Parade & Holiday Carnival**. Enjoy a merry celebration with great live entertainment, holiday photo ops, fun games, and more. Festivities start at 3 pm; Boat Parade ships out at 6:30 pm. It all takes place at the Perry Hotel & Marina, 7001 Shrimp Rd. Also, on deck for **Sunday, December 13th**: the **Key Colony Beach Christmas Boat Parade**, which hits the water at dusk. Best viewing is on 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th streets, as well as on the Causeway.

On **Saturday, December 19**, **Kiki's Lighted Boat Parade** lights up the Lower Keys with a holiday show around Newfound Harbor. In addition to the parade of boats, you can enjoy a terrific drone show with synchronized music, as well as a special appearance by Santa, and a lively beachside party. Kicks off at dusk from Kiki's Sandbar, 183 Barry Ave (MM28.5 Gulfside). And there you have it: six festive Holiday Boat Parades that are sure to add a touch of tropical magic to your holiday season.

Be safe & Be Merry!

Glam & Ham—

Key West's "Red Shoe Drop" Rings In 2027



If you're looking for one wild and unforgettable New Year's Eve experience, stay tuned.

Regularly covered internationally by CNN, Key West's world-famous *Red Shoe Drop* is one of the most fun, flamboyant, and glitzy celebrations on the planet.



With dazzling costumes, lively street performances, and an electric island atmosphere, the Red Shoe Drop is an iconic New Year's Eve tradition unlike any other.

Now entering its 29th year, this oh-so-fab annual spectacle is being headlined by Jade Pinkette Fox of Dallas, Texas, and winner of the 2026 *"If the Shoe Fits"* national touring competition.

Produced by the Bourbon St Pub, New Orleans House, and the Monroe County Tourist Development, this pageant-style series draws scores of professional entertainers and Drag Stars from across the US in a fierce battle for the coveted title of "Queen of New Year's."

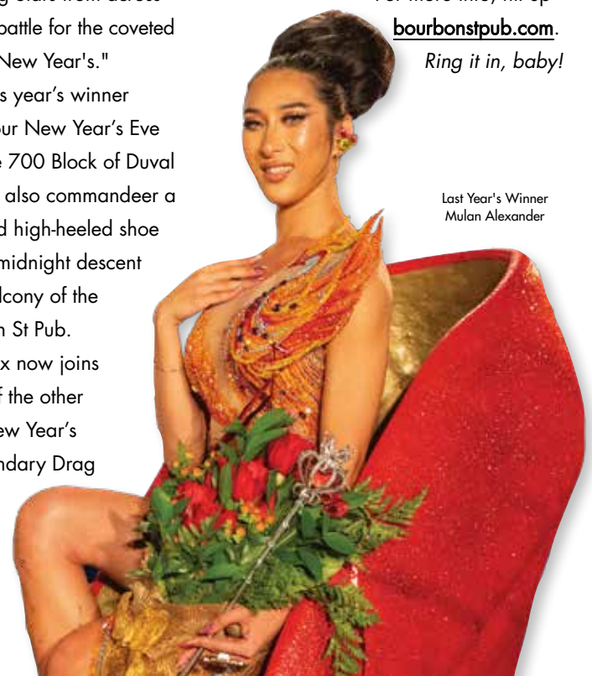
Not only will this year's winner star in the three-hour New Year's Eve Stage show on the 700 Block of Duval Street, but she will also commandeer a giant, glittering red high-heeled shoe during its famous midnight descent from the upper balcony of the notorious Bourbon St Pub.

Jade Pinkette Fox now joins the growing roster of the other great "Queens of New Year's Eve," including legendary Drag Queen, Sushi, who reigned for 25 years, regaled female impressionist, Christopher Peterson, and internationally acclaimed entertainer, Randy Roberts, as well as the reigning national champion, Mulan Alexander, also of Dallas, Texas.

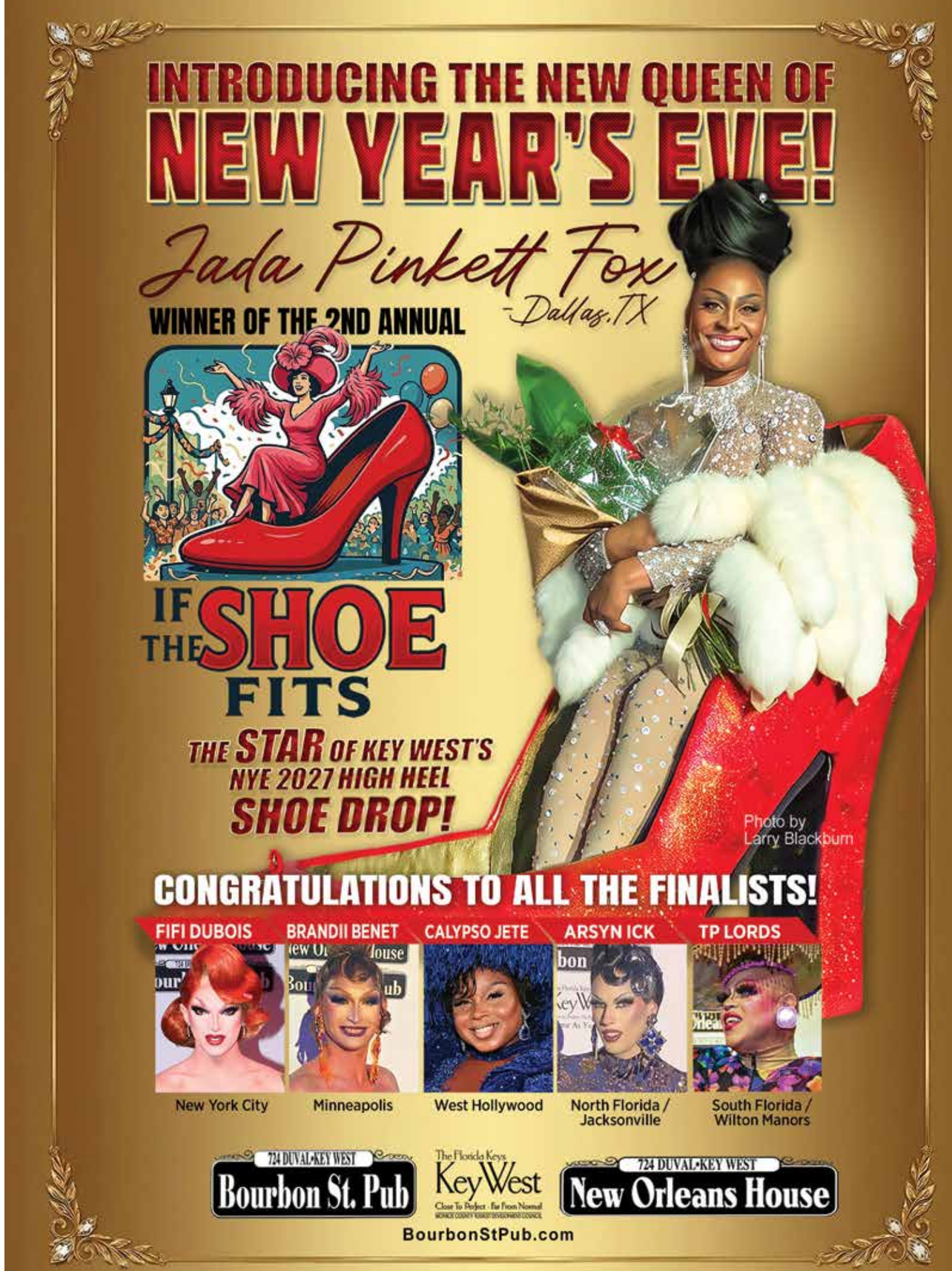
FYI: Arrive early to grab your spot or upgrade to VIP balcony seating for an elevated view of the festivities.

For more info, hit up bourbonstpub.com.

Ring it in, baby!



Last Year's Winner
Mulan Alexander



WHAT'S UP

DECEMBER 5

Annual Duval 300 Block Party

Key West: Get into the holiday spirit and "go-a-wassailing" at this festive Pre-Parade Party that celebrates the season. Takes place from 10 am – 6 pm at the Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval St. Info: 305-294-9501; OIRF.org.

DECEMBER 5

Christmas Parade Porch Party

Key West: Party on the historic porch overlooking the happiest parade in Key West. Kicks off at 6 pm after the Duval 300 Block Party at the Oldest House Museum, 322 Duval St. Info: 305-294-9501; OIRF.org.

DECEMBER 5

7 Mile SantaCon

Marathon: Dress up in your most festive holiday garb for this fun Holiday Poker Run that celebrates our holiday season with drinks, poker, xmas cheer, and cash prizes for winning hands and best dressed. Poker Run takes place from 11:30 – 3:30 pm at some of Marathon's favorite hot spots. Awards announced at 3:30 pm(ish). Info & details: 305-743-5417; https://floridakeysmarathon.com/7-mile-santa-con/.

DECEMBER 6

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


Schooner Wharf Bar's Tree Trimming Party & Toy Drive Key West

Key West: Enjoy a complimentary holiday cocktail when you bring a nautical ornament for tree trimming or an unwrapped kids' gift for this fun annual Toy Drive. Prizes for the most original, most nautical, and most popular outfit. FYI: Be sure to visit Santa's Southernmost Schooner Workshop where local artists and authors sign and sell original works for holiday gift giving. Benefits a variety of children's organizations. Takes place at 6 pm at the Schooner Wharf Bar at the foot of Williams St in the Historic Seaport. Info: 305-292-3773; schoonerwharf.com.

DECEMBER 11

Holiday Historic Inn Tours

Key West: Enjoy two enchanted self-guided tours of five different festively decorated inns and a sampling of holiday treats and cheer at each property. Takes place on F and Sa from 6 – 8 pm. Info & tickets: 305-296-4959; keywesthistoricinns.com.

DECEMBER 12

3rd Annual Historic Pigeon Key Holiday Spectacular

Marathon: This historic 5-acre island, which lies beneath the Old 7 Mile Bridge, is not to be missed during the holiday season when festive decorations transform it into a magical tropical paradise. You can spend a whole day enjoying marine science activities, holiday food and drinks, guided tours, holiday-themed movies on the big screen, Santa encounters, and even snow!. Access the island by walking or biking along the 7 Mile Bridge ramp, or simply hop on the island launch, which departs at 10 am, Noon, and 2 pm from the Visitors Center, located at 2010 Overseas Hwy. FYI: On Sa, a special "Polar Express" will make runs to the island starting at 1 pm and continuing throughout the day and into the evening. Info: 305-743-5999; pigeonkey.net.

continued on page 58

The Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce presents...

23rd ANNUAL Big Pine & Lower Keys

Nautical Expo

Sat, Jan 23 8am - 4pm • Sun, Jan 24, 8am - 2pm



Boating, fishing, diving, snorkeling, watersports, home and office decor, arts & crafts, clothing, jewelry and so much more that makes Florida Keys Living great!

Held on the grounds of the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce
31020 Overseas Hwy, MM 31, Big Pine Key
Fun for the whole family: food & beverages (no coolers/picnic baskets please)
For more information contact the LKCC (305)872-2411
or e-mail: info@lowerkeyschamber.com

Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce

FIRST STATE BANK · Keys Federal · Keys Medical Group · Big Pine Key Resort · The Weekly · Triton · The UPS Store · Time Out Magazine · BigPineKey and Florida's Lower Keys

Happy New Year!

Ring In 2027 — Island Style!



From quirky to classic, there's nothing like celebrating the New Year in the Florida Keys & Key West.

The Big Apple may be famous for its Times Square "Ball Drop," but down here in Paradise our midnight countdown is, shall we say, a wee bit edgier. Especially in Key West, where New Year's Eve is marked by a winsome wench's descent down the mast of the Schooner America 2.0. Backdropping it all is a raucous pirate crew, cannon fire, and a big blowout bash at the world-famous Schooner Wharf Bar.

For a real treat, reserve a spot on Schooner America 2.0 for a wild dockside 21+ party aboard Key West's most spectacular schooner. The celebration includes VIP access to the ***"Lowering of the Pirate Wench,"*** complimentary hors d' oeuvres, and a full bar. Kicks off at 9 pm on the deck of the Schooner America 2.0, behind the Schooner Wharf Bar in the Historic Seaport (202 William St). Info & tickets: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

A little over the top? Well, maybe, but hey, this is Key West — home of one of the wildest and wackiest New Year's Eve happenings on the planet.

Other over-the-top celebrations include the midnight ***"Conch Shell" Drop*** at Sloppy Joe's Bar (201 Duval St); the splashdown of ***a giant key lime wedge into a larger-than-life margarita glass*** from the Ocean Key Resort at Zero Duval; and ***the dramatic descent of a Drag Queen in a six-foot red high heel*** from Bourbon St Pub at 724 Duval Street.

Further up the Keys, the party continues with lots of other fun New Year's events.

In Marathon, you can wiggle your toes in the sand for a relaxed, coastal countdown and watch ***brilliant fireworks over Sombrero Beach*** (2130 Sombrero Beach Rd, MM50 oceanside).

At Founder's Park in Islamorada (87000 Overseas Hwy, MM87 Bayside) you can enjoy a ***festive, family-friendly celebration with a spectacular fireworks show*** that illuminates the sky above the waterfront.

In Key Largo, a ***New Year's Eve fireworks extravaganza*** illuminates the waters of Key Largo's Blackwater Sound between MM 103—104. Party animals can snag ringside seats at Sundowners, Señor Frijoles, Cactus Jack's, Gus's Grille at the Marriott Key Largo Bay Resort, and the Caribbean Club.

For a list of more New Year's Eve Happenings around Miami, see page 60.

Party on and have a great New Year!



WHAT'S UP

DECEMBER 17
Winter Wonderland
Marathon: The forecast is for snow during this post-holiday fun-fest, which includes winter games, a snowball exchange, Santa & Mrs Claus on vacation, winter goodies, and a whole lot more. Takes place from 5:30 – 8 pm at Crane Point Hammock, 5550 Overseas Hwy. Info: 305-743-3900; cranepoint.net.

DECEMBER 20
Holiday Classic Car Show
Key West: See classic cars from every era decked out for the holidays and vote for your favorites. Takes place from 11am – 3pm at Conch Republic Seafood Co, 613 Greene St on the Harbor Walk of Lights. Info: keywestchristmas.org.

DECEMBER 21
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 also includes an Ice Skating Rink, Santa's Workshop, Carolers, lots of holiday goodies, and more. Tree Lighting at 8 pm. Takes place from 6 – 10 pm at the Murray Nelson Government Center, 102050 Overseas Hwy, MM 102 Bayside. Info: 305-451-1414; keylargochamber.org.

DECEMBER 21 – 24)
Cocoa & Carols Christmas Music Sail
Key West: Nothing says "Happy Holidays" like hot cocoa and live Christmas music aboard Key West's most elegant sailboat. Decked out in sparkling holiday lights and festive decorations, this festive two-hour, holiday sail also includes complimentary champagne, wine, beer, soft drinks, water, and hors d'oeuvres. Departs form the docks behind Schooner Wharf Bar, 202R William St. Info, times & tickets: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

DECEMBER 25
Christmas Day Brunch Sail
Key West: Dreaming of a crystal clear, blue Christmas? Then hop on board The Schooner America 2.0 for a two-hour brunch sail that includes a fully catered brunch with complimentary Mimosas, Bloody Marys, or champagne. Departs from the dock behind the Schooner Wharf Bar, located at the foot of William St in the Historic Seaport. Info & tickets: 305-293-7245; sail-keywest.com.

DECEMBER 29 – 30
Annual Key West Home Tours
Key West: Festively dressed Key West homes and gardens are the stars of the show during this highly anticipated annual event. The self-guided tour showcases exquisite restorations, creative renovations, and delightful interiors and exteriors of some of the island's most stunning homes. Takes place from 1 – 4 pm and benefits the Old Island Restoration Foundation. Info & tickets: 305-294-9501; OIRF.org

JANUARY 9 – 10
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.


Wrecker's Race Aboard Schooner America 2.0, Key West

JANUARY 23 – 24
23rd Annual Big Pine & Lower Keys Nautical Expo
Big Pine: Get great deals on all things nautical, as well as on local arts & crafts, clothing, and jewelry. Live music, food, and beverages, too! Open from 8 am – 4 pm on Sa; and from 8 am – 2 pm on Su. Takes place on the grounds of the Lower Keys Chamber of Commerce, 31020 Overseas Hwy, (MM31) Oceanside. Info: 305-872-2411; lowerkeyschamber.com.

JANUARY 24
Annual Schooner Wharf Wreckers 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 24
Wrecker's Cup 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: the 105 foot, 1851 revival, Schooner America 2.0. The excitement of racing through the blue green waters around Key West is simply unpalatable. The fun starts at 1 pm with the firing of the cannon. Tickets include a round of beer, wine, champagne, and a boxed lunch. Info & tickets: 305-292-7245;

COMING SOON

FEBRUARY 13 – 14
21st Annual Florida Keys Seafood Festival
Key West: Lots going on for adults and kids, from feasting on fresh local seafood and shopping for marine-related crafts to face-painting, kids' hands-on activities, raffles, and live music. Takes place on Sa from 11am – 8 pm and on Su from 11 am – 5 pm at Truman Waterfront Park, 21 E Quay Rd. Info: 305-743-0294; floridakeysseafoodfestival.com

GREATER SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER 12 – 15
Miami Beach Polo World Cup
Miami Beach: Now celebrating it's 20th Edition, the world's largest and most notable Beach Polo event features eight international teams and over 120 horses. The action packed weekend includes high goal polo matches showcasing some of the best players in the world, along with fun VIP and offsite events that fuse polo, fashion and luxury. Takes place on the pristine sands of Miami Beach. Info & tickets: 786-328-8058; miamibeachpolo.com.

NOVEMBER 13 – JANUARY 4
Christmas Wonderland
Miami: Cited as the largest holiday attraction in the US, this annual holiday extravaganza includes unlimited rides, live shows, games, hundreds of photo ops and more. Takes place M – Sa from 4 pm – Midnight and on Su from 4 pm – 10 pm at Tropical Park, 7900 SW 40th St. Info: & tickets: 866-404-2010; miamiwonderland.com.

NOVEMBER 13 – MARCH 6
Christmas Luminosa: A World of Enchantment
Miami: This regaled outdoor lantern festival transforms Jungle Island into a 13 acre otherworldly realm where art, technology, and storytelling converge. A magical realm of light and imagination, Luminosa envelops you in jaw-dropping mystical ecosystems and fantastical landscapes that include towering illuminated sculptures, intricate silk lanterns, and interactive installations. Truly mind-blowing! Takes place on Su – Th from 5:30 – 9:30 pm; and on F & Sa from 5:30 – 10:30 pm at Jungle Island, 1111 Parrot Jungle Tr. Info: 305-400-7000; luminosamiami.com.



NOVEMBER 14 – 28
White Party Miami
Miami Beach: One of the world's most iconic LGBTQ+ circuit events boasts a action-packed week of themed parties, pool events, and the legendary main event — a massive dance party where the dress code is, naturally, all white. Takes place various times and at venues throughout Miami Beach. Main event venue is Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, 3251 South Miami Ave. Individual event tickets range from $50 to $200+, with week-long passes also available. Info & tickets: miamiwhiteparty.com.

NOVEMBER 22 – JANUARY 18
Winter Wonderland at Losner Park
Homestead: This annual family favorite includes a Holiday Vendor Village, Outdoors Skating Rink, Holiday-Themed Activations, Craft Stations and lots of festive activities throughout the season. Various hours at Losner Park, 104 N Krome Ave. Info: 305-224-4400; cityofhomestead.com.

NOVEMBER 27 – JANUARY 3
7th Annual Winter Festival
Miami: Celebrate the season, country-style, with holiday hayrides, a 24-piece obstacle course, festive play zones, and more than 100,000 twinkling lights. Happens daily from 10 am – 6:30 pm. FYI: Open 'till 10 pm on F & Sa; and 'till 8:30 pm on Su. Takes place at the Berry Farm, 13720 SW 216th St. Info: 305-560-0531; visittheberryfarm.com.

NOVEMBER 27 – 30
URGE Miami Thanksgiving Festival
Miami Beach: Thanksgiving Weekend rocks, rumbles and rolls during South Beach's annual gay circuit party. Expect a non-stop weekend of pool parties, big-room nights, beachside

continued on page 60



WHAT'S UP



social events and plenty of other wild events. Takes place at various venues throughout Miami Beach. Info: urgemiamifestival.com.

NOVEMBER 30

Coconut Grove Holiday Tree Lighting

Coconut Grove: Grab your favorite pair of holiday pajamas and head downtown for the Grove's first-ever Golf Cart Holiday Parade followed by Santa's arrival. Backdropped by a sparkling Snow Zone, the festivities include a Ballet Performance of the Nutcracker Suite, magic shows, caroling, and the Grand Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Hanukkah Menorah. Festivities kick off at 6 pm at the CocoWalk Plaza, 3015 Grand Ave. Info: coconutgrove.com.

DECEMBER 5 – 26

Coconut Grove Holiday Market

Coconut Grove: Shop a curated selection of one-of-a-kind gifts, holiday treasures, and unique creations from local artisans, crafters and creative entrepreneurs. Festive live music and food vendors, too! Takes place every Sa and Su at Peacock Park, 2820 McFarlane Rd. Info: calendar.coconutgrove.com.

DECEMBER 12 – 13; DECEMBER 19 – 20

Miami Beach Festival of Lights

Miami: One of Miami's most theatrical Christmas events boasts a full live symphony orchestra, festive characters (Santa, the Grinch, Elsa), and a 20' Christmas Tree. But it's the cutting-edge projection-mapping light and music show screened on the façade of the Betsy Hotel that will truly blow you away! Showtimes: 6:15 and 7:15 on Sa, Dec 12 to Su, Dec 13; and again on Sa, Dec 19; 6:00 and 7:30and Su Dec 20, at the Betsy Hotel, 1440 Ocean Dr. info: miamimusicfestival.com.

DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve Fireworks

Miami Beach: Ring in the New Year with live music, top deejays, oceanfront parties, and more during this free and family-friendly celebration. A dazzling fireworks display launches from the beach at midnight. Takes place along Ocean Dr, the South Beach beachfront, and the Lummus Park area.

DECEMBER 31

Bayfront Park's Miami New Year's Eve

Miami Beach: Downtown Miami's biggest New Year's celebration includes endless cocktails, big-name performers, and a world-renowned fireworks display. Takes place from 6 pm – 1:30 am in Bayfront Park, 301 Biscayne Blvd. Info & tickets: miaminye2027.com.

JANUARY 3

King Mango Strut 2027

Coconut Grove: Over-the-top costumes, festive floats, and lively marching bands headline this quirky annual tradition that rings in the New Year and celebrates the Grove's eccentric bohemian roots. Now celebrating it's 43rd year, the parade kicks off from 2 – 6 pm at Commodore Plaza. The celebration continues all night long with live entertainment throughout the city. Info: kingmangostrut.org.

JANUARY 23 – FEBRUARY 28

Strawberry Festival

Miami: Celebrate strawberry season country-style with strawberry picking and weekend signature events that spotlight local chefs, breweries, pit-masters and more. Happens daily from 10 am – 6:30 pm. FYI: Open 'till 10 pm on F & Sa; and 'till 8:30 pm on Su. Takes place at the Berry Farm, 13720 SW 216th St. Info: 305-560-0531; visittheberryfarm.com.


Miami International Boat Show

JANUARY 29 – 31

77th Annual Homestead Rodeo

Homestead: Known as the "Southernmost Rodeo" in the continental US, this annual shindig is a huge draw for top wranglers from across the country. A PCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) sanctioned competition, the rodeo kicks off an exciting 2027 season, which boasts 600 grueling competitions. Info & tickets: homesteadrodeo.com.

COMING SOON

FEBRUARY 11 – 15

Miami International Boat Show

Miami: As one of the world's largest and most influential boat shows, this "progressive experience" creatively combines the fun of a carnival boardwalk with the timeless vibe of an old port town. Over 100,000 enthusiasts and 1,000+ vendors converge here for five days of mariner mania. Takes place at over six locations, including the Miami Beach Convention Center. Info: 945-676-1819; miamiboatshow.com.

FEBRUARY 19 – 21

57th Annual Everglades Seafood Festival

Everglades City: Grab your bib and head to Florida's "Stone Crab Capital" for one of shell of a time. For three full days, you can feast on delectable dishes prepared by local chefs and seafood experts; kick back with live country music; shop the Arts & Crafts Marketplace; and feel the thrill of heart-stopping carnival rides. Opens on F from 4 – 10 pm; on Sa from 9:30 am – 10 pm; and on Su from 9:30 am – 6 pm. Takes place at 102 Copeland Avenue in front of City Hall. Info: evergladesseafoodfestival.org

OTHER FLORIDA HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY 5 – 7

Artfest Fort Myers

Fort Myers: Southwest Florida's Premier Art Festival celebrates its 27th anniversary, showcasing the works of over 200 nationally recognized artists. From the Art Yard and Art Under 20 to Chalk Block, hands-on activities, live entertainment, food, beverages, and more. Opening Night Party kicks things off on F from 6 – 9 pm and continues on Sa from 10 am – 5 pm and on Su from 10 am – 4 pm at Edwards Dr and Hendry St. Takes place throughout the historic downtown area with convenient parking and trolley service. Make it an Art Weekend with VIP Club tickets. Info: ArtFestFortMyers.com.

FEBRUARY 21

69th DAYTONA 500

Daytona Beach: Don't miss the 68th running of "The Great American Race!" Historic performances, spectacular racing, unforgettable memories, and being here in person will stay with you for a lifetime. Takes place at Daytona International Speedway, at 1801 W International Speedway Blvd. Info: 800-748-7467; daytonainternationalspeedway.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 Park
Approximately 21 miles long and four miles wide, this national treasure is famous for its spectacular coral gardens, 600+ species of exotic fish, turtles and old sailing wrecks. Plenty of activities throughout the park so there's lots to do and see. There are also two beaches, campsites, picnic areas, a Visitors Center, Gift Shop, Dive Shop and Concession Stand.


Dolphin Research Center, Grassy Key/Marathon

KEY LARGO PRINCESS
99701 Overseas Hwy
Key Largo, Fl 33037
305-451-4655; keylargoprincess.com
Cruising Daily at 10 am, 1 pm & 4 pm
Closed Tu
The Keys Favorite Glass Bottom Boat Cruise
Hop aboard this 75-foot luxury, Coast Guard-certified, glass bottom boat for an eye-popping two-hour tour around the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park – the only undersea park in the United States. Not only will you be able to get an up-close and personal view of the beautiful underwater world of the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary, you'll also be able to peer into the depths of Key Largo's spectacular Molasses reef. Best of all, you can view it all from the comfortable air-conditioned cabin or outside on the spacious sun deck. With room for 140 passengers, you'll have plenty of elbow room. **FYI: Get a 20% discount when you book online and enter Promo Code "BIG20"! at "BOOK NOW."**

continued on page 62







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

BOONDOCKS MINI GOLF
27205 Overseas Hwy
Ramrod Key, Fl 33042
Daily 10 am – 10 pm
305-872-4094; boondocksfloridakeys.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, floridastateparks.org
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

continued from page 63

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

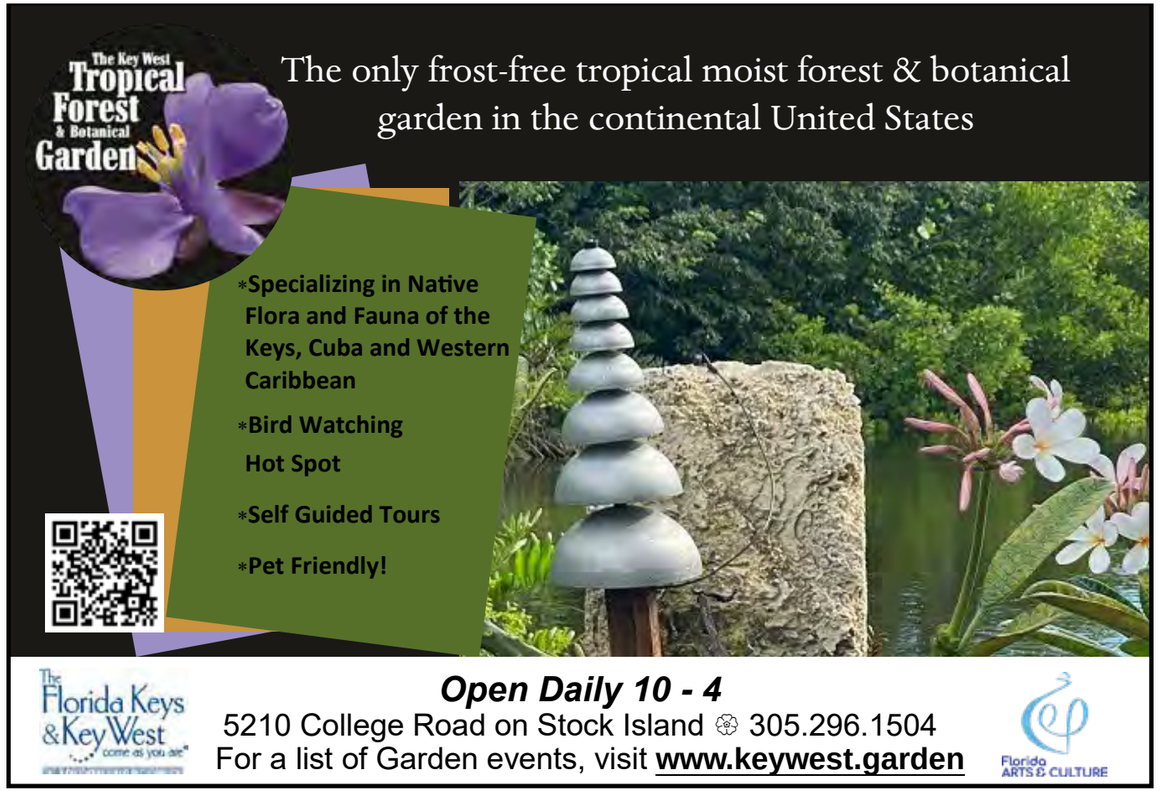
HISTORIC PIGEON KEY
Offshore Island, Marathon, FL 33050
305-743-5999; pigeonkey.net
Open Daily 10 am – 4 pm
Step Back In Time
This tiny coral island was the original work camp for workers who built the Key West extension of the Flagler Railway and once housed a thriving village of more than 400 people 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.

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

TURTLE HOSPITAL
MM 48.5, Gulfside
Marathon, FL 33050
305-743-2552; turtlehospital.org
Open Daily 10 am – 4 pm
The World's Only Certified Sea Turtle Hospital
The only state-certified veterinary hospital in the world for sea turtles. This unique non-profit organization is also the only facility that rehabilitates injured sea turtles (up to 70 per year) and releases them back into the wild. You can engage in educational discussions, get a behind-the-scenes look at the hospital and enjoy a fascinating guided tour through the turtle rehab area. Reservations required.



continued on page 64



XPLORE

KEY WEST

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

KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & BOTANICAL GARDEN
5210 College Road
Stock Island/Key West, FL 33040
305-296-1504;
keywest.garden
Open Daily 10 am – 4 pm
Not To Be Missed
The only frost-free botanical garden in the continental U.S. is home to many endangered flora and fauna and includes 200 species of tropical trees and plants, over 100 species of butterflies and rare birds and two of the Keys' last remaining fresh water ponds. Four self-guided tours take you through a lush canopy of tropical palms and trees in a meandering 7-acre setting. Visitors Center and free parking.

SOUTHERNMOST POINT MONUMENT
Corner of Whitehead & South Streets
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2587
Open 24/7
A True "Kodak Moment"
"The most photographed icon in the Keys" does, indeed, provide a true "Kodak Moment" for virtually everyone who visits here. The larger-than-life buoy commemorates the southernmost spot in the continental U.S and stands next to a plaque memorializing the Cuban refugees who drowned in their attempts to reach America.



SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK
9700 SW 328th St
Sir Lancelot Jones Way
Homestead, Fl 33033
305-230-1144;
nps.gov/bisc
Park Grounds: Daily 7 am – 5:30 pm
Visitors Center: Daily 9 am – 5 pm
A National Treasure
Regaled as the largest marine sanctuary in the National Park Service, ninety-five percent of the park's 173,000 acres are actually underwater. You'll see lots of abundant wildlife here, including more than 600 species of native fish and sea life, neotropical water birds, and over 30 threatened or endangered animal species. Bordered by thriving mangrove forests, the park also encompasses several islands, as well as the Florida Reef — the world's third-largest coral reef system and the only living coral barrier reef in the US. If you like to dive or snorkel, the park's Maritime Heritage Trail provides a fascinating underwater exploration of the reef. Divers can also journey deeper to visit six deep ship wrecks spanning nearly a century. There are plenty of adventures for all ages, including both land and sea guided tours.


Fort Zachary Taylor, Key West

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
40001 State Rd 9336
Florida City, FL 33034
305-242-7700; nps.gov/ever
Open 24/7
The Largest Subtropical Wilderness in the US
There are just so many terrific ways to explore and experience this national treasure! The park's diverse wildlife and pristine coastal ecosystems are simply awe-inspiring and should not be missed when you're in the area. Stroll through a canopy of nature on the Boardwalk; take a leisurely boat tour in Florida Bay to see manatees and tropical birds; hop on a flying Airboat and enjoy a gator wildlife show or access remote areas with a guided boat, kayak, and walking Eco Tour. It's one trip that you will never forget!

FRUIT & SPICE PARK
24801 SW 187th Ave
Homestead, FL 33031
305-247-5727
miamidade.gov/fruitandspicepark
Open Daily 10 am – 5 pm
Finders Keepers!
Home to fabulous gardens, fun festivals, and tastefully exotic experiences, this 37-acre subtropical paradise is loaded with more than 500 varieties of exotic fruits, herbs, spices and nuts. Not only is the park absolutely gorgeous, it's also a place where you can eat whatever varieties of fruit you find! The rule here is simple: any piece of fruit on the ground is fair game to eat! Come during mango season and you can feast on an all-you-can-eat buffet of fallen mangoes. The $15 admission fee nets you a halved mango with a plastic spoon for scooping. After that, it's finders- keepers. FYI: Bring your own small knife for easy slicing.

ROBERT IS HERE FRUIT STAND & FARM
19200 SW 344th St
Homestead, FL 33034
305-246-1592
robertishere.com
Open Daily 9 am – 6 pm
A Mandatory Miami/Florida Keys Stop
This family owned market has been a popular pit stop for over 60 years and is renowned for having "the best milkshakes in the universe." Not only is it a fun place to shop for rare and exotic fruits, fresh local produce, homemade hot sauces, jams and other goodies, it's also home to a small Animal Farm right behind the store where you can mingle with goats, cows, pigs and even some emus. There's also a huge aviary for bird lovers.

VENETIAN POOL
2701 De Soto Blvd
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-460-5306
coralgables.com
Seasonal Hours
Historic Coral Rock Swimming Pool
This is the only swimming pool in the nation to earn a coveted spot on the National Registry of Historic Places. And with good reason. Chiseled out of a limestone rock quarry in the 1920's, it is an amazing work of art that emulates a natural rock formation. The 820,000-gallon pool ranges in depth from 4' to over 8' and is embellished with lavish Mediterranean-style fountains, whimsical waterfalls and a grotto where natural water-filled caves stretch back into the hillside. It's truly one-of-a-kind!





Wow, You Smell Good!

Key West's Scent-i-mental Journey

They call it the "Perfumery Studio Experience" — and with good reason. Renowned for their unique luxury scents, Aqua D' Keys Fragrance Boutique, has recently launched a series of daily "Perfume-Making" seminars in Key West.

Local perfume guru and Aqua D' Keys owner, Maurizio Nardi, shares his trade secrets for creating fresh, hand-crafted scents for women and men who want to exude their own signature style.

And believe me, after learning to create your own personal scent here, you'll never smell fragrances the same way again.

These fun, hands-on classes kick off with a glass of "bubbly" (this is Key West, after all!) and a complimentary perfume sample from the Aqua D' Keys proprietary fragrance collection.

And then it's showtime as Maurizio lines up his carefully curated collection of over thirty different fragrance oils for you to explore. (BTW: Did you know that perfumes are built in layers, and combining these layers is essential to creating a beautiful and complex scent?)

Once you've chosen your favorite combination, the magic starts to unfold.

Using special test strips dipped in your chosen oils (one for the Base, one for the Heart, and one for the Top notes), your layered fragrance "recipe" quickly blossoms.







No worries if your initial combination is not up to snuff. During the 1.5 – 2 hour class, you'll have two more opportunities to get it just right. Adding more notes, experimenting with different layer combinations, and discovering the complexity of these interactions is pretty amazing and a whole lot of fun. After three experiments, you'll have the opportunity to select your favorite layered combination and assemble your final fragrance. And then, Voilà — your own personal perfume is born.

And get this: Not only do you get to name your creation, but Maurizio will even label your bottle and present it to you in a lush black velvet bag. No doubt that you'll be dying to dab some on right away, but be patient: your new signature scent needs to cure for about a week before you can fully enjoy it.

As locals, we really had a great time with our friend Maurizio at the "Perfumery Studio Experience." It's truly an unforgettable "Scent-i-mental Journey" and a great place to take your friends or celebrate a special event.

The daily classes take place three times per day at Aqua D' Keys Perfumery Studio which is inside the Shops at Mallory Square, 291 Front Street. (FYI: must be at least 16 years old to participate). Info and reservations: 305-676-5620; aquadkeys.com.

Put this one on your "Bucket List!"

— Pamela Childs

In The Bag

Shopping 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.



Tucker's Provisions, Key West

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

continued on page 69



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

ENTRANCE ON OLD HIGHWAY
82681 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada, Fl 33036
305.962.1956 | Mon – Fri 10 – 4

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

Call The Mad Brit!

The Keys Salt Scrub

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

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



Don't be surprised to see her darting in and out of our local restaurants and shops. She's an absolute stickler about keeping their restrooms stocked with her complimentary scrub. It makes it easier for everyone to sample and purchase their own jars right on the spot.



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

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

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

YES! THIS IS IT!

Made right here in the Florida Keys, only the *genuine* Keys Salt Scrub contains the Secret Lessoily® formula that will transform your skin in just 60 seconds!

IT IS

The Salt Scrub that you see and try everywhere in the keys.

Available in Five Wonderful Scents

Coconut · Key Lime · Lavender · Mango Coconut · Plantation Pineapple



The Keys SALT SCRUB®

All natural & chemical-free. Exfoliates, rejuvenates and moisturizes to reveal soft, smooth, younger looking skin!

Support Local & Buy Made In The Keys #keysstrong
Share the Gift of Island Luxury

Need to take them on the plane? Now available in TRAVEL SIZE

Available at fine establishments throughout the Keys.
Order online at TheKeysSaltScrub.com 305-852-9499
Free Shipping on Orders over $35 LIMITED TIME ONLY



In The Bag



FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST

AQUA D' KEYS
1075 Duval St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-676-5620;
AquaDKeys.com
Daily 10 am – 9 pm
The Scent of the Keys
Who knew that someone would figure out how to capture the true essence of the Keys and put it in a bottle? Enter Key Westers, Dominik, Ron, Maurizio, and Todd. After futilely searching for affordable gifts symbolic of Key West, the four long-time friends created their own: a proprietary line of signature scents inspired by the Florida Keys. Their new fragrance boutique includes uniquely crafted home scents, unisex perfumes, and body care products that embody the fresh, adventurous, and romantic lifestyle of the Keys. If you're looking for a unique gift for yourself, your house guests, or the folks back home, this may be the perfect way to go!

BLISS JEWELERS
269 Front St
Key West, Fl 33041
305-998-4839;
BlissJewelers.com
Daily 9 am – 8 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 in Bar Harbor, Maine, this family run business is Key West's official dealer of world-renowned jewelry.

BOOKS & BOOKS @THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST
533 Eaton St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-320-0208; booksandbookskw.com
Daily 10 am – 6 pm
More Than Just a Bookstore!
Key West's own local, independent bookstore is also a spacious community center for readers and writers of all ages and interests. They curate all the newest books with a strong representation of recent literary fiction and nonfiction. You can also pick up art supplies and unique gifts, as well. Check out their website for special events.

EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL
104 Duval St
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2060;
emeraldsinternational.com
T – Sa 11 am – 6 pm
Our Emeralds Make Diamonds Green with Envy®
World renowned emerald and conch pearl authority, Manuel Marcial de Gomar, began mining emeralds in 1955 on horseback in the mountains of Colombia. His passion for emeralds spilled over to conch pearls after traveling throughout the Caribbean. This passion and a love for unique design shaped his legacy and imprints the stunning collection on display in his Key West retail boutique.
Shop online at emeraldsinternational.com and get 10% Off when you enter code SPARKLE10 at checkout!

continued on page 72



Holiday Shopping– Island Style!



TREASURE HUNT
EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL
M104 DUVAL ST, KEY WEST
305-294-2060; EMERALDS **INTERNATIONAL.COM**



RUB-A-DUB
THE KEYS SALT SCRUB
844-725-8727; **THE KEYSSALTSCRUB.COM**





SANTA'S A-LIST
BLISS JEWELRY
269 FRONT STREET,
KEY WEST
305-998-4839;
BLISSJEWELERS.COM

CLASSIC KEY WEST
TUCKER'S PROVISIONS
611 DUVAL ST KEY WEST
305-304-5004; **TUCKERSPROVISIONS.COM**



SUCH A DEAL
KEYS PAWN
82681 OVERSEAS HWY, ISLAMORADA 305-962-1956;
KEYSPAWN.COM



SIMPLY INTOXICATING
AQUA D' KEYS
1075 DUVAL ST/291 FRONT ST, KEY WEST
305-676-5620; **AQUADKEYS.COM**

NO MEDICAL CARD NEEDED
GREEEN HOUSE
KEYS-WIDE LOCATIONS
305-363-1081;
THEGREEENHOUSE.COM



NAUTI, NAUTI
JEFF'S GEMS & NAUTICAL DESIGNS
906 F KENNEDY DR, KEY WEST
305-296-4367; **JEFFSGEMS.COM**.





BLINGLE BELLS, BLINGLE BELLS
NEPTUNE DESIGNS
301 DUVAL ST, KEY WEST; 305-294-8131; **NEPTUNEDESIGNS.COM**

In The Bag

JEFF'S GEMS & NAUTICAL DESIGNS
906 F Kennedy Drive
(Behind Kennedy Plaza)
305-296-4367; **jeffsgems.com**
Open Tu – F 10 am – 5 pm;
Sa 10 am – 4 pm
Elegant Handcrafted Jewelry
Famous for creating the rings for the royalty of Key West's Annual Fantasy Fest, Master 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
82681 Overseas Hwy.,
Islamorada, Fl 33036
Entrance On Old Hwy
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 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.



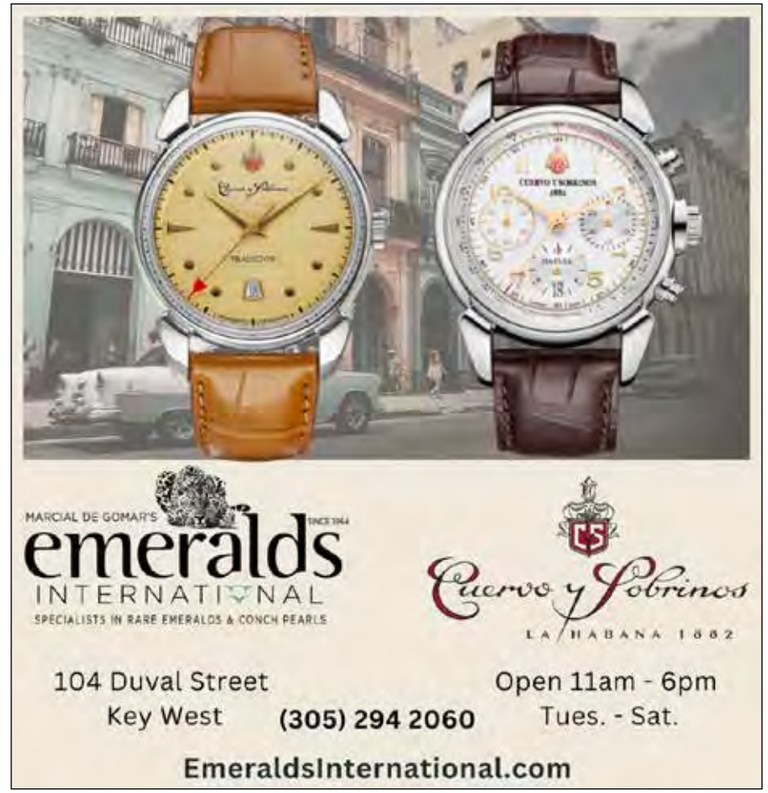
NEPTUNE DESIGNS
301 Duval Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-8131;
neptunedesignskeywest.com
Open Daily 10 am – 9 pm
Custom Jewlery & Gold Coin Creations
This family-owned-and-operated boutique jeweler has been meticulously creating 14 karat solid gold creations for over 30 years and specializes in unique custom jewelry 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.

THE GREEEN 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 at10875 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 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**.

TUCKER'S PROVISIONS
611 Duval St
Key West, FL 33040
305-304-5004
tuckersprovisions.com
Daily 10 am – 10 pm
Classic Key West
Tucked inside a charming Conch house on Duval Street, this enchanting family-owned general store transports you to a simpler era of island life. Tucker's embraces pure old-school nostalgia, offering high-quality, timeless classics from unique, small-label brands. You'll find a curated mix of casual wardrobe staples and accessories, as well as a unique collection of home goods and vintage-inspired toys. FYI: Be sure to check out Tucker's iconic "Crowing Rooster" merch. This signature line of memory makers includes trucker caps, graphic tees, and mugs that make the perfect souvenir to commemorate your trip. Whether you're shopping for yourself or hunting for a unique gift, this local gem is an absolute "Must-Visit!"

continued on page 76









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, 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 fact, serious collectors consider it one of the greatest watches of all time.





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 their 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.

However, brand-name watches and jewelry aren't the only thing Bliss Jewelers is famous for. The luxury boutique also specializes in 14k, 18k, and platinum jewelry. You'll find a large selection of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires, tourmaline, and lots of other semi-precious stone jewelry. Bliss also offers an array of anniversary and wedding bands, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and bangles.

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





In The Bag

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

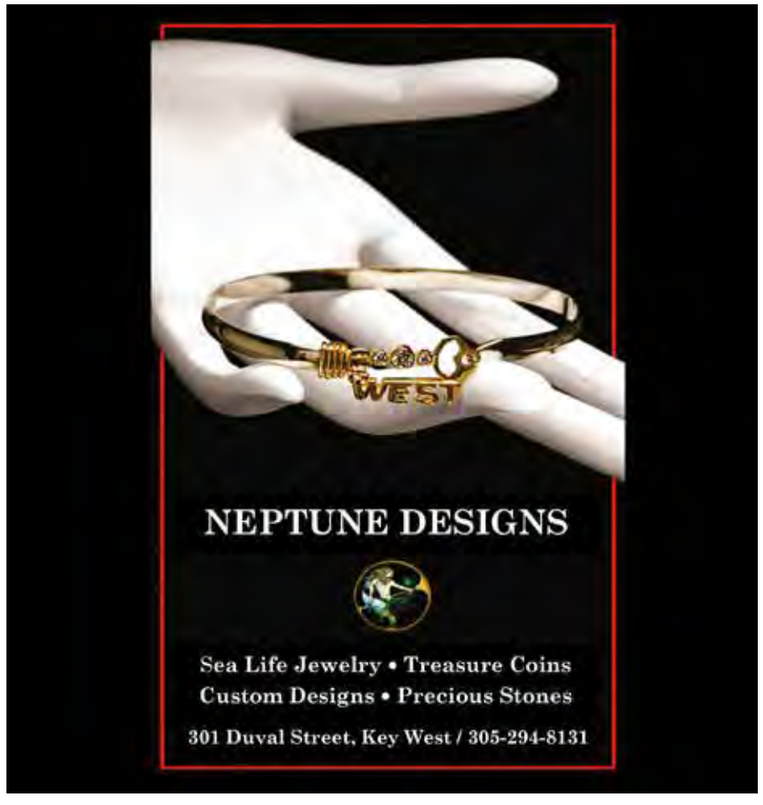
COCOWALK
3015 Grand Ave
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
305-444-0777
cocowalk.com
Su – Th 10 am – 10 pm;
F & Sa 10 am – 11 pm;
A Tropical Neighborhood Village
With a wild mix of hip boutiques, acclaimed restaurants, fun bars, and a luxury thirteen-screen movie theater, this iconic, reimagined outdoor mall is where it's happening. Located right in the heart of downtown Coconut Grove and surrounded by tropical gardens and lush surroundings, it's an absolute "must-visit" whenever you're in the area.



GIRALDA PLAZA
120 Giralda Ave.
(Between Ponce de Leon Blvd
& Galiano St)
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Various Hours
Trendy, Fashion Forward Shopping
Heralded as South Miami's "Restaurant Row," this reimagined pedestrian-only block is also a popular destination for fabulous shopping. There are several high-style boutiques with chic tropical clothing, jewelry, accessories, and more bordering the outdoor Plaza. You'll also discover some great home decor here.

MIRACLE MARKETPLACE
3301 Coral Way
Miami, Fl, 33145
305-569-0311
miracle-marketplace.com
Daily 10 am – 9:30 pm
Big Box Retailers Galore
With three levels of affordable brands

continued on page 78



TREASURE HUNT TIPS

Looking for treasure?

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

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

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

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

What's That You're Wearing?

AQUA D' KEYS – The Scent of the Keys



Who 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.


Photo: Carol Tedesco

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.



In The Bag

and several casual eateries, this is one of Coral Gable's most bustling shopping scenes. You'll find lots of the big boys here, including *Nordstrom Rack, DSW, Marshalls, Five Below, Visionworks*, and *Petsmart*- as well as lots of other mainstream stores.

MIRACLE MILE
(Located on Coral Way between LeJeune Rd and Douglas Rd)
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-569-0311
coralgables.com
Daily 7 am – 10 pm
"European-Chic" Shopping & Dining
With more than 350 upscale shops, art galleries and hip restaurants, this vibrant, pedestrian-friendly downtown boulevard is the epicenter of the Coral Gables shopping and dining scene. Lined with mature trees and historic architecture, Miracle Mile is one of South Florida's most elegant neighborhoods and a magnet for the rich and famous.

SHOPS AT MERRICK PARK
358 San Lorenzo Ave
Coral Gables FL, 33146
305-529-1215
shopsatmerrickpark.com
M – Th 11 am – 8 pm;
F & Sa 11 am – 9 pm; Su 11 am – 6 pm
Farmers Market: Su 11 am – 6 pm
Two Levels of Luxurious Outdoor Shopping
Backdropped by beautiful streetscapes, this fashion- forward mall is home to a variety of boutiques, major department stores, and almost a dozen eateries. There's a movie theater and fitness center, as well. You can shop over 60 upscale brands here, including *Gucci, Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, David*




Bayside Marketplace, Miami

Yurman, AnnTaylor, Jimmy Choo, Johnny Was, Lululemon, Madewell, Chico's, Banana Republic, Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn and lots of other favorites. Wear your sneakers!

BAYSIDE MARKETPLACE
491 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL 33132
305-577-3344
Baysidemarketplace.com
M – Th 10 am – 10 pm;
F & Sa 10 am – 11 pm;
Su 11 am – 9 pm
Premier Shopping, Good Eats & Fun Tours
This sprawling marketplace isn't just about trendy fashion boutiques and specialty shops. It's also a culinary haven with dozens of acclaimed waterfront cafes, gourmet eateries, and cozy bistros. On top of it all, there are several local cruise and land tours here, so it's also a perfect place to launch your next adventure.



MIAMI DESIGN DISTRICT
140 NE 39th St, Miami, FL 33137
305- 722-7100
miamidesigndistrict.com
Hip & Happening
This small Miami neighborhood, located just about two miles north of Downtown, is home to unparalleled luxury shops, fabulous art, hip eateries, and numerous exciting events. Rooted in retail, the District includes more than 170 brands, including flagship fashion houses for Chanel, Balenciaga, Hermès, Fendi, Dior, Cartier, Louis Vuitton, and more, making it the ultimate destination for fashion fanatics. Beyond shopping and art, the district boasts a lively culinary scene with acclaimed restaurants offering delectable international cuisine and trendy cafes perfect for people-watching.

THE WYNWOOD MARKETPLACE
2250 NW 2nd Ave,
Miami, FL
305-461-2700
wynwood-marketplace.com
F – Su Hours Vary
The Pulse of Wynwood
With a blend of creativity and urban flair, this dynamic, pet-friendly open-air marketplace overflows with an eclectic combination of shopping, art, culture, entertainment, and gastronomy. You'll find a curated selection of local artisans, designers, and entrepreneurs showcasing a variety of unique products and creations — from handcrafted jewelry and fashion to contemporary art and vintage finds. The Marketplace is also home to several gourmet food trucks, pop-up eateries, craft beer and specialty cocktail bars, as well as some great entertainment and live performances. It's truly a unique and immersive experience.

Good Eats

UPPER KEYS

ATLANTIC'S EDGE RESTAURANT
At Cheeca Lodge & Spa
81801 Overseas Hwy, (MM 82)
Islamorada, FL 33036
305-517-4447; cheeca.com
Breakfast 7am – 11am; Lunch 11:30am – 5pm;
Dinner 5 – 10pm
A Taste of Land & Sea
Renowned for it's tropically inspired cuisine and spectacular ocean views, the classically modern Atlantic's Edge offers freshly caught seafood, Prime hand-cut steaks, locally grown organic produce, and over 100 select hand-picked wines. Cited as one of "Florida's 500 Best Places to Dine" and honored with Wine Spectator's Award Of Excellence.





BAYSIDE GRILLE & SUNSET BAR
99540 Overseas Hwy (MM 99.5 Bayside)
(Behind DiGiorgio's Cafe Largo)
Key Largo, Fl 33037
305-451-3380
baysidegrill.com;
keylargorestaurants.com
M – Th 11:30 am – 9 pm;
F & Sa 11:30 am – 10 pm
Su 11 am – 9 pm;
Su Brunch 11 am – 2pm
Keyribbean Cuisine With A Creative Flair
A top dining and sunset celebration destination in the Upper Keys, this local favorite brings together the best of the Florida Keys and the Caribbean. Blending fresh, coastal flavors with bold island spices, Bayside Grille's signature *"Keyribbean"* cuisine raises the bar for great, laid-back island dining. In addition to the stellar Certified Angus Beef® steaks, you'll also find a big selection of fresh local seafood, as well as a variety of island-inspired pasta, burgers, tacos, and sandwiches. FYI: The Chicken & Ribs here are especially good! With terrific food, an epic Happy Hour, and sweeping waterfront views, backdropped by breathtaking sunsets, this family-owned and operated gem has been a Keys "Top Pick" for over thirty years.

BAYSIDE SUNSET BAR
99540 Overseas Hwy
(MM 99.5 Bayside)
(Behind DiGiorgio's Cafe Largo)
Key Largo, Fl 33037; 305-451-3380
baysidegrill.com; keylargorestaurants.com
M – Th 11:30 am – 9 pm;
F & Sa 11:30 am – 10 pm
Su 11 am – 9 pm
Happy Hour M – F 4 – 7 pm
"Key Largo's Most Photographed Sunset"
Arrive by land or sea where you will be greeted with tropical cocktails and a beautiful sandy beach. Located on the first floor of Bayside

continued on page 80



Good Eats

Grille, the Sunset Bar is one of Key Largo's most popular sunset destinations. The nightly celebration features signature tropical libations, top performers and a grand finale beachside Conch Shell Blowing. Family-owned and operated for over 30 years, this local favorite is always a fun jam!

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.

DIGIORGIO'S CAFÉ LARGO
99530 Overseas Hwy (MM 99.5 Bayside)
Key Largo, Fl 33037
305-451-4885
cafelargo.com; keylargorestaurants.com
M – Th 11:30 am – 9 pm;
F & Sa 11:30 am – 10 pm
Su 11 am – 9 pm
As Seen On The Food Network
Regaled as the "*Little Italy" of the Upper Keys,"* this award-winning destination restaurant has been owned and operated for over thirty years. It's also been featured on *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* by the Food Network's Guy Fieri. And with good reason. Chef/Owner, Robert DiGiorgio brings centuries-old family Italian recipes to life with a menu that blends tradition and quality with his unmistakable passion. DiGiorgio's menu showcases classic pastas and pizzas, Certified Angus Beef® steaks, and fresh local seafood — all crafted with care and authenticity. Signature dishes like the Truffled Lobster Mac & Cheese made with house-crafted cavatelli, Caribbean lobster, and a rich Fontina-Asiago-Parmesan sauce; as well as the Parmesan-Crusted Bone-In Veal Chop Florentine, rank among Fieri's favorites. FYI: DO NOT miss the Weekday Happy Hour from 4 – 6 pm where you can enjoy a variety of specials including the signature Grey Goose Martini & Meatball. On WOW Wednesday, the Café features "Beat the Clock with Veuve Clicquot Champagne and ½-priced bottles of wine. *Fine Italian dining in the Keys just doesn't get any better!*

KINDLER WOOD FIRED FARE
Three Waters Resort & Marina
84001 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, FL 33036
305-664-5300;
islamoradaresortcollection.com
W – Su 5 – 10 pm
Wood-Fired Regional Specialties
It's all about "WOW" moments at this new signature restaurant which recently opened at the 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 just for you!

continued on page 82





SNOOKS
BAYSIDE
... more than a restaurant



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



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

Good Eat



LAZY DAYS
MM 79.9, Oceanside
Islamorada, FL 33036
305-664-5256;
lazydaysislamorada.com
Open Daily
11 am – 10 pm
Award-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
Fri – Su 3 pm – 9 pm
Su 3 pm-5pm
Elevated Cocktail & Raw Bar
Vibrant Latin flavors, backdropped by sweeping 270-degree ocean vistas, are a big draw at Islamorada's new elevated cocktail and raw bar. Enjoy an array of raw bar favorites including fresh just-shucked oysters, island ceviche and crudo, or opt 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 BAR
96 Madeira Rd
(MM 82, Bayside)
Islamorada, FL 33036
305-664-2692;
loreleicabanabar.com
Daily 7 am – 10 pm;
Happy Hour 4 – 6 pm
Home of the Islands Best Margarita Menu!
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, and pet-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. Give 'em a call about hosting your special event! Just look for the giant Mermaid!

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 am – 5 pm
Dinner: M – Sa 5 – 10 pm
Festive Outdoor Street Market & Eatery
At "the epicenter" of Islamorada's new luxe Three Waters Resort & Marina, is this unique outdoor street market that celebrates Latin flavors from across Central America. The shaded ocean front pavilion is idyllic for strolling the caravan of food trucks serving up all-day eats.

MIA CUCINA
At Cheeca Lodge & Spa
81801 Overseas Hwy (MM82)
Islamorada, Fl 33036
305-517-4447; cheeca.com
Daily 5 – 10 pm
Authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria
This authentic Neapolitan Pizzeria creates made-to-order artisanal pizzas, pastas, salads and other Italian specialties like Mama Mia's Segreta Bolognese; Chicken Primavera Fettuccini; and Insalata Di Mare; as well as many other reimagined Italian classics.

MORADA BAY BEACH CAFÉ & BAR
81600 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, Fl 33036
305-664-0604;
moradabay.com
Daily 11 am – 9 pm
Bar 11 am – 11:30 pm (and often later)
Innovative, Eclectic American/Caribbean Fare Super fresh, local seafood and produce are the stars of the show at this casually chic beachfront bistro. Enjoy toes-in-the-sand, outdoor dining on the glorious palm studded beach, or inside surrounded by a curated collection of vintage surfboards, longboards, sail and kite boards. For a relaxing, kicked back meal in a picture perfect setting, you found your place in the sun.

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

PIERRE'S LOUNGE & RESTAURANT
81600 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, Fl 33036
305-664-3225;
moradabaykeys.com
Nightly 5 – 10 pm
Lounge Nightly 5 – 10 pm
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!

continued on page 86

KEY LARGO RESTAURANTS

A KEY LARGO DESTINATION

3 Dining Rooms, 3 Bars, 3 Happy Hours, All in 1 Great Location

DiGiorgio's Cafe Largo
ITALIAN RESTAURANT
since 1968

KEY LARGO'S PREMIER ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Martini & Meatball

Wine on Wednesday

Happy Hour

Veuve Clicquot Beat the Clock



Celebrate & give the gift of Key Largo

Now Booking Holiday Parties
Gift Cards for Cafe Largo, Bayside Grille & Sunset Bar

BAYSIDE GRILLE
Key Largo, Florida

YOU'RE INVITED!
CELEBRATE 30 YEARS
ON THE WATER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 | 4–8 PM

Live Music Daily

Happy Hour

Sunday Beachside Brunch



99540 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037
Family owned and operated for over 30 years

305-451-3380
keylargorestaurants.com

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



Voted Best Waterfront Dining & Best Seafood Restaurant

lazydays

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.

World class cuisine.

Superb international wines.

Orchid garnished cocktails.



Dinner Nightly at 5 pm Reservations recommended

305.664.3391

83000 Overseas Hwy., Islamorada ziggieandmaddogs.com

ZIGGIE & MAD DOG'S
Steaks · Chops · Seafood
MM 83 — SINCE 1962

Good Eats

SNOOK'S BAYSIDE RESTAURANT & GRAND TIKI
MM 99.9, Bayside
Key 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, just off US 1, this exotic tropical oasis with its flickering torches, beautiful orchids and SOBE-style lounges is oh-so-chic! A stunning bar, gorgeous, open-air dining area and lounging space offer unobstructed views of the Bay, giving you a ringside seat to one of the best sunset celebrations in the Keys. As seen on South Florida's popular TV show, "Check Please," the fresh, island-inspired seafood dishes and Prime steaks won high fives from the show's panel of judges and are all made to order. Truly a great place to kick back with crafted tropical cocktail and grab yourself a piece of paradise. Breakfast, too!

SQUARE GROUPER ISLAMORADA
80460 Overseas Hwy
(In the Islamorada Marina, MM 80 Bayside)
Islamorada, Fl 33036
786-901-5678;
squaregrouperislamorada.com
W – Su 11 am – 2:30 pm; 5 – 10 pm;
Closed M & Tu
Heralded Keys Landmark Eatery Comes to Islamorada
Good news for Square Grouper fans at MM 22.5 on Cudjoe Key: the heralded Lower Keys landmark has opened a new waterfront location within the Islamorada Marina complex. The innovative and eclectic menu mirrors the original site with a comprehensive offering of fresh seafood, prime steaks, craft cocktails, and a fantastic wine list and full bar. Local favorites include the Ahi Tuna Egg Rolls, Flash Fried Conch, homemade Smoked Fish Dip, and lots of signature Land and Sea dishes. If you haven't had an opportunity to make it to the original Lower Keys location, now's your chance to see what everyone's been raving about!



SQUARE GROUPER SUNSET LOUNGE
80460 Overseas Hwy
MM 80 Bayside
Islamorada, Fl 33036
786-901-5678;
sunsetloungeislamorada.com
W – Su 4:20 pm – Close
My Kind of Joint
Renowned Florida Keys Chef, Lynn Bell, has added yet another great hang to Islamorada's stellar restaurant scene. Located above her popular Square Grouper Bar & Grill is her newest incarnation: The Sunset Lounge where "the higher you get, the better the view." But gorgeous sunsets are not the only brag here. Innovative and eclectic dining are still the star of the show. The Sunset Lounge menu is lighter than her downstairs gig and includes lots of great tapas, fresh seafood, and a raw bar as well as craft cocktails and a fantastic wine list.


Square Grouper, Islamorada

THE ORIGINAL TIKI BAR
Three Waters Resort & Marina
84001 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, Fl 33036
305-433-9949;
islamoradaresortcollection.com
Daily: 11 am – 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 and The Original Tiki Bar still reigns supreme as the place to go for epic sunsets, island vibes and great live music. With lots of lite bites, burgers, sandwiches, tacos and more, the casual Keys inspired menu is better than ever.

TIKI BAR
Amara Cay Resort
80001 Overseas Hwy,
Islamorada,
Fl 33036
305-664-0073;
amaracayresort.com
Lunch Daily 11:30 am – 5pm
Dinner Daily 5 pm – 11 pm
Breezy Poolside Eats
Enjoy casual eats and tropical cocktails against a breathtaking backdrop of open ocean, blue skies and swaying palms. Fresh tacos, grilled jerk shrimp, burgers, coconut fried shrimp and fried chicken sliders make this tropical oceanside spot a fun place to chill. Live music on the weekends.

ZIGGIE & MAD DOG'S
Dinner Nightly at 5 pm
Reservations recommended
83000 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, Fl 33036
305-664-3391
ziggieandmaddogs.com
Best Porterhouse Steak
Revived in 2005 by former Miami Dolphins' tight end and sports broadcaster, Jim "Mad Dog" Mandich and longtime business partner Randy Kassewitz, the legendary Ziggie's Crab Shack is now a sleek and sophisticated steak, chops, and seafood restaurant that feels more like Tommy Bahama than Ernest Hemingway. The current, and now famous incarnation is better than ever and has become THE place for fine dining in the Keys. Orchid garnished cocktails, international wines, an outstanding a-la-carte menu and nightly specials make it one of the Keys' top dining spots which always draws a colorful celebrity clientele.

MIDDLE & LOWER KEYS

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

continued on page 90

ESCAPE TO PARADISE
AT CHEECA LODGE & SPA


MULTIPLE OCEANFRONT DINING OPTIONS


WEDDINGS & EVENTS


MASSAGE & SPA TREATMENTS

Explore Our Menus

Plan Your Event

Book Your Appointment

CHEECA LODGE & SPA
The Best Islamorada Resort | Cheeca Lodge & Spa

(305) 664-4651 81801 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada FL. CHEECA.COM

Island Chic Dining in Islamorada

The "Pierre's Experience" Is Simply Fabulous



If you've never been to the legendary Pierre's Restaurant, you're missing out on one of the most memorable and fabulous dining experiences in the Florida Keys.

Overlooking Florida Bay in the heart of Islamorada, the "Pierre's Experience" immerses you in inventive, award-winning fine dining with an exotic vibe. Backdropped by a spectacular tropical setting and reminiscent of the old colonial-style residences found in West Africa; Pierre's sets the stage for a night you will never forget.

Stepping inside this historic two-story plantation house is like stepping through a Star Gate. The imaginative interior design embraces an eclectic mix of Old World cultures that takes you to another place and time.

Anchored by dark planked wood floors, the upstairs dining room boasts an eighteenth-century Indian arcade, natural textured walls, and smooth teak tables on kilim rugs. You'll find Moroccan, Indian, and African artifacts at every turn, and each entryway is outfitted with a richly carved, nineteenth-century monastery door from India. Carved walls, Moroccan lamps, and banquettes strewn with colorful pillows exude romance, while the expansive waterfront veranda tributes life in paradise.



Pierre's award-winning culinary couture is a French fusion with regional influences. Indulge in starters like the Chilled Seafood Tower, Seared Hudson Valley Foie Gras, Yellowfin Tuna Tartare, and other luscious beginnings. FYI: It's easy to go overboard with Pierre's epicurean small plates, so pace yourself — the entrees are just as outstanding.

Main Plates may include Snake River Wagyu Beef Strip with fermented black garlic bone marrow butter, Florida Keys Lobster Tail in Thai coconut curry sauce, and Mallard Duck Breast with Italian chestnut puree.

On the main floor, the legendary Green Flash Lounge invites you to linger at the beautiful mahogany bar or cuddle together on leather Chesterfield sofas, cozy banquettes, and comfy rattan chairs. In addition to your favorite libations, the Green Flash Lounge also serves the same award-winning menu as the upstairs dining room. You're also welcome to delve into the "Pierre's experience" on the downstairs bayfront veranda. It's a perfect respite for cocktailing, dining, and sunsetting.

If you're in the mood for inventive fine dining with an exotic vibe and a spectacular setting, the "Pierre's Experience" should be on your Keys' Bucket List.

You can find Pierre's Restaurant at 81600 Overseas Highway in Islamorada. Info and reservations: 305-664-3225; moradabaykeys.com.



Good Eats



BROIL SMALL ISLAND STEAK HOUSE
21611 Old State Rd
Cudjoe Key, Fl 33042
305-741-7879
broilsteakhouse.com
Tu – Sa 5 – 9 pm
Famous Wood-Fired Fare
You know this small family-owned restaurant must be doing something pretty darn special if they can fire up over 300 steaks a week — and even more during high season! Especially considering their low profile location on tiny Cudjoe Key. Just 22 miles from Key West, and far from the maddening crowds, this under-the-radar jewel serves up incredibly wonderful food. Show-stopping, wood-fired steaks rule the day here, but there's also a good selection of pork, chicken, and seafood options. You'll find appetizers like prosciutto-wrapped Diver Scallops with mango chutney; baked Escargot in a cloud of puff pastry with wine and garlic butter; and fried Swordfish Bites with remoulade sauce. Broil's lineup of high end steaks, which are hand-cut on premises, come from Nebraska and Kansas. The menu includes all of the prime cuts you would expect: Filet Mignon, Sirloin, Ribeye, Porterhouse and T-Bone. For a real treat, order the "Steak Churchill" with Filet Mignonettes over lobster mashed potatoes; or "The Bentley" — an 8 oz Filet Mignon paired with a 10 oz South African Rock Lobster Tail. *Set your GPS for this one!*

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
305-780-7753;
Kikissandbar.com
Daily 11 am – 11 pm
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
Cudjoe Key, FL 33042
305-745-8880;
mynewjoint420lounge.com
Tu – Sa 4:20 pm – 11 pm
Happy Hour 4:20 pm – 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;
porkysbaysidebbq.com
Daily M – Su 8 am – 10 pm
Happy Hour
3 – 6 pm
Real Deal Southern BBQ, Boat Rentals & Miniature Golf
An old Keys island vibe, "real deal" house-cooked BBQ, fresh oysters & sushi, and local seafood are the hallmark of this funky open-air waterfront hangout that always draws a big local crowd. There are terrific nightly specials and homemade desserts, a great daily Happy Hour with the best mojitos in town, live entertainment, and the most challenging 18-hole miniature golf course in the Keys.

SQUARE GROUPER BAR & GRILL
22658 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.

continued on page 93





Real Southern BBQ & Golf, Too!

Porky's Bayside, Marathon

If you're looking for an authentic Keys experience, head on over to Porky's Bayside in Marathon. Originally known as Bill Thompson's Villa and Marina, it was the place to be in the 1950s and hosted all sorts of famous visitors, including Ernest Hemingway, Jimmy Hoffa, and Elizabeth Taylor.

Today, the legend continues.



Overlooking Capt Pip's Marina & Hideaway, this funky, open-air local hang is renowned for its rough-hewn waterfront setting, top live entertainment, and famous house-smoked BBQ. Topping the list is BBQ Pork and Beef, North Carolina Hot Pepper Pulled Pork, or Citrus Marinade Cuban Pork, all served as lumberjack-size sandwiches or in big baskets with your choice of sides. The juicy Quarter Smokehouse Chicken and Quarter Rack of fall-off-the-bone spareribs are also excellent.

If fresh local seafood is more your gig, the Lobster Bisque, Asian Seared Sashimi Tuna, and Florida Bay Jumbo Shrimp are also excellent. Believe it or not, they also have terrific fresh sushi. Whatever you choose, make sure to save room for Porky's original Fried Key LimePie — it's an original, totally out-of-body experience!



Oh, and get this: they also have a tropical-themed new 18-hole miniature golf course — the only one like it in the Middle or Upper Keys!

Porky's Bayside is open daily, 8 am – 10 pm for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Find it at MM 47.5, Gulfside, Marathon. Info: 305-289-2065; porkysbaysideBBQ.com.



Good Eats

KEY WEST

CAFE SOLE
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 Hog Fish Snapper.

CONCHIGLIA
816 Duval St
Key West, FL 33040
305-741-7007; conchigliakeywest.com
Breakfast/Brunch 8 am – 2:30 pm:
Dinner 5 – 9:30 pm
Authentic Italian Cuisine In the Heart of Old Town.
Nestled in a beautifully restored historic Conch house, this chic Bohemian-style bistro is one of the hottest tickets in town. Blending authentic Italian flavors with the vibrant spirit of the island, the seductive *"La Dolce Vita"* vibe is all about savoring life's simple pleasures. Kick back with a craft cocktail or glass of premium vino and indulge in an array of wonderful handmade pasta, wood-fired pizza, fresh local seafood, and elevated meat dishes. In addition to the lively seaside-centric dining room, you can also dine al fresco on the front porch or in the enchanting garden. *Not to be missed*!

LATITUDES AT SUNSET KEY
Opal Key West Resort & Marina
245 Front St
Key West, Fl 33040
305-292-5394
sunsetkeycottages.com
Daily 7 am – 9 pm
Stunning Beachfront Dining
Within minutes, the free boat launch at The Opal Key West Resort & Marina transports you to this spectacular restaurant on the island of Sunset Key. Enjoy outstanding island cuisine throughout the day on the beach or in the ultra-luxe dining room overlooking the Gulf. Dinner here is especially romantic and showcases an expansive menu of seafood and dishes. Standouts include the Maine Lobster & Jumbo Lump Crab Cake with whiskey corn sauce; Seared Grouper with fresh frilled chorizo and spiced Cuban black bean sauce; and the Wagyu Beef Skirt Steak with Korean BBQ sauce. For a real treat, sit outside on the sand where you'll be surrounded by flickering tiki torches. FYI: Advance reservations needed!

RED SHOE ISLAND BISTRO
411 Petronia Street
Key West Fl 33040
305-509-7271
facebook.com/redshoeislandbistro/
M – Sa 6 – 9pm
A Delectable Find in Old Town
This small unpretentious restaurant in the heart of Old Town Key West is a favorite destination for locals. Renowned for its fresh local seafood, unique salads, beef stroganoff, and award-winning key lime pie, it's just steps off the beaten path but far from the maddening crowds. The compact menu includes stellar items like Shrimp Mango Toast, Lobster Roll Profiteroles, and the signature Yellowtail Snapper with lemon and parsley sauce, risotto topped with parmesan, and sautéed asparagus. Absolutely scrumptious!

continued on page 96



KICK BACK
@ Kiki's Sandbar!

Kiki's Sandbar
BAR & GRILLE

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. Our menu features the Keys' freshest seafood, great casual fare and daily specials!

Open Daily – 11am – 11pm | Mon – Fri Happy Hour 4 – 6pm

183 Barry Ave (MM 28.5 Gulfside) Little Torch Key, Fl 33042
305-780-7753; KikisSandbar.com



THE BEST 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!





Saturday Open Air Market
ACCEPTING NEW VENDORS FOR THE FALL SEASON

Open air restaurant, bar & spacious patio. Gift shop: T-shirts, souvenirs, local art

Daily Specials, Events, and Live Music nightly on our patio stage.

FOLLOW US TO STAY UP TO DATE ON SPECIALS & EVENTS!

BOONDOCKSFLORIDAKEYS.COM

BROIL
Small Island Steakhouse
Famous Wood Fired Fare



Famous Steak
Fresh Seafood
Wine & Dine
Family Owned

Tuesday thru Sunday
5pm-9pm
Walk-Ins Only

21611 Old State Road 4a
Cudjoe Key FL 33042
MM21.5 | Gulf Side of Hwy
(305)741-7879 | www.broilsteakhouse.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

café solé

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

Good Eats

SCHOONER WHARF BAR
202 Williams St., Key West,
FL 33040
305-292-9520
schoonerwharf.com
M – Th 8 am – 2 am;
F – Su 7:30 am – 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.

SQUARE GROUPER BAR & GRILL
920 Caroline St, Key West, FL 33040
305-292-1975
squaregrouperkeywest.com
Lunch: Th – M 11 am – 2:30 pm;
Dinner & Raw Bar: Th – M 5 – 10 pm
(Expanded Hours Happening Soon!)
A Keys' Favorite Comes to Key West
Renowned Chef/Restaurateur Lynn Bell has expanded her heralded Square Grouper restaurant concept to the Southernmost City. Eagerly awaited by her legions of fans, her newest digs are garnering rave reviews. In addition to the stunning raw bar, you can expect to find signature dishes like Ahi Tuna & Avocado Egg rolls, Coconut Shrimp, Almond-Crusted Grouper, Seafood Platters, Grilled Steaks, Jasmine Rice Bowls, and a host of handhelds and vegetarian options. Ring the bell for this new Key West favorite!

SOUTH MIAMI-DADE

COCONUT GROVE

BELLINI ITALIAN BISTRO
Mr C Hotel
2988 McFarlane Rd
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
305-800-7672
bellinirestaurant.com
Dinner Nightly 5pm – 11 pm
Rustic Italian Fare With a Contemporary Edge
Located on the top floor of the iconic Mr C Hotel, this chic ristorante is renowned for its fine Italian cuisine and spectacular views of Biscayne Bay. Dinner here is truly a "cause célèbre" and includes an expansive menu of classic favorites. Especially good: the Bigeye Tuna Tartare with avocado mousse; Rigatoni Alla Genovese; Veal Scaloppine al Limone; and the Grilled Domestic Lamb Chops.

ISABELLE'S GRILL ROOM & GARDEN
Ritz-Carlton Hotel
3300 SW 27th Ave
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
305-644-4680
isabellescoconutgrove.com
Su – Th 7 am – 10 pm;
F & Sa 7 am – 11 pm;
Swanky Classic American Fare
The Ritz-Carlton's swanky signature restaurant oozes ritziness, but it's the lush outdoor garden that begs you to dine al fresco. The food here is classic American with sterling preparations of Seasonal Oysters, Beef or Salmon Tartare, Fried Mozzarella, and several other starters. House Specialties showcase Heritage Roasted Joyce Farms Chicken, Seared Mutton Snapper and a variety of prime-aged Black Angus Beef cuts. But on weekends, it's the Prime Rib Roast that reigns supreme!

LEVEL 6 ROOFTOP RESTAURANT
3480 Main Highway, 6th floor
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
786-800-2080
level6miami.com
M – W 5 pm – Midnight;
Th 5 pm – 1:30 am;
F – Sa 5 pm – 2 am;
Su 11 am – Midnight
A Rooftop Oasis With An Easy Vibe
Classic Spanish cuisine, with a modern urban twist, is the signature of one of the Grove's hippest hangouts. As you might expect, there's a big selection of tasty Tapas — small plates meant to be shared. The Spanish Charcuterie is always a perennial favorite, as are the Tuna Tartare and Hamachi Crudo. The Mediterranean Mussels, served with chorizo sausage, are also first-rate. And while you can easily make a meal out of just a handful of these delicious dishes, it behooves you to save room for the larger sharing plates. With three kinds of Paella and several steak, fish, and chicken dishes, you will have found your nirvana.

CORAL GABLES

AMERICANA KITCHEN
Loews Hotel
2950 Coconut Grove Dr
Coral Gables, FL 33134
786-772-7600
americanakitchen.com
Dinner: M - Th & Su 5 - 10 pm;
F & Sa 5 – 11 pm
Trendy American Cuisine
Tucked within Coral Gables' luxe Loews Hotel, this sleek, modern respite is anchored

continued on page 98





Good Eats

by an open "Theater Kitchen," lively Circle Bar, and a cozy lounge. The inviting American-forward dinner menu is compact but packs a punch. Chilled & Raw offerings range from an impressive Seafood Tower, fresh Florida Oysters, and Tuna Taquitos, to Crispy Thai Wings, Charred Spare Ribs, and Picadillo Empanadas. Topping the list are Entrées: the Truffled Ribeye Steak, Grilled Niman Ranch Pork Chop, and Seared Bronzino with green lip mussels. There's also a handful of tasty wood-fired pizzas and a terrific Chef's Blend Burger.



MAYFAIR GRILL
Mayfair House & Garden
300 Florida Ave
Coconut Grove, Fl 33133
305-441-0000
mayfair-grill.com
Su — Th 5 — 10 pm;
F & Sa 5 — 11 pm;
Brunch: Sa & Su 11 am — 3 pm
Fire. Season. Plate.
Award-winning Chef Giorgio Rapicavoli is at it again. After creating back-to-back smash hits with the Eating House and Luca Osteria in Coral Gables, Rapicavoli now brings his magic to the Mayfair Grill. Rapicavoli is a local legend whose star just keeps rising. Here, he steps out of the box with a wood-fired grilled menu that celebrates the bounty of local and seasonal ingredients. Transformed by the "primal power" of an open-flame grill are interesting items like Wood-Grilled Dates with whipped sheep's milk cheese, hazelnut, and grape saba; Wood-Grilled Shrimp with preserved lemon and Calabrian chili, Florida Snapper with key lime garlic butter, a and Angus Skirt Steak with chimichurri rojo. *Yeah, baby!*

THE COLLAB
THesis Hotel
1350 S Dixie Hwy
Coral Gables 33146
305-667-6766
thecollabmiami.com
Dinner: Tu –Th 5:30 –10 pm;
F & Sa 5:30 –11 pm
Cutting Edge Global Cuisine
Often referred to as a "Culinary Maestro," Chef Nicolas "Nico" Mazier is heralded for his innovative approach to gastronomy, as well as his cutting-edge Mediterranean and Asian creations. With an eclectic mix of light fare and shareable plates, all created with seasonal ingredients, his menu is both traditional and contemporary. You'll find a diverse selection of delectables dishes like the Faroe Islands Salmon Tartare, Australian Lamb Chops, Airline Chicken, Sopressata Pizza, and Crispy Duck Potatoes. BTW: Save room for the orgasmic Sticky Toffee Pudding!

FONTANA
Miami Biltmore Hotel
1200 Anastasia Ave
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305-913-3189 Ext 2407
biltmorehotel.com
Dinner Nightly 6 pm – 10 pm
Elegant Italian-Inspired Cuisine
A stunning rustic stone and tile interior, anchored by a dramatic "theater kitchen" and wood-burning oven, sets the stage for memorable meals at one of Miami's most famous hotels. The Italian-centric menu shines with traditional favorites like Chicken Parmigiana, Shrimp Scampi, Classic Beef Milanese, and Lobster Ravioli. FYI: Fontana's Sunday Champagne Brunch Buffet is totally over-the-top and includes an extensive selection of omelets, sushi, carved meats, pasta, Tapas Stations, and some very decadent desserts.

EL CARAJO INTERNATIONAL TAPAS & WINE
2465 SW 17th Ave
Coral Gables, FL 33145
305-856-2424
el-carajo.com
Restaurant: Su – Th Noon – 10 pm;
F – Sa Noon – 11 pm
Brunch: Sa & Su 11 am – 2 pm
Fabulous Tapas, Great Wines & Old World Charm
Secreted away in the back of a Mobile Gas Station is this cozy, festively decorated Spanish tapas and wine bar. With an extensive roster of light bites and main dishes, as well as a boast-worthy wine list with over 2,000 bottles, El Carajo truly is the epitome of an authentic "hidden gem." The food here isn't just affordable; it's also delicious! Main Plates feature items like tender grass-fed New Zealand Lamb Chops and Made-to-order Seafood Paella. But the Mother of it all is the Tabla de Carne – a mixed meat plank with Angus churrasco, petit fillet skewers, Butifara sausage, Morcilla sausage, chicken breast, and pork rib-eye. Fill'er up!



ZUCCA
Hotel St Michel
162 Alcazar Ave
Coral Gables, FL 33134
786-580-3731
zuccamiami.com
Su – Th Noon – 10 pm;
F & Sa Noon – 11 pm
Flawless, Soul-Satisfying Regional Italian Dining at Zucca is like hop-scotching through the best regions of Italy. You'll find authentic seafood preparations from Sardinia, popular beef and meat dishes from Tuscany, and a wide selection of wonderful cheeses, handcrafted charcuterie, house-made pasta, and specialties from across the country. With over 2,000 bottles of hand-selected regional wines, innovative craft cocktails, and unique Italian-inspired beverages, it's a culinary journey you won't forget.

WYNWWOOD

BAKAN
2801 NW Second Ave
Wynwood, FL 33127
305-396-7080
bakanwynwood.com
Su – W Noon – 10 pm;
Th – Sa Noon – Midnight
Earthy, Artsy, Regional Mexican
Chef Oscar del Rivero's creative juices have made Miami's most artsy neighborhood even artsier. Fresh, artisanal ingredients are the name of the game here, starting with the handmade tortillas. In addition to a big selection of tacos, enchiladas, and quesadillas, you'll also find outstanding fresh-pounded guacamole, fresh ceviche, and terrific carnitas. Especially noteworthy: the "Los Equites" — street corn with lemon, chile powder, mayo, and cotija cheese. There's also a great array of meat and vegetable dishes cooked over an open wood-burning grill. FYI: the 12 oz rib-eye steak and grilled Sea Bass are both especially good. If you appreciate Mezcal, the bar also stocks over 20 varieties.

HIYAKAWA
2700 N Miami Ave #5
Wynwwood, Fl 33127
305-333-2417
hiyakawamiami.com
W – Su 6 –9:30 pm
Upscale & Edgy Japanese
With a sleek, clean design by one of Miami's most prolific restaurateurs, art dealer Alvaro Perez Miranda, this architectural masterpiece is as impressive as the restaurant's elevated Japanese dishes and sushi. Inspired by the upscale eateries in Tokyo's Ginza district, the sushi ninjas here are also masters at creating expertly prepared tempura, grilled premium meats, and several signature dishes. Not to be missed: the Sugata-Mori. Presented as whole, rotating fish, the dish comes loaded with succulent strips of sashimi that you simply pluck off the fish's belly. For a real splurge, opt for the full-on Omakase experience, which includes one maki, miso soup, four appetizers, and ten pieces of nigiri. It ain't cheap, but man, or man, it's a total out-of-body experience!



NIÑO GORDO
112 NW 28th St
Wynwood, FL 33127
786-889-8083
niniogordo.us
W – Sun 6 pm – Midnight
Genre-Defying Asian Grill
Argentine culinary renegades Germán Sitz and Pedro Peña have blown the lid off Wynwood's evolving restaurant scene. Their genre-defying concept of an "Asian Grill with Argentine Soul" fuses Argentine grilling with Japanese, Korean, and Southeast Asian flavors. With a theatrical interior wrapped in pop art, mirrored walls, clusters of red lanterns, and a soundtrack from the '80s and 90s, the wild vibe transports you to another place and time. But it's the menu that really takes you on a quantum leap. Cult favorites include Dumplings stuffed with squid, veal, curry, coconut yogurt, edamame, and wasabi; Scallops with parmesan, truffle, tare sauce, and peach; Key West prawns, and bacon; and the Peking Duck. Oh, and get this: What looks like a cigarette vending machine is actually the entrance to Dekotora, the restaurant's hip speakeasy and sushi bar. With shiso-scented spirits, rocket-fueled cocktails, and glittery ice cubes, it's a whole other trip!





Lor-e-lei Restaurant & Cabana Bar
96 Madeira Rd, Bayside Islamorada MM 82
305-664-2692; loreleicabanabar.com
Breakfast, Too, Daily From 7 – 10:30 am

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

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 grilled 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

Choice 12 oz New York Strip Steak
Chargrilled to taste



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

THE BEACH CAFE & BAR

starters/shareables

Florida Lobster Fritters
peppers, onion, garlic, tamarind, mustard sauce

Caribbean Conch Salad
sliced conch marinated in lime juice, tomatoes, red peppers, red onion & ginger, served with shrimp crackers.

Morada Bay Chicken Wings
guava chipotle bbq sauce, crispy onions, cotija cheese, pickled sweet peppers, cilantro

from Land To Sea

Catch of the Day
chef's inspired choice from the sea

Fish & Chips Morada Style
crispy tempura "catch of the day", mandarin coconut slaw, crispy chips

Big Boy BBQ Beach Burger
ground ribeye/brisket/short rib blend, crispy dill house pickle chips, hydroponic lettuce, heirloom beefsteak tomato, aged white cheddar, applewood smoked bacon, Kaiser bun

Grilled Chicken Focaccia
balsamic marinated chicken breast, mozzarella, basil pesto, tomatoes, & arugula on mbc toasted focaccia

Thai Key West Pink Shrimp Tacos
crispy tempura battered, spicy sriacha aioli, thai basil cilantro pesto, toasted coconut flake

Herb Garlic Marinated Churrasco Steak
chimichurri sauce, coconut rice, black beans, crispy yucca, chipotle aioli, aquacate mash

Chicken Milanese
breaded fried chicken breast, roasted fingerling potatoes, caper & tomato brown butter sauce



BROIL
Cudjoe Key, Fl, 21611 Old State Rd 4A
305-741-7879; broilsteakhouse.com

starters

Diver Scallops
four prosciutto-wrapped scallops with mango chutney

Maryland-Style Crab Cakes
two 3-oz cakes with remoulade

Escargot
baked with white wine and garlic butter covered with puff pastry

Swordfish Bites
fried and served with remoulade prime hand-cut steaks/

prime hand-cut steaks/ chops & chicken

8 Oz Beef Wellington
dijon-rubbed filet mignon, prosciutto, in puff pastry, peppercorn cream sauce

The Prime 8 Oz "Bentley"
filet mignon paired with a 10 oz south african rock lobster tail

Steak Churchill
filet mignonettes, lobster mashed potatoes, fresh fried asparagus, lobster Newburg sauce

16 oz Bone-In Pork Chop
port wine reduction and candied apple

Chicken Martini
braised 1/2 chicken, tomatoes, basil, shiitake mushrooms, light marsala sauce

fresh seafood/pasta

Shrimp Alexander
grilled key west pinks, garlic panko, beurre blanc

Wood-Fired Swordfish
with lobster Newburg sauce

"Yellow Belly" Yellowtail
grilled parmesan-encrusted filet with lump crab meat, white wine beurre blanc

Linguine Tuttomare
lobster, shrimp, scallops, mushrooms, cream sauce



Porkys Bayside Restaurant & Marina
1410 Overseas Hwy Marathon
305-289-2065; porkysbaysidebbq.com
Breakfast, Too, Daily From 8 – 11 am!

appetizers

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
citrus marinated

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

Golden Fried Green Beans
horseradish dipping sauce

Fresh Sushi & Signature Rolls
made to order

sandwiches & burgers

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



FONTANA
AT THE BILTMORE

Fontana, Miami Biltmore Hotel
1200 Anastasia Ave, Coral Gables, Fl 33134
305-913-3189 Ext 2407;
biltmorehotel.com/coral-gables-dining/fontana/

antipasti

Fiori di Zucca Ripieni
squash blossoms stuffed with ricotta cheese, tomato coulis, parmigiano reggiano

Polpette di Manzo
meatballs braised in tomato sauce, parmigiano reggiano, stracciatella, grilled bread

Cioppino
bronzino, clams, shrimp, calamari, lobster, tomato broth, grilled bread

pasta & risotto

Aragosta Fra Diavolo
fettuccine pasta, cold water lobster, pomodoro sauce, calabrian pepper, white wine

Lasagna Bolognese
beef bolognese, tomato sauce, ricotta cheese, parmigiano reggiano, parmesan fonduta, basil

Ravioli di Zucca
butternut squash ravioli, creamy pesto sauce, pumpkin seeds

Risotto Agli Spinaci
carnaroli rice, baby spinach, crushed red pepper flakes, parmigiano reggiano

carni & pesce

Ossobuco alla Milanese
braised veal shank, saffron risotto, gremolata

Branzino
roasted mediterranean branzino, mash potato, seasonal vegetable, vellutata

Piccata di Vitello
veal scallopini, piccata sauce, artichoke hearts, spinach, mashed potato

Filetto di Manzo alla Gorgonzola
grilled beef filet, gorgonzola dolce, mashed potato, asparagus, chianti wine reduction



isabelle's
coconut grove

Isabelle's Grill Room & Garden
Ritz Carlton Hotel
3300 SW 27th Ave, Coconut Grove, Fl 33133
305-400-0562; isabellescoconutgrove.com

starters/soups/salads

Signature Seared Crab Cake
jumbo lump crab cakes, red pepper sauce, fennel salad, herbed goat cheese

Fried Bruschetta
hand-breaded fresh mozzarella, currant tomatoes, chili honey, aged balsamic

Lobster Bisque
lobster, tobiko, caviar, fennel fronds, toasted brioche, orange olive oil

Chop Salad
romaine, baby iceberg, avocado, heirloom tomatoes, hard-boiled egg, roasted red onions, grilled bacon, Maytag crumbles, garlic buttermilk dressing

Burrata
burrata, prosciutto, blueberry compote, basil

pasta

Penna Arrabbiata
san marzano tomato, chilli, garlic, basil

Seafood Linguine
clams, mussels, shrimp, cream sauce, parmesan

entrées

Isabelle's Signature Branzino
sweet potato mousseline, baby vegetables, prosciutto, fig beurre blanc

Isabelle's Signature Picatta
lemon caper sauce, pommes purée

Seared Bass
lemon basil pesto, pan-seared mushrooms, white bean purée

Joyce Farms Chicken
broccolini, fennel sausage, pepper & onion jus

Chicken Milanese
parmesan crusted chicken, arugula fennel salad, shaved manchego, lemon

Isabelle's Signature Burger
short rib & brisket patty, peppered bacon, gruyere, housemade onion jam, herb parmesan fries



NEST

OK, 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.



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

continued on page 104



NEST

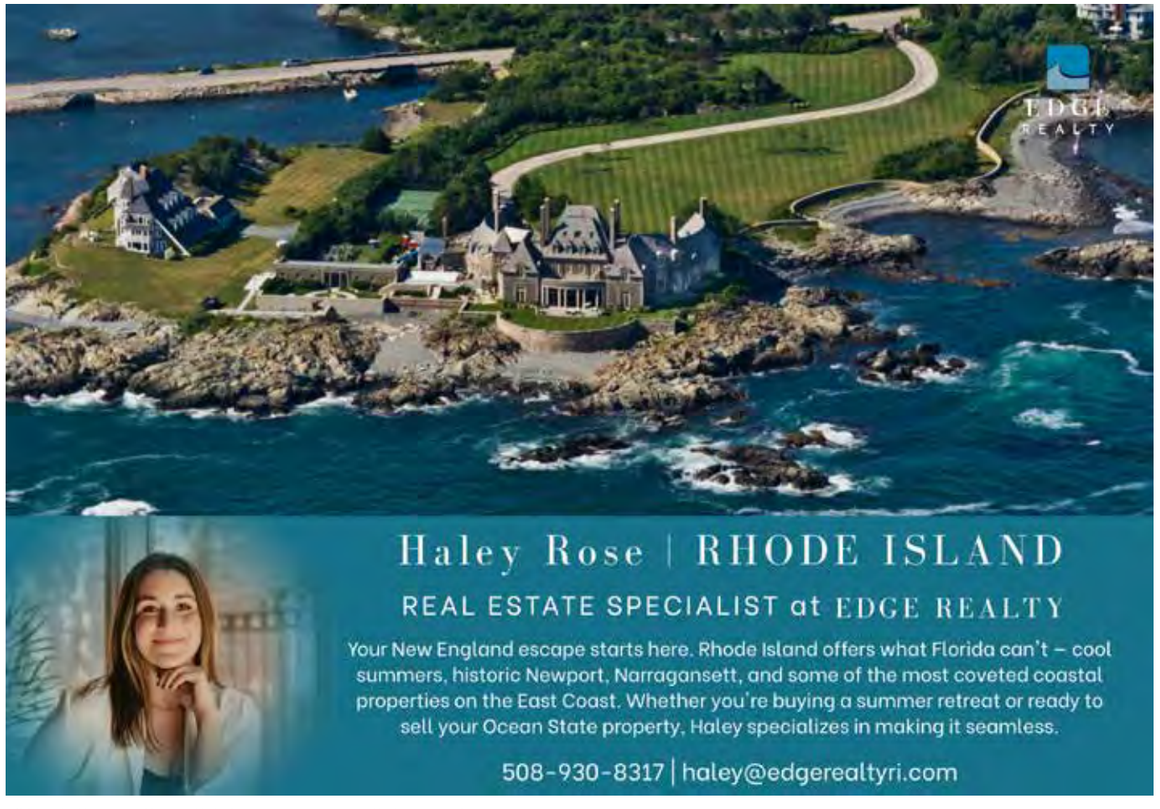
Rent Key West Vacations
1075 Duval Street, C-11
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-0990
rentkeywest.com
Curated Vacation Properties
This is who to call when you're searching for that perfect Key West vacation rental. Rent Key West Vacations can hook you up with some of Key West's most discriminating condos, 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.

The Agency Florida Keys
Lisa Swanson, CIPS
Managing Partner | Broker
305-924-3777
theagencyre.com
Luxury Real Estate, Globally Connected
With a keen focus on an international clientele and luxury waterfront living, Broker|Owner, Lisa Swanson is the go-to expert in one of the world's most sought-after destinations. Here in the Keys, Lisa covers the full stretch of the island chain — from the vibrant streets of Key West, and the laid-back charm of the Lower Keys to the tranquil elegance of the Upper Keys. Whether marketing a multimillion-dollar oceanfront estate, securing a private historic property, or advising an international investor, Lisa consistently delivers insight-driven results with unparalleled professionalism.

OFF KEY

Haley Rose
Edge Realty
1007 Boston Neck Rd
Narragansett, RI 02882
401-783-1007
haley@edgerealtyri.com
Another Piece of Paradise
Representing a bespoke collection of coveted New England properties, award-winning Realtor, Haley Rose is well-versed in all aspects of real estate. Her diverse roster includes everything from starter homes, whimsical beach cottages and historic timepieces, to one-of-a-kind architect-designed homes, and multi-million dollar luxury properties. A top producer who knows how to make things happen, Haley brings the "Art of Real Estate" to you — with a creative edge.











1616 Atlantic Blvd #11, Key West | $4,995,000
4 Beds | 4.5 Baths | 4,224 sq. ft.

Introducing an extraordinary oceanfront residence in the exclusive Casa Caselles community, where two townhomes have been masterfully combined to create a one-of-a-kind 4,224 sq. ft. luxury retreat. Completely reimagined with exceptional craftsmanship, the residence offers 4 en-suite bedrooms, 4.5 baths, two expansive livings areas, an exercise room, wet bar, electric fireplace, and private elevator accessing all floors.

The chef's kitchen is anchored by an oversized island and features custom European-style cabinetry, quartz countertops, and premium appliances from BlueStar, Sub-Zero, Cove, U-Line, and Perlick. Travertine flooring, custom built-ins, abundant hidden storage, and remote-controlled window coverings reflect meticulous attention to detail throughout. Every bedroom enjoys private balcony access, while the primary suite features a custom walk-in closet.

Major upgrades include new electrical, plumbing, insulation, HVAC systems, 12 hurricane-rated sliding glass doors, and a whole-house generator. Beautifully tiled courtyards, expansive entertaining terraces, covered parking for four vehicles, and an oceanfront community pool overlooking the Atlantic complete the residence.

Ideally positioned near the heart of Key West, Casa Caselles offers convenient access to the island's renowned dining, art galleries, shopping, entertainment, and cultural attractions allowing you to enjoy the energy of downtown while returning home to a private oceanfront retreat.



The Lisa Ferringo Group
305-797-1221
LisaFerringo.com
Specializing in Luxury Water Front Properties!

COLDWELL BANKER
SCHMITT REAL ESTATE CO.



3750 SUNRISE LANE

At the end of prestigious Sunrise Lane, where land meets open water on 3 sides, this legacy estate stands as one of the most extraordinary waterfront offerings in Key West. Properties of this scale and setting rarely exist, and almost never come to market. Heart pines floors, den, office, widows walk, pool, concrete dock, 2 boat lifts, garage, entry gate. Once-in-a-generation opportunity!
5BD/4.1BA | 5,378sf | 28,500sf Lot
$6,200,000



Terri Spottswood
Broker
Truman & Co.



223 EANES LANE
Andrews Inn - Turnkey B&B in the heart of Old Town, next to Ernest Hemingway Home and steps from Duval St. Tropical courtyard, pool, established income & transient licensed create a rare hospitality opportunity in an irreplaceable location..
6BD/6.5BA | 1,630sf | 5,126sf Lot
$6,999,000



1501 GEORGIA STREET
Striking Mid-Century Modern meets tropical living. Clean lines & walls of glass fill the home with natural light & seamless indoor-outdoor flow. A showpiece kitchen opens to a 55' pool, with every room framing lush, curated gardens.
4BD/4.5BA | 2,810sf | 8,800sf Lot
$3,599,000



720D SIMONTON STREET
Bold modern design meets prime investment. Old Town compound w/ two residences connected by a private pool courtyard, 1 block from Duval St. Dual transient licenses & strong rental performance, a rare opportunity with architectural edge.
4BD/4BA | 2,441sf | 5,220sf Lot
$4,950,000



1100 JOHNSON STREET
Effortless indoor/outdoor living in this top of the line Casa Marina home! Open floor plan, chef's kitchen, Dacor appliances, spacious lanai, heated pool w/ water feature, impact windows/doors, standing seam roof, garage, generator.
4BD/3BA | 2,058sf | 10,000sf Corner Lot
$5,200,000



1109 STUMP LANE
Casual elegance & coastal design throughout this classic Conch home on quiet Old Town lane. 2 stories, vaulted ceiling, Dade County pine, pool house with half bath & outdoor shower, covered outdoor dining area. Perfect spot for KW living!
3BD/2.2BA | 1,724sf | 3,953sf Lot
$2,199,000



1427 WASHINGTON STREET
Beautifully renovated Midtown home is move-in ready! 2 stories, spacious kitchen, French doors open to private backyard w/ heated pool & waterfall. 2nd floor balcony off primary, privacy wall/ electric gate, carport.
4BD/3BA | 2,051sf | 3,402sf Lot
$2,525,000

TRUMAN & CO.
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

THE SPOTTSWOOD TEAM...Who You Work With Matters
Terri@terrispottswood.com Terrispottswood.com
305-587-3407
1205 Truman Avenue, Key West FL 33040

Leading REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD



THE AGENCY FLORIDA KEYS

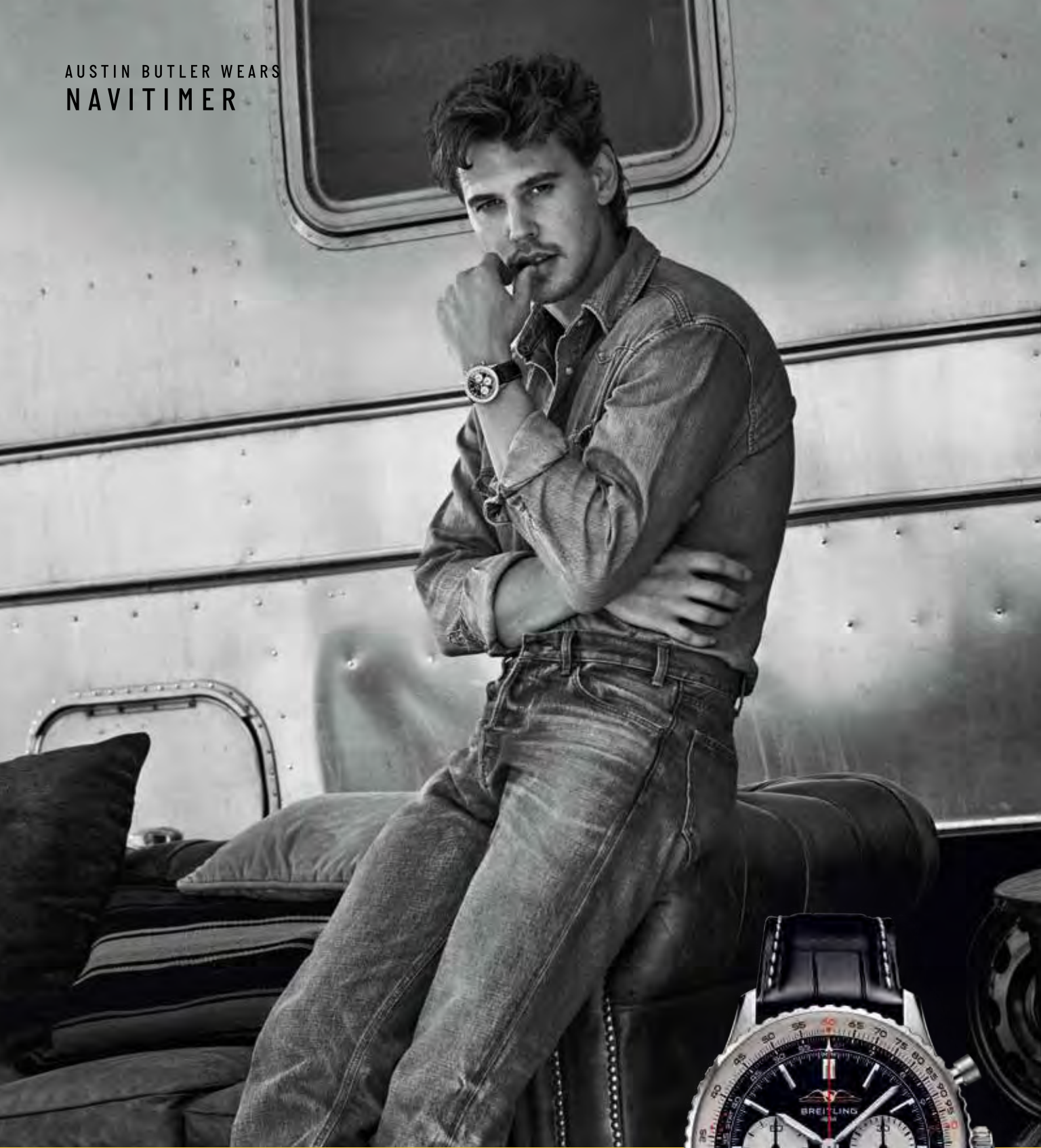
Luxury Real Estate, *Globally Connected.*

LISA SWANSON
MANAGING PARTNER | BROKER
305.924.3777
LISA.SWANSON@THEAGENCYRE.COM

THE AGENCY
THEAGENCYRE.COM

THE AGENCY FLORIDA KEYS | KEY WEST, FL 33040

THE AGENCY FLORIDA KEYS IS AN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED FRANCHISEE OF THE AGENCY REAL ESTATE FRANCHISING LLC.



BREITLING
1884

AVAILABLE AT

BLISS JEWELERS
EST 2007

269 Front Street, Key West, FL 33040
305.998.4839