GOTHAM

A NEW YORKER'S GUIDE TO MIAMI

By Dan Q. Dao | August 2, 2018 | Lifestyle

From one side of the East Coast to the other, New Yorkers have always had love for Miami. And it's not hard to see why. NYC and the Magic City share many similarities, like a taste for fine dining and thoughtful design, a vibrant multicultural flair, and a love of late-night revelry that other cities just don't understand.

In 2015, we proclaimed Miami to be New York South for the hordes of New York elites who've been flocking south for lavish hotel soirees and summer beach escapes since the mid-century. (Think Joe DiMaggio and Frank Sinatra partying it up at the iconic Fountainbleau Hotel). While those glory days have come and gone, today's well-heeled travelers can still enjoy luxury in Miami through food, cocktails, art, and nightlife. These days, you can even each catch a glamorous direct flight from Manhattan to Miami via Blade, the "Uber of helicopters."

So how do you visit Miami like a New Yorker? We got the 411 from native New Yorker and Miami transplant Stilo Pimentel, a fashionable man-about-town who also works as a brand ambassador for the beloved Banks' Rum. From hotel rooftop bars to fancy indoor-outdoor shopping malls and the best slice of beach in town, here's a true New Yorker's guide to Miami.

Where to Stay

If you're looking for <u>an unmatched view</u>, Pimentel suggests the <u>1 Hotel South Beach</u>, which has "the only oceanfront rooftop on all of South Beach." Touting 600 feet of private beach, the historic property is luxurious, but also eco-friendly. Start off the evening at the poolside Watr bar, overlooking the white-sand beach with a refreshing drink in-hand. For a more art-focused option, Pimentel recommends the new cool kid favorite <u>Faena Hotel Miami Beach</u>. "This place is insane—it's got a theater bar, an outdoor bar, an amazing restaurants," he says. The hotel's grand theater is inspired by the old opera houses of Europe, and hosts a variety of cabaret shows, while the property's Saxony Bar offers more laidback nighttime scene. On the more budget friendly end, the <u>Freehand</u> offers its signature upgraded hostel experience housed in a 1930s Art Deco building located just five minutes from the beach. It's also home to famed cocktail bar <u>Broken Shaker</u>.