



Pine Island

Florida's Creative Coast

www.FloridasCreativeCoast.com



Matlacha (pronounced mat-luh-SHAY)

is located just west of Fort Myers. One's initial approach brings them across a narrow causeway past mangroves and colorfully painted electrical poles, to the famous "Fishingest Bridge" and the sign "Island Time Zone Begins Here." Island Time definitely begins as one crosses Matlacha Pass and enters the colorful, quirky, artsy community known as Matlacha.

The origins of Matlacha go back to the construction of the original, wooden swing bridge over the pass. The fill that resulted from the bridge construction/dredging was quickly snapped up by local fishermen and shrimpers and their families for homesites. Over the course of the years, these residences and buildings have evolved into the unique and colorful shops that have made Matlacha a much photographed and nationally known community.

For several years the galleries and shops have participated in monthly Art Nights and "Florida's Creative Coast Weekends", from November through April. Crowds stroll from gallery to gallery, shop to shop, to watch

artists in residence at work, listen to relaxing music at one of the local restaurants and watch spectacular sunsets from a variety of locations.

Our annual summer festival, MangoMania Tropical Fruit Festival, entices visitors during the summer lull to extend their visit to Pine Island and experience each gallery/shop/restaurant. Local musicians add to the ambiance of both the festival and Matlacha. Kayaking and fishing are extremely popular pastimes in Matlacha, with the wealth of mangrove islands, sheltered waterways and canals to explore. Depending on the time of year, visitors can participate in the annual "Mullet Toss", fishing tournaments, dockside concerts by local singers/songwriters and more.

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located in the heart of Matlacha
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Leoma Lovegrove
National Headquarters

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ISLAND VISIONS

discover "Matlachic"

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Sara Tinska

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For more information on Pine Island, Florida's Creative Coast, and MangoMania, visit our websites at www.pineislandchamber.org and www.floridascreativecoast.com. Once you get a taste of Matlacha and Pine Island, you will find yourself returning again and again!

We Recommend >>

dockside dining

Dine! Get your groove on while enjoying a frosty cold drink with the locals at Bert's Bar and Grill. Renowned for its historic and somewhat infamous past, the grill has been bringing together thirsty travelers with friendly locals for more than 70 years. Dockside dining is available and special entertainment events. Visit their Website for schedule.

239-282-3232 | www.bertsbar.com

a peaceful surrounding

Stay! Travelers who simply can't imagine leaving the sun-kissed shores of Southwest Florida can enjoy the conveniences and tranquility of the Angler's Inn. Situated in the remote locale of Matlacha, yet within walking distance to dining and shopping conveniences, guests can enjoy a peaceful surrounding highlighted by a private kitchens, lanai and grill. Outdoors anglers can take advantage of the private fishing dock. 239-898-2121 | www.anglersinnmatlacha.com



Come Stay & Play in Matlacha
Open 11 AM
 for Music Schedule Visit...
bertsbar.com
 Gift Shoppe across the street
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4271 Pine Island Rd.
Matlacha, FL 33993 **239.282.3232**

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did

YOU KNOW?

Each of the many art galleries feature unique works found nowhere else on the planet. Many famous, some soon to be famous and even some don't-wannabe-famous artists call the Pine Island area home.

In October, Matlacha is home to the Pine Island Elementary Fishing Tournament & Derby. This tournament (open to both adults and children) feature age groups for trophies and prizes. Adult anglers prizes are awarded.

www.matlachahookers.org