

## **Things to Do Around Fort Myers!**

<http://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/>

<http://www.fortmyers.org/things-to-do-in-fort-myers.html>

### **Barefoot Beach Preserve, Naples**

About: 342 acres of natural, undeveloped barrier island filled with numerous animal species, and where visitors are able to enjoy the park's natural surroundings.

Where: Bonita Springs, FL (~1/2 hr from hotel)

### **Coconut Point Mall**

About: Shopping mall with numerous stores, restaurants, and more.

Where: 23106 Fashion Dr, Estero, FL (~15 minutes from hotel)

### **Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary**

About: A 2.25-mile raised boardwalk (or optional 1 mile shortcut) takes visitors through four distinct environments: a pine upland, a wet prairie, a cypress forest, and a marsh. Self-guided tours available and volunteer naturalists are usually available. Need 2-3 hrs. \$10/adult

Where: northeast of Naples, FL (~1 hr from hotel)

### **Ding Darling Preserve**

About: National Wildlife Refuge is located on the subtropical barrier island of Sanibel. The refuge is part of the largest undeveloped mangrove ecosystem in the United States. It is world famous for its spectacular migratory bird populations.

Where: Sanibel Island, FL (~45 minutes from hotel)

### **ECHO Global Farm**

About: 90-minute tour of a creative working farm, consisting of demonstrations, plants, and techniques useful to farmers and urban gardeners in developing countries. Experience six settings of the Global Farm and taste leaves and berries while you explore rain-forest habitats, visit farm animals, stop at a simulated Haitian school,

witness urban gardening techniques that allow gardens on rooftops and learn all about ECHO's mission of helping the poor help themselves. \$8/adult

Where: North of Fort Myers, FL (~15 minutes from hotel)

### Lee County Manatee Park

About: A non-captive refuge for the Florida Manatee, extensive butterfly garden, and a demonstration landscape for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program. Picnic areas & shelters, fishing pier on the Orange River. Optimum viewing between November and March! \$1 per hour/\$5 per day

Where: Fort Myers, FL (~15 minutes from hotel)

### Lovers Key State Park

About: Two mile long barrier island haven for wildlife, such as manatees, bottlenose dolphins, roseate spoonbills, marsh rabbits, and bald eagles. Shelling, swimming, picnicking, and sunbathing. Black Island has over five miles of multiuse trails for hiking and bicycling.

Where: between Fort Myers Beach and Bonita Beach, FL (~30 minutes from hotel)

### Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium

About: Aquarium, eco boat tours, and education center. Accredited by the AZA and has met rigorous, professional standards for animal management, veterinary care, wildlife conservation and research, education, safety, staffing and more. \$17 per adult.

Where: Sarasota, FL (~1.5 hrs from hotel)

### Naples Zoo

About: Nationally accredited zoo with shaded and cozy paths winding nearly a mile through a historic tropical garden first planted in 1919 and past naturalistic animal habitats. \$19.95/adult.

Where: Naples, FL (~1 hr from hotel)

### Sanibel & Captiva Island

About: Sanibel is a unique barrier island filled with beautiful beaches, cute boutiques, bike and foot paths, and restaurants.

Where: Sanibel and Captiva Islands! (~45 minutes from hotel)

### Time Square on Fort Myers Beach

About: The heart of Estero Island's downtown is full of shops and restaurants, featuring outdoor dining, street performers, and plenty of spots to sit down and relax.

Where: Fort Myers, FL (~45 minutes from hotel)