



Things To Do, Places to Go...

Food Stores, etc:

Publix 4791 Estero Boulevard. It has a good selection, similar prices as off island, handy for beer and wine – watch for specials.

Topps - at Tropical Shores St.

7-11 – there were 5 on the island at last count.

Fish Markets:

Most are on San Carlos Island, over the bridge and turn first right on Main St. Follow the signs. Beach Seafood also has a restaurant.

Wal-Mart - San Carlos and Summerlin

COSTCO - Hwy 41 and Cypress Lake Dr on your SW corner

Sam's Club - Hwy 41 North of College Pkwy on your left – Sam's Plaza

Restaurants: See the internet for menus.

Wine & Beer:

The legal drinking age is 21 years old.

Available at most Food Stores, Drug Stores and liquor markets.

Liquor:

Town & Country in Topp's Plaza, Nicola's – Santini Plaza

Shopping:

Santini Plaza, 7200 block Estero Blvd. has a liquor store, souvenirs, clothing, hardware & lots of restaurants.

Estero Blvd. is lined with shops, bars and places to eat.

Times Square:

New Years Eve features the traditional Beach Ball Drop at midnight. (New York – eat your heart out - we have palm trees!!) There are also numerous souvenir shops, bars and restaurants. Street performers entertain during season. It is worth the walk to the end of the pier to watch the sunset or fish. Parking meters are strictly enforced – be warned!



Edison Mall

<http://www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=129>

is located on the north side of Colonial, east of 41.

Coconut Point Mall in Estero is a unique shopping adventure. Learn more at

<http://www.simon.com/mall/?id=1202>

Tanger Outlet Mall.

<http://www.tangeroutlet.com/fortmyers>

Miromar Outlet Mall

<http://www.miromaroutlets.com/index.php>

Local Attractions:

Lover's Key State Park:

Across the bridge at south end of the island. 8:00 am to dusk, \$2.00 parking. Great for shelling, nature, fishing and wildlife. Also kayak rentals and dolphin tours. See

<http://www.floridastateparks.org/loverskey/>

Dog Beach:

Let Fido run free at the south end of Lover's Key State Park. See

http://www.leeparks.org/facility-info/facility-details.cfm?Project_Num=0036

Sanibel Island:

North on San Carlos and then left at Summerlin, the toll bridge costs \$6.00. It is a great place to ride a bicycle, with wide bike paths. The beach is no better than FMB and hard to access but it is famous for shelling. Ding Darling Wildlife Reserve is worth a trip. See details at <http://www.fws.gov/dingdarling/>. Sanibel is also the setting for local author, Randy Wayne White's mystery adventure novels featuring Doc Ford. There is also a restaurant franchise by the same name.

Bailey - Matthews Shell Museum

This is the only museum in the United States solely devoted to seashells. It features educational displays on local shells and shells of the world. Hours are 10am to 4pm Tuesday-Sunday. The museum is at 3705 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel Island. 395-2233. <http://www.shellmuseum.org/>

Bonita Beach:

South of Lover's Key is Bonita Beach, which also has excellent public beaches with washroom facilities. Traveling east on Bonita Beach Road, you will find lots of interesting restaurants and shops. At US 41, you can go south to Naples or north to Fort Myers.



The Everglades:

See <http://www.florida-everglades.com/>. A great way to experience the 'Glades is to go to the FMB Chamber website <http://www.fortmyersbeachchamber.org/>, type in "Everglades tours", and call for information.

Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium

Located at 3450 Ortiz Ave. near Interstate 75 Exit 22, Fort Myers. Complex of buildings housing many facilities connected by wooded walks and decks. Exhibits deal with wildlife, fossils, and native habitats. Audubon aviary, home to injured birds, planetarium offers star shows, and much more. 239-275-3435 <http://www.calusanature.com/>

Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary

Owned and operated by the National Audubon Society, visitors can see a variety of wading and migratory birds and other wildlife on two miles of nature trails through the largest virgin bald cypress forest in the United States. Located southeast of Bonita Springs, 15 miles east of Interstate 75, exit 17. 239-657-3771.

<http://www.corkscrew.audubon.org/>

C.R.O.W.

(Care and Rehabilitation of Wildlife) The purpose of CROW is to restore rehabilitated creatures to the wild. Staffed by qualified employees and volunteers, a wildlife hospital is located off Sanibel-Captiva Road, equipped to handle sick, injured and orphaned creatures. In need of the services CROW provides, call 239-472-3644. Tours now open to the public. <http://www.crowclinic.org/>

Edison Winter Home

2350 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers, 334-3614. This 14-acre estate on the Caloosahatchee River is seen just the way that it was when Thomas Alva Edison lived there during the winter months early in the century.

The house and its furnishings, the botanical gardens and the museum offer an enjoyable look at the place where Edison perfected his light bulb. Open every day 9am to 5:30pm, tours available. <http://www.edisonfordwinterstates.org/>

The Mound House, Fort Myers Beach

Experience old Florida at Mound House where Estero Island's oldest standing structure sits on an ancient Calusa Indian Mound. <http://www.moundhouse.org/>

Fort Myers Historical Museum

Housed in the former Atlantic Coastline Railroad depot, the Museum is home to the history of Southwest Florida. Paleo Indians, the Calusa, the Seminoles, Spanish explorers, and early settlers are just a few of the people you will meet as you view our exhibits. An authentic replica of a pioneer "cracker" house, a 1926 La France fire pumper,



and a 1929 private Pullman rail car are also part of the tour.

<http://www.swfilmuseumofhistory.com/>

Jungle Larry's Zoological Park aka The Naples Zoo.

A tropical, nature-theme park featuring exotic animals and reptiles, several daily animal shows, tram rides, and boat rides through exotic islands populated with monkeys. 1590 Goodlette Rd in Naples. 239-262-4053. <http://www.caribbeangardens.com/>

Koreshan State Historic Site

Pioneer settlement on the Estero River just north of Bonita Springs. Tours offered. Camping, picnicking, canoe rentals, nature studies. 239-992-0311.

<http://www.floridastateparks.org/koreshan/default.cfm>

Lakes Park

7330 Gladiolus Drive just north of Ft Myers Beach, 277 acres of recreation, including fresh water swimming, canoeing, paddle boating, fishing, hiking, alligator watching from paved nature trails. Observation tower, picnic tables, barbecue grills, exercise course, shower facilities, rest rooms, concession stand. Parking Fee. Great place to take your canvas and paints! http://www.leeparks.org/facility-info/facility-details.cfm?Project_Num=0101

Lee Civic Center

Located east of Interstate 75 on S.R. 78, the Civic Center serves a wide variety of needs, from private parties to major exhibits, from fairs to big-name entertainers. Call 543-7469 for current information. <http://lcc.leeciviccenter.com/>

Naples - Fort Myers Greyhound Track

Matinee rates, 12:30pm post time. Buffet lunches available in clubhouse. Night races, Mon. - Sat. at 7:45pm. Located on Old 41 in Bonita Springs; take Interstate 75 to Exit 18 between Naples and Fort Myers. Call 239-334-6555.

<http://www.naplesfortmyersdogs.com/>

City of Palms Park.

Spring home of the Boston Red Sox. <http://www.ballparkreviews.com/fmyers/fmyers.htm>

Hammond Stadium

Spring home of the Minnesota Twins and home field of the Fort Myers Miracle baseball team. http://www.leeparks.org/facility-info/facility-details.cfm?Project_Num=0225

Ostego Bay Marine Foundation –

Named for the old name of Estero Bay, "ostego" is Spanish for oyster.

It operates a marine museum in the old Bonita Fish Co. building at 718 Fisherman's Wharf, under the bridge on San Carlos Island. The museum features a live touch tank



that allows little fingers to explore some of the area wildlife. There are also educational exhibits, aquariums and a gift shop. The foundation also features Sail and Learn cruises, kayaking adventures and a variety of activities. The center is open on weekends, with arrangements made for tour groups and students. The hours may vary, but call 239-765-8101 for more information. <http://ostegobay.org/>

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve –

Located on Penzance Crossing and Six Mile Cypress Pkwy between Colonial Blvd and Daniels Rd. The 2,000 acre wetland ecosystem is home to a diversity of plants and animals, a number of which are endangered. For more information call 239-338-3300. <http://www.leeparks.org/sixmile/>

Fishing:

The regulations change often and are covered by a 15 page booklet. Go to <http://myfwc.com/> for current information.

There are a number of boats available for charter. See the Chamber of Commerce website for a list. <http://www.fortmyersbeachchamber.org/index.php>

Fish Tale Marina 7225 Estero Blvd. south of Santini Plaza and Snook Bight Marina 4765 Estero Blvd. behind Publix both rent boats.

Golf:

There are numerous courses on the mainland.

Handy Web sites:

Town of Fort Myers Beach.

<http://fortmyersbeachfl.gov/>

Weather

<http://www.wunderground.com>

Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.fortmyersbeachchamber.org/>