

LOCAL AMENITIES & EXCURSION PLANNING

<http://keylargoholidayrental.com/>



Introductions.....

Welcome and thank you for giving consideration....we hope very much that we can welcome you as our guests.

Our home is situated in the Kawama Tower at Kawama Yacht Club in legendary Key Largo and is modern and spacious with elegant furnishings. A combination of beautifully maintained gardens, picturesque pools and facilities ensure a lovely base for a family holiday. We are also in an ideal location to explore the unique Florida Keys as well as the Everglades and Miami's attractions.

We pride ourselves on ensuring our home is immaculately decorated and maintained – a true Home Away from Home.

Situated on the southern tip of Key Largo on the Atlantic Ocean. The locality of Kawama Tower at Kawama Yacht Club is probably one of the most beautiful you could hope to find. For the discerning visitor seeking that holiday of a lifetime in the unique Florida Keys.

Our home benefits from being really quiet – at 3/4 mile off US1, and literally on the Ocean, it is a peaceful setting on an unspoilt peninsular between the virgin habitat of a bird sanctuary to the south and the beautifully preserved John Pennekamp Marine Coral State Park to the north. The community is gated for privacy and enjoys 24hr security.

About Us.....

We are Sally Budd & Andrew Exley and we have owned and rented our displayed home since 1999. Most important to note, unlike the majority of properties you see for rent, our Condo to us is not just an income generating rental property, it is our second home where we look to spend quality time. This means to you as a potential guest that the property is well maintained and the specification of furnishings is what you would want it to be in your own home. Sally is a chartered accountant, so our honesty and professionalism may be relied on. We also own a wider portfolio of investment rental properties in various locations so have a broad experience of property management.

Contact Details.....

Sally Budd & Andrew Exley

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EU and Rest of World - UK Tel : +44 1733 270707

US/CA-UK Tel : 305 906 7417 (local call rates from within USA & Canada)

(this is our international Magic Jack number, please no calls after 5pm Eastern Time as we are 5 hours ahead of N America)

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<http://keylargoholidayrental.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/andrew.exley63/>

Kawama Yacht Club, Kawama Tower (KT406)

1530 Ocean Bay Drive, Key Largo, FLA, 33037

Regulatory Information and cross referencing of ownership :

You may Google us at the Monroe County Government web site which cross references our property ownership : egov.monroecounty.gov/00090495000406+exley+andrew

You can also check our licenced status by pasting the following link into your browser

<https://www.myfloridalicense.com/LicenseDetail.asp?SID=&id=DA915D8CE1A68B185D74222741996772>

You'll find us listed under my name Andrew Exley under the Florida Department of Business Regulation under the Vacation Rental Dwelling sub section

FACILITIES...Kawama Yacht Club

Our Key Largo Vacation Property at Kawama features a small South Seas Style beach area approx 450 feet or a 2 minute stroll from the Elevator. There are thatched palm Tikki shelters and tables with seating. In this latest January update of this document, we have an area of the beach bisected by a low newly erected fence which is de-marking an easement boundary and which is subject to law between the HOA and an individual. There is however normal access to the Ocean and the beach area both sides of this fence.

There are three swimming pools, two are tiled 'heated' pools including the 'Oasis Pool' which is conveniently situated just 30 yards from the elevator. There are sun loungers provided around all the tiled pool areas.

Additionally one of the pools is a large palm fringed saltwater swimming lagoon which is approximately 1000 feet long and incorporates swimming platforms for the children and has many colourful Parrot Fish to feed and snorkel with. At night time, snorkelling may provide surprises as the lobsters come out from their rocky ledges if you snorkel with an underwater torch. (Any night time activity is at your own risk and use extreme caution getting in and out of the water).

There are also deep water boat slips in a protected harbour together with a boat ramp. Please enquire with us about costs and marina terms of use.

There are two flood lighted hard tennis courts and a children's play area.

There is a pier which offers fishing opportunities from the point and which is a meeting place for the daily sunset ritual.

Keen fisher-folk should ask us about local opportunities for Saltwater Fishing for Bonefish, Permit, Tarpon and other target species for your adventure of Flats Fishing in the Florida Keys.

There are several walkways around the saltwater lake and out to the pier past the beach so you can stretch your legs with a half mile walk round the property. Additionally many early morning walkers and joggers explore the interior paths and roadways of the island, and many walk around the paths adjacent to the Key Largo Community Park which is beautifully landscaped and planted with various tropical fauna.

Our Condo

Our Key Largo Holiday Vacation Rental home is fully air conditioned and all on one level with Tiled floors for hygiene throughout. We have a Queen size bed in the master bedroom, 2 x full size doubles in the second bedroom. All beds have quality posture-pedic mattresses. Soft furnishings such as bed sheets, covers and bath towels are of high quality to ensure so you'll enjoy the touch of a little luxury whilst on vacation. We replace these annually so they are always in good condition.

There is comfortable sleeping for six guests. There is also the useful option of accommodating two more people on a pull-out double sofa bed in the lounge, sometimes useful for mixed family groups.

We also provide a fold-away cot and high chair for a family with a small infant.

Both bedrooms have full en-suite bathrooms with the master being luxuriously appointed with walk-in double shower and fine fixtures & fittings. Our Kawama Yacht Club home offers a spacious 1350 square feet of living space in an open plan format. Also featured are all large American appliances and usual smaller kitchen accessories within the integral breakfast nook. We would add that the kitchen is well equipped with smaller appliances, mixers and hand tools so you really can cook, if you wish to do so.

You will also have access to our own private high speed Wi-Fi service with good band width.

The living room has a 42inch Plasma HD TV with some enhanced channels like movies available, a DVD and Stereo System with CD player and Ipod dock. There's also an integral utility room equipped with washing machine and dryer. The main dining and living area features contemporary furnishings of coral stone effect furniture and leather sofas. Patio doors open onto your private balcony with ocean view from an elevated 4th floor aspect whilst we enjoy a unique tropical 'tree-house' effect of adjacent breeze filled swaying palm trees.

We also enjoy lovely sunrises and sunsets from the balcony varying according to the angle of the sun through the year.

There are also seats, an umbrella, beach towels and coolers for taking on excursion days.

Everything has been thoughtfully appointed for an enjoyable vacation experience...

Key Largo Holiday Rentals.com

Activities

One of the world's great Scenic Drives, the drive on Highway 1 from mainland Florida to Key West induces sensory overload. Besides the natural beauty along the route—tidal flats, teal waters dotted by distant islands—the so-called Overseas Highway awes you in its own right as an engineering marvel. Its concrete stretches across impossible expanses of water, the Atlantic spreading out to the left, the Gulf to the right.

Highway 1 is festooned with opportunities to entertain, whilst beneath the ocean surface lies a separate world of Technicolor fish and coral reefs.

Tropical scenery and diverse water based activities are the focus for most visitors. Excellent fishing is available from the docks, beaches and bridges, as well as boat trips to suit all pockets. Boating, swimming, kite surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, water skiing, jet skiing, snorkelling, scuba diving and sailing are simply a way of life for Keys residents. Visitors are able to hire equipment and join in. If you fancy something a little more relaxing there's simply lounging in the sun with a book, bobbing in the water, romancing and sunset dinners to enjoy whilst leisurely absorbing it's culture, arts and music.

ADDITIONAL SUPERB SWIMMING & CHILDRENS WATER-PARK FACILITIES

Jacobs Aquatic Centre – Key Largo

320 Laguna Avenue | Key Largo, FL 33037 | (305) 453-SWIM

Check out in your browser at ; jacobsaquaticcenter.org

In addition to the swimming pools at Kawama, there is the additional facility of 'Jacobs Aquatic Centre' shown in the picture selection on our website.

Jacobs is situated 1/2 mile from Kawama at St Croix Place and features a multi lane 25 metre pool, A Dive pool, Pirate Ship with Waterslides and Shallow depth Toddlers Pool. The facility benefits from a constant heated temperature, changing facilities, toilets, pool attendant supervision and is disabled friendly with both lift and ramp access. In all respects this is a fabulous asset on our doorstep in Key Largo

<https://www.facebook.com/JacobsAquaticCenter/>

KEYS DOLPHINS & INTERACTIVE NATURE

Taking a Swim with Dolphins or just being in close proximity is many peoples dream.

Key Largo is blessed with three facilities within short driving distance where you can enjoy such interactive programmes for Swimming with Dolphins. The local waters also abound with Wild Dolphins.

For families looking to visit with Island Dolphin Care or for recreational swims with Dolphins Plus and Dolphins Cove, our apartment makes a lovely base camp owing to our close proximity to the facilities. Island Dolphin Care and Dolphins Plus are in close proximity to us (200 yards from the entrance gate) on Ocean Bay Drive. We are also just 3 miles from Dolphin Cove on the Overseas Highway in Key Largo.

Dolphin's Plus

Key Largo at MM 101.9 (Bay Side) Toll Free: 1-866-860-7946

<https://www.dolphinsplus.com/>

(Ocean Side) MM99.5, 31 Corinne Pl, Key Largo, FL 33037 Toll Free: 1-877-365-2683

This is a marine education and dolphin swim facility located in sunny Key Largo. Visit them and swim with dolphins in their natural lagoon open to the Florida Bay. Don mask, fins and snorkel then swim with the Dolphins in their natural lagoon...but be sure to make an advance reservation well ahead

of time...! (The first morning swim is usually best as the Dolphins are often at their most attentive first thing)

Home to Dolphin Human Therapy, their dolphins work with special needs children most of the year. Dolphin swims are available to the public throughout the year at weekends and are a great addition to your Keys Holiday.

You can also enjoy Florida Everglades Tours by Guided Kayak through Everglades National Park to discover beauty and wildlife.....and a variety of Everglades Ecology Tours by boat with Captain Sterling who will take you into the remote areas of Florida Bay and show you the wild Fauna in their Natural Habitat.

<https://www.facebook.com/Dolphinspluspage/>

Theater of the Sea

Islamorada (MM 84.7 Oceanside). Phone: 305-664-2431 www.theaterofthesea.com

This facility is an educational and entertaining marine animal park where shows are up close and personal and the animals live in natural salt-water lagoons. The lagoons and lush, tropical gardens at the facility are home to Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, California sea lions, sea turtles, and many fish and other fauna. In addition to their standard tours, they offer a range of 'Special & Unique Opportunities' including Internships, 'Be a trainer for a day', Birthday Parties, and Interactive Programmes with the animals – Dolphins, Sea Lions, Stingrays...

<https://www.facebook.com/Theater-of-the-Sea-194121747273462/>

Island Dolphin Care

150 Lorelane Place, Key Largo, FL 33037 Phone: 305-451-5884

email : fonzie@islanddolphinscare.org : www.islanddolphinscare.org

Island Dolphin Care, Inc. (IDC) was developed to help children with special needs and their families who are dealing with developmental and/or physical disabilities, emotional challenges, and critical, chronic or terminal illness. Island Dolphin Care believes that children with special challenges can and should enjoy the full range of activities that life's experiences can offer, and that every child deserves the opportunity to play, giggle and have fun!

<https://www.facebook.com/idc1990/timeline/>

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center

Overseas Hwy MM 93.6 Bay-side between Tavernier and Key Largo www.fkwbc.org

The Florida Keys Wild Bird Center's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release native and migratory wild birds that have been harmed or displaced, to provide or locate a humane shelter for those birds that cannot be released, and to educate the public toward the importance of coexistence with all wild bird species. A charitable organisation that relies on donations, they have both self-guided boardwalk tours and warden guided tours and internships.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wild-Bird-Sanctuary/153023884763940>

The Turtle Hospital

A fascinating educational tour....then visit The Turtle Hospital – Hidden Harbour Marine Environment Project MM 48.5 in Marathon

Contact reception on local Tel ; 305 743 6509

Booking essential, guided daily tours.

Tours take you through the processes of how the turtles come to need aid with interesting films and talks, a tour of the hospital operating centre and finally through the rehabilitation pens when you get to meet the Turtles under their care.

www.turtlehospital.org

Coopertown ORIGINAL Airboat Tours - Everglades

Coopertown is located 11 miles west of Florida's Turnpike on US-41 (Tamiami Trail).

Tel : 305 226 6048 www.coopertownairboats.com

Their guides will take you on a personalized, educational tour covering approximately 8 miles of the unique Everglades environment. First you go into the vast open saw grass where you will see why the Everglades are called the "River of Grass" then you will travel through a Hardwood Hammock (a small island of solid ground in the "river of grass"), stopping at alligator holes and seeing the abundance of 'glades wildlife. See herons, grackles, turtles, raccoons and other Everglades residents! This picturesque area has served as the backdrop for many movies and photography "shoots" - You will want to bring your camera too! The Everglades are a truly unique and vibrant environment that you can only experience first hand, and an airboat is the best way to see it!

<https://www.facebook.com/coopertownairboat/>

Robbies

Milemarker 77.5 Bayside www.robbyies.com

"Amazing," "breathtaking" and "impressive" are words often heard from first-time visitors to the end of Robbies dock. What they're referring to is the school of 100+ giant tarpon that come here daily and linger for hours. Maybe the "Silver Kings" just come here to see the humans, but toss a baitfish among them and the water churns as these monsters and the resident pelicans vie for the snack, causing quite a spectacle.

Occasionally, a tarpon actually rises up from the water in a powerful flash of silver and green to meet the fish as it leaves your hand. It's a sight to behold!

They also have kayak rentals adjacent a unique self guided mangrove tunnel tour, boat rentals, and other trips as well as being the home of the hungry Tarpon restaurant.

<https://www.facebook.com/feedthetarpon/?rf=170075713011200>

State & National Parks, Boat & Kayak Trips, Beaches to Swim, Places to chill out

The Florida Keys are renowned for warm clear turquoise seas, clean white sands, tropical breezes and glorious sunsets. Kawama has use of a small private beach on the oceanfront at Kawama together with a small landscaped beach at the North end of the saltwater lagoon.

In addition, there are several Parks and Public Amenities well worthwhile visiting as family day trips within an hour by car from us – we have highlighted a few which have the usual amenities associated with Florida such as picnic shelters, barbecues and toilets.

The Keys tend to have small rather narrow beaches rather than miles of sandy walking beaches.

The nicest and most accessible beach locations are at John Pennekamp State Park, Harry Harris Park, Anne's Beach, Long Key*, Bahia Honda* and Crandon Park*.

The locations marked with * are suitable for long beach walks *, try and time your visit to low tide as this will give you a wider apron of sand.

Please be aware that Keys beaches can experience wash ashore sea-grass accumulations if it has been really windy.

John Pennekamp State Park

Key Largo - Entrance at MM 102.5 Oceanside www.pennekamp.com

Established in 1963, John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park was the first undersea park created in the United States. The park, combined with the adjacent Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, encompasses 178 nautical square miles of coral reefs, sea grass beds and mangrove swamps. These areas were established to protect and preserve the only living coral reef in the continental United States. The area around Key Largo benefits from years of preservation and diversity and marine restoration have been keystone pillars of effort down the years.

The park offers both a land side area of self guided nature walks along the Mangrove and Wild Tamarind trails & boardwalks, picnic facilities, and a protected beach environment.

It is also the base station for many water based trips including Snorkelling, Glass Bottom Boats, Diving, Fishing and Kayaking.

Enquire at the Ranger Station about program schedules current to the time of your visit.

There are also a couple of beach areas here. Snorkelling and swimming are available right off the beaches. Showers are also available!

<https://www.facebook.com/John-Pennekamp-Coral-Reef-State-Park-Concession-225404327521412/>

Harry Harris Park

Tavernier MM 92.5 Oceanside <http://www.monroecounty-fl.gov/facilities/Facility/Details/250>

Popular with locals and day trippers, HH is a beach with most of the amenities you'll need (except food). There are playgrounds, a beach, bike path, pavilions, restrooms, showers, boat ramp, grills, picnic tables, and a tidal pool for the youngsters. It's open from sunrise to sunset.

Park fee: Saturday, Sunday and Federal Holidays of \$5 per person over 16 years of age. (applicable to non-residents only)

<https://www.facebook.com/Harry-Harris-Park-104283062989125/>

Anne's Beach

Mile Marker 73.5 Oceanside Islamorada, FL 33036

Swimming, kite boarding, restrooms and picnic facilities; free parking but limited spaces This is a great beach because it is shallow for a long way out. There are also boardwalks, picnic spots and toilet facilities. You can see lots of wildlife and walk all the way out to the channel and still be in knee deep water most of the time. Take the kids and take a bucket, a blanket and lunch.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Annes-Beach/148656418496045>

Biscayne National Park

A Watery Wonderland - within sight of downtown Miami, yet worlds away, Biscayne protects a rare combination of aquamarine waters, emerald islands, and fish-bejewelled coral reefs. Here too is evidence of 10,000 years of human history, from pirates and shipwrecks to pineapple farmers and presidents. Outdoors enthusiasts can boat, snorkel, camp, watch wildlife...or simply relax in a rocking chair gazing out over the bay. The best way to see and experience Biscayne National Park is to get out on, or better yet, in the water. A private concessioner runs boat trips out into the park for a fee. It is highly recommended to make arrangements before making the trip out to the park for a boat trip. Guided Canoe and Kayak Trips are available from January through April. For other ranger programs, please check the park services schedule of events.

<http://www.nps.gov/bisc/index.htm>

Everglades National Park

America's Everglades - The largest subtropical wilderness in the United States.

Everglades National Park protects an unparalleled landscape that provides important habitat for numerous rare and endangered species like the Manatee, American Crocodile, and the elusive Florida Panther. Everywhere there is vibrant birdlife, Ospreys, Pelicans and Roseate Spoonbills.

A international treasure and a World Heritage Site. Also an International Biosphere Reserve.

There are dozens of trails and pools between the main park entrance and the coastal headquarters at Flamingo which is the stepping off point to boat trips and kayak rentals for your own self guided tour. On the freshwater side, there are independent operators of airboat rides into the Everglades strung along route 41 heading west as you head towards Marco Island

<http://www.nps.gov/ever/index.htm>

Indian Key State Historic Site

Indian Key is located about three-fourths of a mile in a south easterly direction from the north shore of Lower Matecumbe Key. Only slightly more than 10 acres in size and separated from the Overseas Highway by open water, it hardly looks like a place of historic significance. Yet Indian Key has had a colourful past which is very much a part of early Florida history.

There are ranger guided tours and excursions here on weekdays.

<http://www.abfla.com/parks/IndianKey>

Long Key State Park

Long Key at 965 acres contains the remains of ancient coral reefs that were formed 100,000 years ago when the sea level was 20 to 30 feet higher. The vegetation is primarily of West Indian or Caribbean origin. Various wading bird species may be observed in the mangrove-lined lagoons, particularly during the winter months.

Educational offerings at the park include fun and informative programs on snorkelling, fishing, birding, canoeing, sea turtles, plants, history and the marine ecology of the area.

Three nature trails are located within the park for visitors who enjoy both walking and canoeing. The "Golden Orb" Trail, named after a native spider, is a leisurely 40-minute walk through several plant communities. The Layton Trail is located on the bayside of the park and takes 15 minutes to walk. The third trail is Long Key Lakes Canoe Trail, which covers a shallow water lagoon. Canoe rentals and a self-guided brochure are available for this hour-long journey.

Picnic areas are available with a scenic view of the Atlantic Ocean.

Swimming and some of the best sport fishing in the Florida Keys are popular year-round.

<http://www.abfla.com/parks/IndianKey>

Bahia Honda State Park

The channel between the old and new Bahia Honda bridges is one of the deepest natural channels in the Florida Keys. Bahia Honda Park at 524 acres is unique among other islands in the Keys because it has extensive sandy beaches and deep waters close enough offshore to provide exceptional swimming and snorkelling.

A nature trail at the far end of the park's Sandspur Beach, Oceanside, follows the shore of a tidal lagoon, then twists through a coastal strand hammock and back along the beach. Guided walks are available to groups by reservation. There are also Park tours and boat rentals available.

Bahia Honda has become well-known as a recreational treasure in the Keys.

<http://www.abfla.com/parks/BahiaHonda/bahiahonda.html>

Crane Point Hammock State Park at MM 50.5

This unique 63-acre site is home to the Museum of Natural History, Children's Museum, Adderley Town Historic Site, Marathon Wild Bird Center and an extensive nature trail system that leads through a dense tropical forest to a spectacular view of Florida Bay.

Walk the nature trails to learn about Keys native plants and animals. Visit

Wild Willie, their resident iguana and his friends at "Casa Iguana" and spend time enjoying the saltwater lagoon, home to various species of Keys fish.

Tour the Museum of Natural History to meet some of the most colorful Keys inhabitants: Spanish explorers, Keys pioneers, butterflies, tree snails, sea turtles, Key deer, and tropical fish within the simulated coral reef cave. Play on a pirate ship or search the saltwater touch tank at the Children's Museum.

www.cranepoint.org

Crandon Park Key Biscayne

If you are visiting Key Biscayne and/or Miami, we would recommend Crandon Park State Park. The Northern shoreline opposite the Crandon Tennis Centre where the Masters Tennis is featured each March is located here and offers a lovely sandy beach for long walks with a view across to the Miami City Skyline along with facilities such as beach toilets and barbecues for your use.

http://www.miamidade.gov/parks/parks/crandon_beach.asp

Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park

Phone: (305) 664-2540 Mile Marker 78.5, Islamorada, FL 33036

The virgin tropical hardwood hammock that thrives on this island was once common on most of Florida's Upper Keys; most of these forests have been lost to development on other islands. In 1919, William J. Matheson, a wealthy Miami chemist, bought this tiny island and built a caretaker's home with a windmill for electricity and a cistern for rainwater. Today, his hideaway is the visitor center for this island forest. Ranger-guided tours are given December through April. Tours are available twice daily, Friday through Sunday. The park is accessible only by private boat or tour boat. Tour boat services, as well as boat and kayak rentals, are available from Robbie's Marina. For tour reservations call (305) 664-9814. Located one mile west of U.S. 1 at Mile Marker 78.5.

www.floridastateparks.org/lignumvitaekey

San Pedro Underwater Archaeological Preserve State Park

Phone: (305) 664-2540 Mile Marker 85.5 Islamorada, FL 33036

This underwater archaeological preserve features a submerged shipwreck that is available for diving and snorkeling. Part of a Spanish flotilla, the San Pedro was a 287-ton, Dutch-built ship which sank in a hurricane on July 13, 1733. Her remains were discovered in 1960 in Hawk Channel near Indian Key. After major salvage efforts in the 1960s, all that remains of San Pedro is a large pile of ballast stones covering an area 90 feet long and 30 feet wide. The underwater site has been enhanced with seven replica cannons, an anchor, and an information plaque. Visitors can also appreciate the marine life that occupies the site. Located in 18 feet of water, approximately 1.25 nautical miles south from Indian Key at GPS coordinates 24 degrees 51.802'N, 80 degrees 40.795'W. To prevent anchor damage, please tie up to mooring buoys located at the site. For more information about the San Pedro please visit www.floridastateparks.org/sanpedro

Also video and more in depth detail at : <http://www.museumsinthesea.com/sanpedro/index.htm>

Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park

Phone: (305) 664-2540 Mile Marker 84.9, Bayside, Islamorada, FL 33036

Discover the coral reef of old, the history of the Flagler Railroad and the Overseas Highway at Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park.

Enjoy a self guided shaded walk on our trails through a tropical hardwood hammock or join a Ranger guided tour December through April, Friday through Sunday at 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.

www.floridastateparks.org/windleykey

Snorkelling & Diving

Whatever your passion, be it on the surface or below, the Keys and Key Largo in particular are a Mecca for watersports enthusiasts. Visitors are able to rent equipment and join in either through independent arrangements with hire of equipment through many concessions or via organised escorted events run by the concession operators and the National Park staff in various locations. We are happy to provide additional more detailed information about the snorkelling and other activities.

The reef health has been carefully monitored to ensure it remains vibrant and colourful and the snorkelling is wonderful along the reef.

Also a question to consider is whether you also plan to do any diving.

Some of the operators are highly technical and cater to wreck and deep drift divers, whilst others are better suited towards average recreational divers. Some are particularly good with learners and low hours PADI divers who need a high level of supervision, others are better suited to more independent divers.

Whether you are happiest on a large stable craft, but with lots of people around you, or would prefer a more bespoke operator with fewer people - hopefully a little information will benefit your planning.

There are approximately 8 main operators, plus several booking agencies in Key Largo and the locale, with various pros and cons.

The wind can blow 20+ knots at any time of year, however If you are a devoted diver, the best water visibility months are more usually July, August and September so long as there are no deep low pressure systems moving through.

There's a bit of a mix of options available. If you are a diver, choose one of the defined Dive Operators. There's some basic information about each here, but you'll probably need to undertake some research.

If you are more inclined towards Snorkelling, again there's a choice. There are sailing craft that take people out where you can combine a sailing trip with snorkelling. Or there are dedicated snorkelling charters by purely motor craft of various sizes and most of the mainstream dive operators also run snorkel trips. As you'll see, there's also a glass bottom boat option so you can see the reef without even getting your feet wet !

The following is a small selection of operators and as you'll see, you can even learn how to Sail.

Sailing / Motor with Snorkelling

Reef Roamer or Quicksilver Catamaran

Departures from the Ramada Inn Holiday Inn Marina area at MM99 on US1 Oceanside

Cindy... cadams@snorkelsail.com 305 453 0110

Offering party trips for groups at an economic price per head

Motor and sail to the Reef, Snorkel and enjoy being on the Ocean

<https://www.facebook.com/ReefRoamerQuicksilver-Snorkeling-Catamarans-101125590950/>

Rosa Del Mar Sailing

MM100, Key Largo, Tel : 305-923-3113

www.rosadelmarsailing.com

Rosa Del Mar Sailing specializes in private sailing and snorkeling charters and vacations in Key Largo for up to 6 persons. Come feel the warm tropical breezes and relax to island-style music as we sail

Key Largo and the rest of the islands of the fabulous Florida Keys. From sunset cruises to overnight sailing vacations, we can help plan your high-seas adventure!

<https://www.facebook.com/rosadelmarsailing/>

Key Largo Sail School

Captain Joe Dyll (724)734-6212

keylargosailschool@keylargosailschool.com

<http://www.keylargosailschool.com>

The Sailing Lessons will be conducted by Captain Joe Dyll with a back-ground based on over 40 years sailing experience in both the USA and Australia. He is a certified sailing instructor. Other qualified instructors assist Captain Dyll, as the schedule necessitates.

Have Some Fun... Safely Learn Sailing!

Diving Predominantly, with Snorkelling Options by discussion

Rainbow Reef

100800 Overseas Highway, Key Largo : www.rainbowreef.us 800-457-4354 305-451-7171

Recently won an award as a PADI Dive Center of the month award and is a highly respected operation with good Tripadvisor reviews.

Owner operator is : 'DJ' <https://www.facebook.com/Rainbow.Reef.Dive.Center>

<http://www.rainbowreef.us/>

Conch Republic Divers

90800 Overseas Highway #9, Tavernier, FL Keys, 33037 Brenda Mace cell #305 731 6441 / Captn

Dean Hubenig = Manager/senior instructor/captain Office 305 852 1655

dive@conchrepublicdivers.com

Speak with Brenda Mace – they offer dive and snorkel trips and Hen and Chickens offers some superb formations and larger sea-life over the well preserved reef here. They also operate a larger boat.

www.conchrepublicdivers.com

Captain Slates

51 Garden Cove Dr Key Largo, FL 33037 +1 305-451-3020

They are a good size operator with highly technical instructors in general. They also run trips to the more northerly Carrysfort area along the reef line where there's some very nice coral formations.

www.captainslate.com

Ocean Divers

105800 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL , 33037

305 451 0037 email; ggdolphin1@bellsouth.net

known for their go in all conditions approach and specialism with the deep water wreck dives – again safe hands for learning with... <https://www.facebook.com/OceanDiversKeyLargo/>

www.oceandivers.com

Silentworld

are another well thought of operator and their classroom sessions are said to be 1 to 1.....

Tel ; +1 305 451 3252 or email info@silentworld.com

Happy to have younger guests snorkelling, diving min age is 10 yrs as long as accompanied by adults and confident swimmers.

Dive groups max 12, plus additional snorkelling of +15 people when doing reef dive trips to the patch reef areas. <https://www.facebook.com/Silentworlddivecenter/>
www.silentworld.com

Quiescence

03680 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037

Phone:+1 305-451-2440 info@keylargodiving.com

Contact name ; Matt <https://www.facebook.com/QuiescenceDivingServices/>

Snorkel trips with as few as 3 people, max 6 to a boat, will take younger guests, as long as they are comfortable swimming, and can handle the ride out. With their smaller 6 person boats, they also frequent many of the smaller off the beaten track patch reef areas with richer diversity of sea life.
www.keylargodiving.com

Want to float above the surface but maybe see the reef and life below....

Key Largo Princess Glass Bottom Boat

Phone: (308) 451-4655

Mile Marker 100, Bayside

Key Largo, FL 33037

www.keylargoprincess.com

REEF (a not for profit organisation)

Protecting Marine Life Through Education, Service, and Research

Whether you are truly passionate about our world's Coral Reef's and the Environment, or simply interested to know more and see some of the local activities being undertaken to manage, preserve and re-generate the reef in the Florida Keys and further afield, there's a an organisation with it's headquarters based right here in Key Largo called appropriately enough 'REEF'

Find out more at their website ; www.reef.org learn about presentations, trips, photos and more.

They have regular meetings and projects with which you can engage even as a visitor. If this is an interest area of yours it's well worth making contact to find out what they have going on while you are visiting and whether you can get involved. Meetings the second Tuesday each Month at the James E Lockwood REEF House,(in the median) MM 98.3 from 6 PM to 7:30 PM. Prior Confirmation required for attendance.

Kayaking, Paddle-boarding, Eco-tours : self guided & escorted tours : Equipment Rental Only

Florida Bay Outfitters Paddle Sports Center

Address: 104050 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037, United States

Phone: 305-451-3018

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

office@paddlefloridakeys.com

Offering free pick-ups and drop-offs with Kawama Yacht Club

Specialising in Key Largo kayak rental, paddleboard rental, eco-tours, paddleboard sales, kayak sales and service and everything you need for the paddler lifestyle.

Next to the famous Caribbean Club! Paddle right out to the bay from one of the best launching sites around! <https://www.facebook.com/floridabayoutfitters/>

Tours to suit every visitor from dipping your toe in for a couple of hours to a fully committed Full Day Trip.

2 Hour Paddle Board : 3 Hour Dusenbury Creek (Kayak or SUP) : 3 Hour Full Moon : 3 Hour Garden Cove (Kayak or SUP) : Full Day Hobie Island Sailing : Full Day 7 Mile Bridge

We recommend this operator for exploratory Kayak trips – knowledgeable hosts, fun trips, well done that include transport to more distant launch locations within the tour.

With wildlife viewing nothing is guaranteed, but depending on time of year and tour taken which you just need to discuss and research, you'll have the opportunity for interaction and viewing with the abundance of wildlife at close quarters.

The Florida Keys becomes a wintering home for some Florida Manatee. The Dusenbury Creek area has attracted a number of wintering manatees with its sheltered, deep warm creeks. Although not considered a wilderness area, Dusenbury makes boundary for the Everglades National Park. It is not guaranteed, but your chances of spotting a manatee in the wild while paddling this unique area is about 75%. Bottlenose Dolphin are also sighted regularly. Whether or not you see any of these gentle giants, your trip is guaranteed to be enjoyable.

This area hosts some of the best and largest mangrove canopied creeks around.

Full day excursions sailing among the backcountry islands of Florida Bay.

Protected by the Everglades National Park, the mangrove islands are set aside for the nesting birds and turtles that inhabit the area. Landing is prohibited except for a few chosen islands that are designated special use. North Nest Key, found on the eastern end of the bay is one designated site. Surprisingly few people take advantage of this unique area. The nearby American Crocodile

Sanctuary may give you the opportunity to see one of these endangered and rare species.

Manatees, Dolphins, Rays, and Sea Turtles may also be encountered. The backcountry is also a wintering home of the American Bald Eagle, Roseate Spoonbill and White Pelican.

Located in the middle keys stretching seven miles west out of Marathon is a scene from the Old Flagler Railroad. The old 7 Mile Bridge as well as the new Overseas Highway adds an artistic flare to the scenery while you paddle the tropical waters that flow under its span. Small tropical islands, rich marine life and historical adventure await as you explore the open water crossing that most people only see from their vehicles. Included in the tour is a stop at Pigeon Key. A quaint little island village that has been restored by the Pigeon Key Foundation. This museum of historical buildings is also a classroom for marine environmental sciences and a research facility.

There will also be time to relax on the beach and have a picnic lunch.

Aquaholic Adventures

MM97.5, Key Largo 305 330 9874 www.aquaholicadventures.com

Specialising in paddleboard and kayak rentals, lessons, guided tours, exercise classes, paddleboard yoga classes, kids camps, race training, physical fitness programs and more! We can also come to you! No matter what you are looking for, we can fit all your paddle boarding needs. We offer several board options and classes to choose from!

<https://www.facebook.com/aquaholicadventures/>

Capt. Sterling's Everglades Tours

Runs trips from Sundowners at MM 103900 Overseas Hw, Key Largo, Florida

CaptSterl@aol.com 1-305-853-5161 or call Capt. Sterling's cell at 305-394-7422

Google to see more detail about Eco Tours, Manatee Tours, Flamingo Express, & Weddings on the Water.

<https://www.facebook.com/Capt-Sterlings-Everglade-Tours-104018823018041/?rf=975458412533458>

Out There Key Largo Kayak Expeditions

Captain K.C. Stuart Tel: 305 394 1158 <http://www.kayakkeylargo.com>

Daily departures from Dolphin Plus, mile marker 102 bayside Key Largo.

Discover the beauty of the back-country of Florida Bay and Everglades National Park, and enjoy The Florida Keys kayaking adventures.

The basic Key Largo Kayaking tour is "The Gilligan." a three-hour tour.

These trips depart from Dolphins Plus Bayside, at: 8:30 a.m.:12:00 noon:3:30 p.m.

"The Gilligan" is a three-part adventure, a spectacular 45 minute boat ride Out There, over an hour of paddling and exploring, and the return boat ride. This is the most popular of our Key Largo Eco tours.

Stranding on a tropical island is negotiable!

The actual trip time varies depending upon weather conditions, number of paddlers aboard, and other factors, but is a minimum of three hours, and a maximum of four hours from departure to return. There are also Reef Trips, Fishing Trips Sunset Trips,

<https://www.facebook.com/KeyLargoKayak/>

Dive In Watersports

Closest 'on the water' equipment rental franchise to Kawama Yacht Club

Water Sports Equipment Rental Service at 80 E 2nd St, Key Largo,

which is about 1 click South-west on Oceanside Phone: 305-852-1919

Kiteboarding, Windsurfing & Paddle boarding

The Other Side

Phone: 888-555-2607 Mile Marker 83, Bayside, Islamorada, FL 33036

www.thersideboardsports.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Otherside-Boardsports-120393892153/>

Live Entertainment - Sports, Theatre and Music

Sports, Theatre and Music are widely available. From local solo artists and small bands upto International stars. Events of one sort or another are nightly all along the Keys. Consult the local free newspapers widely distributed via vending outlets at shopping, pharmacy and gas station locations when you arrive.

It's worth noting if you like Horseracing & you get an off weather day, that there are two courses in Miami. These are Calder Park & Gulfstream. Together with a day's racing, they schedule well known musical artists for post racing concerts.

Please note both venues are also casino venues.

www.calderracecourse.com

<https://www.gulfstreampark.com>

There are also modern multi-screen cinema theatres in both Tavernier and at Homestead Florida City (handy again if you would like to escape the hottest mid-day sun or it's raining).

www.bbtheatres.com

www.flagshipcinemas.com

Other venues you may wish to pre-research include the Adrienne Arsht Center the home of Miami Performing Arts. There are several different stages and auditorium at the venue.

<http://www.arshtcenter.org>

Even if you've never been to a basketball game or American football event and have no usual interest, it's well worth experiencing just once with it's atmosphere, passion and pure theatre..... The Heat, Miami's Basketball Team are based at the American Airlines Arena (AAA) and concerts by Internationally known performers also take place here.

www.aaarena.com

The Dolphins American Football team appear at the Sun Life Stadium

www.miamidolphins.com

Both are near the interesting, if touristy Bayfront Park with shops, restaurants, tours and live bands.

www.bayfrontparkmiami.com

Also perhaps have a look at the Hard Rock Café & Casino line-up in Hollywood which is Northern Miami, it's a biggish venue with many concerts by international artists through the year.

<http://www.hardrocklivehollywoodfl.com/events.php>

Homestead-Miami Speedway

One Ralph Sanchez Speedway Blvd, Homestead, FL 33035

(305)230-5000

The annual Nascar championship is usually decided at the nearby Homestead venue each November although for all petrol heads there are all sorts of themed race day events throughout the year.

<http://www.homesteadmiamispeedway.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/HomesteadMiamiSpeedway>

Key Largo Holiday Rental.com

Keys Fishing

Whether a casual occasional fisherman or serious angler, a fly-fisherman or a spin tackle angler, there are a variety of exciting, fast swimming game fish waiting to be caught.

At Kawama fishing is available :-

At the end of the pier or by wading the adjacent flats.

For something different, try near the rock breakwater to the left of the beach – set baits out on low incoming tide for Tarpon – take the wife with a book, the chill box and a few beers.

For the more adventurous fisherman – wading off beach to left or to the right in front of the mangroves for Bonefish – detailed directions and instruction from Andrew are available separately.

For the serious fisherman, you've travelled to your vacation getaway, you do not know the waters, do not have the specialist equipment for catching Keys fish or know which the bait or tactics work best. Employing a guide will ensure you have the best opportunity the day can allow.

He knows the waters intimately, not just this season, but countless seasons before. So he knows day by day the tactics, and approach.

What bait or fly was working yesterday and at what stage of the tide and where.

I can vouch for the fact that for many species the fishing is as good as it was 20+ years ago as most inshore species are fished on a strict catch and release basis, and the majority of anglers in the near shore waters exercise a conservationist approach.

Finding a good guide is not easy. There are many to be found up and down the Keys and although they mostly all charge the same price – they vary in quality – as I found to my cost in my early years of fishing the Florida Keys.

They all look professional and talk a good story – but unfortunately as long as you join one of the local guide “Unions” locally, anyone with a boat and equipment can call themselves a guide.

I only fish one local guide – his name is Randy Stallings

Randy has an ultra shallow drafting Hells Bay 18' Skiff and a larger Bay Boat. He can take parties of 1 or 2 people on this boat and up to 4 people if there's a group of you who want to share on the larger Bay boat.

With the Hells Bay he can get into 6" of water for Redfish and Bonefish.

He also uses this craft to sight-fish for Tarpon in season.

He uses the larger boat for either trips to the Reef-Line and Patch Reefs or the Florida Bay and interior bay/coastal river areas to fish for everything from Tarpon and Sharks to Redfish, Trout and a host of other species.

He's very knowledgeable, hard working, and professional in approach.

All bait & tackle including fly fishing equipment is provided being the highest quality equipment, and he keeps all his reels well spooled and ready to go. He is also fully licensed and insured.

He lives within 5 minutes of Kawama so will come and pick you up – a great bonus allowing the rest of your party to not to tie up their day around your fishing trip.

Randy's details can be found below –

Captn Randy Stallings,

Cell : +1 305 587 0307

email : randystallings@yahoo.com

<https://www.facebook.com/Randy-Stallings-Charters-374663082617798/>

Shopping

Fresh Sea Food - Key Largo Fisheries, 1313 Ocean Bay Drive (200 mtrs Kawama)

www.keylargofisheries.com

General Groceries - Publix Supermarket MM 10143 US.1, Oceanside (Tradewinds Plaza Shopping Mall) or Winn Dixie MM105.3 US.1. Bayside.

General Merchandise close to Key Largo - Kmart MM 10143 US.1, Oceanside (Tradewinds Plaza Shopping Mall)

Factory Outlet Malls - Florida City has a cross section of fashion and household retail goods. There's also a nearby large mall at 2455 NE 10th Ct, Homestead, FL which has a Kohls, Bed Bath and Beyond and several others....

Cutler Ridge, South Miami Exit 12 from the Turnpike is where you will find the largest stores and the biggest choice across a 5 mile strip alongside US1.

As you head north you will come to some of the nicest boutique shopping without heading down town, we would suggest you consider the village of Merrick Park in Coral Gables, 358 San Lorenzo Ave #3000, Coral Gables.

www.villageofmerrickpark.com

And finally The Falls which also has a wide selection of both boutique and large retail shops. Some of these offer tax free shopping for EU visitors upon presentation of passport and registration.

www.simon.com/mall/the-falls

Local Boutique Shopping & the 'out of the ordinary'

WILD LILY

Phone: (305) 517-9222

Mile Marker 82, Oceanside

Islamorada, FL 33036

www.wildlilyboutique.com

FLORIDA KEYS OUTFITTERS

Phone: (305) 664-5423

Mile Marker 81.2. Bayside

Fly rods, accessories, and clothing

<https://www.facebook.com/floridakeysoutfitters/>

WATER'S EDGE COTTAGE

Mile Marker 95, Oceanside

Key Largo, FL 33037

<https://www.facebook.com/Waters-Edge-Gift-Cottage-108887749139113/>

WORLDWIDE SPORTSMAN

Phone: (305) 664-4615

Mile Marker 81.5, Bayside

Islamorada, FL 33036

www.basspro.com

THE BANYAN TREE

Phone: (305) 664-3433

Mile Marker 81.2, Oceanside

Antiques and unique, hidden tropical garden boutique nursery

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/BanyanTreeKeys/about>

SEA DRAGON EXOTIC ISLAND DECOR AND GIFTS

Phone: (305) 664-0048

Mile Marker 82.2, Oceanside

Bali teak furniture, lamps, art, silks

<https://www.facebook.com/Seadragonfurniture/>

BLUE MARLIN JEWELRY

Phone: (305) 664-8004 Mile Marker 81.5, Oceanside

Fine jewelry store: Rolex, Hearts on Fire, Pandora, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/thebluemarlinjewelry/>

Interactive Art, Galleries, Museums, The Historic

The Art Box – Key Largo

100650 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo 305-451-5461

Paint & Wine Evening (bring your own) with Light Bites...

Every Friday 6-8pm ++ can go on til late when everyone's having fun !

Every Saturday 1.30pm – 2.30pm Paint along for Children 5yrs+

Visitors are welcome, but need to book ahead. Places usually available at 24hrs notice

A fun way to evolve your creativity, learn with some *really* nice folks..... Jon & Joanna Dreaver. Art Supplies & Interactive Painting Tuition.

<https://www.facebook.com/TropicalArtsAndCrafts/>

Key Largo Art Gallery – Key Largo

103200 Overseas Hwy, Ste 10, Key Largo, Florida 33037

Check for Hours - 27 award winning local artists display

https://www.facebook.com/Key-Largo-Art-Gallery-117988884895045/?hc_location=ufi

The History of Diving Museum – Islamorada

The story of mankind's quest to explore, understand and venture under the sea

82990 Overseas Highway, Islamorada, FL 33036 Bayside

Tel: 305-664-9737 www.divingmuseum.org

info@divingmuseum.org : special events : programs@divingmuseum.org

<https://www.facebook.com/divingmuseum/>

African Queen – Key Largo

Mile Marker 100 Overseas Highway Oceanside

The iconic vessel the African Queen is located in Key Largo Florida. Made famous in the 1951 movie of the same name starring Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn she still remains a timeless classic. This famous steamboat is available for daily canal cruises and dinner cruises in the Port Largo Canal area and also for private events.

www.africanqueenflkeys.com

<https://www.facebook.com/The-African-Queen-Boat-170457596385985/>

Coral Castle Museum

28655 South Dixie Highway, Miami, FL 33033 (close to Homestead)

(305) 248-6345

If you had visited Coral Castle in the 1940s you would have been greeted enthusiastically by a man weighing a mere 100 pounds and standing just over 5 feet tall. He would have asked you for ten cents admission and introduced you to his fantasy world.

As you moved around his sculpture garden in stone, and the significance of each piece was explained, you would have been witness to the great pride Ed Leedskalnin took in his work.

Since it is documented that no one ever witnessed Ed's labor in building his beloved Coral Castle, some have said he had supernatural powers. Ed would only say that he knew the secrets used to build the ancient pyramids and if he could learn them, you could too.

Sources and Information :

<http://www.rense.com/general39/coral.htm>

<http://coralcastle.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CoralCastleMuseum/events>

Hurricane Monument, Islamorada

Millions of vehicles have conceivably passed through Islamorada and overlooked the 1935 Hurricane Memorial. It is innocent enough in appearance, yet eloquent and highly significant in legacy as a memorial. For those who might wish to visit the site, it is located between the old State Road 4A highway and the present U.S. 1 at mile marker 81.5, across from the library. It was dedicated November 14, 1937 as The Florida Keys Memorial and memorializes the World War-I veterans and civilians who perished in the 1935 hurricane. The U.S. Department of Interior placed it on the National Register of Historic Places on March 16, 1995.

<http://www.keyshistory.org/hurrmemorial.html>

HM69 Nike Missile Base

Address: 40001 State Road 9336, Homestead, FL33034-6733

Phone Number: 305 242 7700

A Relic of The Cold War

Everglades National Park houses one of the best preserved relics of the Cold War in Florida. An historic Nike Hercules Missile Site, called Alpha Battery or HM-69, remains virtually the same as it was when official use of the site was terminated in 1979.

This missile base was built by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, completed in 1964 at the height of the Cold War, immediately following the Cuban Missile Crisis of October, 1962. At a time when national security against Soviet attack was America's main priority, the United States Army chose this strategic site within Everglades National Park, located 160 miles from the Cuban coast, to build an anti-aircraft missile site.

The area includes 22 buildings and structures associated with events that have made a significant contribution to American history. Some of the extant structures include three missile barns, a missile assembly building, a guard dog kennel, barracks and a number of other features.

<https://www.nps.gov/ever/learn/historyculture/hm69.htm#>

Keep your regular fitness activities going.....or maybe spoil someone special !

Froggy's Fitness

Call: 305-852-8623 Email: FroggysFitness@hotmail.com

Monday - Friday 5:00 am to 9:00 pm : Saturday & Sunday 7:00: am to 3:00 pm

Largest & best equipped gym in the Upper Florida Keys.

Froggy's Fitness hosts a variety of instructional classes including pilates, yoga, zumba and spin, equipped with a full service bathroom with shower, lockers and changing rooms. Froggy's offers daily, weekly, monthly memberships

<https://www.facebook.com/Froggysfitness/>

Key Largo Yoga

99198 Overseas Hwy. Key Largo, Florida 33037 USA

keylargo@yoga@gmail.com : 305.879.0377

Offering Workshops, Gentle & Restorative Yoga, Vinyasa Level 1-3,

Candle Light Yoga, Aerial Yoga, Yoga at Dolphins Plus

<https://www.facebook.com/Key-Largo-Yoga-and-Holistic-Health-Coaching-117318968315054/>

Pilates in Paradise

103400 Overseas Hwy, Suite 255, Key Largo, FL 33037 info@pilatesinparadise.net : 305 453 0801 :

<https://www.facebook.com/PilatesInParadise/>

Bike Rental

There's several places you can rent them locally for a reasonable price.

Key Largo Bike 305 395 1551 Contact : Mark

MM92 Bayside where the Ace hardware store is (Tavernier) \$18/day for a cruiser or \$75/week Free drop off/pick-up.

All Keys Cycles, Pink Plaza in Key Largo.

103400 Overseas Hwy Suite 105, Key Largo, FL 33037

(305) 453-6221 Steve

Open Weekdays 9am-6pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday Closed Cruiser \$20/day or \$90/week

He was indicating \$15 Drop off and Pick-up, but when I mentioned about Key Largo Bike rates he agreed to forget the drop off charge and sounded negotiable on pricing also.

Rates include helmets and baskets.

<https://www.facebook.com/allkeyscycles1/>

Kayaking and Bicycle Rentals a little further South.....so you explore a different yet nearby area...

Back Country Cowboy

Phone: (305) 664-2431 www.backcountrycowboy.com

Mile Marker 82, Bayside, Islamorada, FL 33036

<https://www.facebook.com/backcountrycowboyoutfitters/>

Key Largo Massage Inc.

Operated by Kristi R. Mitchell L.M.T. : Board Certified, licensed massage therapist living and working in the Upper Florida Keys. Offering a variety of modalities to address a multitude of myofascial, and soft tissue related issues. Being a mobile therapist, Kristi will come to you!

She'll set up her massage table under one of the palms trees or down by the waterfront for you for a relaxing way to start off your vacation and sooth away your worries.

Call for an appointment : 305.393.1617 : kristimitchell64@gmail.com :

<http://www.keylargomassage.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/keylargomassage/>

Key Largo Chocolate

At 100470 Overseas Hwy, on Bayside

Hand Made Chocolates & Truffles, Fudge, Key Lime products made right in Key Largo by Master Chocolatier Kristie Thomas and her husband Bob. They bring dedication to giving you the highest quality in everything they do.

<https://www.facebook.com/KeyLargoChocolates/>

Dining Out – a few nearby Restaurants we recommend

It's difficult to give you complete guidance on restaurants as the head chefs change frequently and there are always new businesses opening whilst none of us like the same menu items. So don't let us dissuade you from just taking pot luck...

We have a few tried and tested favourites, but the list of options is extensive as there are so many to choose from.....

The Buzzards Roost – American with a twist of many influences - MM 106 US.1, Oceanside near the turn off for Card Sound Road, take the turn off for Card Sound Road North Bound, then turn Right towards the Ocean after <100 Metres, then it's about 250 Mtrs on the right.

Lunch/Dinners excellent and reasonable \$ 10-25 per head without drinks. The setting and the quality of the food have made this one of our favourites in the last 12 months. We like to go here for their Sunday brunch when they do Eggs Oscar with Lobster and a glass of Champagne for about \$14....

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Buzzards-Roost-191184878832/>

Puerto Vallarta – Mexican Restaurant

MM 86 in Islamorada

\$ 12-16 per head without drinks. Superb Margeritas, The shrimp fajitas are to die for whilst the truly "homemade" Gaucamole is again really well done.

Owned and run by a true Mexican family and the food is rather good.

If you want something Waterside in Key Largo, you might try Senior Frejoles which if you eat outside, certainly has good ambience.

<https://www.facebook.com/pvallartams/>

Num Thai Restaurant - Authentic Thai and Japanese - MM 103 US.1, Bayside

\$ 7-15 per head without drinks. Special Value Happy Hour Dinners before 7pm.

Tasty Food that doesn't break the bank, and winner of several awards over time. Sometimes however, you need extra clothing here as they run the air-conditioning cold ! That said it has won many awards over time.

<https://www.facebook.com/NumThaiRestaurant/>

'Pierres' @ Morada Bay – Islamorada – MM 81.6 Bayside

Two formats side by side on the Bay \$ 20-30 or \$ 60-80 per head

Superb setting and top class food. For that special romantic dinner - try watching sunset through the palm fronds !

<https://www.facebook.com/moradabaycafe/>

'Harrietts'

If you like American Style breakfasts there's a special little place called Harrietts which is at MM 95.7 on bayside of US1 as you head south. They also do lunches and Homestyle Dinners.....and the locals travel miles to eat here.....the service is amazing as well, especially if Christina is serving !

There are others in the vicinity...'Mrs Macs' and 'Made to Order' also have a good rating.

<https://www.facebook.com/HarriettesRestaurant/>

Hobo's in Key Largo Bayside about MM103 just north of The Yellow Baithouse off US1 – owned and run by a staff co-operative – combines a varied and 'different version of many popular dishes' Reasonable prices, and good service. This is where the locals eat out, so get there early to avoid the queues ! <https://www.facebook.com/hoboscafekeylargo/>

The Pilot House – In the boat basin behind Kawama by Key Largo Fisheries.
'Rustic' waterside bar & grill eatery, the fish is fresh and reasonable and this place humms on Tuesday night's – Ladies night – with reduced drinks prices and Live Music weekly.
<https://www.facebook.com/pilohousekeylargo/>

Our Pick of 'Key West' Attractions

Conch Tour Train

1805 Staples Ave., Key West. 294-5161 or 888-916-8687. See the best on the train tour that's been entertaining visitors to the Island City of Key West since 1958. Our expert "engineers" and friendly staff have delighted over 15 million guests. Your tour of Key West will give you a conch's eye view of all Key West attractions.

<https://www.facebook.com/Conch-Tour-Train-154408564609947/>

Mallory Square www.mallorysquare.com

The center of Key West's historic waterfront, Mallory Square stages the famous Key West sunset celebration. Historic Mallory Square and the city of Key West both had their beginning along this deep harbor waterfront - the wrecking schooners, the frigates and warships of the US Navy, the Cuban cigar makers tobacco warehouses, ship's chandlers and government offices combined to make Key West a bustling seaport out on the frontier of a young America. Today, Mallory Square is a Key West must see. You will find exciting attractions, unparalleled shopping, the Key West historic sculpture garden and of course, every evening, the famous sunset celebration.

<https://www.facebook.com/mallorysquarekeywest/>

Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory

1316 Duval St, Key West, FL 33040 305-296-2988 <http://www.keywestbutterfly.com>

Butterfly park that houses from 50-60 different species of live butterflies from around the world
<https://www.facebook.com/TheKeyWestButterflyAndNatureConservatory/>

Our Pick of 'Miami' Attractions

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156. Tel : 305.667.1651 <http://www.fairchildgarden.org>

Exploring, Explaining and Conserving the World of Tropical Plants one of the world's most unique botanical gardens. The moment you enter Fairchild you are transported to the tropics. Sweet fragrances wafting in the warm breeze will remind you of dreams of paradise. Walk under the exotic vine pergola with dozens of beautiful flowering vines including ones with sky-blue or jade-green and even candy corn-hued flowers. Visit the arboretum to discover the allspice tree with quilted leaves smelling of the warm spice. Walk along the Madagascar Spiny Forest and find yourself in a land of bizarre and beautiful plants. Stroll down the allee and spend some time at the overlook where you can see sparkling lakes and islands beyond. Find a bench and sit down to read and relax for some peaceful reflection. Explore the rainforest and find yourself along a rushing stream with surprising waterfalls and petite cascades. Look up into the canopy of towering trees and see amazing orchids, colorful vines and birds-nest anthuriums growing on the trees! Wings of the Tropics conservatory is a world filled with strikingly colorful butterflies flying to nectar-filled flowers. There are science villages and several conservatories offering different themes to explore.....Nowhere else on earth will you see these amazing plants, incredible vistas and experience the pure tropical ambiance that is Fairchild.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/FairchildGarden/about/>

Vizcaya Museum & Gardens

3251 S Miami Ave, Coconut Grove, FL 33129 Tel: 305-250-9133 <http://www.vizcaya.org>
Features an Italian Renaissance-style villa and formal gardens built in 1916 as the winter residence of industrialist James Deering
<https://www.facebook.com/VizcayaMiami/>

Miami Sea Aquarium

At Key Biscayne – Miami www.miamiseaquarium.com
See Sharks, Dolphins, Manatees, Sea Lions and Seals and of Course The Killer Whale show – but don't sit near the front unless you fancy getting a complete soaking..... !
Miami Seaquarium offers a wonderful day of family fun, Exciting shows, great exhibits and enjoyable, educational presentations in beautifully landscaped parkland overlooking Biscayne Bay.
<https://www.facebook.com/MiamiSeaquarium/>

Monkey Jungle

At 14805 Southwest 216th St. Miami Tel : 305 235-1611 www.monkeyjungle.com
Where Humans Are Caged and Monkeys Run Wild!
Themed areas include an Aviary, Primates, Amazonian Rainforest, Hanging with Orangs, Wild Monkey Swimming Pool, & Archaeological Discoveries
<https://www.facebook.com/monkeyjunglemiami/>

Miami Metro Zoo

2400 SW 152nd St Miami, FL 33177 Tel : 305 251 0400 <http://www.miamimetrozoo.com>
Following a recent re-build there are superb exhibits and facilities including monorail transits between the wide ranging animal environments. Metro Zoo also now offers really innovative interactive programmes such as Horse Trainer for the day, Zookeeper for the day, Painting Classes, Overnight in the Zoo. So take a look at some of the different activities on offer that bring a new dimension.....
<https://www.facebook.com/zoomiami/>

Jungle Island

Located at 1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, off 395, between downtown Miami and South Beach.
Among the residents you can meet are ; Hanna & Jake the Orang Utan's. Watson the White-handed Gibbon, Ray & Boomer the Mackaws – along with a host of chums (Buy some sunflower seeds prior to your trip as those for sale in the park are expensive)....
There's also Godzilla and a Liger to meet (no that's not a mis-type...) and a Japanese garden to explore. www.parrotjungle.com
<https://www.facebook.com/jungleisland/>

Media, Clubs, Associations, Information, Charitable Entities, Vendors

Media Resources & What's On

<https://www.facebook.com/KeyLargoFlorida/>
<https://www.facebook.com/KeyWestCitizen/>
<https://www.facebook.com/keysinfonet/>
<https://www.facebook.com/The-Conch-Telegraph-138298121238/>
<http://www.theconchtelegraph.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/KONKLife/>

Diving, Reef, Preservation Related

<https://www.facebook.com/KeyLargoDiving1/> Sea Dwellers
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/ScubaBoard/>
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=sport%20diver%20magazine>
<https://www.facebook.com/CoralRestorationFoundation/>
<https://www.facebook.com/PADI/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ProjectAWAREFoundation/>
<https://www.facebook.com/floridareef.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/usadiveclub/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Scuba-Diving-the-USS-Spiegel-Grove-off-Key-Largo-104927138192/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ScubaRadio-183687411679817/>
<https://www.facebook.com/nwdivenews/>

Walking, Trailing, Cycling

<http://www.railstotrails.org/trailblog/2013/december/01/connecting-the-keys-florida-keys-overseas-heritage-trail/>

Wildlife Preservation

<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDolphinSmart/>

Fishing

<https://www.facebook.com/bonefishtarpontrust/>
<https://www.facebook.com/GulfstreamPartyFishingBoat/>
<https://www.facebook.com/fkfga.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/saltyanglermagazine/>
<https://www.facebook.com/FloridaSportFishing/>
<https://www.facebook.com/GoFishFloridaKeys/>
<https://www.facebook.com/OnTheWater.Fishing/>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheDrakeMagazine/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Islamorada-Fishing-Club-90134523511/>
<https://www.facebook.com/CAMTAMMagazine>
<https://www.facebook.com/CoastalAnglerMagazineBahama/>

Sailing, Maritime,

<https://www.facebook.com/Upper-Keys-Sailing-Club-159436667412731/>
<https://www.facebook.com/NavalInstitute/>
<https://www.facebook.com/FloridaMariner/>

Heritage

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalMaritimeHistoricalSociety/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FloridaKeysHistoryAndDiscoveryFoundation/>

Weather & Tides

<https://www.facebook.com/floridakeysnoaagov/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSKeyWest/>

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatidepredictions/NOAATidesFacade.jsp?Stationid=8723689>

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