



701 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2700
Miami, Florida 33131
305/539-3084, Fax 305/539-2911
<http://www.MiamiAndBeaches.com>
E-mail: Media@MiamiAndBeaches.com

GREATER MIAMI AND THE BEACHES FACT SHEET

MIAMI'S BIRTHDAY:	• July 28, 1896
GEOGRAPHY:	• Miami-Dade County area: 1,955 square miles / 3,145 square kilometers Elevation: 12 feet / 3.6 meters / 15+ miles of beaches
CLIMATE:	• Subtropical annual average daily temperature: 76 degrees Fahrenheit / 23 degrees Celsius • Year-round sunshine
RECREATION:	800+ parks, including Crandon Beach county park and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park, consistently in Dr. Beach's top 10 Best Beaches in the U.S. Miami is also home to two unique national parks, Biscayne National Park and Everglades National Park. Award-winning tennis and golf are popular here, as well as water sports, such as parasailing, windsurfing, wave-running and jet-skiing.
DEMOGRAPHICS:	• Miami-Dade County population: <u>2.3 million+</u> • Ethnic breakdown: <u>White 69.7%, Hispanic 57.3%, Black 20.3%</u> • Median household income: <u>\$43,495</u>
GOVERNMENT:	• 35 municipalities, including Miami-Dade County, City of Miami, City of Miami Beach and Bal Harbour Village
LODGING:	• <u>349 hotels and motels and 42,018 rooms</u>
TRANSPORTATION:	• Miami International Airport: <u>34.1 million travelers, 3rd in U.S. for international passenger traffic</u> • <u>Port of Miami (Cruise Capital of the World): over 4 million annual passengers</u> • <u>39 taxi companies, 2,080 taxi cabs</u> • 21-mile elevated Metrorail mass transit • Metromover 4.4-mile urban loop • SuperShuttle airport transportation • Passenger rails: Amtrak and Tri-Rail
PROFESSIONAL TEAMS:	• Florida Marlins Baseball • Miami Dolphins Football • Miami Heat Basketball • Florida Panthers •
OTHER FUN FACTS:	• Miami Beach's Art Deco District contains the world's largest collection of Art Deco Architecture (800+ buildings) • Miami Beach is home to one of the largest snow skiing clubs in the United States

- Miami is the Wreckreational Diving Capital of the World, containing Miami over 50 diveable wreck sites—such as ships, oil platforms, army tanks and the Spirit of Miami Boeing 727 jet-- sunken to provide artificial reefs for marine life.
- Miami is also home to the largest concentration of Boutique Hotels in the world.
- Miami Beach was dubbed the Sun and Fun Capital by Jackie Gleason when he broadcast his show here in the 1960s. Today Miami Beach is known as America's Riviera and the Latin Hollywood.
- Miami Beach is a man-made island that was once a Coconut Grove Plantation.
- Julia Tuttle, -- the "Mother of Miami" -- convinced Standard Oil co-founder Henry Flagler to extend his railroad from central Florida to Miami, build a luxury hotel, and lay out a new town. She did so by sending him perfect Miami orange blossoms during a crop freeze north of Miami. The railroad arrived in 1896. The City of Miami was incorporated on July 28 that same year.
- Miami is home to the world's only Everglades eco-system, made famous in Marjorie Stoneman Douglas' book *The River of Grass*.
- Miami is home to 150+ ethnicities and 60+ languages
- The popular television series "Miami Vice" made its debut in 1984. On July 28, 2006, "Miami Vice: The Movie" was released in theaters nationwide. The film stars Colin Farrell and Jamie Foxx.
- Another top rated show set in Miami is; CBS' CSI: Miami, which has won the ASCAP Award for Top TV Series in 2005 & 2006, also *CSI: Miami* has been named the World's Most Popular TV Show following rating studies of 20 countries worldwide. The survey, which was conducted by Informa Telecoms and Media, showed that *CSI: Miami* was featured in more top ten viewing charts than any other show.
- Miami is also home to Burn Notice, the winner of the 2008 ASCAP Award for Top TV Series.
- Memorable films made in Miami include: "Something About Mary," "The Birdcage," "Goldfinger," "Scarface," "True Lies," "2 Fast 2 Furious," "Bad Boys," "Bad Boys 2" and "Out of Sight."
- Miami's unique sport of Jai-Alai features *pelotas* which are recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records as traveling up to 75 mph.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

- Currently Askmen.com Ranks Miami as one of the top 5 places to live in the United States.
- In September 2008, as reported in Reuters, Travel + Leisure readers ranked Miami as the Most Attractive city in the country.
- In 2008, Miami ranked #1 on Forbes.com's America's Cleanest Cities list.
- Key Biscayne's Cape Florida State Park Listed among Americas TOP 10 Beaches, Coastal expert Dr. Stephen Leatherman, a.k.a. "Dr. Beach" ranked Cape Florida State Park 9th in his highly anticipated and regarded list. (2008)
- "South Beach, Miami" has been listed among the nation's Top 10 Most Popular Attractions the TripAdvisor members are planning to visit. Florida had four entries in the Top 10 with South Beach coming in at #7. (2008)

- Miami ranked 10th among the Cities of the Future by fDi (Foreign Direct Investment) magazine (2007)
- Maxim Magazine in their November 2007 issue named Miami the country's top party city. (2007)
- *Travel + Leisure* magazine and CNN Headline News teamed up to poll travelers across the country on what they like and dislike about America's top 25 urban destinations and they named Miami the #1 destination for having the most attractive people, and #2 for having the most stylish inhabitants. (2007)
- The 12th Annual Gay & Lesbian Tourism Survey conducted by Community Marketing, Inc. ranked Miami as the 10th most popular destination among American gay and lesbian travelers. (2007)
- South Beach rated #1 Beach in The World on TripAdvisor.com (June 2007)
- South Beached ranked among the 25 Sexiest Beaches in the World according to Concierge.com
- Miami Ranked #13 by Forbes.com list of 30 Most Visited US Cities in 2007
- American Express Travel agents ranked Miami as #3 destination in U.S. for families (2006)
- South Beach ranked #1 Sexiest Place in the World by Cosmopolitan Magazine (September 2006)
- Miami's Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park in Key Biscayne ranked #8 in *USA Today's* Dr. Beach Top 10 Beaches list in 2005 (also rated a Top 10 U.S. Beach by Citysearch.com in 2004).
- *Self* magazine named Miami #3 Fittest City in U.S. in 2005
- *MovieMaker Magazine* ranked Miami #7 best place in U.S. to film
- Miami No. 7 in ranking of movie-friendly cities by *MovieMaker* magazine 2005.

INFORMATION:

- Contact the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) by mail at GMCVB, Visitor Services, 701 Brickell Ave., Suite 2700, Miami, FL 33131, on the web at www.miamiandbeaches.com, or by phone 305-539-3000 or 800-933-8448 (U.S./Canada only).