



**Tour:** Discovering Florida  
*Miami & The Florida Keys*

**Itinerary:** 8-days / 7-nights (tour can be shortened upon request)

DISCOVERING FLORIDA - MIAMI & THE KEYS					
Day	Morning		Afternoon		Evening
1	Travel to Miami, Florida; transfer to Miami Hotel, check-in		Miami City & Miami Beach Sightseeing		Safety & Orientation Welcome Dinner
2	Biscayne National Park & Ranger Program		Little Havana / Cuban History & Culture Walking Tour		Dinner Museum of Illusions
3	Transfer to Homestead/Key Largo	Everglades Alligator Farm Airboat Ride, Show & Tour	Tropical Fruit Sampling & Fruit Milkshake	Everglades Outpost Wildlife Rescue	Homestead Hotel Check-In Dinner
4	John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park - Beach Time + Kayaking		Ocean Snorkeling with Rainbow Reef		Dinner Free Time
5	Dolphin Master Class, Mammal Care Lab & Interaction		Florida Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center	Coral Reef Restoration Foundation Master Class	Dinner Free Time
6	Transfer to Key West	Key West Conch Train Tour - Hop On/Off			Traditional Cuban Dinner Sunset Celebration at Mallory Square
7	Free Time in Key West	Turtle Hospital Master Class Tour, Marathon Key	Transfer to Miami; hotel check-in		Farewell Dinner
8	Travel home				



As with all sample itineraries, please be advised that this is an ‘example’ of a schedule and that the activities and hotels shown may be variable dependent upon dates, weather, special requests and other factors. Itineraries will be confirmed prior to travel.



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## Day 1

*Dinner on arrival, dependent upon flight times*

Travel to Miami, Florida, arriving in the early afternoon. After boarding your motorcoach your group will be transferred to your Miami hotel. Check in and then get ready to explore Miami! Later today we'll participate in an in-depth Welcome, Safety & Orientation briefing followed by dinner.



**Miami & Miami Beach City Tour** – See the sights of Miami and its famous beaches! Learn about the city's history, visit the famous places, learn about the legends. Your tour guide will cover places such as the Historic Art Deco District, South Beach, MacArthur Causeway, Downtown Miami, the Financial district, Historic Coconut Grove, Coral Gables, The Biltmore Hotel, Venetian Pool, Miracle Mile, Little Havana and more.



**Sample Hotel: Miami Freehand** - Freehand is a collection of hotels that combine the social culture of a hostel with innovative design, award-winning food and beverage, and a community-driven atmosphere. In Miami, groups will lodge in Miami Beach with rooms featuring comfortable bedding, linens and en-suite bathrooms. Resort amenities include a swimming pool, complimentary wi-fi, complimentary iced coffee, complimentary use of bicycles, and a beautiful outdoor garden area. Student rooms sleep up to 8 students in bunk beds.



## Day 2

*Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own*

Rise and shine Miami! We're in for an amazing day, starting with Biscayne National Park!



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**Biscayne National Park** – At Biscayne National Park, you can explore 173,000 acres of aquamarine waters, emerald islands and vibrant coral reefs. Encounter the scenery, wildlife, history and other amazing resources of the park. Meet with a park ranger and catch a boat to Boca Chita Key to explore the lighthouse. Discover Elliott Key, the Dante Fascell Visitor Center, Gallery and Museum, Jones Family Historic District and Lagoon, the Maritime Heritage Trail and more. Welcome to a stunning paradise!



In the afternoon, we'll discover the neighborhood of Little Havana with an awesome walking tour.



**Little Havana / Cuban History & Culture Walking Tour** –

This tour goes beyond the surface and delves into the political, religious and social customs with significant influence and transformation of a major city. You'll tour through one of Miami's oldest neighborhoods where waves of Cuban refugees changed the landscape every decade. This cultural tour winds you through a humble but lively neighborhood, a kaleidoscope of culture, traditional customs, and vivid colors. Amble down Memorial Boulevard for an introduction to the history of Cuban migration and Bay of Pigs. Continue down

famed "Calle 8" to admire original artwork hidden for years, witness golden exiles play and compete in Domino Park, watch cigar rollers follow a decades-old technique to create the finest cigars, sample freshly pressed fruit juice from a local farmer's market, and more.

Tonight we'll have dinner and then we're off for some pretty fun photo ops!

**Museum of Illusions** - Step into the fun-filled place where the mind questions reality and the soul is filled with amazement! The Museum of Illusions comes social media ready with interactive 3D Illusions that will transport you to a world of fantasy and imagination! The 40+ 3D illusions produce eye-popping pics, inspired by cartoons, art, current events, movies, and more. Students can look forward to flying on the magic carpet, walking on the edge of the skyscraper, or even surviving the lava bridge.



**Day 3**

*Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own*

Good morning Florida! We'll check-out of our Miami hotel this morning and head south to the Homestead area, about a 45-minute drive. On arrival, we'll learn all about the famous Florida gators.



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**Everglades Alligator Farm** – Discover the Everglades at South Florida’s oldest alligator farm. Near the entrance of Everglades National Park, the farm contains more than 2,000 alligators. Your visit includes an airboat tour, alligator show, snake show, and an alligator feeding demonstration. On the airboat ride you can step out of our boats, and into the everglades. Airboats travel at high speeds, doing 360-degree spins through the Everglades sawgrass prairies.

Next, we’ll have a stop for an amazing fruit milkshake!

**Robert is Here: Exotic Tropical Fruits** - Bring your wallet because once you test out a few of these, you’ll be sure to want to buy some for the road! Beautiful, luscious tropical fruits that you have probably never seen or experienced before. Over 500 unique types of seasonal tropical fruits; a true fruit paradise! Our host will explain a little about some of the fruits and we’ll get to taste too! A fruit milkshake is also included.



**Everglades Outpost Wildlife Rescue** - The main objective of this organization is to take in hurt and injured wildlife, rehabilitate it, and release it back to the wild. Most of the animals residing at the Everglades Outpost have been confiscated from illegal or abusive situations by Wildlife, Fish and Game Officers, or have been abandoned by their human owners. The rehabilitation facility provides medical care and treatment to the sick and injured. Whenever possible, the animal is released to its natural habitat. The animals that cannot be returned to the wild are placed in suitable homes, or remain here under house care. While here, we will tour the facility and learn about how we can impact this environment.



In the early evening, we’ll check into our Homestead hotel and have some free time. Perhaps a game, a quiz or a talent show?

**Sample Hotel: Hampton Inn & Suites Miami South / Homestead** - The friendly team are delighted to welcome our students! Room amenities include rooms with 2 queen beds, desk and ergonomic chair, free WiFi, 32-inch LCD flat-screen HDTV, coffee maker, fluffy towels and a weekday newspaper. Hotel amenities include a fitness center and outdoor pool, on-property ATM, guest laundry, elevators, business center, boardroom, safety deposit boxes and on-site convenience & snack shop. Students generally sleep in rooms with 4 pupils sharing 2 queen



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beds; staff generally sleep in rooms with 2 staff sharing 2 queen beds. Please ask us about different configurations if needed.



#### **Day 4**

*Breakfast, sandwich lunch & dinner included*

Good morning Florida! This morning we're off to Key Largo for some fun in the sun!

**John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park** – Have a blast at this fantastic state park with beach time, a visitor's center, hiking trails, and an hour of kayak time to explore the mangroves. The first undersea park in the U.S., the park encompasses approximately 70 nautical square miles. While the mangrove swamps and tropical hammocks in the park's upland areas offer visitors a unique experience, it is the coral reefs and their associated marine life that bring most visitors to the park. The visitor center has a 30,000-gallon saltwater aquarium and nature videos are shown in its theater. Wear your bathing suit, bring your snorkel gear, and get ready to get wet. Don't forget to check out the gift shop! Kayak rentals may be single or doubles, based on one hour allocated of paddle time.



This afternoon we're off to Rainbow Reef for a snorkel excursion.

**Rainbow Reef** – Join the team at Rainbow Reef Dive Center and travel out by boat to the amazing Key Largo reefs. Spend time exploring the fabulous aquatic wildlife and stunning scenery as you snorkel your way through picturesque aquatic systems. You'll need to have your own snorkel gear so make sure to pack a mask, snorkel and fins (rental equipment is available if needed).



After our fabulous day in the sun, we'll have dinner locally.



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## Day 5

Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own

Rise and shine Key Largo! Let's learn about dolphins!

**Dolphins Plus Master Class** - Bring your students to this fabulous educational facility to learn about marine mammal anatomy, biology, behavior, intelligence, communication, and conservation. Dolphins Plus is committed to protection of marine mammals worldwide through education, research, experiential learning, and environmental awareness. The Dolphins Plus facility is located on a canal, adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean, thus creating natural seawater homes for their Atlantic bottlenose dolphins and California sea lions. Some topics of study may include dolphin intelligence and communication, marine mammal care, dolphin reproduction and maternity, introduction to marine mammals, dolphin anatomy and physiology, dolphin identification and personalities, behavioral analysis/training game, marine mammal conservation and marine mammal strandings. 3 – 4 hours in length.



*Additional dolphin programs are also available and may be added on at extra cost (advance reservations required). For more information, visit [Dolphins Plus](#). We are happy to book these on your behalf. Please note that no photography is allowed by individuals, however professional photographers are available for group pictures sold through Dolphins Plus.*

After our brilliant morning, we'll grab a quick lunch and then get educated on Florida bird rehabilitation.



**Florida Keys Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center Master Class** - Working to increase awareness of native and migratory bird species as well as their needs, biology, and care, the team hopes that participants develop a greater biological understanding of birds, creating a deeper personal connection with nature. It's no secret that the Florida Keys are known for rare and unique species of birds year-round. This center is situated on the Florida Bay, very close to the Everglades National Park, where almost 400 native and migratory species can be found each year. Facilitated by resident wildlife biologists, students tour the Laura Quinn Wild Bird Sanctuary where they visit the exhibits on the wetlands property.

Finally, to cap off our day, we'll learn a bit about coral reefs and the ongoing struggle to keep them healthy.

**Coral Reef Restoration Foundation** – The Coral Reef Restoration Foundation takes an upbeat look at a downbeat topic - coral reefs. Home to 25% of all marine species, coral reefs protect the coastlines of more than 100 countries, are the backbone of life in the oceans and a critical part of the web of life on our planet. Coral reefs have been around for more than 50 million years, yet they could all be gone by the end of this century. Since the 1970s, the Florida Reef Tract has lost almost 97% of its once-dominant staghorn and elkhorn coral. These species are now critically endangered, taking a huge hit from climate change, ocean acidification, and other pressures. At the Coral Reef Foundation, ground-breaking work is being done with accelerating coral growth in the lab, creating nurseries in the ocean, and replanting back to the reefs.



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Coral Restoration Foundation is the world's largest non-profit marine-conservation organization dedicated to restoring coral reefs to a healthy state, in Florida and globally. Their core mission is to restore coral reefs, to educate others on the importance of our oceans, and to use science to further coral research and coral reef monitoring techniques. *“We work to support the reefs’ natural recovery processes through the large-scale cultivation, out-planting, and monitoring of genetically diverse, reef-building corals. We engage and empower others in the mission to save our planet’s coral reef with education, scientific collaborations, and outreach.”*

After this brilliant day, we'll enjoy dinner locally.

### Day 6

*Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own*

Good morning Florida! This morning we're heading south to discover Key West!

**The Key West Conch Tour Train** - Flagler's railroad arrived in Key West on January 22, 1912, and the Island City was changed forever. The Conch Tour Train is proud to be the legacy of Henry Flagler's engineering miracle. In 1958, the World-Famous Conch Tour Train began its first journey—transporting visitors back to the past, sharing thrilling accounts of pirates and Indians, visionaries and artists, and moguls and politicians. Their engineers showcased the glorious architecture and stunning tropical scenery while sharing amusing accounts of the extraordinary moments in time that reveal why there's no place on earth quite like Key West. Now it's your turn to climb aboard the Conch Train! See the wonder and the magic that exemplify the unique personality of America's Southernmost City while enjoying hop on/off service to see four distinct areas of Key West.



After our day exploring Key West, we'll meet near Mallory Square for a traditional Cuban Dinner and then head outdoors to watch the sun sink into the water.



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**Sunset Celebration at Mallory Square** - Sunset Celebration is a nightly arts festival at Mallory Square Dock. The participants consist of arts and crafts exhibitors and psychics, street performers, food carts, and of course the thousands of tourists from around the world who visit this Key West art show. Each night around two hours before sunset masses of people, both locals and tourists alike, flock to the water's edge to experience a multicultural happening and to watch the sun sink into the Gulf of Mexico.



### **Day 7**

*Breakfast & dinner included; lunch on own*

Good morning Key West! We'll wake up this morning and start heading back up the Keys, stopping in Marathon to learn about turtles and their challenges.



**Turtle Hospital Tour: Rescue, Rehab & Release** - The Turtle Hospital is located on Marathon Key and is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of endangered sea turtles. Groups will be able to sit through a short video presentation and then take a guided tour of the hospital facilities and the sea turtle rehabilitation area. This educational experience lasts approximately 90-minutes and provides a presentation on sea turtles as well as a behind-the-scenes look at the hospital facilities and rehabilitation area. At the end of each program, guests are invited to feed the permanent residents.

After learning everything about turtles and the challenges they face, we'll head back to Miami and check-into our hotel. This evening we'll have our last night on tour and enjoy a local dinner to wrap up our amazing week.

### **Day 8**

*Breakfast included but dependent upon departure time*

It's time to travel home! We're hoping that you are inspired and taking home wonderful memories that will last a lifetime!



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# DISCOVERING FLORIDA

## Miami & the Florida Keys

**Minimum Booking Numbers:**

20 students

**What's Included:**

Roundtrip flights or motorcoach transfers  
7-nights' accommodation: 3-nights Miami, 3-nights Homestead;  
1-night Key West  
Airport transfers and coach transportation to activities  
All breakfasts, 1 lunches, 7 dinners  
Miami City & Miami Beach Tour  
Biscayne National Park & Ranger Program  
Little Havana Cuban History & Culture Walking Tour  
Museum of Illusions  
Everglades Alligator Farm & Airboat Ride  
Robert is Here Tropical Fruit Sampling + Milkshake  
Everglades Outpost Wildlife Rescue  
John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park  
1-hour Kayak Rental per person  
Coral Reef State Park Aquarium & Film  
Boat Snorkel with Rainbow Reef  
Dolphins Plus Educational Master Class & Marine Mammal Care Lab  
Florida Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center  
Coral Reef Restoration Master Class  
Key West Conch Train Tour  
Sunset Celebration at Mallory Square  
Turtle Hospital Master Class Tour  
Personal Tour Director  
24-hour emergency service

**What's Not Included:**

Snorkeling Gear (bring you own mask, snorkel and fins; OR we can add these in for purchase)  
Luggage fees if not included with airline ticketing  
Fully comprehensive insurance (mandatory)  
Transfers to/from home airport  
Lunches plus any meals/snacks/beverages not shown  
Cost of visas, full or collective passports  
Cost of inoculations or medication required for travel  
Additional Sightseeing / Entertainment options  
Hotel incidental deposits & bills – meals, mini-bar items, recreation charges, purchases billed to room, etc.  
Any gratuities – coach drivers, Ambassador, local guides

As always, our staff are always available to you to answer any questions you may have regarding programming. If we may serve you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

