

a far away tropical paradise

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Fall is one of the best times of year to visit Southwest Florida. While some visitors never leave its sun-kissed shores and challenging golf courses, there are plenty of attractions and activities to keep you busy!

No type of "island hopping" is more fun than "island shopping." From designer labels to one-of-a-kind boutiques, the **Shops on Sanibel** offers dozens of delightfully unique stores, restaurants and art galleries. The four centers (Tahitian Gardens, The Village Shops, Olde Sanibel Shoppes and Town Center) are all within a mile of each other, making it easy to bike or drive to your favorite Sanibel shopping destination. Visit their Website for a complete list of products and vendors. www.shopsansanibel.com

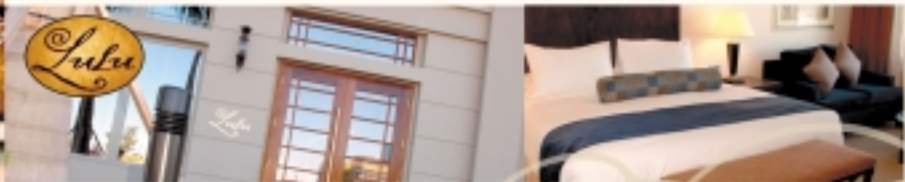
Captiva Cruises is an essential experience for the perfect appreciation of the Southwest Florida lifestyle. Visit these four spectacular island destinations: Cabbage Key, Useppa Island, Cayo Costa and Boca Grande. Luncheon, wildlife and dolphin cruises are all available. **239-472-5300** | www.captivacruises.com

Operating out of South Seas Island Resort on Captiva Island and Pink Shell Beach Resort on Fort Myers Beach, the **Offshore Sailing School** is well known and respected worldwide. Founded by Steve Colgate, an Olympic athlete and America's Cup veteran, and his wife Doris, the school is one of several located in the British Virgin Islands; Jersey City, NJ; Chelsea Piers, NY; St. Petersburg, FL; and the Florida Keys. Programs offered include a full range of three- to seven-day sailing courses for all levels, daily resort clinics and corporate team-building programs.

Located on Sanibel Island's southern tip, visitors are encouraged to visit the 100-plus-year-old **Sanibel Lighthouse** while enjoying a picnic, strolling on the beach or fishing from the pier.

Everyday is a field trip at the **Sanibel Sea School**, dedicated to vibrantly teaching children and adults about marine systems using the unique habitat of Sanibel and Captiva islands. The Sea School provides a welcoming setting to touch, feel and understand the many elements that make up the Southwest Florida ecosystem. Classes for adults and teens are available, or parents are welcome to join in and shadow their children. www.sanibelseaschool.com

Did you know **Captiva Island** has been ranked one of the country's **most romantic beaches** by Dr. Stephen Leatherman, recognized as the nation's foremost beach authority?



SIMPLY BREATH TAKING —THE WYVERN HOTEL

No matter what your interests, you're sure to love exploring the Punta Gorda area during your stay at The Wyvern Hotel. Our upscale hotel is impeccably appointed with every comfort you could desire for an ideal getaway to this remarkable location on south Florida's Gulf Coast. Our meeting and event space is ideal for everything from romantic wedding receptions to corporate gatherings of all types. The Wyvern Hotel is home to Punta Gorda's newest culinary sensation, Lulu Restaurant. Lulu serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner and provides room service for guests.

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www.thewyvernhotel.com

101 East Retta Esplanade
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 Tying the knot in style on a beautiful serene beach doesn't have to be a fantasy. In fact, it's a reality for couples who choose to plan their wedding and exchange their vows on the magnificent beaches of Sanibel and Captiva Islands. Weddings can be as simple as a ceremony for two at sunset, or a celebration where friends and family make your marriage the centerpiece of their island vacation.

8
 The **Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum** features more than 30 exhibits of shell displays from around the world with special focus on shells of Sanibel and Captiva islands and Southwest Florida. The museum store offers an extensive selection of books and unusual shell-motif gifts.
 239-395-2233 | www.shellmuseum.org

9
 Sanibel Island has two main roads that parallel each other. Periwinkle Way, located at the four-way stop immediately past the Visitor Center, is the main thoroughfare. West of the causeway, it leads to the island's shopping and dining district. Follow it east and you'll pass a quieter commercial section, ending up at the Sanibel Lighthouse and its beach. Gulf Drive, the other main route, roves past resorts, beaches, and homes at the water's edge. It is segmented into East, Middle, and West Gulf Drive.

10
 Sanibel & Captiva Islands has a large variety of accommodations for you to choose from for your vacation including luxury resorts, hotels, motels, small inns and cottages. Rental properties also include private homes and condos and great facilities for camping.

we recommend >>>
 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA. . . .

[FORT MYERS] All aboard the **Seminole Gulf Railway!** Visitors ride the rails throughout Southwest Florida and savor the taste of a gourmet five-course meal - all the while being kept on their toes with a murder and mystery show! During this intriguing murder mystery dinner train, patrons are kept mesmerized by theatrics, comedy and unique entertainment, all aboard reconitioned 1930's - 1940's vintage railway cars. Special holiday rides, accommodation packages and daytime excursions are all available.
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[PUNTA GORDA] Off the beaten path, the European-style boutique [Wyvern Hotel](#) of Punta Gorda provides its guests with luxurious accommodations amid a more peaceful and slower-paced locale.

The hotel's 63 spacious guestrooms are warmly decorated with a cozy residential feel, all with large flat screen LCD televisions with full cable access and video on demand, complimentary high speed Internet access, wired and WiFi, specially programmed IPOD docking stations, mini bars and laptop safes.

With panoramic views of Charlotte Harbor, the lushly landscaped Wyvern Hotel Rooftop Lounge is the perfect place to enjoy the sunset or relax and unwind in the beautiful swimming pool. The rooftop pool overlooks the harbor's Lashley Park, a modern facility offering a host of activities, a brand new marina and boat ramp.

941-639-7700 | www.wyvernhotel.com

[SANIBEL / CAPTIVA ISLANDS] For your Southwest Florida real estate needs, [RE/MAX of the Islands](#) provides real estate services, brokerage, and rental management services.

Art Corace, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX of the Islands, Sanibel and Captiva Islands has built a successful team of hands-on professionals, which include his wife Sandi and son Dustyn. "We're the only family-owned and operated full service real estate firm on Sanibel and Captiva Islands," explained Corace. "Because we live and work in the area, it's important for us to perform each transaction with a personal touch."

800-388-2311 | www.remax-of-theislands.com

[SANIBEL] The island of Sanibel epitomizes a true getaway. Cozy beach cottages dot the shoreline and an abundance of shells are for the taking. [Gulf Breeze](#)

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For the ultimate vacation experience, indulge in the pleasures of Sanibel Island's most sought after vacation resort, **Pointe Santo de Sanibel**. This beautiful resort is situated directly on the Gulf of Mexico on the southern-most tip of Sanibel Island, making it an ideal location for incredible seashell collecting and magnificent sunsets. The resort is nestled in 10 acres of lush tropical gardens with stone paths throughout. In the center of the property is a lagoon with footbridges leading to a quaint island which occupies the heated swimming pool, hot tub and clubhouse. Other amenities include gas grills and tiki huts, tennis, beach volleyball and a children's recreation program.

For unsurpassed quality and service you will want to stay with **Premier Properties**. Premier Properties is the only on-site management company for Pointe Santo de Sanibel. Each of Premier Properties' condominiums are beautifully remodeled and professionally decorated with private screened lanais viewing the gulf. The condominiums are fully appointed with all the comforts of home including cable television, two TV's, VCR/DVD players, and wireless internet. Choose between one-three bedroom suites, penthouse suites (with a private rooftop sundeck) or VIP suites. Their friendly staff provides convenient guest services, beach/shelling items and a complimentary video library that guests rave about. Pointe Santo de Sanibel is touted as an outstanding family vacation destination as well as a wonderful romantic get-away for couples. Premier Properties and Pointe Santo de Sanibel combine together to bring you the very best island vacation experience to relax, renew and remember.

800-824-5442 | 239-472-9100 | www.PremierSanibel.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Florida celebrates everything from bears to rattlesnakes during statewide fall festival celebrations. *