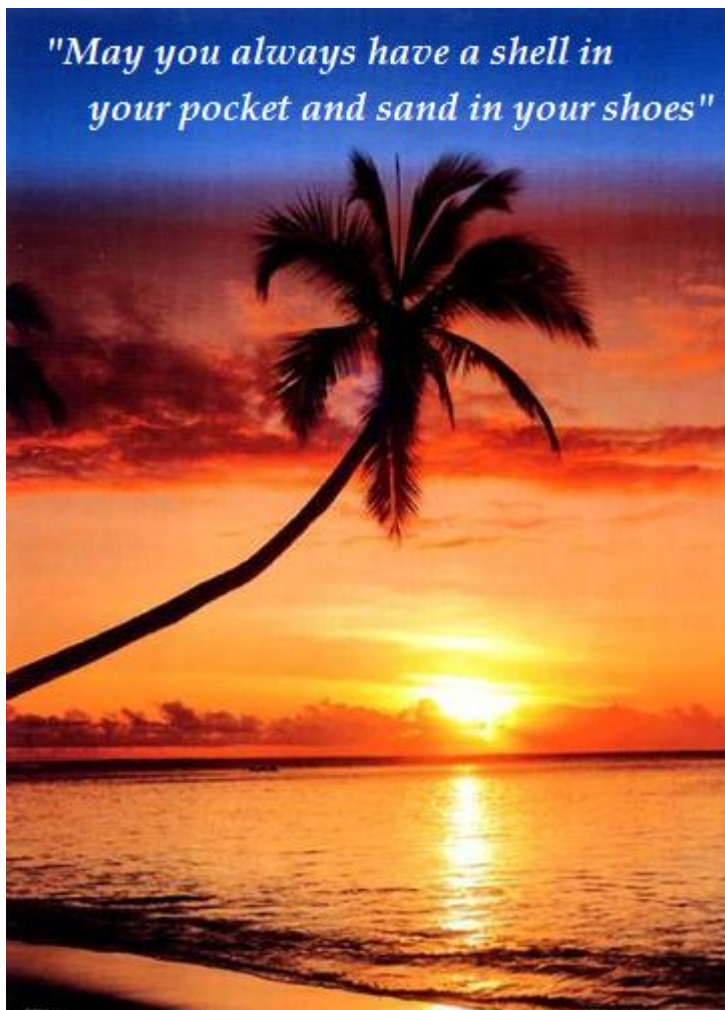


www.hewprop.com

'The Palms' Villa Guide

Advanced Information Version



Introduction

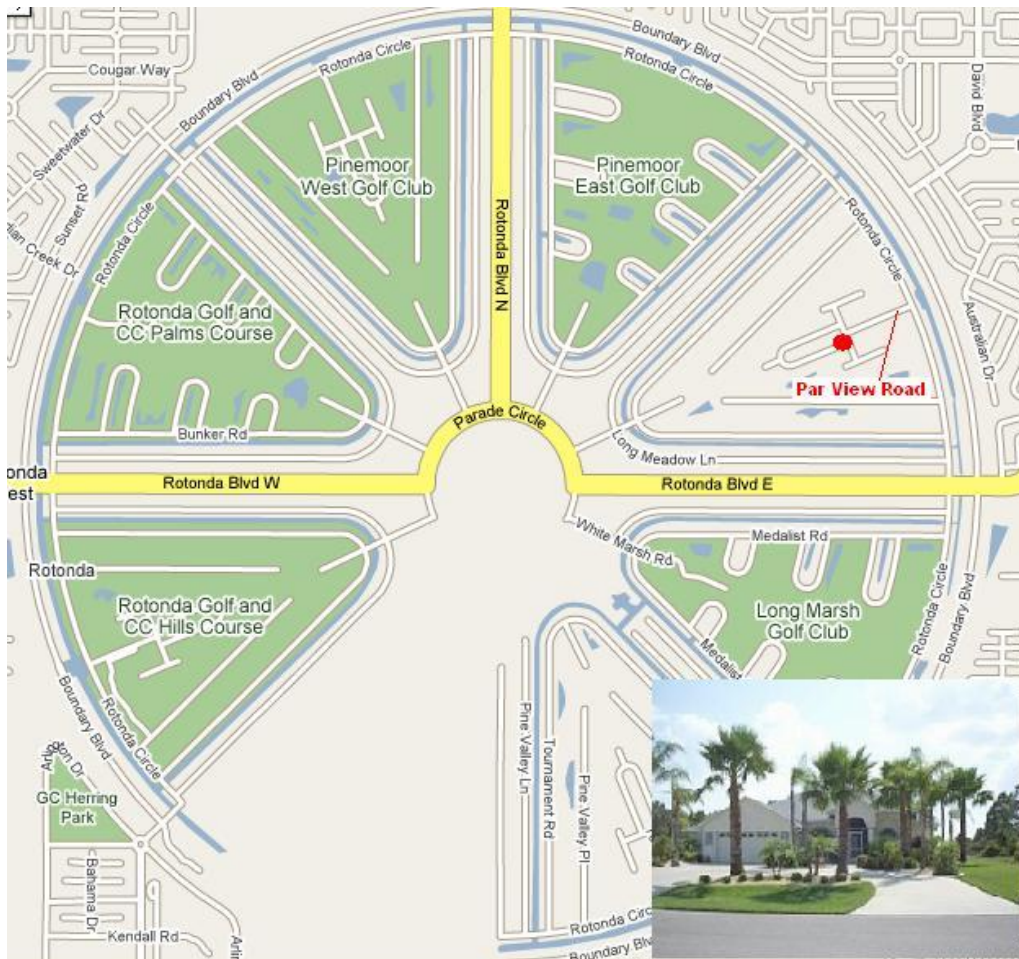
This guide is an edited version of the full villa manual we send to guests wishing to familiarise themselves with the area. Some details have been removed, such as how and where to pick the keys up. The full version also has details of the local cleaning and maintenance company who take care of any issues that may arise during your stay.

It's a lot easier exploring from a base, such as the villa, but if you are new to this part of Florida, you may wish to check out Google Maps or Google Earth with the zip code 33947. Alternatively, try the interactive map from our website www.hewprop.com (home page) or direct to the map at <http://www.hewprop.com/exploringthearea.html>

The full manual is emailed when final payment has been made, approximately 8 weeks prior to arrival together with detailed driving directions from the I-75 (North and South) – Junction 193.

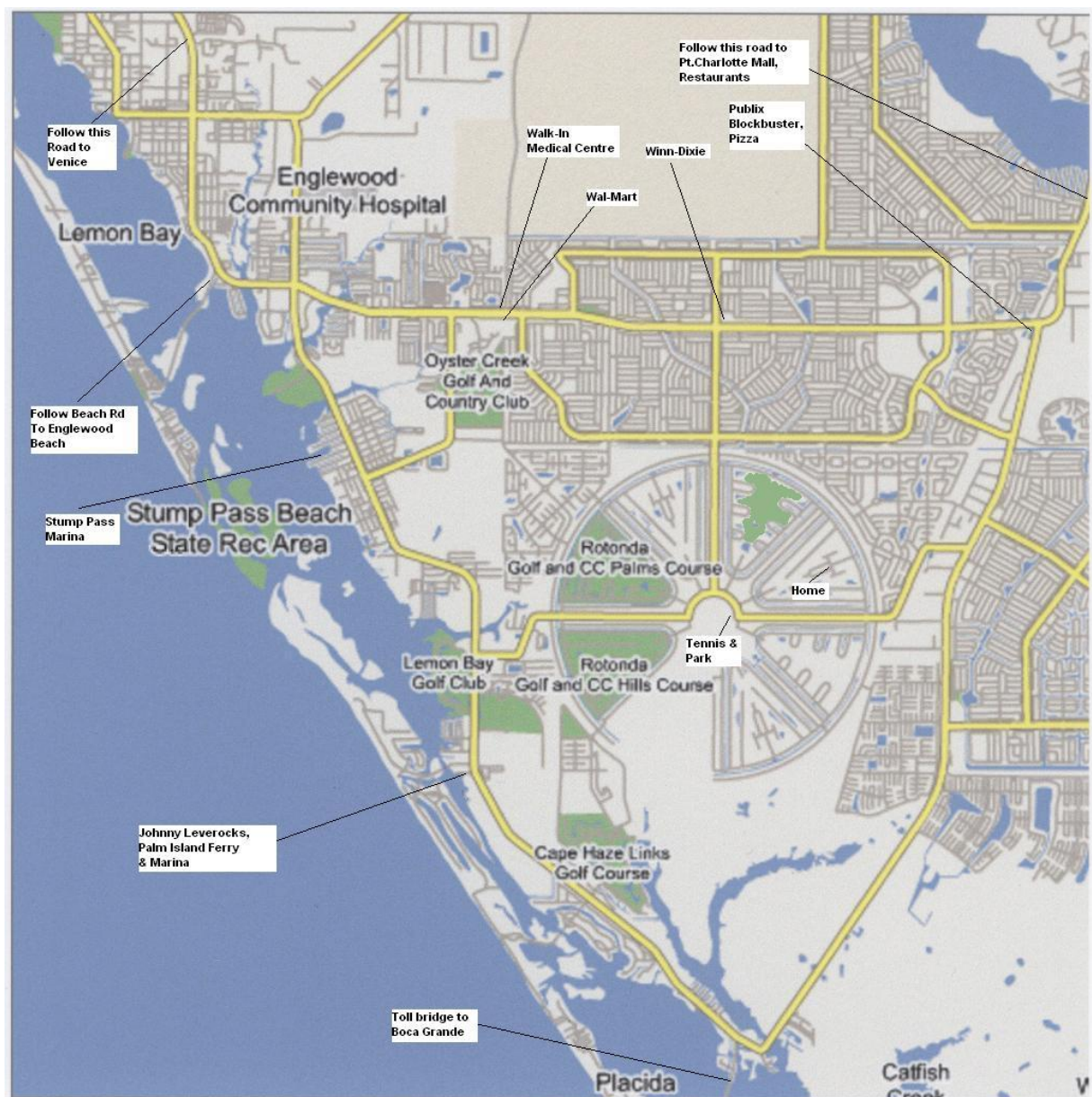
If you are visiting in-advance with limited time and plan on driving around the area, as well as Rotonda's roads, golf courses & tennis park (in the centre), try and find time to visit:

- Manasota Key (including the local beach & boardwalk). Drive the full length if you can, stopping off at the southern end to park at the local beach. Try lunch at the Lock & Key or Gulf View Grill
- Boca Grande via the toll bridge to Gasparilla Island, then drive all the way down to South Beach & stop off at www.southbeachbarandgrille.com
- Shops/Cinema/Restaurants at Port Charlotte Mall & surroundings.

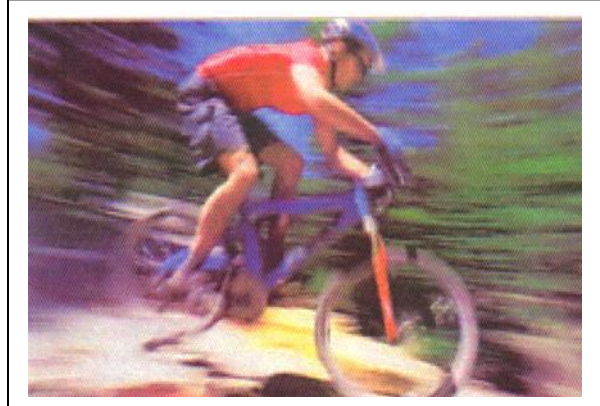


To quickly familiarise yourself with the area, please note these main points:

- Rotonda is a circle, full of golf courses (<http://www.rotondagolf.com>) about three miles in diameter. You will be using three main exits (North, East and West) off Rotonda Circle.
- There are many restaurants around the local area, but the main shops at the mall and famous restaurant chains (Red Lobster, Outback, Chilis, etc.) are out of the East exit, turn left, up to the lights (Publix, ATM's, Gas Station, Pizza) then right and 7 miles up to junction with US-41/'Tamiami Trail'. Mall is on right.
- North exit, then left, takes you past several local restaurants, Wal-Mart Supercenter, Denny's for Breakfast!, Walk-In Medical Center, Taco-Bell and access to local Englewood Beach & Boardwalk (+ more local restaurants). Turn left into Beach road and over bridge(Jetski hire), or continue North 25mins to Venice.
- West exit has shops, bank, steakhouse and onto Placida road. Right takes you to Stump Pass Marina, Left down towards Palm Island Ferry, Johnny Leverocks & Fishery Restaurants (amongst others) and toll bridge to Boca Grande (Gasparilla Island).



Bicycles



There are bicycles in the garage. Please feel free to use them at your own risk. Children under 16 should wear a helmet under Florida State Law although not many seem to!

If you do use them, please ensure that the tyres are inflated to the correct pressure. In this climate, the air does tend to slowly leak out. A pump is provided. Most tyres should be inflated to 60 PSI, but check on tyre wall. Pump in garage.

Suggested Routes.

We like to cycle to the tennis courts (about 2 miles or 10-15 mins). Rackets and balls usually kept in laundry-room cupboard. Go back up Par View Road to the main Rotonda Circle. Turn right. Continue to 'Marker' and turn right. 1 Mile to cross road and turn left into Long Meadow Road. Continue across two crossroads and turn left at the end. The park is 100 yrd on RHS.

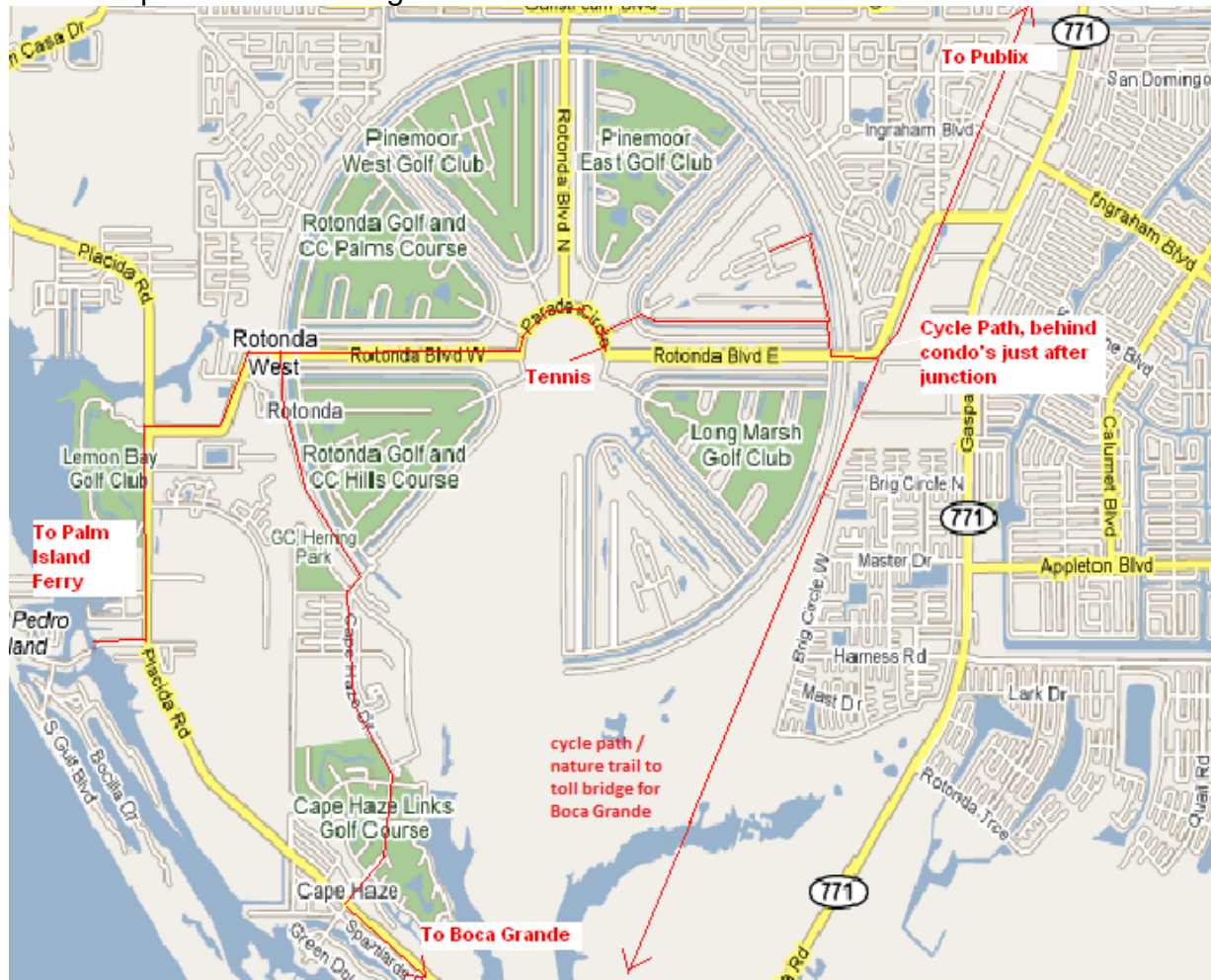
To extend the above trip, instead of the last turn left at the inner circle, turn right and ride around turning right into Rotonda Boulevard West. Follow this approx. 1 mile to the West exit. Turn left and Johnny Leverock's restaurant is 1 mile on right hand side. The Palm Island (<http://www.palmisland.com>) ferry is right next door. \$5 for bikes. Rum Bay Restaurant on the island is worth a visit. It's \$50 to take a car over! Be especially careful on the short section of the main Placida Road!

There is a paved cycle path/nature trail running from the lake next to Publix etc south, passing just behind the condos at the east exit 4-way Stop, to a few miles south of Rotonda. As I update this (May2011) a new bridge is being constructed to extend the nature trail all the way south to the Boca Grande toll bridge area. Great way to meet local tortoises, etc.

It's also very pleasant just to ride around Rotonda, especially early in the morning or late afternoon. Rotonda is a friendly community, so don't be surprised when people wave or say 'hi'.

Always take plenty of water with you and be careful on the busier main roads (Gasparilla & Placida Roads).

For the truly energetic, try the 60 to 90 min trip to Boca Grande, stopping off for a well earned lunch & ice-cream at the Loose Caboose (former site of the old railroad station). Suggested route: Rotonda Blvd West then south around the outer circle, through Cape Haze Drive and down Placida Road, turning onto toll bridge. Paved cycle path can be rejoined just after Boca Boats, right down to the town. When the extension of the nature trail is completed (Summer 2011), follow this all the way south to meet up with the toll bridge.



The cycle path is the site of the former railway line taking minerals to the deep water harbour at Boca Grande. The timber fishing piers are the remnants of the sections passing over the local waterways.



DVD's / Playstations



Many stores such as Wal-Mart sell DVD's for as little as \$5. Please note that USA (region 1) DVD's will usually not work in UK/European (region 2) DVD players if you are considering buying some to take home to the UK or Europe.

We have a growing collection of movies as well as a few Playstation games in the villa for your enjoyment. Some of the DVD's are not suitable for younger children. Please do not remove any of these from the house as missing items will be charged against your security deposit plus replacement fees.

The local DVD rental stores are closing down, being replaced by \$1 per night DVD vending machines within supermarkets, such as Publix and Wal-Mart. Most often these only accept USA or Canada registered credit/debit cards. If you do not have a valid 'ZIP' code registered for your card, try '00000' (five zeros).

To use the DVD players or Playstations in the villa, turn on the TV & the device and press the 'Input' button on the TV remote until the device is selected.

PLEASE NOTE THAT EUROPEAN GAMES & DVD's WILL USUALLY NOT WORK IN USA ZONED PLAYSTATIONS AND VISA VERSA.

Channel List (see TV operation notes below)

		(main lounge only)
02 NBC	33 MTV	401 Sun Sports HD
03 PBS	34 USA	403 ESPN HD
04 FOX	35 BET	404 ESPN2 HD
05 CBS	36 Lifetime	405 Versus/Golf HD
06 Local News (SNN)	37 Food Network	407 TNT HD
07 ABC	38 Lifetime	408 MOJO HD
08 WEVU	39 CNBC News Channel	409 Universal HD
09 QVC Shopping Channel	40 Home Shopping Network	410 A&E HD
10 ABC	41 Home & Garden	411 MTV HD
11 WB	42 MSNBC News Channel	412 HD Theatre
12 More TV	43 Discovery	413 Nat.Geographic HD
13 PAX TV	44 Animal Planet	414 Food Network HD
14 QVC Shopping Channel	45 Weather Channel	415 HGTV HD
15 Spanish Univision	46 E! Entertainment	420 USA HD
16 WGN Superstation	47 Country Music TV	421 TBS HD
17 Hallmark	48 Cartoon Network	423 CNN HD
18 C-SPAN	49 Golf Channel	424 Discovery HD
19 <none>	50 VH1	431 ABC HD
20 Local Government	51 FX	432 NBC HD
21 WSS	52 Speed Channel	433 NBC HD
22 WRXY	53 Spike TV	434 Fox HD
23 <none>		
24 TV guide	64 Fox News	
25 Nickelodeon	65 TNT Classic Movies	
26 A&E	66 Comedy Central	
27 CNN Headline News	67 Sci-Fi Channel	
28 Comcast Sports South	68 Bravo	
29 ESPN	69 Court TV	
30 ESPN2	70 C-Span2	
31 The Weather Channel	71 Outdoor Life	
32 CNN News Channel	73 Discovery Health	

MAIN LOUNGE

The main lounge TV has HD digital cable. Switch TV & cable unit on with their remotes and use **TV/VIDEO** button on TV remote to select 2nd option (**CABLE**). Individual cable channels are then selected with cable unit remote. Please do not order pay-per-view items, as these costs will be deducted from your deposit, plus a handling charge.

The DVD player is a HD Blu-Ray unit. This will play standard DVD's as well as blue boxed 'Blu-Ray' high definition DVD's. Switch TV & DVD unit on with their remotes and use **TV/VIDEO** button on TV remote to select 4th option (**DVD**).

OTHER TV's

For other TV's in the home, just select channel numbers shown above in the first two columns. To watch DVD / Playstation, press the 'INPUT' button on the TV remote until the relevant option is selected.

Barbecue



Do not use the BBQ under the eaves of the screen area. The only acceptable area within the pool screen is at the rear, next to the door, as far from the house walls as possible. Do not push the back of the BBQ against the screen when hot!

As well as being a fire risk, the greasy smoke stains and damages the walls & screen. If grease falls onto the cool-deck, it is almost impossible to remove. Damage will be charged against your security deposit. Please be careful.

Before and after use, slide the drip tray out of the back of the BBQ and empty it into a suitable container.

It can collect water during heavy rain.

Please clean the drip tray, cooking griddles and implements after use.



We do not charge for the use of the BBQ on condition that it is used with care as stated above, cleaned after use and that you refill the gas bottle if it runs out. The previous guest should have left gas in the bottle, but this is not guaranteed! A refill is approx \$20 - \$25. If our maintenance company has to clean the BBQ, this cost will be deducted from your security deposit.

Local refills are available at:

Calkin LP Gas Co, 2920 Avenue Of The Americas (941-475-9484)

North exit, left. Go past Wal-Mart, left into San Casa. Just over a mile then left into 'Avenue Of The Americas. Approx. 1 mile to the end of the road.

Amerigas (941-255-9900)

As you approach the traffic lights at the Port Charlotte Mall area, look to your left, on the other side of the dual carriageway.

Handy hint: Publix Supermarket does excellent BBQ food packs.

Pool Use & Spa Controls



Please note that swimming pools, spas and their surrounds can be dangerous. You should supervise children and vulnerable adults at all times. Glass should never be taken into the pool area. Please refer to the section on pool safety screens and covers. The pool is to be used entirely at your own risk. The pool water contains chlorine chemicals. Do not enter the house when wet from the pool, as any drips onto carpets and furniture can cause spot bleaching. Diving is not allowed. The pool is approximately six feet deep at its deepest. Floors and pool surrounds are slippery when wet.

Only use the right-hand sliding door next to the breakfast table for access to/from the pool area. **Do not leave this door open when the air conditioning is on.**

Please do not interfere with any of the pool controls or settings at the side of the house. The pool is maintained every week to ensure correct chemical balance and water level.

The spa is set to re-circulate its water into the pool and you should see it overflowing normally into the pool when the timer-controlled pump is running during the day.

The spa has two controls (see picture above). The large rubber control switches the air-blower on/off. The first press of the left-hand button will switch the pool water circulation control to isolate the spa from the pool water so that it will heat-up as quickly as possible when spa heat is required. The second press of the left-hand button switches the jets on. When you have finished with the spa, it is essential that you remember to press the left-hand button a third time to switch the circulation back via the pool. If you forget to do this, the pool will turn green and will require a special visit to correct this. This would be chargeable.

Remember: during normal day-time use, the spa should overflow into the pool. After use, this flow will take a couple of minutes to re-establish.

Radio/Intercom & Doorbell



The main unit in the kitchen (left hand picture above) allows radio to be broadcast to each of the four bedrooms, the pool surround, master one bath and the den. They have individual volume controls.

If you press and hold the 'Inside/Patio Talk' button you can send an intercom message across the home.

The door-bell is also linked to the main system. When the door-bell is pressed, any music playing is temporarily paused and the door-bell tone is heard. It is important not to turn-down the system volume in the main areas (such as the kitchen), as you will not hear the door-bell. When the door-bell rings, from any of the units, you can press the 'Door Talk' button to start a two-way conversation with the person at the front door. To end this conversation, press the 'End Call' button. In normal radio mode, this button also doubles as the method of changing the radio channel.

If you find that a particular zone is not working, check under the lower left hinge-down panel on the main kitchen unit that the corresponding zone switch is not in the 'off' position.

Sanitation Notice

Notification of Exception to Sanitization Requirements
Personate to Rule 61c-3.001(8), Florida Administrative Code.

Dishware, glassware, kitchenware and/or utensils have been provided in this home as a guest convenience. These materials have been thoroughly cleaned, using household dish washing agents. They have not been sanitised according to Federal and State standards for public food service establishments.
BPR 22-045 Revised 03/10/95.

Please do not put soiled dishes & utensils in the cupboard & drawers.

Thank you.

Blind Controls

Please ensure that the blinds are fully tilted to the open (see-through) position before sliding them open or closed. They should move smoothly. Do not force the blinds. If any individual blades are caught, they should be manually adjusted before closing. Any damage due to misuse will be charged to your security deposit.

Telephones

A single telephone line has been installed with handsets in the kitchen, den/office and mobile units in master 1 & main lounge. All calls (local and long-distance) to the mainland USA & Canada are free.

We recommend you purchase an 'S.T.I.' telephone card to make international calls (a single \$10 card allows over 7 hours of calls to UK standard numbers). Instructions for use are on the cards. They can be purchased from many gas stations, for example, the BP station next to Blockbusters/Publix.

Even less expensive (or often free) is the use of services such as Skype. We download the Skype app onto our iPhones and call free to anyone with a Skype account using the wireless broadband in the home or at other wireless enabled areas (the Mall, most Starbucks etc). Even international calls to land lines are a small fraction of the usual cost, even less expensive than the STI cards.

Broadband

Broadband is fitted to the home by the owners as a convenience for themselves and for guests on an 'as-is' basis. No guarantee of use or warranty is offered of any kind. No technical assistance is available for its use. It is transmitted around the home via the Netgear Wireless Router in the den. Please do not interfere with this, although very occasionally, if broadband has failed, its thin, black rear power cable needs to be unplugged for a few seconds to restart.

The larger, black cable-modem next to this, feeds the broadband, telephone and cable-tv. If the green LED's are ever all flashing or mostly off, this indicates an error condition, and the reset button at the back need to be pressed & held for 5 seconds with a thin wire / paperclip or similar to start the 3 minute reset process. This can sometimes occur following thunderstorms. Take care not to strain the white co-ax cable connections if turning the unit. Please do not unplug either of these units. They need to remain powered up at all times. They are connected to a power/surge battery backup unit under the desk in the den.

Wireless enabled laptops & iPhones etc should be able to automatically detect this network. Some systems may need to be instructed in (say) "Settings" to search for new Wi-Fi connections. Please understand that we and our local management company are not able to provide any further technical support for any IT or connectivity issues you may have.



Garage Door

The garage door is opened and closed using the button on the wall next to the door leading from the kitchen into the garage. There is a safety beam sensor which will cancel the operation if something (or someone) is in the way, so you cannot walk out of the home via the garage after pressing the door to close. We used to deliberately not provide remote controls for the door. We have found from past experience that these are very often left in hire cars (we have done this twice ourselves!) and so keep disappearing. We now provide one unit which should be left in the kitchen on departure. If we need to replace this unit, there will be a \$50 charge against your security deposit.



Hair Dryers

We have three hair dryers at the home, so there is no need to bring your own. Most non-USA/Canada models are designed to operate at 240 volts. Even when plugged into the power using a plug adaptor, they usually do not work correctly.

Towels & Sheets

You will not need to bring any towels or bed sheets. All the bathrooms have towels and there are extra towels and sheets in the cupboards. Beach / pool towels are in the utility room cupboard, opposite the washer dryer. Please do not use the bathroom towels for the pool or beaches.

SAFETY SCREENS & POOL/SPA COVERS



The home is equipped with a safety barrier to help protect the young or vulnerable from falling into the swimming pool. If fitted, remove this at your own risk. You may prefer to store it in the garage until the end of your stay if you elect not to continue to use it.

During colder periods it is usual to have floating pool covers on the pool and spa. 95% of heat loss from pools is via surface evaporation which these covers minimise. Pool temperatures are not guaranteed at any time, but if you do not replace the covers during cooler overnight times, the pool will take several hours to recover to the correct temperature. To help keep the pool at the correct temperature during cooler weather, always replace these covers overnight and roll them up before using the pool/spa.

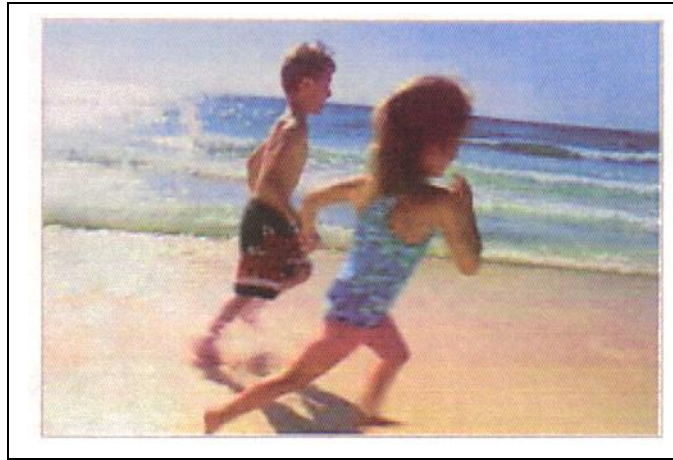
If the pool water level drops below the centre of the decorating edging tiles, add extra water using the hose provided.

Always supervise children when these covers are in place in case they attempt to stand on them!

Swimming pools, spas, their surrounds and all other hard floor/wet areas within or outside the home can be dangerous. Exercise caution. At all times, you use these facilities entirely at your own risk.

If screens and covers are in use, please replace them at the end of your stay.

Amusements



From crazy golf to theme parks, from roller skates to museums, from canoes to jet ski's, you'll find it all at your fingertips.

Kidstar Park 941 235-3131 1501

Paulson Drive, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Go-kart rides, rock climbing wall, giant slide, children's rides, snack bar. Closed Mondays

Peace River Wildlife Center (941) 637-3830

3400 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

An active wildlife rehabilitation centre with indigenous animals and birds for viewing. Wed — Mon 11 am — 3 pm

Port Charlotte Bowlerama (941) 625-4794

3192 Harbor Boulevard, Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Bowling and restaurant

Roller Magic Skating Centre (941) 627-0018

4628 Tamiami Trail, Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980

Located at the Rainbow Flea Market Building.

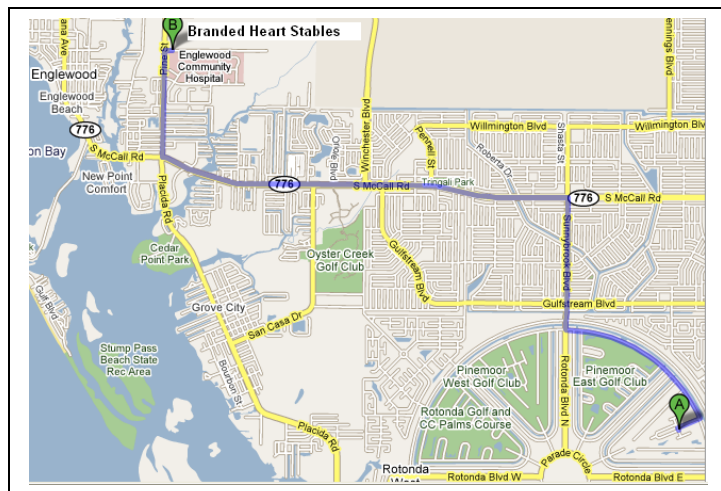
Offers skate sessions Sun — Fri

Shell Factory (239) 995-2141

US41, South of Port Charlotte at Fort Myers

Offering over 5,000,000 shells, historical displays, trains and fire trucks and wacky events.

Horse Riding



Branded Heart Stables

727 Morningside Drive
Englewood

Tel. 941-475-4475 / 941-474-6773

Run by Kathy Genth (lady with the hat on in the centre of the photo).
Horse & pony lessons with Western or English saddles.

Approx 15 mins drive (see map)

Boat Hire



This area has many marinas for boat, jet-ski or kayak rental. One of the nearest is Bay Breeze boat rental (475-0733), located on the right hand side of the road, just before the main bridge over to Englewood Beach. They have pontoon-style boats for rent or more conventional (and slightly more expensive) speed boats, both ideal for exploring and/or fishing in the local waters. You can find jet-ski and kayak rental next door (Beach Road Watersports 475-9099).

If you were born prior to 1980, you do not need a licence to operate most boats. You do need to stay within the marked channels, delimited by rows of red triangles and green squares, as the local waterways are very shallow outside of these dredged areas.

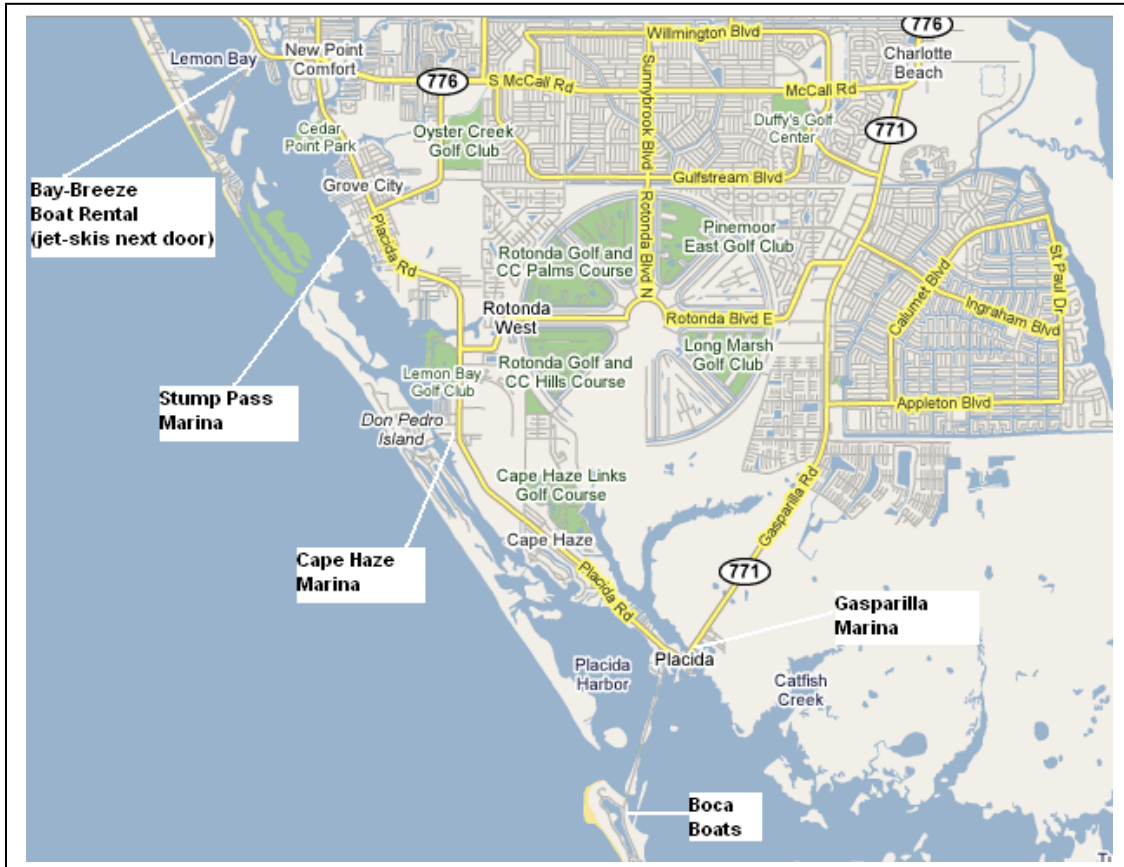
From this location, a half day hire (may need to book all day during busy periods) will enable you to travel south down the Inter-Coastal waterway to visit Don-Pedro island & its beaches, or stop for a drink at one of the Tiki Bars along the waterside, or else to stop-off for lunch at Rum Bay restaurant on Palm Island (<http://www.palmisland.com>) (tie-up on the first main jetty – look for Rum Bay Signs), Johnny-Leverocks Restaurant (left after the Palm Island ferries) or The Fisheries Restaurant (go south under Boca Grande swing bridge, then left after passing through old timber piers (former railroad track) and follow channel in to the mooring).

Other marinas for boat hire can be found at Gasparilla Marina (697-2280) at the end of Placida Road (near The Fisheries Restaurant), or on Boca Grande at either Whiddens Marina (964-2878) (south east side) or Boca Boats (964-1333) (on left 1 mile after tole bridge). These locations will facilitate exploration further south, eg around Boca Grande.

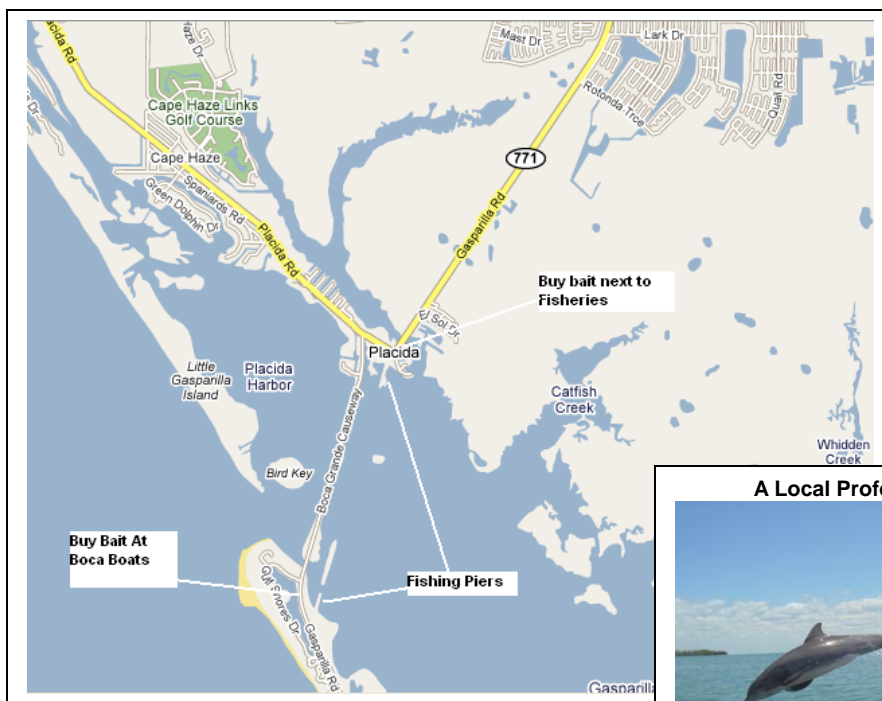
The staff at these marinas are usually very knowledgeable about the local areas and will be able to provide maps & directions to these (and other) points of interest.

If you would prefer to let someone else drive the boat, try an organised trip to Cabbage Key (<http://www.cabbagekey.com>) with **Boca Boats** (964-1333) (<http://www.bocaboat.com>) and watch the dolphins jumping through the boat wake on the way. Alternatively, for a smaller boat-with-captain, try the various offerings from Stump Pass or Cape Haze Marinas.

If you would like to visit Palm Island by boat, to explore its fine beaches and have lunch at Rum Bay Restaurant, there is a water taxi from the rear of Johnny Leverock's Seafood Restaurant (next to Cape Haze Marina on Placida Road).



Fishing

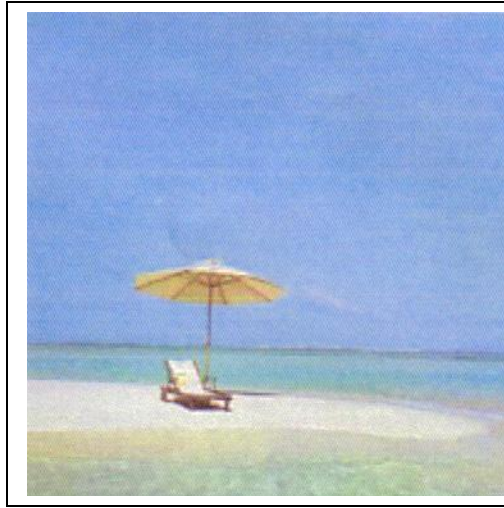


A Local Professional



We have rods, bait boxes etc in the garage. If you do not want to fish from a boat, there are a couple of good fishing piers at either end of the Boca Grande toll bridge (picture above is the Boca side). If you are over 16, you need a 3-day saltwater fishing licence, available from Wal-Mart or from the government office on San Casa (left at next lights after Wal-Mart, 2 miles). Bait (usually live shrimp) is widely available.

Beaches



The Gulf Coast is famous for its golden beaches and tranquil blue sea; there are lots of beaches in the area some of which can only be reached by boat. We have highlighted some of the main beaches, all of which are about 10 — 15 minutes drive.

We are sure you will enjoy any of the beaches and would be grateful if you discover any special places, that you let us know so that we can pass details on to future guests.

Take the northern exit out of Rotonda up Sunnybrook. At the lights, turn left and follow this road(SR776) for about 5 miles to the Beach Road sign (MacDonalds on the left) turn left and continue down the road, past the jet-ski hires and over the bridge to Englewood Beach and boardwalk. This has a pay-and-display car park and several restaurants.

Chadwick Park at Englewood Beach (941) 627-1628

2100 North Beach Road, Englewood, FL34223

16 Acres of amenities including Pavilion, Boardwalk, BBQ Grills, Picnic Shelters, Playground, Restrooms, Volleyball Courts, Fishing

Lemon Bay Beach

Driving north from Chadwick Park and continue out of town past residential properties until you get to a bend with a Large car park on one side of the road and the beach opposite. Restrooms and Outdoor showers are available for use by those using the beach. Wide miles of sand stretch as far as the eye can see.

At Manasota Key, turn left to Stump Pass Park and enjoy a walk along a sand spur which is washed by the Gulf of Mexico on one side and the Inter-coastal waterways of the Stump Pass inlet on the other.

Stump Pass Beach State Recreation Area (941) 964-0375

Southernmost end of Manasota Key 900 Gulf Boulevard. Englewood FL 34223
Amenities for Sunbathing, Shelling, Fishing, Outdoor Showers, Restrooms, Weather Shelter

Head south for 8 to 10 minutes from your villa and cross the toll bridge onto Gasparilla Island and the town of Boca Grande. Lovely beaches are open to the public along the Gulf stretches and at the southernmost tip are the beaches opening onto Boca Grande Pass where the two big rivers, the Myakka and the Peace force their way out into the Gulf of Mexico. A wonderful place to enjoy the views and the sand but swimming here is highly dangerous for both adults and children. The small town on the island is strangely reminiscent of a film set! Parts of the recent 'Pirates of the Caribbean' were filmed on the island's beaches.

Gasparilla Island / Long Beach

A long beach trimming the West coastline of Gasparilla Island, Amenities for Sunbathing, Picnic area, Shelling, Restrooms

Gasparilla Island / Lighthouse Beach

A small beach dominated by two restored lighthouses, one is now a fascinating museum. Good place to watch Tarpon Fishing from the land. Water is not safe for swimming for either children or adults.

Port Charlotte Beach Park (941) 627-1628

4500 Harbor Boulevard, Port Charlotte FL 33952

Amenities include BBQ Grills, Basketball, Boat Ramps, Bocci, Fishing Pier, Horseshoes, Picnic Shelters, Playground, Restrooms, Heating Swimming Pool, Tennis Courts, Volleyball Courts, Canoe/Kayak, Access, refreshments.

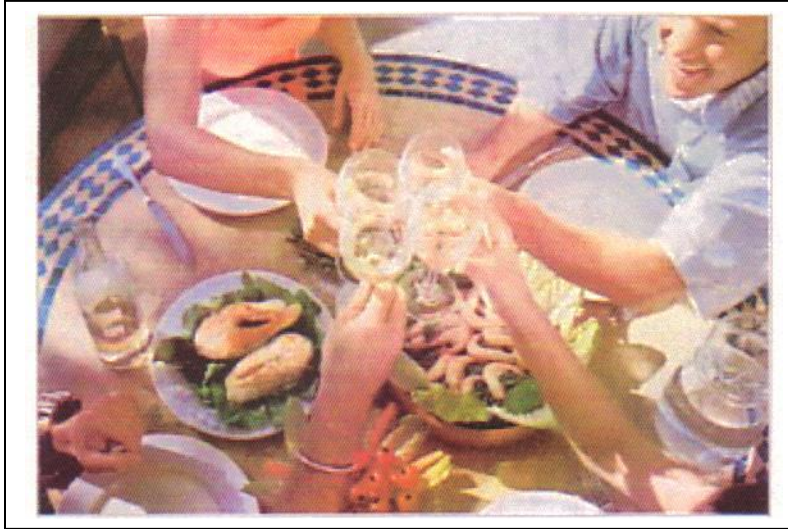
Alternatively, take a boat ride from several local marinas and enjoy a touch of Island beach life! The boat trip to Cabbage Key is particularly recommended (call Boca Boats 888-416-2628) as the dolphins usually arrange a free show, following the boat and jumping through its wake.

Don Pedro Island State Recreation Area (941) 964-0375

Barrier Island Park - approximately 1 mile of white sandy beaches on the Gulf of Mexico accessible only by boat. Boat docks are located on the bay side via a channel from the Inter Waterway at green marker No 35. Amenities include Park facilities Include picnic pavilion, tables, grills, outdoor showers and restrooms. Sunbathing, Shelling and Fishing. Local boat parking fees may apply.

A little further away:- For a great day out, drive north on US 41 past Venice and turn left towards Casey Key stopping off at Nakomis beach. Check-out the huge houses driving north on Casey Key. Sarasota is 15 mins further north (or skip Nakomis/Casey Key and go up I-75 to junction 210). Explore the park at the Sarasota Bayfront. Drive 5 mins, over the big bridge to St. Almonds Key. There are lots of shops and restaurants here. Then drive north over Longboat Key. Beaches are magnificent. Maybe end the day watching the sun go down at a beachfront restaurant such as 'The Beach House' on Bradenton Beach.

Eating Out



There are far too many restaurants for us to list them all, we have tried to help you choose from both our own and our visitors' experiences.

Locals eat early here between 5.30 and 6.30 and restaurants quieten down later. Most restaurants do not accept bookings and it is normal to wait between 30 and 45 minutes, especially on a Friday and Saturday night. In Florida, you 'wait in line' (or at the bar) and enjoy a drink & starter until your table is ready. Bon Appetite!

Many of the restaurants are situated around the mall area (east exit, turn left up to lights, right follow for 7 miles, mall on RHS) or else on South McCall Road (North exit, up to lights, turn left) or Placida Road (west exit, to lights, turn left).

For truly gourmet food, you won't go far wrong by visiting Gasparilla Island to the South and eating in some of the up- market (and more expensive) restaurants such as the pretty as a picture, Pink Elephant with outside veranda, or Temptations where the locals gather for excellent fish and steaks. Gasparilla also offers the '**Loose Caboose**' in the centre of Boca Grande where a basket meal at lunchtime followed by handmade ice cream is a real treat. South Beach on the road out to the Southern most tip of the island is popular and offers a pleasant stop right on the beach. Note that outside of the main winter season, some of Gasparilla Island's restaurants are closed.

Johnny Leverock's 698-6900
(<http://www.leverockspalmisland.com>)

7092 Placida Road, Cape Haze

One of our favourites to cycle to for lunch (when it's not too hot!), but take care on the 1 mile section of Placida Road. Fish restaurant with the catch phrase "If it's fresher than Leverock's, it's still swimming". Also has a Tiki Bar open Friday - Saturday – Sunday

Outback Steakhouse 766 7077

(<http://www.outbacksteakhouse.com/foodandmenus>)

1481 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Our favourite steakhouse! Try the Blooming Onion to start between four or six!

An Australian themed chain offering a wide selection of dishes, including of course, steaks from Midwestern grain fed beef. Both chicken and fish are fresh, never frozen.

Theirs are the best fillet steaks we have ever eaten! Consistently good.

Take East exit. Turn left, up to lights and right. 7 Miles to main lights with Mall on right.

Turn right. Next to Chilis and Olive Garden.

Trattoria 13 697-1313

(<http://www.trattoria13.com>)

8501 Placida Road, Florida 33946

Italian fare with a lively ambiance. West exit, turn left at lights. 3 Miles on LHS.

Chilis 255-0058

(<http://www.chilis.com>)

1471 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte Florida (next door to Outback)

Offers a distinct, fresh, healthy mix of grilled Mexican/American favourites prepared in their individual style. With burgers, fajitas, steaks and salads, they are a popular choice with children and adults alike. Try the lettuce leaf wraps' or the 'awesome blossom' for something completely different!

JJ's Hometown Restaurant 474-2200

3754 McCall Rd (take North Exit, turn left, 1 mile on RHS)

Good and not too far away. Also delivers & offers take-out.

Prime Time 697-7799

(<http://www.prime-time.netfirms.com>)

5855 Placida Road, Cape Haze. FL

Mix of American and Mexican food with enormous margaritas for the adventurous! Offers a 'take-out' facility. In plaza at West exit.

Joe Cracker 254-3444

(<http://www.joecracker.com>)

Sports grill & Tiki Bar. Usually very lively. Good snow-crab legs.

At Port Charlotte Mall

China Wok 697 8886

Chinese takeaway situated next to Publix Supermarket. Really good and very inexpensive! Usually only need to order 10-15 mins ahead.

Farlows 474 5343

(<http://www.farlowsonthewater.com>)

Great water-front dining with a Caribbean theme. Left out of the North Exit, on right hand side, a couple of miles past Wal-Mart (it's easy to miss the turning!). Live music some nights.

The Fishery 697-2451

(<http://www.sunstate.com/fishery>)

Gasparilla Sound, Placida, Florida (Where the 775 meets the 771 near the Gasparilla Toll) waterfront location. Good for lunch (easy to find & dock by boat).

Famous for walk-Ins, boat-ins, swim-ins, float-Ins — always welcome! A lovely blend of old and new Florida. The windows overlook a tangled area of mangroves teeming with wildlife. Serving really good, fresh produce, particularly fish. Well worth a visit.

ASUKA Japanese / Teppanyaki

Murdock Carrousel. 941-255-1119. Up to lights at the mall/US-41, turn right, Murdock Carrousel is a couple of miles on LHS. Great entertainment from your private Teppanyaki chef/performer & good food. Reasonable prices. (The Thai restaurant, Chaang Thai, next door have excellent Red Curries, even though the décor is a little plain).

The Pig 'n' Whistle, English Pub & Restaurant 941-698-0021

(<http://www.pignwhistlerotonda.com>)

Take the East exit. Turn left, 1 mile on left-hand-side. This is not just a pub, but a busy restaurant serving classic UK foods (Bangers&Mash, Curry, Fish Chips & Mushy Peas...). Also, very close to Rotonda.

Sharky's On The Pier, Venice. 488-1456

(<http://www.sharkysonthepier.com>)

About 25 mins drive but well worth the trip! You really should come here at least once.

North on US 41 to Venice, follow US 41 'Business' when it splits (Denny's on RHS)

Over bridge, turn left at lights onto Avenida Del Circo/Amora Avenue

Down to T-junction turn right onto Beach Road/Airport Ave. E.

At T-Junction turn Left. 1 Mile on RHS.

Very busy Fri/Sat but best nights to go. Get there early. Live music & dancing. Time your stay to include a meal, walk on the beach, stroll down the pier and cocktail on terrace above restaurant watching the sun go down over the beach (check out sunset times on weather page of our website www.hewprop.com). Beach is famous for finding fossilized sharks teeth! Inside restaurant is a little more formal than the outside with a larger choice of food, but outside is better atmosphere.

If you are exploring Venice further:-

The Crows Nest (<http://www.crowsnest-venice.com>) is very good, with informal dining with live music downstairs and formal waterfront dining upstairs (can be expensive).

The **Sarasota Area** is worth exploring. Get onto I-75 and go North to exit 210. Approx 5 miles, left onto 301, then right onto Ringling Blvd. Explore the water-front park, then drive North on US 41 then left on 789 over the beautiful bridge to St. Armands Circle to check out the shops and restaurants there. From St. Armands circle, turn right and follow road across the Longboat Key. Beaches are magnificent. Check-out the beachfront dining at The Beach House on Bradenton Beach.

If you want to see some really big houses and the beautiful Nakomis beach on your way to Sarasota, take the longer scenic route:- drive through Venice north on US 41 and turn left onto Albee road, leading to Nakomis Beach on Casey Key. Drive north up the length of Casey Key.

Jams in Boca Grande 964-2002

Corner of 5 and Railroad in the Railroad Plaza, Boca Grande, Gasparilla Island Italian American restaurant, open for lunch and dinner. Reservations accepted.

Loose Caboose 964-0440

The Depot Building, Centre of Boca Grande on Gasparilla Island
Serves light lunches inside and outside, speciality Grouper and/or Shrimp and/or chicken basket followed by excellent home-made ice cream. Also serves dinner 7 nights a week, Lamb chops, fresh seafood, Asian Duck, Pasta etc.

Koo's Kitchen -

Chinese takeaway situated in Tiffany Square on the main road (776)

Lickity Split - 474 2185

Like stepping back in time to a 1950's Happy Days Café — they do great ice creams, sandwiches, burgers and milkshakes either to eat in or take out.
Situated In Tiffany Square on the 776

Pappa John's Pizzas - 475 3131

This restaurant will deliver to your door. Pizzas are delicious but are huge.

Pizzas & Subs - 697 8999

This restaurant will deliver to your door. They do fantastic sandwiches and pizzas but beware they are huge portions. Also try their cheeseburger, it is delicious!

Rum Bay Restaurant (on Palm Island) 697-0566

(<http://www.palmisland.com>)

You need to get the ferry next to Johnny Leverocks. By car it's \$50. Walking or bicycle it's \$5. Good trip for lunch.
7092 Placida Road, Cape Haze FL 33946

Pink Elephant 964- 0100

Bayou Avenue, Boca Grande, Gasparilla Island
Offering excellent food, you will need to book. An almost Austrian style of restaurant where you can eat outside or on the balcony as well as inside.
Serves lunch 12.00 - 2.00, Dinner 6.30 - 9.30 and Sunday Brunch 11.30-2.00.
Closed Mondays and reservations essential.

South Beach 964-076

777 Gulf Boulevard (at the south end)

Very casual seafood dining on the beach overlooking the beautiful Gulf of Mexico. Music at weekends. Good place to watch the sun go down with a cocktail or two!

Temptations 964-2610

Another place frequented by locals. More expensive than most, but very good food. To the West of Rotonda, there are steak houses and places to eat overlooking the water. In Manasota Key itself, you can find the Gulf View and Crabby Georges.

Crabby Georges 475-7767

1975 Beach Road, Englewood, FL

Gulf View Grill 475-6700

(<http://www.gulfviewgrill.com>)

2095 North Beach Road, Englewood FL 34223

Highly recommended restaurant at Englewood beach. Enjoy a really good menu while enjoying a view of the Gulf of Mexico and watching the sun set.

Red Lobster 625-7745

(<http://www.redlobster.com>)

1331 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

A fast food chain with the emphasis on seafood. With all these chains, the menu range is wide, but the seafood is their speciality.

If you travel a little further than Port Charlotte and take the I-41. down to Punta Gorda, there are plenty of good restaurants and two in particular to be enjoyed at Fisherman's Village are:

The Captain's Table (941) 637-1177

(<http://www.smugglers.com>)

Fisherman's Village, 1200 West Retha Esplanade, Punta Gorda FL 33950

Fine dining on the 2nd level overlooking Charlotte Harbor, the Captain's Table offers fine dining with seafood, steaks and unique specialities leading the list of entrees.

Harpoon Harry's (941) 637-1177

(<http://www.smugglers.com>)

Fisherman's Village, 1200 West Retha Esplanade, Punta Gorda FL 33950

If you are out in a boat and looking for somewhere to eat that can only be reached by boat, two places are worth a visit. Cabbage Key is steeped in history and a 'must' for 1st time visitors. More casual and a haunt for local fishermen is Barnacle Phil's where if you are lucky, you may be paid a visit by the local otters!

Barnacle Bill's (239) 472-6394

Safety Harbor, North Captiva Island

Reached by water, this is a favourite with local anglers, sightseers and vacationers. There is plenty of dock space and you might even see Florida otters playing near the docks. Indoor dining or outside under the Tiki Hut.

Cabbage Key (239) 283-2278 P0 Box 200, Pineland, FL 33945

Reached by water, helicopter or sea-plane. Regular ferries run from Pine island, Captiva Island and Punta Gorda. Famous for Its Dollar Bill bar where first time visitors leave behind a \$ bill. Friendly with a good size harbor and serves both lunch and dinner. Look out for Manatees in the Harbor and tortoise on the island.

Cap'n a Cowboy - 743 3969

Very popular with some of the best food in town. It does 'awesome' steak, chicken and seafood

Carraba's Italian Grill 743-5299

(<http://www.carrabas.com>)

1811 North Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Italian Grill where they are passionate about the flavour of their food. Claim to use only the highest quality products available.

Olive Garden 625-8807

(<http://www.olivegarden.com>)

1341 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Italian Food served from one of the popular fast food outlets

Perkins

(<http://www.perkinsrestaurants.com>)

No visit to America is complete without the full breakfast experience. Nil by mouth from the night before and you are ready to tackle the 'Tremendous Twelve', bacon, eggs, sausage, pancakes and hash browns with toast and coffee and you might find you don't need to eat again that day! **Denny's** (<http://www.dennys.com/en>) is also great for all-day breakfasts!

If you prefer to eat-in, the kitchen is fully stocked with all of the pans and implements you will need to prepare meals. Publix, Winn-Dixie and Wal-Mart have good fish, meat and deli counters.

Alternatively, there are several local pizza delivery companies such as:

Joe's Pizza 941-698-1717

Domino's Pizza 941-475-5691 (or build your pizza on-line at www.dominos.com

remembering to input the correct address for delivery:

61 Par View Terrace, Rotonda 33947)

Golf



If you are a golfer, don't leave Florida without playing at least one of our courses. Many of the local fairways are clearly visible as you drive around. Young golfers are welcome at most clubs and day visitors are welcome. Golf carts and clubs can be rented at most courses.

Following the acquisition in 2011 of the PineMoor East & West courses, Rotonda Golf & Country Club now owns all five golf courses within the 3 mile diameter Rotonda circle and The Links in the Windward subdivision. Other owned courses are The Hills, The Palms, and the 27-hole Long Marsh course, in addition to the two Pinemoor courses. That's a total of 99 holes of golf!

Rotonda Golf & Country Club (<http://www.rotondagolf.com>)

Palms Course	(941) 697-8118
Hills Course	(941) 697-2414
Long Marsh Course	(941) 698-0918
Links Course	(941) 697-8877
Restaurant	(941) 697-4880

100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

Note: 99 holes of great golf that provides an enjoyable experience for all skill levels. Rotonda has outstanding practice facilities and the choice of 3 "19th holes", all three of which are within a 5 minute drive of each other. The courses are split into 5 totally separate entities, The Hills, The Palms and Cape Haze. The Hills and Palms are

challenging par 72 courses with plenty of water for any wayward drives. The greens are tricky so a steady putting hand is required. Cape Haze is known as an “executive” course, which actually means it is quite short. It has a par of 63 but is the classic example of ‘size is not important’. The only thing missing is any par 5’s as the course requires a lot of thinking about, club selection and is a very enjoyable play.

Long Marsh Golf Club (941) 698-0918

20 White Marsh Road, Rotonda West FL 33947

Charlotte County - Semi-Private Course

Designed by Ted McAnlis, Opened 1999 18 Holes, Par 72 (9 extra holes added 2008)

Open to the public All Year.

Note: Situated on over 300 acres, this course has been carved out of the existing countryside and its rolling terrain hits at a link type layout and abundance of oaks and native pines frame many of the holes.

Englewood / Cape Haze

Lemon Bay Golf Club (941) 697-3729

9600 Eagle Preserve Drive, Englewood, FL 34224

Charlotte County -Public Course- Audubon Society

Designed by Jim Petrides, Opened 1982 18 Holes, Par 71

Open to the public May 1 — September 30

Duffy’s Golf Center (941) 697-3900

12455 S. McCall Road, Port Charlotte, FL 33981

Sarasota County -Public Course

18 Holes, Par 59

Open to the public all year.

Heron Creek Golf & Country Club (941) 423-6955 5303

Heron Creek Boulevard, North Port, FL 34287

Sarasota County - Semi-Private Course

Designed by Arthur Hills, Opened 1999, 18 Holes, Par 72

Open to the public all year.

Note: This recently opened course offers you a variety of challenges within one course. Six tee boxes enable you to play this course from a daunting 7169 yards to a gentle 5141 yards. Heron Creek is renowned for having the highest “hills” in Florida giving the course a links feel to it. The rolling fairways provide many blind shots and there is a lot of trouble on 95% of the holes, ready to pick up off target shots. This golf course was subject to additional construction in June 2003 as they transformed the shrub area around the course into another nine holes of championship golf which is bound to draw attention when complete.

Riverwood Golf Club (941) 764-6661

4100 Riverwood, Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Charlotte County - Public Course

Designed by Gene Bates, 18 Holes, Par 72 Open to the public all year

Note: Riverwood is regarded as the hardest and longest course in the area with tight fairways and small greens making it a real challenge for all types of golfer. Whether you want to attack the course from the back tees or just enjoy the course from the forward tees, it will be enjoyable. Mike Burton the head pro is one of the best teachers in the area. If you need your swing tuned he is the man to see. It is also the most expensive course in the area, better rates can be found by going through Florida Suncoast Vacations.

Wildflower Golf Club (941) 697-1200

3120 Gasparilla Pines Boulevard, Englewood, FL 33424

Sarasota County

Port Charlotte

Bobcat Trail Golf & Country Club (941) 429-0500

1350 Bobcat Trail, North Port, FL 34287

Sarasota County Semi-Private Course

Designed by Bob Tway, Opened 1998 18 Holes, Par 71 Open to the public All Year

Note: It combines tight, tree lined fairways with lots of strategically placed water hazards. The Greens at Bobcat are some of the most testing in south west Florida with many hidden undulations, which make a good putting stroke essential. This is evident even before you step onto the first green, as there is a challenging practice green when you pull into the parking lot.

Another novelty which Bobcat introduced was the GPS in the golf carts which enables the players to keep score, know how far they hit their drives and how far to the hole. Most importantly, it allows players to order food and beverages whilst they are playing so they can just drive by and pick it up when they make the turn.

Parks



Charlotte County offers over 70 parks and recreational areas. Take a unique wildlife buggy tour through the silent beauty of an untouched cypress swamp.

Rotonda Park & Tennis Courts

Centre of Rotonda. From home, go up Par View Road to end. Turn tight. Down to Marker and turn right. 1 Mile to crossroad and left into Long Meadow Road, across two crossroads to end and turn left. 200 yds on right.
Has picnic, BBQ, childrens slides etc. and two tennis courts. 10 to 15 mins by bicycle.

Babcock Wilderness Adventures (800) 500-5583 8000

State Road 31, Punta Gorda FL 33982

Ninety minute swamp buggy tour through the 90,000 acre Crescent B Ranch and Telegraph Cypress Swamp, Biking with Bison Tour. This is a chance to meet panthers, bison, birds, and dozens of wild alligators face to face, You might see white tailed deer or wild turkeys. Professional guides conduct the tours and refreshments are available, Open November - May 9.00 am — 3 pm
June — October, mornings only

Bayshore Live Oaks Park (941) 627-1628

Bayshore Road, Port Charlotte, FL 33980

Bike Trails, Canoe/Kayak, Walking Trails, Picnic Shelter, Playground,
Fishing, Restrooms

Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park (941) 627-1628

15801 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda, FL 33955

Nature Preserve

Charlotte County Citrus (941) 639-4584

28900 Bermont Road, CR74, Punta Gorda FL 33982

Pick your own fruit.

Charlotte Harbour Environment Center (941) 575 5435

Alligator Creek, 10941 Burnt Store road, Punta Gorda, FL 33955

A 20 acre nature centre offering environmental education programs and wildlife exhibits.

Tippecanoe Environmental Park (941) 627-1074

SR627, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Hiking trails and wildlife viewing throughout its 275 acres of scrub and pine flatwoods.

Ponce de Leon Park (941) 575-3324

4000 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

BBQ Grills, Boat Ramps, Environmental Center, (Peace River Wildlife Center), Fishing, Nature Trail / Walking Trail, Picnicking, Picnic Shelters, Restrooms

Rotonda Park (941) 627-1628

100 Rotonda Boulevard, Rotonda West, FL 33947

Bike Trails, Multi-purpose fields open space, Nature Preserve, Nature Trails, Picnic area, Picnic Shelters, Tennis Courts.

Myakka State Park

Sarasota, Florida

Bike Trails, Airboat Rides, Nature Walks, Picnic Areas, Fishing, camping, etc...