



# Fort Myers

Photo: Jon Bilous / Shutterstock.com



Philip Lange / Shutterstock.com



Jon Bilous / Shutterstock.com



Tono Balaguer / Shutterstock.com

Chosen as a winter refuge by Thomas Edison at the turn of the last century, Fort Myers sits away from busier and more opulent Florida centers, maintaining the carefree, low-key atmosphere of a sea town. Assuming beach life is Fort Myers's only attraction would be a mistake: the town center boasts a vibrant street life, with a plethora of indie art galleries and interesting spots for history and science lovers. The area's natural beauty continues inland, where protected animal species take shelter among mangroves and narrow bayou bends.

*NOTE: This Guide has been limited to 20 points of interest per section. For the full guide, please visit [ArrivalGuides.com](https://www.arrivalguides.com)*

**QUIZ**  
*What Type of Traveller  
Are You Based on  
Your Travel IQ?*

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

## Top 5



### Edison and Ford Winter Estates

The former winter residences of these two important Americans



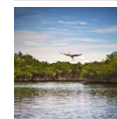
### Centennial Park

Stretching across 10 acres on the banks of the Caloosahatchee River, Centenn...



### Farmer's Market

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### Nature Parks

The area around Fort Myers offers beautiful, diverse landscapes, which you c...



### Boat Tours

Another popular way of getting to know Fort Myers's landscapes and nature is...



## THE CITY



Tono Balaguer / Shutterstock.com

At first glance, Fort Myers obeys the clichés of Florida, with its palm-lined boulevards, colorful house fronts and white shores, but it's worth exploring further - there is much to discover. Founded as a military base during the American Indian Wars and then abandoned, the town was revived in the 19th century by a ship captain who might also have been a pirate. Around 1880 it started attracting notable 'snowbirds', seasonal visitors who came here to escape the colder winters of the north and built elegant period villas. Among them, Thomas Edison and Henry Ford were probably the most famous, and left winter estates that are now open to the public. Today, despite its natural beauty, the Fort Myers area is still a lesser known holiday destination, but it's gaining more and more popularity thanks to its lively atmosphere and a recent restyling of the town center.

When planning a stay in Fort Myers, it can be practical to think of the city as subdivided into two parts.

The Fort Myers town center, in the northern zone, is home to different museums and historical houses. It is also a good starting point for trips to the many natural parks and reserves along the Caloosahatchee river.

For the most charming beaches, however, you'll have to head south, to the barrier islands. The

smaller town of Fort Myers Beach offers plenty of beautiful shores and every kind of facilities: separated from mainland Fort Myers, it sits on Estero Island and can easily be reached by a causeway. A trip to some other islands also comes recommended: many of them, like Sanibel, hold a more natural, fascinating atmosphere.

Cultural and social hubs are very present in the center of mainland Fort Myers, but you'll find some unexpected hot spots on the islands as well.

## DO & SEE



Jillian Cain Photography/Shutterstock.com

A beach holiday can feel monotonous after a while, but Fort Myers provides many different pastime alternatives, from inland nature trips to sights, art galleries and social events.

### Edison and Ford Winter Estates



The former winter residences of these two important Americans are today a cultural site that is worth a visit, whether you're interested in history, technology or nature: Thomas Edison set up a laboratory and a botanical garden which you'll be able to explore, together with the historical house interiors and a museum dedicated to the inventor.



Photo: Neil Lockhart / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2350 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Daily 9am-5:30pm. Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas. Christmas Eve 9am-2pm

Phone: +1 239 334 7419

Internet: [www.edisonfordwinterestates.org](http://www.edisonfordwinterestates.org)

More Info: Wear comfortable shoes for the guided tours.

### Centennial Park



Stretching across 10 acres on the banks of the Caloosahatchee River, Centennial Park is a good location for a walk or a picnic in town, offering a playground and a fishing pier. Here you will also find the Uncommon Friends, a sculpture commemorating the town's most famous visitors.

Photo: Nadezda Murmakova / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2000 West First Street, Fort Myers, FL

### Farmer's Market



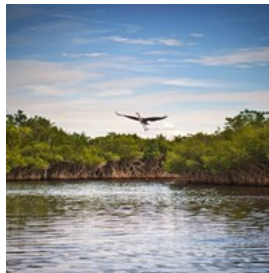
Held every Thursday in Centennial Park, the Farmer's Market offers many kinds of local produce, including fruit, bakery, seafood and flowers. Since it is a popular meetup location for the people of Fort Myers, it can be a good occasion to mingle with locals.

Photo: Matej Kastelic / Shutterstock.com

Address: Centennial Park, 2000 West First Street, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Thu 7am-1pm

### Nature Parks



The area around Fort Myers offers beautiful, diverse landscapes, which you can admire in the many nature reserves. It's not only about the ocean - inland, you'll find river banks lined by woods, and coastal wetlands.

Bird-watching lovers should head to J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge: established in 1945 on Sanibel Island, it hosts 245 different bird species, along with mammals and other sea creatures. It also offers activities for guests, such as kayaking, tram tours and fishing.

1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, FL

+1 239 472 1100

[www.fws.gov/refuge/JN\\_Ding\\_Darling](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/JN_Ding_Darling)  
[dingdarling@fws.gov](mailto:dingdarling@fws.gov)

The 3500-acre-wide Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve also makes for good hiking grounds. On its 1.2 mile boardwalk, between dense trees and bayous, you'll admire herons, egrets, alligators, turtles, and other typical fauna.

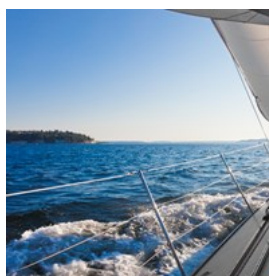
7791 Penzance Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL

+1 239 533 7557

[www.sloughpreserve.org](http://www.sloughpreserve.org)

Photo: shaferaphoto / Shutterstock.com

### Boat Tours



Another popular way of getting to know Fort Myers's landscapes and nature is choosing a boat trip. Eco River Tours provides trips along the Caloosahatchee and Orange rivers, with a naturalist on board to provide explanation on the

local flora and fauna. Different options are available, such as manatee tours (only December to March), which allow visitors to get close to these uncommon sea creatures, and sunset tours. Book your trip on their website.

Sweetwater Landing Marina, 16991 State Rd. 31, Fort Myers, FL  
+1 239 693 1434  
www.manateeandcorivertours.com  
swfl.ManateeTours@gmail.com

Magic Wind Adventure Sailing is run by an enthusiastic couple and offers sailing trips on the gulf for up to 6 passengers. It is possible to book on their website or by phone.

Salty Sams Marina, 2500 Main Street, Fort Myers, FL  
+1 800 975-5824  
www.sailmagicwind.com  
captan@sailmagicwind.com

Photo: cdrin / Shutterstock.com

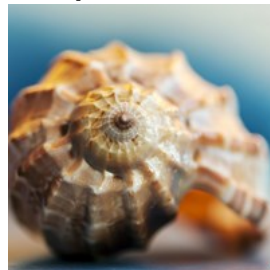
### IMAG History & Science Centre



An eclectic venue for curious children and science lovers, Fort Myers's Imaginarium is an aquarium and hands-on museum with more than 60 interactive exhibits about sea life, fossils, Florida's history, nanotechnology and much more.

Photo: Pavel L Photo and Video / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2000 Cranford Avenue, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun noon-5pm. Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day  
Phone: +1 239 243 0043  
Internet: www.theimag.org  
Email: info@theIMAG.org

### Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum



Located on Sanibel Island, famous for the myriad sea shells washed out on its beaches, this peculiar museum hosts a collection of shells from around the world, and organizes fascinating beach walks with naturalists.

Photo: Remus Rigo / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 3075 Sanibel Captiva Road, Sanibel, FL  
Opening hours: Daily 10am-5pm  
Phone: +1 239 395 2233  
Internet: www.shellmuseum.org  
Email: info@shellmuseum.org

### Art Walk and Music Walk



For some cultural entertainment, add Fort Myers's Art Walks and Music Walks to your agenda: these free happenings animate the

social scene of the downtown River District at fixed times every month, while shops, art galleries and restaurants stay open until late at night, providing drinks on the sidewalk.

The Art Walk takes place every first Friday of the month, 6pm-10pm, and features 13 art galleries which offer self-guided tours and meet-ups with the artists.

www.fortmyersartwalk.com

The Music Walk starts every third Friday of the month at 7pm, with bands and singers taking over the streets, performing in a wide range of music genres.

facebook.com/fortmyersmusicwalk

Photo: PopTika / Shutterstock.com  
Address: River District, Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 321 7104 for both events

### Burroughs Home & Garden



This luxury mansion was a well-known social event venue among Fort Myers's elite at the turn of the century. Built in 1901 in an imposing

Georgian Revival style, it is now open for historical tours, and it's also a popular location for marriages and private ceremonies.

Photo: Ebyabe / Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Address: 2505 First Street, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Tours on Tue, Wed & Thu at 11am

Phone: +1 239 337 9505

Internet: [www.burroughshome.com](http://www.burroughshome.com)

Email: [tours@burroughshome.com](mailto:tours@burroughshome.com)

More Info: Remember to call and make a reservation before coming

### Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium



With a planetarium, a butterfly house, nature trails and an aviary for rehabilitated birds, the independent non-profit organization of Calusa

Nature Center provides environmental education for all ages.

Photo: Chubykin Arkady / Shutterstock.com

Address: 3450 Ortiz Avenue, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-4pm. Sun 11am-4pm

Phone: +1 239 275 3435

Internet: [www.calusanature.org](http://www.calusanature.org)

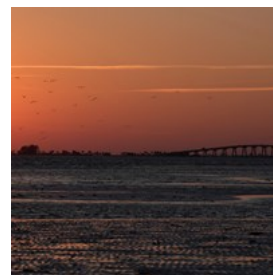
## BEACHES & ISLANDS



Paul Brennan/Shutterstock.com

The Fort Myers area attracts American "snowbirds" for a reason - you'll find a myriad beaches surrounded by spectacular nature, especially on the islands. As the shores can be very diverse and offer different attractions, it's a good idea to plan trips to different beaches throughout your stay. Also, don't forget to bring a camera to document the best sunsets. One piece of advice: parking spots might be limited, so arrive there on time to find a place. Also, expect them to be a bit expensive in the most popular areas.

### Bunche Beach



A good introduction to Fort Myers's beach panorama, and an easy-to-reach spot if you're based on the mainland, Bunche Beach

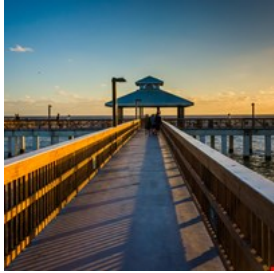
is part of a green natural preserve south of the Fort Myers town center. The natural scenery is wonderful, and the beach offers different amenities such as kayaking and canoeing equipment.

Photo: Chace H / Shutterstock.com

Address: 18201 John Morris Road, Fort Myers, FL



### Fort Myers Beach and Lover's Key



This town on Estero Island has a relaxed summer party atmosphere, with its colorful Times Square and a more residential

southern area.

One of its best beaches is Lover's Key State Park: a bit away from the city center, it offers two miles of white sand lined by vegetation. It's great for swimming, and its shallow water is safe for children.

Photo: Jon Bilous/Shutterstock.com

Address: Fort Myers Beach, FL

### Lynn Hall Memorial Park



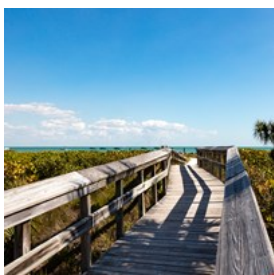
Right in the center of Fort Myers Beach, this beach park offers facilities for all tastes, from water sports, kayaking and sailing to

fishing. Visitors with a more contemplative approach can just indulge in people-watching and sunbathe on the clean white sand.

Photo: Tono Balaguer / Shutterstock.com

Address: 950 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, FL

### Sanibel Island



Three miles away from the mainland, the island of Sanibel is known worldwide by conchologists for being covered in an

extraordinary amount of seashells washed up by the tides: that's because of its peculiar position, stretching east to west in the middle of sea streams. While the island's beaches are some of

the best in the area, the urban scene is also charmingly underdeveloped, and looks frozen in time at the start of the 20th century. Inland lie the Six Cypress Slough Reserve and the Bailey-Matthews shell museum.

Photo: Captiva 55 / Shutterstock.com

Address: Sanibel, FL

### Lighthouse Beach



With its gaunt, rusty presence, Sanibel's lighthouse adds to the offbeat atmosphere of this beach, tucked away in a natural park on the

eastern part of the island. With its clean and shallow water, and seashells everywhere, the beach is a good spot for children. Since there are no bars or restaurants nearby, make sure you bring your own food for lunch.

Photo: Nagel Photography / Shutterstock.com

Address: Lighthouse Beach Park, 110 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL

### Blind Pass Beach



Particularly romantic at sunset, this less-crowded beach on Sanibel island is completely enveloped in nature, with no buildings in sight. It is not the best

place for swimming - sea currents can be quite strong - but it's great for collecting shells and fishing, and it has a memorable atmosphere.

Photo: JohnHancockPhoto / Shutterstock.com

Address: 6491 Sanibel Captiva Road, Sanibel, FL

### Captiva Island and Turner Beach



Pirate José Gaspar's coven and, in more recent times, winter home of artists Roy Lichtenstein and Robert Rauschenberg, this

narrow island north of Sanibel is also covered in shells, and its beaches give the same impression of detachment from modern life.

You might start your exploration with Turner Beach, wider, lesser known and undeveloped. Sea currents are often strong here, so swimming is not recommended.

Photo: Tory Kallman / Shutterstock.com

Address: Captiva Island, FL

### Cayo Costa Island State Preserve



One of the main attractions of Cayo Costa Island is the possibility to mix regular beach life with different activities: the shore is lined by a

forest of pine and mangrove trees, ideal for hiking and cycling, and the area teems with fauna, such as dolphins, manatees and a wide range of birds. Snorkeling and surfing are also very popular here. The island is only accessible by private boat or ferry, but it's worth the trip.

Photo: DrawingWithLight / Shutterstock.com

Address: 4 Nautical Miles West of Pine Island, Cayo Costa, FL

Phone: +1 941 964 0375

Internet: [www.floridastateparks.org/park/Cayo-Costa](http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Cayo-Costa)

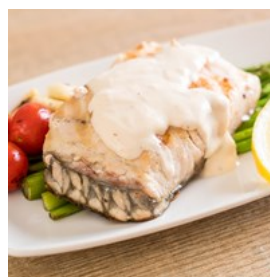
## DINING



NavinTar/Shutterstock.com

Southern Florida cuisine (also known as "Floribbean") is, naturally, well-represented in Fort Myers, where regular seafood dishes such as shrimps and oysters mix with more peculiar specialties like gator tail bites. Dining here can also be a good opportunity to discover some ethnic food, listen to live music, or just relax while enjoying the sunset.

### The Veranda



Set in a beautiful location inside a turn-of-the-century mansion, The Veranda is a good option for an elegant dinner: it pairs

typical Southern cuisine with an extensive wine selection, and it's quite popular in Fort Myers and beyond.

Photo: gowithstock / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2122 Second Street (at Broadway), Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 332 2065

Internet: [www.verandarestaurant.com](http://www.verandarestaurant.com)

More Info: Dressy attire is suggested

### Blanc



A classy restaurant in mainland Fort Myers, Blanc offers a creative approach to French cuisine, with thoughtful and elegantly presented

dishes. When it comes to wine choice, consider asking for the staff's recommendations - they're very knowledgeable.

Photo: Solutioning Incorporated / Shutterstock.com

Address: 13451 McGregor Boulevard, Suite 10, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 5pm-10pm

Phone: +1 239 887 3139

Internet: [www.blancentertainment.com](http://www.blancentertainment.com)

### Fresh Catch Bistro



This elegant seaside spot in Fort Myers Beach is set right on the shore, and offers great views of the sunsets, along with refined seafood dishes.

Cocktails are also highly appreciated - their classic margarita is among the favorites.

Photo: Kitti Tantibankul / Shutterstock.com

Address: 3040 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 5pm-9pm

Phone: +1 239 463 2600

Internet: [www.freshcatchbistro.com](http://www.freshcatchbistro.com)

More Info: They only accept reservations by phone call

### Blue Pointe Oyster Bar



The main focus of this elegant bar & grill are fish and seafood specialties - crab legs and dinner rolls are recommended. With an

elegant interior and an outdoor patio seating

area, Blue Pointe is a neat, characteristic spot for a nice dinner.

Photo: sbarabu / Shutterstock.com

Address: 13499 South Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 11:30am-10pm. Fri-Sat

11:30am-11pm. Sun 12pm-9pm

Phone: +1 888 456 3463

Internet: [www.bluepointerestaurant.com](http://www.bluepointerestaurant.com)

### University Grill



University Grill's motto: "Seafood. Steaks. Martinis." sums up the typical experience at this cozily decorated restaurant very well.

Come for a friendly atmosphere, and when in doubt, choose ribs, the chef's most popular specialty.

Photo: stockcreations / Shutterstock.com

Address: 7790 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Sun-Thu 3pm-9pm. Fri-Sat 3pm-9:30pm

Phone: +1 239 437 4377

Internet: [www.universitygrill.net](http://www.universitygrill.net)

### Artisan Eatery



The owners of this well-loved sandwich shop keep it casual, but are friendly and attentive to everyone's needs - they provide toys and fully

equipped changing rooms for kids, and have earned good reviews by vegetarian guests. Eggs Benedict and the Impossible Burger are recommended.

Photo: Bharat Rawail / Shutterstock.com

Address: 8951 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Daily 8am-9pm

Phone: +1 239 887 4844

Internet: [www.artisaneatery.com](http://www.artisaneatery.com)



### Roadhouse Cafe



Live jazz music in a perfected retro ambience is the most notable attraction at Roadhouse, and their cuisine lives up to their style. With a dancefloor and a well-reviewed bar, this restaurant provides good food and quality entertainment.

Photo: Yuriy Golub / Shutterstock.com

Address: 15660 San Carlos Boulevard, Suite 280, Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 415 4375

Internet: [www.roadhousecafe.com](http://www.roadhousecafe.com)

Email: [roadhousecafe@comcast.net](mailto:roadhousecafe@comcast.net)

### El Gaucho Inca



A good choice for exotic cuisine, El Gaucho Inca offers Argentinian and Peruvian dishes cooked by a skilled chef from South America, and it's particularly appreciated for steaks and scallops, as well as for its typical dulce de leche.

Photo: Christian Vinces / Shutterstock.com

Address: 4383 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 11:30am-9pm. Fri 11:30am-10pm.

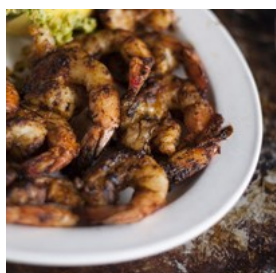
Sat 12pm-10pm. Sun 12pm-8pm

Phone: +1 239 275 7504

Internet: [www.elgauchoinca.com](http://www.elgauchoinca.com)

Email: [info@elgauchoinca.com](mailto:info@elgauchoinca.com)

### Traders



The marine inspired decor gives this restaurant on Sanibel Island a cozy, captivating atmosphere. Check out their freshly prepared

sandwiches, salads, and of course fish dishes and oysters. Their choice of cocktails is also interesting.

Photo: Holly R Garcia / Shutterstock.com

Address: 1551 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: Lunch 11am-2pm, Happy Hour

3am-6pm, Dinner 5pm-9pm

Phone: +1 239 472 7242

Internet: [www.traderssanibel.com](http://www.traderssanibel.com)

### Old Captiva House



With a good view of the sea on Captiva Island (which means great sunsets during dinner time), and often live piano music, this charming restaurant has an intimate ambience and specializes in seafood - their crab bisque and seafood lasagna are well-loved, and they also serve sushi.

Photo: Marco Mayer / Shutterstock.com

Address: 15951 Captiva Drive, Captiva, FL

Opening hours: Daily 5am-9:30pm

Phone: +1 239 472 5161

Internet: [www.oldcaptivahouse.com](http://www.oldcaptivahouse.com)

Email: [info@captiva-house.com](mailto:info@captiva-house.com)

More Info: No sushi on Monday and Sunday.

## CAFES



Svineyard/Shutterstock.com

Whether you're looking for a quicker and more casual lunch, some breakfast under Florida's palm lines, or a stylish tea time, Fort Myers will surprise you with some interesting spots. Take your time to try out different things - perhaps, starting off with our suggestions.

### Wisteria Tea Room & Cafe



Set in a re-decorated old bungalow, Wisteria has the charming atmosphere of a classic English tea room. Their pastries come wonderfully presented - it's worth ordering some along with your tea.

Photo: Magdanatka / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2512 Second Street, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11am-3pm  
Phone: +1 239 689 4436  
Internet: [www.wisteriatearoom.com](http://www.wisteriatearoom.com)  
Email: [service@wisteriatearoom.com](mailto:service@wisteriatearoom.com)

### McGregor Cafe



As its name suggests, this cafe is located on the palm-lined McGregor Boulevard, in the center of Fort Myers. Locally owned, it's particularly

appreciated for its rich breakfast offers.

Photo: Mr.Somchai / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 4305 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Lunch: Mon-Fri 8:30am-3pm, Sat-Sun 7:30am-3pm. Dinner: Tue-Sat 5pm-9pm  
Phone: +1 239 936 1771  
Internet: [www.mcgregorcafe.com](http://www.mcgregorcafe.com)

### Green Cup Cafe



This relaxed coffee shop in downtown Fort Myers focuses on organic products: their offer includes local brews of tea and coffee, smoothies, fresh salads and wraps. Coming here can also be a good opportunity to try out some lesser-known tea flavors, such as their lychee green tea.

Photo: Nopanonn / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 1412 Dean Street, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 9am-9pm. Fri 9am-10pm. Sat-Sun 8am-10pm  
Phone: +1 239 200 8679

### Daddy Dee's Ice Cream Parlor



A vintage player piano and a travel-themed decor add to the quirky atmosphere of this ice cream shop, which has been in business for more than 40 years. Their servings are big, and they often host live music events.

Photo: Leszek Glasner / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 13161 North Cleveland Avenue, North Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 12pm-10pm. Sat-Sun 1pm-10pm  
Phone: +1 239 997 4021  
Internet: [www.daddydees.com](http://www.daddydees.com)  
Email: [icecream@daddydees.com](mailto:icecream@daddydees.com)

### Sweet Bean Cafe



With a well-thought out decor and local artworks showcased on the walls, Sweet Bean is located on McGregor's Boulevard and serves lunch and breakfast, providing freshly baked pastries and seven different types of coffee. Omelettes are a favorite among many guests.

Photo: HII Tokyo / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 13251 McGregor Boulevard, Suite 110, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Tue-Fri 7am-3pm. Sat-Sun 7am-2pm  
Phone: +1 239 834 9541  
Internet: [www.sweetbeancoffee cafe.com](http://www.sweetbeancoffee cafe.com)  
Email: [sweetbeancoffee cafe@gmail.com](mailto:sweetbeancoffee cafe@gmail.com)

### Bennett's Fresh Roast



Located centrally and close to the seaside, Bennet's serves freshly roasted coffee and home-made sweets, and is especially appreciated for its huge donut selection - the maple syrup ones are recommended.

Photo: Master-L / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2011 Bayside Parkway, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Daily 6am-3pm. Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day  
Phone: +1 239 332 0077  
Internet: [www.bennettsfreshroast.com](http://www.bennettsfreshroast.com)

### Vino's Picasso



Offering a fun and creative experience, Vino's Picasso embodies the artsy and friendly atmosphere of Fort Myers, and is one of the most popular hangouts in the area. This art bar

is operated by local artists, who will guide you through painting your own work while sipping on drinks and mingling with locals and fellow tourists.

Photo: Milan Ilic Photographer / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 15250 South Tamiami Trail, Unit 109, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Mon and Wed-Sat 12pm-9pm. Sun 11am-3pm. Closed on Tuesday  
Phone: +1 239 288 6953  
Internet: [www.vinospicasso.com](http://www.vinospicasso.com)  
Email: [vinospicassoFM@hotmail.com](mailto:vinospicassoFM@hotmail.com)  
More Info: All the painting materials are supplied

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE

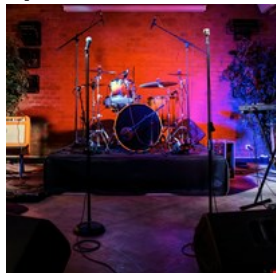


*DisobeyArt/Shutterstock.com*

Fort Myers might be quieter than bigger cities of Florida at night, but it offers something for everyone - from mainstream clubs to live music diners, cozy classic pubs, and beach bars. The most vibrant nightlife happens at weekends, when locals and tourists gather in the quirky Times Square to admire the sunset while grabbing some cocktails. Monthly art walks and music walks also animate the social scene, and many art galleries offer drinks along the way.



### Space 39 Art Bar & Martini Lounge



Adorned with works by local artists - which you can also buy from the bar's Art Gallery - Space Bar has an elegant atmosphere and a sophisticated choice of drinks. Here you'll be able to dance to live music in a range of different styles, such as funk, reggae and blues.

Photo: Maxim Blinkov / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 39 Patio de Leon, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Wed-Sat 5:30pm-2am  
Phone: +1 239 204 9949  
Internet: [www.space39artbar.com](http://www.space39artbar.com)  
Email: [space39artbar@yahoo.com](mailto:space39artbar@yahoo.com)

### Point Ybel Brewing Company



Run by a local craft beer company, Point Ybel is a good spot to try some new brews - their selection is thoughtful. They don't serve food, but they organize live music events and contests.

Photo: Kjetil Kolbjornsrud / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 16120 San Carlos Boulevard, Unit 4, Fort Myers, FL  
Phone: +1 239 603 6535  
Internet: [www.pointybelbrew.com](http://www.pointybelbrew.com)

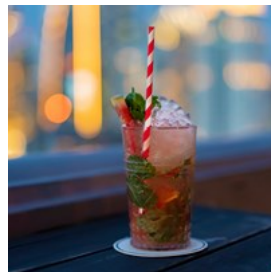
### The 86 Room



This Prohibition era-themed bar has on point decor and music selection, and a relaxed atmosphere. Drinks can be a bit pricey, but it's worth checking out the ambiance regardless. The bartender's friendly attitude is especially appreciated by guests.

Photo: Kondor83 / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 22 Patio de Leon, Fort Myers, FL  
Phone: +1 239 332 0014

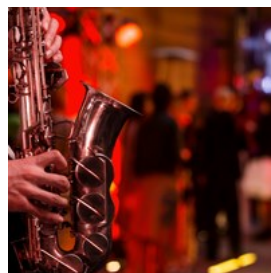
### The Firestone Skybar & Martini Bar



Firestone's Martini Bar and Skybar offer a good sunset-cocktails-dancing experience on a waterfront rooftop. Located in downtown Fort Myers, it also provides some dining options.

Photo: R.Bordo / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 2224 Bay Street, Fort Myers, FL  
Opening hours: Di-Do 16:00-22:00. Fr-Sa 16:00-23:00 Uhr  
Phone: +1 239 334 3473  
Internet: [www.firestonefl.com](http://www.firestonefl.com)

### Roadhouse Cafe



Live jazz music in a perfected retro ambiance is the most notable attraction of Roadhouse, and their cuisine lives up to their style. With a dancefloor and a well-reviewed bar, this restaurant provides good food and quality entertainment.

Photo: Yuriy Golub / Shutterstock.com  
Address: 15660 San Carlos Blvd, Suite 280, Fort Myers, FL  
Phone: +1 239 415 4375  
Internet: [www.roadhousecafeff.com](http://www.roadhousecafeff.com)  
Email: [roadhousecafe@comcast.net](mailto:roadhousecafe@comcast.net)

### Celsius Night Club



For a mainstream disco night in downtown Fort Myers, Celsius offers a neat light system and decor, and affordable prices. Cocktails and DJs

are well selected, as you'd expect from a good quality club.

Photo: View Apart / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2213 Main Street, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Wed-Sun 9pm-2am

Phone: +1 239 980 7630

### City Tavern



A classic pub near the Fort Myers seafront, City Tavern has live music, a billiard and friendly service. The typical pub food they serve includes

unmissable beer cheese pretzels.

Photo: ART JA / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2206 Bay Street, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Daily 11am-2am

Phone: +1 239 226 1133

Internet: [www.mycitytavern.com](http://www.mycitytavern.com)

Email: [info@mycitytavern.com](mailto:info@mycitytavern.com)

### Upper Deck Pool Bar



Upper Deck has a charming view over the ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, which particularly comes alive around sunset, and a

good choice of cocktails - their Cuban is especially appreciated. It is part of the West Wind Inn resort.

Photo: Ekaterina\_Molchanova / Shutterstock.com

Address: 3345 West Gulf Drive, Sanibel, FL

Opening hours: Daily 11am-8pm

Phone: +1 239 472 1541

Internet: [www.westwindinn.com/upper-deck-bar](http://www.westwindinn.com/upper-deck-bar)

### Beach Bar



Right on the seafront of Fort Myers Beach, this pub is not very well-known by tourists and doesn't have a very elaborate decor. Its nice

location on the sand and inexpensive drinks make it a good spot for a relaxing evening on the island.

Photo: Regreto / Shutterstock.com

Address: 1668 I Street, Fort Myers Beach

## SHOPPING



*Ditty\_about\_summer/Shutterstock.com*

The Fort Myers shopping scene is pleasantly diverse. There are, naturally, some classic shopping malls such as the Perwinkle Place, which offer designer brands and outlet deals in a pleasantly air-conditioned setting. Many independent shops provide an alternative showcase of products, from local artwork and jewelry to vintage clothes and knick-knack souvenirs.

### Farmer's Market



Held every Thursday in Centennial Park, the Farmer's Market offers many kinds of local produce, including fruit, bakery, seafood and flowers. It is also a popular meetup for the people of Fort Myers - seize the occasion to mingle with locals.

Photo: Matej Kastelic / Shutterstock.com

Address: Centennial Park, 2000 West First Str., Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Thu 7am-1pm

### The Curiosity Shop



The Fort Myers area has some interesting spots for those into retro culture, and The Curiosity Shop might be one of the best, with its wide collection of vintage garments. Trusting the owner's recommendations can lead to good discoveries.

Photo: Lolostock / Shutterstock.com

Address: 1939 Suwanee Ave, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Tue-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat 1pm-4pm

Phone: +1 239 672 0271

### Daas Co-op Art Gallery



An exploration of Fort Myers's art scene can start with this art gallery on Colonial Boulevard: it displays and sells the work of more than 30 local artists and also features other craft products. Here you may also find some unique souvenirs to bring home.

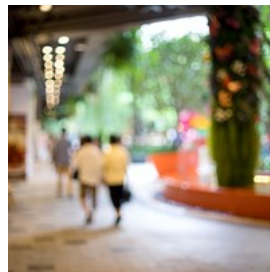
Photo: Irina Kvyatkovskaya / Shutterstock.com

Address: 1400 Colonial Boulevard, Suite 84, Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 590 8645

Internet: [www.daascoop.com](http://www.daascoop.com)

### Perwinkle Place



One of the best shopping malls in the Fort Myers area, this complex on Sanibel Island offers a relaxed atmosphere and pleasant setting, with designer clothing items and accessories for men, women and children, as well as perfumery products and a wide range of souvenirs. Beachwear is, of course, omnipresent.

Photo: sabthai / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2075 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-8pm. Sun 12pm-6pm

Internet: [www.periwinkleplace.com](http://www.periwinkleplace.com)

### Remedies Parlor



Remedies Parlor is worth a visit for its very sophisticated atmosphere, along with its collection of curious decor. Specializing in perfumery products and creative home furniture, it also has a polished inside garden, complete with a wine and beer bar.

Photo: Julia Ardaran / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2541 Thompson Street, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Wed-Sun 12pm-8pm

Phone: +1 239 887 4802

Internet: [www.remediesparlor.com](http://www.remediesparlor.com)

Email: [info@remediesparlor.com](mailto:info@remediesparlor.com)



### Shipwreck Treasure Store



Small-scale plastic boat reproductions, whimsical gift ideas, unlikely message plaques, bold shirts which might require some bravery to

be worn back in the motherland - this souvenir shop in Fort Myers Beach will provide shoppers of every taste with a perpetual memory of their trip to Florida.

Photo: Igor Batenev / Shutterstock.com

Address: 237 Old San Carlos Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, FL

Phone: +1 239 765 1561

Internet: [www.motelfortmyersbeach.com](http://www.motelfortmyersbeach.com)

More Info: Part of Shipwreck Motel

### The Franklin Shops



An impressively eclectic collection of items - clothing, souvenirs, boxes of teas, scented candles, local artwork, and more are on offer at this locally

owned store. Some of them are unique, and all are reasonably priced.

Photo: LightField Studios / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2200 First Street, Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 333 3130

Internet: [www.thefranklinshops.com](http://www.thefranklinshops.com)

Email: [info@thefranklinshops.com](mailto:info@thefranklinshops.com)

### Spirit of the Earth



A less common shopping experience might happen in downtown Fort Myers, at this fascinating gem gallery specializing in crystals. Their collection

is put together by gemologists, which guarantees

some good ideas for home decor or souvenir gifts.

Photo: Christopher PB / Shutterstock.com

Address: 2267 First Street, Unit 15, Fort Myers, FL

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 12pm-5pm. Sun 12pm-4pm

Phone: +1 239 400 0813

Internet: [www.earthspiritfla.com](http://www.earthspiritfla.com)

## TOURIST INFORMATION



Jon Bilous/Shutterstock.com

### Warning: Health Advisory on Algal Presence



At the end of June 2018, Florida Healthy Beaches Program has released a health advisory regarding the presence of two types of algae which can make

it unsafe to sea bathe in some areas of Fort Myers and the Lee county.

Blue-green algae (Cyanobacteria) has been found in some inland parts of the Caloosahatchee River (namely, Alva Boat Ramp, Davis Boat Ramp, and Franklin Locks). When this algae is visible it's better not to touch water at all.

There have also been cases of 'red tide' in Lee County. Caused by a microscopic algae which discolors the water into red or brown, this phenomenon can cause skin and eye irritation

and it's dangerous for people with chronic respiratory problems.

Please stay safe and full informed during your visit, and reach for further information at the following links:

[www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/current-beach-conditions](http://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/current-beach-conditions) - dedicated page on the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau website

[floridadep.gov/dear/algae-bloom](http://floridadep.gov/dear/algae-bloom) - dedicated page on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection

[www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov) - website of South Florida Water Management District

Photo: Brothers Good / Shutterstock.com

### Passport / Visa



Citizens of the Schengen countries, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, South Korea,

Taiwan and the Kingdom of Brunei can visit the United States for up to 90 days without applying for a visa (as well as citizens of Andorra, Lichtenstein, Monaco and San Marino). Citizens of these countries must obtain an ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) before traveling. All other travelers must obtain a visa before visiting the United States.

International travelers need a passport that is valid for at least 3 months after the end of their intended trip in order to enter the country.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Southwest Florida International Airport



The Southwest Florida International Airport is located less than 17 miles from the Fort Myers town center. Taxi service at the airport is provided by

MBA Airport Transportation, LLC. The fares vary depending on zones, not meters.

+1 239 482 2777 - [www.mbaairport.com](http://www.mbaairport.com)

Alternatively, you can rent a car at the airport's Rental Car Service Center, which is found on the ground level of the parking garage.

Avis: +1 239 225 2700 - [www.avis.com/en](http://www.avis.com/en) - open Mon-Sun 5am-12:30am

Hertz: +1 239 768 3100 - [www.hertz.com](http://www.hertz.com) - open Mon-Sun 4am-1am

To reach the town by public transport, you can use the Route 50 bus service provided by the Lee Tran Company.

The service is available seven days a week, but it usually does not work at night. The working hours change seasonally.

+1 239 533 8726 - [www.leegov.com/leetran](http://www.leegov.com/leetran)

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: 11000 Terminal Access Road, Fort Myers, FL

Phone: +1 239 590 4800

Internet: [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com)

### Best Time to Visit



The most pleasant months to visit Fort Myers are probably January to April, when days are usually dry and sunny. The hurricane

season is between June and November, and it can get very rainy.

If your priority is having a quiet, relaxing

holiday, keep an eye on academic calendars: Fort Myers Beach becomes a popular destination for college students during their Spring breaks (usually the first days of Spring), which can get very loud.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

### Public Transport



Public Transport in Fort Myers and the rest of Lee County is operated by the LeeTran company.

Different pass solutions are available if you're

planning to use public transport for one or more days. There are discounts for students, people over 65 and passengers with disability.

You can purchase your ticket online at their website, or at one of LeeTran's Pass Outlets across town. For more info, visit [www.leegov.com/leetran/fares-passes](http://www.leegov.com/leetran/fares-passes).

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair  
Phone: +1 239 533 8726  
Internet: [www.leegov.com/leetran](http://www.leegov.com/leetran)  
Email: [rideleetran@leegov.com](mailto:rideleetran@leegov.com)

### Taxi



Find a selection of taxi companies in the Fort Myers area below: Night Owl Taxi +1 239 449 8118 -

[www.fortmyers-taxi.com](http://www.fortmyers-taxi.com)

Car Concierge Service of Fort Myers  
+1 239 313 9005 - [www.ftmyerscarservice.com](http://www.ftmyerscarservice.com)

A Better Taxi  
+1 239 288 5587 - [www.abettertaxi.com](http://www.abettertaxi.com)

Photo: ArrivalGuides

### Post Office



If you don't want to search for a post office, you can buy stamps at supermarkets, pharmacies, some ATMs, or online on the website

link below.

To send a letter or a package under 16 oz., look for the blue post boxes around town. Make sure the mailbox has pickup times posted on top.

Find a post office here:

Photo: Andy Fuchs  
Address: 8841 College Parkway, Suite 105, Fort Myers, FL  
Phone: +1 239 481 5455  
Internet: [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

### Pharmacy



Find a pharmacy at: Fort Myers Prescription Shop  
3594 Broadway, Fort Myers, FL +1 239 939 0249 -

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

Open Mon-Fri 9:30am-5pm

Or, alternatively:

Walgreens Pharmacy

12749 South Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers, FL  
+1 239 939 2142 - [www.walgreens.com](http://www.walgreens.com)

Open daily - check hours on website

Photo: Gemma Garner



## Telephone



Country code: +1 Area  
code: 239

Photo: Jardson Almeida

## Electricity



120 V / 60 Hz Power  
sockets type A and B

Photo: Stirling Tschan

## Population

80,000

## Currency

US Dollar \$1 = 100 cents

Please note that some facilities in Fort Myers and the surrounding area don't accept credit cards, so make sure you bring some cash during your trips.

## Opening hours

Since many shops in Fort Myers are locally owned, opening hours vary significantly from place to place. Many shops open at 10am and close at around 5-6pm; larger shops close around 8-9pm.

## Internet

[www.cityftmyers.com](http://www.cityftmyers.com) - official website of the City of Fort Myers

[www.fortmyers-sanibel.com](http://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com) - website for tourism run by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau

[www.visitflorida.com](http://www.visitflorida.com) - website for tourism run by the Official Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation

## Newspapers

Fort Myers Florida Weekly ([fortmyers.floridaweekly.com](http://fortmyers.floridaweekly.com))  
The River Weekly ([www.islandsunnews.com](http://www.islandsunnews.com))

The New York Times ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com))  
The Washington Post ([www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com))

## Emergency numbers

911 - Ambulance, Fire and National Police  
+1 239 321 7700 - Fort Myers Police Department

## Tourist information

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau  
2201 Second Street, Suite 600, Fort Myers, FL  
+1 239 338 3500 - [www.leevcb.com](http://www.leevcb.com)