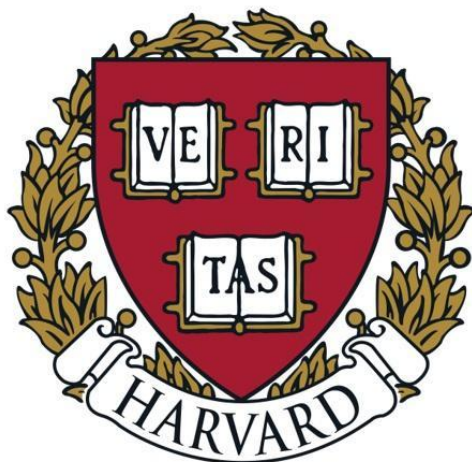




The Harvard Club of Miami

WELCOME TO YOUR CITY

An Alumni Resource Guide to Greater Miami

2026 Edition

Prepared by the Alumni Resources Committee

Harvard Club of Miami

Notice and Disclaimer

This guide is intended as a general orientation and reference for Harvard alumni who are new to the Greater Miami metropolitan area, returning to the region after time elsewhere, or visiting. It is offered in the spirit of welcome and practical hospitality.

The information in this guide is selective and illustrative rather than exhaustive. The Greater Miami region offers far more in the way of cultural, civic, recreational, professional, and educational opportunity than any single document can fairly capture. Inclusion in this guide does not imply that an organization, institution, neighborhood, event, publication, business, school, or resource is preferred over any other not named, and omission carries no negative judgment.

The references contained in this guide do not constitute the endorsement of the Harvard Club of Miami, its officers, its directors, its members, or its committees. Where third-party publications, guides, websites, or organizations are mentioned, those references are provided for the convenience of the reader and do not represent the recommendation, sponsorship, or vetting of those entities by the Harvard Club of Miami.

This guide does not represent or speak for the Harvard Alumni Association or for Harvard University in any capacity. Use of the Harvard name and the Harvard Club of Miami name is consistent with the Club's status as a recognized regional Harvard alumni club, and the views expressed in this guide are those of the Alumni Resources Committee and not those of the University.

Information regarding events, dates, contact details, hours, programs, leadership, fees, transportation, and other practical matters changes regularly. Readers should confirm details directly with the organizations referenced before relying on them. Phone numbers, email addresses, and website addresses are accurate as of publication and may change.

This guide is not legal, tax, financial, medical, real-estate, educational, or relocation advice. Readers should consult qualified professionals for guidance on matters specific to their individual circumstances.

This guide is updated annually. Suggestions, corrections, additions, and feedback are welcomed and may be directed to the Alumni Resources Committee through the contact information provided in the closing pages.

Welcome from the Co-Chairs

Dear fellow alumna or alumnus,

Welcome to Greater Miami. Whether you are arriving for the first time, returning after time elsewhere, or here for a stretch of weeks rather than years, we are glad you have found your way to this corner of the Harvard universe.

Miami is a city that rewards curiosity. New towers and restaurants share blocks with longstanding landmarks. The arts scene is genuinely global. Civic life remains accessible to those who participate consistently. The Harvard community here is warm, active, and unusually willing to make introductions. None of that is obvious from the outside, and none of it announces itself the moment you arrive.

We prepared this guide so you do not have to assemble it yourself. It pulls together what new arrivals tend to need in their first weeks, what returning members rediscover, and what visitors find most useful when they want to spend time in Miami the way the city is best experienced. It also serves as an introduction to the Harvard Club of Miami itself, including how the Club is organized, what it does throughout the year, and how to plug in.

Use this guide as a reference rather than a checklist. Begin with what aligns with your interests and your stage of life, and add from there as your footing in the city deepens. Two suggestions worth taking seriously, drawn from our own experience and that of many other alumni who have made Miami home: choose one or two cultural or civic communities and show up consistently rather than spreading yourself across many, and treat the Club's monthly happy hours and annual signature events as a low-effort way to build a Harvard network in town.

If you would like to talk through your move, your reentry, your visit, or simply where to start, please reach out. As Miami natives ourselves, between us we have lived the better part of a combined eighty years in this region across both the College and the graduate-school cohorts. We are genuinely happy to be of help on questions that are specific to your situation, whether those questions are professional, personal, civic, residential, educational, or anywhere in between. In some cases that means assisting you directly. In other cases it means making the right introductions — within the Harvard alumni community, and outside of it — to the people best positioned to help with what you are working on. Our contact information appears in the closing pages of this guide, and we mean it when we invite you to use it.

With warm regards and a sincere welcome,

Jeff Bartel, AB '88

Co-Chair, Alumni Resources Committee *Immediate Past President*

Daniel Barcia, AB '15, JD '22, MBA '22

Co-Chair, Alumni Resources Committee

Welcome from the President

Dear member of the Harvard community,

On behalf of the Officers, Directors, and members of the Harvard Club of Miami, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Greater Miami and the Club.

Our Club exists to encourage the social, intellectual, and professional interests of its members, to promote the welfare of Harvard University, to assist Miami-area students with admissions and financial aid, and to foster the Harvard spirit in all members of the global Harvard community. We pursue that mission through a year-round calendar of programming that ranges from monthly business networking and signature speaker events to cultural partnerships, sports outings, service projects, family events, and our annual Welcome To Your City reception each fall.

Miami's Harvard community is large and growing, with several thousand alumni in the region across the College and every graduate and professional school. Our programming reflects that breadth. We collaborate frequently with the Harvard Business School Club of South Florida, the Harvard Clubs of Broward and the Palm Beaches, and our peer institutions including the Yale Club of Miami and the Princeton Club of South Florida. We bring Harvard faculty, deans, and the President to Miami when we can. We open our doors to every recent admit and to every alumna or alumnus who finds her or his way to South Florida.

The Alumni Resources Committee, led by Jeff Bartel '88 and Daniel Barcia '15, has prepared this guide to help you find your footing in the region quickly. I am grateful for their work, and I hope you will find it useful.

If we can be of help in any way, please be in touch through the Club Administrator at info@harvardmiami.org. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

With warm regards,

Seth Bour, AB '11

President, Harvard Club of Miami

How to Use This Guide

This guide is organized in ten parts and a closing section of quick-reference materials. The parts are designed to be read independently, depending on what you need at a given moment, and they are sequenced so that a reader who is genuinely new to Miami can follow them in order without losing the thread.

Part One — The Harvard Club of Miami

Background on the Club, its officers and directors, programs and activities, membership and benefits, volunteer and service opportunities, cross-school collaborations, and how to reach us.

Part Two — Welcome to Greater Miami

The shape of the region. A brief history. A neighborhood-by-neighborhood guide oriented to alumni who are deciding where to live or where to spend their time.

Part Three — Practical Transition Guide

Government and civic setup, schools at every level, utilities, healthcare, hurricane preparedness, and transportation. The chapter most useful in the first thirty days.

Part Four — The Greater Miami Calendar

A season-by-season social and cultural calendar written in evergreen form, so it remains accurate from year to year. Major sporting events, festivals, and recurring programs that shape the rhythm of the city.

Part Five — Arts, Culture, and Civic Institutions

Visual arts, performing arts and music, museums and historical institutions, gardens and outdoor venues, books and libraries, film, and the public-programming arms of the region's universities.

Part Six — Sports and Recreation

Professional and college teams, marquee annual sporting events, and recreation including beaches, boating, golf, tennis, cycling, diving, and day trips.

Part Seven — Civic and Business Engagement

Economic-development organizations, civic and philanthropic institutions, and pathways into local government and community boards.

Part Eight — News and Information

A curated stack of newspapers, business sources, public radio, newsletters, and podcasts for staying oriented in Miami without overinvesting attention.

Part Nine — Landmarks and Historical Context

An expanded set of landmarks that ground the region's story, from the Tequesta presence at the Miami Circle through the Cuban-exile heritage of the Freedom Tower and the civil-rights history of Historic Virginia Key Beach Park.

Part Ten — Harvard in Miami

Connections between Harvard and Miami across architecture, civic life, scholarship, and partnerships with local institutions, including a directional pointer to the Harvard alumni directory for those wishing to find specific alumni.

Closing pages

A Quick-Reference Directory of phone numbers, websites, and emergency contacts; an index of resources and links organized by section; the contact card for the Alumni Resources Committee Co-Chairs; and a closing acknowledgment.

Table of Contents

The contents below are auto-generated from the headings in this document. To refresh after edits, right-click the table and choose “Update Field.”

Notice and Disclaimer.....	2
Welcome from the Co-Chairs.....	3
Welcome from the President.....	4
How to Use This Guide.....	5
Part One — The Harvard Club of Miami.....	12
About the Club.....	12
Officers and Directors.....	12
Programs and Activities.....	13
Networking.....	14
Speaker and Faculty Programming.....	14
Cultural Partnerships.....	14
Sports Outings.....	14
Service and Community.....	14
Schools, Scholarships, and Early Applicant Identification.....	15
Family and Young Professional Programming.....	15
Welcome To Your City.....	15
Membership.....	15
Member Benefits.....	15
How to Join.....	16
Cross-School Collaboration.....	16
Contact Information.....	16
Connecting With Harvard.....	17
Part Two — Welcome to Greater Miami.....	18
The Region at a Glance.....	18
A Brief History.....	18
Neighborhood Guide.....	19
Downtown Miami.....	19
Brickell.....	19
Edgewater and the Arts District.....	20
Wynwood.....	20
Miami Design District.....	20
Little Havana.....	20
Little Haiti.....	20
Coconut Grove.....	20
Coral Gables.....	21

Key Biscayne.....	21
South Beach (Miami Beach south of Dade Boulevard).....	21
Mid-Beach.....	21
North Beach, Surfside, and Bal Harbour.....	21
Aventura.....	21
Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, and Cutler Bay.....	22
Doral.....	22
North Miami and North Miami Beach.....	22
Beyond Miami-Dade.....	22
Part Three — Practical Transition Guide.....	23
Government and Civic Setup.....	23
Florida Driver's License and Vehicle Registration.....	23
Voter Registration.....	23
Homestead Exemption.....	23
Property Taxes.....	24
Florida Tax Structure.....	24
Other Civic Matters.....	24
Schools.....	24
Public Schools.....	24
Independent and Religious Schools.....	25
Higher Education.....	25
Utilities and Services.....	26
Electricity.....	26
Water and Sewer.....	26
Internet, Cable, and Telephone.....	26
Trash, Recycling, and Bulk.....	26
Healthcare.....	26
Hurricane Preparedness.....	27
Stay Informed.....	27
The Kit.....	27
The Plan.....	28
Property Preparation.....	28
After the Storm.....	28
Transportation.....	28
SunPass.....	28
Metrorail and Metromover.....	28
Trolleys.....	29
Brightline.....	29
Tri-Rail.....	29
Airports.....	29
Ride Share and Car Rental.....	29

Boating.....	29
Part Four — The Greater Miami Calendar.....	30
Winter.....	30
January.....	30
February.....	30
Spring.....	31
March.....	31
April.....	31
May.....	32
Summer.....	32
June.....	32
July and August.....	32
Fall.....	32
September.....	32
October.....	33
November.....	33
December.....	33
Recurring Programs Worth Knowing.....	33
Part Five — Arts, Culture, and Civic Institutions.....	35
Visual Arts.....	35
Pérez Art Museum Miami.....	35
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami.....	35
The Bass.....	35
Other Visual-Arts Institutions.....	36
Performing Arts and Music.....	36
Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts.....	36
New World Symphony.....	36
Florida Grand Opera.....	37
Miami City Ballet.....	37
Seraphic Fire.....	37
Other Performing-Arts Venues and Companies.....	37
Museums and Historical Institutions.....	37
Botanical, Outdoor, and Environmental Institutions.....	38
Libraries and Books.....	39
Film.....	39
Higher Education and Public Programming.....	39
For Going Deeper.....	40
Part Six — Sports and Recreation.....	41
Professional Teams.....	41
College Sports.....	41
Marquee Annual Sporting Events.....	41

Recreation.....	42
Beaches.....	42
Boating.....	42
Fishing.....	42
Golf.....	42
Tennis.....	43
Cycling and Running.....	43
Diving and Snorkeling.....	43
Day Trips and Weekend Trips.....	43
Part Seven — Civic and Business Engagement.....	44
Economic Development and Business Networks.....	44
Civic and Philanthropic Engagement.....	45
Government and Civic Life.....	46
Part Eight — News and Information.....	47
Daily and Weekly Newspapers.....	47
Business and Specialist Sources.....	47
Public Radio and Broadcast.....	48
Newsletters and Daily Briefings.....	48
Podcasts and Audio.....	48
Visitor and Destination Resources.....	48
Part Nine — Landmarks and Historical Context.....	49
Indigenous and Pre-Twentieth-Century Foundations.....	49
The Miami Circle at Brickell Point.....	49
Cape Florida Lighthouse.....	50
The Barnacle Historic State Park.....	50
The First Coconut Grove School.....	50
The Pioneer Era and the Founding of Modern Miami.....	50
The Deering Estate.....	50
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens.....	51
Coral Gables Merrick House.....	51
Plymouth Congregational Church.....	51
The 1920s Boom and the Mediterranean Idiom.....	51
The Freedom Tower.....	51
The Biltmore Hotel.....	52
The Olympia Theater.....	52
The Venetian Pool.....	52
The Coral Gables City Hall.....	52
The Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ.....	52
The Dade County Courthouse.....	52
The Hialeah Park Race Track.....	52
The Alfred I. duPont Building.....	53

Art Deco, Pre-War Miami Beach, and the Mid-Century.....	53
The Miami Beach Architectural District (Art Deco Historic District).....	53
MiMo Historic District.....	53
The Bacardi Complex.....	53
The Coconut Grove Playhouse.....	53
Civil Rights, Migration, and the Modern Miami.....	54
Historic Virginia Key Beach Park.....	54
D.A. Dorsey House.....	54
The Marjory Stoneman Douglas House.....	54
Bayfront Distinction and the Improvised City.....	54
Stiltsville.....	54
The Venetian Causeway.....	55
The Ancient Spanish Monastery.....	55
The William Jennings Bryan House.....	55
Coral Castle.....	55
The Sunshine State Arch.....	55
The HALF MOON Shipwreck.....	55
Part Ten — Harvard in Miami.....	56
Architectural and Civic Lineage.....	56
Universities and Scholarly Partnerships.....	56
Civic and Philanthropic Leadership.....	56
Finding Specific Alumni.....	57
Continuing the Connection.....	57
Quick-Reference Directory.....	58
Index of Resources.....	61
Part One — The Harvard Club of Miami.....	61
Part Three — Practical Transition.....	61
Parts Four through Six — Calendar, Culture, Sports.....	62
Part Seven — Civic and Business.....	63
Part Eight — News and Information.....	63
Acknowledgments.....	64
Alumni Resources Committee.....	65
A Final Note.....	66

Part One — The Harvard Club of Miami

About the Club

The Harvard Club of Miami is a recognized regional alumni club of Harvard University. Its membership is open to all graduates of Harvard University, both undergraduate and graduate schools, and to parents of current or former undergraduate students. Today the Club serves a Harvard community of nearly five thousand alumni and Harvard friends across Miami-Dade County and the broader South Florida region.

The Club's mission, as set forth on its website, is *“to encourage the social, intellectual and professional interests of its members, to promote the welfare of Harvard University, to assist Miami-area students with admissions and financial aid, and to foster the Harvard spirit in all members of the global Harvard community.”* That mission is pursued through a year-round program of social, educational, cultural, professional, and service-oriented activities.

The Club operates within the broader Harvard Alumni Association ecosystem, which connects more than four hundred thousand Harvard alumni worldwide through a network of regional clubs and shared-interest groups. The Harvard Club of Miami is one of approximately two hundred such clubs and works closely with peer regional clubs in Broward County and the Palm Beaches to coordinate programming across South Florida.

The Club is led by an elected slate of Officers and a board of Directors who serve on a volunteer basis. A professional Club Administrator handles day-to-day operations. The Club is supported by member dues, sponsorships, and ticketed events. It is a private organization, and its programming is open to members and their guests. Selected programs are open to the broader Harvard community as designated.

The Club's website, hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu, is the canonical source for events, registration, member directory access, and committee work. Members access the website using their HarvardKey credentials; non-alumni members and guests register through a separate path on the same site.

Officers and Directors

The Club's Officers and Directors are elected by the membership and serve in a volunteer capacity. The current roster, as published on the Club's website, is set forth below. Committee leads are noted where applicable.

Officers

Name	Role
Seth Bour, AB 2011	President

Name	Role
Jeffrey Bartel, AB 1988	Immediate Past President
Jeff Crockett, AB 1978	Vice President (and a Past Club President)
Egerton “Edge” Bullock, MBA 1986	Treasurer
Jason Wong, AB 2010	Secretary

Directors

Name	Committee or Portfolio
Daniel Barcia, AB 2015, JD 2022, MBA 2022	Co-Chair, Alumni Resources Committee
Dan Bucevski, CSS 2003	Member Services
Lourdes Gomez, AB 1995, EDM 1999	Schools and Scholarships
Marilyn Holifield, JD 1972	Community Service
Aramis Perez, AB 2017	
Zach Rosenthal, AB 2009, JD 2012	Young Professionals
Keith Thurein, ALM 2024	
Judith Rood Traum, AB 1962	Student Recruitment (and a Past Club President)

All Officer and Director inquiries should be directed to the Club Administrator at info@harvardmiami.org or by telephone at (305) 819-8383. The Club Administrator routes communications to the appropriate Officer, Director, or committee.

Programs and Activities

The Harvard Club of Miami offers a year-round calendar of programming that draws on the breadth of the Harvard community in South Florida. Most programs are open to all members and their guests. Some, such as Schools Committee work and certain Harvard Alumni Association meetings, are open to specific volunteers. The Club's programming is organized informally around the eight pillars described below.

Networking

The Harvard Miami Happy Hour is the Club's most consistent networking program, held monthly at a recurring host venue in Coconut Grove. The format is intentionally low-friction, allowing members and prospective members to drop in for an hour or stay for the evening. The annual Global Networking Night, held each March in concert with the Harvard Alumni Association's worldwide observance, is the Club's largest networking event and frequently draws hundreds of alumni, often combined with a members-only pre-event reception.

Speaker and Faculty Programming

The Club regularly hosts visiting Harvard faculty, deans, and senior University leadership. Recent programming has included evenings with the President of Harvard, the Dean of the T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the 300th Anniversary University Professor at Harvard Law School, the Harvard Business School lecturer Mark Roberge speaking on artificial-intelligence startups, Professor Willy Shih on global supply chains, and conversations with Harvard alumni authors such as Susan Dominus and Brad Meltzer in dialogue with local Harvard alumni. Many of these programs are co-presented with the University of Miami, the HBS Club of South Florida, or the regional Harvard Clubs.

Cultural Partnerships

The Club partners with several of Miami's principal cultural institutions to make their programming accessible to alumni at preferred rates. Recent partnerships include the New World Symphony at the New World Center on Miami Beach, Seraphic Fire, and concerts at The Citadel and other venues. Cultural programming is curated to reflect the genuine breadth of taste in the membership, from classical and choral programs to contemporary and electronic showcases.

Sports Outings

The Club hosts an annual watch party for The Game (Harvard versus Yale football), a Marlins outing each summer, Miami Heat group nights during the NBA season, the Miami Open Alumni Night each spring, and seasonal tailgates when the Harvard football team plays in Florida. The Club also supports Harvard Athletics philanthropy, including the annual 3.2 for Ben Abercrombie 5K to benefit the Harvard football alum injured in 2017.

Service and Community

The Club's signature service program is a monthly evening at **Chapman Partnership for the Homeless**, held jointly with the Princeton Club of South Florida and the Yale Club of Miami. The Club also participates in the broader **Harvard Serves** initiative, supports the **Harvard Prize Books** program at local high schools, and engages in periodic community-service partnerships with local nonprofits.

Schools, Scholarships, and Early Applicant Identification

The Schools and Scholarships Committee is the Club's link to Harvard College admissions. Members serve as alumni interviewers, attend high-school college fairs, support the Harvard Prize Books program, and host the annual New Admit Send-Off Picnic each summer for incoming Harvard students from the Miami area and their families. Inquiries about volunteer opportunities with the committee may be directed to the Club Administrator. Interviewers are not part of Harvard College admissions decisions and conduct their volunteer work as assigned by the local Schools and Scholarships Committee chair and co-chairs as applicable.

Family and Young Professional Programming

The Club designs a portion of its calendar specifically for younger alumni and for families. Recent young-professional programming has included evenings at Faena Hotel, an introduction-to-DJing event, a stylish gathering at Dua Lounge in Brickell, and Sip and Swing at Puttery in Wynwood. Family programming has included a private sea-turtle hatchling release, the New Admit Send-Off Picnic, and family-friendly outings to professional sports.

Welcome To Your City

The Club's annual **Welcome To Your City** reception is held each fall and is the Club's marquee event for new arrivals to the region. It is offered as part of the Harvard Alumni Association's worldwide Welcome To Your City initiative, which welcomes recent graduates to their new cities each fall in dozens of regions. Locations have included the Rosa Sky Rooftop and other signature venues. This guide is the printed companion to that event.

Membership

Membership in the Harvard Club of Miami is open to all alumni of Harvard College and any of the graduate and professional schools, to current Harvard students, and to parents of current and former Harvard undergraduates. Membership year runs annually and may be initiated or renewed online through the Club's website.

Member Benefits

Member benefits, as set forth on the Club's website, include the following:

- Access and discounts to the Club's full slate of programs, including “but for Harvard” experiences with cultural and sports partners.
- Exclusive business and networking opportunities, including the monthly Harvard Miami Happy Hour and the annual Global Networking Night.
- Discounts on certain Harvard publications, including the Harvard Business Review and other Harvard Business School publications, Harvard Health, and publications from the Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Law School, and Harvard Medical School.

- Discounts on certain merchandise at The Coop, the official Harvard bookstore.
- Reciprocal access to the Harvard Club of New York City for room reservations, when arranged through the Harvard Club of Miami and limited to once per year. Overnight accommodations must be booked well in advance.
- Opportunities to give back to the local community alongside fellow alumni through the “Harvard Serves” portfolio.
- Engagement with local Harvard prospects through alumni interviewing and through the Harvard Prize Books program at area high schools.

How to Join

Membership applications are completed online at the Club's website. Alumni log in using their HarvardKey credentials. Parents and other eligible non-alumni members register through the non-alumni guest path on the website. Payment is accepted by credit card online; check or money-order applications may be downloaded from the website and mailed to the Club Administrator.

Cross-School Collaboration

The Greater Miami area hosts a vibrant Ivy and peer-school alumni community. The Harvard Club of Miami collaborates frequently with neighboring clubs and shared-interest groups. Members may wish to be aware of the following peer organizations, several of which co-host programming with the Harvard Club of Miami throughout the year.

- **Harvard Business School Club of South Florida** — the regional HBS alumni club, with more than 1,700 alumni across Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties, hosting frequent programming and the Harvard Alumni Angels of South Florida investment group.
- **Harvard Club of Broward County** — the regional Harvard alumni club covering Broward, with which the Harvard Club of Miami often co-presents events.
- **Harvard Club of the Palm Beaches** — the regional Harvard alumni club covering Palm Beach County, also a regular co-host on shared programming.
- **Yale Club of Miami and Princeton Club of South Florida** — longstanding service partners on the monthly Chapman Partnership for the Homeless evenings and frequent collaborators on cross-school programming.
- **MIT Club of South Florida** — a regular partner on entrepreneurship and technology programming.
- **Cornell Club of Miami, Penn Club of South Florida, Brown Club of South Florida, Columbia Club of South Florida, and Dartmouth Club of South Florida** — peer Ivy alumni clubs with which the Harvard Club of Miami occasionally collaborates.

Contact Information

The Club Administrator is the central point of contact for all Club-related inquiries, including membership questions, event registration, committee referrals, and Officer and Director communications.

Telephone	(305) 819-8383
Email	info@harvardmiami.org
Website	hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu
Mailing Address	Harvard Club of Miami, c/o Club Administrator, PO Box 466, Hoschton, GA 30548

Inquiries specifically related to this guide, the Welcome To Your City program, or alumni resources for new arrivals, returning members, and visitors should be directed to the Co-Chairs of the Alumni Resources Committee whose contact information appears in the closing pages.

Connecting With Harvard

Beyond the Club, members may wish to be aware of the following Harvard resources and channels.

- **Harvard Alumni Association** (alumni.harvard.edu) — the global alumni body, including reunion registration, programming, online learning, and the worldwide alumni directory.
- **Harvard Online Learning** (online-learning.harvard.edu/alumni) — alumni access to a wide range of online courses and programs.
- **The Harvard Gazette** (news.harvard.edu/gazette) — the University's official news source.
- **Harvard Magazine** (harvardmagazine.com) — the editorially independent alumni magazine.
- **The Harvard Crimson** (thecrimson.com) — the daily student newspaper.
- **The Harvard Coop** (store.thecoop.com) — the University's official bookstore and merchandise retailer.
- **HAA on Facebook, LinkedIn, and X** — official Harvard Alumni Association social channels.

Part Two — Welcome to Greater Miami

The Region at a Glance

Greater Miami is the third-most-populous metropolitan area in the southeastern United States, anchored by the City of Miami at the mouth of Biscayne Bay. The region is conventionally defined as the three counties of South Florida: Miami-Dade County, Broward County immediately to the north, and Palm Beach County north of that. The full tri-county area is home to roughly six million people and is the second-largest metropolitan economy in the southeastern United States.

Within Miami-Dade County alone there are more than thirty incorporated municipalities, including the City of Miami, Miami Beach, Coral Gables, Coconut Grove (a neighborhood within the City of Miami), Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, South Miami, Aventura, Sunny Isles Beach, Surfside, Bal Harbour, North Miami, North Miami Beach, Doral, Hialeah, Homestead, and others. Each has its own municipal government, code, and culture, and where you choose to live or work shapes daily life materially.

Geographically, Miami sits on a low coastal ridge between Biscayne Bay to the east and the Everglades to the west. The region is hot and humid for most of the year, with a defined dry season roughly from November through April and a wet season the remaining months. Hurricane season is officially June 1 through November 30 and is treated seriously by every long-time resident.

The economy is increasingly diversified. Miami's longstanding strengths in tourism, hospitality, international trade, banking, and Latin-American gateway services have been joined in recent years by significant growth in technology, financial services, asset management, professional services, life sciences, and creative industries. Miami's role as a hemispheric crossroads remains its single most distinctive economic feature: the city operates as the de facto capital of Latin-American business in the United States and as the principal U.S. gateway to the Caribbean.

A Brief History

Miami's recorded history begins long before the modern skyline. The region was home to the Tequesta and other Indigenous communities whose presence shaped early trade, settlement, and ceremonial life along the Miami River and Biscayne Bay. The Miami Circle at Brickell Point, discovered in 1998 and now a National Historic Landmark, is the most visible surviving evidence of that civilization in the urban core.

Spanish rule in the broader Florida territory left place names and coastal navigation routes. The nineteenth century brought conflict, displacement, the Seminole Wars, and a shift toward American control in South Florida. Pioneering settlement in the area we now call Miami clustered along Biscayne Bay in the second half of the nineteenth century, with farming communities at Cutler, Coconut Grove, and the mouth of the Miami River.

Modern Miami took form in the late 1890s when Henry Flagler's Florida East Coast Railway reached Biscayne Bay in 1896 and the city formally incorporated that same year. The early twentieth century brought rapid growth, ambitious city planning, and a built environment that mixed Mediterranean and Caribbean influences with American tourism. The 1920s land boom and the catastrophic 1926 Miami hurricane demonstrated both the city's appetite for reinvention and its exposure to natural risk. The Coral Gables of George Merrick, the Miami Beach of Carl Fisher, and the Vizcaya of James Deering all date from this era.

After World War II, Miami expanded through aviation, port activity, suburban development, and the rise of tourism. Since 1959, Cuban exile leadership and broader migration from the Caribbean and Latin America have shaped Miami's civic life, economy, and culture more fundamentally than any other single force. Today the metropolitan area is more than two-thirds Hispanic or Latino by ancestry, with sizeable communities tracing their heritage to Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and Haiti, among many others.

Today Miami functions as a hemispheric crossroads for finance, trade, art, technology, and entrepreneurship, with a distinct civic identity that reflects both continuity and constant change. The defining themes of Miami's history — water, weather, migration, reinvention, and ambition — remain the defining themes of Miami today.

Neighborhood Guide

Miami is a city of neighborhoods, and where you choose to live or work materially shapes how Miami feels day-to-day. The brief profiles below are oriented toward alumni making placement decisions in the region. They are descriptive rather than prescriptive, and they emphasize character and orientation rather than current real-estate prices, which fluctuate.

Downtown Miami

Downtown Miami boasts the third-tallest skyline in the US, only behind New York and Chicago, with several skyscrapers that are the tallest buildings south of New York. The civic and financial core of the City of Miami, anchored by Bayfront Park, the Miami River, the Pérez Art Museum Miami, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, the Frost Museum of Science, and the Freedom Tower. Downtown is dense, vertical, and increasingly residential. Public transportation is at its strongest here, with all Metrorail and Metromover lines converging on the area. Excellent for alumni who want to live near work, walk to civic events, and prioritize public-transit access.

Brickell

Miami's banking and financial district, immediately south of the Miami River from Downtown. Dense, walkable, condominium-heavy, and increasingly mixed-use. Brickell City Centre, Mary Brickell Village, and the Brickell Avenue corridor anchor daily life. Strong restaurant and nightlife density. Well-served by

Metromover and Brightline. Particularly popular with younger professionals and recently relocated finance and technology alumni.

Edgewater and the Arts District

North of Downtown along Biscayne Bay, Edgewater and Wynwood-adjacent areas have become some of the fastest-growing residential corridors in the city. Margaret Pace Park is the neighborhood's signature green space. Walkable to Wynwood, the Design District, and the Arsht Center.

Wynwood

Miami's principal arts and creative-industry neighborhood, transformed since the early 2010s by the Wynwood Walls and a generation of gallerists, restaurateurs, and bar operators. Active by day and dense by night. Wynwood Pride and the monthly Wynwood Art Walk anchor the neighborhood calendar.

Miami Design District

Immediately north of Wynwood, the Design District is the city's luxury-retail and contemporary-design quarter, with major fashion houses, design showrooms, the Institute of Contemporary Art, and the Locust Projects nonprofit. Walkable, polished, and event-rich during Miami Art Week.

Little Havana

The cultural and historical anchor of Cuban-American Miami, centered on Calle Ocho (Southwest Eighth Street) west of Brickell. Domino Park, the Tower Theater, the Cuban Memorial Boulevard, the annual Calle Ocho Festival, and Viernes Culturales are signature presences. An essential stop for any newcomer trying to understand Miami's civic identity.

Little Haiti

North of the Design District, Little Haiti is the heart of Miami's Haitian-American community, centered on the Little Haiti Cultural Complex and Caribbean Marketplace. The neighborhood has a rich live-music tradition and an active arts presence.

Coconut Grove

Miami's oldest continuously settled neighborhood and one of its most beloved. Walkable, lush, bayfront, and small-town in feel despite its location within the City of Miami. The Barnacle Historic State Park, the Kampong, Vizcaya, the Coconut Grove Playhouse, the Sunday Coconut Grove Farmers Market, the Coconut Grove Arts Festival in February, and the King Mango Strut. Excellent for alumni with families, for those who want walkable village life within the city, and for visitors looking for a less commercial Miami experience.

Coral Gables

George Merrick's planned "City Beautiful," incorporated in 1925 and designed in the Mediterranean Revival idiom. Tree-canopied, civic-minded, and home to the University of Miami, the Biltmore Hotel, the Venetian Pool, Books and Books, and a substantial concentration of consular, banking, and law-firm activity. Coral Gables Magazine is the local publication of record. The city operates its own free trolley network. Particularly popular with established professionals, families, and alumni seeking a more residential pace within easy reach of the Miami core.

Key Biscayne

An island municipality south of Miami Beach, connected to the mainland by the Rickenbacker Causeway. Compact, family-oriented, and bracketed by Crandon Park to the north and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park to the south. Strong public schools, an active boating and tennis culture, and proximity to the Miami Open. Quieter than the mainland and distinctive.

South Beach (Miami Beach south of Dade Boulevard)

The most internationally known stretch of Miami, organized around Ocean Drive, Collins Avenue, Washington Avenue, Lincoln Road, the Art Deco Historic District, the Bass Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, the Holocaust Memorial of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, the New World Center, the Miami Beach Convention Center, and the southern beaches. Dense, walkable, and event-driven, particularly during Art Basel, the South Beach Wine and Food Festival, the Miami International Boat Show, the Winter Party Festival, and Pride. Excellent for visitors and for alumni who want an urban, walkable beach experience.

Mid-Beach

Miami Beach between approximately Twenty-Third Street and Sixty-Fifth Street, including the historic Faena District around Thirty-Second Street and the longstanding hotel corridor along Collins. More residential than South Beach, with the Faena Forum, the Eden Roc, the Fontainebleau, and the Saxony Bar at the Faena Hotel as signature presences.

North Beach, Surfside, and Bal Harbour

North of about Sixty-Fifth Street the beach takes on a quieter, more residential character. Surfside is a small low-rise municipality with strong family appeal. Bal Harbour is best known for Bal Harbour Shops, one of the country's leading luxury shopping destinations.

Aventura

A municipality at the northeastern corner of Miami-Dade County, anchored by Aventura Mall, the Turnberry Resort, and the Aventura Brightline station. Strong residential community, particularly popular with families and with alumni who travel frequently and value Brightline access to Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, and Orlando.

Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, and Cutler Bay

Family-oriented suburban municipalities south of Coral Gables and South Miami. Strong public and independent schools, larger lots, parks, and access to the Deering Estate, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, and the Old Cutler Trail. Particularly popular with alumni raising families.

Doral

West of Miami International Airport, anchored by Trump National Doral and a growing residential and corporate community, with strong Latin-American and especially Venezuelan demographic presence. Major international companies anchor the area's business community.

North Miami and North Miami Beach

North of Downtown and immediately south of Aventura. North Miami is home to the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (MOCA) and to the Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus. North Miami Beach is known for the Ancient Spanish Monastery, one of the most unusual historic buildings in the United States.

Beyond Miami-Dade

Many alumni live in Greater Miami while spending significant time in Broward County (Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Hallandale Beach, Davie, Plantation, Pembroke Pines, Weston) and Palm Beach County (Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, Jupiter). The Brightline rail system, the Tri-Rail commuter system, and Interstate 95 connect the three counties. Both the Harvard Club of Broward and the Harvard Club of the Palm Beaches host programming for alumni in those counties.

Part Three — Practical Transition Guide

This part is intended for alumni who are moving to Greater Miami, returning after time elsewhere, or settling in for a longer stay. It addresses the practical setup tasks that tend to occupy the first thirty to sixty days, with pointers to the official resources where current details and forms are maintained.

Government and Civic Setup

Florida Driver's License and Vehicle Registration

New Florida residents are required to obtain a Florida driver's license within thirty days of establishing residency and to title and register motor vehicles within ten days of establishing residency or accepting employment in Florida. Driver licensing in Miami-Dade is administered through the Miami-Dade Tax Collector's offices in coordination with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Appointments are strongly recommended and may be booked at miamidade.gov/taxcollector or flhsmv.gov.

Required documentation typically includes proof of identity (passport or birth certificate), proof of Social Security number, and two proofs of Florida residence dated within sixty days. Out-of-state license holders may transfer their license without the road test in most cases.

Voter Registration

Florida voter registration is administered through the Miami-Dade County Department of Elections. Registration is available online for residents with a Florida driver's license or state identification card and by mail or in person otherwise. The deadline to register or change party affiliation before an election is twenty-nine days prior. See miamidade.gov/elections.

Homestead Exemption

Florida's Homestead Exemption is among the most consequential financial features of Florida residency. Permanent Florida residents who own and occupy their primary residence as of January 1 of a given tax year are eligible to apply for an exemption that reduces the assessed value of the property for purposes of ad valorem taxation, with additional exemptions for seniors, veterans, and certain other categories. Florida law also caps annual increases in assessed value of homesteaded property under the Save Our Homes provision. Applications are filed with the Miami-Dade County Property Appraiser's Office (miamidade.gov/pa) and must be received by March 1 of the year for which the exemption is sought. See https://floridarevenue.com/property/Pages/Taxpayers_Exemptions.aspx.

Property Taxes

Real-property taxes in Miami-Dade County are assessed by the Property Appraiser's Office and collected by the Miami-Dade Tax Collector. Tax bills are mailed in November and are payable through March 31 of the following year, with discounts for early payment. The Property Appraiser's website is the canonical source for parcel information, exemption applications, and assessment appeals. See <https://www.miamidadepa.gov/pa/home.page>.

Florida Tax Structure

Florida has no state income tax, no estate tax, and no inheritance tax. The state collects revenue principally through sales tax (six percent at the state level, with discretionary county surtaxes adding up to one-and-a-half percent), property tax, corporate income tax (which does not apply to most pass-through entities), and selected excise taxes. The combination of no state income tax and the homestead-exemption regime makes Florida a meaningfully advantageous tax domicile relative to most northeastern and northern states. Alumni considering domicile changes should consult their tax advisors. See <https://www.stateofflorida.com/taxes/>

Other Civic Matters

Selective Service registration, jury-duty roll updates following voter registration, library cards through the Miami-Dade Public Library System (mdpls.org), library cards in adjacent counties for those whose work or family takes them across county lines, and pet licensing through Miami-Dade Animal Services round out the basic civic-setup checklist.

Schools

Greater Miami's schools span every category and price point. The descriptions below are organized by sector. They are illustrative rather than exhaustive.

Public Schools

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is the fourth-largest school district in the United States, serving more than three hundred thousand students across more than three hundred schools (dadeschools.net). The district is widely recognized for its magnet-school program, which is among the most extensive in the country and includes academies focused on the arts, sciences, technology, business, international affairs, dual-language instruction, and the International Baccalaureate. Notable magnet and choice schools include Design and Architecture Senior High (DASH) in the Design District, the New World School of the Arts in Downtown, the Maritime and Science Technology Academy (MAST Academy) on Virginia Key, the School for Advanced Studies (with multiple campuses), Coral Reef Senior High in Cutler Bay, and the iPreparatory Academy. Magnet applications are submitted through the M-DCPS Choice and Magnet system.

Adjacent districts include Broward County Public Schools (browardschools.com), the sixth-largest district in the country, and the School District of Palm Beach County (palmbeachschools.org).

Independent and Religious Schools

Greater Miami has an unusually deep bench of independent schools. Secular independent schools include Ransom Everglades School (Coconut Grove), Gulliver Preparatory School (Pinecrest and Coral Gables), Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart (Coconut Grove, all-girls Catholic), Palmer Trinity School (Palmetto Bay), Miami Country Day School (Miami Shores), the Cushman School (the Roads), and Riviera Schools (Coral Gables). Catholic schools with strong academic profiles include Belen Jesuit Preparatory School (all-boys, west of the airport), Christopher Columbus High School (all-boys, Westchester), Our Lady of Lourdes Academy (all-girls, Kendall), La Salle High School, and Saint Brendan High School. Jewish day schools include Beth Am Day School, the Hebrew Academy of Greater Miami / RASG, Scheck Hillel Community School (North Miami Beach), and Lehrman Community Day School. Each school has its own admissions cycle, financial-aid program, and culture, and decisions are best made with reference to current information from the schools themselves.

Higher Education

Greater Miami is home to a substantial concentration of higher-education institutions, several of which offer continuing-education, certificate, and audit pathways for alumni and other adult learners.

University of Miami (welcome.miami.edu) is the region's leading private research university, with its main campus in Coral Gables and additional campuses on Virginia Key (the Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science) and at the medical center in Civic Center. Continuing-education and certificate offerings are available through Continuing and International Education and through several of the schools, including the Miami Herbert Business School, the School of Communication, and the School of Architecture. UOnline offers a growing slate of online graduate programs.

Florida International University (fiu.edu) is the region's largest public research university and one of the largest universities in the country by enrollment. Its main campus is in west Miami-Dade, with the Biscayne Bay Campus in North Miami and additional locations including the FIU at I-75 Center. FIU houses the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, which sponsors a deep public-programming calendar; the FIU Center for the Humanities; and the Wolfsonian-FIU on Miami Beach. Continuing-education programming is available through FIU Online and through the schools.

Miami Dade College (mdc.edu) is the largest college in Florida and a national leader in associate-degree, baccalaureate, and continuing-education programming. The Wolfson Campus in Downtown is the home of the Miami Book Fair and Miami Film Festival; the Kendall Campus is the largest. Miami Dade College Continuing Education and Professional Development offers an extensive certificate and short-course catalog accessible to adult learners and working professionals.

Other regional institutions include Barry University in Miami Shores, St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens, Carlos Albizu University in Doral, and the

Nova Southeastern University main campus in nearby Davie (Broward County). Florida Atlantic University, with its main campus in Boca Raton, is meaningful to alumni in Palm Beach County and northern Broward.

Utilities and Services

Electricity

Florida Power and Light (fpl.com) is the regulated electric utility for all of Miami-Dade County. New service may be initiated online or by phone. Average residential consumption in South Florida is significantly higher than the national average due to year-round air conditioning.

Water and Sewer

Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department (miamidade.gov/water) provides water and sewer service across most of the county. Some incorporated municipalities (including Coral Gables and Hialeah) operate or contract with separate systems. New service is initiated through the relevant utility based on the service address.

Internet, Cable, and Telephone

Major residential providers in the region include AT&T Fiber, Xfinity / Comcast, T-Mobile Home Internet, and Verizon 5G Home Internet, with additional service from regional providers in some buildings. Service availability varies by address; condominium buildings frequently have a designated provider.

Trash, Recycling, and Bulk

Trash and recycling collection in Miami-Dade is handled by the relevant municipality or by the Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management for unincorporated areas (miamidade.gov/solidwaste). Bulk-trash pickup is scheduled and varies by service address.

Healthcare

Greater Miami's healthcare ecosystem is anchored by several major systems, each with its own network of hospitals, outpatient locations, and physician practices. Alumni evaluating insurance and provider networks should confirm in-network status with each system separately. Major regional systems include the following.

- **Baptist Health South Florida** (baptisthealth.net) — the largest not-for-profit healthcare organization in the region, with hospitals across Miami-Dade, Monroe, and into Palm Beach. Baptist Health is broadly considered the system of first reference for many residents.

- **UHealth (the University of Miami Health System)** (uhealthsystem.com) — the academic medical center associated with the Miller School of Medicine, anchored by University of Miami Hospital, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, and Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- **Jackson Health System** (jacksonhealth.org) — the public hospital system, including Jackson Memorial Hospital (one of the largest hospitals in the country), Holtz Children's Hospital, and the Ryder Trauma Center.
- **Mount Sinai Medical Center** (msmc.com) — the principal hospital on Miami Beach, with affiliated outpatient locations.
- **Cleveland Clinic Florida** (clevelandclinicflorida.org) — with its main hospital in Weston (Broward County) and growing presence in Coral Springs, Indian River, and Tradition, accessible to alumni in northwestern Miami-Dade and Broward.
- **Memorial Healthcare System** (mhs.net) — the public Broward system, including Memorial Regional Hospital and Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital.

Specialty institutions of regional and national reputation include Miami Cancer Institute (Baptist Health), Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (UHealth), Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (consistently ranked among the leading ophthalmology institutions in the United States), and the Mailman Center for Child Development.

Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane preparedness is a non-negotiable feature of life in South Florida. The Atlantic hurricane season runs officially from June 1 through November 30, with peak activity typically from mid-August through mid-October. Long-time residents treat hurricane planning as routine; new arrivals should establish a preparedness routine before their first season.

Stay Informed

Miami-Dade County maintains an Emergency Management division (miamidade.gov/global/emergency) that publishes evacuation zones, shelter information, and storm advisories. Alumni should sign up for Miami-Dade Alerts (the county's emergency-notification system), confirm their evacuation zone by address, and follow the National Hurricane Center (nhc.noaa.gov) for tropical-weather advisories during the season.

The Kit

A standard residential preparedness kit includes seven days of non-perishable food and water (one gallon of water per person per day), prescription medications, flashlights, batteries, a battery- or hand-crank radio, a first-aid kit, copies of important documents in a waterproof container, cash in small bills, a portable phone charger and external batteries, gasoline for the vehicle, propane for the grill if cooking outdoors after a storm, and a basic tool kit. For households with pets, food, water, medications, and a carrier are essential. For households on medications requiring refrigeration or on home medical equipment requiring power, a backup plan and, where indicated, a generator are essential.

The Plan

Every household in South Florida should maintain a written hurricane plan that addresses three scenarios: shelter in place at home, evacuation to a safer in-region location, and evacuation out of the region. The plan should identify trigger conditions for each scenario, the specific locations and routes, and the communication protocol for separated household members. Insurance documentation, including flood insurance (which is sold separately from homeowners insurance and is highly recommended in much of South Florida), should be reviewed annually before the start of hurricane season.

Property Preparation

Hurricane shutters or impact-rated windows and doors, well-maintained roof, secured outdoor furniture and items, cleared gutters and drains, and trimmed trees are the standard property-preparation items. Renters should confirm their building's hurricane plan with the property manager, including elevator and garage protocols and shelter-in-place procedures for high-rise buildings.

After the Storm

Power outages can extend from hours to weeks depending on the storm and the location. Standing water, downed power lines, debris, and wildlife displacement create real hazards. The Federal Emergency Management Agency ([fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)), the American Red Cross ([redcross.org](https://www.redcross.org)), and the county's Emergency Management division provide post-storm resources. Insurance claims should be filed promptly with documentary photographs of any damage.

Transportation

Greater Miami is a driving region, but it is not only a driving region. A small amount of upfront setup pays steady dividends in lighter, less stressful weeks.

SunPass

If you drive regularly in Florida, open a SunPass account and obtain a transponder ([sunpass.com](https://www.sunpass.com)). Most major roadways in South Florida are tolled, and many segments no longer accept cash. SunPass PRO is the portable option that works in Florida and in many other states where E-ZPass is accepted, including the Northeast corridor. The Doral customer-service center handles in-person setup.

Metrorail and Metromover

Miami-Dade Transit ([miamidade.gov/transit](https://www.miamidade.gov/transit)) operates the region's heavy rail and people-mover systems. Metrorail runs daily from approximately 5 a.m. to midnight on the Green and Orange lines, connecting Dadeland to the Civic Center, Downtown, and the airport (with a connection to MIA Mover at the Earlington Heights station). Fares are paid using an EASY Card, EASY Ticket, or contactless payment at the gate. Metromover is free and runs three loops covering Downtown, Brickell, and Omni; it is genuinely useful and is the fastest option for many Downtown errands.

Trolleys

The City of Miami, the City of Coral Gables, the City of Miami Beach, and several other municipalities operate free trolley systems with live tracking through the Transit app and through the cities' own apps. Coral Gables runs Monday through Saturday, roughly 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., on two primary routes that connect key destinations with the Douglas Road Metrorail station. Miami and Miami Beach trolleys cover the most-traveled corridors of those cities and can save real time and parking expense.

Brightline

Brightline (gobrightline.com) is the privately-operated higher-speed passenger-rail service connecting Miami, Aventura, Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton, West Palm Beach, and Orlando. It is the cleanest option for trips up the South Florida corridor and for Miami-to-Orlando travel without driving or flying. Premium and Smart fares are both available; Premium includes lounge access at MiamiCentral and other stations.

Tri-Rail

Tri-Rail (tri-rail.com) is the regional commuter-rail system connecting West Palm Beach to Miami International Airport along the western edge of the metropolitan area. Useful primarily for Miami-Broward and Miami-Palm Beach commuters along that corridor.

Airports

Miami International Airport (MIA, iflymia.com) is the region's principal airport and a major Latin-American gateway. Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL, fll.net) is roughly thirty miles north and frequently offers competitive fares, particularly on domestic routes. Palm Beach International Airport (PBI, pbia.org) is the third regional option, useful for alumni traveling to or from northern Palm Beach County.

Ride Share and Car Rental

Uber and Lyft operate throughout the region. Several car-share services have come and gone over the years; consult current availability at the time of need.

Boating

Greater Miami is a boating region, and many residents own or have access to boats. The Florida boating safety education identification card is required for operators born on or after January 1, 1988. Marinas operate throughout Biscayne Bay and along the Intracoastal Waterway. Coast Guard Auxiliary boating safety classes and on-water training are widely available.

Part Four — The Greater Miami Calendar

These are the events that tend to set the rhythm of Miami year over year. Some are major visitor magnets that change hotel prices, restaurant availability, and traffic for the duration. Others are local and especially good for meeting people. The list below is written in evergreen form so it remains useful from year to year. Specific dates, ticketing terms, and venues should be confirmed annually with the host organizations through the websites referenced. Where dates are noted as recurring (“fourth Friday of the month,” for example), they reflect the established cadence as of publication and remain subject to change.

If you build the year around even four or five of these anchors, you will get to know Miami when the city is most itself.

Winter

Winter is when Miami feels most “on.” It is also when calendars fill up fastest and visitor logistics are tightest.

January

- **South Beach Jazz Festival**, Miami Beach — a citywide jazz weekend in early January with a mix of indoor shows and outdoor programming. A strong “first culture weekend” for newcomers because individual events are easy to drop into. (sobejazz.com)
- **Art Deco Weekend**, Miami Beach — a three-day street festival in early January built around the Art Deco Historic District, with tours, talks, and performances along Ocean Drive. One of the most efficient ways to quickly learn Miami's visual language. (artdecowebweekend.com)
- **Pegasus World Cup**, Gulfstream Park, Hallandale Beach — a major horse-racing day in late January that draws a dressed-up crowd. Treat it as a one-day Miami tradition and plan logistics early. (pegasusworldcup.com)
- **LifeTime Miami Marathon and Half** — the flagship road race held in late January that turns parts of the city into a moving block party in the morning. Worth knowing the weekend even if you do not run, because road closures reshape the day. (themiamimarathon.com)
- **Orange Bowl** — the historic college football bowl game played in late December or early January at Hard Rock Stadium. The Orange Bowl Committee also runs a year-round slate of community programming including the Orange Bowl Basketball Classic and the Orange Bowl Field of Dreams. (orangebowl.org)

February

- **Miami International Boat Show**, Miami Beach and Downtown Miami — a major industry and consumer event in mid-February. One of the best winter weeks to host out-of-town visitors who want a uniquely Miami event. (miamiboatshow.com)

- **Coconut Grove Arts Festival** — a classic outdoor arts festival over Presidents Day weekend that feels local in the best way. Pair with a long afternoon walking the Grove. (coconutgroveartsfest.com)
- **South Beach Wine and Food Festival** — a multi-day program of tastings and chef-driven events in late February that attracts visiting culinary talent. Pick one or two events that match your taste rather than trying to do everything. (sobewff.org)
- **Winter Party Festival**, Miami Beach — a major LGBTQ event weekend in late February with parties and community programming. Expect a noticeably different pace in South Beach that weekend.

Spring

March

- **Carnaval on the Mile**, Coral Gables — a walkable weekend of art, food, and live music along Miracle Mile in early March. A welcoming “Saturday afternoon plan” for newcomers building a Miami friend map.
- **Jazz in the Gardens**, Miami Gardens — a major festival weekend in early March with a strong lineup. Plan parking and arrival times like a stadium event. (jazzinthegardens.com)
- **GroundUp Music Festival**, Miami Beach Bandshell — a curated music weekend in mid-March, often with a mix of serious listeners and casual fans. A useful introduction to the Bandshell as a venue. (groundupmusicfestival.com)
- **Orchids in Bloom**, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden — a seasonal favorite in mid-March that combines the garden's best with a Miami version of “spring.” Go early, walk slowly. (fairchildgarden.org)
- **Calle Ocho Festival**, Little Havana — a classic street festival in mid-March and one of the best public windows into Miami's Latin cultural core. Loud, crowded, and worth experiencing at least once with a clear plan for getting in and out. (carnavalmiami.com)
- **Miami Open**, Miami Gardens — two weeks of professional tennis in late March that doubles as a social calendar anchor. Even one session is enough to understand the appeal. (miamiopen.com)
- **Wynwood Art Walk** — a recurring monthly Saturday-evening art walk through Wynwood galleries, pop-ups, and venues. A useful default plan when out-of-town visitors arrive.
- **Ultra Music Festival**, Downtown Miami — a major global draw for electronic music in late March. Even non-attendees should know the weekend because it changes the feel of the city core. (ultramusicfestival.com)

April

- **Miami Film Festival**, Greater Miami and Miami Beach — ten or eleven days of screenings and events presented by Miami Dade College in early April. Treated as a series rather than a one-off,

the festival is one of the best ways to find the smaller “arts plus civic” community.
(miamifilmfestival.com)

- **Miami Beach Pride** — a full week of programming culminating in a major weekend in Lummus Park in early April. (miamibeachpride.com)

May

- **Formula 1 Miami Grand Prix**, Miami Gardens — a three-day sports and spectacle weekend in early May that brings visitors, brand activations, and heavy traffic patterns around Hard Rock Stadium. Build extra time into anything in that area. (f1miamigp.com)
- **Hyundai Air and Sea Show**, Miami Beach — a free Memorial Day weekend showcase that draws large crowds along the sand. Loud, fun, and very Miami in the way it turns the shoreline into an event venue. (usasalute.com)
- **PARAISO Miami Swim Week**, Miami Beach — a fashion-week-style run of shows and events in late May tied to swim and resort wear. Useful context for anyone in or adjacent to that industry, and the weekend reshapes hotel rates and nightlife. (paraisoland.com)

Summer

June

- **Wynwood Pride** — a month-long Pride presence in Wynwood with rotating programming. (wynwoodpride.com)

July and August

- **Miami Spa Months** — a summer program through July and August that makes it easier to try top spas without overthinking it. A useful “hot season” habit. (miamiandbeaches.com)
- **Miami Spice** — a long-running prix-fixe dining program through August and September, ideal for building a go-to list of restaurants across neighborhoods and one of the easiest ways to explore Miami’s food scene methodically. (miamiandbeaches.com)
- **Marlins Home Stands and Heat Summer League** — the home schedule at LoanDepot Park is at its summer peak, and the Heat Summer League draws Heat fans through the offseason.

Fall

September

- **Welcome To Your City reception** hosted by the Harvard Club of Miami — the Club’s marquee event for new arrivals to Greater Miami, held annually in late September or early October. (hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu)
- **New Admit Send-Off Picnic** — the Club’s annual welcome to incoming Harvard students and their families, hosted by the Schools and Scholarships Committee in late summer.

October

- **Miami Carnival**, Miami-Dade County — the city's Caribbean carnival season over Columbus Day weekend, with anchor events Junior Carnival, Pan Jamboree, J'ouvert, and the Parade and Concert. (miamibrowardcarnival.com)
- **III Points Festival**, Wynwood — a two-day music festival in mid-October that blends electronic, indie, and experimental sounds in a Wynwood setting. (iiipoints.com)
- **Harvard Club of Miami partnership programming** — fall typically brings the kickoff of the Club's monthly Harvard Miami Happy Hour at Coconut Grove, the Industry Dinner Series, and partner programming with Princeton, Yale, MIT, and HBS clubs.

November

- **Miami Book Fair**, Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus — one of the most consistently interesting civic weeks in the city, built around author talks and public programming in mid-to-late November. A reliable place to meet people who care about ideas. (miamibookfair.com)
- **The Game** — the annual Harvard versus Yale football game and the Harvard Club of Miami's traditional watch party. Held the second-to-last or last Saturday of November in alternating venues. (thegame.harvard.edu)

December

- **Art Basel Miami Beach** — the centerpiece weekend of Miami Art Week, with the city's calendar filling up well before the first preview. Even one afternoon teaches a newcomer how Miami's art ecosystem actually works. (artbasel.com/miami-beach)
- **Miami Art Week** — the broader constellation of fairs, openings, and parties that orbit Art Basel, including Untitled Art, Design Miami, NADA Miami, Aqua Art Miami, and Ink Miami Art Fair, among others.
- **Holiday Mixer** — the Harvard Club of Miami's signature December social event.

Recurring Programs Worth Knowing

Several recurring programs anchor the Miami calendar at a monthly or weekly rhythm and are valuable to know about year-round.

- **Chapman Partnership for the Homeless service evening** — the Harvard Club of Miami partners with the Princeton Club of South Florida and the Yale Club of Miami for a recurring evening of service at Chapman Partnership, traditionally held on the fourth Friday of each month. (chapmanpartnership.org)
- **Harvard Miami Happy Hour** — monthly business-networking gathering at the Club's regular host venue in Coconut Grove. Schedule and registration through hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu.

- **HAA Global Networking Night** — the worldwide Harvard Alumni Association networking event, held annually in March, with regional gatherings hosted by every Harvard Club, including a members-only pre-event reception in Miami.
- **Monthly Wynwood Art Walk** — the second Saturday of each month, year-round.
- **Coconut Grove Farmers Market** — Saturdays at Grand Avenue.
- **Coral Gables Cars on the Mile** — monthly classic-car gathering on Miracle Mile.
- **HistoryMiami Museum public tours with Dr. Paul S. George** — the museum's resident historian leads acclaimed walking and bus tours of Miami neighborhoods, the Miami River, and the bay. (historymiami.org)

Part Five — Arts, Culture, and Civic Institutions

Miami's cultural ecosystem is genuinely global, and for newcomers the most reliable way to build community is through institutions that already have a mission and a regular cadence. Cultural organizations are especially effective because they combine public purpose with recurring programs and offer structured entry points through young-patron groups, membership circles, and committees. The recommendations below are starting points. Choose one or two that match your interests and participate consistently.

Visual Arts

Miami's art community extends well beyond Art Week. The year-round calendar is active, and the most valuable experiences usually come from programs that emphasize access and learning.

Pérez Art Museum Miami

PAMM is one of the city's principal convening institutions on Biscayne Bay, in the heart of Museum Park. It offers multiple paths depending on whether you want social connection, educational programming, or deeper involvement in the museum's work. Museum Circle tiers provide a straightforward entry point through member events, collection visits, and occasional travel. The Patron level is often the first tier where access becomes meaningfully behind the scenes. The Collectors Council is the most substantive option for members interested in how museums build permanent collections; members pool contributions, engage directly with curators and artists, and vote on acquisitions. PAMM also supports affiliate groups organized around specific priorities, including women in the arts and Black art. For families with high-school-aged children, the Teen Council program offers a structured introduction to civic engagement through mentorship, service, and program development. (pamm.org)

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami

ICA Miami in the Design District is a strong home base for members drawn to contemporary work and a more experimental approach. Programming often emphasizes learning and access to artists and studios. ICA Next is an accessible entry point that provides openings, studio visits, and small-group gatherings; it is active, social, and easy to join without prior connections. The Young Collectors Board is a more deliberate track designed to teach the basics of collecting and philanthropy and to build familiarity with the art market through structured programming. (icamiami.org)

The Bass

The Bass on Miami Beach offers a balance of serious contemporary programming and an active calendar during major cultural weeks, especially for members who spend time on the Beach. Future Bass is a younger members group that leans social, with strong access around Art Week and related programming.

The Bass Collective is a deeper engagement option oriented toward smaller-format programming and opportunities that include travel and time with museum leadership. (thebass.org)

Other Visual-Arts Institutions

Beyond the three principal museums, the visual-arts ecosystem includes the Rubell Museum in Allapattah, one of the largest privately founded contemporary collections in the United States; the Margulies Collection at the Warehouse in Wynwood, an important seasonal exhibition space and longstanding philanthropic anchor; the Bakehouse Art Complex in Wynwood, a working-artist studio facility and exhibition space; Locust Projects in the Design District, a non-profit experimental art space; the Lowe Art Museum at the University of Miami in Coral Gables; the Wolfsonian-FIU on Miami Beach, focused on design history from 1850 to 1950; the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami (MOCA); the Coral Gables Museum; the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens (also a landmark, addressed in Part Nine); the Wynwood Walls and the surrounding Wynwood Arts District; and a constellation of commercial galleries that anchor the city's primary and secondary art markets.

Performing Arts and Music

For many newcomers the performing arts feel particularly welcoming because the shared experience is the program itself. These institutions also provide a consistent rhythm that supports relationship-building over time.

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts

The Arsht is the region's principal performing-arts venue, spanning theater, concerts, dance, opera, and large-scale productions across two halls in Downtown Miami. The Green Room Society is a strong entry point for younger professionals seeking an organized community tied to performances and member gatherings. Higher philanthropic tiers add ease and access, including lounge spaces and invitations that reduce friction on performance nights and become practical for regular attendees. The Arshties is a newer education-focused initiative worth tracking. (arshtcenter.org)

New World Symphony

New World Symphony is a fellowship program for exceptional early-career classical musicians, housed in the Frank Gehry-designed New World Center on Miami Beach. The patron experience is educational and mission-driven, with a strong emphasis on talent development. Young-patron and subscription-style options are useful ways to attend frequently and build a routine through concerts and member gatherings. The signature WALLCAST projection of selected concerts onto the exterior of the New World Center, which is free to the public and broadcast live in SoundScape Park, is among the city's most distinctive cultural offerings. The Harvard Club of Miami partners frequently with New World Symphony on alumni programming. (nws.edu)

Florida Grand Opera

Florida Grand Opera is the principal opera company of South Florida, with mainstage productions at the Adrienne Arsht Center and a substantial education-and-community-engagement program across both Miami-Dade and Broward. (fgo.org)

Miami City Ballet

Miami City Ballet, founded in 1985 by Edward Villella, is one of the leading classical-ballet companies in the United States. Performances are presented at the Adrienne Arsht Center in Miami, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale, and the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach. (miamicityballet.org)

Seraphic Fire

Seraphic Fire is the region's leading professional choral ensemble, performing across South Florida throughout the year. The Harvard Club of Miami has partnered with Seraphic Fire on member-discount programming. (seraphicfire.org)

Other Performing-Arts Venues and Companies

Additional venues of regional importance include the Olympia Theater (the historic 1926 movie palace in Downtown Miami), the Fillmore Miami Beach at the Jackie Gleason Theater, the Knight Concert Hall at the Arsht, the Colony Theatre on Lincoln Road, the Miami Beach Bandshell, the Coconut Grove Playhouse (a historic venue under restoration), the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, and a robust theater ecosystem that includes Miami New Drama, Zoetic Stage, GableStage at the Biltmore, City Theatre, and Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre. The Frost School of Music at the University of Miami presents an active concert season that includes faculty, student, and visiting-artist performances.

Museums and Historical Institutions

Beyond the visual-arts museums covered above, the museum ecosystem in Greater Miami includes a strong slate of natural-history, design, science, civic, and culturally specific institutions.

- **HistoryMiami Museum**, Downtown Miami — the principal regional history museum, with an active calendar of public programs and tours led by resident historian Dr. Paul S. George. (historymiami.org)
- **Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science**, Museum Park — anchored by an aquarium, planetarium, and science exhibits, and especially well-suited to families. (frostsscience.org)
- **Wolfsonian-FIU**, Miami Beach — design and decorative arts from 1850 to 1950, with a robust public-programming calendar. (wolfsonian.org)
- **Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU**, Miami Beach — the principal museum of Florida Jewish history. (jmof.fiu.edu)

- **Coral Gables Museum** — architecture, design, and the city's history, housed in the historic Coral Gables Police and Fire Station. (coralgablesmuseum.org)
- **HistoryMiami's Wilkins Archives and Tebeau Library** — deep research collections for South Florida history.
- **Bay of Pigs Museum and Library**, Little Havana — the principal institution dedicated to the history of the Bay of Pigs operation and Brigade 2506.
- **Cuban-American Museum**, Coral Gables and Doral — dedicated to the experience of the Cuban diaspora.
- **HistoryFort Lauderdale, the Old Davie School Historical Museum, and the Schoolhouse Museum** round out the regional civic-history ecosystem in Broward.

Botanical, Outdoor, and Environmental Institutions

Miami's ecology shapes daily life. Institutions that combine education with conservation offer tangible ways to contribute while meeting people who care about the region.

- **Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden**, Coral Gables — one of the leading tropical botanical gardens in the world, with significant scientific, educational, and conservation programs and a robust public-events calendar (Orchids in Bloom, the International Orchid Festival, the Mango Festival, the Edible Garden Festival). (fairchildgarden.org)
- **Pinecrest Gardens**, Pinecrest — a former subtropical theme park reborn as a public garden and arts venue with an active concert and theater season. (pinecrestgardens.org)
- **The Kampong**, Coconut Grove — the Florida garden of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, a working tropical fruit and ornamental garden. (ntbg.org/gardens/kampong)
- **The Deering Estate**, Palmetto Bay — a public historic property combining a house museum, preserved coastal habitat, and an active environmental and education mission (also discussed in Part Nine). (deeringestate.org)
- **Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park**, Key Biscayne — the southern end of Key Biscayne, anchored by the Cape Florida Lighthouse. (floridastateparks.org)
- **Crandon Park**, Key Biscayne — a major county park with public beach, gardens, and the Crandon Park Tennis Center. (miamidade.gov/parks)
- **Matheson Hammock Park**, Coral Gables — a historic county park with a man-made atoll pool, mangroves, and bayfront access.
- **Zoo Miami** — the largest zoological park in Florida.
- **Biscayne National Park** — a National Park of which ninety-five percent is water, including reefs, mangroves, and the Stiltsville structures.
- **Everglades National Park** — the only U.S. National Park designated as both a World Heritage Site and an International Biosphere Reserve, with two principal entrances accessible from Miami-Dade.

Libraries and Books

Miami has a quieter intellectual circuit that is easy to miss if you only follow major festivals. It is also one of the fastest ways to feel grounded here, because you start seeing the same faces and end up in rooms where people are building things for the city.

- **Miami-Dade Public Library System** (mdpls.org) — forty-nine branches across the county, with an active slate of author talks, programs, and exhibitions.
- **Books and Books** (booksandbooks.com) — the region's principal independent bookstore, with locations in Coral Gables, Bal Harbour, the Studios at Key West, and others. The Coral Gables flagship is the most dependable author-talk pipeline in town.
- **Miami Book Fair** — the annual eight-day fair each November (also discussed in Part Four) and a year-round calendar of programming hosted by Miami Dade College.
- **HistoryMiami Tebeau Research Library** — deep collections for South Florida history.

Film

- **Miami Film Festival** (miamifilmfestival.com) — presented by Miami Dade College each spring, with a smaller fall iteration (GEMS).
- **O Cinema** (o-cinema.org) — the leading independent and art-house cinema, with locations on Miami Beach.
- **Coral Gables Art Cinema** (gablescinema.com) — a beloved single-screen art house in Coral Gables.
- **Tower Theater**, Little Havana — a historic theater operating as an art-house cinema in association with Miami Dade College.

Higher Education and Public Programming

The universities discussed in Part Three also serve as some of the region's principal sources of public-programming, lectures, conferences, and concerts.

- **University of Miami Center for the Humanities** — a reliable source for serious lectures and named series. (humanities.miami.edu)
- **FIU Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs** — substantial public programming on policy, global affairs, and international relations. (green.fiu.edu)
- **Miami Dade College's Cultural Affairs** — curates a year-round program of films, books, lectures, and performances at the Wolfson Campus and elsewhere. (mdc.edu/culture)
- **University of Miami Frost School of Music, School of Communication, and School of Architecture** — each presents a robust public calendar.

For Going Deeper

For neighborhood-level cultural and dining coverage that this guide deliberately does not duplicate, the following sources are especially useful starting points.

- **Coral Gables Magazine** (coralgablesmagazine.com) — the publication of record for the City of Coral Gables.
- **Miami New Times** (miaminewtimes.com) — the weekly alternative paper, particularly strong on arts, culture, dining, and “what is happening this weekend.”
- **Miami Magazine** (modernluxury.com/miami) and **Ocean Drive** (oceandrive.com) — lifestyle and luxury coverage.
- **Indulge Magazine** — the lifestyle magazine published by the Miami Herald.
- **The Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau** (miamiandbeaches.com) — the official destination-marketing organization, with comprehensive event calendars, restaurant guides, and itineraries.

Part Six — Sports and Recreation

South Florida is one of the few American metropolitan areas with major-league franchises in all five top professional sports (basketball, football, baseball, soccer, and ice hockey), in addition to a substantial college sports presence and a packed calendar of marquee professional events including a Grand Slam tennis tournament, a Formula 1 race, a major horse-racing day, and one of the most beloved international running events in the United States. Recreation is shaped by water, climate, and topography.

Professional Teams

- **Miami Heat** (NBA) — home games at Kaseya Center on the Downtown waterfront. The Harvard Club of Miami typically organizes group nights several times each NBA season. (nba.com/heat)
- **Miami Dolphins** (NFL) — home games at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. (miamidolphins.com)
- **Miami Marlins** (MLB) — home games at LoanDepot Park in Little Havana. The Club organizes an annual outing during the summer schedule. (mlb.com/marlins)
- **Inter Miami CF** (MLS) — the South Florida professional men's soccer team, with home games at Chase Stadium in Fort Lauderdale and a major training-and-stadium project under development at Miami Freedom Park. (intermiamicf.com)
- **Florida Panthers** (NHL) — home games at the Amerant Bank Arena in Sunrise (Broward County). 2024 and 2025 Stanley Cup champions. (floridapanthers.com)

College Sports

- **University of Miami Hurricanes** — the Hurricanes compete in the Atlantic Coast Conference, with football home games at Hard Rock Stadium and basketball at the Watsco Center on the Coral Gables campus. The Harvard Club of Miami occasionally tailgates at Hurricanes home football games when Harvard plays in the state. (hurricanesports.com)
- **Florida International University Panthers** — FIU competes in Conference USA, with home games at Riccardo Silva Stadium and FIU Arena. (fiusports.com)

Marquee Annual Sporting Events

Several of these are also addressed in the seasonal calendar in Part Four. They are gathered here for convenience.

- **Miami Open**, Miami Gardens — a joint ATP and WTA Masters / 1000 tournament held over two weeks in March at Hard Rock Stadium. The Club organizes an annual Miami Open Alumni Night.

- **Formula 1 Miami Grand Prix**, Miami Gardens — a Formula 1 World Championship race held annually in early May at the Miami International Autodrome.
- **Pegasus World Cup**, Hallandale Beach — a Grade 1 thoroughbred race at Gulfstream Park held in late January.
- **LifeTime Miami Marathon and Half Marathon** — the city's flagship road race in late January.
- **Capital One Orange Bowl** — the historic college-football bowl played at Hard Rock Stadium.
- **Miami International Boat Show** — one of the largest boat shows in the country, held each February.
- **South Beach Triathlon** — spring triathlon along the Miami Beach shoreline.
- **South Beach Half Marathon** and the **Walt Disney World Marathon Weekend** — within easy reach via Brightline.
- **FedEx Cup events at Trump National Doral and TPC Sawgrass** (Sawgrass is just outside the immediate metropolitan area but draws Miami crowds).

Recreation

Beaches

Public beach access is broad along Miami Beach, Surfside, Bal Harbour, Sunny Isles Beach, Haulover Beach (with a designated clothing-optional section), Crandon Park (Key Biscayne), and Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park (Key Biscayne). South Beach is most active and visitor-oriented; Surfside, North Beach, and Crandon are quieter and more family-oriented; Cape Florida is the natural option.

Boating

Greater Miami is a boating region. Marinas operate throughout Biscayne Bay and along the Intracoastal Waterway. Major public marinas include the Miami Beach Marina, Bayside Marina, Crandon Park Marina, Dinner Key Marina (Coconut Grove), Black Point Park and Marina, and Haulover Park. The Florida Boating Safety Education Identification Card is required for operators born on or after January 1, 1988. SailTime, Freedom Boat Club, and several other boat-club services operate in the region.

Fishing

Miami's offshore and bay fishing is internationally renowned. Charter operators leave from Haulover Park, Miami Beach Marina, Crandon Park Marina, Dinner Key, and Black Point. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (myfwc.com) is the regulator for licensing, seasons, and limits.

Golf

Greater Miami has a deep golf inventory across public, semi-private, and private courses. Notable public and resort courses include Trump National Doral (with the Blue Monster as the signature course), Crandon Golf at Key Biscayne, Miami Beach Golf Club, the Biltmore Hotel Golf Course in Coral Gables,

the Country Club of Miami, Shula's Golf Club, and the Greynolds Park Golf Course. Major private clubs include the Riviera Country Club, La Gorce Country Club, Indian Creek Country Club, the Bath Club, and the Surf Club. Several of these clubs have reciprocal arrangements with major Northeastern clubs and with the Harvard Club of New York City.

Tennis

The Crandon Park Tennis Center on Key Biscayne and the Salvadore Park Tennis Center in Coral Gables are the two principal public-tennis facilities. Many residential buildings and private clubs maintain courts. Pickleball is also widely available and growing rapidly.

Cycling and Running

The most popular cycling and running routes in the region include the Rickenbacker Causeway from the Brickell area to Key Biscayne (with significant elevation on the bridge); the Old Cutler Trail running south through Coral Gables to Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay, and the Deering Estate; the Brickell Key loop; the Margaret Pace Park bay walk in Edgewater; the Venetian Causeway connecting Miami to Miami Beach (a National Register of Historic Places entry that is heavily cycled); the Miami Beach Beachwalk and Boardwalk; the Tropical Park trails; and the Black Creek Trail in southern Miami-Dade. The Underline, the rails-with-trails project running below the Metrorail viaduct from Brickell south, has opened in phases and will eventually reach more than ten miles.

Diving and Snorkeling

Biscayne National Park's Maritime Heritage Trail includes shipwrecks accessible to certified divers. John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo (about an hour south) is the closest world-class snorkeling and diving destination. The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary protects the broader reef system.

Day Trips and Weekend Trips

Easily accessible day-trip and weekend destinations include the Florida Keys (Key Largo, Islamorada, Marathon, Key West); Everglades National Park (the Royal Palm and Flamingo entrances accessible from Homestead, and the Shark Valley entrance from the Tamiami Trail); the Florida Everglades' Big Cypress National Preserve to the west; the Naples and Marco Island stretch on the Gulf Coast (about two hours by car); West Palm Beach and Palm Beach (forty-five minutes to an hour by Brightline); Orlando (the Brightline runs all the way to the Orlando International Airport station); and Bimini and the Bahamas (accessible by ferry from PortMiami).

Part Seven — Civic and Business Engagement

Miami has an unusually strong tradition of civic and business volunteerism. Many alumni find that the most rewarding pathways into the city run through specific institutions and committees rather than through general networking. The list below identifies the principal organizations across economic development, civic life, and philanthropy. It is illustrative rather than exhaustive.

Economic Development and Business Networks

- **Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce** (greatermiami.com) — the principal business-membership organization in the region, organized around committees on transportation, housing, education, resilience, and economic development.
- **The Beacon Council** (beaconcouncil.com) — Miami-Dade County's official economic-development partnership, focused on business attraction, retention, and expansion.
- **Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau** (miamiandbeaches.com) — the destination-marketing organization for Miami-Dade.
- **Miami Downtown Development Authority** (miamidda.com) — the public agency overseeing the Downtown special-taxing district.
- **The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce** (coralgableschamber.org) — the leading business organization in Coral Gables.
- **Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce** (miamibeachchamber.com) — covering the City of Miami Beach.
- **Coconut Grove Chamber of Commerce** — the village's business organization. The Greater Miami area also includes active chambers in Aventura, Doral, Hialeah, Homestead, Key Biscayne, Kendall, North Miami, the Cutler Bay-Palmetto Bay-Pinecrest area, and elsewhere.
- **South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, and Miami Black Chamber of Commerce** — representing specific business communities.
- **eMerge Americas** (emergeamericas.com) — the annual technology conference that has become Miami's signature technology gathering.
- **Endeavor Miami** (endeavormiami.org) — the local affiliate of Endeavor Global, supporting high-impact entrepreneurs.
- **The Knight Foundation** (knightfoundation.org) — a major Miami-headquartered philanthropic foundation, with strong investments in local journalism, arts, and civic technology.
- **The Miami Finance Forum** (miamifinanceforum.com) — the principal industry association for the region's growing financial-services sector.
- **Florida International Bankers Association** (fiba.net) — reflecting Miami's role as a center for international banking.

- **The Economic Club of Miami** — hosts the annual Miami Economic Forum and a year-round speaker calendar.

Civic and Philanthropic Engagement

- **The Miami Foundation** (miamifoundation.org) — the region's principal community foundation, with a major role in donor-advised funds, civic-leadership programming (Public Space Challenge, Give Miami Day, and Miami Connect), and capacity-building grants.
- **United Way of Miami-Dade** (unitedwaymiami.org) — a major regional funder of education, health, and financial-stability programs.
- **Chapman Partnership for the Homeless** (chapmanpartnership.org) — the principal regional partner with the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, operating the largest residential homeless-services campuses in Miami-Dade. The Harvard Club of Miami's monthly service evening at Chapman is one of the Club's most beloved volunteer commitments.
- **The Children's Trust** (thechildrenstrust.org) — the dedicated funding source for children's services in Miami-Dade.
- **Catalyst Miami** (catalystmiami.org) — a longstanding leader in equity, advocacy, and civic-leadership programming.
- **Junior League of Miami** (jlmiami.org) and the **Junior League of the Palm Beaches**, **Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale**, and **Junior League of Boca Raton** — longstanding women's civic-leadership organizations.
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami** (bbbsmiami.org) — the regional youth-mentoring organization.
- **Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami** (miamihabitat.org) — affordable-housing construction across Miami-Dade.
- **YMCA of South Florida** (ymcasouthflorida.org) — a major regional human-services and youth-development organization.
- **Greater Miami Jewish Federation** (jewishmiami.org) — the central Jewish civic and philanthropic organization for Miami-Dade.
- **Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation, Pérez Art Museum Miami, ICA Miami, the Bass, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Trust, the Frost Science Foundation, and HistoryMiami** — each maintains active boards and engagement opportunities, addressed in Part Five.
- **New World Symphony, Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet, Seraphic Fire, and the Miami Book Fair** — each maintains active leadership boards and gala committees.
- **Miami Children's Initiative, Citizens Crime Watch of Miami-Dade, the Greater Miami Service Corps, the YWCA of Greater Miami, and Branches** — a sample of additional well-regarded community-service organizations.

Government and Civic Life

Greater Miami's civic life is shaped by an unusually layered government structure. Alumni who wish to engage in government and civic life have many entry points.

- **City of Miami** (miamigov.com) — the most populous municipality in the region, with an active calendar of advisory boards covering arts, planning, historic preservation, parks, and youth.
- **Miami-Dade County** (miamidade.gov) — the county government, with its own substantial advisory-board structure under the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.
- **City of Miami Beach, City of Coral Gables**, and the other thirty-plus municipalities each maintain advisory boards and commissions.
- **Neighborhood and homeowner associations** — organized neighborhood representation is robust across the region, including the Brickell Homeowners Association, the Coconut Grove Village Council, the Coral Gables Neighbors Association, the Miami Design Preservation League (which played the leading role in protecting the Art Deco District), and many others.

Part Eight — News and Information

The sources below are a strong default stack for staying oriented in Greater Miami. Together they cover the essentials — local government, development, business, the arts, and the cultural week-to-week. The simplest approach is to pick one general newsroom, one business outlet, and one fast daily digest, then subscribe to the newsletters and stop hunting for updates everywhere else.

Daily and Weekly Newspapers

- **Miami Herald** (miamiherald.com) — the flagship daily paper for Miami-Dade, with deep local reporting and investigative muscle. Twenty-four Pulitzer Prizes. The newsletter preference center makes it easy to follow specific topics.
- **Sun Sentinel** (sun-sentinel.com) — a strong complement for broader regional context across South Florida. The newsroom has earned multiple Pulitzers and the email digests are an easy habit.
- **Miami Today** (miamitodaynews.com) — a local staple that stays close to Miami-Dade government, business, and real estate. The free headlines email is an easy addition for county-focused coverage.
- **Miami New Times** (miaminewtimes.com) — the alternative weekly. Helpful for arts, culture, food, and weekend planning.
- **Coral Gables Magazine** (coralgablesmagazine.com) — the publication of record for the City of Coral Gables.
- **Miami Beach Visitor**, **Brickell Magazine**, **Aventura Magazine**, and several other neighborhood-level monthlies.

Business and Specialist Sources

- **South Florida Business Journal** (bizjournals.com/southflorida) — the most efficient way to track deals, development, executive moves, and the business side of civic decisions. The Morning Edition, Afternoon Edition, and breaking-news alerts run at the cadence many newcomers want.
- **The Real Deal South Florida** (therealdeal.com/miami) — the leading specialized source for real estate and development. Newsletters and a weekly digest support market-level following without reading every article.
- **Greater Miami Chamber Business Insights** — useful for the business community's view of priorities, with programming and updates through the Chamber's newsletter.
- **Bisnow South Florida** (bisnow.com/south-florida) — commercial real-estate news and events.
- **Refresh Miami** (refreshmiami.com) — a leading local source for technology and startup coverage.

- **Pulse Miami** — the South Florida Business Journal's monthly print magazine.
- **South Florida Legal Guide and the Daily Business Review** — for legal and business-of-law coverage.

Public Radio and Broadcast

- **WLRN Public Media** (wlrn.org) — South Florida's NPR anchor and one of the best sources for context and civic reporting.
- **NBC 6, CBS 4 (WFOR), ABC Local 10 (WPLG), and Univision 23 (WLTU)** — the principal local broadcast newsrooms.
- **WLRN Sundial** — the public-radio newsmagazine on Miami life.

Newsletters and Daily Briefings

- **Axios Miami** (axios.com/local/miami) — the fastest daily skim for what is happening right now, written in a format that is easy to read before the day gets away from you.
- **The Next Miami** (thenextmiami.com) — development and real-estate-oriented coverage.
- **The Brickellist** — a Brickell-and-Downtown weekly digest.
- **Miami Mom Collective** — a useful family-oriented source.

Podcasts and Audio

- **WLRN's *Sundial*** and topical series.
- — a culture and business podcast.
- — a Miami-history podcast.
- on WLRN — a weekly news roundup.

Visitor and Destination Resources

- **Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau** (miamiandbeaches.com) — the official destination-marketing site, with calendars, itineraries, and neighborhood guides.
- **Visit Florida** (visitflorida.com) — the state-level resource for events outside Miami-Dade.
- **Miami International Airport visitor information, Brightline schedules, and PortMiami event listings** — for trip-specific planning.

Part Nine — Landmarks and Historical Context

Miami can feel new on the surface. Many of its defining places are older than they appear, and they tell a clearer story about how the region developed, how communities formed, and why the built environment looks the way it does.

Miami's story begins long before the skyline. The region was home to the Tequesta and other Indigenous communities whose presence shaped early trade and settlement patterns. Spanish rule left place names and coastal routes, while the nineteenth century brought conflict, displacement, and a shift toward American control in South Florida. Modern Miami took form in the late 1800s as Henry Flagler's railroad reached Biscayne Bay and the city formally incorporated in 1896.

The early twentieth century brought rapid growth, ambitious planning, and a built environment that mixed tourism with idealized Mediterranean forms. The 1920s land boom and the catastrophic 1926 hurricane revealed both the city's appetite for reinvention and its exposure to natural risk. After World War II, Miami expanded through aviation, port activity, and suburban development. Since 1959, Cuban exile leadership and broader migration from the Caribbean and Latin America have shaped Miami's civic life, economy, and culture.

Today Miami functions as a hemispheric crossroads for finance, trade, arts, and entrepreneurship, with a distinct identity that reflects both continuity and constant change.

Miami-Dade County is home to nearly two hundred properties on the National Register of Historic Places, including six National Historic Landmarks. The landmarks below provide historical context across the region's principal eras and communities. Where relevant, Harvard connections are noted.

Indigenous and Pre-Twentieth-Century Foundations

The Miami Circle at Brickell Point

The Miami Circle at Brickell Point is the most important Indigenous archaeological site in urban Miami. Discovered in 1998 during a pre-construction survey at the mouth of the Miami River, the site is a perfect circle of twenty-four holes cut into the bedrock by the Tequesta people, dated to roughly 1,800 to 2,000 years ago. After a public campaign, Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida acquired the property in 1999, and it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2009. The site is now a small bayfront park managed by HistoryMiami Museum, with interpretive signage.

Why it matters: It is a tangible reminder that Miami has been an inhabited place for far longer than the modern city's century-and-a-half. It also reframes the Brickell skyline, which sits directly above the site.

Cape Florida Lighthouse

Cape Florida Lighthouse stands at the southern end of Key Biscayne in Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park. The first tower was completed in 1825 and is considered the oldest standing structure in Miami-Dade County. The lighthouse connects directly to the Second Seminole War: on July 23, 1836, a group of Seminoles attacked the lighthouse, and assistant keeper John W. B. Thompson and an enslaved man named Aaron Carter defended the tower. Carter died from his injuries, and the lighthouse was set on fire. The structure was rebuilt in the 1840s and returned to service.

Why it matters: Cape Florida is the easiest place in the region to see how the keys shape access to Biscayne Bay, why the open Atlantic feels close, and why early navigation infrastructure mattered here long before the skyline. It also grounds the region's story in a place that predates modern Miami by decades.

The Barnacle Historic State Park

The Barnacle is a bayfront home in Coconut Grove that Ralph Middleton Munroe built in 1891. Florida State Parks describes it as the oldest house in Miami-Dade County remaining standing in its original location. The park materials frame this period as the “Era of the Bay,” when travel to and from Miami was primarily by sea. Old Cutler Road, the route now familiar to anyone driving south through Coral Gables and Pinecrest, was first cut through pine rockland and hammock in the 1880s to connect the pioneer farming settlement of Cutler to Coconut Grove.

Why it matters: The Barnacle anchors Miami's story in a bay-first era and makes Coconut Grove's early scale and rhythm easy to grasp in a single visit.

The First Coconut Grove School

The First Coconut Grove School at 3429 Devon Road is a simple but historically important building. Built in 1887, it was the first schoolhouse in Coconut Grove and one of the earliest in the region.

The Pioneer Era and the Founding of Modern Miami

The Deering Estate

The Deering Estate is a public historic property on Biscayne Bay in Palmetto Bay that combines a house museum, preserved coastal habitat, and an active environmental and educational mission. The historic core includes the Richmond Cottage, built in 1900, and the Stone House, completed in 1922 as Charles Deering's residence. The estate is one of the few places in Miami where cultural history and environmental history sit on the same property.

Why it matters: The Deering Estate offers a direct introduction to Miami as a water and landscape city and shows what the region looked like before large-scale development.

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

Vizcaya is a 1910s waterfront estate in Coconut Grove that now operates as a public museum and gardens. It was built as the winter home of industrialist James Deering, with the main period of construction running from 1914 through 1922. After Deering's death in 1925, the property eventually became a county-owned public museum, with a formal public opening in 1953. Vizcaya is a National Historic Landmark.

Harvard connection: Paul Chalfin, who served as the project's artistic director, studied at Harvard before continuing his training in New York and Paris. The architect Francis Burrall Hoffman, Jr. graduated from Harvard and later studied at the École des Beaux-Arts.

Why it matters: Vizcaya shows how Miami's early identity blended design, leisure, and engineering. Even the most photographed features tend to have a practical purpose, especially along the bayfront stone barge that doubles as storm protection.

Coral Gables Merrick House

The Merrick House at 907 Coral Way is the boyhood home of George E. Merrick, the founder of Coral Gables. The house was originally built by Merrick's parents starting in 1899 and is now a city-operated house museum. It is the principal site for understanding the origin of Coral Gables as a planned “City Beautiful” community.

Plymouth Congregational Church

The Plymouth Congregational Church at 3429 Devon Road in Coconut Grove was completed in 1917 in a Spanish Mission style. Its hand-laid coral-rock construction has made it a landmark in the village. The site also contains some of the earliest school and community buildings in the area.

The 1920s Boom and the Mediterranean Idiom

The Freedom Tower

The Freedom Tower is one of Miami's most important civic landmarks. Built in 1925 as the headquarters for The Miami News, it was inspired by the Giralda tower in Seville. From 1962 through 1974, it served as a federal processing center for Cuban refugees. Today it operates as a public cultural site under Miami Dade College, and as the anchor of Miami's Cuban story.

Why it matters: The Freedom Tower connects the skyline to lived history. Miami's identity is inseparable from exile, entrepreneurship, and community formation, and this building is one of the clearest places to see that history distilled into a single site.

The Biltmore Hotel

The Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, opened in 1926 and designed by Schultze and Weaver, is a National Historic Landmark and one of the most architecturally significant resort hotels of its era in the United States. Its 315-foot tower is modeled on the Giralda. The Biltmore famously hosted the Mizner Pool, then the largest hotel pool in the country, where Olympic swimmer Johnny Weissmuller served as swim instructor before his Hollywood career.

The Olympia Theater

The Olympia Theater and Office Building at 174 East Flagler Street is a historic 1926 atmospheric movie palace by John Eberson, designed to feel like a Spanish village courtyard at night with twinkling stars on the ceiling. It now operates as a downtown performing-arts venue.

The Venetian Pool

The Venetian Pool at 2701 De Soto Boulevard in Coral Gables is the only public swimming pool in the world listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The pool was designed in 1923 by Phineas Paist and Denman Fink (uncle of George Merrick), constructed from a coral-rock quarry, and remains a working public pool with caves, waterfalls, and Venetian architecture.

The Coral Gables City Hall

Coral Gables City Hall at 405 Biltmore Way is a 1928 Mediterranean Revival landmark also designed by Phineas Paist. It is the central civic anchor of Merrick's planned city.

The Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ

The Coral Gables Congregational Church at 3010 De Soto Boulevard, completed in 1923, is one of the earliest buildings in the city and was a gift from George Merrick to the community. It also serves as the venue for many regional concerts.

The Dade County Courthouse

The Dade County Courthouse at 73 West Flagler Street, completed in 1928 and designed by A. Ten Eyck Brown and August Geiger, is a twenty-eight-story Neo-Classical landmark. For decades after its completion, it was the tallest building in Florida and remained one of the most visible structures in the Downtown Miami skyline.

The Hialeah Park Race Track

Hialeah Park, opened in 1925, is a Mediterranean Revival horse-racing landmark and one of the most architecturally distinguished tracks in the country. Its grandstand and paddock area are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the property is widely associated with the flock of pink flamingos that has become a symbol of Florida itself.

The Alfred I. duPont Building

The Alfred I. duPont Building at 169 East Flagler Street, completed in 1939, is a Depression-era Art Deco landmark with extensive metalwork and decorative interiors. It is one of the most significant interior spaces in Downtown Miami.

Art Deco, Pre-War Miami Beach, and the Mid-Century

The Miami Beach Architectural District (Art Deco Historic District)

The Miami Beach Architectural District covers approximately one square mile in South Beach and includes more than eight hundred contributing structures from roughly 1923 through 1943. It was the first twentieth-century neighborhood listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1979) and is the largest concentration of Art Deco architecture in the world. The Miami Design Preservation League, founded by Barbara Baer Capitman and others in 1976, played the leading role in protecting the district when much of it faced demolition.

Why it matters: The Art Deco District is the most internationally recognized fragment of Miami's built environment and one of the most successful historic-preservation campaigns in American urban history.

MiMo Historic District

The Miami Modern (MiMo) Historic District along Biscayne Boulevard between the Fifty-Fifth and the Seventy-Seventh Streets is a designated district of Mid-Century Modern motel and commercial architecture from the 1950s and 1960s. It is the principal expression of the post-war Miami aesthetic and is undergoing active preservation and adaptive reuse.

The Bacardi Complex

The Bacardi Complex at 2100 Biscayne Boulevard, designed in two phases by architects Enrique Gutierrez (1963) and Ignacio Carrera-Justiz (1973), is a National Register-listed mid-century landmark. The mosaic-tile and stained-glass facades reflect the contributions of Cuban immigrants to Florida architecture in the post-revolutionary era. The complex now serves as offices and an event venue.

The Coconut Grove Playhouse

The Coconut Grove Playhouse at 3500 Main Highway, originally a 1927 Mediterranean Revival movie theater designed by Kiehnel and Elliott, became a leading regional theater under George Engle's stewardship in the 1950s. It was added to the National Register in 2018. A long-discussed restoration plan is underway to return the building to active use.

Civil Rights, Migration, and the Modern Miami

Historic Virginia Key Beach Park

Historic Virginia Key Beach Park is one of Miami's most important civic landmarks because it ties the shoreline directly to local civil-rights history. The park was established in 1945 after a peaceful “wade-in” protest at Haulover Beach, and it became the first officially recognized beach for Black residents in Dade County during segregation. The park functioned as a social and recreational center for Black communities in the 1940s and 1950s, with gatherings that included church outings and sunrise services. Surviving features include an octagonal carousel house, a circular concrete dance pavilion slab, and picnic structures. The site gained a National Register listing and continues to interpret its history.

Why it matters: It is a rare Miami site where the city's beach culture and its civil-rights history are inseparable, and the story is specific to Miami rather than borrowed from a national script.

D.A. Dorsey House

The Dana Albert Dorsey House at 250 Northwest 9th Street in Overtown is the home of D.A. Dorsey, considered Miami's first Black millionaire. Dorsey, born to formerly enslaved parents in Georgia, became one of the most influential business and civic leaders of early Black Miami, with extensive real-estate holdings including ownership at one point of Fisher Island.

The Marjory Stoneman Douglas House

The Marjory Stoneman Douglas House at 3744 Stewart Avenue in Coconut Grove is a National Historic Landmark honoring the home of the journalist and environmentalist whose 1947 book

The Everglades: River of Grass reshaped the public understanding of the Everglades and provided the intellectual foundation for half a century of conservation advocacy.

Bayfront Distinction and the Improvised City

Stiltsville

Stiltsville is a cluster of stilt houses in the shallow waters of Biscayne Bay, accessible only by boat. Its history dates to the 1930s, when “Crawfish Eddie” Walker built the first shack on stilts above the water. At its peak in 1960, there were twenty-seven structures on the flats. Hurricanes and fires reduced the count over time; Hurricane Andrew in 1992 left only seven standing. In 1985, the submerged land was transferred to the federal government as part of Biscayne National Park, and in 2003 an agreement established the Stiltsville Trust to help preserve the remaining structures. Public access is by permit only.

Why it matters: Stiltsville reflects Miami's long relationship with the bay, leisure, and local improvisation, and shows that the city's most distinctive places often sit just outside the obvious map of neighborhoods and attractions.

The Venetian Causeway

The Venetian Causeway, a 1925 series of bridges and islands connecting Downtown Miami to Miami Beach, is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the older and more atmospheric of the two main causeways linking the mainland to the Beach and is heavily cycled and walked.

The Ancient Spanish Monastery

The Monastery of St. Bernard de Clairvaux at 16711 West Dixie Highway in North Miami Beach is one of the oldest buildings in the Western Hemisphere. The monastery was originally constructed in Spain between 1133 and 1141, dismantled in 1925 by William Randolph Hearst, shipped to the United States in numbered crates, and reassembled in Miami in the 1950s. The site now operates as an Episcopal parish and as a public visitor attraction.

The William Jennings Bryan House

The William Jennings Bryan House at 3115 Brickell Avenue was the winter home of the three-time presidential candidate, Secretary of State, and famed orator William Jennings Bryan, who was a frequent presence in Miami in the 1920s and lent his oratorical talents to the marketing of George Merrick's Coral Gables.

Coral Castle

Coral Castle in Homestead is a National Register property created by a single man, Edward Leedskalnin, who built the structure of carved coral rock between 1923 and 1951. The site has become a Florida cultural curiosity and a working tourist attraction.

The Sunshine State Arch

The Sunshine State Arch in Miami Gardens, originally built in 1942, is a Streamline Moderne entrance arch and one of the more unusual surviving roadside-architecture landmarks in the region.

The HALF MOON Shipwreck

The HALF MOON, originally the German racing yacht

Germania, was launched in 1908 in Bremen and shipwrecked off Bear Cut near Key Biscayne in 1930. The wreck is a state of Florida Underwater Archaeological Preserve and is accessible to certified divers and snorkelers.

Part Ten — Harvard in Miami

Harvard's connections to Miami are substantial and run across the city's architectural, civic, scholarly, philanthropic, and entrepreneurial life. They are also less visible than they should be, in part because Harvard's regional identity in South Florida competes with the visibility of the University of Miami, Florida International University, and the substantial Yale, Princeton, MIT, and Wharton presences in the area. The notes below are not exhaustive but are intended to help newcomers begin to see those connections.

Architectural and Civic Lineage

Several of Miami's most important early-twentieth-century buildings have direct Harvard connections. Vizcaya's architectural lineage runs through Paul Chalfin (Harvard) as artistic director and Francis Burrall Hoffman, Jr. (Harvard, then École des Beaux-Arts) as architect. Generations of Harvard alumni have served on the boards of major institutions including, but not limited to, Vizcaya, the Pérez Art Museum Miami, the Adrienne Arsht Center, the Miami Foundation, the New World Symphony, the Coconut Grove Playhouse, the Coral Gables Museum, and HistoryMiami.

Universities and Scholarly Partnerships

Harvard alumni and faculty are present across the senior leadership and faculty of the University of Miami, Florida International University, Miami Dade College, and the region's specialized graduate schools. Cross-institutional programming is frequent: recent examples include the University of Miami centennial-lecture series featuring Harvard Law School Professor Martha Minow; Harvard Kennedy School climate-policy programming hosted in coordination with the Miami-Dade Beacon Council; HBS faculty appearing through the HBS Club of South Florida; and Harvard Chan School of Public Health programming with Dean Andrea Baccarelli. Institutional leadership and faculty within all of Greater Miami's colleges and universities—including UM, FIU, Miami-Dade College, Barry University, Nova Southeastern University, and others—include Harvard alums.

Civic and Philanthropic Leadership

Harvard alumni hold significant civic and philanthropic roles across the region, including in the leadership of major hospitals and health systems, museums and cultural institutions, financial-services firms, law firms, civic organizations, and elected office. The Harvard Club of Miami's own Officers and Directors include alumni in private practice, in academia, in finance, in entrepreneurship, in real estate, in nonprofit leadership, and in retirement. The Club's signature service program at Chapman Partnership for the Homeless, run jointly with Princeton and Yale, is one example of the way Harvard alumni participate in the region's civic life as a community rather than as individuals. Harvard-area alums have served, and continue to serve, on the governing and advisory boards and in the board rooms of nearly every major

civic, nonprofit, and other philanthropic organization, as well as private, public, social, and thought sector entities.

Finding Specific Alumni

Alumni who wish to identify and connect with specific Harvard alumni in the Greater Miami area should consult the Harvard Alumni Directory, which is available to alumni through the Harvard Alumni Association at alumni.harvard.edu. The directory permits search by location, by class year, by school, and by industry, and is the canonical source for current alumni contact information. The Harvard Club of Miami does not maintain a separate alumni directory and routes such inquiries to the HAA system. In addition, members of the Alumni Resource Committee are available to assist with specific alum-to-alum inquiries, respecting privacy of all parties, as may be requested.

Continuing the Connection

Beyond the Club's calendar, alumni can deepen their Harvard connection in Miami through Harvard Online Learning, the Harvard Alumni Association programming, the Harvard Coop, and partnerships with the regional Harvard Clubs of Broward County and the Palm Beaches. Harvard's degree-granting executive education at HBS and its non-degree programs through the Division of Continuing Education are accessible through travel. Locally, the Harvard Club of Miami's own programming continues to expand each year as the membership and the city continue to grow.

Quick-Reference Directory

This directory consolidates the principal phone numbers, websites, and contact channels referenced throughout this guide. It is intended as a one-page-at-a-glance starting point for the most common needs of new arrivals, returning members, and visitors.

Emergency

Emergency (police, fire, ambulance)	911
Non-emergency police (Miami-Dade)	(305) 476-5423
Florida Highway Patrol	*FHP (*347)
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
Miami-Dade Emergency Management	miamidade.gov/global/emergency
Miami-Dade Alerts (sign up)	miamidade.gov/global/emergency/miami-dade-alerts.page
National Hurricane Center	nhc.noaa.gov

Harvard Club of Miami

Website	hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu
Telephone	(305) 819-8383
Email (Club Administrator)	info@harvardmiami.org
Mailing Address	PO Box 466, Hoschton, GA 30548
Facebook	facebook.com/harvardmiami
LinkedIn	linkedin.com/groups/12009426
Instagram	instagram.com/harvardclubmia

Harvard University

Harvard Alumni Association	alumni.harvard.edu
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HarvardKey (account access)	key.harvard.edu
Harvard Online Learning	online-learning.harvard.edu/alumni
Harvard Gazette	news.harvard.edu/gazette
Harvard Magazine	harvardmagazine.com
Harvard Crimson	thecrimson.com
The Coop	store.thecoop.com

Government and Practical Setup

Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles	flhsmv.gov
Miami-Dade Tax Collector (driver's license)	miamidade.gov/taxcollector
Miami-Dade Property Appraiser (Homestead Exemption)	miamidade.gov/pa
Miami-Dade Department of Elections	miamidade.gov/elections
Florida Power and Light	fpl.com
Miami-Dade Water and Sewer	miamidade.gov/water
Miami-Dade Solid Waste Management	miamidade.gov/solidwaste
Miami-Dade Public Library System	mdpls.org

Transportation

SunPass	sunpass.com
Miami-Dade Transit (Metrorail, Metromover, Metrobus)	miamidade.gov/transit
Brightline	gobrightline.com
Tri-Rail	tri-rail.com
Miami International Airport	iflymia.com
Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport	fll.net

Palm Beach International Airport	pbia.org
City of Miami Trolley	miamigov.com/trolley
Coral Gables Trolley	coralgables.com/trolley
Miami Beach Trolley	miamibeachfl.gov/transportation

Healthcare Systems

Baptist Health South Florida	baptisthealth.net
UHealth (University of Miami Health System)	uhealthsystem.com
Jackson Health System	jacksonhealth.org
Mount Sinai Medical Center	msmc.com
Cleveland Clinic Florida	clevelandclinicflorida.org
Memorial Healthcare System	mhs.net

Higher Education

University of Miami	welcome.miami.edu
Florida International University	fiu.edu
Miami Dade College	mdc.edu
Barry University	barry.edu
St. Thomas University	stu.edu
Florida Memorial University	fmuniv.edu

Index of Resources

This index gathers the principal websites and resources referenced throughout this guide, organized by section. URLs are accurate as of publication and are subject to change. Where multiple resources for a single organization or institution exist, the principal website is given.

Part One — The Harvard Club of Miami

- Harvard Club of Miami: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu
- Membership: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu/memsub.html
- Officers and Directors: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu/officers.html
- Member Benefits: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu/benefits.html
- FAQ: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu/faq.html
- Useful Links: hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu/links.html
- Harvard Alumni Association: alumni.harvard.edu
- Harvard Business School Club of South Florida: hbsouthflorida.org
- Harvard Club of Broward County: harvardbroward.com
- Harvard Club of the Palm Beaches: hcpalmbeaches.clubs.harvard.edu
- Yale Club of Miami: yale.miamiclub.org
- Princeton Club of South Florida: princetonsof.org

Part Three — Practical Transition

- Florida DHSMV: flhsmv.gov
- Miami-Dade Tax Collector: miamidade.gov/taxcollector
- Miami-Dade Property Appraiser: miamidade.gov/pa
- Miami-Dade Elections: miamidade.gov/elections
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools: dadeschools.net
- Broward County Public Schools: browardschools.com
- Florida Power and Light: fpl.com
- Miami-Dade Water and Sewer: miamidade.gov/water
- FEMA: fema.gov
- American Red Cross: redcross.org

- Miami-Dade Emergency Management: miamidade.gov/global/emergency
- National Hurricane Center: nhc.noaa.gov

Parts Four through Six — Calendar, Culture, Sports

- Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau: miamiandbeaches.com
- Pérez Art Museum Miami: pamm.org
- Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami: icamiami.org
- The Bass: thebass.org
- Adrienne Arsht Center: arshtcenter.org
- New World Symphony: nws.edu
- Florida Grand Opera: fgo.org
- Miami City Ballet: miamicityballet.org
- Seraphic Fire: seraphicfire.org
- Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science: frostsscience.org
- HistoryMiami Museum: historymiami.org
- Wolfsonian-FIU: wolfsonian.org
- Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden: fairchildgarden.org
- Pinecrest Gardens: pinecrestgardens.org
- The Kampong: ntbg.org/gardens/kampong
- The Deering Estate: deeringestate.org
- Miami Book Fair: miamibookfair.com
- Miami Film Festival: miamifilmfestival.com
- Books and Books: booksandbooks.com
- Miami Open: miamiopen.com
- Formula 1 Miami Grand Prix: f1miamigp.com
- LifeTime Miami Marathon: themiamimarathon.com
- Art Basel Miami Beach: artbasel.com/miami-beach
- Miami Heat: nba.com/heat
- Miami Dolphins: miamidolphins.com
- Miami Marlins: mlb.com/marlins
- Inter Miami CF: intermiamicf.com
- Florida Panthers: floridapanthers.com
- University of Miami Athletics: hurricanesports.com

Part Seven — Civic and Business

- Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce: greatermiami.com
- The Beacon Council: beaconcouncil.com
- Miami Downtown Development Authority: miamidda.com
- Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce: coralgableschamber.org
- Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce: miamibeachchamber.com
- eMerge Americas: emergeamericas.com
- Endeavor Miami: endeavormiami.org
- Knight Foundation: knightfoundation.org
- The Miami Foundation: miamifoundation.org
- United Way of Miami-Dade: unitedwaymiami.org
- Chapman Partnership: chapmanpartnership.org
- The Children's Trust: thechildrenstrust.org
- Catalyst Miami: catalystmiami.org
- Junior League of Miami: jlmiami.org
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami: bbbsmiami.org
- Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami: miamihabitat.org
- YMCA of South Florida: ymcasouthflorida.org
- Greater Miami Jewish Federation: jewishmiami.org

Part Eight — News and Information

- Miami Herald: miamiherald.com
- Sun Sentinel: sun-sentinel.com
- Miami Today: miamitodaynews.com
- Miami New Times: miaminewtimes.com
- South Florida Business Journal: bizjournals.com/southflorida
- The Real Deal South Florida: therealdeal.com/miami
- WLRN: wlrn.org
- Axios Miami: axios.com/local/miami
- Coral Gables Magazine: coralgablesmagazine.com

Acknowledgments

This guide is the product of the Harvard Club of Miami's Alumni Resources Committee. Particular thanks are due to the Officers and Directors of the Club for their continuing leadership; to the Schools and Scholarships Committee, the Member Services Committee, the Community Service Committee, the Young Professionals Committee, and the Student Recruitment Committee for their portfolios of work that this guide reflects; to the Harvard Alumni Association for the framework of the Welcome To Your City program; to the Harvard Business School Club of South Florida for their longstanding partnership; and to the many alumni who have informally welcomed new arrivals to the region over many decades.

Suggestions, additions, corrections, and feedback are welcomed for the next annual edition. They may be directed to the Co-Chairs of the Alumni Resources Committee through the contact information on the following page or to the Club Administrator at info@harvardmiami.org.

Alumni Resources Committee

The Co-Chairs of the Alumni Resources Committee, Jeff Bartel and Daniel Barcia, warmly invite alumni who are moving to the area, returning to the area, or visiting the area to be in touch with questions specific to their situation — whether those questions are professional, personal, civic, residential, educational, or otherwise. Both Jeff and Daniel are Miami natives. Between them they have lived the better part of a combined eighty years in this region, across both the College and the graduate-school cohorts, and they know the city, the institutions, and the people in it well.

Depending on the question, that help can take the form of a direct conversation or a referral to the right person. The Co-Chairs are happy to make introductions within the Harvard alumni community and to draw on contacts outside the alumni community where that is the better path. The standing invitation extends to spouses, partners, and adult family members of alumni as well.

Co-Chairs

Jeff Bartel, AB '88

Immediate Past President

Email: jeff@bartelfamily.com

Mobile: (305) 310-9000

Daniel Barcia, AB '15, JD '22, MBA '22

Email: dbarcia92@gmail.com

Mobile: (305) 250-2405

*Inquiries about Club membership, events, and general matters
should be directed to the Club Administrator at info@harvardmiami.org
or by telephone at (305) 819-8383.*

A Final Note

This guide is selective and illustrative rather than exhaustive. The information contained herein does not represent all available resources, organizations, institutions, or events in the Greater Miami metropolitan area, and inclusion does not imply preference over those not named. The references contained in this guide do not represent the endorsement of the Harvard Club of Miami, its officers, its directors, its members, or its committees. This guide does not represent or speak for the Harvard Alumni Association or for Harvard University in any capacity.

Information regarding events, dates, contact details, hours, programs, leadership, and other practical matters changes regularly. Readers should confirm details directly with the organizations referenced before relying on them.

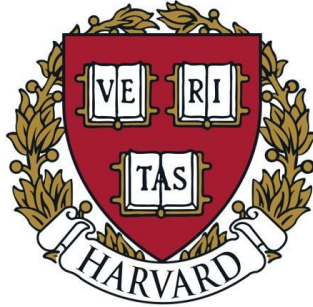
We welcome any suggestions that would allow us to enhance this resource for Harvard area alumni.

With warm regards from the Alumni Resources Committee, and with the hope that this guide is useful, we wish you a fine welcome to your city.

— *The Alumni Resources Committee*

Harvard Club of Miami

2026 Edition



The Harvard Club of Miami

Harvard Club of Miami

hcmiami.clubs.harvard.edu

info@harvardmiami.org · (305) 819-8383

Welcome To Your City — An Alumni Resource Guide to Greater Miami

2026 Edition