

The Great Escape

Flee the city with these scenic trips.

By Erica Corsano



ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING things about Miami is how easy it is to leave. Don't get us wrong, we love it here—but sometimes a quick and easy day (or weekend) trip is just what the doctor ordered. Thankfully, we can scratch our travel bug without breaking the bank or jetting off too far. Whether it's by plane, train, automobile or boat, there are travel options abound and plenty of fun adventures to be had. Here are a few of our favorites.

DESTINATION: PALM BEACH

Only 90 minutes north of Miami, you'll find this elite island getaway. Originally conceived in the late 1800's as an island escape for the wealthy, Palm Beach has grown tremendously over the years. Now offering arts and culture, exquisite dining and luxurious lodging, it draws visitors from all across the globe. While a day trip is doable (especially thanks to the new Brightline train) why not splurge on an overnight or weekend stay? The picturesque Colony Hotel is divinely Instagram-able while the iconic Breakers Hotel offers old-world charm inside a full-service luxury resort.

Stroll down Worth Avenue to shop the big-name luxury boutiques such as Chanel, Gucci and Neiman Marcus as well as smaller brands like Aerin and CJ Laing. Just a few blocks away, the Royal Poinciana Plaza is also a shopping must, as is a meal at Italian eatery Sant Ambroeus.

While there's plenty to explore on the small island, make sure to cross the bridge to visit the Ann Norton Sculpture Garden and Museum, the new Grandview Public Market food hall-meets-shopping warehouse and the beautiful flagship Restoration Hardware complex and its rooftop restaurant.

DESTINATION: ISLAMORADA

90 minutes (by car) from downtown Miami, a pristine island getaway is waiting for you. The village of Islamorada encompasses 4 of the Florida Keys and has been called the sport fishing capital of the world.

Make Cheeca Lodge & Spa your home base. The historic property reopened in the spring after a 25 million dollar post-Irma renovation including The Spa at Cheeca Lodge, which houses an adults-only heated lap pool and poolside cabanas, complete with butler service and seven relaxing treatment rooms.

Despite their small size, the Upper Keys

have a rich history that includes sunken treasures, major hurricanes, pirates, famous presidents coming down to fish and more. It's also where Key Lime pie first became popular. Learn more at the Florida Keys History & Discovery Center—a museum with impressive audiovisual exhibits and experiences.

Make sure to find time to visit the Islamorada Beer Company brewery to wet your whistle with a Florida favorite and partake in an area tradition feeding the enormous tarpon at Robbie's Marina, bayside at Mile Marker 77.

DESTINATION: THE BAHAMAS

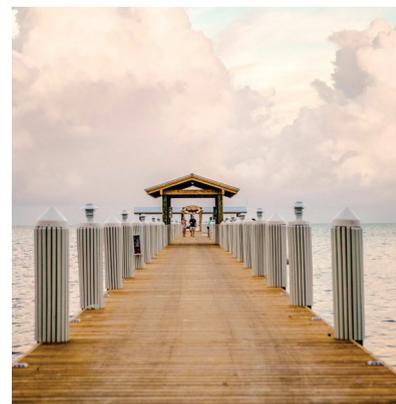
While it's only a short flight away, our favorite way to get to the Bahamas is by boat. For a quick getaway, Bahamas Paradise Cruise Lines offers kid-friendly, affordable, daily two-night trips leaving from the Port of Palm Beach, arriving in Freeport, Grand Bahama Island.

Home to stunning marine life, cool shipwrecks and one of the world's largest underwater cave systems, Grand Bahama Island has loads to explore. Once aboard your cruise, work with staffers to book a day trip excursion parasailing, shopping, kayaking in mangroves, snorkeling highly-preserved Bahamian reefs, exploring marine life from a 60-foot glass bottom boat or relaxing at the pool or beach.

Their new ship, Grand Classica offers updated accommodations and non-stop entertainment in the form of shopping, live Vegas-style shows, several restaurants, a casino, supervised activities for kids, a theater, casino, spa and much more. bahamasparadisecruise.com

Insider tip: You can visit the Bahamas for a day. Balearia Caribbean fast ferries take you from Fort Lauderdale to Freeport, Grand Bahama Island in just three and a half hours. baleariacaribbean.com

For more easy getaways, head to wher



EASY GETAWAYS

(From top) Cheeca Lodge & Spa; colorful interiors at The Colony Hotel; fun in the Bahamas; poolside at The Colony. (Opposite) Bahamas Paradise Cruise

(FROM TOP RIGHT) COURTESY CHEECA LODGE; COURTESY THE COLONY; COURTESY BPCL; COURTESY THE COLONY. (OPPOSITE) COURTESY BAHAMAS PARADISE CRUISE LINE