

Fort Lauderdale

Three hundred miles of canals, a long clean beach and the biggest boat show in the world

Fort Lauderdale trades the neon of Miami for canals, a broad clean beach and a boating culture that peaks with the world's largest boat show every autumn. It is also the cheapest base for a Palm Beach theme-park day and the Everglades.

At a glance

CANALS	300 miles of waterways
AIRPORT	FLL, 15 min from the beach
WATER TAXI	All-day hop-on ticket

When to go

December to April. October brings the boat show and higher hotel prices.

Getting around

The water taxi is genuinely useful transport, not just a tour. Otherwise a car, with metered beach parking.

What to see

Las Olas Boulevard	Galleries, terraces and the bridge to the beach.
Fort Lauderdale Beach	The wave wall promenade and easy swimming.
Hollywood Beach	A 4 km brick boardwalk south of the airport.
Lauderdale-by-the-Sea	Shore-diving on a reef 100 m off the sand.
Everglades Holiday Park	Airboats and alligator shows, 40 minutes west.

Tours worth booking

Fort Lauderdale water taxi all-day pass	Full day · Boat & beach · 4.6/5 (1580 reviews)
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Busch Gardens Tampa Bay day ticket	Full day · Adventure · 4.7/5 (2840 reviews)
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LEGOLAND Florida with Peppa Pig Theme Park	Full day · Adventure · 4.6/5 (1960 reviews)
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Kennedy Space Center admission with transfer	10 h · Culture · 4.8/5 (5210 reviews)
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Everglades airboat ride and wildlife show	3-4 h · Nature · 4.6/5 (7420 reviews)
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Rapids Water Park day pass, West Palm Beach	Full day · Adventure · 4.4/5 (860 reviews)
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Where to stay

W Fort Lauderdale	Fort Lauderdale Beach · Design · From \$420
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The Setai, Miami Beach	South Beach · oceanfront · Luxury · From \$950
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Faena Hotel Miami Beach	Mid-Beach · Design · From \$780
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The Betsy South Beach	Ocean Drive · Boutique · From \$520
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Mandarin Oriental, Miami	Brickell Key · Luxury · From \$640
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Generator Miami	Mid-Beach · Value · From \$130
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Day-by-day itineraries

Fort Lauderdale in 1 day	suitesandsunsets.com/itineraries/fort-lauderdale/1-day-itinerary
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Fort Lauderdale in 2 days	suitesandsunsets.com/itineraries/fort-lauderdale/2-day-itinerary
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Fort Lauderdale in 3 days	suitesandsunsets.com/itineraries/fort-lauderdale/3-day-itinerary
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