

VACATION HOMES OF KEY WEST

Invites You to Enjoy

Our Select List of Locally Owned and Operated
Island Establishments and Businesses

~ PLUS ~

Unique Points of Interest We Recommend

Dear Guest,

The tiny island of Key West is blessed with an amazing variety of fine international cuisine, nationally recognized music and entertainment, creative shops and services, and historic museums, parks, and gardens. In the list that follows we reveal to you selections from our own personal 'well worn path' from decades of living and loving in Key West, with our hopes that you may discover why through the continual changes brought with time, we continue to love this island so much. And while we think our list is an excellent representation of some of the most fabulous and remarkable locally owned and operated establishments, in no way is it meant to exclude other equally superb local businesses.

Enjoy! Carpe Diem!

Cindy Rhoades, President ~ Vacation Homes of Key West

FAVORITE FOOD AND DRINK ("Listed at Random - In No Particular Order")

Nine One Five: 915 Duval. (305)296-0669 - www.915.com Don't Miss This One!! It recently won the James Beard Foundation Award for culinary excellence. Located in gorgeously renovated Victorian with large porches overlooking Upper Duval St., this is a great place to see-and-be-seen. This unique restaurant offers an eclectic variety of tapas, and full fare of gourmet food and fine wine selection to choose from. Great retro-design club room is upstairs and can be rented for private events.

Camille's: 1202 Simonton St. (305) 296-4811 - www.camilleskeywest.com Just one block off Upper Duval St.: I eat at Camille's consistently more than any other restaurant in town. This restaurant has been voted a locals favorite for years and years - breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Owner Denise Chelekis describes their fare as "Exotic Family Cooking with No Boundaries." Menu changes daily - chef is inspired and makes some of the best hollandaise sauce you will ever taste, and his soups are noteworthy. Go for the eggs-benedict, and choose from traditional to smoked salmon. Take the family or meet up with friends. Delightful décor. Excellent café

con leche. Full bar, great wine selection. Private room available for special events.

Banana Cafe: 1211 Duval. (294-7220) - Authentic Cuisine Française. A definite must! Open for breakfast and lunch = my favorite place to indulge in brunch. Owner chef Dani is from France and knows the art of creating the perfect food with the perfect setting for breakfast and lunch par excellence. The menu is fresh, pure, and the scene is so relaxing it is easy for locals to take it for granted. Crepes and sauces are the best you will find any where, delicious sandwiches on French baguette, delightful salads, fresh squeezed juices, champagne and coffee. Set in romantic renovated turn-of-the-century Victorian house overlooking Upper Duval St. Sit inside or outside on the porch looking to beautiful gallery stores with a slow parade of people strolling by. Go for brunch and have a mimosa. And chase it with a café au lait. Friendly staff and excellent service.

Must for breakfast!

Blue Heaven. - (305) 296-6686 - blueheavenkw.homestead.com - 729 Thomas St. You really haven't experienced a true Key West dining experience until you try this. Without a doubt one of Key West's most unique and most popular restaurants. Come to Bahama Village and dine under the trees in an artist's village among the resident cats and . . . yes. . Key West chickens - there is inside seating too. The gourmet food is excellent - flavorful and colorful and always fresh. I love the fresh fish dishes the best. Wine Spectator has given this unique restaurant its Award of Excellence! Full Bar in the Garden. One of most memorable dining experiences you will ever have.

Mangoes: 700 Duval St. (305) 292-6606 - www.mangoeskeywest.com A Key West tradition this ever popular downtown restaurant continues to give locals and tourist alike tropical dining at its best. In the open-air, and on the highly visible corner of Duval and Angela Streets this is the best place in town to eat and see-and-be-seen. Big outdoor patio space covered with large dining umbrellas. Air conditioned inside seating plus the added feature of a "secret" upstairs local scene. I go for the mozzarella roulade wrapped in spinach. The balsamic dressing is the best. Great outside bar overlooking the street.

Mo's Restaurant: 1116 White St. (305) 296-8955- French Country Cuisine. Unique and in a class all its own. Intimate lively setting - limited seating. Theater kitchen - watch your meal prepared. Mo's soups are excellent. An inspired French cook, menu is posted on the chalk board everyday. Fresh and delicious.

Just for drinks!

Louie's Backyard and the Afterdeck Bar: 700 Waddell St. (305)294-1061 - www.louiesbackyard.com Two of the best places on the island. Louie's is housed in a perfectly renovated Greek Revival Victorian Key West home that is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Afterdeck is on the expansive ocean deck in the back yard.

LOUIES BACK YARD - RESTAURANT - Offers Key West's finest ocean front dining experience, this special place is a favorite with locals, visitors, and must-stop for celebrity guests such as Jimmy Buffet. Executive Chef Doug Shook offers award

winning fine international / Caribbean Cuisine with a specialty in locally caught fish. I love his Poached Eggs with Blue Crab Cakes and Roasted Chile Hollandaise, and Florida Lobster Braised in Truffle Butter with Spinach & Prosciutto.

THE AFTERDECK BAR- The After Deck has a long and famous history, and is where Jimmy Buffet's early songs were inspired and written. This is special spot on this earth with a rare view and intimate feel of the ocean. Sunset, moonrise, and star gazing experiences are unsurpassed. I go for sunset cocktail hour several times a week. It's the perfect place to take a breath and ponder the good things in life.

Santiago's Bodega: 207 Petronia. (305) 296-7691- www.santiagosbodega.com
So much fun! Deep in Bahama Village. New-Age / Tropical-European Dining Experience - Tapas Menu. Excellent food. The delicious sangria flows and you can choose red or white. Fashionable small dining room - romantic club-like atmosphere. Excellent service.

Ambrosia: 1401 Simonton St. (305)293-0304 - Authentic Japanese Cuisine & Sushi Bar. Outstanding fare. Absolutely stunning modern abstract upscale fashionable modern interior with waterfall and kinetic art. Both the food and décor tickle the senses. Some locals call it Key West's "gourmet sushi bar."

Origami Japanese Restaurant: 1075 Duval St. (305)294-0092 - Feels like home to me. Located in Duval Square. Casual dining, you can belly up to the bar. Eat inside or in the fabulous plaza garden complete with tall shade tree garden and talking parrots in the back ground. Sushi Bar, tempura, teriyaki. Local's favorite. Kiyoto, Owner & chef - 20 years in Key West.

*★
Great food!*

Cafe Sole: 1029 Southard St. - (305)294-0230 - www.cafesole.com Romantic intimate little French-Caribbean restaurant in residential neighborhood famous for locally caught seafood embellished with a French mastery of sauces. Chef John Correa refined his skills in France and created a unique Key West menu unlike any on the island. Famous for his preparation of rare hog snapper, and yellow tail, he also offers authentic classic preparations like Duck L'Orange, Rack of Lamb, and Lobster Bouillaise. Great wine selection. Indoor and outdoor garden seating. Excellent service.

La Trattoria: 524 Duval Street. (305)296-1075 - www.latrattoria.us
Fine Italian dining. Wonderful food, excellent atmosphere ~ feels a little like Italy. A place for a special night out for celebration. Everything is delicious. I have a hard time choosing. Great wine selection. Street side dining room stays open late with a limited menu. It adjoins Virgilio's bar, a local's favorite music venue and outstanding chocolate martinis.

Opera Italian Restaurant: 613 Duval St. (305)295-2705 - www.operarestaurant.com Down a little walking street off Duval. Intimate setting. Original Authentic Italian Cuisine - specializing in Northern. "America's top 10 Italian Restaurants" by Zagat Survey. I usually always go for the Spaghetti alle

Vongole, but everything is excellent. The garlic rolls are dreamlike. Intimate Italian décor setting. Limited seating. Excellent Service.

Antonia's: 615 Duval St. (305)294-6565 - www.antoniaskeywest.com
Established Key West favorite - Always a sure bet. Full fare - Fine Italian dining. Outstanding food and service. Big open spacious dining room creates a lively yet intimate atmosphere. Great spot to plan a dinner for a large group. Full bar. Great wine selection. (We alternate between La Trattoria, Antonia's, and Opera for Italian and love them all.)

*If you are there on Fri or Sat night, Tell Bartender
Blondie - I sent you!*

*My fav. Key West food -
Café Marquesa*

→ **Café Marquesa:** 600 Fleming St. (305) 292-1919 - www.marquesa.com
Fine dining, select fare gourmet cuisine at Key West's finest Marquesa Hotel in beautiful intimate setting in 5-Star Hotel down town Old Town. Sample the seafood, Black Angus filet, lamb, duck, and vegetarian feast. Full Bar. I like the Grey Goose Martinis. Outstanding service.

Pepe's Cafe: 806 Caroline Street. (305)294-7192 - www.pepescafe.net
On the Key West Historic Seaport. Authentic Key West, one of our oldest and consistently popular Key West indoor and outdoor restaurants. Excellent home-style-gourmet inspired fare - from omelets to soups, to steaks to fish. The best fresh squeezed orange juice, and great Bloody Mary's to start the day.

Harpoon Harry's: 832 Caroline Street. (305)294-8744 - Real Key West - On the Key West Historic Seaport. Great atmosphere. Many locals start the day here everyday. Yummy French Toast, good old fashioned breakfast, some of the best coffee con leche. Full bar for Bloody Mary's - open at night too.

Mangia Mangia: 900 Southard St. (305)294-2469 - www.mangia-mangia.com
Fresh pasta is made on premises everyday. Set in beautiful old renovated Victorian home in residential neighborhood. Eat in the house or out in the patio garden. Great wine bar and fine wine selection. Very popular with locals and tourists.

*Good like
Portage*

Michaels: 532 Margaret Street. (305)295-1300 - www.michaelskeywest.com
If a mouth watering steak is on your mind go here. Michaels' steaks are 100% prime beef, flown in from Chicago. Excellent fresh seafood with selections that change nightly depending on the best catch. This is a first-class steak house in a charming remodeled cottage and garden setting in residential neighborhood off Southard St. Local's favorite. Full bar in the garden. You can also get fondue at the bar. Excellent service.

Matthessen 4th of July. (305)294-8089 - Craving a burger? Need fries?
Locally owned and family operated. Retro-family hamburger eatery. If you were a kid in the 40's 50's or 60's you'll feel like you stepped back in time. Red white and blue vintage interior - comfy booths. Outstanding burgers and fries and about the best milk shakes and malts in town.

A must go for lunch on water

Salute: 1000 Atlantic Blvd, on Higgs beach near West Martello Gardens.(305)292-1117 – www.salutekw.com A must experience:Key West Unique! Fun casual beach atmosphere is created in a special beach-scene setting like none other on the island. Fabulous view of the ocean. Fun to watch volley ball players in the daytime. Brunch, lunch, dinner. Good food. Full bar, a local's favorite. Great seafood, pasta, salads. Good choice to meet up with friends and take the family.

Duval India Café: 1000 Duval St. (305)295-9929. Authentic Indian Cuisine with 'casual white table cloth' service. A wide variety of Indian blend sauces and curries with entrée dishes and salads with local seafood, lamb, chicken, vegetables, and basmati chawal rice. Curries for every palate, I order the medium. The tandoori is served on a sizzler and brings some added drama to this most pleasant dining experience. Dine In ~ Take Out ~ Delivery to your Key West vacation home.

Goldman's Deli: 2796 North Roosevelt Blvd. – (Overseas Market – You'll see this shopping center as you head out of town. It is across the street from Home Depot). (305)294-43354. A fantastic authentic Bagel Deli owned and operated by the Goldman family. Open for breakfast and lunch, everything made from scratch and absolutely fresh bagels are made on premises daily "...boiled and baked, the old fashioned way." Deli sandwiches, grill featuring the reuben and grilled kosher frank, and smoked fish platters, slaws, potato salad, and fabulous special items including yummy potato latkes served with sour cream and applesauce, and potato knish! My favorite breakfast is the lox spread and scallion omelet, and for lunch I love the nova-scotia smoked salmon platter. . .or the tuna nicoise.

Best Cuban food in island!

El Siboney: 900 Catherine St. (305)296-4184 – www.elsiboneyrestaurant.com Go here for authentic Cuban fare. Locals consider it the best Cuban restaurant on the island, and everything is good. Be sure to try their plantains and yuka. I love their fish preparations. Inside seating in renovated brick house in south side residential neighborhood. Be sure to take your appetite with you.

Seven fish - 632 Olivia St.. (just a short block off Truman Ave.)(305)296-2777 www.7fish.com Go for the fish and be sure to try their extraordinary Banana Chicken. Locals favorite. Intimate setting in Heart of Key West residential neighborhood.

El Meson De Pepe's: 410 Wall St.(305)295-2620 - On Mallory Square in the heart of the action. Go there to try real Cuban Conch cooking with the added feature of amazing live and lively Latin Music and dancing. Inside and outside seating. Celebrate the Cuban way. A most unique Key West experience.

White St. Deli: 1019 White St. (just off Truman Ave.)(305)294-1943 – www.smallchefatlarge.com Fantastic local deli. Great place to drop in for a soup and salad, and fantastic home made dessert. Also, take out fare to enjoy it at home. Stock up for a picnic while you are there. Cooking and catering by 'Small Chef at

Large!

Great Pizza

Upper Crust Pizza: 611 Duval St. (305)293-8727 –
www.uppercrustkeywest.com "Not Your Average Pizza," with gourmet ingredients like portabella mushrooms, sun-dried tomatoes, buffalo mozzarella. Exotic pizzas with thin crust, and traditional toppings too. Locals favorite. Perfect if you want to order in. 305-293-8890.

A&B Lobster House and Alonzo's Lobster House: 700 Front St. (305)294-5880 – www.aandblobsterhouse.com On the Historic Seaport waterfront. Go downstairs to casual Alonzo's for fun waterfront eating and go for the Oysters Moscow. The fare is excellent. If you love oysters and caviar you can't miss it. Upstairs is fine dining. Great place to view the luxury yachts docked in the harbor. There is also a cigar bar. Inside and outside dining upstairs and down.

Turtle Kraals: One Lands End Village. (305)294-2640 –
www.turtlekraals.com On the Historic Seaport waterfront. An established Key West tradition, just 15 years ago there was still a rehab hospital for turtles there and you could have lunch why you checked out the turtles. Those days are long gone but the food is still really good Florida Keys style, and the atmosphere is authentic old Key West waterfront. Full Bar.

The Café ~ A Mostly Vegetarian Place – 509 Southard St. (305)296-5515 -
 Delicious fresh vegetarian food including many Vegan choices served fresh daily. Great grilled sandwich selections include Portobella, Mozzarella, Eggplant and Zucchini. I have two favorite choices ~ 'Brown Sugar Baked Acorn Squash' - stuffed with curried couscous, zucchini, scallions, dried cranberries, and pine nuts, served with sautéed spinach, and 'Polenta Cakes' – with goat cheese, roasted red peppers & parmesan over chilled tomato sauce with sautéed spinach. And if you gotta have fish, she also serves a great seared yellow fin tuna with wasabi sauce.

Abbondanza: 1208 Simonton St.: Across from First State Bank. (305)292-1199. Good Italian food - very generous portions. Another local's favorite. Great for the family! Prices are extremely good for what you get. Atmosphere and décor is very nice. Suggest bringing a sweater as they tend to have the a/c cranked way down.

Hog's Breath Saloon: 400 Front St. (305)296-4222 – www.hogsbreath.com
 World famous saloon and eatery, popular with locals and tourists. Outstanding live music entertainment, great drinks, and delicious raw bar with local seafood and grill. Live music daily from 12:00pm -2:00 am. Fun clothing outlet for Hogs Breath T-Shirts and Hats - remember "Hogs Breath is Better than No Breath at All."

Hurricane Joe's Bar and Seafood Grill: 5130 Overseas Highway (right outside of Key West on US 1 heading to Miami).(305)294-0200 –
www.hurricaneholekeywest.com "The Real Thing" - On the docks ocean side. Be

sure to go here for original Florida Keys ambience and real fresh fish, shrimp, and lobster, all locally caught! Eat dock side or upstairs in the restaurant. Hang out on the docks and chat with the local fishermen and watch the "catch" as it comes off the boats and heads to the kitchen. No frozen or imported products are ever served at Hurricane Joe's. Popular with locals and tourists of all ages and attitudes. We like to go there with the whole family from grandkids up.

Mangrove Mama's Restaurant: MM 30 ("Up The Keys"). (305) 745-3030 - A favorite trip for locals "to get off the rock." For a change in view of the Keys scene, plan to take a 30 minute drive up the Keys. Florida Keys cuisine. Seafood, steak, poultry, pasta. Cocktail lounge, sometimes there is music on the weekends. Eat there then sneak up to Bahia Honda Beach at Mile Marker 30.

THE BEST LOCAL COFFEE

**"Once you've had real Cuban coffee, no other coffee will ever taste quite the same"
"I have to admit that whenever I travel I take along a stash of Bustello.
Nothing is quite the same!"**

Sandy's Café: 1026 White St. (White Street Gallery neighborhood) - (305) 295-0159. Outstanding made-to-order Cuban coffee. Wonderful walk-up/ take-out made to order Cuban café. Sleepy locals meet to wake up early in the morning. Get a bouchi (Cuban espresso - they call it "Cuban Speed.") I'm addicted to the Cortadito, a pre-sugared caféito topped with just a teeny bit of steamed milk. It's really strong so if you are not used to the "punch" you may want to try a café con leche first. Get the buttered Cuban toast or cheese toast and dunk it in the coffee for a great start on the day. Get a mouth watering Cuban Mix sandwich or a scrambled egg with melted cheese and fresh tomato. Connected to M&M Laundry so you can wash and sip. Favorite lunch spot for the trades men and women of Key West. Now open 24 hours.

Five Brothers Grocery: 930 Southard St. (305) 296-5205 - www.5brothersgrocery.tripod.com (Heart of Old Town neighborhood) All styles of Cuban made-to-order Cuban coffee at it's very best! Wonderful walk-up/take-out counter inside a great little tiny family owned Cuban Grocery Store, so you can shop while your café is made. Neighbors stumble in for their wake up brew. Try bouchi, cortadito, café con leche, Cuban sandwiches.

Coffee and Tea House: 1218 Duval St. (Upper Duval St.) (305) 295-0788 - Finely brewed made-to-order Americana coffee and tea. A delightful variety of scrumptious home made sweet treats. Set in a Key West "conch house - cum coffee house" you feel welcome and cozy. Lounge inside or sit on the porch. Favorite place for locals to start the day and catch up on the local buzz.

Sippin: 424 Eaton St. -(Down Town Old Town) (305) 293-0555 - www.sippinkeywest.com Coffee and Internet Café. Great freshly brewed Americana coffee made to order and sweet treats. Several computers with internet

access. Nice comfortable large roomy space for computer work, reading, and quiet chat. Downtown. Close to the Post Office.

GROCERIES AND TREATS

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM: Flamingo Crossing Ice Cream Store: 1105 Duval St. (corner of Duval and Virginia Streets.) (305)296-6124 - Outrageously delicious creamy ice cream and clear sorbets made on premises. There are so many flavors to choose from. My favorites are mango sorbet, Cuban coffee, and Mangrove Honey-Walnut. Set in an old Key West "conch house" the ambience is authentic as the treats. This is a Key West ritual for locals and should definitely become part of your routine while you are here.

FAUSTOS FINE FOOD PALACE (TWO LOCATIONS). 522 Fleming St. (north side of the island) (305) 296-5663 and 1102 White St.(south side of the island) (305) 294-5221. www.faustos.com Locally owned and operated. These wonderful markets have almost everything, including great produce, fine wines, butcher shop, sushi, and made-to-order deli. The store on Fleming delivers groceries and will fax you a shopping list!

FIVE BROTHER'S GROCERY.(305)296-5205 - www.5brothersgrocery.tripod.com Little traditional Cuban market on the corners of Southard and Grinnell Streets that is an historic landmark with great Cuban coffee and great Cuban food made to order in the little kitchen in the back. Other great food stuffs - fixings for Cuban food.

MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT, THEATRE, AND PERFORMING ARTS

Key West loves to entertain, is full of artists and musicians, and for such a tiny island has a remarkable variety of music venues that attract talented musicians from all over the world. This list is a representation of some of our personal favorite places for entertainment, and is not meant to exclude other excellent entertainment opportunities. Be sure to pick up the local "Paradise" news every Wednesday for scheduled music around the island each week. This will give you the music and other entertainment that will be coming for the weekend.

NIGHTLIFE CLUBS: Our favorite venues are 1) **THE GREEN PARROT BAR:** 601 Whitehead St. - (305) 294-6133 www.greeparrot.com Oldest bar in Key West. Key West funky at it's best. On the corner of Southard and Whitehead Streets. This is truly about the best music venue we have on the island. It rocks!! 2)**VIRGILIO'S:** 524 Duval St.-- located just off Duval Street, 1/2 block from Southard St. on Appelrouth Lane. It is behind La Trattoria at 524 Duval. Street. Great local acts, guest artists, and D-Jays. 3) **HOG'S BREATH SALOON:** 400

Front St. World famous popular locals bar and restaurant. Located at the corner of Front and Duval Streets. Home of Key West Song Writers Festival. Regular and touring music groups perform in the outside garden bar. Upstairs is a studio room for special performances. 4) SCHOONER WHARF: 202 William St. - On the wharf at the Historic Seaport. Open air Waterfront Bar - "The Last Little Piece of Old Key West." Eat, drink, and be merry. Has a good raw bar.

FILM: Tropic Cinema: 416 Eaton St. Film is celebrated as art, and the film line up is fabulous in this local's non-profit movie theater created by the community of Key West with the goal to celebrate film and identify Key West as a haven for artistic film. The theater itself is up-beat and beautiful with a deco style lobby and wonderful lounge where you can buy wine, beer, espresso, and yummy home made treats. Most of the staff members are volunteers and everyone loves the art of film. Enjoy the two screening rooms and the main theater that seats 150.

LIVE THEATRE:

Waterfront Playhouse: 310 Wall St. (305)294-5015. (Located at Mallory Square - Near where the Sunset Celebration is held every night) Florida's oldest continually running professional theatre group, where the "Key West Players" have been presenting the "magic of live theatre for 65 years." This theatre group prides itself on maintaining the highest professional standards and continually provides dynamic and challenging live theatre for Key West's diverse community and our tourists. The theatre has adopted Key West's official motto of 'One Human Family,' reflecting the belief of the Players that theatre has a special power to reflect and thereby illuminate the human experience by celebrating the common humanity that unites us. The Players are committed to encouraging local playwrights.

The Red Barn Theatre: 319 Duval St. (305) 296-9911.- Romantic intimate theatre. Over 25 years of live theatre in Key West, it consistently offers great live shows of all kinds. See drama, comedy, musicals, and cabaret featuring the most talented actors, dancers, theatres, and directors from Key West's own famous performing arts community. The theatre has comfortable seating, and a full bar.

Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center: 5901 College Rd., Stock Island (305)296-1520 ext 1 (on the campus of Florida Keys Community College) Head North like you're leaving Key West and turn at the sign for the hospital. Tennessee Williams Theatre is Key West's state-of-the-art theatre that brings our island the best live, professional, nationally-touring shows and performers from New York and around the world. The theatre also features locally produced annual shows and touring road companies that bring to our island professional dance, opera, music, and New York Broadway style shows.

POPULAR POINTS OF INTEREST

(Note: Considering tiny Key West is only 2 miles by 4 miles and located 150 miles out to sea, our island has an amazing array of things to do and see, and lately seems to be adding more and more. This list offers some suggestions, is a representation of some of our favorite places, and is not meant to exclude any points of interest.)

THE BEACHS: Higgs Beach: 1000 Atlantic Blvd. Local's favorite, long pier, volley ball net, water toys and beach chairs to rent, and Salute for lunch. Fort Zachary Taylor: Go all the way to the end of Southard Street through the gate at Truman Annex. My favorite Key West beach, you can picnic, swim, snorkel, and fish. There is short nature trail and bicycling areas within the park, and a refreshment stand at the beach offers snacks, beverages, and sunscreen. Guided tours of the fort are available daily. You have to pay \$5.00 to get in but it is worth it. Smathers Beach: Starts at about the 1900 block of Atlantic Blvd, and goes all the way to the Key West Airport. This is Key West's largest strip of sandy beach and is on the south shore of the island. Plenty of curb side food and sundry vendors. A popular wedding location for couples who want a tropical island wedding. Dog Beach: 700 Waddell St. Right next door to Louie's Back Yard, a precious little strip of beach where locals go to swim in the ocean with their dogs.

SUNSET CELEBRATION: One Whitehead Street. (On the docks near Front St.) Historic Mallory Square is the location of the Waterfront Playhouse & Key West's Sunset Celebration. Hundreds of people gather before sunset on the historic docks of Mallory Square each day. With the setting sun as a back drop, street performers

including tight rope walkers, fire eaters, and animal trainers entertain the crowd. It goes on every night.

SOUTHERNMOST POINT OF UNITED STATES: Southern end of Whitehead St. Conch Republic Landmark: A not miss photo op at the intersection of South and Whitehead Streets. A brightly painted giant buoy reads "90 Miles to Cuba - Southernmost Point Continental U.S.A."

GOLF COURSE: 6450 College Road (take the turn to the hospital on Stock Island) - A Rees Joes Designed public championship golf course. Full service restaurant and bar. Lessons by PGA Pros.

KEY WEST ART AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Three historic museums - 1) **THE CUSTOM HOUSE:** 281 Front Street - The Custom House is the "Jewel of Key West". An incredible work of architecture, it was built in 1891 and served as a post office, court house and government center when maritime wrecking made Key West the richest city, per capita, in the U.S.A. Today it stands proudly as a museum and the home of the Key West Art and Historical Society.; 2) **KEY WEST LIGHTHOUSE AND LIGHTKEEPER'S MUSEUM:** 938 Whitehead St. - Visit the old quarters and

climb the lighthouse tower; 3) **EAST MARTELLO MUSEUM: 3501 South Roosevelt Blvd - across from Smathers Beach - Civil War Fort A Civil War and watch tower that never saw battle, considered a monument to Civil War engineering. These are all fun for the entire family.**

ERNEST HEMINGWAY HOME AND MUSEUM: 907 Whitehead Street - This was the home of Ernest Hemingway who lived and wrote in Key West for more than a decade. A true fishing sportsman, he loved the water off the Florida Keys and traveled and lived for many years of his life between Key West and Cuba (only 90 miles away). Take this educational tour of his Key West home and learn more about the most prolific period of his Nobel Prize writing career.

NANCY FORRESTER'S SECRET GARDEN: One Free School Lane.(End of the Lane off the 500 Block of Simonton St. between Southard and Fleming Streets) (305)295-0015 nancy@nancyforrester.com . A full acre of tropical rain forest garden right in the Heart of Old Town. Since 1972 Nancy Forrester has worked to acquire world class selection of plants including rare endangered plants as well as some that are extinct in their original habitat. The emphasis of the garden is on exotic tropicals that include a huge selection of palms, orchids, bromeliads, aroids, ferns, and bog plants. In the center of the garden are a group of adopted parrots who have permanent refuge in the garden and create an especially exotic feel to the scene. The garden also houses the "Mana Project," a unique environmental artist's project.

THE KEY WEST BUTTERFLY AND NATURE CONSERVATORY: 1316 Duval Street. Rare Experiential Event! This is one of the most unique and memorable attractions I have ever experienced. Housed in a large climate controlled glass arboretum with beautiful tropical foliage and flowers and inspiring background music, you feel like you are in a fairy-tale or living a magical dream. Stroll through the winding path that meanders around the giant indoor garden taking you over a trickling stream and through a gazebo where you can rest and take it all in. A unique opportunity to experience a close up view of living butterflies while they sip on flower nectar, gently fly around, and even land on you. The entire butterfly experience is accompanied by colorful little chirping finches and tropical turtles slowly walking by. There is also an educational room to learn about butterflies and a gift shop.

KEY WEST TROPICAL FOREST & BOTANICAL GARDEN: 5210 College Road (take the turn to the hospital and golf course on Stock Island) The only "frost-free" botanical garden in the continental United States. Our most treasured "large" green space with great board walk trails in a unique tropical forest that holds two of the last remaining fresh water ponds in the Keys. This garden is a major migratory stopping point for tropical birds from places as far as South America. Bring the entire family

HAITIAN ART GALLERY: 600 Frances St.(corner of Southard St.) Very Unique. This is a gallery store located in a residential neighborhood. We mention it here

because of its uniqueness. It is known for having the best collection of Haitian Art in the country. Located on the corner of Southard and Frances Streets.

OTHER THINGS YOU'LL PROBABLY LOOK FOR

BEAUTY: ISLE STYLE ~ A SALON AND BOUTIQUE: 1204 Simonton St. A one-of-a-kind island style salon offers a full range of beauty and cosmetic services for people all ages and walks of life. . . plus. . . a small boutique of hand selected must-have island clothing and accessories. Staged in a charming comfortable Key West "conch house" that has been renovated into a salon + clothing boutique, owner Oakley Waits has created a truly special setting, fusing her own artistic style of progressive with heavenly-vintage. From the minute you walk in the door, you are made to feel like a friend and invited to lounge on the stylish vintage sofas for a read or sit in the back yard garden to sip a cup of coffee while you wait for your beauty treatments to set. My favorite thing is to pick out some sassy cotton Tees and 'pure and simple skirts' while the hair color blends away my gray. This is the perfect choice whether you are looking to just pamper yourself, or schedule complete beauty services for a wedding, anniversary, or other special occasion.

BIKE RENTALS: GO GREEN! You can get everywhere you need to on a bicycle. Two options within one block of each other are: **The Moped Hospital** (rent bicycles and Mopeds), 601 Truman Ave., 296-3344. **Bicycle Center**, 523 Truman Ave., 294-4556.

CAB: Call Friendly Cab — (305)295-5555 "The friendly cab company." Locally owned and operated 24 hours a day. Don't drink and drive in Key West! Call a cab!

EXERCISE: COFFEE MILL - 916 Pohalski Lane. (Old Town - Just off Truman Ave. on little lane behind the Chevron Station at the corner of Truman and White Streets.) - Dance and exercise studio in charming renovated old "conch house." Drop in classes. **AND - PARADIS HEALTH AND FITNESS: 1706 Roosevelt Blvd.** (New Town) Small gym room with work out equipment. Also studio for exercise and dance classes. Drop in here too.

HEALTH FOOD STORE: SUGAR APPLE: 917 Simonton St. - Locally owned and operated - Key West's oldest, most established, and best selection of homeopathic remedies, vitamins, organic produce, gourmet vegetarian deli, and juice bar. ~~It is the only place in Key West to find all these things in one place.~~

KEY WEST ALOE: 540 Green St. - Locally owned and operated by brilliant entrepreneur Frank Romano (originally from New York). Local legend has it that Frank came to Key West in the 1960's and got bad sunburn. A friend told him to put aloe on it and the results were so amazing that he started the very first factory

in the U.S.A. to manufacture products made from aloe. Our 'hats off' to Frank - you can rely on his products to keep your skin safe and beautiful while you are in paradise!

RAW FOOD CUISINE: Renowned and locally revered Rita Romano, Nutritional Consultant and author of "Dining in the Raw," offers some of the most delicious raw food cuisine you will ever taste. Even if you are not a vegan, this food is a remarkable treat. ~~It is prepared in a home kitchen~~ and is available to teach private lessons where you can learn to use food as medicine. If you are a strict vegetarian and are concerned about finding food you can eat while you are here - you need not worry. Give Rita Romano a call @ (305)294-6644 or send her email to dine_raw@bellsouth.net.

MASSAGE: Key West has many excellent massage therapists. You can choose to hire a therapist for home treatments or visit one of the many spas. Excellent massage therapists can also be scheduled at the resorts. Caribbean Spa at the Pier House (Old Town): One Duval St (305)296-4600; and the Casa Marina Resort (ocean side): 1500 Reynolds (305)296-3535.

PET NEEDS: PAMPERED PET: 2508 North Roosevelt Ave. If you bring your doggie love muffin with you to Key West but he just can't stay at your house, then call Pampered Pet for kennel lodging. If he does stay with you, go here for healthy "non-toxic" pet food and you can take him here for grooming too. They also offer dog/owner training.

CLOTHES AND GIFTS:

ART ATTACK: 606 Duval St. A remarkable little place to find "Peace and Love in Paradise," an original retail vision. Artist - photographer Tony Gregory was one of the very first "hippies" to roll into Key West and set up shop some thirty years ago. Thanks to Tony the now baby boomer "love children" of Key West ~ locals and tourists alike ~ still have a place to go buy our love beads, tie-dyed gear, psychedelic gear, wind chimes, and his famous photographic postcards of Key West. If you are too young to have known era or somehow missed out on it altogether - be sure to stop in.

ASSORTMENT: 514 Fleming St.: A fine assortment of men's clothing for fashion conscious dressers, and unique gift items in an upscale sophisticated boutique setting. Claude Reams is a long-time retailer of men's fine clothing in Key West offering select casual ware, active ware, and swim ware for the discerning client. No time to pack for your Key West trip. . .no problem. You'll find it at Assortment!

BLUE: 718 Caroline St. **WOMENS CLOTHING** - A beautiful selection of fun-and-flirty island lifestyle clothing and accessories for the fashion conscious. Specializing in casual elegance you'll find exactly what you need from fashion tees to cocktail

dresses to beautiful intimate apparel. Beautiful choices for women of all ages, you'll find the outfit you need at Blue. So don't worry if your home base wardrobe is void of tropical clothes - you'll find it here - no problem.

FAST BUCK FREDDIE'S: 129 Duval St. Since 1976 owner Tony Falcone has been created an ever evolving truly unique premier tropical department store you absolutely have to experience! The most imaginative, creative, and witty window displays you will see anywhere! An amazing tropical emporium, for the design conscious shopper, this wonderful store offers everything from fine exuberant clothing, to beautiful gifts, unique house wares, tchotchkes, the finest candy, cards, great gifts for kids, etc., etc., etc.

ISLE STYLE: 1204 Simonton St. Refreshing, fun, and decidedly progressive island boutique in the front and upstairs ~ combined with beauty salon towards the back garden. An artist in her own right, owner Oakley Waits is continually re-designing and re-creating her unique personalized-experiential boutique, and always offers something new and exciting. Casual, elegant, sassy, flirty clothing- from beautiful intimate apparel to colorful island dresses to the most comfortable yoga ~ cum ~ daily ware, plus beautiful accessories and jewelry. My favorite thing is to pick out some sassy cotton Tees and 'pure and simple skirts' or yoga pants while the hair color blends away my gray.

LOCAL COLOR: 276 Margaret St. Established in 1986 by world-cruising sailors who chose Key West to be their permanent home, they decided to meet the local demand for beautiful yet comfortable imported clothing such as Jams World, imported light weight linen, sunglasses, hats, and artistic island jewelry. This popular boutique is a long time favorite of locals and tourists alike. Seasoned success over the years expanded the store to several locations throughout the island. Check them all out at Local Color (Jewelry Stand): 425 Greene Street, and Commotion: 800 Caroline Street., and Lili's On Greene Street: 424 Greene Street.

SHIRLEY CAN'T SURF: 624 Duval St. - The coolest hippest surf shop - most authentic surf and skate board shop you've seen since the 60's in Southern California. All kinds of surf Tees, trunks, suits, towels, shoes, hats, gifts, stickers, plus boards - of course! Go and buy a St. Christopher and give it to your honey! There is stuff in here for the young and young at heart.

FOR THE HOME: KEY ACCENTS: 804 Caroline St. (On the Historic Seaport) If you are crazy about home design like me you probably can't resist buying a Key West gift for your home. Offering a wide array of fine furnishings and decorative accessories, Key Accents is a must stop. If you own a home in Key West be sure to ask about the customized home design and decorator services offered by Patty. Her expertise and professionalism in interior design make the whole experience absolutely carefree for you with simply marvelous results. Trust your slice of island paradise to a local pro!

GALLERIES AND ART STUDIOS:

THE STUDIOS OF KEY WEST: 600 White St. It is said that Key West has more artists and writers per capita than any other place in the U.S. Recently some of our leading creative people and community leaders joined together to create an amazing art center called "The Studios of Key West." Situated on the corner of Southard and White Streets, it is situated in the famous historic wood frame Armory building renowned for its two prominent corner towers. This amazing structure now houses 12 studios for working artists that offers lectures and creative workshops to the community. Art lovers should be sure to check out this unique facility.

ART GALLERIES: Key West has an incredible diversity of art galleries featuring original works of local artists and special collections from around the world. Many of the galleries are scattered along Duval Street and White Street between Truman Ave. and United Streets, but there are several others scattered around the island. Try to visit as many of them as you can. This list is not meant to exclude anyone - some of our favorite haunts include: Gingerbread Square Gallery: 1207 Duval St., Hands On: 1206 Duval St., Island Arts Co-Op: 1128 Duval St., Guild Hall Gallery (co-op gallery and art studio): 614 Duval St., Haitian Art Company: 600 Frances St., Gallery on the Greene: 606 Greene St., Harrison Gallery: 825 White St., Lemonade Stand 227 Petronia St. Glass Reunions: 825 Duval St., Pelican Pool Shop and Casa Antigua: 314 Simonton St.

JEWELRY: Neptune Designs: 301 Duval St. Jay and Carmenza Pfahl have been creating both traditional and imaginative fine jewelry for Key West locals and tourists alike since 1977. Their creations include a variety of meticulously crafted styles and lines of 14 Karat gold and silver jewelry, and mounted reproduction Spanish treasure coins. Jay sets all types of diamonds, gemstones, and pearls, and specializes in custom made jewelry projects and loves to collaborate with his clients to create special fantasy pieces. In addition to jewelry making, Jay is a well known orchid collector and grower. His in-depth knowledge of and appreciation for the orchid has been the inspiration for some amazing artistically fashioned orchid jewelry. If you are thinking about a jewelry purchase be sure to put Neptune Designs on your to-do list.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photography by Tony Gregory: 606 Duval St. If your plans call for a professional photographer, Tony specializes in wedding, celebrity event and portrait photography. For several decades Tony has been photographing Key West and was selected photographer to record visits to Key West by Hillary and Bill Clinton. Tony is also the owner/operator of the artistic gift store ~ Art Attack.

RESORT EXPERIENCE: Pier House: One Duval Street. Key West's first resort built by legendary local David Wolkowsky, has been through many changes over the years but it is still one of the most beautiful places to go for a view of Key West's harbor and enjoy food and drink. An ever changing piece of Key West history, we still enjoy going there for brunch or lunch, and watch the boats go in and out of the

harbor and look at the tarpon in the water off the dock.

SAILING / FISHING/ DIVING/ MOTOR BOATING: We can help you find the kind of sailing you want to do. Options include custom private charters as well as group trips aboard larger yachts. Make an effort to Key West from the water ~ we are, after all, an island destination.

WINE AND SPIRITS

BEST WINE SELECTION: GRAND VIN: 1107 Duval St. - near the corner of Virginia St. - The Best Wine Selection! Go there to stock up! Right next door to "Flamingo Crossing" where you get the best ice cream. Very knowledgeable purveyors offer an impressive selection of wines. Small wine bar located in renovated Victorian house is great fun for wine tasting or drinking a bottle or two. Local's favorite - purveyors are frequently there and wonderful to meet and visit with. Romantic "Casa Blanca" atmosphere.

LIQUOR STORES: OLD TOWN WINE AND SPIRITS: 1029 Truman Ave. - A local's favorite - Good selection of liquor and wines. Adjacent to Teasers Strip Club - (Don't let this scare you - there are separate entrances!); **CONCH REPUBLIC LIQUORS:** 2308 North Roosevelt Ave., - Good selection of liquor and wines - New Town location.

MARINAS

HURRICANE HOLE MARINA: 5130 Overseas Hwy, Stock Island - Just before you get to town - Full Service Marina and water sports destination just at the entrance of Key West. Dockage, boat storage, all water sports. Eat at Hurricane Joe's while you are there.

GARRISON BIGHT MARINA: 711 Eisenhower Drive, Key West. (Old Town) - A full service marina in Old Town Key West offering boat dockage, dry storage, and mechanical and cosmetic services available to visiting boaters.

UNIQUE ISLAND MEMORIALS

(Worth visiting as these are very unique to our island)

KEY WEST HISTORICAL GRAVE YARD: Between Olivia and Angela Streets. Well worth taking the time to visit, this landmark grave yard is historically informative, interesting, and fun to ride your bike or walk through. Look for the tall grave marker that says "I Told You I Was Sick", and be sure to visit the U.S.S. Maine Memorial site. Most grave sites are buried above the ground.

AFRICAN SLAVE CEMETERY: Higgs Beach burial site memorializing 295 Africans who perished on the shores of Key West after being rescued from the slave trade when U.S. Navy boats intercepted Cuban slavers enroute to Havana in 1860.

Cement pillars that are carved with symbols of West African proverbs mark the site where at least nine Africans who died are buried here.

KEY WEST AIDS MEMORIAL: Located on the White Street Pier this memorial is a City of Key West Park and tribute to the people who have died of AIDS and showed their love of the Florida Keys when living, working or visiting here. More than 1,100 names are inscribed on flat granite monuments which are embedded in the walkway approaching White Street Pier at the Atlantic Ocean.

CLINICS AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY

TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTER: 540 Truman Ave - 305-296-4399- 7 Days Walk In. General Medical Care. (Old Town)

KEY WEST URGENT CARE: 1501 Government Road (see from Flagler Ave.) - 305-295-7550 - No appointment necessary. General Medical Care. (New Town)

██████████ - LOWER KEYS MEDICAL CENTER: 5900 College Road, Stock Island. 305-294-5531. Head North like you're leaving Key West. This is our only emergency room in Key West. We have excellent and very dedicated ER doctors and surgeons on staff. You are in good hands. A helicopter is on stand-by for emergency airlifting to Miami in a worst case scenario.

Play safe! Have a great time in Key West!

Staff at Vacation Homes of Key West