ROPICAL HOLIDAY HOT SPOTS | PALM PARTIES | MIAMI, ORLANDO, THE KEYS | BEACH

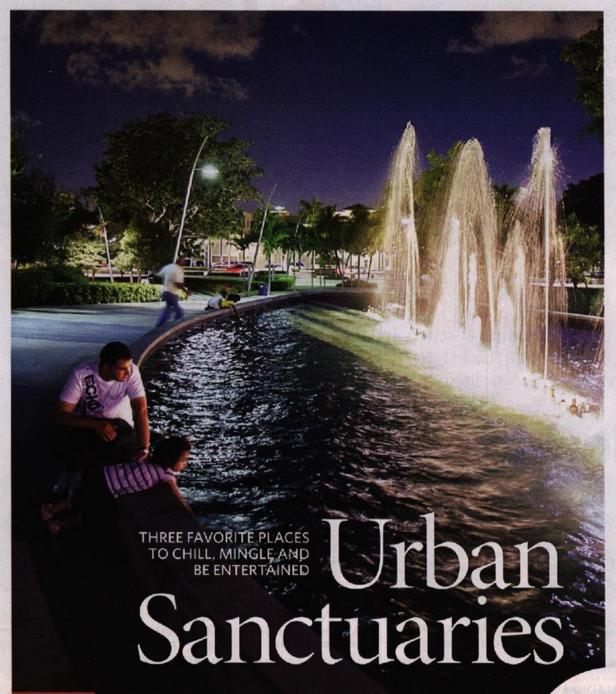


The Best Of BEACHES, BARS, BOATING & MORE OUR MUST-DO LISTS FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF FLORIDA



thegoodlife

fernandina beach + new marco musem + beautiful books



OUTDOORS

rbanites seeking a break from the hustle and bustle of the concrete jungle are finding creative public spaces that provide a breath of fresh air. They're part of a plan to "create a central urban space for people to gather in," says architect and park planner Margi Nothard of Fort Lauderdale's Glavovic Studio. Perhaps nothing reflects this more than the 10-acre ArtsPark (holly woodfl.org) in downtown Hollywood's historic Young Circle. Traffic may roll around its perimeter, but Millennium Springs, a sleek water-fountain sculpture, makes you forget all about it. Lighted water >>>

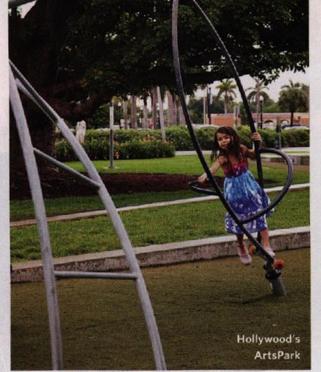
in this section orlando

FORT MYERS

MIAMI

On Palm Beach's tony Worth Avenue (worth-avenue.com), amid a posh lineup of designer stores, the once-blank canvas of Saks Fifth Avenue's west wall is now home to a garden flipped on its edge — nearly 11,000 plants mingle, interweaving different textures and shades of green in a stunning 24-foot-by-35-foot mural of living art. Near the vertical garden, a pocket park invites Avenue strollers to sit beneath shade trees.

Naples' Fifth Avenue South (fifthavenuesouth.com) has mini parks. Public art, including a smiling bronze gator, shares pavement space with benches that offer street views. These teeny niches double as performance venues where musicians often set up to serenade passersby. — PATTI ROTH

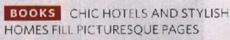


NEW

VINTAGE MARCO

What do vacationing jet-setters and the legendary Marco Cat have in common? The new Marco Island Historical Museum. Catch an exhibition on Marco's 1960s Rat Pack-era resort lifestyle plus Calusa Indian artifacts. themihs.org — SUSAN FRIEDMAN

florida by design

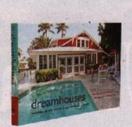




30A STYLE FROM GRAYTON TO ALYS BEACH

The interiors of coastal homes along **Scenic Highway 30A** grace the pages of this book.

The lifestyle of each town on this stretch is depicted through the decor: **beach chic**, colonial, modern and farmhouse cool.



DREAMHOUSES HISTORIC NAPLES

Old Naples comes to life in this pretty tome with fab photos of cherished vintage beach houses and cottages.

Lush landscaping, lighthouse-style towers, Victorian details and dolphin weather vanes add personality to these featured homes.



MIAMI ARCHITECTURE THE GROUND UP

This handy metropolis guidebook provides insight into the city's architectural heritage.

Find photos, facts and addresses of noteworthy buildings, from the historic **Freedom Tower** to Brickell Key's skyscrapers.



ALFRED BROWNING PARKER

MIAMI'S MODERNIST Some 400 photographs show off the works of this famed architect.

Local materials fieldstones and Dade County pine — show up in Parker's green designs. His works date from 1942 to 2001.



MORRIS LAPIDUS THE ARCHITECTURE

Lapidus' **prolific** career is told through photos in this coffee-table book.

The architect's iconic 1950s **Miami Beach** hotels — Americana, Fontainebleau and Eden Roc — wow in blackand-white images. — SF