

Nightlife

NAME TYPE	ADDRESS (CROSS STREET) WEBSITE	N'HOOD COVER	PHONE NOISE	EXPERIENCE
Club 50 at the Viceroy Club Lounge	485 Brickell Ave. (SE Fifth St.) viceroymiami.com	BK	305-503-4400 =	Hot & Cool
Cozy Piano Bar	500 South Pointe Dr. (Washington Ave.) thecozybar.com	SB	305-538-2699 =	Hot & Cool
Karu & Y Nightclub	71 NW 14th St. (NW Miami Ct.) karu-y.com	DM C	305-403-7850 =	Hot & Cool
LIV Nightclub Nightclub	4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.) livnightclub.com	MB C	305-674-4680 =	Hot & Cool
Louis Bar Lounge Nightclub	2325 Collins Ave. (23rd St.) louismiami.com	SB C	305-531-4600 =	Hot & Cool
Plunge Rooftop Lounge Lounge	2377 Collins Ave. (W. 24th St.) gansevoortsouth.com/rooftop-pool	SB	305-604-1000 =	Hot & Cool
SET Night Club Nightclub	320 Lincoln Rd. (Washington Av e.) setmiami.com	SB	305-531-2800 =	Hot & Cool

Attractions

NAME TYPE	ADDRESS (CROSS STREET) WEBSITE	N'HOOD PRICE	PHONE	EXPERIENCE
Art + Design Night Art Gallery	N. Miami Avenue and NE 40th St. miamidesigndistrict.net	DD \$\$	305-573-8116	Arty Party
C Madeleine's Store	13702 Biscayne Blvd. (NE 135th St.) shop.cmadeleines.com	NM	305-945-7770	Clásico
Monsieur Spa	3143 Ponce de Leon Blvd. (Santander Ave.) monsieurspa.com	GA \$\$\$	305-774-2931	Arty Party
The Spa at David Barton Gym Spa	2323 Collins Ave. (23rd St.) davidbartongym.com	SB \$\$\$	305-534-1660	Hot & Cool
The Webster Store	1220 Collins Ave. (12th St.) thewebstermiami.com	SB	305-674-7899	Hot & Cool

Neighborhood Key

BA = Bal Harbour	GA = Coral Gables	OS = Outskirts
BK = Brickell	KB = Key Biscayne	SB = South Beach
CG = Coconut Grove	LH = Little Havana	VK = Virginia Key
DD = Design District	MB = Mid-Beach	
DM = Downtown Miami	NM = North Miami	

NIGHT+DAY MIAMI

Ins and Outs

The Top 50 Noteworthy Additions plus Changes and Closures

from publication date through December 31, 2009

The Night+Day promise

Night+Day writers and editors use the same high standards in selecting and researching venues to be included in our Ins and Outs updates as we do for our books. Our local correspondents determine which new hot spots are the real deal and which are simply hype—just as you'd expect from Night+Day—to provide the kind of reliable information you need to make the best possible choices.

NightandDayGuides.com

Key to Night+Day Symbols

Restaurants

Singles-friendly

- [T] Communal table
- [B] Food served at bar

(G) Gourmet destination

Nightlife

Includes bars, clubs, and entertainment

- [C] Cover or ticket charge (otherwise, entry is free)

Restaurants + Nightlife

Prime-time noise levels

- [Q] Quiet
- [A] A buzz, but still conversational
- [L] Loud

Venues followed by an asterisk (\*) are those we recommend as both a restaurant and a destination bar.

Key to Pricing

Hotels

Best deluxe room

- \$ \$100–\$199
- \$\$ \$200–\$299
- \$\$\$ \$300–\$399
- \$\$\$\$ \$400 and up

Restaurants

Main course

- \$– less than \$10
- \$ \$10–\$19
- \$\$ \$20–\$29
- \$\$\$ \$30–\$39
- \$\$\$\$ \$40 and up

Attractions

Entry or service

- \$– less than \$10
- \$ \$10–\$19
- \$\$ \$20–\$29
- \$\$\$ \$30–\$39
- \$\$\$\$ \$40 and up

NIGHT+DAY

The Cool Cities series

from PULSEGUIDES

TOC

Hot & Cool Hotels

The Angler’s Boutique Resort . . . . .4  
 The Betsy . . . . .4  
 Gansevoort South Hotel . . . . .4  
 Mondrian South Beach . . . . .5  
 Viceroy Hotel . . . . .5  
 W South Beach . . . . .5

Hot & Cool Restaurants

Asia de Cuba . . . . .5  
 BLT Steak . . . . .6  
 Blu la Pizzeria de Sole . . . . .6  
 Bourbon Steak . . . . .6  
 Cita’s Italian Chophouse . . . . .7  
 8 Oz. Burger Bar . . . . .7  
 Eos at Viceroy . . . . .7  
 Hakkasan . . . . .7  
 La Marea . . . . .7  
Mai Tardi . . . . .8  
 Meat Market . . . . .8  
 Mr. Chow . . . . .8  
 Ola at Sanctuary . . . . .8  
 Plat Bleu . . . . .9  
Prelude by Barton G. . . . . .9  
 Prime Italian . . . . .9  
 Scarpetta . . . . .9  
Talavera . . . . .10  
Urbanite Bistro . . . . .10  
 Wish . . . . .10

Hot & Cool Nightlife

Club 50 at the Viceroy Club . . . . .10  
Cozy . . . . .11  
 Karu & Y . . . . .11  
 LIV Nightclub . . . . .11  
 Louis Bar Lounge . . . . .11

Underline indicates recommendation made in most recent calendar quarter.  
 Venues with asterisk (\*) have descriptions in both restaurant and nightlife categories.

Restaurants (cont.)

NAME TYPE	ADDRESS (GROSS STREET) WEBSITE	N’HOOD PRICE	PHONE NOISE/SINGLES	EXPERIENCE
Hakkasan Chinese	4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.) fontainebleau.com	MB \$\$\$\$	786-276-1388 =	Hot & Cool
Gotham Steak Italian	4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.) fontainebleau.com	MB \$\$\$\$	877-326-7412 = B	Clásico
Joey’s Italian Cafe Italian	2506 NW Second Ave. (25th St.) joeywynwood.com	DM \$\$	305-438-0488 =	A rty Party
La Marea Mediterranean	1220 Ocean Dr. (12th St.) tidessouthbeach.com	SB \$\$	305-604-5070 = B	Hot & Cool
Lido Restaurant and Bayside Grill Mediterranean	40 Island Ave. (Venetian Causeway) standardhotel.com	SB \$\$	305-673-1717 = B	A rty Party
Mai Tardi Italian	62 NE 14th St. (NE Second Ave.) matardimiami.com	DD \$\$	305-572-1400 = B	Hot & Cool
Mamajuana Cafe Latin American	225 Altara Ave. (Aurora St.) mamajuana-cafe.com	GA \$\$\$	305-443-0505 = B	A rty Party
Meat Market Steak House	915 Lincoln Rd. (Jefferson Ave.) meatmarketmiami.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-532-0088 = B	Hot & Cool
Mr. Chow Chinese	2201 Collins Ave. (22nd St.) mrchow.com	SB \$\$\$	305-695-1695 = B D	Hot & Cool
Ola at Sanctuary Latin American	1745 James Ave. (17th St.) sanctuariesobe.com	SB \$\$\$	305-673-8804 = B	Hot & Cool
Pacific Time Regional/Asian	35 NE 40th St. (N. Miami Ave.) pacifictimerestaurant.com	DD \$\$	305-722-7369 =	A rty Party
Philippe Chinese	2305 Collins Ave. (23rd St.) philippechow.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-674-0250 = B	A rty Party
Plat Bleu French Bistro	1685 Collins Ave. (17th St.) delano-hotel.com	SB \$\$	305-674-6400 =	Hot & Cool
Prelude by Barton G. American	Arsht Center, Ziff Ballet Opera House, 2nd floor, 1444 Biscayne Blvd. (14th St.) preludebybartong.com	DM \$\$	305-357-7900 = B	Hot & Cool
Prime Italian Italian	101 Ocean Dr. (First St.)	SB \$\$\$\$	305-695-8484 =	Hot & Cool
Scarpetta Italian	4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.) fontainebleau.com	MB \$\$\$\$	877-326-7412 = B	Hot & Cool
Sra. Martinez Tapas (G)	4000 NE Second Ave. (NE 40th St.)	DM \$\$\$	305-573-5474 = B	A rty Party
Talavera Mexican	2299 Ponce de Leon Blvd. (Giralda Ave.) talaveraspot.com	GA \$\$	305-444-2955 = B	Hot & Cool
Urbanite Bistro American/Bistro	62 NE 14th St. (N. Miami Ave.) urbanitebistro.com	DM \$\$	305-374-0662 = B	Hot & Cool
Wish American (G)	801 Collins Ave. (Eighth St.) wishrestaurant.com	SB \$\$\$	305-674-9474 = B	Hot & Cool

# Black Book Miami

## Hotels

NAME TYPE (ROOMS)	ADDRESS (CROSS STREET) WEBSITE	N'HOOD PRICE	PHONE 800 NUMBER	EXPERIENCE
The Angler's Boutique Resort Modern (49)	660 Washington Ave. (Sixth St.) theanglersresort.com	SB \$\$\$	305-534-9600 866-729-8800	Hot & Cool
The Betsy Timeless (63)	1440 Ocean Dr. (14th St.) thebetsyhotel.com	SB \$\$\$	305-531-6100 866-792-3879	Hot & Cool
Epic Hotel Trendy (411)	270 Biscayne Blvd. (NE Third St.) epichotel.com	DM \$\$\$\$	305-424-5226 866-760-3742	Arty Party
Fontainebleau Miami Beach Timeless (1,504)	4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.) fontainebleau.com	MB \$\$\$\$	305-538-2000 866-548-5670	Clásico
Gansevoort South Hotel Modern (334)	2377 Collins Ave. (23rd St.) gansevoortsouth.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-604-1000 866-932-6694	Hot & Cool
Mondrian South Beach Trendy (335)	1100 West Ave. (11th St.) mondrian-miami.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-514-1500 800-697-1791	Hot & Cool
Viceroy Hotel Trendy (162)	485 Brickell Ave. (SE Fifth St.) viceroymiami.com	BK \$\$\$	305-503-4400 866-781-9923	Hot & Cool
W South Beach Trendy (312)	2201 Collins Ave. (22nd St.) stanwoodhotels.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-938-3000	Hot & Cool

## Restaurants

NAME TYPE	ADDRESS (CROSS STREET) WEBSITE	N'HOOD PRICE	PHONE NOISE/SINGLES	EXPERIENCE
Abokado Japanese/Latin	900 S. Miami Ave. (SW Ninth St.) abokadosushi.com	BK \$\$\$	305-347-3700 = B	Arty Party
Area 31 Seafood	270 Biscayne Blvd. (NE Third Ave.) area31restaurant.com	DM \$\$\$	305-424-5234 = B	Outdoors
Asia de Cuba Latin/Asian	1200 West Ave. (11th St.) chinagrillmgt.com	SB \$\$\$\$	305-514-1940 = B D	Hot & Cool
Au Pied de Cochon French Brasserie	81 Washington Ave. (First St.) aupiedmiami.com	SB \$\$	305-674-1844 = B	Clásico
BLT Steak French Bistro	1440 Ocean Dr. (14th St.) bltrestaurants.com	SB \$\$\$	305-673-0044 = B	Hot & Cool
Blu la Pizzeria de Sole Italian	7201 SW 59th St. (SW 72nd Ave.) bluestaurantsgroup.com	BK \$	305-666-9285 = B	Hot & Cool
Bourbon Steak Steak House	19999 W. Country Club Dr. (199 St.) michaelmina.net	OS \$\$\$\$	786-279-6600 = B	Hot & Cool
Cita's Italian Chophouse Italian	3176 Commodore Plaza (Grand Ave.) citasitalianchophouse.com	CG \$\$\$	305-446-2207 = B	Hot & Cool
8 Oz. Burger Bar Burger Joint	1080 Alton Rd. (10th St.) 8ozburgerbar.com	SB \$	305-397-8246 =	Hot & Cool
Eos at Viceroy Mediterranean	485 Brickell Ave. (SE Fifth St.) viceroymiami.com	BK \$\$	305-503-0373 = D	Hot & Cool

## TOC (cont.)

### Hot & Cool Nightlife (cont)

Plunge Rooftop Lounge .....12  
SET Night Club .....12

### Hot & Cool Attractions

The Spa at David Barton Gym .....12  
The Webster .....12

### Arty Party Hotels

Epic Hotel .....13

### Arty Party Restaurants

Abokado .....13  
Joey's Italian Cafe .....13  
Lido Restaurant and Bayside Grill .....13  
Mamajuana Cafe .....14  
Pacific Time .....14  
Philippe .....14  
Sra. Martinez .....14

### Arty Party Attractions

Art + Design Night .....15  
Monsieur .....15

### Outdoors Restaurants

Area 31 .....15

### Clásico Hotels

Fontainebleau Miami Beach .....16

### Clásico Restaurants

Au Pied de Cochon .....16  
Gotham Steak .....16

### Clásico Attractions

C Madeleine's .....16

### Changes & Closures

Black Book Miami .....18

## Hot & Cool Miami Hotels

### The Angler's Boutique Resort • South Beach • Modern (49 rms)

The Angler's, an Art Deco gem that has been renovated and converted into a stylish boutique hotel, is an elegant and sophisticated getaway on frenetic Washington Avenue that's getting rave reviews for outstanding service. It's a couple of blocks from the beach, but private outdoor spa baths and a pool with an adjoining lounge should address any aquatic relaxation needs, and a sidewalk cafe is just the place for sipping a café au lait and people-watching. The fully furnished suites have a serene Zen vibe and are well equipped with the latest gizmos—plasma TVs, iPod docking stations, DVD players—and spa services are available in-room and poolside. Nightlife impresario Michael Capponi is a partner in this venture, so guests can expect VIP access to hot South Beach nightlife, and may even spot celeb guests at this hideaway. Splurge on one of the three-story villas with a private rooftop sundeck. \$\$\$ 660 Washington Ave. (Sixth St.), 305-534-9600 / 866-729-8800, [theanglersresort.com](http://theanglersresort.com)

### The Betsy • South Beach • Timeless (63 rms)

You may recall the Betsy Ross in South Beach—the sole Georgian-style building in Florida, with columns and pediments amid a sea of pastel Art Deco fluff. The old gal has dropped her surname and neatly converted her colonial roots into a tropical plantation design that now includes shuttered windows, rich wooden floors, and poster beds. Rooms (in shades of lavender, ochre, coral, or spring green) are bright and warm and come with Frette linens, roomy walk-in showers (complete with rainfall showerheads), robes, slippers, and Malin+Goetz amenities. A rooftop lounge, garden wellness spa, and small pool cater to a quiet, genteel crowd, while artwork, photography, and books throughout the hotel aim to create a cultural oasis in a part of town known more for silicone than sophistication. The chic bistro BLT Steak is here, along with a smart lobby bar serving classic cocktails with sweet and spicy popcorn. For those looking to escape the confines of the hotel, the beach, with its throngs of clubs and restaurants, is just across the street. \$\$\$ 1440 Ocean Dr. (14th St.), 305-531-6100 / 866-792-3879, [thebetsyhotel.com](http://thebetsyhotel.com)

### Gansevoort South Hotel • South Beach • Modern (334 rms)

Manhattan moves to Miami Beach with the debut of the long-anticipated Gansevoort South on a whole city block in the up-and-coming luxurious north end of South Beach. There's a huge David Barton Gym and Spa, a sceney rooftop pool, and a grownup playground; boutiques INCA, Big Drop, and Cutler; and hip restaurant STK. But it's unmistakably Miami too, with a 50-foot shark tank in the lobby, teepees and fire-pits on the palmy beach, a spectacular infinity pool overlooking the Atlantic, a hot lounge from the Opium Group, and the very first Cafe Bustelo lounge for all your cafecito needs. Interior designer Andi Pepper and architect Stephen B. Jacobs have given the ultramodern lobby whimsical touches, like rainbow-colored lighting and massive armchairs, while oversize rooms feature gray suede walls with hot pink accents, and, in most cases, large balconies overlooking the ocean or bay. Expect to rub tanned shoulders with in-the-know New Yorkers and European jet-setters. \$\$\$\$ 2377 Collins Ave. (23rd St.), 305-604-1000 / 866-932-6694, [gansevoortsouth.com](http://gansevoortsouth.com)

Madeleine Hirsh has been handpicking the finest vintage pieces from top designers—Yves St. Laurent, Galanos, Halston, and Ungaro, to name-drop just a few—for the *Sex and the City* folks, Naomi Campbell, and Gloria Estefan, and others. Poke through her 10,000-square-foot store for fashion, accessories, and jewelry from some of the best names in the biz. *Mon-Sat 11am-6pm, Sun noon-5pm.* 13702 Biscayne Blvd. (NE 135th St.), 305-945-7770, [shop.cmadeleines.com](http://shop.cmadeleines.com)

## Changes (Please make a note in your Night+Day guide.)

### Hotels:

The Fontainebleau Hotel and Suites has been renovated and renamed Fontainebleau Miami Beach, p. 135.

## Closures (Please make a note in your Black Book.)

### Hotels:

The Marlin, p. 85  
Regent South Beach, p. 59

### Restaurants:

Afterglo, p. 62  
Arturo Sandoval Jazz Club\*, p. 137  
Cafeteria\*, p. 89  
David Bouley Evolution, p. 63  
Chispa\*, p. 137  
Fifty, p. 64  
Ginger Grove\*, p. 116  
Johnny V South Beach, p. 90  
Le Bon, p. 65  
Madiba Miami, p. 65  
Mark's South Beach, p. 65  
Mosaico, p. 139  
Norman's, p. 140  
OLA Steak and Tapas, p. 66  
The Palm, p. 118  
Pearl Restaurant & Lounge\*, p. 67  
Sheba Ethiopian Restaurant, p. 92  
Social Miami\*, p. 92  
South Beach Macarena and Antigua Restaurant\*, p. 141  
Tuscan Steak, p. 93  
Touch\*, p. 93

### Nightlife:

Amika Loft Lounge, p. 70  
Arturo Sandoval Jazz Club\*, p. 143  
Bar at the Marlin, p. 95  
Bar at Sagamore Hotel, p. 95  
Blue, p. 95  
Cafeteria\*, p. 95  
Chispa\*, p. 143  
Clevelander, p. 143  
Club Deep, p. 143  
Felt Billiards Club, p. 96  
The Fifth, p. 71  
Ginger Grove\*, p. 121  
Laundry Bar, p. 97  
Opium Garden, p. 71  
Oxygen Lounge, p. 122  
Pawn Shop Lounge, p. 97  
Pearl Restaurant & Lounge\*, p. 72  
Privé, p. 72  
Sanctuary Rooftop Lounge, p. 72  
Social Miami\*, p. 98  
South Beach Macarena and Antigua Restaurant\*, p. 145  
Snatch/Suite, p. 73  
Sunday Soiree at the Raleigh, p. 98  
Touch\*, p. 99  
Tropical Cigars, p. 145  
Upstairs at the Van Dyke Café, p. 99  
Vino Miami, p. 145

### Attractions:

Miami Art Central, p. 101  
Pop, p. 76

## Clásico Miami Hotels

### Fontainebleau Miami Beach • Mid-Beach • Timeless (1,504 rms)

What happens when the grande dame of Miami Beach resorts gets a billion-dollar face-lift? Gaudy embellishments are replaced with tasteful natural stone and water features throughout its 22 acres; 11 restaurants and lounges open up, along with hot nightclub LIV; and old-school Hollywood names like Elvis and Sinatra give way to Diddy, Paris Hilton, and Gwyneth Paltrow. Some grand details, like the lobby's famed staircase to nowhere, remain, but the guest rooms have been completely revamped, and include iMacs, custom bedding, and marble baths. Other enhancements: a stunning poolscape and sleek cabanas; the two-level Lapis spa; and high-profile restaurants Gotham Steak, Scarpetta, and Blade Sushi Bar, to name just a few. For all-out glamour, this is the place. \$\$\$\$ 4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.), 305-538-2000 / 866-548-5670, [fontainebleau.com](http://fontainebleau.com)

## Clásico Miami Restaurants

### Au Pied de Cochon • South Beach • French Brasserie

A charming French enclave in a lovely Art Deco building, Au Pied de Cochon brings its signature roasted pig's trotter with Béarnaise sauce and fries, along with other bistro classics, to the SoFi neighborhood. While efforts to keep this location open round-the-clock like its Paris counterpart have been unsuccessful so far, Au Pied in Miami does stay open until 2am on weekends, perfect for a post-club repast or nightcap accompanied by perhaps some flaming crepes or floating island. The Belle Époque décor is the ideal backdrop for classic brasserie cuisine, including an impressive selection of oysters; always-reliable croque monsieur, quiche lorraine, and traditional French onion soup; delights like foie gras and apple tarte tatin; and a Kobe beef carpaccio starter. *Mon–Wed 11:30am–midnight, Thu–Fri 11:30am–2am, Sat 5pm–2am, Sun 10am–midnight.* \$\$ 🍷 81 Washington Ave. (First St.), 305-674-1844, [aupiedmiami.com](http://aupiedmiami.com)

### Gotham Steak • Mid-Beach • Italian

This two-level steak house—from chef/owner Alfred Portale of New York's Gotham Bar and Grill—is dramatic, with a glass-enclosed wine tower, an open kitchen, and indoor and outdoor seating. The food (and prices) are dramatic as well, ranging from a prime New York strip steak (\$44) to an American Wagyu Kobe-style New York strip (\$95). Seafood dishes include cod, lobster, and halibut, and gussied-up sides like Vidalia onion rings, hash browns, and creamed or sautéed spinach. An impressive wine list and live entertainment round out this night on the town. *Daily 6pm–close (lounge 5:30pm–close).* \$\$\$\$ 🍷 Fontainebleau Miami Beach, 4441 Collins Ave. (44th St.), 877-326-7412, [fontainebleau.com](http://fontainebleau.com)

## Clásico Miami Attractions

### C Madeleine's • North Miami • Store

Where do fashionistas go when they crave a 1970s Missoni floral palazzo pantsuit or a shoulder-padded '80s Thierry Mugler suit? Why, C Madeleine's, of course.

### Mondrian South Beach • South Beach • Trendy (335 rms)

Jet-setters, welcome: From the folks who brought you Delano and The Shore Club comes Mondrian, an arty extravaganza on the quieter residential end of South Beach, but minutes from the action. Designed by Marcel Wanders, this hotel's whimsical elements—chandeliers encased in an oversize gold bell, a waterfront bar beneath an enormous ruffled lampshade, black-and-white motifs—set the stage for fun and fantasy. Bright, open rooms overlook the bay and the ocean and feature upscale niceties like down comforters, TiVo DVR, and Bose iPod speakers. Best bet: Sunset Lounge and pool area, where greenery-covered cabanas, secret pathways, and “kissing corners” are sure to attract paparazzi. \$\$\$\$ 1100 West Ave. (11th St.), 305-514-1500 / 800-697-1791, [mondrian-miami.com](http://mondrian-miami.com)

### Viceroy Hotel • Brickell • Trendy (162 rms)

There's a new contender for most fabulous hotel pool: the 300-foot infinity pool overlooking the Miami River and Biscayne Bay at the fabulous new Viceroy Miami in the downtown Brickell business district. On the 15th-floor two-acre pool terrace is a bar and fireplace, a life-size chess set, and the poolside restaurant and lounge. Inside the Asian-themed rooms are Kelly Wearstler-designed robes and Sfera linens, organic minibars, and well-appointed kitchens. Among the hotel's interesting amenities: errand runners for the Brickell area, motor scooters and bicycles for guest use, Wii and PlayStation consoles, and VIP access to Club 50, the private pool lounge 50 stories high. Expect great things from this dazzler as its massive spa and signature restaurant open; the Viceroy's launch attracted celebs Selma Blair, Sharon Stone, and Gloria and Emilio Estefan, to name a few. \$\$\$ 485 Brickell Ave. (SE Fifth St.), 305-503-4400 / 866-781-9923, [viceroymiami.com](http://viceroymiami.com)

### W South Beach • South Beach • Trendy (312 rms)

This long-awaited addition to the less-hectic but exceedingly happening north end of South Beach is simply dazzling. The clever design gives all the super-spacious rooms ocean views, and the lavish features include signature comfy beds, private balconies, two flat-screen TVs, and bathrooms with spa showers. Reserve the Mega Suite, a gloriously roomy studio loft with a private glass balcony offering gorgeous unobstructed views of the ocean and beach. The heated pool targets the party crowd, with private cabanas and cool cocktails, while the Grove oceanfront bar amid lush gardens is ideal for relaxing with a papaya daiquiri. Bliss amenities are part of the package (and the Bliss spa opens in December). But make no mistake about it, the W is all about a vibrant see-and-be-seen scene: the Living Room lobby lounge, an eclectic hangout with live DJ mixes; trendy A-lister-packed Mr. Chow; and Soleá, serving up Mediterranean cuisine. One caveat: From the W, as well as from the nearby Setai and Gansevoort, it's a bit of a hike to busy Lincoln Road and Ocean Drive, which can be good or bad, depending on your perspective. \$\$\$\$ 2201 Collins Ave. (22nd St.), 305-938-3000, [starwoodhotels.com](http://starwoodhotels.com)

## Hot & Cool Miami Restaurants

### Asia de Cuba • South Beach • Latin/Asian

The shiny white restaurant inside the fairy-tale castle that is the Mondrian, this South Beach outpost from the China Grill team is buzzing with a cosmopolitan

see-and-be-seen crowd: A-Rod, Ivana Trump, and Marilyn Manson were among early celeb guests. On the menu are trendy—and pricey—Asianized Cuban dishes, like ropa vieja of duck, Cuban BBQ chicken with Thai coconut sticky rice, and sides of panko-crusting crispy plantain. But the generous servings are meant for sharing, the service is top-notch, and the dramatic waterfront setting is ideal for a romantic dinner or a celebration. *Sun–Thu 7am–3pm and 6–11pm, Fri–Sat 7am–3pm and 6pm–midnight.* \$\$\$\$ 📍 [Mondrian South Beach](#), 1200 West Ave. (11th St.), 305-514-1940, [chinagrillmgt.com](#)

#### **BLT Steak • South Beach • French Bistro**

Miami didn't need another steak house, but it certainly couldn't turn away chef Laurent Tourondel, whose BLT Steak combines French savvy with South Beach flair. American Wagyu, USDA prime, and certified Angus beef are on the menu, as are sea salt-crusting red snapper and spicy grilled swordfish. Sides like jalapeño mashed potatoes and hen-of-the-woods mushrooms are a nice touch, and artisanal cheeses on the dessert menu add culinary depth not always found in this neck of South Beach. Located in the chic, revamped Betsy, BLT Steak is cozy and convivial. Choose patio seating for lovely views of the ocean and the Ocean Beach parade. *Sun–Thu 7am–2:30pm and 5–11pm, Fri–Sat 7am–2:30pm and 6pm–midnight.* \$\$\$ 📍 [The Betsy Hotel](#), 1440 Ocean Dr. (14th St.), 305-673-0044, [bltrestaurants.com](#)

#### **Blu la Pizzeria de Sole • Brickell • Italian**

Part of the bustling Mary Brickell Village, Blu offers much more than a buzzy bar scene—the food is simply terrific. Choose your favorite pizza or panino, baked in a wood-burning oven, or try the house-made pasta dishes, antipasti, fish, or veal. While everything tastes authentically Italian (the executive chef was born near Rome), there are some unusual healthy options: All pizzas are available with crust made from organic soy flour, and no trans fats are used. Still, it's easy to overindulge in this convivial stone and wood space. Sidewalk and outdoor dining is especially appealing on cool evenings. *Daily 11:30am–midnight.* \$ 📍 [7201 SW 59th St. \(SW 72nd Ave.\)](#), 305-666-9285, [blurestaurantsgroup.com](#)

#### **Bourbon Steak • Outskirts • Steak House**

Acclaimed chef Michael Mina brings his talents to Aventura's Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort & Club in the form of a modern American steak house. As at Mina's Las Vegas outpost, Stripsteak at Mandalay, center stage is a wood-burning grill for prime meats like American Kobe and Japanese A5 (the highest designation) Kobe, which are first poached in butter. Duck-fat French fries, butter-poached lobster, and roasted whole foie gras appetizers fill out your fat quota for the next decade or so. A stunning glass-box entry welcomes guests, who can dine in the mirrored dining room or the casual tavern and bar area. Ask for table 101, a cozy banquet in the back, for the best view of the see-and-be-seen guests. *Mon–Thu 6–10pm, Fri–Sat 6–11pm.* \$\$\$\$ 📍 [The Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort & Club](#), 19999 W. Country Club Dr. (199 St.), 786-279-6600, [michaelmina.net](#)

#### **Cita's Italian Chophouse • Coconut Grove • Italian**

It's just what the Grove needed: an upscale fine-dining restaurant that's elegant but informal enough to take advantage of the area's laid-back charm. Cita's fills the bill nicely, serving good pasta, prime steaks, and market-fresh seafood and drawing a friendly, appreciative crowd. The expansive menu lists antipasti and

served with seasoned mayo, and duck and foie gras sausages with white beans. Menus are delivered in silly hand-addressed envelopes (it was a post office, get it?); service is casual but friendly; and every small bite is delish. *Mon–Wed 6pm–11pm, Thu 6pm–midnight, Fri–Sat 6pm–1:30am.* \$\$\$ 📍 [4000 NE Second Ave. \(NE 40th St.\)](#), 305-573-5474

## Arty Party Miami Attractions

#### **Art + Design Night • Design District • Art Gallery**

Finally the Design District has grown into the hip, stimulating neighborhood we knew it could be, thanks in part to half a dozen outstanding restaurant/lounges and local gentrification. This monthly open house is a great opportunity to explore this 18-block neighborhood's art galleries, design showrooms, boutiques, and cultural happenings. First make your dinner reservation well in advance for 9pm or later at Michael's, Pacific Time, Brosia, Domo Japones, Grass, Fratelli Lyon, or Sheba. Plan on arriving at 7pm so you'll have time to wander around and pop in on Art + Design Night events. *Second Sat of the month 7–10pm.* \$\$ [N. Miami Ave. and NE 40th St.](#), 305-573-8116, [miamidesigndistrict.net](#)


#### **Monsieur • Coral Gables • Spa**

Even *Dirty Jobs*—watching, extreme fighting aficionados deserve a hot lather shave and a sports massage in a masculine setting. At least that's the thinking of the two sisters who opened this day spa for men. Guys can get pampered with their choice of spa services—cut and color, beard trimming, waxing, massage, airbrush tanning, facials, and foot and hand treatments—in Zen-tinged, earth-toned serenity. This also means flat-screen TVs tuned to ESPN, free drinks, and personalized service from an all-female staff. Express packages—a 30-minute Swedish massage or a rejuvenating mini facial—offer a quick escape during a hectic business day. *By appointment Tue–Fri 10am–7pm, Sat 10am–6pm (or upon request).* \$\$\$ [3143 Ponce de Leon Blvd. \(Santander Ave.\)](#), 305-774-2931, [monsieurspa.com](#)


## Outdoors Miami Restaurants

#### **Area 31 • Downtown Miami • Seafood**

Overlooking the Miami River and skyline from the 16th floor of the Epic Hotel, Area 31 features fresh seafood from its namesake region in the western central Atlantic. The menu includes raw fish, grilled daily catches with Mediterranean-influenced flavors, and pastas and substantial entrées. Mangrove snapper, salt-crusting dorade, and wood-grilled wahoo are some of the more intriguing choices, with a few beef and poultry dishes rounding out the menu. When the weather is nice, book an outdoor cabana or casita, or choose the terrace seating; Area 31's waterfront views are unique and pretty impressive. *Mon–Sat 7am–3pm and 6–11pm, Sun 7am–3pm and 6–10pm (bar open later).* \$\$\$ 📍 [Epic Hotel](#), 270 [Biscayne Blvd. \(NE Third Ave.\)](#), 305-424-5234, [area31restaurant.com](#)

fresh grilled green beans and asparagus, or beet carpaccio salad—or choose meat and fish marinated with olive oil and herbs de Provence, with side greens and grains to mix and match. Service is hip and efficient, catering to the youngish crowd looking for a laid-back alternative to noisy South Beach. After dinner, there's bingo in the lobby. *Daily 7am–midnight.* \$\$\$  [The Standard Miami, 40 Island Ave. \(Venetian Causeway\), 305-673-1717, standardhotel.com](#)


#### **Mamajuana Cafe** • Coral Gables • Latin American

The name, the story goes, comes from a miracle potion created years ago by Taino Indians in what's now the Dominican Republic, surviving today as a cure-all concoction of herbs, rum, and honey. Maybe a shot of it will cure what ails you, but a Quisqueya beer goes down nicely with the Nuevo Latino cuisine here in the former Chispa space. There are plenty of individual tapas to share—ceviche, grilled marinated octopus, lobster and avocado arepas—plus tapas boards of meats and cheeses and free-form thin-crust pizzas. Main dishes include slow-roasted pork with onion escabeche; two paellas, a seafood and a vegetarian version; and tasty grilled skirt steak with garlic fries. *Mon–Sat 11am–3pm and 5–11pm.* \$\$\$  [225 Altara Ave. \(Aurora St.\), 305-443-0505, mamajuana-cafe.com](#)

#### **Pacific Time** • Design District • Regional/Asian


Offering yet another reason the Design District is Miami's must-visit neighborhood for foodies, Pacific Time is back, delighting its fans with eclectic, Asian-inspired dishes from local chef Jonathan Eismann. Having made the move from Lincoln Road, Pacific Time—like stellar Michael's Genuine across the street—makes abundant use of seasonal items with Asian flavors, resulting in treats like sautéed grouper with red curry, bananas, and coconut water. The small plates let you taste more (but you can double servings if you want), and prices are refreshingly reasonable. Dine alfresco in the spacious courtyard, done up in casual urban chic. *Mon–Thu 11:30am–3pm and 5:30–11pm, Fri 11:30am–3pm and 5:30pm–midnight, Sat 5:30pm–midnight.* \$\$\$  [35 NE 40th St. \(N. Miami Ave.\), 305-722-7369, pacifictimerestaurant.com](#)

#### **Philippe** • South Beach • Chinese

Philippe is another facet of the Gansevoort Hotel, infusing New York chic into the fledgling North South Beach area. Chic Chinese it is, all black lacquered floors with red-and-white accents over two dramatic floors and an astonishing 400 seats. Be prepared for a spendy evening; specialty drinks start at 15 bucks (but the fresh blueberry-filled Midnight Mojito is worth it), and even simple satays and lettuce wraps can top \$20. Snag a seat near the glass-enclosed kitchen and you can watch chef Wai Ming Cheng magically spin his handmade noodles. You can do takeout here, but then you'd miss the undeniable buzz of celebs like Dennis Rodman who've shown up here. *Mon–Sat 1pm–midnight, Sun 3pm–midnight.* \$\$\$\$  [Hotel Gansevoort, 2305 Collins Ave. \(23rd St.\), 305-674-0250, philippechow.com](#)

#### **Sra. Martinez** • Downtown Miami • Tapas (G)

One of Miami's most renowned chefs, Michelle Bernstein of Michy's, is behind this trendy tapas bar located in a former post office in the Design District. Foodie fans turn out for sexy Spanish comfort foods. From simple pan con tomate to a crazy-rich pork belly topped with orange and fennel marmalade, Sra. Martinez focuses on small plates with concentrated flavors and—frankly—lots of satisfying fat. Think fried eggplant drizzled with honey, crunchy potatoes

carpacci; risotti and pastas, including homemade fettuccine and ravioli; and prime steak from all-natural hormone- and antibiotic-free livestock. The house specialty: a 32-ounce Tomahawk rib eye. In true Grove style, there's sidewalk seating plus a stylish interior with white leather banquettes, but your best bet is a seat in the candlelit garden patio. *Mon–Thu 5–11pm, Fri 5pm–midnight, Sat 11am–3pm and 5pm–midnight, Sun 11am–3pm and 5–11pm.* \$\$\$  [3176 Commodore Plaza \(Grand Ave.\), 305-446-2207, citasitalianchophouse.com](#)

#### **8 Oz. Burger Bar** • South Beach • Burger Joint

The burger craze is gaining traction, with Fatburger on Washington, Oneburger in Coral Gables, and 8 Oz. Burger Bar in the old Novecento space on Alton Road. Executive chef Govind Armstrong's California style means you'll find mostly local organic produce; burgers made with hormone-free Black Angus sirloin, short rib, and chuck; and house-cured bacon and homemade pickles. Extras like roasted garlic aioli, roasted baby broccoli, and chocolate peppermint shakes make it clear you're not in greasy spoon territory. Of course, there's an interesting beer, wine, and cocktail list, including bacon-infused bloody Marys and that California staple, basil elderflower daiquiris. *Sun–Wed 11am–midnight, Thu–Sat 11am–2am.* \$ = [1080 Alton Rd. \(10th St.\), 305-397-8246, 8ozburgerbar.com](#)

#### **Eos at Viceroy** • Brickell • Mediterranean

Overlooking Biscayne Bay and downtown Miami, the 15th floor of the dramatic Viceroy Miami is the setting for Eos, the Mediterranean-inspired restaurant from chef Michael Psilakis that's attracting foodies in search of the unexpected. The twist? Sushi and sashimi with unexpected ingredients, and Greek spins on traditional dishes—raw tuna served with watermelon and feta, or oyster ceviche accompanied by tomatillo, Peruvian chili, and plum. Smoked octopus comes with pineapple, spicy sopressata, and skordalia, and a Greek paella includes orzo and merguez, a spicy North African sausage. You can do small plates nicely here, but the restaurant will roast a baby goat, pig, or lamb for a celebration (call in advance). *Mon–Wed 7am–2pm and 6–10pm, Thu–Sat 7am–2pm and 6–11pm, Sun 7am–2pm.* \$\$\$  [Viceroy Miami, 485 Brickell Ave. \(SE Fifth St.\), 305-503-0373, viceroymiami.com](#)

#### **Hakkasan** • Mid-Beach • Chinese

Alan Yau, of the UK's only Michelin-rated Chinese restaurant, brings haute Chinese stateside at this seductively dim rooftop space of ebony wood, carved teak, and silk lanterns. While exceedingly expensive (the Peking duck appetizer with golden Osetra caviar goes for a cool \$195), Hakkasan turns out impeccable dishes like spicy Assam prawns and crispy Szechuan shredded rib-eye beef. There's a large menu of New World wines and sake, as well as signature cocktails made from vodka, coconut, lychee juice, and passion fruit. Like all the venues at the dazzling, high-wattage Fontainebleau, Hakkasan attracts celebs and dressed-to-impress locals. *Tue–Sun 6pm–close.* \$\$\$\$  [Fontainebleau Miami Beach, 4441 Collins Ave. \(44th St.\), 786-276-1388, fontainebleau.com](#)

#### **La Marea** • South Beach • Mediterranean

The pale, elegant restaurant at the austere Tides has relaunched under the guidance of executive chef Pietro Rota, an Italian native who has brought fresh seafood, flown in daily, and sprightly Mediterranean flavors to this stylish venue. Imported loup de mer, fresh sardines, and whole dorade are filleted table-side and served with rare salts and olive oil, while pasta dishes include such specialties as

bigoli (whole wheat pasta) and paccheri (artisan rigatoni with pork cheeks and porcini mushrooms). Ideal for a romantic evening, it's pricey, special-occasion dining that will be even more memorable if you get a table on the terrace, where lush shrubs provide privacy from noisy Ocean Drive. *Daily 7am–11pm. \$\$\$* 📍 [The Tides, 1220 Ocean Dr. \(12th St.\), 305-604-5070, tidessouthbeach.com](#)

#### **Mai Tardi • Design District • Italian**

Mai Tardi—“never late” in Italian—has joined what is arguably South Florida's hottest dining 'hood: the Design District. Moving into the old Brosia spot, with its lovely mosaic patio and shady oak trees, Mai Tardi serves Northern Italian fare—thin-crust pizzas from the wood-burning oven, gnocchi, cured meats, tapas, and comforting pasta dishes. All this comes from the same folks who are behind successful casual Italian eateries Tiramesu, Spris, and Segafredo. You may find trendier cuisine down the street, but you won't find a more relaxing oasis to spend time drinking wine and lounging with friends. *Mon–Thu 11:30am–11pm, Fri–Sat 11:30am–midnight. \$\$* 📍 [62 NE 14th St. \(NE Second Ave.\), 305-572-1400, maitardimiami.com](#)

#### **Meat Market • South Beach • Steak House**

Yes, another steak house, but it's well done, South Beach style. From the talents who created the celebrated fare at now-closed Touch, this Lincoln Road restaurant has a loungey raw bar and an extensive seafood menu in addition to steaks. And let's talk about those steaks: They're presented in a three-tiered format, starting with simple à la carte selections, moving to ultra-premium cuts, and culminating in house creations like buffalo tenderloin steak with a chili and espresso rub or tropical braised fatty brisket with coconut and mango. Also on the menu: house-made sauces and butters plus sides like truffle creamed corn, summer squash cobbler, and bacon and onion creamed spinach. *Mon–Thu 5pm–midnight, Fri–Sat 5pm–1am. \$\$\$* 📍 [915 Lincoln Rd. \(Jefferson Ave.\), 305-532-0088, meatmarketmiami.com](#)

#### **Mr. Chow • South Beach • Chinese**

It didn't take long for the South Beach outpost of Mr. Chow (already a hot commodity in London, LA, and New York) to attract celebs like Randy Jackson, Ryan Seacrest, and Michael Jordan, along with the local eye candy. Mr. Chow joins nearby competitors Philippe in the Gansevoort and Hakkasan in the Fontainebleau as a high-end Chinese hot spot where the focus is on the scene more than the cuisine. Located in the trendy new W hotel, the dramatic space features a 123-foot gold-leaf and Swarovski crystal chandelier, a sleek bar, and a roomy outside dining patio. A nightly noodle-pulling show reveals the talents of the top Chinese chefs here, and dishes like green prawns and Beijing duck get accolades. But it's pricey fare—you're paying dearly for the good-looking crowd here. *Mon–Sun 6–11:30pm. \$\$\$* 📍 [W South Beach, 2201 Collins Ave. \(22nd St.\), 305-695-1695, mrchow.com](#)

#### **Ola at Sanctuary • South Beach • Latin American**

High-profile chef Douglas Rodriguez's creative flair elevates typical Latin specialties like ceviches and empanadas to something close to sublime, thanks to the inventive fusion of Latin American ingredients with Asian, Peruvian, and Mediterranean flavors. Indulge your sweet tooth with the dessert tasting menu, featuring such extreme sugar highs as chocolate tres leches or churros—sweet

## Arty Party Miami Hotels

#### **Epic Hotel • Downtown Miami • Trendy (411 rms)**

Beautifully located on the Miami River amid glittery new condo towers, the luxury Epic Hotel, part of the Kimpton chain, combines stunning vistas with understated chic. Spectacular views are part of the design—from the living room lobby, you can see the Tequesta Indian sculpture atop the arched bridge—and all rooms face the bay or river. Rooms start on the 18th floor and feature floor-to-ceiling windows and generous balconies, while the serene natural décor includes petrified wood accents, understated Frette linens, and spacious bathrooms. The Area 31 restaurant serves fresh seafood both inside and outdoors, and a spa and lounge are coming soon. *\$\$\$\$* [270 Biscayne Blvd. \(NE Third St.\), 305-424-5226 / 866-760-3742, epichotel.com](#)

## Arty Party Miami Restaurants

#### **Abokado • Brickell • Japanese/Latin**

Sushi gets spicy Latin savor at this Mary Brickell Village restaurant. The combination is convivial; highlights include picante ceviches with wasabi and soy; tiraditos (marinated ribbons of fish or beef); rolls that include cilantro, jalapeño, chipotle, and mango; and main dishes such as prawns with udon stir-fry and pasilla chile strips or tequila-miso–marinated chicken. Although the décor is sleek and pale green, projecting modern Zen calm, don't expect to find tranquility; Abokado, like the other establishments in Mary Brickell Village, has a thriving (and noisy) bar scene and an inviting outdoor area that attracts sociable young professionals who work nearby or live in this burgeoning condo canyon. *Mon–Thu noon–3pm and 5:30–11pm, Fri noon–3pm and 5:30pm–midnight, Sat 5:30pm–midnight, Sun 5:30–10pm. \$\$\$* 📍 [900 S. Miami Ave. \(SW Ninth St.\), 305-347-3700, abokadosushi.com](#)

#### **Joey's Italian Cafe • Downtown Miami • Italian**

The up-and-coming Wynwood Arts District, just south of the Design District, is home to alternative art fairs during Art Basel, edgy galleries, and the Museum of Contemporary Art at Goldman Warehouse—and now Joey's, a Mediterranean bistro aiming to draw everyone from semistarving artists to Art Basel high rollers. Joey's features classic dishes from Venice and other regions, with three-course prix fixe lunches and dinners and à la carte items. The menu spans basic pizzas to regional Italian fare like lamb chops with polenta and warm octopus and chickpea salad. A wide-ranging wine list includes everything from affordable table wines to fine Amarones and Super Tuscans. *Mon–Wed 11:30am–9:30pm, Thu 11:30am–10:30pm, Fri–Sat 11:30am–1:30pm. \$\$\$* 📍 [2506 NW Second Ave. \(25th St.\), 305-438-0488, joeywynwood.com](#)

#### **Lido Restaurant and Bayside Grill • South Beach • Mediterranean**

Housed in the very cool Standard, this indoor restaurant features Scandinavian decor so retro hip that there are potted ferns dangling from macramé hangers. But head for the outdoor grill for extraordinary views of the bay. This idyllic setting is a splendid backdrop for inventive Mediterranean-inspired cuisine—small plates of

**Plunge Rooftop Lounge • South Beach • Lounge**

Like its New York counterpart, the rooftop lounge Plunge at the Gansevoort South is entertaining celebrities and beautiful South Beach types. Eighteen stories above the ocean, the palm-lined adults-only pool is the central focal point, and sweeping views of the Atlantic and the Miami Beach skyline take your breath away. Or you can watch flat-screen TVs in colorful cabanas (reserve bottle service for these), or hang out on white couches drinking pricey cocktails while listening to DJs spin. It's a popular party venue: Former 'N Syncer Lance Bass celebrated his birthday here. *Daily 6pm–3am.* ☰ [Gansevoort South Hotel, 2377 Collins Ave. \(W. 24th St.\), 305-604-1000, gansevoortsouth.com/rooftop-pool](#)

**SET Night Club • South Beach • Nightclub**

Elegant, snooty, and one of the toughest doors in town, this offering from the folks who brought megaclubs Opium Garden, Privé, and Mansion to South Beach promises—and delivers—glittering celebrities and nonstop glamour. On Lincoln Road, SET's set is dramatic light and sound, but it's the star power that dazzles: Simon, Paula, and Ryan hung out here when *American Idol* came to town; Anna Kournikova, Derek Jeter, and Gisele Bündchen party at SET; Britney's been here, too. Whenever there's a big event—Super Bowl, New Year's Eve, even Miami Fashion Week—this place is packed. Ask your concierge to get you on the guest list. *Thu–Sat 11pm–5am.* ☰ [320 Lincoln Rd. \(Washington Ave.\), 305-531-2800, setmiami.com](#)

## Hot & Cool Miami Attractions

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**The Spa at David Barton Gym • South Beach • Spa**

Don't look for a chill Zen stones-and-serenity vibe at David Barton's gym and first-ever spa at the hip Gansevoort South. This 45,000-square-foot space, all tricked out in spicy Moroccan colors and carved Oriental lounges, is a rock-and-roll palace where you can work out with personal trainers, then relax with spa treatments to get ready for a night of clubbing. In addition to tons of free weights, there are two floors of cardio, 10 types of yoga, combat and boxing, Krav Maga, Pilates, aqua fitness, and lots more, plus throbbing live sets by international DJs. The spa menu includes massage, body treatments, facials, waxing, manis, and pedis. *Mon–Fri 5:30am–midnight, Sat–Sun 8am–9pm.* \$\$\$ [Gansevoort South, 2323 Collins Ave. \(23rd St.\), 305-534-1660, davidbartongym.com](#)

**The Webster • South Beach • Store**

Hot, haute couture finally comes to South Beach at the Webster, 20,000 square feet of men's and women's fashions, shoes, bags, jewelry, and vintage watches. Located in a 1939 Henry Hohauser–designed building, the Webster offers lines including Alaïa, Balenciaga, Lanvin, Marc Jacobs, Prada, Stella McCartney, and Tom Ford—to name just a few. On the first floor of the three-level former hotel, you'll find the Parisian restaurant Caviar Kaspia in its first US location. The partnership is perfect: Certain times are set aside for restaurant clients to shop privately, while Webster patrons can do takeout or send luxury gift baskets of caviar and smoked salmon. *Mon–Sat 11am–8pm, Sun 11am–6pm.* [1220 Collins Ave. \(12th St.\), 305-674-7899, thewebstermiami.com](#)

fritters—with Venezuelan chocolate sauce. Of course, no authentic Latin meal would be complete without a premium hand-rolled Dominican cigar. There's a small bar, but folks are here for the food and the festive ambience. Expect to see a lot of New Yorkers and an older professional crowd in this cozy venue. *Mon–Fri 6:30–11pm, Sat–Sun 6:30pm–1am.* \$\$\$ ☰ [The Sanctuary Hotel, 1745 James Ave. \(17th St.\), 305-673-8804, sanctuarysob.com](#)

**Plat Bleu • South Beach • French Bistro**

De rigueur for the chic crowd, the Delano has revamped its east end to create a charming Brazilian-French bistro. The menu includes Brazilian skirt steak skewers; savory Carioca breads laden with mozzarella, tomatoes, and Parmigiano; and sexy sandwiches like lobster clun or duck confit medianoches. Plop yourself down at one of the marble tables or stake out one of the leather sofas, order a Cobb salad, and nurse a caipirinha all day while watching the parade of beautiful or otherwise interesting people parade through. On weekends, it's open until 4am, perfect for a 'tween-clubbing pit stop. *Sun–Thu 11:30am–2am, Fri–Sat 11:30am–4am.* \$\$ ☰ [Delano, 1685 Collins Ave. \(17th St.\), 305-674-6400, delano-hotel.com](#)

**Prelude by Barton G. • Downtown Miami • American**

Impresario Barton G. Weiss—known for extravagant events that sometimes involve giraffes and chimps, as well as his eponymous special-occasion restaurant in South Beach—has opened an elegant dining spot inside the Arsht Center. While you may not find swordfish chunks skewered on sabers, you can expect inventive cuisine with appropriate dramatic flair: Gorgeous serving dishes showcase novelties such as buttery poached baby shrimp salad and caramel apple sundaes, served in time for showgoers to make the performance. Prix-fixe Diner's Decision dinners are \$39 for any three courses; lunch and brunch is \$23 for any two courses. Make reservations based on performance time. *Tue–Sun 5pm–midnight.* \$\$ ☰ [Arsht Center, Ziff Ballet Opera House, 2nd Fl., 1444 Biscayne Blvd. \(14th St.\), 305-357-7900, preludebybartong.com](#)

**Prime Italian • South Beach • Italian**

From the same folks who brought the incredibly popular South of Fifth hot spots Prime 112 and Nemo comes this Italian eatery in South Beach, serving Kobe meatball sliders, brick oven pizzas, fried risotto balls stuffed with Kobe Bolognese, pasta, and other haute comfort foods, plus prime steaks. Expect treats like mini Philly cheesesteaks and prosciutto served with crisp apple, gorgonzola, and toasted walnuts, plus shaved Italian ice-tinis in lemon, cherry, blood orange, and pomegranate. The décor is dark and manly—black leather booths and rich wood floors—but the atmosphere is convivial, service is professional, and diners know they're in for a satisfying time. *Mon–Thu 5:30pm–midnight, Fri–Sat 5:30pm–1am.* \$\$\$\$ ☰ [101 Ocean Dr. \(First St.\), 305-695-8484](#)

**Scarpetta • Mid-Beach • Italian**

If you were down to your last few bucks, would you blow \$23 for Scarpetta's spaghetti al pomodoro? Absolutely. This humble dish, each pale al dente strand infused with tomato and basil goodness, rises to the height of pure bliss. But there are plenty of other reasons to splurge on Scott Conant's outstanding Italian cuisine, like agnolotti dal plin, fresh pasta filled with meat, mushrooms, and cheese; crispy fritto misto; and exquisite cheeses, like the paglierina, served

with stewed figs, chamomile, and honey. The elegant setting is vaguely nautical, with black-and-white mosaic art at the bar, and a breezy outdoor terrace overlooks the pool and ocean. Service is warm, professional, and attentive. *Mon–Sat 6pm–close, Sun 11am–2:30pm and 6pm–close (lounge Tue–Sat 4pm–1am).* \$\$\$\$ 📍 [Fontainebleau Miami Beach, 4441 Collins Ave. \(44th St.\), 877-326-7412, fontainebleau.com](#)

#### **Talavera • Coral Gables • Mexican**

Coral Gables' restaurant row gets fine Mexican cuisine with upscale, flavorful cuisine at Talavera, a convivial spot worth a special trip. From the same folks who brought the very popular Jaguar to Coconut Grove, Talavera plays whimsical homage to Mexican icons such as Carlos Santana, Cantinflas, and Salma Hayek, and showcases typical blue Mexican pottery, which shows up in tableware and as a wall motif. No greasy chips here; baked tortillas are served with blazing hot cilantro dip and red-pepper salsa. Specialties include huaraches—tasty corn dough topped with black beans, beef, pork, or chicken. Don't miss the homey cream-of-fresh-com soup with poblano chiles and queso fresco. *Mon–Thu 11:30am–11pm, Fri–Sat 11:30am–11:30pm, Sun 11am–11pm.* \$\$ 📍 [2299 Ponce de Leon Blvd. \(Giralda Ave.\), 305-444-2955, talaveraspot.com](#)

#### **Urbanite Bistro • Downtown Miami • American/Bistro**

Now that the Arsht Center for the Performing Arts has found a solid footing, the still-gritty Arts and Entertainment District is adding stylish restaurants and upscale lounges for pre- and post-theatre dining. Urbanite Bistro features tasting menus plus regular and late-night dining, a bar scene, regular events, and rotating work from local artists. The creative food has taste treats like wild mushroom empanadas, handcut fries, Moroccan lamb sliders, and vegetarian fare. “Sexy” describes the dark, woodsy, warm interior well, making it a perfect setting to hang out with a Belgian brew or craft beer while watching a game. The second Tuesdays of the month feature art openings with complimentary cocktails. *Restaurant Mon–Wed 11am–3pm and 5–11pm, Thu–Sat 11am–3pm and 5pm–3:30am. Bar Mon–Wed 11am–4am, Thu–Sat 11am–1am.* \$\$ 📍 [62 NE 14th St. \(N. Miami Ave.\), 305-374-0662, urbanitebistro.com](#)

#### **Wish • South Beach • American (G)**

Classic American cooking melds with haute Asian cuisine at this outstanding restaurant, distinctively designed by Todd Oldham, that's been a proving ground for top culinary talents. Dishes like cinnamon-braised oxtail and sugarcane-skewered pork loin, plus the popular Vietnamese pho soup, are consistently delightful. Huge white umbrellas lend the garden terrace a cool, chic ambience. This gorgeous place has attracted the likes of Mick Jagger, Madonna, and Rupert Everett. *Sun–Thu 7am–3pm and 6–11pm, Fri–Sat 7am–3pm and 6pm–midnight.* \$\$\$ 📍 [The Hotel, 801 Collins Ave. \(Eighth St.\), 305-674-9474, wishrestaurant.com](#)

## Hot & Cool Miami Nightlife

#### **Club 50 at the Viceroy Club • Brickell • Lounge**

Join Miami's newest mile-high—well, 50-story—night spot, the spectacular Club 50 at the Viceroy. Much more than your usual rooftop lounge, this stunning

Asian-inspired club features the city's highest pool and fabulous views of Biscayne Bay, downtown Miami, and sunsets over the Everglades. Other breathtaking sights include beautiful party people, all dressed to impress in Miami chic (which means lots of skin, but no sneakers or ripped jeans). Wednesdays feature live jazz, Thursdays offer happy hour, and Fridays and Saturdays see some of Miami's top DJs spinning. Club 50 is semiprivate for residents and hotel guests, but open to all who RSVP. *Tue–Thu 5pm–midnight, Fri–Sat 5pm–2am.* 📍 [The Viceroy, 485 Brickell Ave. \(SE Fifth St.\), 305-503-4400, viceroymiami.com](#)

#### **Cozy • South Beach • Piano Bar**

The glamorous enclave at the tip of South Beach is just the spot for a bottle of bubbly, light bites, and piano bar music with occasional guest musicians. With a red baby grand, crimson walls, and elegant Moulin Rouge–esque appointments, Cozy gets cozier as the night goes on, especially after 10pm. It's definitely pricey, so dress up in your finest casual-chic attire and be ready for a lengthy champagne list and snacks such as caviar, foie gras, carpaccio, and house-made desserts. Expect an older crowd, with South Florida's most—um, enhanced, but still heavenly bodies. *Wed–Sun 5pm–4am.* 📍 [500 South Pointe Dr. \(Washington Ave.\), 305-538-2699, thecozybar.com](#)

#### **Karu & Y • Downtown Miami • Nightclub**

This extravagant nightclub, lounge, and restaurant complex opened to great fanfare on the outskirts of a dicey inner-city neighborhood, but closed down after a couple of years. It's risen from the ashes as a high-profile party palace and aims to be a big player again, with A-listers like DJ Samantha Ronson, Tommy Lee, Akon, and Diddy, plus events like Studio 54 nights and the Official Playboy New Year's Eve Party. Five rooms, lush waterfalls, dramatic lighting, throbbing sound systems, and the cool outdoor Buddha Gardens are all good reasons to visit. *Thu–Sat 10pm–5am.* 📍 [71 NW 14th St. \(NW Miami Ct.\), 305-403-7850, karu-y.com](#)

#### **LIV Nightclub • Mid-Beach • Nightclub**

Huge, loud, and over-the-top, LIV (pronounced “liv” and representing the Roman numerals for 54, the year the Fontainebleau opened) is the fabulously revamped Fontainebleau's 30,000-square-foot nightclub. It's already celeb central—Beyoncé, Jay Z, the Hilton sisters, Pamela Anderson, and Gloria and Emilio Estefan have partied here—and there's plenty of room for everyone, with three full-service bars; six private skyboxes; sexy dancers; pounding hip-hop, house, and rock; and a voyeuristic design that lets you see and be seen from everywhere. If you want the ultimate Miami Beach club experience, don your sexiest duds and LIV a little. *Fri–Sat 10pm–late.* 📍 [Fontainebleau Miami Beach, 4441 Collins Ave. \(44th St.\), 305-674-4680, livnightclub.com](#)

#### **Louis Bar Lounge • South Beach • Nightclub**

Now arguably the hottest club on South Beach, this Belle Epoque–alyptic venue from the Opium Group features décor inspired by 18th-century France combined with kooky hot-pink hide chairs and graffiti art. Tucked behind the 50-foot shark tank in the hotel lobby, Louis claims to have one of the toughest doors in town: Women, this means dressing up in your scantiest finest; and men, make sure you're accompanied by one of these women. If you're staying at the hotel, that's different—you're absolutely welcome. Celebs like Lindsay Lohan, Samantha Ronson, and A-Rod have partied here. *Tue and Thu–Sat 10pm–5am.* 📍 [Gansevoort, 2325 Collins Ave. \(23rd St.\), 305-531-4600, louisiamiami.com](#)