

Tampa

Busch Gardens and Iron Gwazi, Ybor City's cigar streets and a riverwalk downtown

Tampa is the theme-park capital of the Gulf coast: Busch Gardens Tampa Bay has Iron Gwazi, the tallest hybrid coaster in North America, a 26-hectare Serengeti savanna and the Adventure Island water park across the road. Add Ybor City's cigar streets and an aquarium downtown and it is an easy three-day city.

At a glance

BUSCH GARDENS	Iron Gwazi, SheiKra, Montu
TO LEGOLAND	55 minutes east
TO ORLANDO	1 h 25 on I-4

When to go

October to April: warm, dry and no queues. Summer means afternoon storms that close outdoor coasters briefly.

Getting around

A hire car. The TECO streetcar links downtown with Ybor City for free, and Busch Gardens is 20 minutes north.

What to see

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay	The state's best coaster park, with a real African savanna.
Adventure Island	The water park across the road, seasonal.
Ybor City	Cigar factories, brick streets and Columbia Restaurant.
Tampa Riverwalk	4 km of waterfront linking museums and Sparkman Wharf.
ZooTampa at Lowry Park	Manatee rehabilitation and a strong children's zone.
Florida Aquarium	The storm-day plan, ten minutes from downtown.

Tours worth booking

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay day ticket Full day · Adventure · 4.7/5 (2840 reviews)

Ybor City food and cigar walking tour, Tampa 3 h · Food & wine · 4.9/5 (940 reviews)

LEGOLAND Florida with Peppa Pig Theme Park Full day · Adventure · 4.6/5 (1960 reviews)

Kennedy Space Center admission with transfer 10 h · Culture · 4.8/5 (5210 reviews)

Everglades airboat ride and wildlife show 3-4 h · Nature · 4.6/5 (7420 reviews)

Rapids Water Park day pass, West Palm Beach Full day · Adventure · 4.4/5 (860 reviews)

Where to stay

Epicurean Hotel, Tampa Hyde Park, Tampa · Design · From \$260

Tampa Marriott Water Street Tampa Riverwalk · Resort · From \$280

Hard Rock Hotel Tampa East Tampa · Family · From \$220

The Setai, Miami Beach South Beach · oceanfront · Luxury · From \$950

Faena Hotel Miami Beach Mid-Beach · Design · From \$780

The Betsy South Beach Ocean Drive · Boutique · From \$520

Day-by-day itineraries

Tampa in 1 day suitesandsunsets.com/itineraries/tampa/1-day-itinerary

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