



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Judy James

Sarasota Bars

Sarasota, 1 Day

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Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: Whether fancy cocktails or simple drinks are your thing, Sarasota has something to suit your taste. No velvet ropes or designer cocktails here. Just good, old-fashioned watering holes with great bartenders, good music and pleasant company.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Sarasota



Kroaky's
Karaoke in Sarasota



Lido Key Tiki Bar
The best place to enjoy a Florida sunset



Siesta Key Oyster Bar
Great food and drink in a lively atmosphere



O'Leary's Tiki Bar and Grill
Dance in a tee shirt and shorts to live music in Sarasota



Patrick's



Petrella Bros. Italian Tapas and Wine Bar

contact:
tel: 941/926-3434
<http://www.kroakys.com>

1 Kroaky's

location:
4400 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota Florida 34321

hours:
Weekdays 6pm-2am; Sat
1pm-2am; Sun 6pm-12am

DESCRIPTION: Like to sing but feel too embarrassed to do it in front of strangers in a public Karaoke bar? Under 21 but still want to have Karaoke fun? Or are you a senior who has more or less ignored popular music since the 1950s and 1960s? Now there is a solution in Sarasota. If you fall into the large group in between and want to be served beer, wine and food, there is a place for you as well. This is not a sleezy dive. It is more than acceptable to picky and fastidious. A couple from Scotland, who spent 18 years in japan – the place where Karaoke was born – opened the popular Kroaky's Karaoke in November of 2008 in Sarasota. Private Karaoke rooms for small groups cost \$5 per hour per adult; \$4 for children, as well as for seniors or members of the military on active duty. Utilizing the American style of Karaoke combined with the Japanese private room approach, they now offer a free Karaoke lounge that holds 60, plus ten fully equipped private rooms with 18,000 songs and thousands more for those who sing in Japanese, Chinese and Korean, Spanish and several other languages, where people of all ages can sing their hearts out with family and friends as the Japanese do in Tokyo for a modest fee. This includes children celebrating their birthdays and other events. Kroaky's Karaoke has been called the best Karaoke establishment in all of Florida.
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contact:
tel: 941/309-2581

2 Lido Key Tiki Bar

location:
1234 Benjamin Franklin Drive
Sarasota Florida 34326

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Ask for their signature Green Flash Cocktail, a rum, pineapple and Midori mix served on ice.

DESCRIPTION: Lido Key Tiki Bar The best place to enjoy a Florida sunset The Lido Key Tiki Bar is located on magnificent Lido beach, one of Florida's absolute best, not far from the water's edge in Sarasota. You will find this walk up outdoor bar just behind the posh Ritz-Carlton Members Beach Club. This rustic tropical gathering spot is clearly a popular Sarasota landmark. When it was suggested it be torn down, Lido Key Tiki Bar patrons protested so vigorously they were able to save it. So park your car on the side of the road that leads to the Ritz-Carlton's elegant club. You won't need your shoes as you walk across the sugar-white sand. But do pocket enough cash or credit cards to enjoy their renowned liquid refreshments. Sit at the bar or one of the tables. The bar features beer, wine and mixed drinks. Soft drinks also are available. It is open seven days a week when weather permits. Hours do vary seasonally, but it traditionally opens before noon and closes as the sun disappears on the distant horizon. Music is usually scheduled for 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. It's a good place to make new friends. Local patrons and vacationers give the historic Lido Key Tiki Bar a solid five star rating. © NileGuide

contact:
tel: 941/346-5443
<http://www.skob.com>

3 Siesta Key Oyster Bar

location:
5238 Ocean Boulevard
Sarasota FL 34242

DESCRIPTION: Customers most often praise the Siesta Key Oyster Bar (SKOB) for its casual, upbeat sometimes rowdy atmosphere, often with a live band and pails of cool drinks. Its a great place to relax with friends on a warm Florida summer night. If you make the right menu selection -- clam chowder, calamari, crab cakes, fish tacos, grouper or mahi mahi, muscles in wine and garlic butter, or the fried shrimp platter -- you can expect to leave feeling satisfied. For some reason, despite the establishment's name, the raw oysters sometimes vary both in quality and size. Some

patrons also complain a bit about service as well, especially in the heat of the afternoon. It seems to largely depend on the day and the individual waiting on you. With a large collection of TV sets, this is where the men of the family often assemble on Sunday afternoon to watch their favorite NFL football team. The Siesta Key is a landmark that reminds visitors of how it was on the islands way back when.

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contact:
tel: (941) 953-7505

location:
5 Bayfront Drive
Sarasota FL 34236

4 O'Leary's Tiki Bar and Grill

DESCRIPTION: If you enjoy live music and dancing after the sun disappears on the far side of the Gulf of Mexico, then drop by O'leary's Tiki Bar & Grill, just across from bustling downtown Sarasota. Located on Island Park, there is live music every night of the week. O'leary's also serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and has a kid's menu. Prices are reasonable. It specializes in tropical frozen drinks, draft and bottled beverages. Island Park is a delightful place to walk and to look enviously at the long row of large sail and power boats, or sit on a park bench with a friend on a mild winter evening. Locals walk their dogs on leashes and watch the sun drop behind the watery horizon. Parking is nearby. © NileGuide

contact:
tel: 941/952-1170
www.patricksrestaurant.net

location:
1400 Main St
Sarasota FL 34236

hours:
Daily 11am-midnight; Sun
brunch 11am-3pm

5 Patrick's

DESCRIPTION: With a semicircular facade, this upscale, polished-oak and brass-rail sports bar offers wide-window views of downtown's main intersection. The menu offers very good pub fare: steaks and chops, burgers, seafood, pastas, small pizzas, salads, sandwiches, and omelets. Other entrees include Yankee pot roast, broiled salmon with dill-hollandaise sauce, sesame chicken, and veal done three ways -- piccata, Française, or Marsala. There's a good happy hour here Monday through Friday between 5 and 7pm. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Patrick's

contact:
tel: 941/922-8466
www.petrellabros.com

location:
6331 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota FL 34231

hours:
Sun-Thurs 5-10pm; Fri-Sat
5-11pm

6 Petrella Bros. Italian Tapas and Wine Bar

DESCRIPTION: This bustling Italian tapas and wine bar has been recognized by Delta Sky Miles magazine as one of the best Italian restaurants in America thanks to its fresh pastas, imported seafood, wood-fired pizzas, and steaks. The wine list is exceptional, thanks to a unique collection of quality Italian wines from various regions. Feel free to order a selection of small plates to share -- Pinot Grigio shrimp, veal meatballs, salumi, calamari -- or choose from an impressive list of main courses such as chicken Marsala. At the time of this writing, owner Mateo Fagin was about to host his own cooking show, so be prepared for a major wait! © Frommer's



Petrella Bros. Italian Tapas and Wine Bar