

Michael Saunders & Company®

LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER

Your guide to living,
working and playing on
Florida's Gulf Coast







Michael Saunders, Founder & CEO (L) and
Drayton Saunders, President

Move With Confidence

Michael Saunders & Company—locally owned, globally connected, and independent—has grown to serve home buyers and sellers through 17 office locations positioned from Bradenton through Sarasota, to Boca Grande and beyond, cementing themselves as the premiere real estate company on Florida’s Gulf Coast for over 45 years.

Backed by professionally trained Sales Associates who specialize in all price ranges and lifestyle options, no other company can provide the vast local knowledge, comprehensive support services, and steadfast values you experience when working with Michael Saunders & Company.

Our experience and commanding market share give us the flexibility to hand-select premium international brokerage partners renowned for their ability to connect buyers and sellers. These longstanding affiliations with industry leaders Luxury Portfolio International, Leading Real Estate Companies of the World®, and Mayfair International Realty coupled with our own full-service Relocation Division introduce new neighbors to our highly desirable community every day.

We are delighted that you have found our corner of the world and look forward to assisting with all of your real estate needs. We are not a faceless franchise nor a faceless corporation. Our organization is local with a broad global reach—hyper-focused on your satisfaction and exceeding your expectations.

Michael Saunders

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Welcome.

*Congratulations on choosing Florida's Gulf Coast for your next home, where beyond the soft sands and glowing sunsets exists a world of **celebration** through performance and visual arts, music, film, fine dining and fun. By working with a Michael Saunders & Company Sales Associate, you are taking the right steps towards a smooth transition to our beautiful coastal destination.*

RELOCATE WITH EASE

Relocating to or moving around Florida's Gulf Coast has never been easier. With our specialists standing by to help your transition, you have more time to discover your perfect place and enjoy the pleasant thoughts of a laidback lifestyle among our area's many charms.

The homes here are as varied as the communities in which they are found, from expansive waterfront estates to charming golf course villas, and everything in between. With so many styles and options available in all price ranges, you can be confident in knowing the perfect lifestyle option awaits your arrival.

Our Sales Associates are proven area experts, who can provide valuable insight on neighborhoods, comparable properties and current market conditions, as well as guide you through the intricate negotiation and closing processes. With just one call, Michael Saunders & Company is ready to offer all the support services you need for a rewarding, stress-free real estate experience.

We also provide mortgage, insurance and title guidance. We can even offer help with the sale of your property in another state or country through our global affiliation with Leading Real Estate Companies of the World®.



A CHERISHED DESTINATION

Welcome to our exciting, luxurious tropical oasis of pristine beaches, turquoise waters and laidback lifestyles. For new, permanent and seasonal residents, fishing and boating on aquamarine waters, playing championship golf courses year-round, collecting seashells along soft sandy beaches, strolling through galleries, experiencing world-class performance arts, attending major league baseball spring training games, first-rate rowing venues, and watching sensational sunsets are but some of the thrilling adventures ahead.

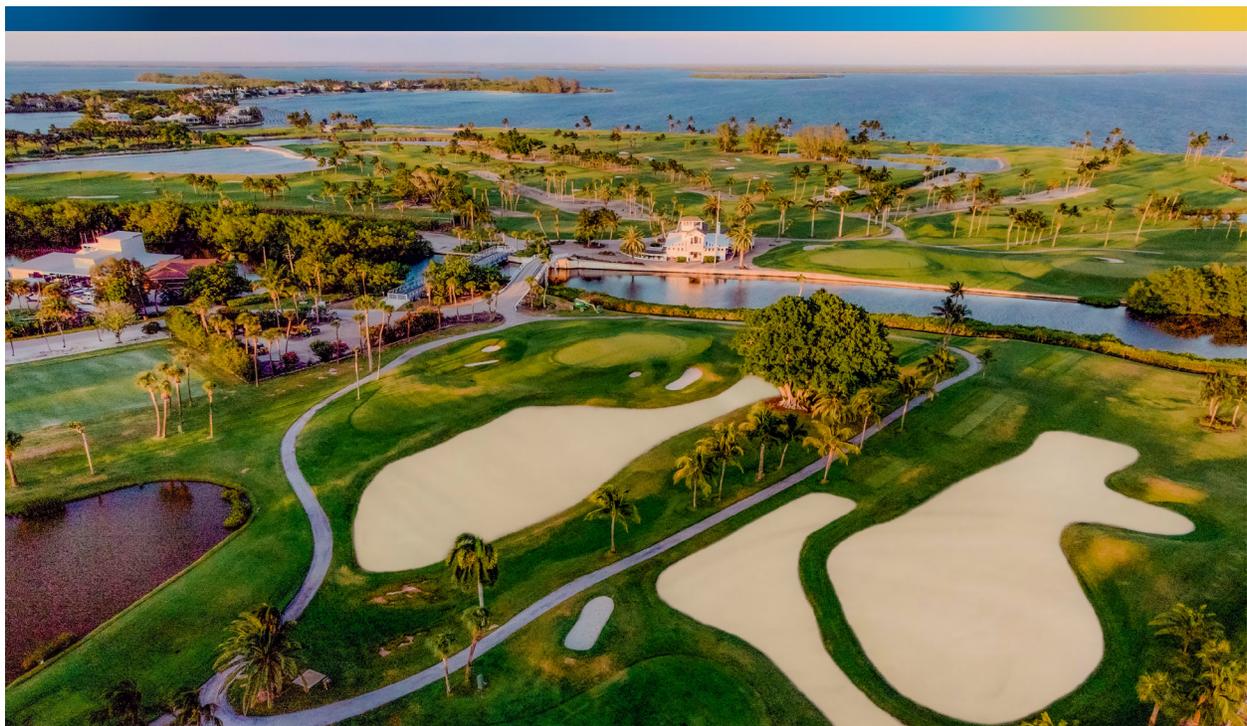
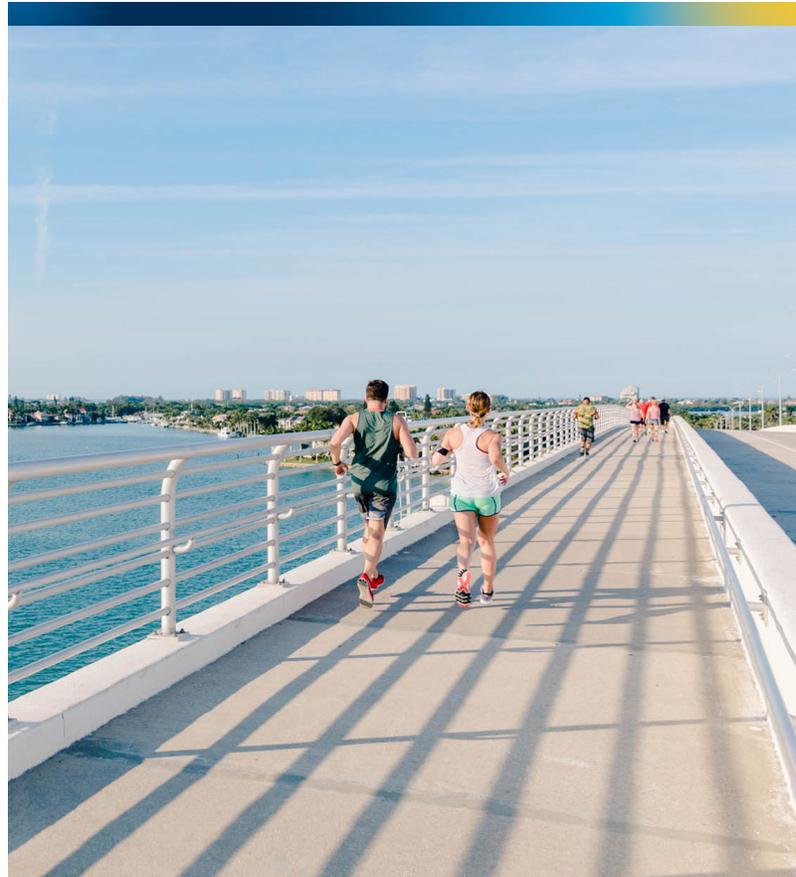


MICHAEL SAUNDERS & COMPANY: CONVENIENT TO YOU ANYWHERE ON FLORIDA'S GULF COAST

As the preferred real estate company on Florida's Gulf Coast, Michael Saunders & Company offers 17 office locations conveniently positioned from Anna Maria Island to Boca Grande and beyond. With such convenient access to world class real estate services and support, you can be sure to find an area expert to provide the most in-depth market knowledge of the overall market and your neighborhood of choice.

GORGEOUS CLIMATE

Of all the reasons to visit or move to our area, the perfect climate might just be at the top of the list. Few other places on earth have the combination of world class beaches, community parks galore, miles of walking and bicycling opportunities, tropically warm weather and year-round sunshine like Southwest Florida.



OUR OFFICES

1. Anna Maria Island
2. Boca Grande
3. Bradenton
4. Englewood
5. IMG Academy
6. IMG Legacy Hotel
7. Lakewood Ranch
8. Longboat Key South
9. Main Street—Sarasota
10. Palmer Ranch—Sarasota
11. Plantation—West Villages
12. Punta Gorda—Taylor Street
13. Siesta Key
14. St. Armands I
15. St. Armands II
16. Venice



Steeped in History

The presence of early human inhabitants along the West Coast of Florida dates back to around 8,000 B.C., and there is evidence that Native Americans lived along the waterfront of Sarasota and Southwest Florida more than 3,000 years ago. At this time, the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico was over 100 miles farther to the west. As the Pleistocene glaciers slowly melted, sea levels began rising, resulting in the Florida coastline of today. This new landscape provided attractive locations for human settlements.



Historical information compiled from: "Sarasota Over My Shoulder," by Janet Snyder Matthews, the Sarasota County Department of Historical Resources, and sarasotafl.org.



SARASOTA: THE CIRCUS TOWN

John Ringling, of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, made his mark on the community with much flair. Not only did he and his wife, Mable, build a magnificent Venetian-style mansion on Sarasota Bay—named Cà d’Zan (house of John)—but they went a few steps further in positioning Sarasota as “Florida’s Cultural Coast.”

John and Mable needed a place to house their ever-growing collection of works by Peter Paul Reubens and other masters of 17th-century Italian and Flemish art. We know that collection today as the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, one of America’s most celebrated art museums.

Ringling’s influence didn’t stop there. As a developer and dreamer, Ringling used his circus elephants to

help build the first bridge from the mainland to St. Armands Key, where he went on to develop casually elegant retail center—St. Armads Circle.

In 1927, the circus’ winter quarters were moved to Sarasota—branding the area as a “circus town.”

SARASOTA COUNTY

Sarasota first became a “modern” town in the 1880s after a promotion in Scotland by the Florida Mortgage and Investment Company in 1885. For many, it presented a breath of fresh air, promising an abundance of fertile land, plentiful citrus groves and affordable housing. Scottish families looking for a new start set sail for Sarasota, but found little more than a frontier camp upon their arrival. However, among those who stayed to complete their dream was John



The Mistletoe

Hamilton Gillespie, a Scottish aristocrat, lawyer, and member of the Royal Company of Archers—The Queen’s Bodyguard for Scotland.

Gillespie built America’s first golf course, right here in Sarasota. Quite the entrepreneur, Mr. Gillespie also built the upscale DeSoto Hotel on Main Street for tourists and prospective investors. In 1902, he was elected as Sarasota’s first mayor.

Michael and Drayton’s great uncle, John Savarese, provided the first regular scheduled service from Tampa to Sarasota—The maiden voyage of the Mistletoe from Tampa to Sarasota on October 7, 1895 was a landmark in the development of Sarasota.

By the winter of 1910, Sarasota had a population of less than 1,000 when a visit from Bertha Honore

Palmer, a wealthy Chicago civic and social leader, was the catalyst to help change the little town from a sleepy fishing village to a cosmopolitan village. Her declaration that Sarasota Bay was more beautiful than the Bay of Naples caught the attention of the press and visionaries who led residents to enjoy its tropical charms.

The Roaring Twenties ended early for Sarasota, as Florida was one of the first areas in the United States to be affected by the financial problems that led to the Great Depression. During the 1950s, Sarasota again began to grow and modernize, with a group of imaginative architects attracting national attention with their contemporary and environmentally oriented style, which became known as the Sarasota School of Architecture. While many of those homes

have been removed, altered or compromised, there are a number that remain or are now being meticulously restored.

MANATEE COUNTY

There is much evidence to claim that Manatee County has been settled as far back as the year 1,000 A.D. The first visitors were so taken with the peace and beauty of the water, they named it La Bahia de Espiritu Santo, which means Bay of the Holy Spirit. When Spanish conquistador Hernando DeSoto landed at Shaw's Point, near the mouth of Tampa Bay in 1539, what is now Manatee County was the southern boundary for the Tocobagan tribe.

In 1842, Josiah Gates settled the area, and two brothers named Hector and Joseph Braden became the major landowners and later the namesake of the town. The area to the south of the mouth of Tampa Bay would eventually become Manatee County in 1855—named after the sea cow that frequents area waters. By 1873, there were nine schools with 200 students enrolled. In May 1878, the first post office was officially established. The current city of Bradenton was formed in 1943, when the Florida legislature merged the cities of Manatee—incorporated in 1888—and Bradentown.

The De Soto National Memorial in Bradenton marks the spot where De Soto is believed to have landed. The South Florida Museum features Native American and natural history exhibits, as well as historical dioramas. For a glimpse of life in 19th century Bradenton, visitors can tour the renovated historic buildings of Manatee Village Historical Park.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

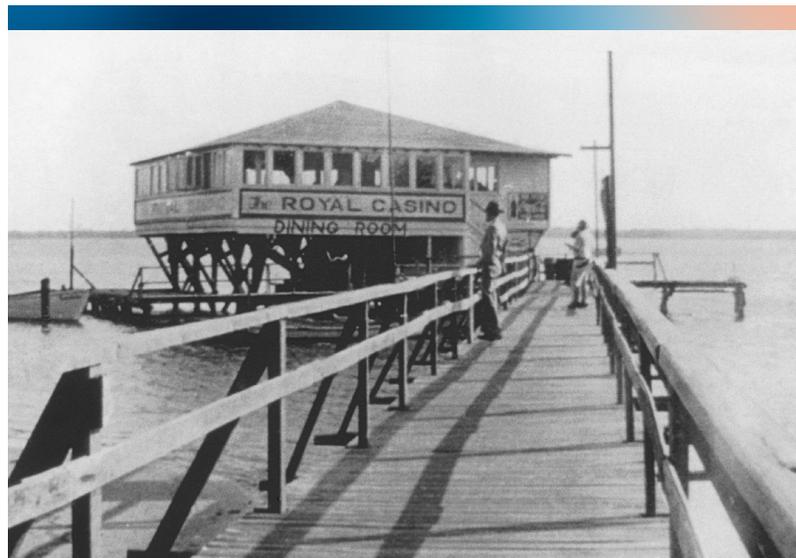
The name for Charlotte Harbor may originally be a corruption of Carlos or Calos, words associated with the Calusa, the Native American group in southwest Florida at the time of Spanish contact. In 1565, the Spanish named Charlotte Harbor “Carlos Bay,”

followed by the English in 1775, who named the area Charlotte Harbor in tribute to the Queen Charlotte Sophia, wife of King George III.

In the 1950s, the now defunct General Development Corporation, led by the Mackle brothers, took advantage of the Florida land boom and developed land on both of Florida's coastlines. Among the areas they developed was Port Charlotte and North Port. Ultimately, Port Charlotte would become the most populated center in Charlotte County, although like most GDC developments, Port Charlotte remained unincorporated. Punta Gorda is the only incorporated city in Charlotte County.

GASPARILLA ISLAND

Gasparilla Island got its name from Jose Gaspar, a famous local pirate who had his base on the island and is said to have hidden his immense treasure there. Gasparilla Island became an important stop for phosphate shipping until the dredging of the Port of Tampa, and a major vacation destination for the wealthy who used the railroad line to access world renowned fishing and the beauty of Boca Grande. Shipping dramatically declined after the turn of the 20th century, but tourism remains very important to the island's economy.



World-Class Beaches

While some areas are internationally recognized for their architecture or skyscrapers, Florida's Gulf Coast is most widely known for one thing: gorgeous beaches. For both residents and visitors from around the world, Florida's Gulf Coast beaches make spending time in our area truly special.

With miles of powder-soft sand lapped by gentle azure waters, each day is a tropical respite capped by a glorious sunset folding softly beyond the shimmering horizon.





SARASOTA COUNTY BEACHES

Blind Pass Beach—Located on Manasota Key Road, one mile north of the Charlotte County line on Manasota Key. Amenities include restrooms, parking, playground equipment, canoe launch, nature trail, large picnic shelter, and dune wildflowers. Please note that no lifeguards are on duty.

Brohard Beach—Located in the southern-most part of the City of Venice, on the Venice Airport property on Harbor Drive. This park is owned by the City of Venice and operated by Sarasota County. If you enjoy fishing for recreation, there is a 740-foot fishing pier on the property for public use. The pier contains restrooms, a snack bar, and a bait shop.

Caspersen Beach—Located south of the Venice Airport on Harbor Drive. As you visit this beach, you will find that the southern two-thirds of beachfront have been left in their natural state. Many people describe it as uncultivated, windswept and secluded. A dune restoration system with walkovers has been implemented to preserve the shoreline. Restrooms, picnic tables, and showers are available, but no lifeguards are on duty.

Crescent Beach—Noted for its powder-soft sand and crescent shape, Crescent Beach extends from the northern tip of Siesta Key and south past Siesta Beach to Point of Rocks. Relatively secluded and quiet, Crescent Beach has only one public access road.

Lido Beach—Located mid-island on Lido Key and only minutes from St. Armands Circle, the facilities here are outstanding. Besides the beautiful sand and sea, also provided are showers, lockers, dressing rooms, a 25-meter swimming pool, concession stand, public meeting rooms, beachwear souvenir boutique, and children's playground.

Longboat Key—Longboat Key is for those who prefer seclusion. These pristine beaches are a well-kept secret and public access is at a minimum.

Manasota Beach—Manasota Beach is located at the west end of Manasota Beach Road. This is a wonderful place to spend your leisure time whether you are interested in taking a walk, collecting shells, or maybe flying a kite. This beach is situated between the Gulf and the Intracoastal Waterway. As a convenience on the Intracoastal side, a boat ramp and docking facilities are available allowing access to the bays





and Gulf. The 620 feet of dockage becomes a scenic boardwalk that meanders through the mangroves. Lifeguards are on duty.

Nokomis Beaches—To find the Nokomis beaches, turn west on Albee Road off U.S. 41 and cross over the Nokomis Bridge. Straight ahead, you'll find Nokomis Beach, with ample parking in two lots, lifeguards, picnic tables, grills and bathrooms. To the south is the coastal town of Venice.

North Jetty Beach—North Jetty Beach is located south of Nokomis Beach. The jetties make this one of the most exciting surfing beaches on the west coast of Florida. It is a very popular picnicking spot for families and large groups, and the fishing is spectacular. If you enjoy watching boats, this is a good place to engage in that activity. Boats can be seen daily as they pass through the jetties from the Intracoastal Waterway to the Gulf of Mexico. Amenities include restrooms, parking, bait shop, large and small picnic shelters, horseshoe courts, volleyball courts, concession, and dune walkovers. For your safety, lifeguards are on duty.

Lido Beach—North Lido Beach is a gorgeous half-mile stretch of beach encompassing 77 acres of land including over 3,000 feet of sandy beach. Located at the northern tip of Lido Key on the west-side of this is private beach with access only for residents of Lido Shores.

South Lido Beach is located at the south end of Ben Franklin Drive, at the southern tip of Lido Key. A 100-acre park interacts with four significant bodies of water: The Gulf of Mexico, Big Pass, Sarasota Bay and Brushy Bayou. The southern beach portion of the park offers expansive views of downtown Sarasota and the Gulf of Mexico. Lifeguards, restrooms, picnic tables and showers are available.

Palmer Point Beach—Palmer Point Beach begins at the southern tip of Siesta Key and continues onto the north end of Casey Key. The northern portion of this beach was previously the home of Mote Marine



Laboratory. The closing of Midnight Pass in January of 1984 has created one continuous beach from the northern portion to Casey Key. This beach will give you a feeling of privacy and seclusion. It is a beautiful, gently sloping beach with a pristine dune system. The beach is a popular spot for boaters and people who like to walk along the shore from Turtle Beach. Two things to make note of if you are visiting: there are no lifeguards on duty, and there are no facilities present.

Siesta Public Beach—Located mid-island off Midnight Pass is where the action is and where you'll find the world's finest sand. It's the widest beach in the county and certainly the most popular—ranked the nation's number one beach in the 21st annual Top 10 Beach List, produced by coastal expert Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, Director of Florida International University's Laboratory for Coastal Research. Facilities include a concession stand, restrooms, volleyball nets, tennis courts and year-round lifeguards. Pine trees shade an area for picnicking, with grills for cooking out and a playground for the children. This sparkling beach is also within walking distance to Siesta Village, a renowned shopping and dining destination with island flair.

Turtle Beach—Turtle Beach is a tranquil spot located on the southernmost tip of Siesta Key on Midnight Pass Road, about two and one-half miles south of Stickney Point Road. Less crowded than Siesta Beach, it is a wonderful place to spend a few hours sunbathing, reading or picnicking under its covered shelter.

Venice Public Beaches—If you want to sunbathe on smooth powdery sand or enjoy crystal-blue waters, Venice Public Beach, at the end of West Venice Avenue off Highway 41, offers picnic benches, restrooms and outdoor showers.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY BEACHES

Blind Pass Beach—Set on Manasota Key, Blind Pass Beach covers 66 acres of sand dunes, nature trails and shorelines on the Gulf of Mexico and Lemon Bay. Picnic shelters, restrooms and a playground make Blind Pass Beach an ideal retreat for families, couples or anyone looking for their own stretch of sand.

Don Pedro Island State Park—Located on a barrier island and accessible only by private boat or public ferry, Don Pedro Island Beach is a one-mile beach fronting the Gulf of Mexico and is perfect for sunbathing, fossil hunting, swimming and just getting away from civilization. Here, you will find the necessities of a wonderful day at the beach, including restrooms and outdoor showers to a picnic pavilion and barbecue grills.

Englewood Public Beach—Known for its wide shoreline perfect for sandcastle building, Englewood Public Beach is bordered by a long boardwalk providing extra amenities. The adjoining Chadwick Park has a playground area and public restrooms.

Port Charlotte Beach Park—Visitors enjoy the sandy beach at Port Charlotte Beach Park, but its main draw is the extensive recreational facilities, such as a heated swimming pool, five baseball fields, and basketball, tennis, beach volleyball, bocce and horseshoe courts. Canoers and kayakers can launch from the park, and a

boat ramp and a fishing pier are also available.

Stump Pass Beach—Located at the south end of Manasota Key Road and known for its fossilized sharks' teeth, Stump Pass Beach State Park caters to environmentally minded beach-goers with its well-marked trail through five distinct habitats. During the summer, you can enjoy ranger-led turtle walks and beach nature hikes.

MANATEE COUNTY BEACHES

Anna Maria Bayfront Park—On the northern end of Anna Maria Island is a secluded beach that fronts both the Intracoastal Waterway and the Gulf of Mexico. According to the locals, this is the best beach in the area for finding unbroken sand dollars and scalloped cockleshells. Sunbathers discover small sand dunes, sea oats and a great view of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Park-goers can enjoy amenities such as a barbecue pit, picnic shelters, a playground, restrooms, showers and lifeguards.

Coquina Beach—On Anna Maria's southern tip is a lovely and popular public beach lined with towering Australian pines. Families can enjoy this park because of its full-service concession stand, ample parking, barbecue pits, picnic facilities, boat ramp, playground, restrooms, showers and lifeguards.

Cortez Beach—Also known as Bradenton Beach, it is located just north of Coquina on Gulf Blvd., and boasts three-fourths of a mile of sugar-white sand. Restrooms, lifeguards, and free parking available. Also enjoy a restaurant and snack bar that serves pancake breakfasts on weekends.

Greer Island (Beer Can Island)—Greer Island, at the north end of Longboat Key, is accessed by boat or North Shore Blvd., and is a beautiful, secluded peninsula with a wide beach that is great for kayaking and excellent for shelling. No facilities or lifeguards are available.

Holmes Beach—Found at the center of Anna Maria Island, Holmes Beach boasts over 14,400 feet of sandy Gulf of Mexico beach, as well as a full range of amenities including grills, a playground, showers and picnic area. Picnic tables shaded by majestic Australian pines are scattered near some of the entries.

Manatee County Beach—Located at the end of Manatee Avenue, the Manatee County Beach is a large public beach with free parking, concessions, lifeguards, restrooms, picnic tables and showers. An outdoor patio with umbrella-covered tables overlooks the volleyball courts, while a nearby playground accommodates the kids.



A Recreational Paradise

The lifestyles and leisure activities of Florida's Gulf Coast continue to welcome visitors and new residents to an exciting new chapter of their lives, bathed in sunshine and soothed by calming sea breezes. Both the active sport fanatic and casual sideline fan will revel in a range of recreational fun from fishing, golf, tennis, diving and more. Florida's Gulf Coast is a subtropical playground filled with year-round challenges for the sport enthusiast.





HIGH PERFORMANCE ATHLETIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Southwest Florida is a great place for sports — not only for our great year-round weather but also for the numerous amenities our community has to offer. We have many attractions and boast a wide variety of accommodations—anything from campgrounds to luxury resort hotels. Some of our best sporting venues include our many Sarasota County Parks, Ed Smith Stadium, other spring baseball stadiums, Sarasota Polo Grounds, world-famous IMG Academy, Benderson Park Rowing Facility, and Siesta Key Beach. No matter which sport you love, we are the place for you!

AN ANGLER'S PARADISE

For anyone who has ever dreamed of catching the big one, the water off Florida's Gulf Coast is the place to do it. A trip here is not complete without an adventure into the backwaters and onto the beaches searching for some of the world's most sought-after sportfish. Along our coast, there is something for everyone all year long—whether you prefer fly fishing, offshore fishing, bay fishing or fishing from one of our piers. From the simplest pole with just a hook and line to the more sophisticated rod and reel, the fishing opportunities of Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Manatee River, Gulf of Mexico, the Intracoastal Waterway and beyond offer an exciting playground for anglers of all ages. Want to ensure a memorable catch? A number of area charters and guides are available to make your fishing trip an experience to remember.





Mainship



CYCLING THE COAST

For exercise and adventure, a bike ride is so much better when the scenery is picturesque, and the weather is gorgeous. Throughout Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties are hundreds of miles of bike trails winding through wooded preserves, beside the sun-kissed beaches, and along the sparkling waters of the Manatee River, Sarasota Bay and Charlotte Harbor. Whether you are a cycling pro or a novice, you will delight in the magnificent pairing of the beauty of nature and the exhilaration of fitness on the bike trails throughout Florida's Gulf Coast. Jump on the twenty-mile Legacy Trail and travel from Sarasota to Venice through Oscar Scherer State Park, where the paved trail is perfect for bicycling and rollerblading, and wildlife viewing is abundant. Invigorate your senses with the crisp sea breezes along the Gasparilla Island State Park bike trails, located on the south end of Gasparilla Island on the Boca Grande Causeway. From our splendid communities to the lengthy public trails, the cycling options of Florida's Gulf Coast are as varied as they are exciting.

A NAUTICAL PLAYGROUND

Sparkling and beautiful, there are miles upon miles of Gulf, calm bays, and pristine inland waterways inviting you to explore. Within a 20-minute boat ride from any Sarasota coastal destination, you can watch dolphins play, dock at your favorite waterfront restaurant, anchor and enjoy a small island, snorkel above an active reef whirling with sea life, or experience the thrill of reeling in a trophy fish. Our waters are a limitless playground for nautical enthusiasts, enhanced by glowing evening sunsets across the beautiful Gulf of Mexico.

KAYAKING ADVENTURES

Explore a world of natural beauty and venture through pristine habitats and natural ecosystems with a kayaking excursion through miles of waterways. A host of unique wildlife and fauna awaits along peaceful waterways and mangrove-lined channels lending a glimpse back in time to the serenity of Old Florida. Discover an astounding natural diversity of manatees, dolphins, fish and birds, along with the breathtaking environment that supports them.

CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF

Florida's Gulf Coast has long been associated with some of the country's most challenging, sophisticated golf courses ever since John Hamilton Gillespie brought the game to Sarasota back in 1886. Graced with such gorgeous year-round weather and a beautiful backdrop of lush tropical foliage, our area attracts golfers from around the world to test their skills on professionally designed fairways and greens throughout the tri-county area.

SPRING TRAINING ON FLORIDA'S GULF COAST: A WARM HOME FOR PROFESSIONALS

Ed Smith Stadium—Sarasota Baseball

Since the early 1900s, Sarasota and professional baseball have been a great match. In 1923, John Ringling helped convince the owner of the New York Giants to come to Sarasota to practice during the spring months. Through public subscriptions, a stadium was built and the team came in February of 1924. Since then, Sarasota has been home to the Indianapolis Indians, Boston Red Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, Chicago White Sox, Cincinnati Reds, and currently the Baltimore Orioles. Now, each spring season provides the opportunity to see some of baseball's best right here in Ed Smith Stadium.



Cooltoday Park

Located in Wellen Park—an impressive planned community between Venice and North Port—CoolToday Park is the spring training home of the Atlanta Braves. The state-of-the-art facility was built with the fan experience in mind featuring 8,000 seats and a spacious concourse walkway with numerous drink rails that allows fans to watch a few innings from almost anywhere. Various group seating options and the delicious southern comfort fare also make this stadium a stand out. Not just for pre-season baseball, the seven fields and 90 acres of complex also hosts concerts, markets, and other local events.

Charlotte Sports Park

Located in Port Charlotte, the Charlotte County Stadium—now the Charlotte County Sports Park—served as the spring training and minor league home to the Texas Rangers from 1987–2002. In 2009, the stadium was renovated for the Tampa Bay Rays spring training season to the tune of \$28 million. Today, the beautifully refurbished Charlotte Sports Park is a state-of-the-art facility with a baseball boardwalk bordering the outfield, a family-friendly kids' play area, upgraded concession stands and a top-notch team store. Charlotte Sports Park is also home to the Charlotte Stone Crabs of the Florida State League.

Lecom Park & Pirate City

LECOM Park (formerly McKechnie Field) has been the spring home of the Pittsburgh Pirates and the full-time home of their Class-A affiliate, the Bradenton Marauders since 1969. The park was originally built in 1923 and has been renovated several times, including major upgrades in 2013. Large groups enjoy the Boardwalk Barbeque Area where an all-you-can-eat pregame picnic is in full view of the field. Fans can also catch Pirates' practice and workouts at the Pirate City facility. Free and open to the public, this unique and intimate setting is perfect for those that simply love the game.

Acclaimed Attractions

Invigorate your senses and inspire your spirit with remarkable, sought-after attractions and activities, found right here in the Sarasota area. From renowned museums to the best nature has to offer, the Gulf Coast has it all.

Once named the “Best Small City in America,” Sarasota and its surrounding area are brimming with an array of recreational, performance art, cultural and leisure attractions sure to satisfy any taste — young or old. Family, friends and guests will find an abundance of memorable pleasures from which to choose, from catching a stunning show at an internationally recognized theatre to experiencing the wonders of science hands-on, and much more.

Take a tour of paintings and sculptures by the great old masters at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. View a living collection of more than 6,000 orchids at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. Delight in music, dance, a theater performance or comedy show inside the landmark Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall. Get up close to some exotic animals at Sarasota Jungle

Gardens, or take a stroll in the trees along the jungle-esque canopy walkway at the Myakka River State Park. Your options for fun are as unique as they are plentiful. **Refer to Reference Section 2 at the end of this guide for a list of fun things to see and do.**

PARKS

State and local parks invite you to enjoy the great outdoors. Beaches, lakes and wooded preserves provide the perfect venue to gather with friends or get away from the day-to-day grind to unwind. Filled with an assortment of recreational facilities to ensure a healthy, active lifestyle, the parks throughout Florida’s Gulf Coast serve as the ideal destinations for biking, hiking, canoeing, picnicking, camping and more. Please refer to Reference Section 3 for full contact information for area parks.



RAISING A FAMILY ON FLORIDA'S GULF COAST

For obvious reasons, families want to raise their children somewhere safe, where they can attend good schools with favorable student- teacher ratios, above-average test scores and respectable budgets. They want to enjoy proximity to an array of cultural offerings, well- kept parks and places of recreation, and quality pediatricians to ensure a healthy upbringing. Florida's Gulf Coast offers all these values and more, creating a perfect environment for families of all ages and lifestyles to plant their roots.



SENIOR LIVING

As a preferred destination for retirees around the country, Florida's Gulf Coast takes great care in providing safe, secure environments for our senior residents. From privately owned and managed facilities to residential retirement and assisted living communities offering lifestyles of catered elegance and luxury resort comfort, our accommodations lend the ideal setting for retirees and those needing assistance to enjoy our gorgeous climate.

ANNUAL EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

A sleepy beachside community? Not this area! Residents and frequent visitors know to keep their calendars marked and closely monitored to take advantage of all the exciting events and festivals found throughout the tri-county area. From the locally cherished Sarasota Blues Festival and the downtown Sarasota Festival of the Arts, to the internationally recognized Sarasota Film Festival and the thrilling Offshore Races, there is plenty to see and experience every month to fascinate, stun and delight all ages. Please refer to Reference Section 9 for a list of annual events.

HEALTHCARE

Florida's Gulf Coast is home to a broad spectrum of highly regarded healthcare facilities. From convenient clinics to comprehensive medical centers, your care is in good hands. Our medical facilities consistently rank among the top in the country for open heart surgery expertise, attracting some of the most advanced research and development capabilities available.

An abundance of medical practices in the area offers plenty of top-quality choices in healthcare. Acute facilities and nursing homes are plentiful, fully staffed and of exceptional quality, giving seniors a great selection. In addition, the area hosts a variety of rehabilitation systems including doctors, physical therapists, occupational and speech therapists, and psychological resources to aid with a number of issues. Please refer to Reference Section 5 for healthcare contact information.





EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Exceptional learning in area schools

The residents of Florida's Gulf Coast are strongly committed to quality education. In addition to highly rated elementary, middle and high schools, a number of notable colleges, universities and educational opportunities for adults highlight the area. No matter what your age, interest or level, our area has an educational facility to suit your needs. The love of learning and the feeling of confidence and accomplishment are gifts every child deserves. Our three counties wrap and present these gifts to all public school children by providing one of the finest education packages in the State of Florida. Our public schools are equipped with the latest computer/audio-visual/learning technologies and benefit from active support from various parent, business and community groups who contribute to the pursuit of educational excellence. **Please refer to Reference Section 4 for school and family resource contact information.**

BUSINESS ON THE GULF COAST

Whether you are starting a business, looking for new markets for your existing business, or interested in joining the ranks of a nationally recognized corporation, our downtown and suburban centers offer the bustling activity to suit the commercial needs for companies of all sizes. Our ever-changing skyline and evolving infrastructure are a result of the substantial growth and interest our area has experienced within the last several years. Plus, Money Magazine consistently places Sarasota as one of the "Best Small Cities in America" citing our attractive location for businesses and retirees alike. Additionally, we have garnered recognition as being among the top in national destinations for companies relocating to new communities. With so many exciting opportunities available and many more to come, business here is good! **Please refer to Reference Section 7 for employment services on Florida's Gulf Coast.**

SHOPPING

Florida's Gulf Coast has small-community charm with the shopping power of a major cosmopolitan city. From a number of expansive shopping malls, outlet malls and specialty boutiques to casual strolls along the storefronts of St. Armands Circle, downtown Sarasota, University Town Center, Siesta Key Village, downtown Venice, and the waterfront hub Fisherman's Village in Punta Gorda, shoppers of all ages and styles are sure to find the treasures that suit their taste. The fine dining and world-class shopping of St. Armands Circle attract local visitors and international travelers to its casually elegant island location. A tradition since 1979, the Sarasota Farmers Market runs every week serving the community with local produce, plants, prepared foods, crafts and artwork. Each of our three counties have a Farmers Market.

Our Core Services

Our ever-evolving approach to market changes and unsurpassed commitment to the utmost in client satisfaction have enabled us to maintain successful relationships since 1976. With an array of divisions and affiliations, we provide a single source for every aspect of real estate.

MSC RESIDENTIAL

Home buying and selling with confidence

Michael Saunders & Company's 650-plus agents provide coverage of residential properties from a 100-mile swath of the Gulf Coast. They are the most highly trained and experienced professionals available to home buyers and sellers specializing in every type of lifestyle the area has available to enjoy. From classic Florida bungalows, luxurious waterfront estates and contemporary urban condominiums, to golfing communities, equestrian estates and developable acreage, ours is the region's most all-encompassing portfolio of properties—spread equally across all price ranges, neighborhoods and lifestyles.

MSC MORTGAGE

Responsible lending from the most reputable sources

MSC Mortgage teams up with the most outstanding and reputable institutions in the home lending industry. With full-time mortgage originators embedded in our branch offices, potential buyers can be conveniently pre-qualified to make sure they will have no difficulty obtaining financing en route to a successful closing.

BKS INSURANCE GUIDED SOLUTIONS

BKS Insurance Partners is an MSC Joint Venture built to provide an exceptional buying experience for Michael Saunders & Company's most distinguished



customers. In a process developed by industry veterans, your MSC Realtor and a knowledgeable BKS Risk Consultants connect to optimize your coverage and ensure a seamless closing process. Throughout the process, you will have peace of mind that the intricacies of your property, including the architecture, location and your purchase logistics, are taken into consideration.

MSC TITLE

Underwritten by First American Title Insurance Company and Chicago Title Insurance Company. Seamless, exceptional closing experiences at competitive rates

Perhaps the most critical phase of a successful real estate transaction takes place between signing the contract and closing on the property. Thus, with your successful closing in mind, we established MSC Title. The expert team of title examiners, processors and closers at MSC Title handles every critical detail between contract and closing consistent with the level of service and accuracy our clients expect and deserve. Backed by the professional underwriting strength of First American Title and Chicago Title Insurance Companies, we confirm that your home is completely free of liens and title defects before any unwanted surprises derail the closing.

MSC RELOCATION & REFERRAL SERVICES

Helping incoming buyers purchase the right homes and re-settle quickly

Still another way in which Michael Saunders & Company systematically brings qualified buyers to our Gulf Coast is through MSC Relocation & Referral Services Division.

Through our national and international broker-to-broker affiliations, Michael Saunders & Company is the first choice for referrals into Southwest Florida of incoming buyers throughout the world. These include our affiliation with Leading Real Estate Companies of the World, whose extensive referral network is comprised of over 550 of the best-known local and regional real estate firms with 4,600 offices in 70 countries abroad.

Thanks to longstanding relationships with numerous relocation management companies and in-house corporate relocation departments, MSC Relocation & Referral Services has become an indispensable resource for companies needing to quickly and efficiently match incoming employees and top executives with the housing necessary to meet their needs and lifestyle preferences.



MSC DEVELOPER SERVICES

Concierge-style service developers

Since its inception in 1996, the New Homes & Condominiums Division has helped drive phenomenal property sales in all strata of new condominium and single-family market developments, and has established Michael Saunders & Company as the Gulf Coast's pre-eminent provider of new homes and condominiums real estate services.

Bringing a product to market that meets and exceeds buyer expectation, with prices and amenities that fulfill an unmet niche, has been the formula for our success. We work diligently with the area's premier developers to successfully create communities that meet the demands of the most discerning homebuyers.



MSC COMMERCIAL

Precision marketing & property management solutions

Dependable results are why so many business owners, developers, medical professionals, retailers, manufacturers and investors rely on the commercial property specialists at Michael Saunders & Company to handle their commercial property sales, marketing, leasing, and day-to-day property management.

We leverage our position as the market leader to provide the most current, accurate and thorough information necessary to make informed decisions and maximize financial returns. From determining your objectives to negotiating a complex lease, purchase or sale, our broad expertise helps you take command of new opportunities as you achieve your commercial real estate goals.

The Commercial Property Management Division of Michael Saunders & Company has a long and reliable record of efficiently managing a variety of commercial property types including office, retail and industrial. Our proactive approach to management ensures that your property is consistently maintained to keep tenancy high and vacancies at a minimum. Moreover, our exceptionally strong vendor relationships allow us to provide the highest quality services at the most competitive prices.





FLORIDA'S GULF COAST

Welcoming New Residents From Around The World

With beautiful year-round temperatures, relaxing beaches and picturesque tropical foliage, Florida's Gulf Coast has become an attractive destination for homebuyers around the world seeking a laidback lifestyle. By working with MSC Relocation, international buyers can rely on a team of experienced professionals to help guide them through the complex process of buying property in the U.S.



FLORIDA TAXES

Did you know Florida is one of only seven states that do not tax individual wage income? Florida does not impose personal income, inheritance, gift taxes or intangible personal property taxes. However, there are other taxes and fees that, in certain counties or circumstances, Florida residents may be required to pay.

If you purchase a home in Florida, you will pay ad valorem or “property” tax based on the taxable value of the property. Ad valorem taxes are assessed by the county property appraiser and collected annually by the county tax collector’s office. Also, a \$25,000 homestead exemption and cap on assessed value is available to homeowners who meet certain requirements.

Visit the Florida Department of Revenue site at dor.myflorida.com for more tax information.

FLORIDA HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

A tax exemption is an important benefit that offers Florida residents the opportunity to save up to hundreds of dollars on their property tax bills. The homestead exemption is the most common and valuable exemption, providing savings every year a homeowner owns and resides in their primary home.

Florida’s constitution provides for a \$25,000 exemption, which is deducted from a property’s assessed value if the owner qualifies. Every person who owns and resides on real property in Florida on January 1st and makes the property their permanent residence is eligible to receive a homestead exemption up to \$50,000. The first \$25,000 applies to all property taxes, including school district taxes. The additional exemption up to \$25,000, applies to the assessed value between \$50,000 and \$75,000 and only to non-school taxes. Applicants who timely file by March 1st, possess title to the real property, and are Florida residents living in the dwelling and making it their permanent home as of January 1st, qualify for the exemption.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION CRITERIA

To prove a homestead exemption, you may be required to provide any of the following items:

- Previous residency outside Florida and date ended
- Florida driver’s license or identification card number
- Evidence of giving up driver’s license from other state
- Florida vehicle tag number
- Florida voter registration number (*if US citizen*)
- Declaration of domicile, residency date
- Current employer
- Address listed on your last IRS return
- School location of dependent children
- Bank statement and checking account mailing address
- Proof of payment of utilities at homestead address

Manatee County Property Appraiser

E-mail: exemptions@manateepao.com
941.748.8208
941.742.5664 fax

Sarasota County Property Appraiser

E-mail: PA@SC-PA.com
941.861.8200
941.861.8260 fax

Charlotte County Property Appraiser

E-mail: rp@charlottecountyfl.gov
941.743.1498
941.743.1499 fax

LOCAL AIRPORTS

Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport (SRQ)

Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport serves over two million passengers a year. Conveniently sized, this airport offers a comfortable, secure and stress-free atmosphere, and airline ticketing, baggage claim, and other services are just steps away from the main concourse and commuter gates. As a result of Sarasota's growing popularity, mainstream airlines continue to add new routes to and from domestic destinations with multiple direct flight locations.

6000 Airport Circle, Sarasota, Florida

SRQ-airport.com

Tampa International Airport (TPA)

One of the most beautiful, functional international airports, a combination of terminal roof-top auto parking, escalators and a shuttle system ensures passengers departing from Tampa International Airport that their airplane boarding gate is never far from their ground transportation. Tampa International Airport is served by most major airlines, which provide nonstop daily and connecting service to national and international destinations. The airport facilitates the travel of over 20 million passengers each year, placing it in the top 30 of the busiest airports in North America.

4100 George J. Bean Parkway, Tampa, Florida

TampaAirport.com

St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE)

The St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) provides non-stop service between Tampa Bay and convenient destinations throughout the US and Canada. The airport also offers charter services to exciting domestic and international destinations. St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport is located on State Route 686—Roosevelt Blvd., just four miles north of St. Petersburg.

14700 Terminal Blvd., Clearwater, Florida

Fly2PIE.com

Charlotte County Airport (PGD)

Charlotte County Airport has mainly been used for single-engine and small jet aircraft but has recently seen a heavy increase in schedule commercial airline service. Located in Punta Gorda, the airport occupies 1,934 acres east of I-75 and approximately two miles south of the Peace River. The Charlotte County Airport is host to the annual Florida International Air Show, a large regional event that draws thousands of spectators from throughout Southwest Florida.

28000 A-1 Airport Rd, Punta Gorda, Florida

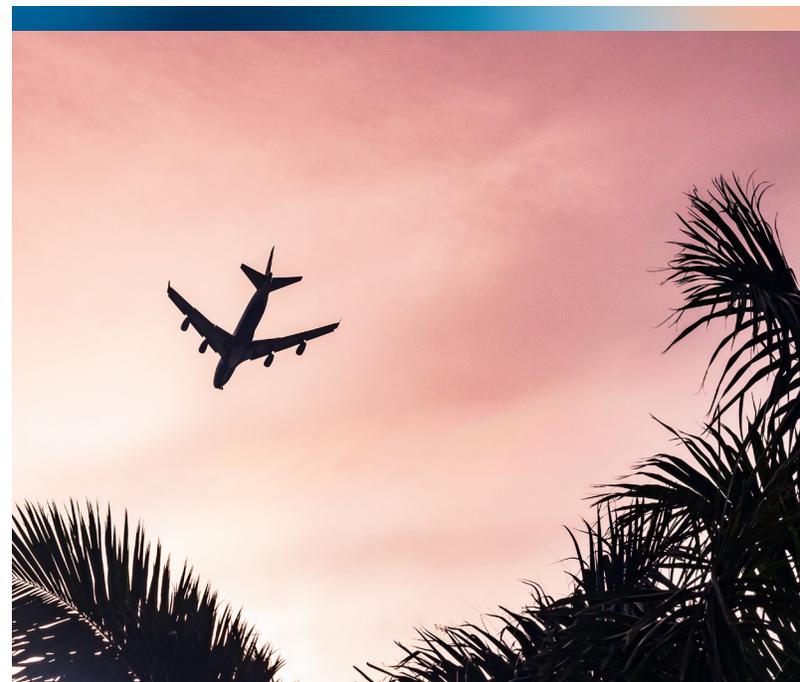
FlyPGD.com

Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW)

Located in Fort Myers, the Southwest Florida International Airport is perfectly positioned to serve the greater Southwest Florida area, including Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Sanibel, Captiva, Greater Naples, Marco Island and the Everglades, Charlotte Harbor and the Gulf Islands, as well as other points along Florida's Gulf Coast. This airport serves more than 10 million passengers annually and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic.

11000 Terminal Access Road, Fort Myers, Florida

FlyLCPA.com





YOUR FLORIDA DRIVER'S LICENSE

The State of Florida requires newcomers who drive to apply for a Florida driver's license within 30 days of becoming a resident. Drivers who currently possess a valid out-of-state driver's license and have a driving record free of violations are only required to pass a vision test. Drivers who have offenses against their license or drivers attempting to acquire a license for the first time must also pass a written exam (based on the Florida Driver's Handbook) as well as a driving test.

For more information visit:

Sarasota

flhsmv.gov/offices/sarasota or (850) 617.2000

Manatee

flhsmv.gov/offices/manatee or (850) 617.2000

Charlotte

dmvflorida.org/charlotte.shtml or (866) Go-Renew

AUTO REGISTRATION

If you are moving to Florida, the state's law requires that you register a vehicle within 10 days after engaging in an occupation in Florida or enter a child in a Florida school. You need to first obtain a Florida driver's license. Next you need to obtain auto insurance from a company licensed in Florida. Many auto insurance companies licensed in Florida provide online services. At the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) you'll also need your original out-of-state title and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) verification.

When you are issued a motor vehicle registration you will receive a license plate, vehicle registration certificate and validation decal.

Section 1—The Arts

SARASOTA

Recognized as one of the nation's best small arts cities, Sarasota offers a wide array of cultural activities. Surrounding communities also contribute their own unique arts destinations and events.

Arts Council

1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236
941.365.5118 | sarasotaarts.org

The Sarasota Arts Council promotes the arts in our area. The council distributes grants to local art organizations, produces Arts Day each year, assembles educational workshops and exhibitions, hosts an annual awards program to recognize local arts leaders, and provides information about local cultural events. The organization was instrumental in the effort to return art education programs to all Sarasota County public schools, and is hard at work to ensure a bright future for the arts in Sarasota.

Asolo Theatre Company

5555 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243
800.361.8388 | asolorep.org

Originally founded by Florida State University in 1960 as a summer theatre company, the Asolo Theatre Company became a year- round professional theatre in 1966. The Asolo provides new artists a vehicle to produce their latest works, in addition to the classic revivals and perennial favorites performed throughout each season.

Florida Studio Theatre

1241 Palm Ave. N., Sarasota, FL 34236
941.366.9000 | floridastudiotheatre.org

Founded in 1973, the Florida Studio Theatre (FST) has evolved into a theatre with more than 20,000 subscribers, an audience larger than any similarly sized theatre in the country. FST focuses on world premieres and contemporary works produced on or off- Broadway within the last five years.

Florida West Coast Symphony

709 Tamiami Trail N., Sarasota, FL 34236
941.953.3434 | sarasotaorchestra.org

The prestigious Florida West Coast Symphony is the oldest continuing orchestra in the state of Florida. From its inception in 1949, the Florida West Coast Symphony has delighted visitors from near and far.

Sarasota Ballet

5555 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34234
941.359.0099 | sarasotaballet.org

Sarasota Ballet, a dance company celebrating over 20 seasons, presents a wide array of dance in different styles. The company hosts a range of special events each year in addition to its regularly featured programs.



Sarasota Film Festival

323 Central Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236
941.366.6200 | sarasotafilmfestival.com

The Sarasota Film Society brings many brilliant films to local audiences, focusing its attention on less mainstream movies and foreign features. The annual film festival is a culmination of the group's efforts and has brought national exposure to our community.

Sarasota Opera

61 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236
941.366.8450 | sarasotaopera.org

Recognized by the State of Florida for its high caliber of artistry and fine performances, the Sarasota Opera Association features a season of stellar productions.

The Jazz Club Of Sarasota

330 S. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236
941.284.2176 | jazzclubsarasota.com

The Jazz Club of Sarasota, founded in 1980 to preserve, promote and performing jazz, is one of the nation's largest jazz clubs, with 2,700 members. The organization offers approximately 100 events per year including monthly concerts, jazz jams, free concerts, a film/lecture series, educational programs and various community outreach programs.

South Florida Museum

201 10th St. W., Bradenton, FL 34205
941.746.4131 | bishopscience.org

The museum's exhibits cover our local heritage from the Indians to De Soto to the Crackers who settled the region; the planetarium offers laser-light shows and stargazing.

The Players Theatre

941.365.2494 | theplayers.org

Although The Players Theatre is a non- professional community theatre, being located on the "Cultural Coast" gives them an incredible talent pool to work

with. Many professional performers retire and are drawn to the area thanks to all of Sarasota's arts offerings. These professionals bring their experience, training, their families and often extensive resumes with them to the stage.

West Coast Black Theatre Troupe

1012 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236
941.366.1505 | westcoastblacktheatre.org

Celebrating over a decade as Florida's premier black theatre company, the West Coast Black Theatre Troupe is excited to continue their mission of diversifying Sarasota's cultural landscape with exciting theatre and musicals that celebrate African American artists giving voice to the African American experience.

Van Wezel

777 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236
941.953.3368 | vanwezel.org

The curtain is always going up to a resounding applause as patrons take in a night at varied and electric performance at the Van Wezel. The Hall, which opened in 1970 and hosts about 140 performances annually, provides an exciting program that offers a mixture of theater, music and dance performances.

Manatee Players At Riverfront Theatre

502 3rd Avenue W, Bradenton, FL 34205
941.748.0111 | manateeplayers.com

Award-winning community theater company that presents mainstage productions, including live musicals, theatrical plays, and children's programs during their season.

Located at the end of Old Main Street by the Manatee River, the Manatee Players Riverfront Theatre is a classic theatre set in historic surroundings. The theatre began selling tickets in 1967.

The Charlotte Players

1182 Market Cir., Port Charlotte, FL 33953
941.255.1022 | charlotteplayers.org

The Charlotte Players were organized in 1961. Since that time, the not-for-profit has performed over 200 plays on stage. In addition, their student programming includes a two-week summer drama workshop and an annual student musical.

Punta Gorda Symphony

6210 Scott St, #213, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941.205.5996 | pgsymphony.org

The Punta Gorda Symphony performed its first concert in January 1979, as the Charlotte Chamber Orchestra. Musicians were unpaid for many years, but financing for music and other expenses was raised by community garage sales and donations.

John & Mable Ringling Museum Of Art

5401 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, FL 34243
941.359.5700 | ringling.org

For a quiet afternoon of cultural appreciation, visit the historic Ringling Museum and view the sculpture garden, art and heritage that created the cultural foundation of our area. The Ringlings brought much more than the circus to Sarasota — they engendered a sense of appreciation for the arts and the philosophy of preservation for paintings, sculpture, architecture, performance and much more. Also, enjoy the opportunity to explore The Gallery of the Circus and the Ca'd'Zan, the expansive Ringling mansion.

Mote Marine Aquarium

Explore the secrets and mysteries of the sea by spending an educational, fun-filled day at the Mote Marine Aquarium. Located on the northern tip of Lido Key, Mote presents interesting exhibits sure to capture the interests of all ages. As the nation's only congressionally designated Center for Shark Research, you can expect a thrilling experience.

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Best known for its living collection of more than 6,000 orchids, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens offers visitors an intimate look into a beautiful garden of tropical flora. The 9.5-acre bayfront property is an open-air and under-glass museum of more than

20,000 colorful plants, many collected in the wild on over 150 scientific expeditions to tropical rain forests by Selby Gardens research staff. Spend your afternoon a world away—on the bayfront in downtown Sarasota.

The Venice Symphony

1515 S Tamiami Trail Suite 7, Venice, FL 34285
941.207.8822 | thevenicesymphony.org

Founded in 1974, The Venice Symphony has become the pride of South Sarasota County by providing cultural enrichment for residents and visitors. Today's orchestra is comprised of more than 75 accomplished, professional musicians from all over the Country. Their impressive backgrounds and music careers have spanned the United States and the World and bring depth and diversity to The Venice Symphony.

Venice Theatre

140 Tampa Ave W, Venice, FL 34285
941.488.1115 | venicetheatre.org

One of the area's best live community theaters, and the largest per capita, community theatre in the United States with an operating budget of almost \$4 million. Venice Theatre founded in 1950s, mounted its first production in a borrowed building, with no paid staff, operating entirely with volunteers. Its only revenue came from sales of the \$2 tickets.



Section 2—Acclaimed Attractions

SARASOTA COUNTY

Big Cat Habitat
bigcathabitat.org

Cannon's Marina
cannons.com

Dakin Dairy Farms
dakindairyfarms.com

Florida Underwater Sports
floridaunderwatersports.com

Historic Spanish Point
Selby.org

Island Style Water Sports
Islandstylesports.com

Myakka Wildlife Tours
Floridastateparks.org

Nathan Benderson Park—Rowing
Nathanbendersonpark.org

Play Golf Sarasota
playgolfsarasota.com

Sarasota Bay Explorers
sarasotabayexplorers.com

Sarasota Children's Garden
sarasotachildrengarden.com

Sarasota Jungle Gardens
sarasotajunglegardens.com

Sarasota-Manatee Bicycle Club
smbc.us

Siesta Beach
bestbeaches.org/siestabeach

Siesta Key Waters Sports
siestakeywatersports.com

Siesta Sports Rentals
siestasportsrentals.com

Smuggler's Cove Miniature Golf
(also in Manatee County) |
smugglersgolf.com

MANATEE COUNTY

**Anna Maria Island
Power Squad (AMIPS)**
usps.org/Annamaria

Anna Maria Island Turtle Watch
islandturtlewatch.com

Beach Bums
beachbumsami.com

Blue Water Explorers
bluewaterexplorers.com

DeSoto National Memorial
beachdirectory.com/desotomemorial

Ellenton Ice and Sports Complex
ellentonice.com

**Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission**
myfwc.com

Manasota Track Club
mtc75.org

Mixon Fruit Farms
mixon.com

Palma Sola Botanical Park
palmasolabp.com

RUM International Rowing
rowvirusboats.com

Schomburg Farms
discoverourtown.com/FL/Palmetto/
Recreation/21382

Zegway by the Bay
zegwaybythebay.com

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Warm Mineral Springs North Port
warmmineral.com

King Fisher Fleet
kingfisherfleet.com

Golf
charlotteharbortravel.com

Babcock Wilderness Adventures
babcockranchcotours.com

Fantasea Scuba
fantaseascuba.com

Island Jet Ski Rentals
islandjetski.com

Kidstar Park
kidstarpark.com

Paintball Partyz
paintballpartyz.com

Southwest Florida Skydive Club
skydiveswflorida.com

Treasure Lanes Bowling
treasurelanes.com

Section 3—Parks

MANATEE COUNTY

Palmetto / Ellenton / Parrish

Blackstone Park

2112 14th Avenue West, Palmetto
941.748.4501

Buffalo Creek Park

57550 69th Street East, Ellenton
941.742.5923

Emerson Point Park

5801 17th Street West, Palmetto
941.742.5923

Lincoln Park

715 17th Street East, Palmetto
941.742.5923

Ola Mae Sims Park

11800 Erie Road, Parrish
941.742.5923

Rye Wilderness Park

751 Rye Wilderness Trail, Parrish
941.776.0900

Skyway Pier State Park

Skyway Bridge on I-275, Palmetto
727.865.0668

Bradenton

Botanical Palma Sola Park

9800 17th Avenue N.W., Bradenton
941.761.2866

Braden River Park

5201 51st Street East, Bradenton
941.742.5923

Crane Park

37655 State Road 70, Myakka City
941.742.5923

Duette Preserve

2649 Rawls Road, Duette
941.737.2661

East Bradenton Park

1119 13th Street East, Bradenton
941.748.4501

G.T. Bray Park

5502 33rd Avenue Drive West,
Bradenton
941.748.4501

Lake Manatee State Park

15 miles east of Bradenton
off SR64, Bradenton
941.741.3208

Lakewood Ranch Park

5350 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard,
Bradenton
941.742.5923

Manatee Palms Park

6510 1st Avenue East, Bradenton
941.742.5923

Myakka Community Park

10060 Wachula Road., Myakka City
941.742.5923

Palma Sola Causeway Park

Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton
941.742.5923

Pride Park

815 63rd Avenue East, Bradenton
941.742.5923

Robertson Preserve

1704 99th Street NW, Bradenton
941.742.5923

SARASOTA COUNTY

Sarasota / Lido /

Siesta Key/ Casey Key

17th Street Park &

17th Street Paw Park

4570 17th Street, Sarasota
941.861.7275

Bayou Oaks Community Garden

3530 Old Bradenton Road, East Side,
Sarasota
941.861.5000

A.B. Smith Park

2110 Adams Lane, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Ackerman Park

6481 Interstate Boulevard, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Bayfront Community Center

801 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
941.263.6283

Arlington Park & Aquatic Center

2650 Waldemere Street, Sarasota
941.263.6732

Avion Park

436 N Pompano Avenue, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Bay Island Park

946 Siesta Drive, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Bee Ridge Park

4430 S. Lockwood Ridge Road,
Sarasota
941.861.5000

Bird Key Park

200 John Ringling Causeway,
Sarasota
941.365.2200

Causeway Park

420 John Ringling Causeway,
Sarasota
941.365.2200

Centennial Park

1059 N. Tamiami Trail at
11th Street, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Christopher Wheeler Park

1300 Old Stickney Point Road,
Sarasota
941.861.5000

David Cohen Park

1845 34th Street, Sarasota
941.263.6562

Colonial Oaks Park

5300 Colonial Oaks Boulevard,
Sarasota
941.861.5000

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park

2523 Cocoanut Avenue at
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way
941.263.6386

Sarasota**Boyd Park**

4300 Midnight Pass Road
& Higel Avenue, Siesta Key
941.861.5000

Eastwood Park

422 W. Cornelius Circle, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Edwards Islands

Roberts Bay Lane, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Fairgrounds Park

185 S. Pompano Avenue, Sarasota
941.861.9880

Fredd Atkins Park

2431 Washington Court, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Fruitville Park

5151 Richardson Road, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Fruitville Road Park

Northeast of Fruitville Road
& Beneva Road, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Gillespie Park

710 N. Osprey Avenue, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Glebe Park

998 Glebe Lane, Siesta Key
941.861.9880

Hopewell Memorial Park

6730 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Knights Trail Park

3445 Rustic Road, Nokomis
941.861.5000

Lakeview Park

7150 Lago Street, Sarasota
941.861.9930

Laurel Park

509 Collins Street, Nokomis
941.486.2757

Lawn Bowling (Civic Center)

809 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
941.316.1123

Longwood Park

6050 Longwood Boulevard, Sarasota
941.316.1383

Miss Sarasota Softball Complex

4770 17th Street, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Nathan Benderson Park

5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota
941.358.7275

Neville Preserve

Little Sarasota Bay, Sarasota
941.861.5000

New Pass Fishing Piers

1700 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota
941.861.9930

Newtown Community Center

1845 34th Street, Sarasota
941.263.6562

Newtown Estates Park

2800 Newtown Boulevard, Sarasota
941.316.1163

North Jetty

1000 Casey Key Road, Casey Key
941.861.5000

North Lido Beach

400 Ben Franklin Drive, Lido Key
941.263.6386

Suncoast Aquatic Nature Center

2500 Honore Avenue, Sarasota
941.358.7275

North Water Tower Park

4700 Rilma Avenue, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Ocean Boulevard, Beach Access #5

Ocean Boulevard & Beach Road
Intersection, Siesta Key

Orange Avenue Park

1822 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Otter Key

Sarasota Bay, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Payne Park

2010 Adams Lane, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Phillippi Estate Park

5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Phillippi Shores Park

1863 Phillippi Shores Drive
Sarasota
941.861.5000

Pinecraft Park

1420 Gilbert Avenue, Sarasota
941.316.1346

Pioneer Park

1260 12th Street, Sarasota
941.263.6386

Potter Park

8587 Potter Park Drive, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Red Rock Park

3987 Camino Real, South of Bay
Road, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Riverview Tennis Courts

One Ram Way
Riverview High School, Sarasota
941.316.1772

Mary Dean Park

1506 Central Avenue
15th & 16th Street, Sarasota
941.263.6386

South Gate Circle

3170 South Gate Circle, Sarasota
941.955.4597

South Lido Park

2201 Ben Franklin, Lido Key
941.861.7275

Tony Saprito Fishing Pier

(Causeway Park)
420 John Ringling Causeway
Sarasota
646.775.8023

Twin Lakes Park Facility

6700 Clark Road, Sarasota
941.861.9880

Youth Athletic Complex

2810 17th Street, Sarasota
941.861.5000

Osprey/Nokomis**Bay Street Park**

300 Bay Street, Osprey
941.861.5000

Blackburn Point Park

800 Blackburn Point Road, Osprey
941.861.5000

Ken Thompson Park/City Island

1700 Ken Thompson Parkway
941.263.6386

Nokomis Community Park

234 Nippino Trail, Nokomis
941.861.5000

Osprey Fishing Pier

133 Main Street, Osprey
941.861.5000

Pine View Tennis Courts

One Python Pass, Osprey
941.861.5000

Shoreland Park

251 Shoreland Drive, Osprey
941.861.5000

Venice**Foxworthy Campus By-Pass Park**

1101 Gulf Coast Boulevard, Venice
941.861.9880

Carlton Reserve

1800 Mabry Carlton Parkway, Venice
941.861.5000

Caspersen Beach

4100 Harbor Drive South, Venice
941.861.5000

Chuck Reiter Stadium

250 Fort Street, Venice
941.861.9880

Hecksher Park

450 West Venice Avenue, Venice
941.861.5000

Higel Park

1330 Tarpon Center Drive, Venice
941.486.2626

Marina Boat Ramp Park

301 E. Venice Avenue, Venice
941.486.2626

Nightingale Park

675 Nightingale Road, Venice
941.316.1172

Pinebrook Park

1251 Pinebrook Road, Venice
941.486.2626

Plantation Park

1570 Center Road, Venice
941.316.1172

Rattlesnake Island

Lyons Bay, Venice
941.316.1172

Service Club Park

1600 Harbor Drive South, Venice
941.316.1172

Shamrock Park & Nature Center

3900 W. Shamrock Drive, Venice
941.316.1172

Venice Community Center

326 S. Nokomis Avenue, Venice
941.316.1172

Wellfield Park

1400 Lucaya Avenue, Venice
941.861.9880

**Woodmere Park &
Woodmere Paw Park**

3951 Merewood Boulevard, Venice
941.316.1172

Venetia Bay Park

800 Venetia Bay Boulevard
Venice & Nokomis
941.316.1172

Challenger Park

371 Olivia Street, S. Venice
941.316.1172

North Port**Al Goll Recreation Center**

5930 Sam Shapos Drive, North Port
941.316.1172

Blue Ridge Park

2155 Ridgewood Drive, North Port
941.429.7275

Butler Park

6205 West Price Boulevard
North Port
941.316.1172

Dallas White Park

5900 Greenwood Avenue
North Port
941.861.5000

**George Mullen Community
Activity Center**

1602 Kramer Way, North Port
941.240.8125

Highlands Ridge Park

6225 Kenwood Drive, North Port
941.316.1172

Hope Park

8161 Lombra Avenue, North Port
941.316.1172

Kirk Park

8305 Trionfo Avenue, North Port
941.316.1172

LaBrea Park

6340 LaBrea Street, North Port
941.316.1172

Marina Park

7030 Chancellor Boulevard
North Port
941.316.1172

McKibben Park

5500 Trekell Street, North Port
941.316.1172

Myakkahatchee Park

6968 Reisterstown Road
North Port
941.316.1172

Oaks Park

5430 Mandrake Avenue, North Port
941.429.7000

Pine Park

4556 McKibben Drive, North Port
941.316.1172

Youth Recreational Center

5845 Greenwood Avenue
North Port
941.429.7275

CHARLOTTE COUNTY**Cape Haze / Placida /
Gasparilla Island****G.C. Herring Park**

3406 Indiana Road, Placida
941.681.3742

Gulfstream Park

12873 Gulfstream Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Placida Park

6499 Gasparilla Road, Placida
941.681.3742

Placida Rotary Centennial Park

SR775/Placida Road, Placida
941.681.3742

Boca Grande Fishing Pier Park

5810 Gasparilla Road
Gasparilla Island
941.833.3824

Englewood**Englewood Recreation Center**

101 N. Orange Street, Englewood
941.474.8919





Englewood Sports Complex

1300 S. River Road, Englewood
941.861.1980

Indian Mound Park

210 Winson Avenue, Englewood
941.316.1172

Kiwanis / Buchan Park

1390 Old Englewood Road
Englewood
941.316.1172

**Lemon Bay Park &
Environmental Center**

570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood
941.316.1172

Pine Street Park

1300 S. River Road, Englewood
941.316.1172

Rotonda**Rotonda Park**

100 Rotonda Blvd. East,
Rotonda West
941.681.3742

Amberjack Environmental Park

6450 Gasparilla Pines Blvd., Rotonda
941.613.3220

Cape Haze Pioneer Trail Park

1688 Gasparilla Road, Rotonda
941.681.3742

Punta Gorda**Allapatchee Shores Park**

3100 Hickory Court, Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Bissett Park

12455 Path Avenue, Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Carmalita Athletic Park

2605 Carmalita Street
Punta Gorda
941.627.1074

**Charlotte Flatwoods
Environmental Park**

15801 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda

Clark Park

3100 Patio Court, Punta Gorda
941.613.3220

Darst Park

537 Darst Avenue, Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Deep Creek Park

25555 Sandhill Boulevard
Punta Gorda
941.627.1074

Riverside Park

8320 Riverside Drive, Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Scotts Park

6430 Scott Street, Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

South Punta Gorda Heights Park

11040 Pinetrail Road
Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Harbour Heights Park

27420 Voyageur Drive, Punta Gorda
941.681.3742

Hathaway Park

35461 Washington Loop Road
Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Helen Wroble Park

US17 at Cleveland Drive
Punta Gorda
941.505.8686

Port Charlotte**Audobon-Pennington Nature Park**

1153 Alton Road, Port Charlotte
941.625.7529

Bayshore Live Oak Park

23157 Bayshore Road, Port Charlotte
941.627.1628

Butterford Waterway Park

13555 Marathon Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Charlotte Sports Park

2300 El Jobean Road, Port Charlotte
941.235.5010

Chester Roberts Park

5084 Melbourne Street
Port Charlotte
941.627.1628

Edgewater Park

22410 Glass Lane, Port Charlotte
941.627.1628

Franz Ross Park

19333 Quesada Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

El Jobean Fishing Pier

Garden Road at River Beach Drive
El Jobean
941.681.3742

El Jobean Park

4333 Kerrigan Circle, Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Harold Avenue Park

23400 Harold Avenue
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Hickory Bluff Park

4399 Willow Street, Port Charlotte
941.629.7278

Higgs Park

21400 Higgs Court
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Kiwanis Park

3100 Donora Street
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Lake Betty Park

2215 Conway Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Lincoln Park

357 Spring Lake Boulevard
Port Charlotte

Lister Park

4301 Lister Street, Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Maracaibo Park / Kidspace

1505 Maracaibo Street
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

McGuire Park

21125 McGuire Avenue
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Midway Park

23023 Midway Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Myakka Park

Gallagher Blvd at Spire Street
Port Charlotte
941.625.7529

North Charlotte Regional Park

1185 Centennial Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Ollie's Pon Park

18235 Avon Avenue
Port Charlotte
941.625.7529

Ott Circle Park

4320 Gardner, Port Charlotte
941.625.7529

Port Charlotte Beach Park

4500 Harbor Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.627.1628

Price Circle Park

1222 Price Circle, Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Salyers Park

1341 Veronica Street
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Severin Park

171 Severin Road, Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Sharon Circle Park

431 Sharon Circle, Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

Shirley Park

18090 Regan Avenue
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

South County Regional Park

670 Cooper Street, Port Charlotte
941.505.8686

South Gulf Cove Park

10150 Amicola Street
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Spring Lake Park

3520 Lakeview Boulevard
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

St. Paul Linear Park

9000 St. Paul Drive
Port Charlotte
941.681.3742

Sunrise Park

20499 Edgewater Drive
Port Charlotte
941.627.1074

The Learning Garden

13577 Blake Drive, Port Charlotte
941.628.1224

Tippecanoe Environmental Park

2400 El Jobean Road
Port Charlotte
941.613.3220

Section 4—Area Schools

K-12 SCHOOLS

Sarasota County Public & Private Schools

sarasota.com/education
sarasotacountyschools.net

Manatee County School Resources

manateeschools.net
manateechamber.com

Private Schools—Manatee County

Bradenton Christian Elementary School

bcspanthers.org | 941.792.5454

Bradenton Christian High School

bcspanthers.org | 941.792.5454

Center for Education—Montessori School

centerforded.org | 941.753.4987

Community Christian School

commbapt.com | 941.756.8748

Gulf Coast Christian Academy

941.755.0332

IMG Academy

imgacademy.com | 941.755.1000

Moore School | 941.746.8594

Out of Door Academy—oda.edu

Lower school | 941.349.3223

Middle & Upper schools | 941.349.3224

Palmetto Christian Academy

palmettochristianacademy.org | 941.723.3711

Providence Community School

pcsfla.org | 941.727.6860

St. Joseph Catholic School

sjsfl.org | 941.755.2611

Saint Stephen's Episcopal School

saintstephens.org | 941.746.2121

Sunshine Academy

TCABradenton.com | 941.794.3143

West Coast Christian Academy

West22.adventistschoolconnect.com | 941.755.9667

Charlotte County Public & Private Schools

swfleda.com/education
yourcharlotteschools.net

Deep Creek Elementary—941.255.7535

East Elementary—941.575.5475

Kingsway Elementary—941.255.7590

Liberty Elementary—941.255.7515

Meadow Park Elementary—941.255.7470

Myakka River Elementary—941.697.7111

Neil Armstrong Elementary—941.255.7450

Peace River Elementary—941.255.7622

Sallie Jones Elementary—941.575.5440

Vineland Elementary—941.743.0188

L.A. Ainger Middle School—941.697.5800

Murdock Middle School—941.255.7525

Port Charlotte Middle School—941.255.7460

Punta Gorda Middle School—941.575.5485

Charlotte High School—941.575.5450

Lemon Bay High School—941.474.7702

Port Charlotte High School—941.255.7485

HIGHER EDUCATION

Sarasota County Colleges & Universities

Keiser University

keiseruniversity.edu/sarasota.php

New College of Florida

ncf.edu | 941.487.5000

University of Phoenix

phoenix.edu (closest campus is Temple Terrace)

Ringling College of Art & Design

ringling.edu | 941.351.5100

University of South Florida Sarasota—Manatee

usfsm.edu | 941.359.4200

Manatee County Colleges & Universities

Eckerd College

eckerd.edu/pel | 941.957.3397

Hodges University

hodges.edu | 800.466.8017

IFAS Gulf Coast Research & Education Center

gcrec.ifas.ufl.edu | 813.419.6670

Keiser University

keiseruniversity.edu | 941.907.3900

Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

lecom.edu | 941.756.0690

National Louis University

nl.edu | 800.366.6581

New College of Florida

ncf.edu | 941.487.5000

State College of Florida

scf.edu | 941.752.5000

University of Phoenix

phoenix.edu | 844.937.8679

University of Miami at IMG Academies

miami.edu/img | 941.753.9957

University of South Florida

sarasota.usf.edu | 727.873.7748

Charlotte County Colleges & Universities

Hodges University

hodges.edu | 888.920.3035

Florida Southwestern State College

fsw.edu | 941.637.5629

Florida Gulf Coast University

fgcu.edu | 239.590.1000

Impac University—941.833.3473

Southern Technical College

swfc.edu | 877.347.5492

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Sarasota EDC

edcsarasotacounty.com | 941.309.1200

Bradenton Area EDC

bradentonareaedc.com | 941.803.9030

Charlotte Development Partnership

charlotteedp.com | 941.764.4941

Section 5—Healthcare

MANATEE COUNTY

Blake Medical Center
blakemedicalcenter.com

Manatee Memorial Hospital
manateememorial.com

Lakewood Ranch Medical Center
lakewoodranchmedicalcenter.com

Pinnacle Urgent Care Center
pinnacleDoctors.com

Bradenton Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic
manateeurgentcare.com

Lakewood Ranch Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic
thecenterforurgentcare.com

SARASOTA COUNTY

Sarasota Memorial Hospital
smh.com

St. Armand's Medical Center
smhursturgentcare.com

First Physicians Group of Sarasota
firstphysiciansgroup.com

Sarasota Doctors Hospital
doctorsofsarasota.com

Concentra
concentra.com

Gulf Coast Medical Group Urgent Care
gulfcoastmedicalgroup.net

Englewood Community Hospital
englewoodcommhospital.com



CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Fawcett Hospital
fawcetthospital.com

Bayfront Health
bayfrontcharlotte.com

Lee Health
leehealth.org

Section 6—Chambers of Commerce

Anna Maria-Holmes Beach Chamber of Commerce

annamariaislandchamber.com | 941.778.1541

Boca Grande Chamber of Commerce

bocagrandechamber.com | 941.964.0568

Manatee Chamber of Commerce

manateechamber.com | 941.748.3411

Lakewood Ranch Office (*Manatee Chamber*)

941.748.3411

Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce

charlottecountychamber.org | 941.627.2222

Punta Gorda Office (*Charlotte Chamber*)

941.627.2222

Englewood, Florida Chamber of Commerce

englewoodchamber.com | 941.474.5511

Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce

sarasotachamber.com | 941.955.8187

Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce

longboatkeychamber.com | 941.387.9000

North Port Area Chamber of Commerce

northportareachamber.com | 941.564.3040

Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce

puntagordachamber.com | 941.639.3720

Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce

siestakeychamber.com | 941.349.3800

Venice Area Chamber of Commerce

venicechamber.com | 941.488.2236



Section 7—Employment Services

STATE OF FLORIDA

Florida Department of
Economic Opportunity
floridajobs.org

Employ Florida
employflorida.com

Florida Government Jobs
peoplefirst.myflorida.com

MANATEE COUNTY

Ad-Vance
ad-vance.com

Express Employment
Professionals
expresspros.com

HH Staffing
hhstaffingservices.com

TRC Staffing Services
trcstaffing.com

SARASOTA COUNTY

Adecco Staffing
adeccousa.com

TOPS Human Resource
Solutions
topshr.com

Career Source Suncoast
swdb.org

Swanson Staffing
swansonstaffing.com

Express Employment
Professionals
expresspros.com

Shaver Employment Agency
shaveremployment.com

Sarasota County Jobs
scgov.net/careers

Kelly Services
kellyservices.com

Labor Finders
laborfinders.com

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

CCI Consulting
cciconsulting.com

Express Employment
Professionals
expresspros.com

Section 8—Government

State of Florida
myflorida.com

State Legislature of Florida
leg.state.fl.us

Sarasota County
scgov.net

Sarasota City
sarasotafloida.gov

Venice City
venicegov.com

Englewood City
englewoodchamber.com

Manatee County
mymanatee.org

Bradenton City
cityofbradenton.org

Palmetto City
palmettofl.org

Charlotte County
charlotteclerk.com

Charlotte City
charlottecountyfl.com

North Port City
cityofnorthport.com

Punta Gorda—ci.punta-gorda.fl.us

Section 9—Annual Area Events

Full calendar of events available
on escape-to-sarasota.com



Suncoast Super Boat Grand Prix—This powerboat event is held around the 4th of July every year to raise money for the Child Development Center. Over the years the event has raised millions to build facilities in Sarasota, including a Special Olympic training facility in Venice, FL.

Sarasota Blues Festival—Held each fall on the Ed Smith Stadium grounds, this nationally recognized event brings some of the top national and local blues musicians to the stage.

Florida Winefest and Auction—Held in April each year. The Winefest is a week-long food and wine extravaganza and auction that benefits many local charities.

Cine World Film Festival—A November event of the Sarasota Film Society and presents a kaleidoscope of cinematic colors with the best films of the Toronto, New York, and Cannes Film Festivals.

Fiesta on Main—draws several thousand people to Main Street in downtown Sarasota. Mexican fashion, games, great food, live Mexican entertainment are scheduled. The event is timed to be close to Cinco de Mayo.

Bowls of Hope—An annual community event benefiting the All Faiths Food Bank of Sarasota. It is held shortly before Thanksgiving each year. For a donation, all of which goes directly to the food bank, patrons choose from a variety of soups and stews donated by Sarasota's best restaurants.

Circus Ring of Fame—This January annual event recognizes those persons who have made a significant contribution to the circus.

Classic Corvettes on the Circle—Held in the beginning of May, this is among the largest classic Corvette car shows in Florida.

Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival—The annual Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival is the main fundraising vehicle for the Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage. This two-day event is held the third weekend of February every year with live music, nautical arts and crafts, children's activities, environmental exhibits and tons of fresh seafood.

Downtown Sarasota Festival of the Arts—One of the area's biggest art events, and is held the 2nd week in February along Main Street in downtown Sarasota, spanning from Five Points-Selby Park to Orange Avenue.

Giving Hunger the Blues—An annual food and music event. The event raises money for the All Faiths Food Bank and other charities. Local restaurants offer a variety of foods, and there is live music throughout the day.

St. Barbara Greek Glendi Festival—Takes place each February on the grounds of St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, 7671 North Lockwood Ridge Rd. Featuring Greek food, live Greek music, dancing and culture. Free on-site & off-site parking.

Sandy Claws Beach Run—This popular annual event is held on a Saturday in December with race day registration beginning at the Siesta Beach Pavilion. It includes a 1-mile fun run and a timed 5K run for the more serious runners.

Sarasota County Fair—Held in March every year, the annual fair features 4-H and agricultural exhibits, live entertainment, midway rides and games, lots of food, and more.

Annual Great Teddy Bear Run—Sponsored by the Sarasota Florida HOG (Harley Owners Group) Chapter. This charity event is held in November and benefits KIDS by the SEA, serving children with cancer.

Venice Sharks Tooth Festival—Held each April on the Venice Airport Festival Grounds. The event celebrates Venice's distinction as the shark's tooth capital of the world and features entertainment, food as well as displays of sharks' teeth and other prehistoric fossils.

The Venice Holiday Parade—Held at the end of November, The Venice Holiday Parade is the kickoff to the holiday season. The parade runs through downtown Venice and features floats and marching bands.

Holiday Night Of Lights—The official kickoff to the holiday season, the December evening begins with the lighting of St. Armands' four-story tall Christmas tree and the arrival of Santa Claus.

Say "I Do" Again—Renew your wedding vows each Valentine's Day at Siesta Beach main pavilion.

The Sarasota Christmas Boat Parade of Lights—Held each December on Sarasota Bay and features a competition of decorated power and sailboats in

several classes. Some of the efforts are quite impressive with many involving thousands of lights. Best viewing is from Bayfront Park in downtown Sarasota.



Sarasota Downtown Holiday Parade—Held each the first Saturday of December in downtown Sarasota and features floats, music, marching bands and lots of fun. A tradition since 1996, there are thousands of participants and brightly decorated floats, several live marching bands playing songs of the season, and parade entries from school and community organizations, as well as area businesses.

Sarasota Exotic Car Fest—The Ferrari Owners Club- Florida Region invites you to join them for the international "kickoff" event for the Ferrari season! This annual event takes place in February in the picturesque Circle Park of St. Armands with over 80 exotic cars competing for the coveted "Best of Show."

Siesta Fiesta—Siesta Fiesta has been happening in the Village on Siesta Key in April for more than 30 years. The largest part of the event is the arts and crafts vendors that line Beach Road in front of the many Siesta Key Village merchants. The bars and restaurants on Siesta Key take part in the festivities offering live entertainment, and many have food booths in the arts festival on the street.

St. Armands Winter Art Festival—Held in January, the show features more than 175 artists and craftsman displaying their original artwork.

Super Sunday Ford Mustang & Shelby Show—Held in November on St. Armands Circle, the show features Mustang and Ford enthusiasts from throughout the region competing for awards. See outstanding examples of restored and preserved older and newer Mustangs.

Florida International Air Show—This event is held each April at the Charlotte County Airport in Punta Gorda. Past performances have included the Navy Blue Angels team as well as a variety of vintage and modern aircraft, such as an F-117 Stealth Fighter.

Thunder by the Bay —A motorcycle-oriented event held each February in Sarasota. It offers live music, poker runs, vendors and has activities for over three days.

Venice Italian Feast and Carnival—This event, held in February, began 20 years ago as a way to bring to Florida the Italian street fairs that are common in New York and other parts of the Northeast—where many of the club’s members are from.

Downtown Venice Art Classic—This March art festival features life-size sculptures, spectacular paintings, one-of-a-kind jewels, photography, ceramics, and much more.

Arcadia All-Florida Championship Rodeo—This annual event takes place the second weekend in March and features all the traditional rodeo activities and competitions. Go back in time to old Arcadia, once known as Tater Hill Bluff, one of Florida’s original small cow towns.

Manatee Heritage Days—Kick off in springtime with a month-long celebration featuring historic walking tours, entertainment, arts and crafts, and a grand parade.

Lakewood Ranch Music on Main (First Fridays—Monthly). Concerts are free to the public and held on the first Friday of each month from 6 to 9 p.m. Each concert features a different style of music and benefits a local non-profit organization.

Taste of Manatee—A 2-day celebration in November featuring great food and entertainment. Sample the cuisines from local restaurants while enjoying entertainment and activities for the entire family. Enjoy a refreshing cold drink while strolling along the riverfront or watching a football game on the large screen TV.

Downtown Gallery Walk, Punta Gorda—Held monthly on the third Thursday, 5-8 p.m. Visit any of the downtown merchants, restaurants and galleries for your game card. As always, there will be live entertainment, food and drink samplings, art, beauty and health demonstrations, a free trolley, and an evening of fun. Free; free parking.

Artists Guild of Manatee—Visit the various galleries, studios, restaurants and other small businesses in the arts district on the first Friday of every month from 6-9:30 p.m., and the first Saturday of every month from 11-4 p.m. Located in the Village of the Arts neighborhood, just south of downtown Bradenton. For more information, visit villageofthearts.com.

SunCoast Renaissance Festival—Held every November at the Sarasota Fairgrounds, this trip back in time offers a full cast of colorful medieval characters, dancing, stage shows, and artisan merchants.

Manatee County Fair—A showcase for the best of Manatee County featuring exciting exhibits and vendors, livestock shows and auctions, competitions, a thrill-packed midway, a variety of great entertainment and, of course, fair food—all packed into ten days and nights in January.

Section 10—Utilities

CABLE SERVICES

Sarasota

Comcast

941.371.6700 | comcast.com

Verizon Fios

800.837.4966 | verizon.com

Manatee

Spectrum

866.874.2389 | spectrum.com

Venice

Comcast

888.266.2278 | comcast.com

Port Charlotte

Xfinity

800.837.4966 | xfinity.com

ELECTRIC SERVICES

Bradenton / Palmetto / Myakka

Peace River Electric Cooperative

800.282.3824 | preco.org

Bradenton / Sarasota / Venice /

North Port / Englewood /

Port Charlotte

Florida Power & Light

941.917.0708 | fpl.com

Punta Gorda

Florida Power & Light

941.639.1106 | fpl.com

UTILITY SERVICES

Bradenton

Manatee County Government

Utilities Department Water Division

941.792.8811 | mymanatee.org

City of Bradenton

Public Works &

Utilities Department

941.932.9400 | cityofbradenton.com

Palmetto

City of Palmetto

941.723.4570 | palmettofl.org

Town of Longboat Key

Town Hall

941.316.1999 | longboatkey.org

Sarasota County

Sarasota County Utilities

Customer Service Office

941.861.5000 | scgov.net

City of Sarasota

941.263.6450 | sarasotagov.com

Sarasota (Myakka)

City of Myakka

myakkacityfl.com

Peace River Electric Cooperative

800.282.3824 | fpl.com

TECO (natural gas)

813.275.3700 | peoplesgas.com

City of Venice

941.486.2626 | venicegov.com

North Port

North Port Public Works

City of North Port Utility

Billing & Collections

941.429.7000 | cityofnorthport.com

Englewood

Englewood Water District

941.474.3217 | englewoodwater.com

Charlotte County

Charlotte County Utilities

941.764.4300 | charlottecountyfl.com

City of Punta Gorda

Utilities Administration

941.575.5088 | ci.punta-gorda.fl.us

Section 11—Our Offices

Anna Maria Island

6000 Marina Drive 113
Holmes Beach, Florida 34217
941.896.9981

Boca Grande

420 East Railroad Avenue
Boca Grande, Florida 33921
941.964.2000

Bradenton

4400 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34209
941.748.6300

Englewood

1200 South McCall Road
Englewood, Florida 34223
941.473.7750

IMG Academy

5500 34th Street West
Bradenton, Florida 34210
941.752.2683

IMG Legacy Hotel

5450 Bollettieri Boulevard
Bradenton, Florida 34210
941.782.0048

Lakewood Ranch

8325 Lakewood Ranch Boulevard
Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202
941.907.9595

Longboat Key South

440 Gulf of Mexico Drive
Longboat Key, FL 34228
941.383-7591

Main Street—Sarasota

1605 Main Street, Suite 101
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.951.6660

Palmer Ranch—Sarasota

8660 South Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34238
941.966.8000

Plantation—West Villages

490 Rockley Boulevard
Venice, Florida 34293
941.493.2500

Punta Gorda—Taylor Street

101 Taylor Street
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
941.639.0000

Siesta Key

5100 Ocean Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34242
941.349.3444

St. Armands I

61 S Boulevard of the Presidents
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.388-4447

St. Armands II

1321, 330 John Ringling Boulevard
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.388-4447

Venice

110 Nokomis Avenue North
Venice, Florida 34285
941.485-5421

Core Services

MS&C Commercial

1605 Main Street, Suite 500
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.957.3730

MSC Relocation

1605 Main Street, Suite 400
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.955.8200

MSC Developer Services

1605 Main Street, Suite 500
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.951.6650

BKS Insurance | Guided Solutions

1605 Main Street, Suite 101
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.951.6660

MSC Mortgage

1605 Main Street, Suite 500
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.308.2222

MSC Title

1605 Main Street, Suite 500
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941.552.5211

Timeshares

Veranda Beach Club

2509 Gulf of Mexico Drive
Longboat Key, Florida 34228
800.411.5511 | 941.383.5511



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