



BEST PLACE TO BE HIT BY LIGHTNING

Pine Island Sound

Everyone knows Florida is the lightning-strike capital. July in the Fort Myers area averages 17 thunderstorms — that would be the kind with electrically charged bolts that can zap you even when you're talking on the phone in your house. The worst place to be, though, is in a boat on a wide body of water that's shallower than your bathtub. Not enough water for your engine to get up on plane means you better plan on bailing out rainwater while praying you don't get struck.

BEST BIRD-WATCHING SITE

San Carlos Bay-Bunche Beach Preserve

You don't have to hike or know much about birds to enjoy the hotspot of Lee County bird watching. Let the tourists go to Sanibel's J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Take yourself down Summerlin Road to John Morris Road and drive straight to the mangrove-laced, sugar-sand shore on San Carlos Bay. You don't just get the local birds — bald eagles, wood storks, hawks, great blue herons and gulls. You get magical migratory feathered friends that make your card-carrying Audubon acquaintances jealous — American avocets and red knots, to name a few. No wonder Bunche is a stop on the Great Florida Birding Trail. Go at low tide, sunrise or sunset. Oh, and did we mention this is one of Lee County's last beaches with free parking?

Details: www.leeparks.org or www.conservation2020.org



BEST 5K ROAD RACE

African Aid Run

Forget running across the Midpoint Bridge with the masses. Trot down McGregor Boulevard beneath shady palms to the sound of your own feet and a couple hundred other people's. Local runners agree, the African Aid Run to benefit New

Hope Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers is the most fun because, well, runners love McGregor, and they love it more when they don't have to be on a sidewalk dodging side-street traffic or crazed motorists in turn lanes. The Fort Myers Track Club hosts this race in early May each year — when there's no chance of a cold front and not much chance of humidity, either. Call it 3.2 miles of scenic City of Palms nirvana.

Details: www.ftmyerstrackclub.com





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SUMMER STIMULUS SPECIALS

\$5-\$8 lunch specials 12-4pm • soup and salad & half sandwiches, burgers, chicken or fish on a kaiser, caesar and house salads, cottage cheese stuffed tomato and more
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Live Music- Friday 5-9 • Saturday 5-9 • Sunday 3-9
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239-463-8077
www.SnugHarborRestaurant.com

Fort Myers Beach

Free Parking and Dockage - Marker #17
N. 26°27'40" Lat./W/ 81°57'27" Long