



GREATER MIAMI CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

701 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2700, Miami, Florida 33131

305/539-3084, Fax 305/539-2911

<http://www.MiamiandBeaches.com>

E-Mail: media@MiamiandBeaches.com

Revel in the fun with \$15 or less in Greater Miami & The Beaches

You don't need deep pockets to celebrate Greater Miami and the Beaches. With a mere \$15 dollars or less, you can dig your feet into the white sands of South Beach, stroll through the art galleries in Coral Gables, experience the Latin culture of Little Havana, tour the Art Deco district or take the South Beach local bus to one of the city's more than 22 points of interest.

Traveling to Greater Miami on a budget is simple and with no doubt will leave you with little time to spare!

Miami Beach

Looking for some fun in the sun with a limited cash flow? Miami Beach offers more than its fair share of activities to enjoy on a skinny budget. Dieting pocketbooks can enjoy the colorful array of hues down Collins and Washington Avenue as pink, yellow, and pale blue flash across your eyes in wonder. If you aren't spending the day in the surf or the sand, put on your walking shoes and prepare for an exciting and inexpensive exploration.

Did you know there are more than 800 Art Deco buildings within a one-mile radius on South Beach? You can view them all as you ride on the **South Beach local bus** for just 25 cents. This new shuttle service operates Monday-Saturday from 8:00 am to 1:00 am and Sundays from 10:00 am to 1:00 am with frequencies every 12-15 minutes. A few of the shuttle's stops include Lincoln Road Mall, the Art Deco Historic District, City Hall, Holocaust Memorial and the Miami Beach Convention Center.

From the architecture to the art galleries to the theaters and street performers, Miami Beach is the epicenter of Miami culture. The **Wolfsonian-FIU** houses a fascinating collection of architectural and propaganda art from the modern era. You can attend a free exhibition tour every Friday at 6:00 pm. All other days, admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. The **Bass Museum of Art** has a permanent collection of more than 2,800 objects including European old masters, 20th century paintings, sculpture, graphics, photography, and architectural and design arts from North America, Latin America and the Caribbean. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, and children under 6 are free. The **Holocaust Memorial** is yet another site not to be missed. This inspiring memorial is a tribute to the six million Jewish victims of Nazi terrorism before and during World War II. This amazing sculpture is open daily and is completely free of charge.

All that site seeing might jump-start your appetite, so take a trip back to the 1950's at the **11th Street Diner** on Washington Avenue for a delicious thick milkshake and a classic hamburger with French fries. Sit at the counter, listen to the jukebox and enjoy the oldies, but goodies. People watch and grab a cheap bite at the famous **News Café** on Ocean Drive. Spend an evening on Lincoln Road, enjoying dinner and live jazz at the **Van Dyke**. And for the real pizza-lover in you, **Pizza Rustica** on Lincoln Road (along with two other locations on Washington Avenue) offers a variety of gourmet slices starting at \$3. For some great thrifty shopping year-round, **Lincoln Road's Farmer's Market** sells antiques, fresh flowers, handpicked seasonal fruit and more every Sunday from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm.

Little Havana

Start your day off right with a visit to the window at **Versailles** restaurant in Little Havana. Order an authentic café Cubano and *pastelito de guayava* (guava pastry) and then begin your journey by walking east on Calle Ocho (SW 8th Street). A cigar connoisseur will enjoy a visit to **El Credito Cigars** (1106 SW 8th Street) where you can watch a talented team of cigar rollers busy at work. If you're lucky they may even let you roll one! The "click...clacking" of dominoes

is coming from **Maximo Gomez Park**, or Domino Park, (15th & SW 8 Street) where an energetic group of older men are playing an intense game of dominoes - a popular Cuban pastime.

If you happen to be in town on the last Friday of the month, **Viernes Culturales (Cultural Fridays)** in Little Havana offers a monthly celebration from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Calle Ocho's 14th – 17th Avenue. The streets transform into an open-air gallery with 100+ artists, sculptors and artisans filling up the sidewalks with their wonderful creations. Local restaurants as well as art galleries, merchant stores and the historic Tower Theatre all celebrate in the event. Viernes Culturales keeps you in-step with the wonderful rhythms, sights and sounds of Little Havana!

Coral Gables

A warm day in the sun is best spent at the historic **Venetian Pool** in Coral Gables. Formed from a coral rock quarry in 1923, the Venetian Pool is an 820,000-gallon pool featuring two waterfalls, coral caves and grottos. April through October, adults (13 and older) pay \$10, and children (ages 3-12) pay \$6.75. November through March, adults pay \$6.25 and children pay \$5.50. Children under 3 are NOT admitted to the facility. Children must be a minimum of 38 inches tall and 3 years old or provide a birth certificate proof of 36 months of age to enter facility and the pool. A drop in the bucket for an afternoon at the world's most beautiful swimming pool! **Important notice: As of September 8, 2008, Venetian Pool is closed for renovations through April 2009.**

If art is your passion, visit **Coral Gables Gallery Night** every first Friday of the month, and stroll the Gables Art Walk. On this special evening, art galleries keep their doors open to the public from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm providing useful art advice and even a glass of wine and cheese while enjoying the fine art. The best part of this artsy night is that it will cost you absolutely nothing!

The famous **Biltmore Hotel** in Coral Gables offers free tours of the magnificent property and grounds every Sunday afternoon at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 pm. Listen to a professional storyteller talk about the hotel's early days and rich stories of the City's past. In its heyday, The Biltmore played host to royalty,

both Europe's and Hollywood's including the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Ginger Rogers, Judy Garland, Bing Crosby, Al Capone and assorted Roosevelts and Vanderbilts. Today, the hotel proudly boasts a four-star, four-diamond ranking and is the only hotel in South Florida recognized as a National Historic Landmark.

Take a walk or ride the tram around the 83 acre **Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden**, one of the world's preeminent botanic gardens boasting extensive collections of rare tropical plants including palms, cycads, flowering trees and vines. Admission to the Garden is \$15 for seniors (65 and over) and \$10 for children ages 6-17. Children 5 and under are free. This fee includes narrated walking or tram tours, access to the tropical conservatory and tropical fruit pavilion.

Key Biscayne

Grab your fishing poles, beach ball and sunscreen and cross the causeway to Key Biscayne where you can spend a relaxing day at the **Bill Baggs State Park** beach. Tour the historic lighthouse which dates back to 1846, drop your fishing line to catch dinner, or just take a leisurely walk down one of the most beautiful beaches.

Coconut Grove

For a fun affordable bite to eat, **Jaguar Ceviche Bar and Latam Grill** in Coconut Grove is sure to please. Enjoy an eclectic array of succulent South American dishes while watching the locals stroll along the bohemian blocks. The prices are just right for one or for a family of four. After your meal go for the ride of your life on a rickshaw for a mere \$10. And don't miss **Vizcaya Museum & Gardens**, a historical Italian renaissance villa on the bay. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors, and \$6 for children. Admission is free for children 5 and under.

Downtown Miami

Downtown Miami isn't just for business suits and briefcases anymore. With several attractions finding their way to the downtown area, you will feel right at home with your casual shorts and sandals. The new **Miami Children's Museum**, just minutes away from Downtown, allows you to explore hundreds of bilingual and interactive exhibits related to arts, culture and communication. Every third Friday of the month, this educational museum offers complimentary entry for all from 3 pm - 9 pm. The **Historical Museum of Southern Florida** is another enlightening site. Take your time as you explore 10,000 years of South Florida and Caribbean history while wandering through the permanent and traveling exhibits throughout the year. Admission is \$12 for adults and children, and free for MCM members and children under 12 months. The **Miami Art Museum** presents international art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Free admission available every second Saturday of the month, so get out and experience the ample selection of activities available on a slender budget.

South Miami

Afraid of a Bengal tiger? What about a komodo dragon? Voted among the top ten zoos in the U.S. by *Travel & Leisure* magazine, **Miami MetroZoo**, provides family fun for the young and young at heart. Miami MetroZoo's 300-acres house more than 1,200 wild animals in a cage-less setting, giving you the feeling of embarking on an international safari. This zoo is the only one in the continental U.S. located in a subtropical climate enabling it to showcase animals that cannot easily be exhibited in colder climates. Admission is \$15.95 plus tax for adults and \$11.95 plus tax for children ages 3-12. Children under 2 are free.

Ready to enter a tropical fruit paradise? Established in 1944, the **Fruit & Spice Park** is just 35 miles south of Downtown Miami. More than 500 varieties of exotic fruits, herbs, spices and nuts from around the world are found in this lush 35-acre park. Admission for adults is \$5 and children ages 6-12 pay \$1.50.

Bring history to life at the **Gold Coast Railroad Museum**, one of the country's finest rail museums. Learn a bit of Florida's past by touring some of the earliest locomotives such as the "Ferdinand Magellan," the private railroad car

built for President Franklin Roosevelt. Kids will relish at the thought of a train ride on the "Edwin Link Train," offered on weekends at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The rides are suitable for both children and adults and consist of a 20 minute ride on a 2-foot gauge track. The cost for the ride won't break the bank, at only \$2.50 per person, all ages. Enjoy a free ride on our Edwin Link 2-ft gauge train on Wednesdays. Trains depart at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. sharp. Museum entrance for adults and children over 12 is \$6. Children under 12 pay \$4.

Water babies will cherish a day at **Biscayne National Park**. Turquoise waters, emerald isles and tropical fish filled reefs make the park a paradise for wildlife watching, snorkeling, diving, boating, fishing and other activities. Within the park boundaries are the longest stretch of mangrove forest left on Florida's east coast, the clear shallow waters of Biscayne Bay, over 40 of the northernmost Florida Keys, and a spectacular living coral reef. And the best part – **it's free!**

A trip to South Miami isn't complete without a visit to "**Robert is Here,**" a family-owned fruit stand (open from November 1 thru September 1) serving up tasty desserts such as the mango cobbler and pineapple cake. If you are looking to satisfy your sweet tooth try their popular Key Lime Pie Milkshake. For a mere \$3.50 you will be in dreamy heaven. While you are in the neighborhood, check out the **Everglades Alligator Farm**. Watch an alligator handling show, a slithering snake show and even test your courage by holding a baby gator! If you don't wish to take the airboat tour, prices for adults are \$13.50 and \$8.50 for children.

A substantial budget is not needed to enjoy the art deco architecture, culture, magical beaches, attractions and unique restaurants that Greater Miami and the Beaches has to offer. Eat well, see the sights, take a dip in the ocean and discover that some of the best things in Miami really are free!

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) is a non-profit sales and marketing organization whose mission is to attract visitors to Greater Miami and the Beaches for leisure, business and conventions. For more information visit our website at www.MiamiAndBeaches.com or call 1-888-76-

Miami (US/Canada only) or 305-447-7777. To reach the GMCVB offices dial 305/539-3000.

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