



**nileGUIDE**

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



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# A Night on the Town

## Orlando, 1 Day

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# Guide Description

**AUTHOR NOTE:** Start out with dinner at one of Orlando's finest restaurants, and move on to drinks and dessert at a little bar overlooking Lake Eola. Then retire to downtown's swankiest hotel.

# Itinerary Overview

## Day 1 - Orlando

**DAY NOTE:** Start with a romantic dinner at perhaps Orlando's finest French restaurant - I highly recommend the Filet Mignon, and order it medium rare; I also recommend making reservations as far in advance as possible - then move on to a gorgeous wine bar for drinks and desserts, and maybe take a walk around Lake Eola at night. Finish up at downtown's swankiest hotel.



### Coq Au Vin (Le)

A romantic little French place



### Eola Wine Company

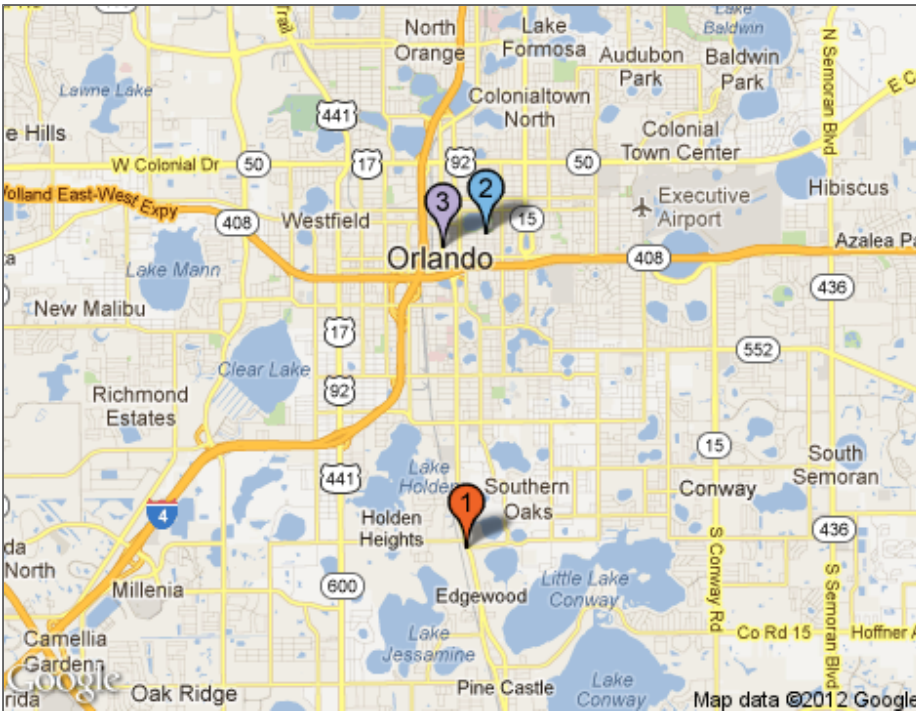
Of wines and bars



### The Westin Grand Bohemian

European-style hotel

# Day 1 - Orlando



## QUICK NOTE

**DAY NOTE:** Start with a romantic dinner at perhaps Orlando's finest French restaurant - I highly recommend the Filet Mignon, and order it medium rare; I also recommend making reservations as far in advance as possible - then move on to a gorgeous wine bar for drinks and desserts, and maybe take a walk around Lake Eola at night. Finish up at downtown's swankiest hotel.

### contact:

tel: 1 407 851 6980  
fax: +1 407 248 0658  
<http://www.lecoqauvinrestaurant.com>

### location:

4800 South Orange Avenue  
Orlando FL 32806

### hours:

Tu-Sa 5:30p-10p, Su 5p-9p

## 1 Coq Au Vin (Le)

**DESCRIPTION:** This fine French restaurant is located on a nondescript stretch of Orange Avenue better known for convenience stores than gourmet eateries. Inside, guests enter a world of romantic lighting, starched white tablecloths and excellent cuisine. You might begin with Onion Soup, topped with Gruyere cheese or an appetizer of phyllo dough stuffed with vegetables and cheese, and follow that with a grouper filet or a Black Angus steak. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Coq Au Vin (Le)

### contact:

tel: 407 481 9100  
<http://www.eolawinecompany.com/>

### location:

500 East Central Boulevard  
Orlando FL 32801

### hours:

## 2 Eola Wine Company

**DESCRIPTION:** Eola is known for its excellent wine tasting sessions, which happen time and again. Tasty appetizers and comfortable seating area make it a good place to chill out after work. The outdoor area offers a more casual take on this 'beautiful people, great wine' atmosphere. Wines and cheeses clearly rule the roost, but there's more variety on weekends. Subscribe to their newsletter for fun-filled tasting events - first come first served basis only. © wcities.com

M 4p-2a, Tu 11:30a-12a,  
W-Sa 11:30a-2a, Su  
noon-10:30p

**contact:**

tel: +1 407 313-9000  
[http://www.grandbohemianho  
tel.com/](http://www.grandbohemianhotel.com/)

**location:**

325 South Orange Avenue  
Orlando FL 32801



## The Westin Grand Bohemian

**DESCRIPTION:** Rich tones exude a sense of warmth at this luxury hotel. Each of the rooms are bedecked with tasteful and comfortable furniture. If you crave more than the average deal, you could check into one of the concierge-level abodes, up on the 15th floor. Here's where you get to access a Bose CD Wave stereo, radio and an exclusive lounge. 24-hour facilities include the fitness center, dining and parking. Couples on a romantic getaway may avail of the Jacuzzi suites—designed to ignite a few sparks. The hotel's Boheme restaurant offers excellent steaks, while the Bosendorfer Lounge is the perfect place for a drink with friends. An on-site Starbucks coffee store will keep you fueled all day long. Families with kids will enjoy taking a walk to the nearby theme parks, while art enthusiasts can spend a few productive hours in the Grand Bohemian Gallery.



# Orlando Snapshot

## Local Info

Think of Orlando and the picture of an iconic, cheerful mouse is sure to come to mind. Disney World not only sprawls across hundreds of acres of land in Lake Buena Vista, located in Orlando's southwest, its impact on Orlando tourism has been even more sweeping. If not for the explosion of Disney World, perhaps neighboring megaparks like Universal Studios and SeaWorld may never have been born.

No doubt, most vacationers come to Orlando for the theme parks, and for good reason. There is more family fun packed into every square inch of Orlando than possibly anywhere else on the planet. From heart-dropping roller coasters to unforgettable live shows, Orlando's expansive parks are worth every penny of their admission price. Orlando offers an easy vacation for families- it's easy to get around, easy to find something to do, and easy to fly in and out of.

The standard week-long vacation is not even close to enough time to truly experience Orlando. A family could spend their entire stay within Disney World and still would only uncover a fraction of the delightful diversions available. Besides days spent inside Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom, and the recently renamed Hollywood Studios (formerly MGM Studios), visitors can also book themed dinners with beloved characters, rent watercraft for

traversing Disney's inner waterways, visit two Disney water parks, and take behind-the-scene tours... and this still would only scratch Disney's surface. You wouldn't want to miss shopping and dining at Downtown Disney, as well as shows like Cirque du Soleil's La Nouba and the House of Blues's Gospel Brunch.

Those who manage to break from Disney's tender grip are quickly swallowed up at Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. These two parks are packed with spectacular rides as well as a huge entertainment, shopping and dining complex known as CityWalk. And the fun doesn't stop there.

Yet, there is life beyond the theme parks. While it's difficult to compete with the color and gusto of Disney and its neighbors, there's actually a lot happening outside of the theme park zone. Downtown's walkable streets offer a robust dining and nightlife scene as well as some unique boutiques and a handful of theaters and museums.

When the locals grow weary of the theme parks, which they quickly do, they're more likely to be found strolling around Lake Eola Park that boasts the famed fountain and amphitheater. Here you'll find a few popular eateries hugging its shores, a place to rent swan boats, and an awesome Sunday farmer's market crowded with downtown hipsters enjoying its beer garden and live bands.

Winter Park, with its posh boutiques, million-dollar homes, and chic cafes and restaurants is also a superb spot for an afternoon of strolling, shopping and snacking. Even non-shoppers love Winter Park thanks to its museums, scenic boat tours, and well-manicured park spaces.

Wherever you spend your time during your Orlando visit, you'll likely describe Orlando locals as friendly and unpretentious. Orlando isn't a big city like New York or LA, and it knows it. Sure, Orlando people glam it up at nightclubs and can spend wads of cash like any big city slicker, but they're not a snobby bunch. They're used to sharing their space with visitors and can be amiable and obliging if you're ever in need of a local tip.

Besides theme parks, I-Drive, and a handful of quaint urban corridors, the beach is just over an hour away. Cocoa and New Smyrna are closest and both are great for families, couples, and singles. Drive an extra hour west and you'll be at the Gulf. In fact, Orlando is one of the best starting off points for any Florida-exploring vacation. The airport is a direct flight from every major city in North America and there is so much more to see within a two to three hour drive of this great city.

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