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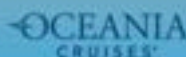
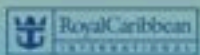
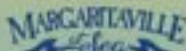
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VISIT



**TAMPA BAY**  
2025 OFFICIAL DESTINATION GUIDE

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#### ABOUT VISIT TAMPA BAY

Visit Tampa Bay is a not-for-profit 501 C (3) partner-based destination marketing organization that is responsible for promoting its community as an attractive travel destination and enhancing its public image as a dynamic place to live and work. Through the impact of travel, Visit Tampa Bay strengthens its economic position and provides opportunity for its community.

Certified by Destinations International's Destination Marketing Accreditation Program (DMAP) and together with its 950+ partners, Visit Tampa Bay represents a powerful forward-thinking, collaborative association exchanging bold ideas, connecting innovative people and elevating tourism to its highest potential.

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@DylanPerry.Art



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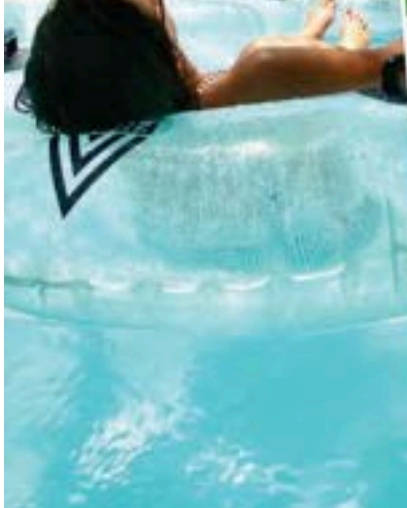
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MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR.**





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# TAMPA BAY TOP 40

TREASURES AWAIT, EVERYWHERE YOU TURN

by Megan Ewing

Welcome to Tampa Bay, where the vibe is as laid-back as it is electric. From manatees to hidden gems in the city, this place has it all—culture, history, good eats and some serious street cred. Whether you're cruising through the nightlife or chasing the next big adventure, there's no shortage of things to see and do. So if you're ready to experience Tampa Bay like a pro, check out these 40 must-see gems that'll make you want to stay forever. On the way, you may discover your own spots to add to the list.



## 1 THE OG

The **Cuban Sandwich** was born in Tampa Bay in the late 1800s, crafted by Cuban immigrants who sought a hearty meal to fuel long workdays in the cigar factories. They combined roast pork, ham, salami, Swiss cheese, pickles, mustard and Cuban bread, pressing it all together for a perfect balance of flavors. Over time, the sandwich became a local staple, reflecting the city's rich cultural blend. Each bite of this iconic creation is a delicious taste of Tampa's history.

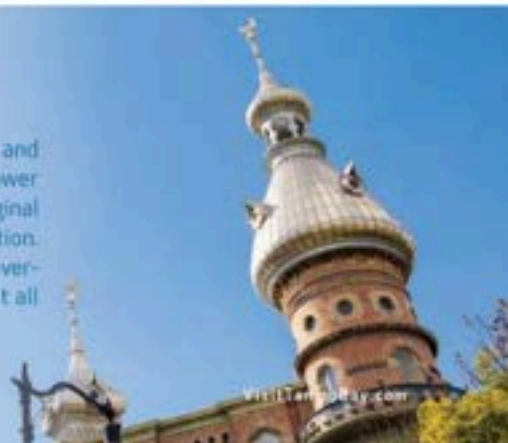


## 3 HIT THE STREETS

Hop on the free **TECO Streetcar** and take a ride through Tampa Bay's past and present. This vintage streetcar connects the city's vibrant districts, linking history with the now. First rolling in 1892, the streetcar has been a Tampa staple for more than a century. Cruise through downtown and Ybor City, taking time to soak up all the cool vibes of this historic ride. Hop on and enjoy this adventure on the rails. The city awaits.

## 2 MINARETS & MORE

The **University of Tampa** is an iconic landmark where history and modern energy collide. The stunning minarets of Plant Hall tower over the campus, a nod to Tampa's rich past. Once Florida's original hotel, it's now home to a dynamic university buzzing with ambition. Walk through its doors and feel the weight of history while discovering what's next. In Tampa Bay, the past fuels the future—and it all starts here.



## COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO

In Tampa Bay, the **Ybor City roosters** are more than just a quirky sight—they're a symbol of the city's wild, untamed spirit. Roaming free through the historic streets, these feathered locals add character to the scene. They've been strutting around since the late 1800s, a reminder that this neighborhood remains alive

with history and charm.

# 4



## TAKE A BITE

**Deviled crab** in Tampa Bay is a flavor-packed dive into the Gulf's best. Freshly caught, tender crab meat is seasoned just right, then fried to a golden crisp that packs the perfect crunch. Take a bite, and the savory blend of chili powder and cayenne delivers a hint of heat and a burst of seafood goodness. It's the ultimate local delicacy.

## HAND-ROLLED PERFECTION

Welcome to the birthplace of cigar culture, where the legacy lives on today. Once the cigar capital of the world, Ybor City still hums with the rhythm of hand-rolled cigars, crafted by artisans who've perfected the art. Every cigar tells a story—one of heritage, craftsmanship and flavor. Experience it firsthand, and roll with the tradition that put Tampa on the map.

VisitTampaBay.com



## STREET ART SCENE

Tampa Bay's street art scene is a living, breathing monument to creativity. From Ybor City to downtown to Seminole Heights, **murals and street art** explode with color and originality, transforming the city into an open-air gallery without walls. It's where bold visions collide with urban grit. Each piece tells a story, captures a vibe, and invites you to step in and experience the culture. Whether you're snapping pics or just soaking it all in, Tampa's street art is waiting to inspire you.

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## FINE-FEATHERED FRIEND

Meet **Phoebe the Flamingo**, the larger-than-life art installation at America's favorite airport, **Tampa International Airport**. Bold, vibrant and totally Instagrammable, Phoebe welcomes you to the city with a flash of pink and a dose of personality. Whether you're just passing through or kicking off your adventure, Phoebe's here to remind you: Tampa Bay's got style, flair and a whole lot of attitude.

## SPANISH ENCLAVE

Ybor City is home to icons that celebrate its rich Spanish heritage. During a renovation, **Hotel Haya** discovered a collection of original Goya paintings. The legendary Spanish artist's works—famous for their raw emotion and dramatic flair—add depth and style to the hotel's ambiance. Nearby, the **Columbia Restaurant**, Florida's oldest and the largest Spanish restaurant in the world, preserves traditions with its storied legacy and timeless cuisine. These landmarks showcase the enduring Spanish influence in Tampa Bay.



## 10 DEEPER DIVE

Tampa Bay is a treasure trove of unique museums. Dive into history at the **Tampa Firefighters Museum** or the **Tampa Police Museum**. Discover hidden wonders at **Ersula's History Shop** or experience mind-bending art at the **USF Contemporary Art Museum**. And don't miss **The Dalí Museum**, where surrealism comes to life. Each stop offers a new perspective, so bring your curiosity and enjoy the city's diverse museums.



# 11 STAR POWER

Since 2022, Tampa Bay has cemented its place on the world's culinary stage as part of the MICHELIN Guide. With 30+ total recognitions, including multiple MICHELIN-starred restaurants, the destination showcases a dynamic blend of bold flavors, innovative chefs and unforgettable dining experiences. From fine dining to unassuming favorites, Tampa Bay's culinary scene is a must-taste adventure.

# 12 REEL FUN

Ready to bring in the big one? Whether you're a seasoned pro or a first-timer, Tampa Bay's waters deliver the thrill of the deep. From snook to redfish, whatever you reel in, you'll be casting your line in some of the most storied waters in Florida. **Bag'Em Fishing Charters'** expert guides can take you to spots in the bay where the fish are plentiful and adventure is guaranteed.

# 13 MILES OF FUN

With the longest continuous sidewalk in the United States, Bayshore Boulevard is a mecca for runners, bikers and anyone who loves to stroll by the water. Whether you're soaking in the sunset, taking in the views of the bay or just enjoying the fresh air, Bayshore's energy is pure Tampa—active, open and waiting for you to dive in.



# 14 MANATEE MAGIC

The TECO Manatee Viewing Center is Tampa Bay's hidden gem for adventure and wildlife. Located in Apollo Beach, it's where you can get up close and personal with our sea cow friends. Watch these majestic creatures glide through the water, especially when the temps drop. It's a chill escape into nature, with a cool twist. Snap photos or just soak it all in; the Manatee Viewing Center invites you to connect with Tampa's wild side.



# 15

## CALLING ALL CYCLISTS

Tampa Bay's got some serious bike cred. Cruise the **Upper Tampa Bay Trail** for scenic views and a smooth ride through nature, or hit **Alafia River State Park** for a more rugged, adrenaline-pumping adventure on the trails. Whether you're in the mood for an easygoing ride or ready to tackle some gnarly terrain, Tampa's bike scene has you covered.

## SCULPTED FLAVORS

# 16

**Ulele** isn't just a place to eat—it's an experience where history, art and flavor come together. Located along the Tampa Riverwalk, this spot serves up Native American-inspired dishes. Here, whimsical, larger-than-life sculptures—including a statue of Princess Ulele—are scattered throughout the space. These playful works of art add a magical, imaginative edge to the waterfront dining experience, making every visit feel like an adventure.

## AHOY!

# 18

Ready to set sail on the **Lost Pearl**? This 1.5-hour pirate adventure is packed with swash-buckling fun—water cannons, pirate training, and the like for all the young pirates! Cruise through Florida's most pirate-infested waters, where legendary pirate Jose Gaspar roams, and keep an eye out for dolphins who love to join the crew.



## OFFBEAT TRANSPORT

# 17

Ready for a whole new way to get to Tampa Bay? Hop on the **Cross Bay Ferry** and cruise the waters like a local. Feel the breeze in your hair, the sea spray on your face and watch the skyline unfolding before you. This is how Tampa was meant to be experienced—on the water, with the city's energy all around you.

# 19 AGRARIAN ROOTS

Tampa Bay is home to a vibrant farming scene where fresh, local produce thrives. **Fat Beet Farm**, **Wish Farms** and **Meacham Urban Farm** are harvesting the best of the bay, from leafy greens to sweet strawberries and everything in between. These farms aren't just about growing—they're about cultivating a connection to the land and celebrating the hard work that goes into every crop. Continuing the farm-to-table experience, **Keel Farms** brings bold wines and hard ciders straight from the farm to your glass, infusing every sip with the flavors of the land.



# BOLD BREWS 20

Tampa Bay's craft beer scene is buzzing with local legends and bold new brews. **Barriehaus Brewing Co.** invites you to savor German-inspired classics with a modern twist, while **Coppertail Brewing Co.** delivers bold, full-bodied creations. **Hidden Springs Ale Works** offers unique pours like Captain's Courage, brewed in collaboration with Visit Tampa Bay. **Florida Avenue Brewing Co.** pushes boundaries with experimental styles, and **Cigar City Brewing** is a beloved Tampa institution. The new **Yuengling Draft Haus & Kitchen** adds its legacy to the mix. **Independent Bar & Cafe** brings a curated lineup of fresh and exciting options to try. From classic brews to innovative sips, Tampa's breweries are where the action is.

# SWEET TREATS

Tampa Bay has a serious sweet tooth—and the options are endless. Craving something decadent? **Toffee To Go & More** serves up addictive, melt-in-your-mouth toffee. For chocolate lovers, **Hampton Chocolate Factory** concocts fine artisan treats. **Chill Bros. Scoop Shop** is all about wild flavors and creamy goodness. And **Bake'n Babes**? They're dishing out some of the most irresistible shakes in town. So if you're craving rich toffee, handcrafted chocolate or a scoop of something unique, Tampa's sweet scene has you covered.



# 21



22

## GET COOKING

Tampa Bay's cooking scene is where flavor meets adventure. At the **Epicurean Theatre**, you're not just watching chefs—you're diving into hands-on, interactive culinary experiences that'll have you cooking like a pro. Want to level up your cheese game? **Cheeseology** takes you on a savory journey through the world of cheese, from melt-worthy mac & cheese to cheesy creations that'll blow your mind. So get in there and curdle some curds yourself!

## YOUR MORNING BREW

23

According to WalletHub, Tampa ranks among the top 10 best coffee cities in America. Visit one of the abundant local area cafés, such as **Blind Tiger Coffee Roasters**, and you'll taste why. Here, rich, aromatic beverages meet serious cafe-culture ambiance. You might want to try café con leche, a sweet espresso drink popular with locals. Or sample Visit Tampa Bay's official coffee, **Pirate's Plunder**, which contains notes of citrus, caramel and blackberry. No matter if you're getting your morning grind or taking a midday break, a cup of local joe will have you ready to take on Tampa.



24

## HISTORY YOU CAN TASTE

Cuban bread is a Tampa Bay staple and **La Segunda Bakery** is a Tampa institution, producing the city's finest Cuban bread for more than 100 years. The moment you walk in, the smell of freshly baked loaves fills the air, pulling you in. Their soft, crispy bread is the real deal—whether you're grabbing a sandwich or enjoying it on its own, every bite delivers authentic Tampa flavor. Stop by, soak in the history and taste why La Segunda has been a local favorite for generations.

## 25 TO YOUR HEALTH!

**Water Street Tampa** is where modern living meets next-level wellness. As the first WELL Certified community at the Gold level in North America, this vibrant district takes healthy living to new heights. Fuel your day with fresh bites at **The Pearl, Boulon Brasserie and Bakery** or **Wine on Water**, or grab something bold at **Small Giant** and **Wagamama**. For a stylish night out, **Lilac** is the place to be. It's the ultimate spot to live, eat, work and play in the heart of Tampa Bay.



## 26 GENTLE GIANTS

At **ZooTampa's Manatee Rescue and Rehab** facility, you'll witness firsthand the care and dedication that goes into rescuing and rehabilitating these iconic Florida creatures. Watch as injured manatees recover, swim and return to the wild. It's an unforgettable experience that cultivates a deeper connection to Tampa Bay's wildlife conservation efforts. Get up close with these gentle giants and see the healing process in action—an essential stop for animal lovers and nature enthusiasts.



## 27 RIDE THE RUSH

Ready for thrills? **Busch Gardens® Tampa Bay** and **Adventure Island** are where adrenaline meets adventure in Tampa Bay. Feel the rush on world-class roller coasters, dive into wild water rides and get close to exotic animals. Busch Gardens isn't just a theme park—it's a high-energy experience where fun knows no limits. Just next door, Adventure Island cools you down with epic water slides and splash zones. Whichever one you choose—or both!—these parks are your gateway to unforgettable action.

[VisitTampaBay.com](http://VisitTampaBay.com)

## 28 DEEP BLUE DRAMA

Dive in! **SeaTREK at The Florida Aquarium** lets you step into another world—no scuba certification required. Gear up with a helmet and explore the vibrant marine life beneath the surface. From schools of fish to curious sea creatures, this underwater adventure is as close as you'll get to the deep blue without getting your hair wet. It's Tampa Bay like you've never seen it—immersive, unforgettable and totally cool.



## 29 PARTY WITH THE PIRATES

**Gasparilla Season** takes over Tampa Bay with epic pirate invasions, wild parades and festivals that make every day an adventure. Watch the legendary Gasparilla pirate fleet storm the bay, then party like a pirate at the city's biggest festival. The fun doesn't stop—marching bands, street festivals and an all-out celebration of Tampa's swashbuckling spirit fill the streets. January through March is a time to live boldly, laugh loudly and embrace the spirit of adventure. Tampa Bay's waiting for you.



## 30 GO BIG OR GO HOME

**Glazer Children's Museum** in downtown Tampa brings dinosaurs to life with its interactive exhibit featuring **Big John**, the World's Largest Triceratops. At more than 26 feet long, this massive fossil lets you explore the prehistoric world up close. The exhibit includes hands-on activities where you can dig for fossils and learn about paleontology. It's the perfect spot for families and curious minds to discover the wonders of the ancient past in a fun, engaging way!



## 31 PLAYTIME

The **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino** is where Tampa Bay goes to play. Whether you're chasing big wins at the tables, grooving to live music or enjoying high-end dining, this place never stops; it's the ultimate playground for those looking to live large. Step in and experience the excitement. The night is yours to conquer, and the adventure never ends at the Hard Rock.

## 32 WATER PARK FUN

**Southshore Bay Lagoon** is where Tampa Bay turns up the fun. It's a sprawling water park with a floating obstacle course, a massive 30-foot slide and plenty of places to chill. Whether you're drifting under the sun, racing down a slide or catching good vibes with friends, this is the spot to kick back and let loose. Dive into adventure, soak up the energy and make some waves—Metro Lagoons is the ultimate splash zone in Tampa Bay.



## IT'S LOUD, IT'S EPIC

# 33

Ahoy, Tampa Bay! Get ready to live the legend aboard the **Buccaneers' Pirate Ship** at Raymond James Stadium. This isn't your average game day—when those cannons roar, you'll feel the ground shake. If you're lucky enough to score a spot aboard, you'll be right in the middle of the action, with each cannon blast turning up the intensity. It's where victory meets firepower, and every touchdown fuels the crew. Loud, wild and uniquely Tampa—this is sports at its most epic.



## SPLASHY SPECTACLES

# 34

Set sail along the Tampa Riverwalk and catch the city's **iconic boat parades**, from the swashbuckling Gasparilla invasion to the festive holiday boat parade. Watch high-energy floats and vibrant displays of color glide by, mixing Tampa's bold spirit with waterfront excitement. Whether it's sports celebrations or the shimmering lights, there's always something epic on the water. Grab a drink, find your spot and let the parade take you into the night—Tampa's waterfront scene is always buzzing and unforgettable.

## GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNING

# 35

Ready to rev your engines? **The Motor Enclave** in Tampa Bay is where luxury, performance and adrenaline collide. This exclusive destination is a haven for car enthusiasts, featuring private garages, top-tier racing facilities and a community that shares your passion for speed. Whether you're cruising past the latest models or burning rubber on the track, the Motor Enclave delivers an experience that's all about power, prestige and living life in the fast lane.

VisitTampaBay.com

# 36

## IT'S A SIGN!

Step into Tampa Bay's past with a modern twist at the iconic **Tampa Theatre**. Its dazzling marquee lights up Downtown Tampa, welcoming you to an experience like no other. Whether you're catching a classic film, big-time comedian or other live performance, the historic sign sets the stage for the excitement inside. It's a symbol of rich culture, blending old-school charm with that unmistakable urban edge. Lights on, it's showtime—are you ready?



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## BERRY FUN

Fun, flavor and flair collide at Tampa Bay's **Strawberry Festival**—one epic celebration that's as sweet as it sounds. Head over to Plant City, the Winter Strawberry Capital of the World, and dive into a feast of fresh berries, live jams, thrilling rides and a crowd ready to soak in the season's best. From local vendors to top-tier performers, this fest is buzzing with energy, excitement and strawberries in every form—including world-famous shortcake. Grab a fresh basket, dance to the beat and make memories that'll have you craving next year's fest!



## MEMORIAL TO THE PAST

Tucked away in Tampa's **Oaklawn Cemetery** is a hidden treasure—**pirate graves**. These historic markers are more than just a nod to Tampa's seafaring past—they're an invitation to explore the gritty, rebellious spirit of the city's roots. Wander among the tombstones and reflect on the legends who once sailed these waters. Whether you're a history buff or just chasing a unique adventure, Oaklawn Cemetery offers a cool, eerie slice of Tampa's pirate-infused history.

## INTERACTIVE EXPEDITION

Get ready to chart a new course at the **Tampa Bay History Center's Touchton Map Library exhibit**, where history and exploration combine. This interactive experience lets you navigate the past, from the region's earliest maps to today's cutting-edge tech. See how Tampa Bay evolved, discover hidden landmarks and track the journeys that shaped our culture. Whether you're a history buff or an adventurer at heart, this exhibit will have you rethinking the way you see the world.



## YOUR JOURNEY STARTS NOW

Ready to unlock Tampa Bay? The Visit Tampa Bay icon sculpture at the **Unlock Tampa Bay Visitors Center** is where your adventure begins. Whether you're here for the thrills, the sights or something off the beaten path, we're here to help you make the most of it. Swing by, snap a pic and chat with our team—we're always ready to point you in the direction of the next treasure waiting to be discovered.



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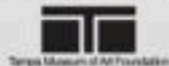


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**GlazerMuseum.org**

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let's  
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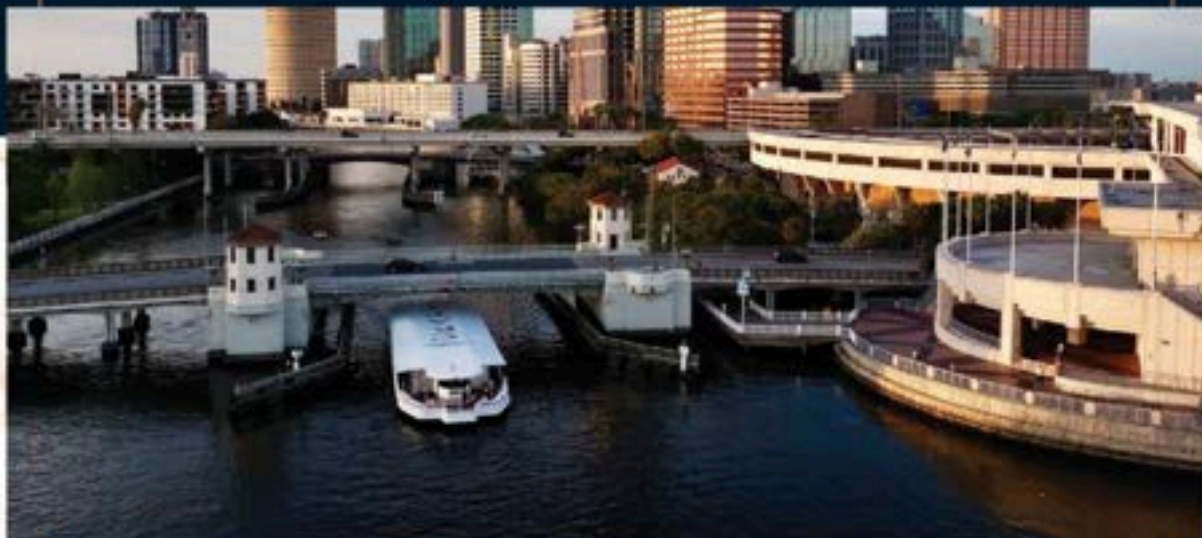
Glazer  
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# Destination: *Tampa Riverwalk*

Enjoy miles of  
food, fun & more

by Missy Snapp

**Looking for the ultimate destination?** Set your sights on Tampa Bay, Florida, where perfect weather meets rich culture and unbeatable location. Kick off your adventure at the Tampa Riverwalk, a 2.6-mile waterfront pathway teeming with parks, world-class restaurants, engaging museums, buzzing nightlife and exciting watersports. Stretching through downtown, it's your gateway to endless fun and unforgettable experiences.

Tampa Riverwalk

## ONE TICKET. SEVEN UNIQUE ATTRACTIONS

A fantastic way to experience Tampa's culture and family fun is with the **Tampa Riverwalk Attraction Pass**, available at [RiverwalkPass.com](http://RiverwalkPass.com). The pass includes seven impressive experiences, all of which are easy stops along the **Pirate Water Taxi's** regular route. This bright yellow fleet of ferries offers hop-on/hop-off access to 12 stops and fun narration of all the sights. Stop 12 is the midway point of the Riverwalk, where you'll find the **Tampa Museum of Art**, newly renovated and nestled between the Hillsborough River and the sprawling green space of **Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park**. This stunning museum blends ancient and contemporary art, with a large gallery of Greek and Roman antiquities and a revolving door for special exhibitions and events. For the younger crowd, the **Glazer Children's Museum** stands next door and is a lofty, modern space with natural light and playful, engaging exhibits for kids and families to enjoy together. Just across the Hillsborough River is the **Henry B. Plant Museum**—formerly the Tampa Hotel—that iconic building with silver minarets that commands the attention of people passing by. The Plant Museum is a National Historic Landmark and a tribute to Gilded Age opulence in America, with furnishings actually used by guests in the late 1800s.



Tampa Museum of Art

A leisurely stroll takes you to **The Florida Aquarium**, which is nationally recognized, where playful otters, curious lemurs, sleek sharks and graceful stingrays invite you to dive into an unforgettable underwater adventure. Immediately next door to the aquarium is a fully operational WWII ship, the **SS American Victory**, where the past comes alive as you tour the ship and its artifacts. For a broader glimpse into the area's history and culture, schedule a stop at the **Tampa Bay History Center** on Water Street and travel back to the days of pirates, conquistadors, torcedores (Cuban cigar rollers) and Florida cattle-driving pioneers. If you get hungry while there, the **Columbia Café** is located inside the History Center with tried-and-true Spanish and Cuban dishes borrowed from the menu of Florida's oldest restaurant, the Columbia in Ybor City.

[VisitTampaBay.com](http://VisitTampaBay.com)



Oak & Ola

## SAVOR THE STROLL

No Riverwalk adventure is complete without some authentic Tampa Bay cuisine. For multiple choices in a single venue, **Armature Works** anchors the northern end of the Riverwalk in a restored streetcar bay from 1910 that offers a hip, self-serve food court along with several high-end restaurants. Located inside Armature Works, **Steelbach** offers cozy indoor/outdoor dining and an expansive menu of fresh ingredients from local farmers. Also within the building is **Oak & Ola**, a lively EuroAmerican restaurant with wood-fired ovens and a James Beard Award-winning chef. Across a lawn of oversized chess boards and Adirondack chairs, **Ulele** waits to fold you into the flavors of Florida's Native American heritage alongside compelling art and comfortable indoor/outdoor seating.



Craft Tampa



Sparkman Wharf



Urban Kai

At the southern end of the Riverwalk and part of Water Street, **Sparkman Wharf** offers brick-and-mortar restaurants like **Battery**, **JoToro** and **Hampton Chocolate Factory**, along with an eclectic array of dining, desserts and beverages in the “cargotecture” of repurposed shipping containers with casual outdoor seating. Across the channel on Harbour Island, **Jackson’s Bistro, Bar & Sushi** sits next door to **American Social**. Jackson’s has offered an eclectic blend of sushi and seafood favorites since 1997. American Social is a high-energy bar and restaurant with creative American cuisine. Both places offer gorgeous waterfront views where you’ll see a variety of boats go by during your meal. Two of Tampa Bay’s larger boats offer full-experience dinner cruises from Channelside Drive adjacent to Sparkman Wharf. **Craft** is a multimillion-dollar river cruiser with an open kitchen that prepares modern American cuisine and handcrafted cocktails. **Yacht StarShip**, a three-deck beauty with room for dancing and socializing, offers stunning downtown views on its daily luxury dining and cocktail cruises. Both Craft and Yacht StarShip run seasonal and special events cruises throughout the year.

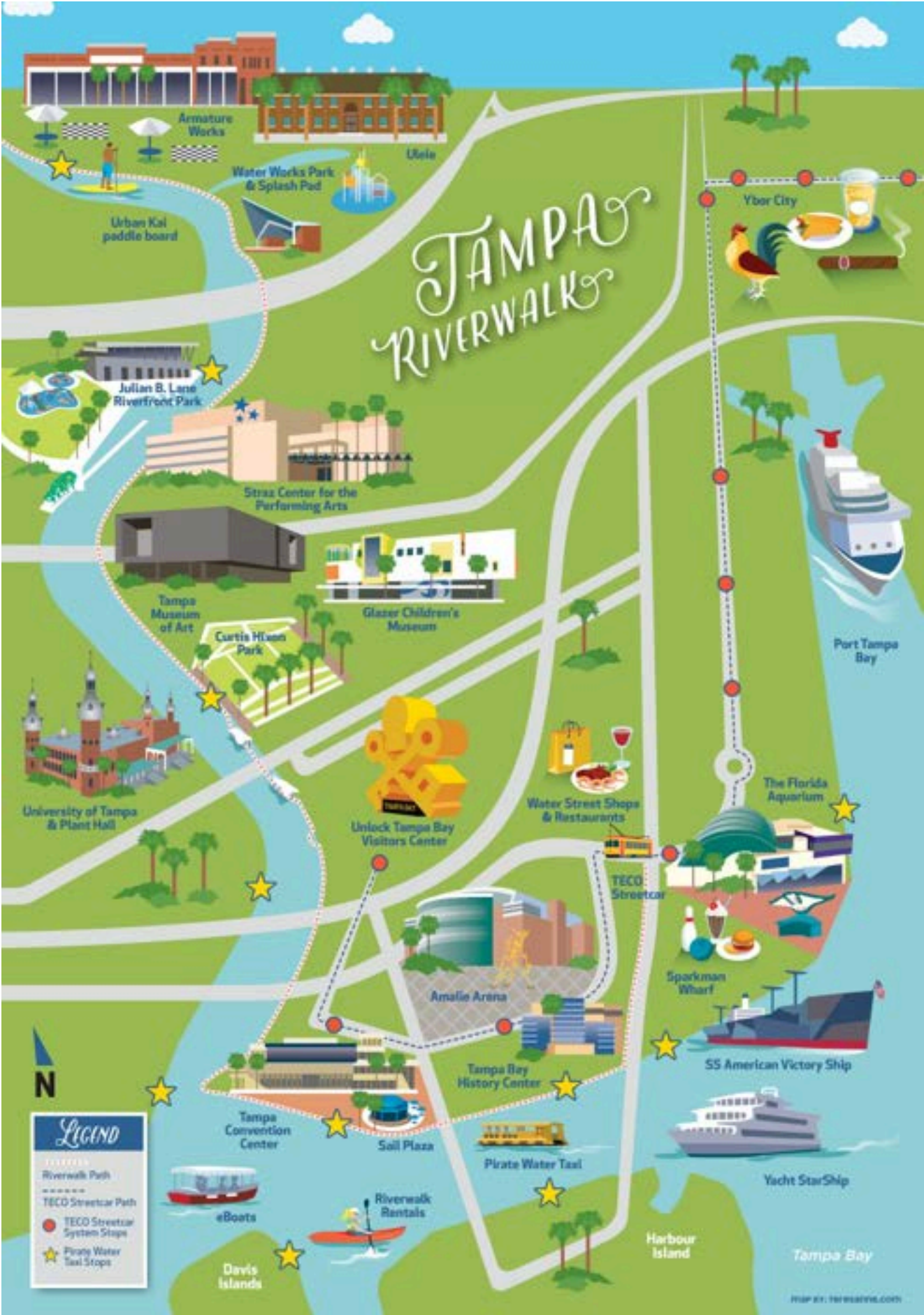
## DRIFT, PADDLE & PLAY

For those who prefer being the captain of their own adventure, the Riverwalk offers many options to get out and enjoy the water your way. Offering boat rentals for up to 10 or 12 passengers, **eBOATS Tampa** allows you to chart your own course. Bring your own food and enjoy it with ease, as complimentary coolers are provided. If you’d rather let someone else do the driving, Captain Darryl and the crew of **Tampa Bay Fun Boat** will gladly share the wide-open deck of their custom-built party vessel as they take you out on a sightseeing or sunset cruise. **Tiki Boat Tampa** provides a unique way to cruise downtown on a chartered, floating tiki bar. You bring the people, the drinks and the playlist, and Tiki Boat Tampa provides Bluetooth and coolers for 90 minutes of float time. At opposite ends of the Riverwalk, smaller vessels can be rented for a more hands-on adventure. On Water Street, **Tampa Riverwalk Rentals** can set you up with kayaks, paddleboards and bikes. Farther north at Armature Works, **Urban Kai** offers kayak and paddleboard classes and rentals with a private dock launch point into the calm and beautiful Hillsborough River. **Boatsetter** makes getting on the water as easy as calling a ride-share with an array of on-water experiences by connecting qualified renters directly to boat owners and licensed captains.



EXPLORE DINING IN  
SPARKMAN WHARF.

# TAMPA RIVERWALK



**LEGEND**

- Riverwalk Path
- TECO Streetcar Path
- TECO Streetcar System Stops
- Pirate Water Taxi Stops

## MORE IN THE OUTDOORS

If a waterfront park is what you're seeking, the Riverwalk provides places to kick back and play. Near Armature Works, **Water Works Park** is all-encompassing, with a playground, splash pad, picnic area and dog park. At the midway point, **Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park** is a hub of activity during all seasons and often decked out for special holidays and community-wide events. At the southern end, the beautiful **Cotanchobee Fort Brooke Park** mixes reverence and recreation at Heroes Plaza, honoring first responders and veterans. There is also a memorial to the Seminole Wars, a pier overlooking Garrison Channel with views of Harbour Island and a playground and splash pad for the kids.



Hillsborough River

## THE PORT

One of the Riverwalk's views includes **Port Tampa Bay**, where you'll see the massive floating hotels from a variety of cruise lines. This efficient and busy port works with various agencies to streamline the entire cruising experience and to make Tampa Bay your first thought and last impression when choosing a cruise vacation. In 2024, Port Tampa Bay was named the best cruise destination in the world by Cruise Hive.

No matter what you come searching for—art, culture, food, watersports or parks—you'll find it at the Riverwalk. The dynamic personality of Tampa Bay is on display around every bend of this thoughtfully designed winding path that connects the land to the water, the past to the present, and us to all of it.



Tampa Riverwalk

Make your way to the Tampa Riverwalk, where you'll find more to see and do than you thought possible.



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**DOWNTOWN TAMPA**

Events, days, dates, times, performers and prices are subject to change without notice. Handling fees will apply.

# A PLACE FOR *Everyone*

All are welcome  
in Tampa Bay

by Helen Anne Travis

**TAMPA BAY IS SETTING A NEW STANDARD** for inclusive travel by offering visitors a host of curated experiences designed with diversity and accessibility in mind.

## A MELTING POT OF CULTURES

Tampa's unique history makes it one of the more culturally diverse cities in the South.

Starting in the 1880s, thousands of people from around the world came to Tampa to work in the city's thriving cigar industry. Workers from Cuba, Spain, Italy and more were drawn by the promise of a good job, steady pay and a chance to create a name in the New World.

A few decades later, Tampa's Central Avenue became known as the "Harlem of the South," thanks to its strong community of Black-owned businesses, schools and entertainment venues.

TECO Line Streetcar

VisitTampaBay.com

Today, the stories of the city's settlers are told through a series of live events, parades and festivals honoring their heritage, culture and cuisine.

Learn about the city's African roots at the Black Heritage Festival. Enjoy ceviche, paella and café con leche at the Taste of Latino & Hispanic Heritage Festival. Then there's the Cuban Sandwich Festival, where you can literally taste Tampa's history.

Local lore says every ingredient of this timeless classic, from the Cuban mojo pork to the Italian salami, reflects the immigrant communities that helped shape Tampa into the diverse and welcoming city it is today.

## EXPLORING WITHOUT LIMITS

Whether you're attending a festival, taking part in a conference or simply enjoying the city's attractions, Visit Tampa Bay has partnered with some of the top accessible travel organizations to make your visit stress-free.

**Wheel the World** makes traveling to Tampa easy with detailed guides, accommodations and activities designed for a variety of needs.

**AbleVu** helps visitors of all abilities get around town with useful tools for finding accessible businesses, attractions and public spaces.

**EnChroma** unlocks an enriched world for travelers with red-green color blindness—creating a more vivid and engaging Tampa visit.

From locating wheelchair-friendly trails along the Tampa Riverwalk to enjoying a sign language-interpreted musical at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, these partnerships make it easy for everyone to find the perfect activity or excursion.



Midtown  
VisitTampaBay.com



Tampa Museum of Art

## A HUB FOR CONNECTIONS

In addition to its festivals, Tampa is also a hotspot for conventions and events that bring together people from all walks of life to connect, talk shop and advance their missions.

The **Tampa Convention Center** hosts everything from multicultural expos to national meetings for some of the country's leading minority and accessibility empowerment groups.

## COME AS YOU ARE

In Tampa Bay, inclusivity isn't just an idea—it's a way of life. Everyone is welcome with open arms, celebrating differences and creating spaces where authenticity thrives.

From diverse neighborhoods to lively cultural celebrations, this is a city where everyone can find their place.

Whoever you are and wherever you're from, Tampa is ready to be your home away from home.

VISIT TAMPA BAY HAS PARTNERED WITH SOME OF THE TOP ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL ORGANIZATIONS.



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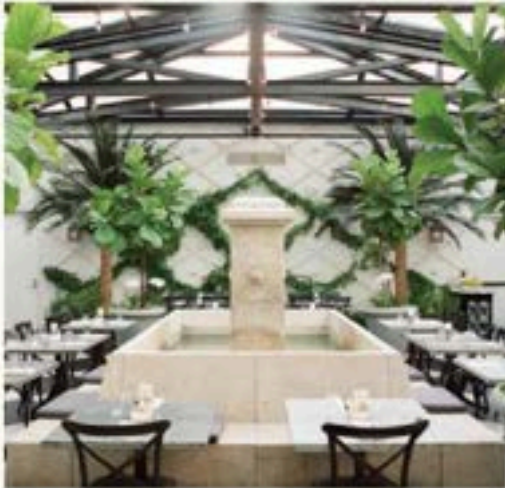
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**OXFORD EXCHANGE**



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& Englishmen**



**PREDALINA**



**THE  
LIBRARY**



**CASA CAMÍ**



# GLOBAL INFLUENCE & LOCAL FLAIR

Savor the diversity of  
Tampa Bay's food scene

by Heather Wuelpern

Come aboard a culinary journey that spans the globe—from fresh seafood straight off the boat to sizzling steaks, vibrant international flavors and casual spots with laid-back vibes. Whether craving bold new tastes or classic comfort food, Tampa Bay's dining scene has something for every palate. The following selections highlight a taste of the diverse and exceptional restaurants waiting to be explored. While you may not leave with a new stamp on your passport, you'll depart with a satisfied appetite and new favorite dishes.

Koya

## MEDITERRANEAN INFLUENCES

When looking for stylish fireside or outdoor dining for breakfast, brunch or lunch, **Psomi Restaurant** has you covered. This family-owned and Bib Gourmand gem, led by MICHELIN Guide Florida 2023 Young Chef Award Winner Chef Christina Theofilos, exudes ambiance from the Greek Islands and showcases fresh, local ingredients. For delicious foie gras or spatchcock grilled chicken, head to **Mise En Place** to experience innovative modern cuisine with a French flair. **Predalina** serves delicious Mediterranean-inspired dishes, such as Salt-crusted Branzino or Lobster Carpaccio. Plus, beautiful home decor and other curated home goods are available on-site. Savor your meal, then take home the plate as a keepsake! Under the guidance of Chef John Fraser, **Lilac** offers the freshest vegetable-forward Turkish-inspired creations, which earned a coveted MICHELIN star. A toast will be in order after enjoying an outstanding meal and experiencing the tableside champagne cocktail cart.



Predalina



Koya

## LATIN HEAT & SPANISH CHARM

**Columbia Restaurant's** award-winning Original "1905" Salad™ gives a nod to the year the Spanish restaurant was founded in Ybor City. Save room for The Original Cuban Sandwich, tasty tapas and paella at Florida's oldest restaurant. **Sal Y Mar**, another Latin favorite, boasts amazing seafood and steak entrées with rooftop views from the restaurant and bar. **Spain Restaurant & Toma Bar**, family-run since 1980, dishes recipes passed down through generations from Galicia, the northwestern region of Spain. Live music, art by local artists and flamenco dancers add to the lively atmosphere.

## ASIAN FUSION AT ITS FINEST

Chef Richard Hales brought the techniques he learned on a journey throughout Asia back to his restaurant **Hales Blackbrick**. Go to delight in Char Siu Pork Belly, Kung Pao Asparagus and Hales' grandmother's egg rolls from a 100-year-old family recipe. Influences from Japan, Thailand and Vietnam inspire the artistic and innovative dishes at **Sunda New Asian**, including signature sushi, dim sum, noodle dishes and new Asian creations. Dine at **ro Hyde Park** to savor Smoked Peking Duck, artfully crafted sushi or Chicken Katsu. Or make a reservation at Eric and Adriana Fralick's **Koya** at least one month in advance for the chance to be one of only eight diners to experience this MICHELIN-starred multi-course tasting menu—an exquisite dinner and culinary show wrapped into one.



Trophy Fish

## PRIME CUTS

**Bern's Steak House** evolved from its humble beginnings in 1956 to the top-notch experience it is today, featuring Dry-Aged Special Chateaubriand Carpaccio, 18 varieties of caviar, Japanese Wagyu and so many other mouthwatering morsels. At **Mallo's Prime Steakhouse**, indulge in Lobster Macaroni and Cheese, Veal Milanese or a 28-ounce center-cut Prime Cowboy Ribeye. Since 1969, Mallo's has set the bar high for providing an exquisite atmosphere, impeccable service, and a curated selection of premium meats and fresh seafood that keeps their cherished clientele coming back for more. At the **Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino's Council Oak** restaurant, a vibrant new design dazzles while its jaw-dropping wine selection remains. Guests can check out the action from the open kitchen, which features an in-house butcher and a dry-aging room. From prime steaks to fresh seafood, every bite bursts with flavor.



Donatello Italian Restaurant

## SAVORING ITALY

At MICHELIN-starred **Rocca**, Chef/Owner Bryce Bonsack elevates Italian food to new heights. The ever-changing menu includes a tableside mozzarella cart, caviar service, freshly made pasta and divinely curated meats and fish. Head to **Ash's** outdoor patio or trendy and stylish inside dining area for innovative Italian-inspired cuisine, such as Casarecce or Fried Rabbit. **Donatello's** live jazz lounge and 40-year history of serving dishes from far stretches of Italy ensure an evening that will delight the senses.



Rocca

## CATCH OF THE DAY

**Ulele**, situated within sight of the Hillsborough River, offers oysters—raw or charbroiled with garlic butter and grated cheeses—soft-shell crab, fresh grouper and more delicacies from the sea. **Oystercatchers**, set on 35 acres of tropical surroundings, also boasts outstanding waterfront views. Try a Hamachi Shooter from the raw bar or splurge on the Wagyu Tomahawk. The menu at **Trophy Fish** changes depending on the catch of the day. The fun and innovative boat drinks, such as the Fin & Tonic made with Elderflower, juniper berries and cucumber, perfectly complement the fresh fish dishes.

## CASUAL EATS, BIG FLAVORS

Visit **Supernatural Food & Wine** between Tuesday and Saturday to enjoy freshly made donuts, available while they last. The menu also features fresh salads, classic sandwiches, coffee and an excellent wine selection. When you crave delicious plant-based eats, dine at **Florish** and fill up on made-to-order vegan pizzas and bowls, snacks, sweets, local craft beers and wine. Experience a Tampa Bay classic at **Wright's Gourmet House**, where gourmet sandwiches and tasty treats have been served since 1963. **Bavaro's**, a traditional Neapolitan pizzeria with ingredients sourced directly from Italy, pleases taste buds with antipasti, plates of pasta and wood-fired pizzas. Take a jar of Bavaro's homemade pasta sauce for a savory souvenir!

Supernatural Food & Wine





Ulele

## SMALL PLATES

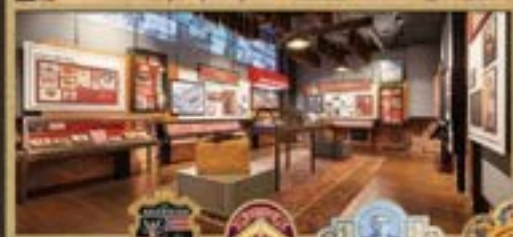
Whether enjoying a solo culinary adventure or sharing quick eats with friends or family, these spots have perfected delivering mouthwatering dishes with big flavor in every bite. From sophisticated twists on Southern comfort to elevated takes on international classics, take advantage of these opportunities to savor flavors in smaller portions.

**Edison: Food+Drink Lab** It's hard to decide what to eat when everything looks so good on the ever-changing menu, but it's easy to indulge in amazing offerings with the five-course tasting menu. Whatever you select, save room for dessert like the Sage Shortbread with goat cheese and honey diplomat cream, strawberry balsamic compote and popcorn ice cream.

**Haven** Dairy lovers will be in heaven with the Cheese Monger board—the chef's selection of 18 cheeses. When choosing something from the Decadent & Gluttonous or A Taste of Bern's + Haven menu sections, everyone can find something to indulge in. Plus, libations are plentiful with more than 700 whiskies, bourbons, and scotches and 40 wines by the glass. Cheers!

**7th + Grove** The fun starts with menu items like Choosey Lovers, Smoking Out the Window and Cry Me a River in the funky and cozy lounge atmosphere. The experience continues once the Southern flavors hit your mouth. Comfort food connoisseurs will find their happy place here.

**Willa's** This beloved neighborhood spot offers breakfast to dinner with timeless favorites like French onion soup, steak frites and baked chicken. Complement your meal with a craft cocktail, margarita or fine wine. Indulge in a sweet treat, such as crème brûlée or a nostalgic root beer float.



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J.C. NEWMAN CIGAR Co.

## VISIT TAMPA'S LAST CIGAR FACTORY

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Tampa's cigar heritage lives on at J.C. Newman Cigar Company in Ybor City. For the first time in over a century, J.C. Newman's iconic El Reloj Cigar Factory is now open to the public. Featuring

three floors of public exhibits, guests can explore the art of cigar making first hand, find a gift in the factory store, or host a private celebration in the last operating factory in Tampa, FL.

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# Welcome to **CIGAR CITY**

by Jeff Atwell

When Don Vicente Martinez-Ybor moved his cigar factory from Key West to Tampa in 1885, the remote Gulf Coast outpost quickly became the cigar manufacturing center of the U.S. By the early 1900s, Tampa employed more cigar rollers than Havana and boasted 200 cigar factories that produced more than 500 million cigars annually.

Ybor City's Seventh Avenue still has the aromas of fresh tobacco today. Descendants of the original torcedores continue to hand-roll cigars at boutique shops in what is now a National Historic Landmark District. See the experts in action and taste the difference quality tobacco and age-old craftsmanship make.



J.C. Newman Cigar Co.



Tabanero Cigars Factory

## **CIGAR LOUNGES**

Get an authentic taste of Tampa Bay at cigar bars that celebrate the heritage of Ybor City. At **Corona Cigar Co.**, enjoy a smoke while sipping on an aged whiskey or bourbon. Choose from rare and premium cigars rolled locally and sourced from around the world. At **Sterling Cigar Lounge & Bar**, visitors experience a modern take on the area's 140-year cigar culture. Head to the rooftop bar to enjoy a handcrafted cocktail.

## SHOP & EXPLORE

Just north of Ybor's historic district, visit the only remaining operational cigar factory in the nation and America's oldest family-owned cigar manufacturer, **J.C. Newman Cigar Co.** Their El Reloj factory was built in 1910 and continues to craft cigars by hand. Visitors are invited to stroll three floors of museum exhibits and even take a class with expert rollers.

Window shopping in Ybor City puts cigar rollers on display, crafting the world's best cigars right before your eyes. Cigar rollers trained in Cuba keep traditions alive at **Tabanero Cigars** on Seventh Avenue. Watch pros meticulously prepare fine cigars from a lounge rich with the smell of coffee, leather and tobacco.

At **Tampa Sweethearts Cigar Co.**, owned and operated for four generations by the cigar-pioneering Fuente family, find legendary brands from Central America. Their collection includes the family's Dominican brands available at the retail store in Ybor City.



Sterling Cigar Lounge



Learn the lingo before your trip with this guide to cigar terms.

VisitTampaBay.com

## ANATOMY OF A CIGAR

### Cap • Head • Body • Foot

Cut the cap, draw from the head, hold the body, light the foot.

### Filler • Binder • Wrapper

Premium hand-rolled cigars use three filler leaves, one binder leaf and one wrapper leaf.

## SHAPES & SIZES

- **Churchill:** The longest cigars top 7" and burn for more than an hour.
- **Corona:** Standard cigars are around 6" long and burn for 45 minutes.
- **Presidente:** Often the largest cigars, these can exceed 8" in length, providing a smoking experience that lasts well over an hour.
- **Robusto:** Shorter and fatter cigars burn for 30 minutes.
- **Toro:** Typically around 6–6.5" long, offering a burn time of 45-60 minutes.
- **Torpedo:** Come in many lengths and are thick at the foot and narrow at the head.

## HAND-ROLLED VS. MACHINE-ROLLED

Taste the tobacco, not the burn. Premium hand-rolled cigars use whole leaves and burn slower with less heat. Machine-rolled cigars use tobacco scraps as filler and burn faster and hotter.

## EL TRIO PERFECTO

Café Con Leche • Cuban Sandwich • Cigar



J.C. Newman Cigar Co.

# CURRENT

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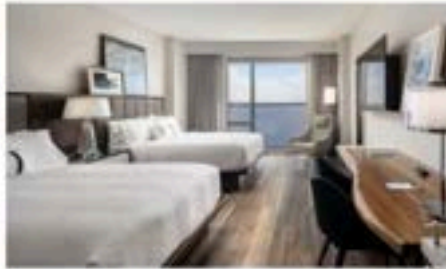
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Adventure Island

# THRILL THEN CHILL

Best of both worlds—  
adventure meets relaxation  
in beautiful Tampa Bay



by Sam Kent

In Tampa Bay, there's always something new to spin, twirl, flip and send you screaming for more—after all, it's a hub for thrilling attractions. But with all the exciting excursions to be had, you'll need time to bring that heart rate down and rest your voice—a little chill to help bring balance. Here's how to find thrills, then chill, in Tampa Bay.

## THRILL

Busch Gardens® Tampa Bay is the ultimate destination for thrills. Known for its incredible roller coasters, you'll discover some of the best in Florida—such as Iron Gwazi, which takes riders more than 200 feet into the air and then plunges them down a 91-degree drop; or Cheetah Hunt, a triple-launch coaster that has you speeding through the African Serengeti. Besides coasters, unique thrills you must try include Falcon's Fury, a 335-foot drop tower that moves your body 90 degrees so you're facing the ground. Talk about facing your fears! Another new experience, Serengeti Flyer, is the tallest and fastest attraction of its kind, swinging you through the sky. This isn't your Parks and Rec swing set. The park has thrills for all members of the family, so everyone is able to find that perfect level of exhilaration. Across the street lies Adventure Island—Tampa Bay's largest water park. There you'll find 30 acres of water slides, a lazy river, kid-friendly rides and more water-drenched fun.



ZooTampa at Lowry Park

In **ZooTampa** at Lowry Park, the thrills come from close encounters of the furry and scaly kind. The zoo offers several signature encounters with their residents, such as feeding a Greater one-horned rhino, meeting a giant tortoise or getting to feed stingrays—a new experience that includes being in the water with them! Speaking of water, don't miss **Roaring Springs**—an adventure ride complete with a three-story splashdown—in the heart of the zoo's Florida exhibit.

**DON'T MISS ROARING SPRINGS—  
AN ADVENTURE RIDE WITH A  
THREE-STORY SPLASHDOWN.**

For more natural thrills, **Empower Adventures** at Tampa's Mobbly Bayou Wilderness Preserve offers several unique zipline and paddling experiences. Starting with the **Sunset Zipline Adventure**, which overlooks the bay, this two-plus-hour guided adventure covers more than 3,000 feet of aerial obstacles and ziplines under a beautiful Tampa Bay sunset. If you wait a little later into the night, they also offer a **Moonlight Zipline Adventure** that'll have you zipping through the darkness 70 feet above the ground. Feel free to look down—you won't see a thing anyway.



Empower Adventures



The Motor Enclave

A must-visit for adrenaline seekers—**K1 Speed**. Powered by electric go-karts, this indoor racing facility satisfies the need for speed at all levels—all within the comfort of a climate-controlled building. Want to plus up your experience? Try **Glo Karting**—they turn down the lights and let neon LEDs light up the track. At **The Motor Enclave**, a premier garage community located minutes from downtown, a number of adrenaline-fueled driving experiences awaits. From manning one of their high-performance vehicles to driving your own ride on the 1.72-mile driving circuit to off-roading adventures, you'll find something to get your heart pumping.

Why would you jump out of a perfectly good airplane when you've got **iFly Tampa**? If you want to learn the basics of skydiving or simply want to flip through the air, this is the place. With expertly trained staff helping along the way, iFly lets you experience the exhilaration of skydiving without the plane—the fun of falling, so to speak. Unlike skydiving, these unique state-of-the-art wind tunnels are designed with all levels of experience in mind, so when they say fun for ages three to 103, they mean it.

## CHILL

After all the thrills are over, it's time to unwind with a little bit of chill. Let's get relaxed.

**MOSI**, the Museum of Science and Industry, offers a different spin, or orbit if we're talking about their Saunders Planetarium, on the traditional science museum. Here you'll encounter science exhibits on everything from dinosaurs to piloting drones, and their expanded experiences include a virtual reality simulator, outdoor elevated ropes course, a butterfly garden and even mini-golf. Learn, play and explore.

Go back in time and take a walk in the park with hundreds of life-sized dinosaurs at **Dinosaur World**. This classic, laid-back attraction is the perfect place to take a stroll among giants without the fear of being stalked by a T-Rex. Deck chairs surround their dinosaur-themed playground and interactive exhibits, giving adults a chance to relax while the kids play.



Dinosaur World

YOU'LL COME ACROSS MANY  
INCREDIBLE LOCAL PARKS  
TO RELAX IN, GET BACK TO  
NATURE AND EXPERIENCE  
THE REAL FLORIDA.

Ready for some unadulterated me time? Tampa Bay offers some of the best places to get pampered. **The Spa at The Tampa EDITION** offers an incredible range of services, and the highlight is the list of massages to choose from—such as their EDITION Signature Massage, which is sure to work out any kinks from those earlier zipline rides. **The Spa by JW** at the **JW Marriott Tampa Water Street** pairs stunning views and its central location with unique spa offerings, such as their Key Lime Body Buff for an all-over glow. At the **Epicurean**, the **Evangeline Spa** fuses the culinary heritage of the hotel with spa treatments in a perfect pairing of fruit scrubs and herbal oils.



Oxford Exchange

As you explore beyond urban Tampa Bay, you'll come across many incredible local parks to relax in, get back to nature and experience the real Florida. At **Lettuce Lake Park**, an exercise trail, boardwalk and observation tower provide picturesque views of the Hillsborough River and excellent spots for observing wildlife. For those looking to get on the water, canoe and kayak rentals are available. Northeast of Lettuce Lake is one of Florida's oldest state parks, **Hillsborough River State Park**. The park is known for its camping and encompasses more than 3,000 acres, in addition to offering more than seven miles of trails to explore. Try your hand at fishing, canoeing, kayaking, birding and more, with rentals available at the park.

A place lost in time but ever present in style is **Oxford Exchange**, a bookstore, restaurant and gift store all rolled into a time capsule of Tampa Bay history. It's one of those places so steeped in history that its details beg to be discovered with each room you pass through. Stroll through a collection of the written word at their bookstore while enjoying a glass of rosé from The Champagne Bar.



Hillsborough River State Park



The Candle Pour

Since you're already in the mood to chill, why not try your hand at candlemaking? **The Candle Pour** is a custom candlemaking experience in the heart of Tampa's Hyde Park Village. With more than 100 fragrance oils to choose from, the experience is best shared with a group, so bring your friends or family, as all ages are welcome.

Prefer to leave the candlemaking to the professionals? **Seventh Avenue Apothecary**, located in the heart of historic Ybor City, specializes in artisan soy wax candles. With their wide range of products and scents, just follow your nose to find the perfect candle.



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# Walk This Way



Ybor City



## DISCOVER TAMPA BAY'S AUTHENTIC CULTURE ON THESE FASCINATING TOURS

by Jeff Atwell

Visitors have treasures to discover in Tampa Bay's vibrant neighborhoods. Hop aboard the historic streetcar for a captivating way to explore downtown and Ybor City, or join a guided tour led by passionate locals to discover even more Tampa secrets.

### HISTORIC YBOR UNCOVERED

**Ybor City Historic Walking Tours** are immersive experiences visitors can only find in Tampa Bay. On two-hour guided tours through Ybor City, participants learn about the Cuban influences that turned Tampa into a boomtown. A statue of cigar pioneer Don Vicente Martínez-Ybor at Seventh Avenue and 16th Street marks the spot where tour groups meet to explore the Latin quarter. Walk along brick streets, admire old buildings with wrought-iron balconies and step into a historic cigar factory. See the ornate Cuban Club, Italian Club and other aging beauties that wear their patina with pride. Tours also stop at José Martí Park, a parcel of land in Ybor City that belongs to the people of Cuba.

### TAMPA'S BLACK HERITAGE

For a self-guided tour that reaches into other parts of town, follow the **Tampa Soul Walk**, which highlights the significant contributions of Tampa's Black community. Along the nearly 50-mile trail, more than 100 historic sites and public artworks honor Tampa's Black history. See the Tampa Heights site where Buffalo Soldiers prepared for the Spanish-American War. Stroll through Perry Harvey Sr. Park to see larger-than-life art installations and a reverent tribute wall. Pass by the Jackson House, Tampa's only boarding house for visiting African-Americans during segregation. The guest list included the likes of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Nat King Cole. Historical markers reveal the significance of each site along the eye-opening Tampa Soul Walk.

### DASH THROUGH TAMPA BAY

Many locals greet each day with a waterfront run. Joggers can get in on the action with **Florida Running Tours** that skirt the Hillsborough River and the bay. For a swift introduction to Tampa's creative side, join a 7K that trots past 70 murals and public art installations. Go all in with a 10K that runs through sections of downtown and Ybor City before crossing bridges to Harbor Island and Davis Islands. All runs in Tampa Bay should include at least a section of Bayshore Boulevard—an uninterrupted paved path that skirts the bay. After one good run in Tampa, athletes will be tempted to book a return trip to run in the annual Gasparilla Distance Classic, held each February.

## TAMPA ON TAP

Enjoy Tampa's laid-back vibes on **City Brew Tours** that highlight the city's craft beer culture. Hit multiple breweries on these tours that last at least four hours. Walk between Ybor City breweries before hopping on the City Brew shuttle to check out brewpubs in other parts of town. Go behind the scenes of each brewery to see where the magic happens. Tours visit big breweries such as Cigar City Brewing and shine a light on numerous microbreweries. By the end of the tour, imbibers can judge which local ingredient packs the biggest punch: pineapple, mango or guava. Bar snacks and swag included.

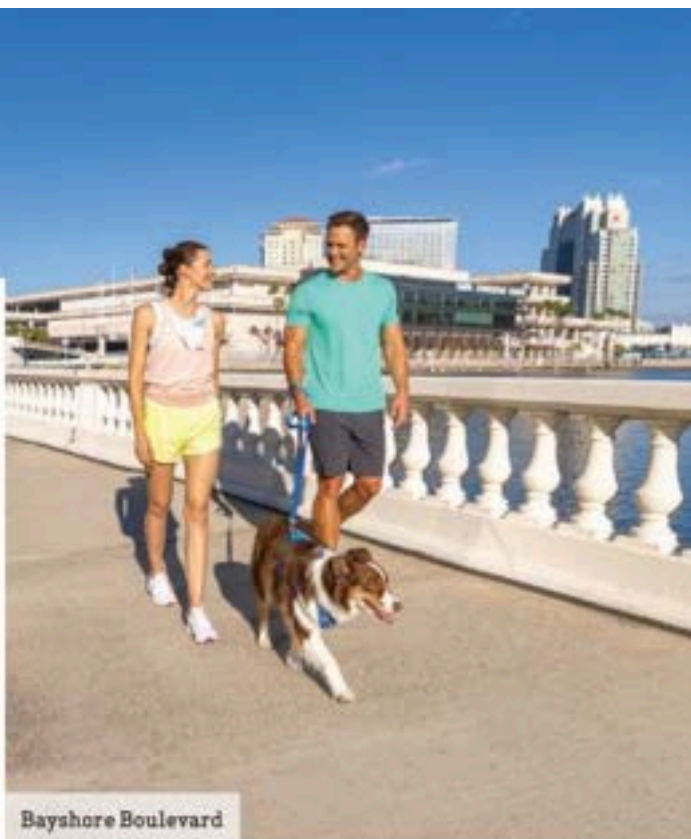
WALK BETWEEN YBOR CITY BREWERIES BEFORE HOPPING ON THE CITY BREW SHUTTLE TO CHECK OUT BREWPUBS IN OTHER PARTS OF TOWN.

## GHOSTLY ENCOUNTERS

Who doesn't like a good ghost story? Chills are guaranteed on **Nightly Spirits Ghost Tours'** two-hour walking tours dedicated to things that go "boo" in the night. Pirate guides point out the historic speakeasies, hotels and homes reported to house apparitions. Their Booze and Boos Tour steps through Ybor City's haunted sites and makes pit stops at local brewpubs to add liquid courage to the adventure. The city's secrets are revealed on these 21+ tours that pass by haunted sites such as the Old Tampa Book Company, Florida Brewery and Don Vicente Inn—known as Hotel Hell for its paranormal activity.

## TASTING TOURS

Commit three hours and arrive hungry for **Tampa Bay Food Tours** that visit independent restaurants and craft breweries around town. A rotating selection of local eateries tells the stories of Tampa Bay's diverse cultures and creative spirit. On any given tour, participants will meet chefs and restaurant owners who serve up the authentic flavors of Tampa Bay. Tour-goers might slurp oysters, devour empanadas, sample tapas and sangria and end the tour with a round of key lime pie shooters. The guiding principle: restaurants and bars that honor local ingredients and cultural traditions make the cut.



Bayshore Boulevard

## PATHS OF PROGRESS

Join a local historian who digs deep to recount fascinating Black-history stories of Tampa's early residents on the **"What It Was" Walking Tour**. Head out at sunset for a 90-minute stroll that passes many historic sites in and around downtown. From historic homesteads and churches to Black-owned businesses listed in the Green Book, learn about African-American residents who shaped Tampa from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. The twilight walking tours honor the contributions of early business owners and keep the stories of the region's Black history alive.

## FLOATING ADVENTURES

For an easy-breezy Tampa mashup, hop aboard a **Go Tiki Tour**. Two-hour daytime and sunset tours cruise along the Hillsborough River in pontoon boats that double as floating tiki bars. Partygoers bring their own supplies to make a round of mai tais or piña colodas while teetotaling captains guide the way. Soak in all the activity along the Tampa Riverwalk with downtown high-rises dominating the city skyline. On open water, sandbar pitstops allow guests to splash around in the bay.



TOUR-GOERS MIGHT SLURP OYSTERS, DEVOUR EMPANADAS, SAMPLE TAPAS AND SANGRIA AND WRAP THE TOUR WITH A ROUND OF KEY LIME PIE SHOOTERS.

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# HISTORY LIVES HERE

PAST MEETS PRESENT  
AT A HANDFUL OF LOCAL  
FAVORITES

by Edie Jarolim

J.C. Newman Cigar Co.

## GAZING AT TAMPA BAY'S BUSTLING HARBOR

and expansive Hillsborough River, you can easily see why the region has attracted a wide range of cultures over time. Among the many ways to explore the city's rich history, you'll find world-class museums, vibrant outdoor art and a thriving historic district where many traditions mingle.

The 60,000-square-foot **Tampa Bay History Center** takes you on a journey through the past, from the story of Florida's first peoples and European explorers to the establishment of Fort Brooke and the arrival of the cigar factories. Permanent exhibits include a 60-foot-long pirate ship and the unique Touchton Map Library, featuring Florida maps going back 500 years.

Also on the river, the **Henry B. Plant Museum** showcases the lifestyles of the late-19th-century rich and famous while highlighting the accomplishments of its namesake entrepreneur. The former Tampa Bay Hotel, built in 1891, was the crown jewel of the railroad, steamship and hotel empire created by Plant. The opulent lodging dazzled guests with the latest amenities—private baths, electricity, telephones and the state's first elevator—but it wasn't just a pretty space: During the Spanish-American War, it served as headquarters for the U.S. Army.

The key role that the Black community played in Tampa Bay is celebrated through an array of eye-catching public art at **Perry Harvey Sr. Park**, named for the civil rights

leader and union organizer who helped improve the working conditions of the city's predominantly Black dock workers. Along with a bronze statue of Harvey, the artworks include a sculpture of two colorful jazz players, a tribute to the area's once vital music scene; and 14 paving stones that document the evolution of the neighborhood, once called The Scrub, from the post-Civil War era on.

Learn more about the cultural heritage and the contributions of



José Martí Park

today's African-American community at **Tampa's Black History Museum**, steps away from the park. Housed in the beautifully restored Saint James Church, built in 1921, the museum is the fruit of a partnership between the Tampa Bay History Center and the Tampa Housing Authority; it's part of downtown's Encore District revitalization plan. The museum currently hosts special events, such as a fashion show featuring Black designers, and should be open to the public on a regular basis by 2026.

About a mile northeast of downtown, **Ybor City** showcases Tampa's living history, with a distinctive blend of cultures that lend it a unique, sometimes quirky, character. For example, protected chickens roam the streets, a throwback to the days when owning livestock was common.

Designated a National Historic Landmark District in 1990, the neighborhood owes its existence to the arrival of Don Vicente Martínez-Ybor, who opened a cigar factory in 1886. His factory and others that followed drew waves of job seekers, especially from Cuba, Spain, Italy and Germany, some working in cigar-adjacent professions like crafting ornate boxes and printing labels.

The newly arrived workers sought out their compatriots, forming mutual aid societies that offered companionship as well as essentials such as medical care. Over time, the modest meeting halls that arose at the turn of the 19th century morphed into grand structures that hosted everything from bowling alleys to ballrooms. The three clubs remaining from the early days are the **Centro Asturiano de Tampa**, devoted to the people of Asturias, Spain; the **Cuban Club**; and the **Italian Club**. The buildings are among Ybor City's landmarked architectural treasures, and club members are now dedicated to preserving the cultures that created them.



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Tampa Bay History Center

Among the reasons that Tampa became a magnet for cigar makers was its proximity to Cuba, which was under Spanish rule until 1902. José Martí, the firebrand poet and journalist who became the symbol of the Cuban revolution, often visited Tampa and stayed at the boarding house of fellow revolutionary Paulina Pedroso. You don't need a passport to visit the small green space that is now **José Martí Park**, but it's on Cuban land, deeded by Pedroso to the island nation whose independence she and Martí fought for.

The childhood home of Al López, Tampa's first professional baseball player, manager and Hall of Fame inductee, now hosts the **Tampa Baseball Museum**. Browse the exhibits in this 1905 casita, moved a mile from its original location, to learn about López and other major leaguers from Tampa and to get an overview of the city's impressive baseball heritage. Tampa's first team was organized in 1878, and the sport really took off when baseball-loving Cubans came to work in the cigar industry a decade later.

Don't miss a visit to **Columbia Restaurant**, Florida's oldest dining establishment and the largest Spanish restaurant in the world. Started as a café for newly arrived cigar rollers in 1905, it now occupies a full city block in the heart of Ybor City, seating 1,700 in 15 separate dining areas. Still run by the same family, the restaurant draws on traditional recipes for its excellent Spanish and Cuban fare. The best known is the **Cubano**, or Cuban sandwich. A culinary icon embodying Tampa's immigration history, it layers Spanish ham, Italian Genoa salami, Cuban roast pork, and Eastern European-style mustard, Swiss cheese and pickles between slices of freshly baked Cuban bread. You'll find the Cubano in other South Florida cities, but only Tampa's version—claimed to be the first—includes salami.



Tampa Baseball Museum



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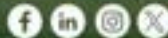
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# Art Shines

## IN TAMPA BAY

From photography to performances,  
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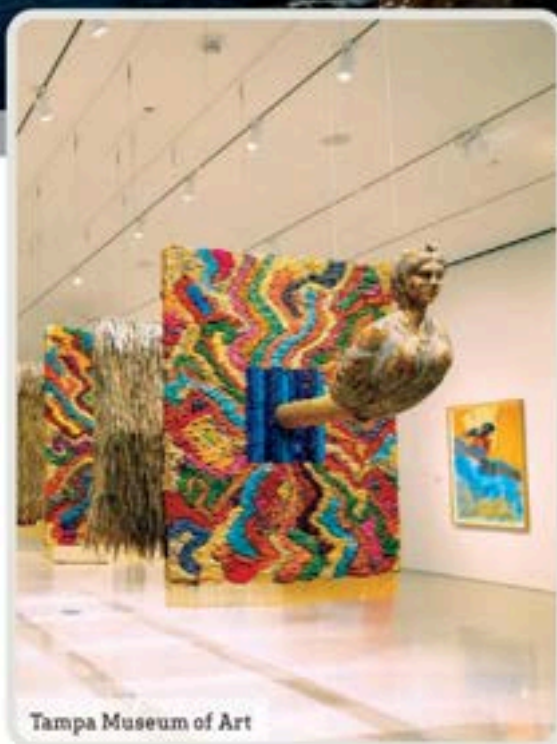
by Emma Witmer

Step into a destination alive with artistic energy. Here, world-class fine art meets local cultural epicenters that capture the pulse of the day. Music, photography, theater and dance come to life, inspiring visitors and locals to embrace their inner artists.

Straz Center for the Performing Arts

Tampa Museum of Art's award-winning modernist exterior has stood sentinel along the bank of the Hillsborough River since 2010. From traveling exhibits to its impressive permanent collection, this cultural institution truly shines. Discover antiquities dating back thousands of years, modern masters including Alex Katz and Andy Warhol, and contemporary icons such as Dale Chihuly. Year-round guided tours and lectures reveal the mysteries and histories behind the art on display.

After your stroll through art history, turn your sights toward downtown, where the nearby Tampa Theatre awaits with historic grandeur. The 99-year-old theater's retro green marquee and commanding sign call back to a bygone era of movie palaces. Relive the golden age of film with screenings of first-run and classic films, or catch a "concert under the stars" in the theater's hand-drawn Mediterranean-style courtyard painted on the ceiling. There's also a 43-seat microcinema next door.



Tampa Museum of Art



Tampa City Ballet

Nearby, immerse yourself in star-studded touring acts and classical stylings at the **Straz Center for the Performing Arts**. Home to **Opera Tampa**, the Bay Area's go-to world-class opera company, the Straz Center hosts three major operatic performances every year and is a frequent venue of **The Florida Orchestra**. Find a slice of the Big Apple with captivating Broadway performances such as *The Cher Show*, *MJ The Musical*, *MAMMA MIA!*, and more. With captivating productions running year-round, the magic of Broadway is always in season!

Also appearing at the Straz, **Tampa City Ballet** illuminates the art of dance with original choreography and elite talent, and fosters the next generation of international phenoms through its robust educational programs. Fearless performances range from innovative and experimental works such as *If I Cry*, a surreal look into the mind of artist Frida Kahlo, to classically precise and timeless compositions like *The Nutcracker*.

Tampa Bay's longest running professional theater, **Stageworks Theatre**, lives just east of downtown in the Channel District. The theater's commitment to "ignite the human spirit" shines through thought-provoking plays that seem perfectly timed to address the hopes and anxieties of the day.

VisitTampaBay.com

Located in the heart of historic Ybor City, the **Florida Museum of Photographic Arts** draws in photography lovers with transportive exhibits such as early 2025's José Ney Miló Espinosa: *Land Land Land*, a thought-provoking look at Afro-Cuban spiritual practices and their connection with modern culture. This summer you can explore the exhibit *The Hutterites: In the World but Not of It*, which looks at this pacifist Anabaptist group and the culture of its everyday life. Plus, it's only a few blocks from the iconic Columbia Restaurant. Even better: Admission is free the first full weekend of every month.

Follow up your daytime adventure through Ybor with an evening show at the mural-clad **1920 Ybor City**. The neighborhood's premier music venue has 14,000 square feet of indoor, outdoor and rooftop space to catch some live music, explore local art shows and discover one-of-a-kind pop-up events.

No matter how you choose to explore Tampa Bay's vibrant and ever-expanding art scene, the region's culture of creativity permeates every aspect of the community, from stage and screen to exhibits and classes. Even the public art lining the streets serves as a reminder: Art lives here.



1920 Ybor City

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# Sophisticated Sips

Exploring the Tampa Bay cocktail scene



by Emma Witmer

Tampa Bay is brimming with mouthwatering cocktail bars that combine atmosphere and flavor. Whether you're winding down with a nightcap after exploring downtown, kicking off a lively Sunday Funday along Water Street or enjoying a date night sipping an elegant cocktail in Hyde Park, you'll find the perfect spot to raise a glass.

Sal Y Mar



Punch Room



Alter Ego

For unrivaled views of Tampa Bay, craft cocktails from award-winning mixologists and artfully plated bites, there's no place like **Beacon**. Cresting the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street, the 27th-floor lounge—opened in 2023—claims the title as Tampa's tallest public rooftop watering hole. **Punch Room** at The Tampa EDITION immerses guests in the rich history of regional punches. With a focus on the terroir of cane spirits and an array of tropical fruits and spices, it pays tribute to the storied evolution of this timeless beverage.

Downtown's urban energy finds its match with CW's **Gin Joint**, a modern upscale speakeasy that takes the art of the classic cocktail to new heights. CW's Gin Joint is—as its name suggests—a gin lover's paradise. Check out their "GinMatrix" to find your perfect pour. Whether your tastes lean savory, floral, or citrus- or juniper-forward, there's a spirit for everyone.

When it comes to Water Street's **Alter Ego**, making a reservation is well worth it. Nightly live music sets the tone for chef Ferrell Alvarez's soulful cocktail lounge and nightclub. An anything-but-flip-flops dress code and mandatory reservation policy add to the monochromatic, LED-filled destination's air of exclusivity and modern luxury.

Located atop Armature Works, **M.Bird's** rooftop views of the cityscape are matched only by its array of craft tiki cocktails and Caribbean- and Latin-inspired menu. Filled with rattan chairs and potted palms, the mod-deco space exudes a sense of tropical escape. The bar infuses the cocktail menu with Havana flair with a rum list topping 40 bottles and punch bowls perfect for kicking off the party.

The Epicurean Hotel's mural-lined rooftop bar, **Edge**, brings bright, fresh fruit cocktails and coveted craft brews to Historic Hyde Park. Decidedly youthful with its Instagram-ready visuals and trendy flavors—Tajin-rimmed spicy margaritas anyone?—the modern bar adopts the hotel's upscale edge with flourished small plates and artfully garnished sippers.

Gloriously eccentric and moody, **Jekyll** in Hyde Park distinguishes itself with eye-catching artwork, velvet upholstery, glowing chandeliers and, of course, its off-the-wall cocktail program. Aperitifs like the *Memories of Capri*, a new menu addition, aren't afraid to go savory with a Caprese salad-inspired drink featuring egg white foam and finished with olive oil and cracked pepper. The bar channels the major metropolitan vibes of cities like New York and London, offering creativity and craftsmanship in equal measure.

Hidden away inside Roast Deli, Bakery and Social Bar, **Madame Fortune's** chic, West Indian-inspired restaurant and bar offers a sensory experience from larger-than-life botanical displays to cocktails presented with gravitas and flair. Smoke-dome old fashioned and Creamsicle-filled pours of bubbly bring the fun alongside menu specials, like crab claw-filled pasta plates, that bring daily surprises.

There's no better way to cap off your full Tampa Bay day than a delicious cocktail at one of the area's inspired bars serving up exquisite flavor and flair.

Smoke-dome old fashioned and Creamsicle-filled pours of bubbly bring the fun at Madame Fortune's.



Edge



Rooster & The Till

## MOCKTAIL MAGIC

Mocktails, alcohol-free beverages that mimic the flavors and presentation of cocktails, are the perfect choice for those who want to enjoy flavorful drinks sans alcohol. In addition to a strong cocktail game, most places offer a range of NA options. Sample the Hyde Away at **Bouzy**, made with raspberry, coconut, pineapple and lemon. Beach things up at **Rooster & The Till** with the Bikini Bottom, which combines pineapple, passion fruit, lime, orgeat, and ginger ale. And at **GenX Tavern** the mocktail menu includes The Passionfruit One, fusing pineapple juice, passion fruit puree and Sprite.

# brew & breweries



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# DISCOVER YOUR SHOPPING

# Nirvana

## RETAIL THERAPY THE TAMPA BAY WAY

by Helen Anne Travis

**RETAIL DREAMS COME TRUE** in Tampa Bay—a shopping haven that offers a mix of upscale boutiques, unique finds and culinary delights around every corner. Whether you're here to shop 'til you drop or simply find the perfect souvenir, Tampa Bay has something special for everyone.

### RETAIL RETREAT: HYDE PARK VILLAGE

**Hyde Park Village** is Tampa's answer to contemporary shopping. From wardrobe upgrades to award-winning gourmet treats, you'll find it all here.

Head to Reformation for sustainable fashion, grab the latest trail runners at Nike Well Collective or try on sleek eyewear at Warby Parker.

You'll also find specialty boutiques filled with artisanal goods. Fig & Julep is a local's favorite for small-batch cheeses, honey and candies. Nearby, Albisia is known for its custom jewelry, including a large collection of ethically sourced diamonds and other precious gems. **Salt Pines**, born from the adventurous spirit of

Armature Works

pirates and crafted for modern explorers, offers premium apparel perfect for coastal adventures.

Hyde Park's cobblestone streets are lined with benches, grand oaks and bubbling fountains, making it the perfect place to shop and unwind.



**TIME FOR A BITE?** Treat yourself to prime cuts and craft cocktails at **Meat Market**, savor modern Italian at **Forbici** or keep it light with fresh bagels and homemade spreads at **Sesame**.

### MODERN OASIS: MIDTOWN TAMPA

If you're a fan of sleek, open-air spaces with a community feel, you'll love **Midtown Tampa**.

Whether you're updating your home with contemporary pieces from Ballard Designs or searching for the perfect sun hat at REI, Midtown's mix of modern retailers and pop-up shops always offers something fresh and inspiring.

And Midtown is more than just shopping—it's a community hub that offers events for residents and visitors alike. From trivia nights and rotating art installations to stroller yoga and sunrise markets, there's always something to enjoy.



**READY TO REFUEL?** Enjoy a hot, crispy slice of pizza at **Colony Grill** or savor world flavors with a modern twist at **BellaBrava**.

### SHOPPER'S PARADISE: INTERNATIONAL PLAZA AND BAY STREET

Welcome to the crown jewel of Tampa Bay's shopping. **International Plaza and Bay Street** offers everything from name-brand luxury to everyday essentials.

Shop for high-end clothing and accessories at Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Neiman Marcus. Update your technology at the Apple Store or find the perfect skin and hair care items at Lush.

Shop for the latest streetwear at Urban Outfitters or timeless home decor at RH Gallery. Then sit back with a drink and enjoy some of Tampa Bay's best people-watching.

Afterward, head outside to Bay Street, the mall's open-air retail and dining promenade. This pedestrian-only passageway is lined with stores, restaurants and pop-up concert stages.



**CRAVING A CULINARY ADVENTURE?** Enjoy farm-fresh comfort food at **Whiskey Cake**, or for something bold, dive into mouthwatering appetizers at **The Capital Grille**. Just down the road, check out the chef-curated seafood dishes at **Ocean Prime**.

VisitTampaBay.com



Unlock Tampa Bay Visitors Center

### UNLOCK TAMPA BAY: SHOP, EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE

The **Unlock Tampa Bay Visitors Center** is your launchpad for all things Tampa Bay. Here, you'll find souvenirs to celebrate your visit, including T-shirts, cookbooks and local sports memorabilia.

After stocking up on treasures from local makers such as **Erika Williner Designs** and **Heads and Tails**, it's time to explore the city. The Visitors Center offers easy access to the city's top attractions.

Hop on a cruise or pirate-themed water taxi, grab a street car for a free ride to destinations like Water Street and Ybor City, or join a guided walking tour to learn more about everything this city has to offer.



Midtown Tampa

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[www.DestinationMermaids.com](http://www.DestinationMermaids.com)



## Discover the culinary delights of Tampa Bay at BellaBrava and Stillwaters Tavern

At BellaBrava, New World Trattoria, we serve modern Italian cuisine with a focus on from-scratch cooking. House-made pastas & pizzas, rich sauces, and delectable desserts, all crafted in-house.

Stillwaters Tavern, American Scratch Kitchen, offers regional American comfort food. Every dish is prepared with the freshest ingredients, ensuring an unforgettable dining experience.

All of our restaurants pride themselves on superior service and a welcoming atmosphere, perfect for any occasion.

**We look forward to making your dining experience unforgettable.**



Scan to learn more

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**25**

**HOME OPPONENTS**



# CALLING ALL SPORTS FANS

EXCITING YEAR-ROUND SPORTS SCORE IN TAMPA BAY

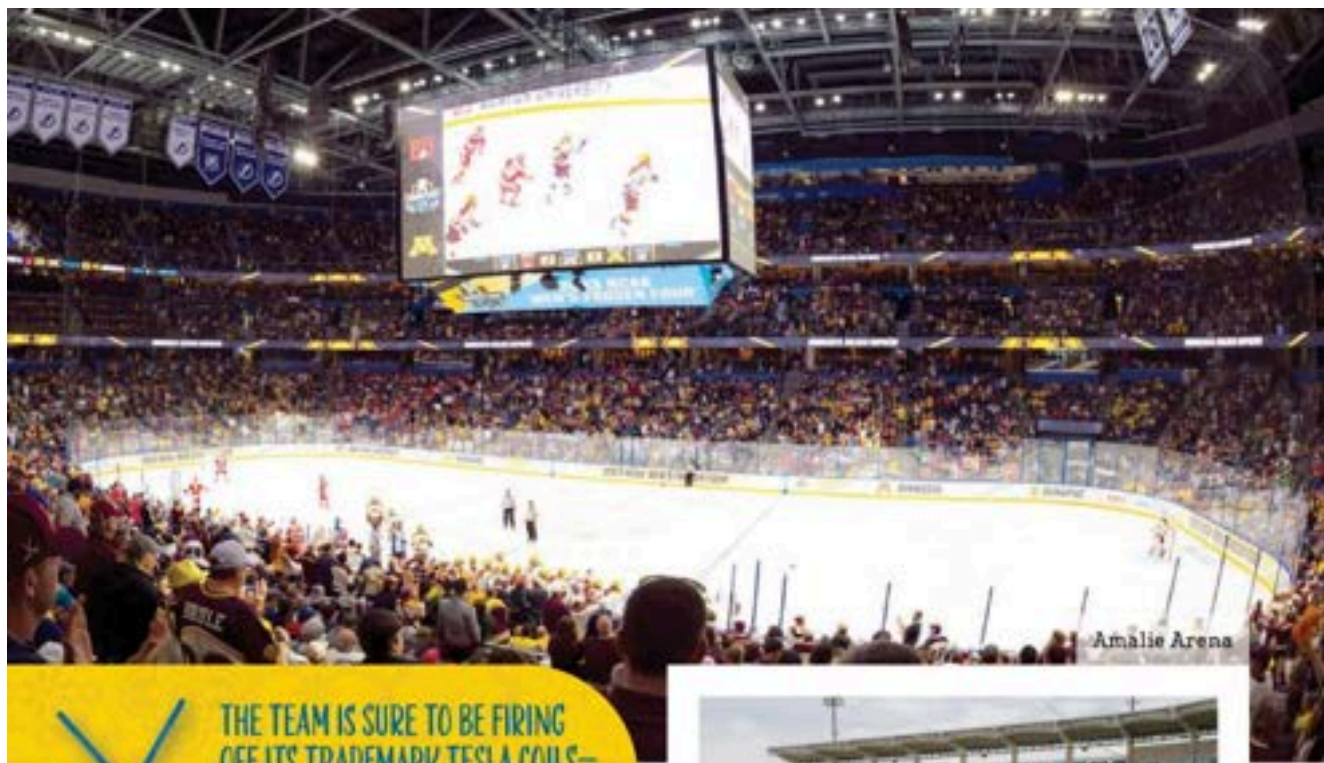
by Kevin Tall

**FEW DESTINATIONS COULD HOPE** to match the sports offerings of Tampa Bay, and none boast such a beautiful climate. It's a year-round winning combination in the Sunshine State!

Catch a football game at Raymond James Stadium, home to the Super Bowl LV champion **Tampa Bay Buccaneers!** The team has a new offensive look, courtesy of QB Baker Mayfield, but its home stadium has the same exciting atmosphere that fans have enjoyed during the multiple Super Bowls it's hosted. The incredible pirate ship docked in the stadium's north end zone is essential to the game day experience and features booming cannons.

The **Tampa Bay Sun FC** is all about what's new. Fresh off its debut season, the team is part of the brand-new professional women's soccer organization, the USL Super League, and plays at the beautiful, newly renovated Riverfront Stadium just outside of downtown.

Tampa Bay Sun FC



Amalie Arena



THE TEAM IS SURE TO BE FIRING OFF ITS TRADEMARK TESLA COILS—WHICH SPARK TO LIFE EVERY TIME THE LIGHTNING SCORE.

The **Tampa Bay Rowdies** take to the soccer pitch across the bay in historic Al Lang Stadium, a former longtime host to Major League Baseball Spring Training. The squad has been around since 2010 and will be hungry to improve upon its second-round exit in the USL Championship playoffs.

One thing is for sure: The local MLB franchise, the **Tampa Bay Rays**, will have a new home for the 2025 season. The club is excited to play at the beautiful George M. Steinbrenner Field, the preseason home of the New York Yankees, in 2025. The venue seats more than 11,000 people and features a dozen locations for private events, as well as premium food and beverage with exclusive club access.

While Amalie Arena, home venue of the National Hockey League's **Tampa Bay Lightning**, may be kept cool year-round, there's plenty of hot action to be had! The team is sure to be firing off its trademark Tesla coils—which spark to life every time the Lightning score—for fans in attendance as often as possible. Bolts fans and visitors alike have an abundance of food and beverage options to enjoy before or after the game in downtown Tampa Bay's bustling Water Street district adjacent to the Lightning's venerated home venue. With restaurants offering fine dining, elevated pub grub and international fare, there's something to satisfy every hungry fan. And in 2026, the NHL will play outdoor games in Florida for the first time, with Tampa Bay proudly welcoming the 2026 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series to Raymond James Stadium.

The **New York Yankees** call Tampa home during MLB Spring Training—one of five teams in nearby markets—and one look at Steinbrenner Field will tell you why. The



Steinbrenner Field

team offers the Inside Experience, which allows fans to interact with past and current players, take in batting practice and more, with food and a lower-level ticket included in the package price. The stadium offers great food and beverage options and is nearby Tampa's renowned International Plaza and Bay Street dining destination.

## TOURNAMENTS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

In addition to its perennial sports offerings, Tampa Bay regularly hosts numerous tournaments and championships.

- NCAA Frozen Four men's hockey championship: hosted in Tampa three times, last in 2023
- Amalie Arena: hosted 2025 women's NCAA Final Four basketball for the fourth time
- Raymond James Stadium: home to Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl, and ReliaQuest Bowl, and multiple Super Bowls
- PGA Valspar Championship: held annually at Innisbrook Resort
- Savannah Bananas: sold out Raymond James Stadium, March 2025 appearance



# READY TO *Engage*

IT'S ALWAYS THE PERFECT DAY TO PLAN A DYNAMIC MEETING IN TAMPA BAY

by Kathy McMahon

Tampa Convention Center

**HIP AND URBAN TAMPA BAY** stands head and shoulders above the rest as an exceptional destination for large and small meetings, offering an ideal blend of business and leisure. With the waterfront Tampa Convention Center, world-class airport and a wide variety of accommodations, Tampa Bay ensures your meeting will dazzle. Attendees can also enjoy the stunning waterfront, cultural attractions and vibrant local dining scene. Sunny, warm weather, outdoor pursuits and iconic attractions make it easy to mix work and relaxation.

Want more reasons to hold your meeting here? Let us spell it out for you.

**T****Travel Is a Breeze** Award-winning Tampa International Airport (TPA) is a treat to fly into due to its efficient design and traveler-friendly facilities. Named Number 2 among large airports in the J.D. Power 2024 North America Airport Satisfaction Study, TPA offers non-stop flights to more than 80 destinations domestically and internationally. Be sure to grab a selfie in the main terminal with Phoebe the Flamingo, TPA's eye-catching ambassador, on your way to sample local goods from shops, restaurants and breweries.

**A****ccommodations Galore** With more than 26,000 rooms in Hillsborough County, you're sure to find just what you need for your group. From unique boutique hotels and historic digs with flair to large, modern spots with all the amenities and views for days, the options are endless. And you'll find something for every budget—from affordable to downright luxurious. Regardless of where you stay, Tampa Bay's dynamic spirit and welcoming attitude will help make your visit memorable.

**M****odern and Convenient Convention Center** Encompassing 600,000 square feet, Tampa Convention Center makes it easy to do business with well-appointed, comfortable spaces, combined with state-of-the-art technology—all in the heart of walkable downtown. You'll also find an extensive guest services program, waterfront meeting rooms and award-winning food along with waterfront dining areas. With 200,000 square feet of exhibit space, a 36,000-square-foot ballroom and more than 50 breakout rooms—TCC has your meeting needs covered.

**Plenty of Sunshine** They don't call it the Sunshine State for nothing. Tampa typically enjoys more than 240 days of sunshine a year, with May being the sunniest month. And with an annual average temperature of 73 degrees, Tampa Bay's climate is easy to enjoy year-round.

**All Are Welcome** Inclusivity, accessibility and hospitality all go hand-in-hand in sunny Tampa Bay, where the community celebrates everyone, and all are welcomed, appreciated and respected for who they are, no matter their background. Tampa Bay invites visitors to come as they are and enjoy all the diverse locale has to offer.

**Better through Sustainability** Situated in a vibrant and natural environment, Tampa Bay encourages preservation for future generations. As you embark on your meeting planning with Tampa Bay, you'll discover a commitment to sustainability throughout the community and a host of eco-friendly venues, hotels, restaurants, transportation options and more. So if you're looking to minimize the environmental footprint of your meeting, Visit Tampa Bay can help you create a plan in line with your corporate values. Best of all, you won't be sacrificing a single thing.



Tampa International Airport

**Auto Optional** Once you've arrived, getting around Tampa Bay is a cinch—and likely a blast. A wide variety of transportation choices includes unique options such as the Pirate Water Taxi, the free TECO Streetcar, electric scooters, bike rentals and two-person self-powered boats in addition to eco-friendly e-boats. And don't overlook various cruise options, the Cross Bay Ferry, the Star Trolley for custom group transport and all the other alternatives you'd expect from an urban city: taxis, car rentals, charter buses, limos and mini buses. There's also the affordable DASH (Downtown Area Shared Hub), a hub-to-hub transit service that uses 100 percent electric power. Visit Tampa Bay can help create custom solutions for your group's transportation needs.

## WESTSHORE HOTEL DISTRICT



## DOWNTOWN TAMPA



**Yes to Playtime** When you have shut your laptop for the day and are ready for some fun after your meetings, Tampa Bay has you surrounded. Downtown Tampa Bay buzzes with energy, featuring the scenic Tampa Riverwalk, perfect for strolls or bike rides. Visitors can explore world-class restaurants, unique bars and craft breweries, or unwind at cultural gems such as the Tampa Museum of Art. For thrill-seekers, nearby attractions like Busch Gardens® Tampa Bay, ZooTampa and The Florida Aquarium await. And for a dose of local flavor, wander through historic Ybor City. With year-round sunshine and endless activities, Tampa Bay offers a bounty of fun and relaxation options at the end of the day.

## LOOK WHO HAS SELECTED TAMPA BAY

- Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine
- Church of the Nazarene
- College Football Playoff National Championship
- IBM Corporation Amplify
- National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
- National League of Cities (NLC)
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
- Society for Neuro Oncology



## MEETING THE MOMENT—IMPACT RECOGNITION PROGRAM

At Visit Tampa Bay, we support meetings as opportunities to create positive change for the long term. Our Meeting the Moment initiative recognizes meetings and conventions that rise above and incorporate sustainable practices, social responsibility and community engagement. We celebrate the power of events to make meaningful impacts on our community and environment. Learn more about recognition categories and qualifications and how your meeting can inspire others.



LEARN MORE  
ABOUT MEETINGS.

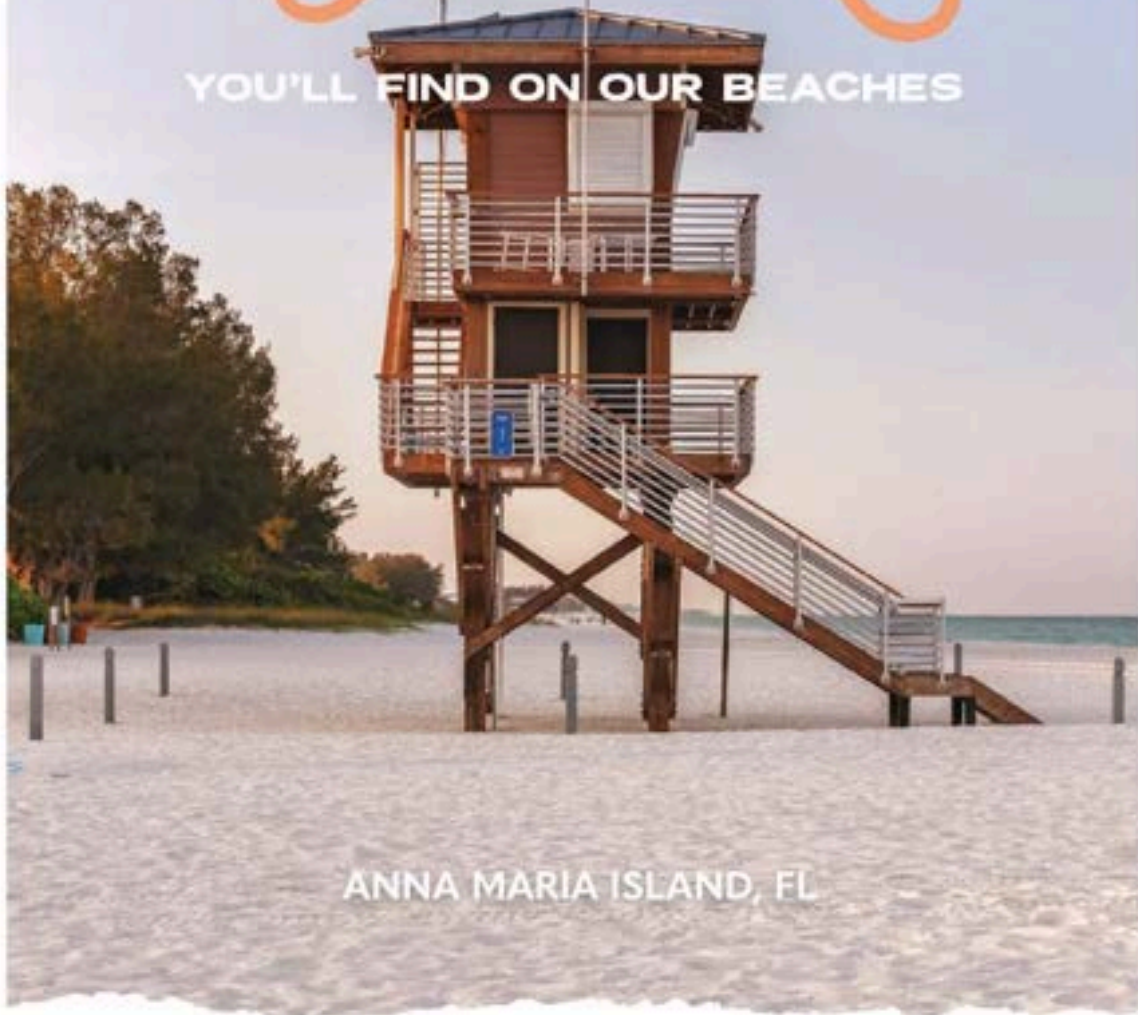


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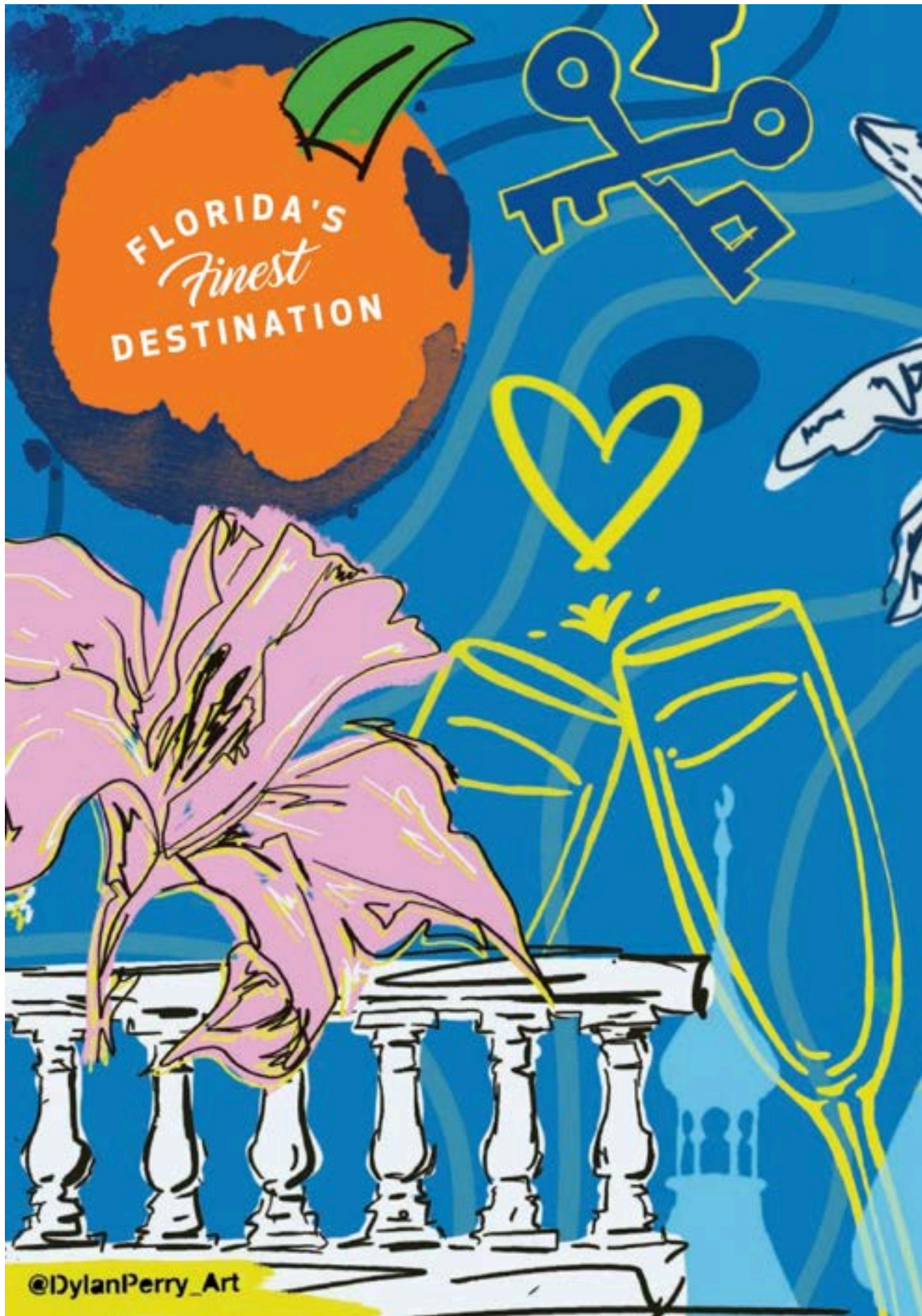
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