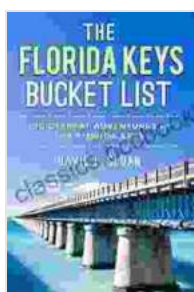


# 100 Unforgettable Adventures in the Florida Keys

The Florida Keys are a chain of islands that stretch from the southern tip of Florida into the Gulf of Mexico. They're known for their stunning beaches, crystal-clear waters, and vibrant coral reefs. But beyond the well-known attractions, there are also countless hidden gems waiting to be discovered.



## The Florida Keys Bucket List: 100 Offbeat Adventures From Key Largo To Key West by David L. Sloan

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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This guide will take you on an adventure through the Florida Keys, from Key Largo to Key West. We'll reveal 100 offbeat experiences that will allow you to explore the islands in a whole new way.

## Key Largo

1. **Kayak with dolphins:** Paddle through the calm waters of John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park and get up close to playful

dolphins.

2. **Visit the African Queen:** See the iconic boat from the classic movie "The African Queen" at the Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park.
3. **Snorkel at the Key Largo Dry Rocks:** Explore a shallow reef teeming with marine life, including colorful parrotfish and sea turtles.
4. **Hike the Long Key Trail:** Follow a scenic trail through a lush tropical forest, with views of the ocean and the backcountry.
5. **Go scuba diving at the Spiegel Grove shipwreck:** Dive down to explore the remains of a massive Navy ship that was sunk in 2002 to create an artificial reef.

## Islamorada

1. **Fish for sailfish:** Islamorada is known as the "Sportfishing Capital of the World." Book a charter boat and try your luck at catching a trophy sailfish.
2. **Visit the Turtle Hospital:** Learn about the rehabilitation of injured sea turtles at this unique hospital and release facility.
3. **Take a glass-bottom boat tour:** Get a glimpse of the underwater world without getting wet on a glass-bottom boat tour.
4. **Go paddleboarding in the backcountry:** Explore the remote waterways of the Florida Keys on a stand-up paddleboard.
5. **Visit the History of Diving Museum:** Discover the history of scuba diving and see vintage diving equipment at this museum.

## Marathon

1. **Visit the Bahia Honda State Park:** Relax on pristine beaches, hike to secluded coves, and go snorkeling in the clear waters of Bahia Honda.
2. **Take a sunset cruise:** Enjoy a romantic sunset cruise with champagne and hors d'oeuvres.
3. **Go kayaking in the mangroves:** Paddle through the winding waterways of the mangroves, home to a variety of birds and wildlife.
4. **Visit the Crane Point Museum and Nature Center:** Explore a nature preserve with hiking trails, a butterfly garden, and a sea turtle hospital.
5. **Go deep-sea fishing:** Head out into the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico and try to catch a variety of fish, including marlin, tuna, and wahoo.

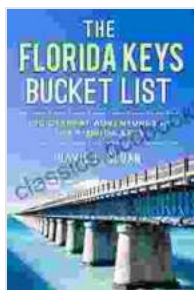
## **Big Pine Key**

1. **Visit the National Key Deer Refuge:** See the endangered Key deer, a tiny subspecies of white-tailed deer, in their natural habitat.
2. **Go birdwatching at the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge:** Observe a variety of birds, including great white herons, egrets, and pelicans.
3. **Take a kayak tour of the backcountry:** Explore the remote waterways of the Florida Keys on a guided kayak tour.
4. **Visit the Key West National Wildlife Refuge:** Hike through a variety of habitats, including mangrove forests, salt marshes, and hardwood forests.
5. **Go snorkeling at Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary:** Discover a vibrant coral reef teeming with marine life.

## Key West

1. **Visit the Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum:** Explore the home of the legendary author Ernest Hemingway and meet his famous cats.
2. **Attend a sunset celebration at Mallory Square:** Watch the sun set over the ocean while enjoying live music and street performers.
3. **Take a ghost tour:** Learn about the haunted history of Key West on a guided ghost tour.
4. **Go scuba diving at the Vandenberg shipwreck:** Dive down to explore the remains of a massive aircraft carrier that was sunk in 2009 to create an artificial reef.
5. **Visit the Key West Aquarium:** Discover a variety of marine life, including sharks, rays, and sea turtles.

These are just a few of the many offbeat adventures that await you in the Florida Keys. With its stunning scenery, rich history, and abundant wildlife, the islands offer something for everyone. So pack your bags and get ready for an unforgettable adventure!



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