South Florida, Keys, Key West



& The Everglades

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Travel Is Fun Tours

919 Tyrone Boulevard (<u>WWW.TIFTOURS.COM</u>) St. Petersburg FL 33710 (727) 347-1600

4 DAYS January 21 - 24, 2025

<u>Includes</u>: 3 night's accommodations at Best Western Plus in Kendall, a fantastic location near many great restaurants & shopping, an airboat ride and Alligator & Wildlife Show in the Everglades <u>plus</u> a visit to the Ranger Station and Welcome Center in the Everglades! A full day of touring the Keys and Key West made easier with the <u>free Duvall Loop bus service</u> in Key West! Touring Zoo Miami and the Gold Coast Railroad Museum.

<u>Day One</u> - What a great way to explore Florida, traveling throughout southern Florida, the Everglades and visiting Key West on a four-day tour! Your adventure begins as we travel along the Tamiami Trail. You'll enjoy this scenic route through authentic old Florida. We'll make a stop at the Ranger Station and Visitor's Center. These are both great resources for in-depth information regarding the Everglades National Park. Another point of interest is the smallest Post Office in the United States, located near Ochopee on US Hwy 41, Zip code 34141. You may want to send a postcard from this unique This afternoon we'll make an interesting stop to include an airboat ride and an alligator/wildlife show. Our airboat ride takes place in the Everglades which is known for its abundant variety of wildlife. There are hundreds of bird species, many of which are on the endangered or threatened list. You'll see a variety of large wading birds, possibly the roseate spoonbill, great blue heron, white ibis and a variety of egrets, as well as the osprey. The Everglades' marine life includes more than 200,000 alligators as well as American Crocodiles. Other wildlife in the Everglades includes the white-tailed deer as well as the endangered and elusive Florida panther. To learn more about and see some of the Everglades' wildlife firsthand, make sure you visit the wildlife show as well as the airboat tour. After our wild adventure, we'll continue on to our hotel for three nights, Best Western Plus Kendall Hotel & Suites in Kendall Florida, near Miami. This hotel provides a comfortable, smoke-free environment and great amenities including a sparkling, outdoor, heated pool, inroom refrigerator, hair dryer, iron and an included **Deluxe, Hot Continental Breakfast Buffet** included each morning.

<u>Day Two</u> – After breakfast our day begins as we depart our hotel and begin the beautifully scenic drive to **Key West!** We will pass through Key Largo, featuring the only <u>underwater</u> State Park. As we travel across the 42 bridges to Key West, enjoy interesting narration of how all these bridges came to be. You'll also hear informative history and be shown some of the construction "secrets" of these bridges. Once we arrive in Key West our drop off point is downtown near the cruise docks, near Flagler Station. There are many things to see and do within walking

distance and it is at the start of the Duvall Loop, home of the famous "Sloppy Joe's" Restaurant and Bar, one of Hemingway's favorite haunts. You may want to try local favorite Fogarty's with great atmosphere and indoor or outdoor seating for lunch or dinner. (on your own). Key West's first attraction, the Aquarium is also nearby (admission charged), originally opened in 1934. Come see the stingrays, sharks, eels and many other species. A convenient and free touring **option** is the **Duvall Loop** buses - "Get There, Have Fun, Get Back". The Duvall Loop has 18 stops which are spread throughout various points of interest in Key West. Another waterfront attraction you may want to experience is a glass-bottom boat ride. (fee applies). Throughout your day of touring Key West, you may want to line up a special restaurant for tonight's dinner. At 7:00 PM your motorcoach will be at the prearranged location for transportation back to our hotel in Kendall for a well-earned rest. Your memories of the Keys and Key West will start to wrap up as you enjoy the gorgeous sunset as we traverse the series of bridges from Key West to Key Largo. This is a real modern wonder crossing open waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Florida Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. We hope that you've enjoyed your spring visit to Key West, the only frost-free city in the United States.

<u>Day Three</u> – After our included, leisurely breakfast we will depart for some great Miami attractions. Our first destination today is **Zoo Miami** followed by a visit to Miami's **Gold Coast Railroad Museum**. **Zoo Miami** is home to more than 2,500 animals representing close to 400 different species. From jaguars in the Amazon and tigers in Asia, to koalas in Australia and crocodiles in The Florida Everglades, a trip to Zoo Miami will transport you around the globe. While here, you will have time to get lunch (on your own) and we will have a tram ride around the entire zoo for an overview of the different areas of the zoo. Then, later this afternoon we will visit the nearby **Gold Coast Railroad Museum** with many historic and interesting Railroad cars on display (some can be entered). Of particular interest, the "Ferdinand Magellan" is here, the Presidential Rail Car used from Roosevelt to Reagan.

<u>Day Four</u> – After another leisurely breakfast, we depart from our hotel and travel back to reality. We will take a different route home, via Alligator Alley through the Everglades and some interesting back roads to enjoy different scenery and hear about different sights. After what remains of our scenic ride, we arrive back in St. Petersburg with our tropical memories of South Florida, the Keys, Key West and the Everglades. Thank you for traveling with Travel Is Fun Tours!

<u>COST</u>: \$729 per person twin, <u>Or</u> \$989 per person single

A deposit of \$100 per person <u>holds your space</u> for this exciting tour, <u>your balance must be paid by December 6, 2024</u>. <u>Any remaining space will continue to be offered as available.</u> Travel protection is available from Travel Insured International, please register, if desired at the link on our website <u>WWW.TIFTOURS.COM</u>

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