



Come Early – Stay Late

Clearwater Beach is one of the National HBPA's favorite places to visit and no doubt one place we continue to want to return to any chance we can. We hope you will expand your trip beyond our annual convention to allow time to enjoy everything this area has to offer. The Sheraton Sand Key concierge can offer suggestions, but if you would like to plan a few things before you get to Florida, here are just a few suggestions.

Our convention hotel will extend the group rate 3 days before and/or 3 days after our convention, based upon availability. As mentioned above, they also offer an onsite concierge to help answer questions or book tours.

Some points of interest if you would like to go about on your own:

Our hotel conveniently offers its own beach just beyond the pool area. Here you can relax and enjoy being on the beach by walking down miles of sandy shores watching the waves or collecting shells. You may not realize that so many things are named at the hotel for the sea turtles that nest in this paradise on the beach.

If you would like to venture outside of the hotel, take a ride on the Jolley Trolley. It will pick you up in front of the Sheraton and will take you throughout Clearwater with connections to Tarpon Springs, Dunedin, and Palm Harbor. You can find out more information regarding routes and fares on their website: www.clearwaterjolleytrolley.com.

Whether you are walking, driving, or taking the trolley, you will want to check out the souvenir shopping and wonderful restaurants on Coronado Drive and Mandalay Avenue. The roundabout just north of our hotel is the central area for everything in Clearwater Beach. You have walking access to the beach, Pier 60, boat rentals, many shops and restaurants, and where you can book encounters with dolphins, off-shore fishing tours, and many more fun activities! A couple of businesses to keep on your radar are:

Fishing Charters

<https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/things-to-do/fishing>

Clearwater Municipal Marina Slip #15
727-447-7200

Kani Lani Catamaran
<http://www.kailanicat.com>
727-446-6778

Little Toot
<http://www.littletoot.us>
727-446-5503

And just over the Clearwater Harbor is Clearwater Marine Aquarium, home to the most famous dolphin in the world, Winter. Here you will learn the efforts taken to save this dolphin when fishing line was found wrapped around her tail so tight that it had to be amputated, leaving prosthetic experts wondering how to build a fake tail that would ensure her survival. If this sounds familiar, then you have seen either of the Dolphin Tale movies that tell Winter's story. The movies star Ashley Judd, Harry Connick Jr, and Morgan Freeman – just to name a few. A little further in is the famous and absolutely worth the time – Busch Gardens. If you are not into amusement park rides, that's ok. Busch Gardens offers much more with the zoo exhibits (over 300 different animals), shows, a behind-the-scenes safari bus tour, and popular animal care centers.

Last, but not least, if you are looking for a distraction from the beach and salty water – look to the 42 craft breweries and distilleries in the area. Tours and tastings are becoming more and more popular and Clearwater will not let you down. The St. Pete/Clearwater Craft Beer Trail (<https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/gulp-coast-craft-beer-trail>) runs north to south from Tarpon Springs to St. Pete, which is an hour's drive, end to end. A few to highlight plus distillers for something a little stronger are:

Grindhaus Brew Lab in Clearwater (just over the harbor)
<http://www.grindhausbrewlab.com>
727-240-0804

Cueni Brewing Co in Dunedin (about 8 miles)
<http://www.cuenibrewing.com>
727-266-4102

Cotherman Distilling Co in Dunedin (about 8 miles)
727-523-0555

St Pete Distillery in St Petersburg (about 20 miles)
727-914-0931

As always, we will have available maps and information on the registration desk for your convenience and quick looks.