The Best Beaches in Miami, From South Beach to Sunny Isles

The city has a beach for every personality.

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Miami is a multi-faceted destination, with an ever-growing downtown, bustling Wynwood Arts District, and charming enclaves like Little Havana. Yet despite all the exciting excess, the city's number one draw remains its natural, sparkling beaches.

The best beaches in Miami are as singular as its eclectic neighborhoods. Whether your beach goal is utter relaxation, playing fetch with your pooch, day drinking, or tanning in the nude, Miami's got you covered. From the siren song of South Beach to private beach clubs on Mid-Beach and on to nature and bike trails along Key Biscayne, here are our 17 favorite places to throw down a towel and soak up the sun in South Florida.

Mid-Beach, Miami Beach

A raised boardwalk separates the beach from hotel-lined Collins Avenue between 23rd Street and 46th Street, an area collectively referred to as Mid-Beach. Home to Miami's most stylish hotels, like the Miami Beach Edition, Faena Hotel Miami Beach, and Soho Beach House, this area caters to a cool crowd that considers South Beach passé.

The Beach at Faena Hotel Miami Beach, Mid-Beach



ourtesy Faena

Alan Faena's larger-than-life Faena Hotel Miami Beach lives up to its hype, from dazzling art installations and Art Deco-imbued guest rooms to red-and-white themed pool and beach areas. The service is top-notch, too: Beach attendants clean your sunglasses, hand out carafes of lemon-infused water and complimentary snacks, and even wash your feet with a slow trickle of fresh water from a watering tin.

Who it's best for: Self-admitted hotel snobs and trendsetters

The vibe: International visitors basking in the Miami good life

Where to eat: You'll need to stay at Faena Hotel Miami Beach for access to their beach. However, everyone is welcome to drink and dine outdoors at Veranda restaurant or the Tree of Life Bar. Also open to the public are the property's two award-winning restaurants: Los Fuegos By Francis Mallmann and Pao by Paul Qui.