

Miami Travel Guide

From the sizzling nightlife of South Beach to the authentic Cuban flavors of Little Havana, Miami offers one of the richest cultural experiences of any city in the United States. Its diverse neighborhoods house everything from world-famous street art to world-class restaurants, hotels, shopping centers, and cultural venues. Miami's colorful history is matched only by the vibrancy and verve of the modern global city it's continually blossoming into today.

Miami has attracted the world's most daring and creative minds since its evolution from native Tequesta lands to the promising new frontier of railroad tycoon Henry Flagler in the late 1800s. A developing father of Florida, Flagler expanded his Florida East Coast Railway to Miami in 1896 and the rest, as they say, is history.

Today, Miami is a destination for lovers of art, design, food, shopping, and even the great outdoors. Read on for *Travel + Leisure's* ultimate guide to the Magic City, covering everything you need to know to plan the perfect trip.

Time Zone

Eastern Standard Time (Daylight Savings Time is observed seasonally; dates vary)

Best Time to Go

Spring is one of the best times to visit Miami. You'll find fewer crowds, pleasant temperatures, and plenty of outdoor events and activities to enjoy. Plus, April and May are the Miami Attraction & Museum Months, when you can score admission discounts and BOGO deals. The South Beach Wine & Food Festival, Carnaval Miami, Ultra Music Festival, Miami Fashion Week, and the Miami Open are other highlights of springtime in Miami.

Things to Do

Zoo Miami

Address: 12400 SW 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177

Phone: (305) 255-5551

[Website](#)

As the largest (and oldest) zoological garden in Florida and the only subtropical zoo in the continental United States, it's easy to see why Zoo Miami is one of the top zoos in the country. With thousands of animals calling it home – from African elephants to Bengal tigers – there's a lot to see, and you can ride the tram or monorail to cover more ground.

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Address: 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156

Phone: (305) 667-1651

[Website](#)

This 83-acre botanic garden is a Miami gem, home to extensive collections of rare tropical plants and flowering trees. Strolling these scenic acres provides an oasis of calm away from the beach and Miami's bustle.