

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CRUISE-IN-COMPANY

April 13-20, 2012

CRUISE ACTIVITIES

BOCA GRANDE

When you arrive in Boca Grande or Gasparilla Island you will find a small village. Only 2,000 homes extend over this 7 mile long Gulf of Mexico barrier island. Boca Grande has no high rises, no traffic lights, and the village has a few stop signs, 7 real estate offices, 4 bars, 4 restaurants, 4 churches, 5 clothing stores, 1 grocery store, 1 liquor store, 1 hardware store plus the Gasparilla Inn and Beach Club where we will have our social activities.

Local land transportation

Mass transit on Boca Grande is by golf cart, with many available for rent. Boca Grande was a rail and sea freight hub, and, fishing port. Trains delivered freight from the mainland south to the island's deep water port. Rail operations ended 40-years ago, when the residential and resort communities were developed. The railroad tracks were removed and replaced with a golf cart path, making possible easy and safe island travel.

Marinas & Golf Carts

Boca Grande Marina 941-964-2100

In addition to reserving your slip in advance, the BG Marina [formerly Miller's] rents 16 golf carts for transportation around the island. We recommend golf cart reservations.

Uncle Henry's Marina 941-964-0154

If the Boca Grande Marina is fully reserved, Uncle Henry's at the northern end of the island may be available. They also rent golf carts. If you are staying at the Gasparilla Inn, the Concierge can rent a cart for you.

Services

Food: Hudson's Grocery, 441 Park Ave., 941-964-2621

Liquor: The Temptation Liquor Store, on Park Ave., 941-964-2327

Cash Machine: Englewood Bank, 301 Park Ave., 941-964-9096

Bank: Englewood Bank

Pharmacy: Englewood Pharmacy, 900 Pine St., Englewood, FL. 941-475-3784. It will deliver on Boca Grande when orders are placed early. Prescriptions from out of state doctors need to be faxed.

Chandlery: West Marine in Englewood, FL (about 15 miles north) 941-473-2070

Hardware: The Barnichol, on East Ave., 941-964-2570. The Barnichol carries some boat hardware also.

Lighthouse Museum & Beaches

Although Boca Grande is a small town there is a lot to discover, much like Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. There are several opportunities to visit great beaches, swim, sun bathe and take a long beach walk. The closest is at the Rangelight State Park on Gulf Blvd. at Wheeler Road, about a half mile south of the village. This park has restrooms, showers and picnic pavilions for lunch. Further south on the golf cart path are two more state park beaches (no facilities) and at the south end of the Island is the museum in the Boca Grande Lighthouse, about 3 miles south of the village. The Lighthouse is a part of the Gasparilla Island State Park and there is an extensive beach with restrooms and showers. This is a great place for a beach walk and to watch the boats fishing in the Pass.

Restaurants

For dinner Friday, April 13th, restaurant reservations made a few days in advance are recommended.

Suggested restaurants in the central village are:

The Temptation	941-964-2610
PJ's Seagrille	941-964-0806
Third Street Cafe	941-964-0155
Sisters Ital. Rest.	941-964-2002

The Boca Grande Marina is a golf cart ride from the central village and has two restaurants:

Miller's Dockside and Eagle Grill 941-964-8000.

(Millers is on the lower level, is casual and the Eagle Grill on the upper level, is upscale.)

Uncle Henry's Marina on the north end of the island has nearby in the Boca Grande Resort:

Patrick's Thai Bistro and Sushi 941-855-9158

At the Boca Grande Club, lunch will be offered to NYYC members at 1230 on both Saturday, April 14th, and Sunday, April 15th for \$16 per person. The club is about 3.5 miles north of the Boca Grande Marina, a pleasant golf cart ride, and, directly on the Gulf of Mexico with horizon views and fine food. Dod Fraser and Martin Lyons are our lunch sponsors. To expedite service a limited menu will be offered and charged to your NYYC club account. Wine and spirits will be available by credit card. Lunch is limited to 40 people daily and the club will seat us on its outdoor, shaded deck overlooking the Gulf, weather permitting. The menu choices will be available in advance please sign up with the Sailing Office.

NYYC SW Florida Golf Tournament

If you are registered as a member or guest on the cruise and are a golfer, please participate in our NYYC SwFL Golf Tournament at the Gasparilla Inn Golf Club, a Pete Dye-designed championship course. Renovated in 2004, most of this 18-hole par 72 course is on a small private island immediately adjacent to Gasparilla Island and the Gasparilla Inn overlooking Charlotte Harbor. Please sign up with the Sailing Office.

Tennis

If you are a tennis player, the Gasparilla Inn's Tennis Club has 7 Har-Tru courts waiting for you. Please sign up with the Sailing Office.

Tarpon & Offshore Fishing with Guides

If you are a fisherman, there is great fishing in the shallows in Charlotte Harbor and offshore. Tarpon may be running in the Boca Grande Pass by mid-April which makes for terrific sport. Boca Grande is known as the Tarpon Fishing Capitol of the World. Reserving a fishing guide early is advised. Boca Grande Marina can reserve a guide for you, 941-964-2100.

Boca Grande Seaplane Tours

Boca Grande Seaplane Tours was established 20+ years ago by Mark Futch, who logged more than 17,000 flight hours in seaplanes and is a certified flight instructor. Tours are available for up to three passengers at \$250.00 per person, plus tax, for a 30-minute flight. The Gasparilla Inn's Concierge will provide more information and books seaplane tours. Please contact The Inn's Concierge Desk at 941-964-4580.

Wildlife viewing

If you are an explorer, wildlife is abundant in Charlotte Harbor including dolphin, many birds including white pelicans, and manatee. Grande Tours offers 2 hour tours to wildlife sanctuaries in the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve. Grande Tours will bring their center console outboard to the Boca Grande Marina and pick up passengers. Their tour offers a nice morning or afternoon boat ride for 6 people on either Saturday or Sunday and the USCG licensed captain is an expert on local wildlife and Boca Grande history. The morning tour begins at 10:30 AM and the afternoon tour begins at 2:00 PM. The tour company is reserving their boat for us until April 1st. Groups will have to be put together in advance. Please go to the following site for more information:

<http://www.grandetours.com/KAYAKING-BOAT%20ASSISTED.htm>

Please sign up with the Sailing Office.

Local events and information:

The "Boca Beacon" weekly newspaper lists local events, schedules and has an electronic edition:

<http://www.bocabeacon.com/e-edition>

Religious Services

In Boca Grande village, services are offered on Sunday by the Baptist, Catholic, Episcopal and Methodist churches. Accurate service schedules are in the current Boca Beacon. All other religious services are off island. Nearby in Venice is the Jewish Community synagogue. In Port Charlotte is the Islamic Community of South West Florida mosque.

USEPPA ISLAND

Useppa is a truly private Island Club dedicated to the pure art of relaxation and recreation of our members, owners and guests. Useppa Island is situated within the famous tropical isles of the Southwest coast of Florida. We are only a fifteen minute boat ride from the rigors of the mainland while the world seems a million miles away. Useppa offers a wide variety of activities. While Tarpon fishing is still one of Useppa's prime attractions, guests have always enjoyed an active lifestyle at one of America's most distinguished island addresses. Fabulous Back Bay fishing, international croquet, tennis, beaching, dining and loafing are all part of the time honored tradition of beautiful Useppa.

The Barbara Sumwalt Museum

<http://www.useppa.com/society.html>

Visitors to the museum are provided with an audio tour as they explore the history of Useppa, which began over 10,000 years ago and continues to present day life on this small but very significant island.

Pink Promenade

Through grand archways of massive banyan trees, and amid a profusion of exotic flowers and lush tropical vegetation, the famous Pink Promenade lays along the central ridge of Useppa Island.

Mr. Charles Chapin House

NYYC members have been invited for refreshments at the home of NYYC members Charles and Kay Chapin. Located on the Pink Promenade as you walk in from the marina.

SANIBEL

J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

<http://www.fws.gov/dingdarling/>

The J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is located on the subtropical barrier island of Sanibel in the Gulf of Mexico. The refuge is part of the largest undeveloped mangrove ecosystem in the United States. It is world famous for its spectacular migratory bird populations.

CAPTIVA ISLAND

South Seas Island Resort

239-472-5111

5400 Plantation Road

www.southseas.com

Yachts reserved overnight at South Seas Yacht Harbour Marina have full access to all the facilities of the South Seas Island Resort, a low-rise complex designed like an island village, within 330 acres of wildlife preserve, with 2.5 miles of beaches on the Gulf of Mexico. South Seas, owned by Blackstone Group of New York, recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation of their sports facilities and room accommodations.

South Seas Island Resort's available sports facilities and equipment include:

- **Two main pools overlooking Pine Island Sound**
- **Gulf-front par 3 executive golf course** and access to The Dunes Golf Club, an 18-hole course within a wildlife preserve on Sanibel Island
- **Tennis complex with 19 courts** for day and evening play, a tennis academy & tennis concierge to arrange games
- **Fitness center**
- **Bicycle, golf cart and boat rentals**
- **Water sports including jet skis, parasailing and hydro bikes**
- **Guided kayak tours and nature walks**
- **Fishing charters, surf casting and shore casting and equipment rentals.**

There are four restaurants in the complex with different menus, from fish and steak at the Harbourside Bar & Grill in the marina, to salads, sandwiches, burgers, pizza etc at other restaurants, and, a provisioning store.

South Beach within the South Seas Island Resort allows guests to enjoy the Captiva beach experience with the advantage of resort's attendants, towels and chaise lounges being available.

Within the **pool complex**, cabanas are available for daily rental. The cabanas are equipped with mini-refrigerators stocked with refreshments, 32" cable television with over 600 channels, and wireless internet access. Poolside food and drink service is also available.

The **water sports** South Seas offers includes: Parasail Rides, single and tandem; 30-minute and 1-hour Waverunner Rentals; Guided Waverunner Island Tours (North Captiva and Cayo Costa); Standup Paddleboard Rentals and Lessons; Kayak Rentals, Fishing Equipment Rentals and Frozen Bait

Rental prices vary according to equipment. Reservations are required for the Waverunner island tours and parasailing rides. Other equipment can be rented on the spot. Please call (239) 472-2938 for more information or to make equipment reservations. For the extreme water sports devotee, bundled packages are available at discounted rates, so guests can experience a variety of activities.

Tennis

Pavel Blackwood Tennis Academy at South Seas Island Resort offers 19 courts, for day and evening play (four courts are flood lit for the evening), a Tennis Concierge Service, for anyone who is looking for a partner at their own level, singles or doubles and Weekly Cardio Tennis Clinics to improve endurance..

Golf

South Seas nine-hole executive course was designed by Chip Powell, and is ranked as one of the "Top Five Short Courses." Gulf views from every hole make this course a truly spectacular setting, as well as a challenge to the short game.

Guests of South Seas are also welcome to play at [The Dunes Golf Club](#), an 18-hole championship course within a wildlife preserve, and a 25-minute drive from South Seas on Sanibel Island. Seasonal tee times start at 7:30am. Please call- (239) 472-2535 for reservations.

Bicycling is leisurely way to exercise and explore South Seas while enjoying the natural scenery. Trek bicycle rentals are available from Best Boat Rentals beside the Bayside Marina.

Walking/jogging - Use the buoy-inspired mile markers (tenth of a mile markers) to track your distance while walking or jogging along historic Plantation Road.

Captiva Island Yacht Club

239-472-4133

15903 Captiva Drive Captiva

www.captivaislandyachtclub.com

NYYC members are invited to join members of the Captiva Island Yacht Club for their wine dinner on April 17th. There will be two seatings one at 6:00 PM and the other at 7:30 PM. Please make reservations with the Sailing Office. Dress is collared shirt and pants.

FORT MYERS

Edison/Ford Estates

239-334-7419

www.edisonfordwinterestates.org

A private VIP behind the scenes tour is planned for NYYC members. The tour will start at 3:00 PM and is \$30 per person.

NAPLES

Naples is the crown jewel of Southwest Florida -- nestled on the sun drenched beaches of the Gulf of Mexico. Naples is known for world class shopping, dining and abundant, challenging golf courses. It is also, only steps away from island seclusion or the untamed tropical wilderness of The Everglades.

In addition to using the facilities at Naples Yacht Club for lunches and for dinner at will on April 19th, the restaurants below are nearby. We suggest making reservations a few days/week in advance:

Bleu Provence	(239) 261-3410
Campiello	(239) 435-1166
Chops City Grill	(239) 262-4677
Dock at Crayton Cove	(239) 263-9940
Tommy Bahama	(239) 643-6889
Tony's Off Third	(239) 262-7999

Also on Google SW FL Cruise custom map

Naples Botanical Garden

4820 Bayshore Drive

Naples, FL 34112

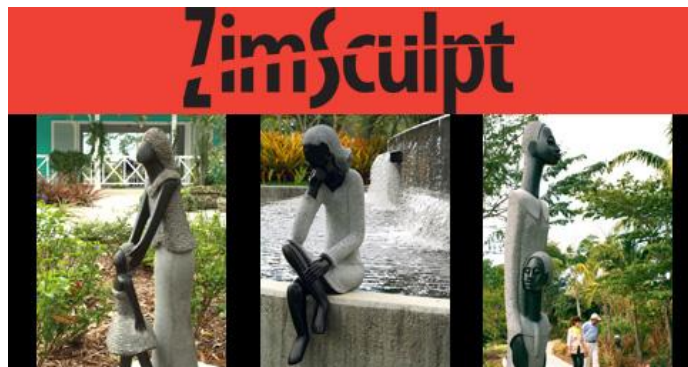
<http://www.naplesgarden.org/>

239-643-7275

Naples Botanical Garden is SE of downtown Naples and near the West Marine store. It is developing tropical gardens planned by designers with plants from around the world, and, has child and community education programs. They have a global rather than regional focus.

From February through April 22 the Naples Botanical Garden is hosting the Florida debut of the acclaimed Zimbabwean stone sculpture exhibit, ZimSculpt, featuring more than 100 stone carvings arranged throughout the landscapes of the Garden. In addition to the sculptures, a Zimbabwean artist is on-site carving in the Garden daily. On Friday morning April 20th we will tour this ZimSculpt exhibit which is part of the regular admission to the gardens.

The Zimbabwean stone sculpture movement began internationally about 60 years ago, but is rooted in ancient African tradition. Frank McEwen, the first Director of the National Art Gallery and previous curator at Musée Rodin in Paris, brought contemporary Zimbabwean sculptures to international attention. They were quickly embraced by Western collectors. Zimbabwean sculptors are now known in the West as some of the top sculptors in the world. All pieces in the exhibit are for sale with a portion of proceeds going to benefit the Naples Botanical Garden. Zimbabwean art will be available for sale in a wide variety of prices and sizes.



Conservancy of Southwest Florida

1450 Merrihue Drive

Naples, Florida 34102

<http://www.conservancy.org/>

239-262-0304

With its local nature preserves, projects in our cruising area for water conservation, the protection of native plants and animals, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida is a partner of the National Audubon Society. CSwF provides local information and education services for the region including the Everglades, Charlotte Harbor, Pine Island Sound, Naples Bay, Keewaydin Island, and Rookery Bay.