

Miami Relocation Guide



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Moving to Miami



With its year-round sunshine, swaying palm trees and white sandy beaches, it doesn't take a genius to see why Miami, Florida, has become such a sought-after location for expats to move to. But what if we told you that these perks merely scratch the surface of what makes Miami so great?


Situated at the south-eastern tip of Florida, the city is highly diverse and multicultural, with residents from Cuba, Colombia, Nicaragua, Peru and the Dominican Republic. In fact, expats make up half of the population. So, you can rest assured you'll be welcomed with open arms.

No matter what you enjoy doing in your spare time, Miami has got you covered. Love food? Thanks to its thriving restaurant scene, you'll find some of the most exciting and delicious international cuisines here. Enjoy sports? You can catch a game for the Miami Heat basketball team, the Miami Marlins baseball team or the Miami Dolphins football team.

But that's not all. You'll also find a thriving art scene, energetic night-time entertainment, endless history and amazing attractions ranging from theme parks to festivals. With so much to see and do, you can see why the locals call Miami "The Magic City."

So, if you're considering moving to Miami but need to make your final decision, we've created this handy guide, which includes everything you need to know before you go.

Things to know about Miami:

Population 
491,720 (2022)

Neighbourhoods 

Miami is located within the Miami-Dade County, which is the most populous county in Florida. It's home to 34 municipalities, which include \ \

Miami Beach, Florida City, Bal Harbour and Sweetwater.

Time zone 

Eastern Standard Time (EST):

5 hours behind the UK.

Eastern Daylight Time (EDT):

Observed between March and November.

4 hours behind the UK.

Currency 

US dollar

Why Miami?



With endless ways to keep you entertained and a vibrant and energetic vibe that's all its own, Miami is undoubtedly a fantastic place to visit. But there are other reasons why the Magic City could be the perfect new home for you and your family.

Believe it or not, Miami is one of the most tax-friendly cities in the US, thanks to its lack of state income tax. This means that you'll only be expected to pay federal income tax, property tax and a sales tax of 7% when you move here, saving you a pretty penny in the process.

However, it's important to realise that, despite these low taxes, Miami's cost of living is considered to be quite high, with monthly expenses being around 10% higher than the national average. But, with access to world-class beaches, attractions and nightlife, this shouldn't come as a surprise.

You'll also be pleased to know that Miami has a stable jobs market while also boasting low levels of unemployment, thanks to its thriving tourism and hospitality industries.

Work culture in Miami



Naturally, you'll want to know what the work culture in Miami is like before taking the plunge to move here. While it's hospitality and tourism industries are some of the biggest within the city, there are still ample opportunities available within other industries, including property and construction, for skilled and non-skilled workers.

To help cement Miami's status as a cultural hub, there has been an increase in the construction of commercial and mixed-use developments in recent years, thanks to major corporations relocating to the city. This is alongside a healthy, growing population, which has resulted in a boom in new residential developments being signed off. In fact, residential projects make up just over half of the construction market, which is forecast to rise by 2.4% over the next 12 months.

Unsurprisingly, the work culture in Miami is renowned for having a laid-back and relaxed vibe, with an emphasis on not taking anything too seriously. So, if you were eager to escape the fast-paced grind of other major cities, Miami could be the ideal escape for you.



If you're interested in what potential property and construction job opportunities are currently available in Miami, you can get in touch with a member of our team. They will be able to help you kickstart your job search and find you a role that is specifically tailored to your skills, experience and career goals.

Visas and Permits



If the idea of relocating to Miami sounds intriguing so far, visas and permits should be the next thing on your to-do list. There are several visa options to apply for, but it's important to remember that many employment-based US visas require you to be sponsored by a US employer who have offered you a job before moving here.

Firstly, there's the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), which enables UK residents to stay in the US visa-free for 90 days. While this visa doesn't allow you to work during this time, it will enable you to attend interviews, go to careers fairs and attend industry networking events. Plus, it will also give you the opportunity to get a feel for the city and its work culture to see if it's a good fit for you and your family.

Another option is to apply for an immigrant visa. These employment-based visas typically last for two years before they require renewal. However, they can be renewed continuously, so long as you meet the visa's requirements. Once you've found a licensed company to work for and sponsor you, they will file a visa petition on your behalf with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

There are three work-based immigrant visa options available, from highest to lowest priority:



**E1 First Preference \\
People of "extraordinary ability"**



**E2 Second Preference \\
Professionals with advanced degrees and 5+ years of experience**



**E3 Third Preference \\
Professionals with 2+ years of training/experience or unskilled workers whose skills are in short supply**

Alternatively, there's also a non-immigrant visa, which can be ideal if you aren't planning on working and living in Miami permanently.

The most popular visa options within the category are:



**H1-B Visa (Skilled Worker) \ **

For professionals performing services in a prearranged professional job for a US employer, who have a bachelor's degree or higher.

→ Visa lasts for 3 years but can be extended.



**H2-B Visa (Skilled and Unskilled Workers) \ **

For people going to the States to perform seasonal work or fill a temporary labour shortage.

→ Visa lasts between 1-3 years.



**L-1 Visa (Intra-Company Transferee) \ **

For managers and executives with specialist knowledge moving to the US within the same company.

→ Visa lasts between 5-7 years.

To find out more information on employment-based immigrant and non-immigrant visa process, you can visit the [USCIS website](#).

The last option you might want to consider is the Permanent Residence Card (PRC), more commonly known as 'The Green Card'. As the name suggests, this permit will allow you to permanently live and work within the United States, without having to renew your visa every few years. However, many people don't manage to get approval for a PRC until they have spent several years working in the US on a temporary visa.

There's no denying that the visa process can be a lot to get your head around. Thankfully, you don't have to tackle it alone. Our consultants are on hand to help guide you through the process and answer any questions you may have.



You can find out more about the Permanent Residence Card process by visiting the [USCIS website](#).

Cost of Living



To give you an idea of how much you could be spending per month while living in Miami, here's a list of some everyday essentials and their current approximate prices:



Utilities



You can expect to pay anywhere between **\$100-\$200 (£78-£156) per month** for electricity, heating and water. In addition to this, you'll also be looking to pay roughly **\$50 (£39.10)** for a basic internet package. Some landlords will cover certain utilities, such as water and garbage pickup, while others will expect the renter to pay for all of their utilities based on usage.

Groceries



Miami residents pay on average around **\$375 (£293) per month** on groceries, but this will vary depending on the size of your household, how much you eat and where you choose to shop. On average, a gallon of milk is around **\$2.92 (£2.28)**, a loaf of bread is around **\$4.66 (£3.64)**, and a dozen eggs is around **\$2.70 (£2.11)**.



Eating out



You'll find a wide range of restaurants right on your doorstep in Miami, serving every kind of cuisine you can imagine. However, their prices vary greatly and can range anywhere from **\$10 (£7.82)** at a fast-food restaurant to over **\$100 (£78.00)** for a three-course meal for two. But again, it all depends on your appetite and where you choose to visit.



Transport



A litre of gasoline will cost you, on average, **\$0.92 (£0.72)**, whereas a single ticket on local buses will cost you around **\$2.25 (£1.87)**. There's also the option of taxis, which start at approximately **\$3.50 (£2.74)** and then have an extra charge of **\$1.24 (£0.97)** for every additional kilometre.

Finding a Home



Once you've secured a job in Miami, you now have the exciting task of deciding where you're going to live. But don't worry, you won't be short on choice. Thanks to the rich history, culture and landscapes, Miami is made up of a vast selection of neighbourhoods that are just as diverse as the city itself.

We realise it can be challenging to know exactly where to start your search, particularly if you've never been to Miami before and aren't familiar with its many neighbourhoods.

To help you get started on your search for a new home, we've compiled this list of amazing neighbourhoods for either families or single professionals to give you some much-needed inspiration.

Families



Coral Gables



Considered one of the safest and most beautiful neighbourhoods in Miami, Coral Gables is a top choice for families. Located in the heart of Downtown Miami and right next to Miami Beach, you can have fun in the sand and sun all year round whilst also taking advantage of the area's many parks, shopping centres and child-friendly restaurants. It's also home to the University of Miami, making it ideal for families with older children.



Families



Coconut Grove



Home to lush parks and tree-lined boulevards, the bohemian Coconut Grove is not only one of Miami's most historic neighbourhoods but is also considered one of the most kid-friendly too. Why not take the kids to the beautiful Peacock Park for an outdoor adventure or try your hand at paddleboarding at the Dinner Key Marina? If that doesn't float your boat, there's plenty of shopping malls and restaurants to keep you all entertained.



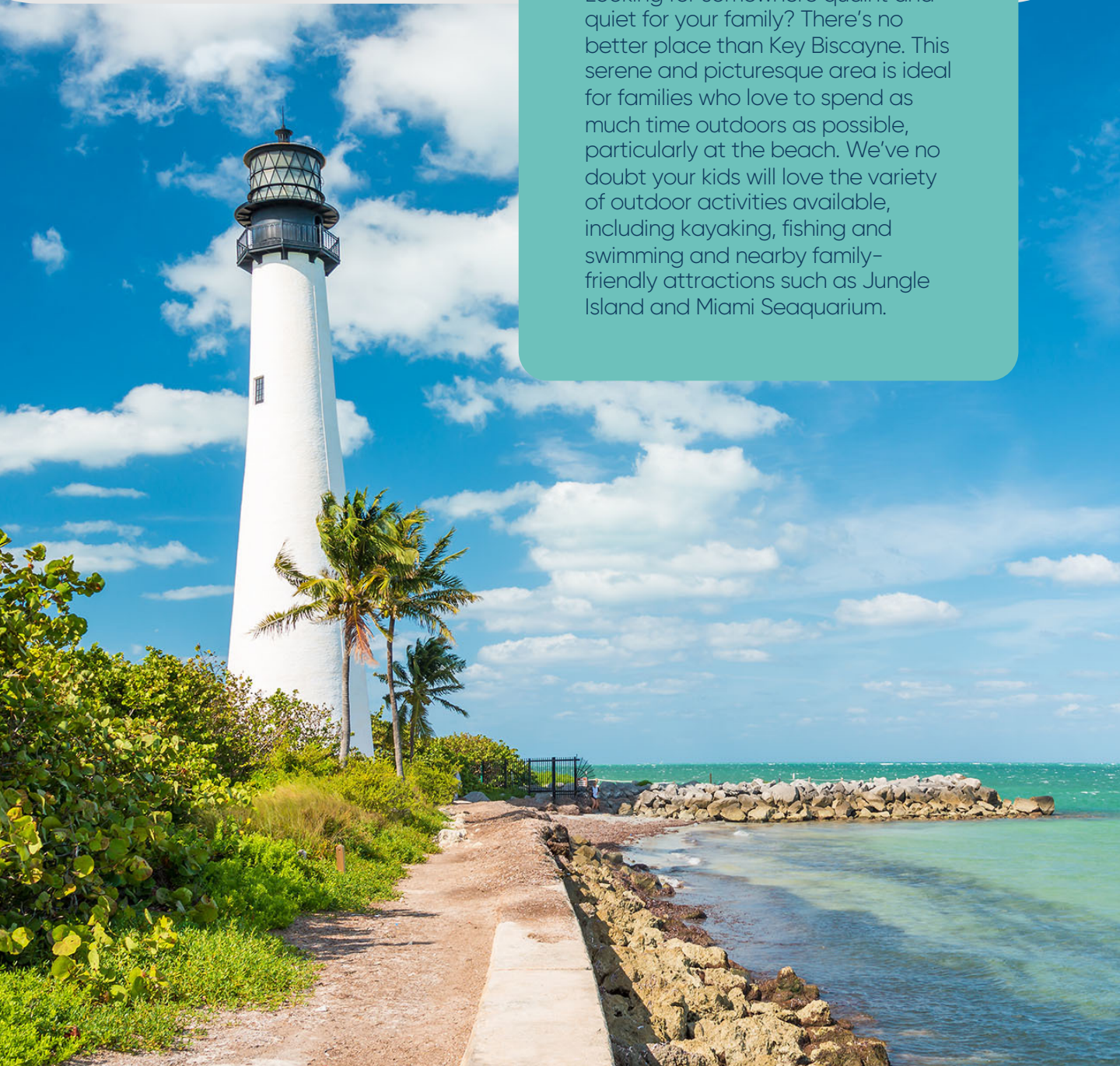
Families



Key Biscayne



Looking for somewhere quaint and quiet for your family? There's no better place than Key Biscayne. This serene and picturesque area is ideal for families who love to spend as much time outdoors as possible, particularly at the beach. We've no doubt your kids will love the variety of outdoor activities available, including kayaking, fishing and swimming and nearby family-friendly attractions such as Jungle Island and Miami Seaquarium.



Families



Kendall



Aside from being one of the more affordable neighbourhoods within Miami, Kendall has a strong family community and a thriving restaurant scene. Want to keep the kids busy on the weekend? You're spoilt for choice with the nearby Zoo Miami and Dadeland Shopping Mall. It's the perfect spot for a family looking for someone away from the hustle and bustle of the city but still with plenty to do.



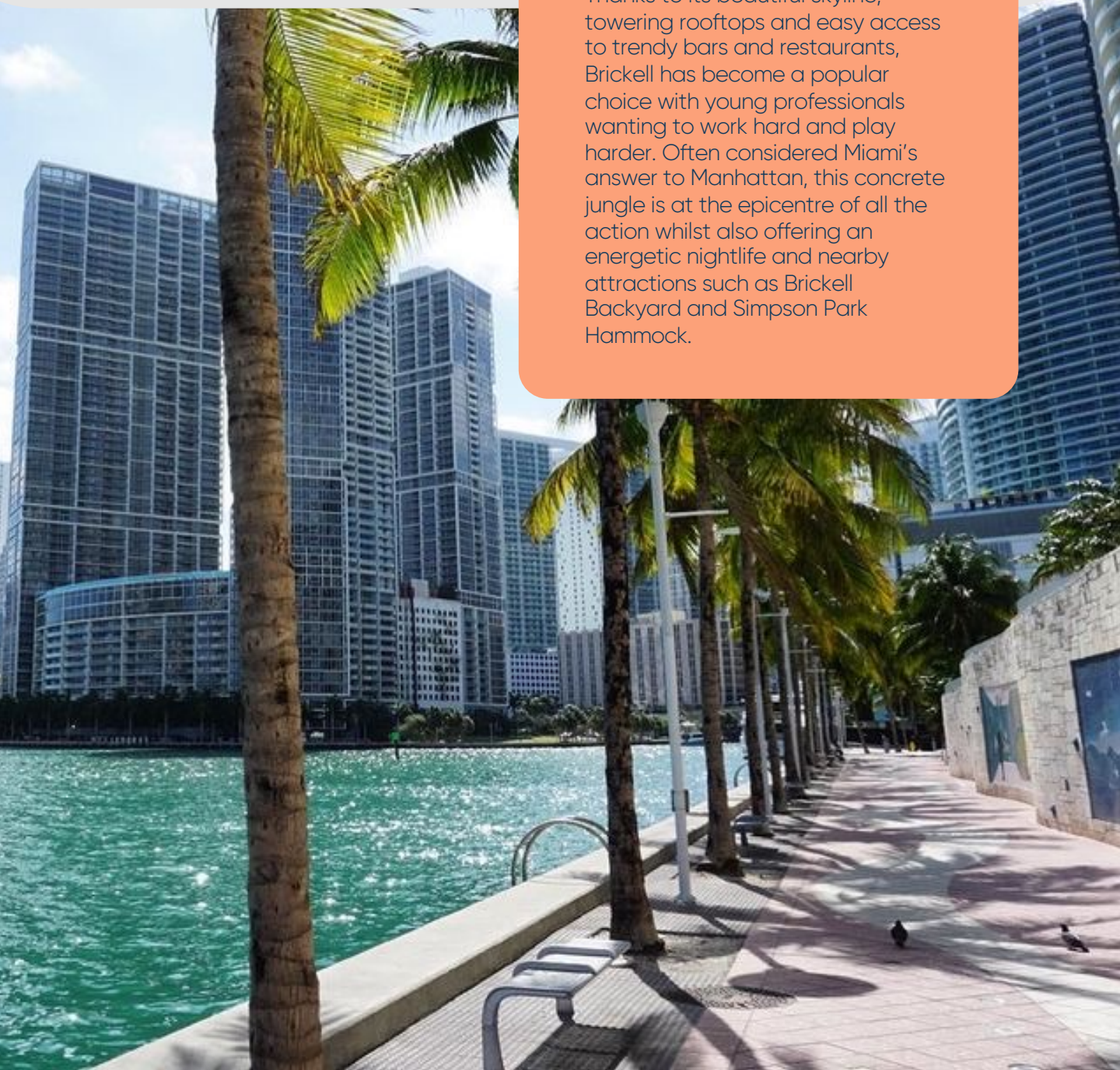
Singles



Brickell



Thanks to its beautiful skyline, towering rooftops and easy access to trendy bars and restaurants, Brickell has become a popular choice with young professionals wanting to work hard and play harder. Often considered Miami's answer to Manhattan, this concrete jungle is at the epicentre of all the action whilst also offering an energetic nightlife and nearby attractions such as Brickell Backyard and Simpson Park Hammock.



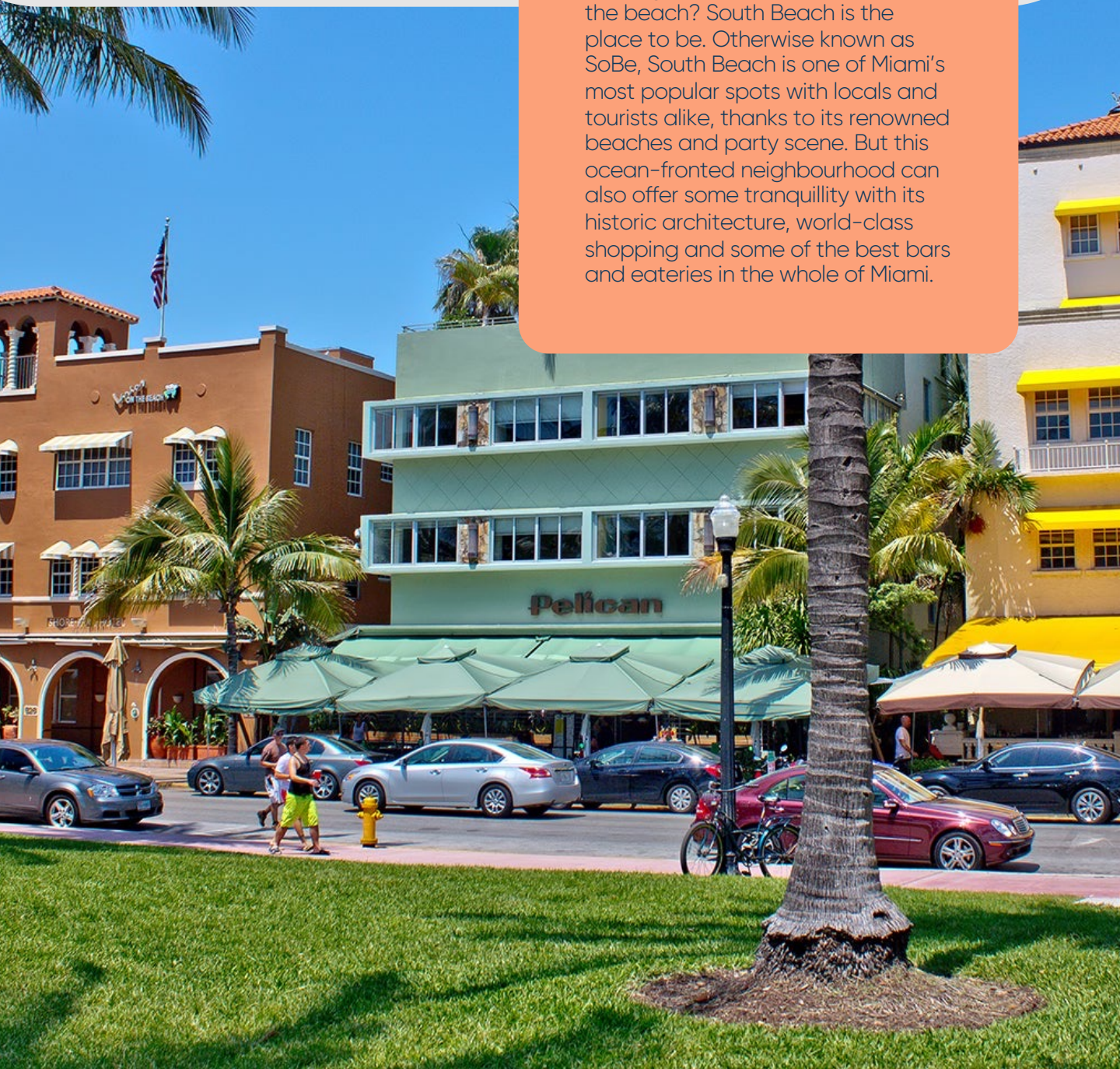
Singles



South Beach



Looking for a fun vibe that's near the beach? South Beach is the place to be. Otherwise known as SoBe, South Beach is one of Miami's most popular spots with locals and tourists alike, thanks to its renowned beaches and party scene. But this ocean-fronted neighbourhood can also offer some tranquillity with its historic architecture, world-class shopping and some of the best bars and eateries in the whole of Miami.



Singles



Wynwood



Wynwood is Miami's creative and cultural hub. With over 70 art galleries and multiple local breweries lining its streets, it's become a hotspot for art and beer lovers alike. But that's not all. It also boasts a fantastic array of restaurants, boutiques, live music venues and attractions such as the Wynwood Walls. With something always going on, Wynwood is anything but boring and can be a fun and thriving place to call home.



Singles



Edgewater



If you'd like to be close to the action but not too close, the peaceful neighbourhood of Edgewater might float your boat. Nestled on the shores of Biscayne Bay and Margaret Pace Park, Edgewater provides a nature-oriented and slower-paced lifestyle that's still within walking distance of many top attractions, such as Downtown Miami. There's also access to basketball courts, water sports and walking trails, making it the perfect home for fitness enthusiasts.



Renting



For many professionals who relocate to Miami, renting can be a highly viable option. Miami is considered a renter-friendly city, with around 70% or 127,000 of its households being renter-occupied. Renting can also be ideal for expats who want to get a feel for the city and its hundreds of differing neighbourhoods before making a more long-term commitment.

So, if you think renting could be a suitable option for your relocation to Miami, here's some important things you might want to consider before you start your search.

Unsurprisingly, rent prices vary drastically depending on which neighbourhood in Miami you choose to move to.

For instance, rental prices in Brickell Key, which is considered one of the most expensive areas within the city, average at around **\$3,392 (£2,660.33)** per month. In contrast, a rental property in Miami's Palmer Lake area will average at **\$1,049 (£822.73)** per month.

It's also crucial to consider the size of the home you're looking for, as this, too, can have a significant impact on the cost of your rent each month. Typically, a one-bedroom property can come to around **\$2,835 (£2,223.48)**, a two-bedroom **\$3,900 (£3,058.75)**, and you could pay up to **\$6,635 (£5,203.80)** for a four-bedroom property. But again, these figures will vary drastically depending on which area of the city they are located.

If these prices seem expensive, there is also the option of apartment sharing or moving further out of the city and commuting to work each day, which can help to bring rent prices down. You can find out more about apartment sharing on sites like [SpareRoom](#) or [Roomster](#).

US landlords and property management companies will ask for a security deposit before you can move into a rental property. Typically, landlords will require the equivalent of two months' rent for deposits on unfurnished apartments and up to three months' rent for deposits on furnished apartments.

Before signing on the dotted line and parting with a deposit, you need to find out exactly what is included in your rent and utilities, such as heating, water, electricity and internet. Maintenance and repair fees should also be covered, so don't forget to ask about this too. It's also crucial that you know what kind of agreement you're signing up to, especially if this is your first time renting a property. Generally, there are two options: monthly or fixed term.

As the name suggests, a monthly term is a short-term tenancy that usually lasts around 30 days and renews automatically because it doesn't have an end date. Fixed-term agreements, on the other hand, involve renting a property for a set amount of time, usually between six months to a year. Unlike rental agreements, fixed-term contracts will not automatically renew.



Now you know a little bit more about the rental market in Miami, why not start your search by visiting sites like [ForRent](#) and [Apartments.com](#).

Buying



While there certainly are benefits to renting, if you're planning to stay in Miami for the long haul and you're financially able to, buying your own home could be a more suitable option for you and your family. Before you start hunting for your dream new home, there are some vital things you'll need to think about first.

Thanks to its **thriving business landscape** and its **limited supply** of houses, Miami is considered one of the **most expensive** places to buy a home in the US.

Just **30%** of the homes within the city are owned, with the average price reaching **\$560,000 (£439,535)** depending on the area you choose to move to and the type of property you're interested in.

With this in mind, getting your finances in order and determining a budget should be your first port of call. The last thing you want is to guess what you can afford, only to be disappointed later. Also, don't forget that the exchange rate between pounds and dollars is constantly changing, so bear this in mind when you're putting your offers on a property.

Buying a property can be complicated enough, let alone when you're buying one on the other side of the world. So, it might be beneficial to seek out the help of some professionals who can help you tackle the different housing laws, property inspections, currency converting and viewing properties while you're still in the UK. This is another expense you will need to cater for when determining your budget.

The success of your home purchase will be largely dependent on the realtor (the US version of an estate agent) you choose to work with. Not only do they need to be reliable and understand your requirements, but they also need to be registered as a member of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) or the Miami Association of Realtors and have a wealth of local knowledge. If you can find a realtor that has previous experience working with expats, that will be even more beneficial to you.

Once you have your realtor, they should be able to put you into contact with local lawyers, financial advisors and anyone else who can help to make your house purchase go as smoothly as possible. It's also worthwhile to plan a trip to see potential properties you're interested in before your relocation date. That way, you can get a much better feel for the property, the local neighbourhood and its community.



Why not start your search for available properties in Miami by visiting Realtor or Zillow.

Once you
arrive



You've made it to Miami, now what?

Well, before you settle down into your new life, there are some formalities you'll need to take care of. One of the most important things to do when you arrive is to establish your residency in your new state of Florida. This will allow you to get your driver's license, register any vehicles you may have and enable you to pay tax.

Thankfully, this is a relatively easy process. Anything that demonstrates that you intend on staying in Miami will establish residency, such as:

- \\ **Renting/buying a house or apartment.**
- \\ **Being employed within the city.**
- \\ **Being registered to vote.**
- \\ **Having a business in the city.**

Here are some other important things you'll need to get sorted once you arrive in Miami:

- \\ **Get health insurance.**
- \\ **Sort out your finances, such as loans, bank accounts, pensions, and taxes.**
- \\ **Enrol your child into a school.**
- \\ **Get a license for your pets and find a local veterinarian.**
- \\ **Set up your utilities.**
- \\ **Register your car.**
- \\ **Get your driver's license.**
- \\ **Register to vote**
- \\ **Update your address with the USPS.**
- \\ **Get car insurance policy, if needed.**
- \\ **Set up your social security (you can do this when you apply for your visa).**

Healthcare



It's no secret that the healthcare system in the US is very different to the UK.



In America, healthcare is not considered to be a universal right as it is in the UK, and they don't have an NHS equivalent there. Instead, the industry is fully privatised, which means that all medical facilities are run by independent companies and medical help comes at a cost.

Many Americans sign up for private health insurance via an insurance provider or their employer. By paying them a contribution each month, they can reduce their medical costs should they get into an accident or become ill. **Estimates suggest that the average American spends around 5% of their gross income on medical expenses.**

It's important that you do your research into healthcare insurance providers and the types of medical cover that are available for you and your family as expats before you arrive. Most expats tend to go for an Individual Private Medical Insurance policy, otherwise known as an IPMI, because it offers global health coverage and is tailored to suit each person's medical needs. This can be particularly beneficial if you or a member of your family requires ongoing treatment for an existing medical concern.

Don't forget to ask your new employer if they offer any form of healthcare contributions too. Generally, companies with 50+ employees must offer ACA-compliant health insurance to their employees who work over 30 hours per week. However, if this doesn't apply to you, you will have to find your own health insurance.

Schools



If you're relocating to Miami with your children, getting them enrolled into a school will naturally be a top priority.

In Miami, any students who are legal residents are entitled to free public education. Like many cities around the world, school eligibility for public schools is generally determined by which zone your home is located. This could mean that schools are a big factor in which area you decide to relocate to.

Once you've decided which public school you would like your child to go to, you'll need to get in touch with the school to find out their registration dates and process of enrolment. To enrol your child, you typically need to provide a birth certificate or passport, immunisation records, proof of residency and their latest school reports. But this can vary depending on the school, so it's always best to check beforehand.

Alternatively, there's also the option of private schools. There are 351 private schools in Miami, so you won't be short on options. However, it can be an expensive option, with the average cost of private school tuition reaching \$14,502 (£11,382) per child per year. You'll also have to add on the additional cost of uniforms, textbooks and extra-curricular activities. Generally, private schools can offer perks such as a higher standard of education, better facilities and more one-on-one attention; plus, you often won't be limited by catchment areas.

Again, if you choose to go down the private school route, it's crucial that you get in touch with the school as soon as you can to find out their enrolment process and registration dates. They may also have scholarships available that you can take advantage of.

The education system in the US has a slightly different format to the UK:

Elementary school \ \

Kindergarten to 5th grade → ages 5-10

Middle school \ \

6th to 8th grade → ages 11-13

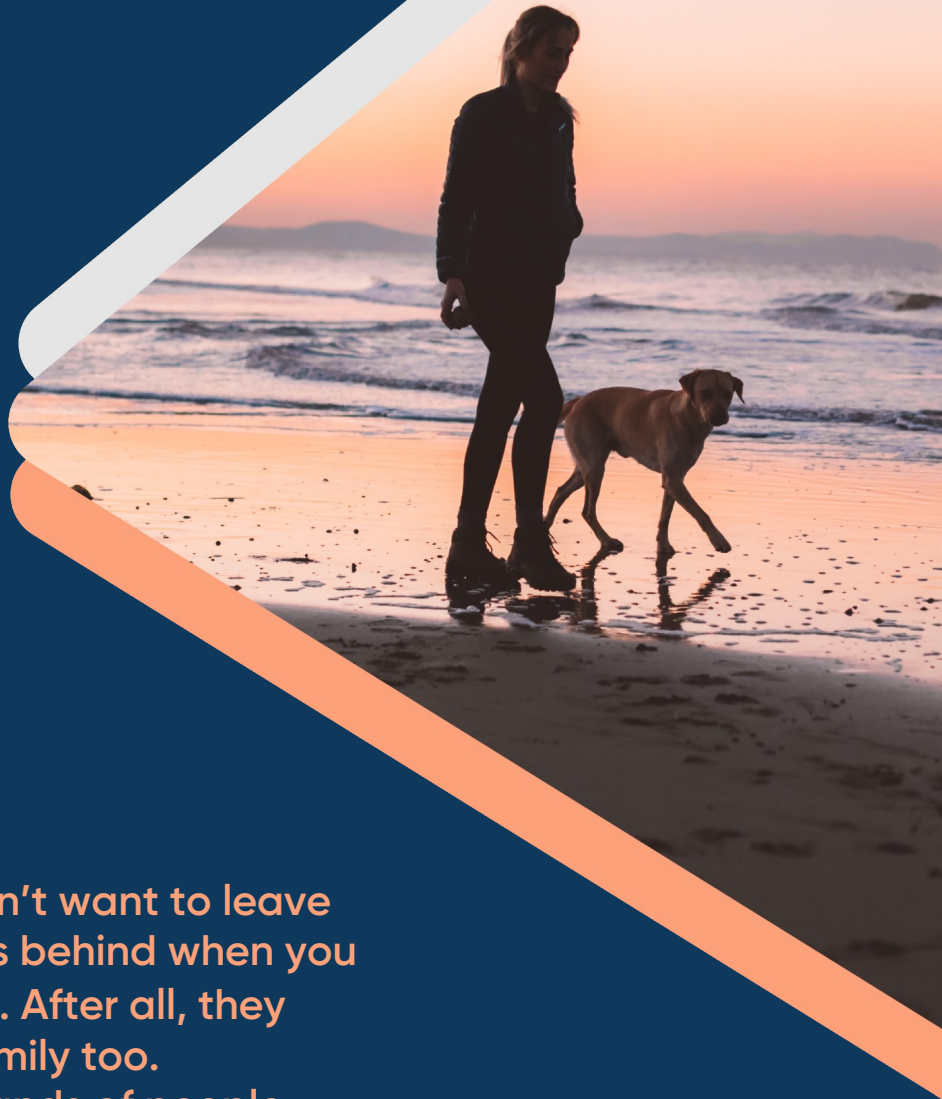
High school \ \

9th to 12th grade → ages 14-18



To help you get to grips with what school your child should attend once you've relocated to Miami, you can visit sites like [Schoolahoop](#) or [Great Schools](#).

Moving pets over



Naturally, you won't want to leave your beloved pets behind when you relocate to Miami. After all, they are part of the family too. Thankfully, thousands of people move to the Magic City with their pets each year so it's certainly possible. But there are some things you need to know first.

If you're renting, you might need to double check the conditions of your lease as some places won't allow pets at all. If they do allow pets, is there enough space for them?

Some property management companies might also ask for a one-time pet fee that is generally around **\$200 (£162)**.



Another thing to consider is going to look after your pet while you're at work. You might have to factor in the cost of a dog walker or sitter, plus getting your pet registered at a new vet surgery and pet insurance.

More importantly, it's crucial to think about how your pet will be during the transportation phase. There are multiple ways your pet can travel to Miami from the UK. The first option is to have them accompany you on the plane, either in-cabin or as baggage or cargo, but this can vary depending on the airline you are travelling with. Another option is to enlist the help of a [pet travel company](#) who can arrange the transportation of your pet for you.

According to the US Embassy, cats and dogs do not require a permit or rabies vaccination to enter the US. They will, however, need to have a health certificate from their vet that states that they are fit and healthy to travel. It can also be wise to contact your airline and the [CDC](#) to clarify just what documents you need to provide and how to register your pet once you've landed in Miami.



For more tips and advice on travelling on a plane with your pet, you can visit the [RSPCA](#) website.

Settling in





Feeling at home in Miami will come easy the more you get out and integrate with your new community.

That being said, we know it can be daunting to just go out and meet people, especially if you don't know where to start.

If you're eager to build a social network once you've moved to Miami, here's a variety of ways you can get started:

Join Expat groups \ \

Joining an expat group is a simple way of meeting fellow people from the UK. Not only will you have a shared life experience of moving to another country, but the people you meet can also offer invaluable tips and advice because they've already done it all before. Expat Facebook groups and websites like [InterNations](#) or [Meetup](#) will give you the chance to chat with other expats and find out about local events you can attend in your area.

Children \ \

Schools are a fantastic place to make friends with other parents. There's always plenty of events, such as bake sales, school plays, and sports games to attend, which can provide plenty of opportunities for you to introduce yourself.

Start a new hobby \ \

Whether it's joining the gym, learning a new language or getting creative at a pottery class, starting a new hobby and attending regular classes will automatically connect you with like-minded people with similar interests.

Ask for help at work \ \

Let your new colleagues know that you're new in town and ask for advice on the best places to grab lunch or go for a drink. They will undoubtedly share their favourites and may even offer to show you around. Work parties can also be a great way to get to know people in a less formal setting.

Getting around



How to get a driving license \ \

If you're planning on driving when you get to Miami, you'll be pleased to know that you can use your UK driving license for up to 90 days. However, during this time, you'll have to apply for a US licence, which will involve an application, theory test and practical test.

To get this process started with the [DMV in Florida](#) you'll need to have your visa, proof of residence and identity, and you'll have to pay a fee. Once complete, you'll be given a temporary license, which you can use for 45 days or until your permanent license arrives in the post at your home address.

It's important to note that, like most cities, Miami has a reputation for having heavy traffic. In fact, studies have found that it has the 10th worst traffic in the nation, and drivers can spend up to 106 hours on average in traffic per year. So, expect delays and the possibility of having to use alternative routes to get to where you're going, especially during rush hour.

Aside from driving on the opposite side of the road, there's also parking to contend with. Miami Dade County has strict parking enforcement, which can lead to costly parking fines and tickets if you fail to pay a meter, and you can also get towed for parking incorrectly. The average parking ticket is around **\$36 (£28.26)**.

With on and off-street parking available, there are plenty of places to park your vehicle within the city. However, while there is free parking available in certain areas, these spaces go quickly, and parking rates can get quite pricey. Street parking rates can vary from **\$2-\$4 (£1.57-£3.14)** per hour, while parking garages can charge anywhere between **\$2 (£1.57)** per hour to **\$30 (£23.55)** per day, but this varies depending on which neighbourhood you're in.

It can be useful to download apps like [ParkMe](#) to help you get more familiar with parking in the city, which can be a lifesaver when you're new in town.

Public Transport \ \

Don't worry if you're not a driver, there are still plenty of ways to get around, thanks to the countless public transport options that are available throughout the city. One of the fastest and most affordable options in the city is the Metrorail, which is a 25-mile elevated rail system with fares starting from just **\$2.25 (£1.77)**.

Another option is the Metrobus, which operates more than 90 routes and provides easy access to some of Miami's most popular shopping centres and attractions. Single bus trips cost around **\$2.25 (£1.77)**, while weekly passes cost **\$29.25 (£22.96)**, and monthly 1-passes cost **\$112.50 (£88.30)**. You can also catch a ride from the Metrorail system, which also travels to all corners of the city and costs just **\$5.65 (£4.43)** for a daily pass.

Alternatively, there's also the option of grabbing a taxi. The cost of your journey will be dependent on factors such as traffic conditions and distance, but generally, taxis will charge a base fare of around **\$3.50 (£2.74)** and then have an extra charge of **\$1.24 (£0.97)** for every additional kilometre.

Top attractions



If you've never been to Miami before, here is a list of our favourite attractions that you absolutely must visit to fully immerse yourself into this incredible city:



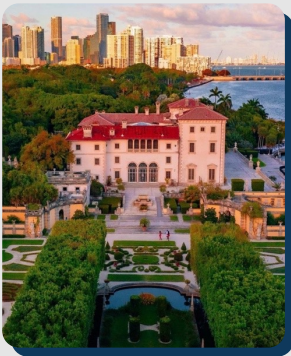
Zoo Miami \ \

Home to 2,500 animals across 750 acres, Zoo Miami is the largest zoo in Florida and the fifth largest in the United States. Thanks to the unique climate in South Miami, it's the only sub-tropical zoo in the continental US and features lush, tropical, open-air exhibits that replicate the animals' natural habitats and promote wildlife conservation.



Wynwood Walls \ \

Since it opened in 2009, Wynwood Walls has evolved into a renowned street art museum and continuously features artwork from some of the world's leading muralists, fine artists and graffiti writers. Filled with abstract paintings, thought-provoking sculptures, and murals, this outdoor art space perfectly showcases Miami's unique and diverse art scene.



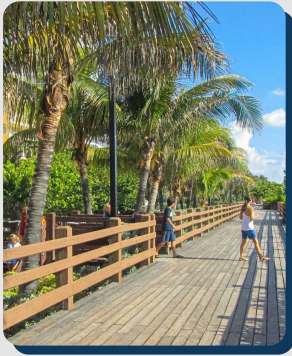
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens \ \

With its timeless Mediterranean-style architecture and collections that date back as far as Pompeii, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens is an attraction unlike any other. Whether you want to learn from the museum's historical artefacts or fancy exploring the 10-acre gardens, it's the perfect place to while away an afternoon.



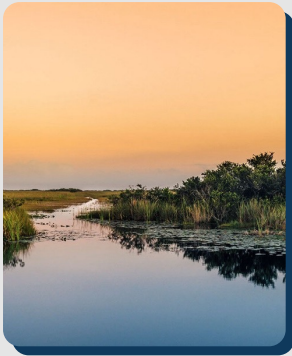
Venetian Pool \ \

Both a historical landmark and fully functional public swimming pool, the Venetian pool is another absolute must-see attraction. Carved out of coral rock in 1923, it features caves, stone bridges and waterfalls and is refilled with 820,000 gallons of fresh water every day. It's like taking a dip in your very own lagoon and is the perfect relief from the Miami heat.



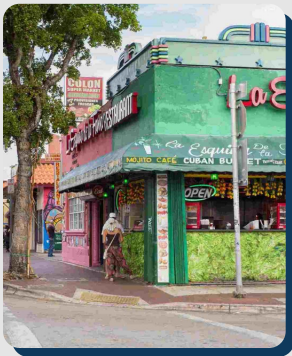
Miami Beach Boardwalk \ \

With stunning views of Miami's beaches and the Atlantic ocean, this legendary boardwalk is an absolute must for tourist and locals alike. You can take in the views of the beautiful Miami shoreline and the Atlantic Ocean, whilst also doing a spot of people watching at some of the Boardwalk's many cafes, restaurants, and bars.



Everglades National Park \ \

Want to get away from the city and go on a real adventure? The Everglades National Park is the largest subtropical wilderness in the US and is only an hour away from Downtown Miami. There's so much to see and so many ways to enjoy this gorgeous, natural oasis and its wildlife, from hiking to boat rides to overnight camping, that you'll find yourself coming back again and again.



Little Havana \ \

There's no better place to get a taste of Miami's Cuban and Hispanic culture than Little Havana. You'll discover streets lined with Latin-inspired restaurants, bakeries, cigar shops, music venues and art galleries, as well as activities like salsa dancing and playing dominoes. After such a feast for the senses, we guarantee you'll soon be back for more.

Culture shocks



When moving to the US, there are a few general things that are specific to American culture that you might not be used to:



Tipping \ \

Tipping **15-20%** of your total bill in bars, restaurants, and taxis is customary and expected in America, so make sure you don't forget to do so.



Jaywalking \ \

Crossing the road wherever you want is illegal in the US, and you can end up with a fine of **up to \$250** if caught by the police.



Sales Tax \ \

While the price tag of an item may say one thing, these prices don't generally include tax, like they would in the UK. So don't be shocked if the price of an item is higher once you take it to the checkout.

Holidays \ \



Americans mostly acknowledge the same holidays that we have in the UK, like New Year's and Christmas Day. Though, there are some American specific holidays you should be aware of, such as:



Independence Day

The Fourth of July is a federal holiday that commemorates the US declaring its independence from the UK. It's associated with fireworks and parades.



Thanksgiving

The 4th Thursday of November is a family holiday, with origins as a harvest festival. It's usually celebrated with a feast of turkey, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The third Monday of January is a federal holiday to commemorate the life and work of Dr. King, who was a prominent leader in the American civil rights movement.



Memorial Day

The last Monday in May is a federal holiday, dedicated to remembering military personnel who have lost their lives whilst serving in the United States Armed Forces.