The Miami River Map & Guide for the river

ONE VOICE — THE MIAMI RIVER COMMISSION

A NOTE USING THIS GUIDE…

Locator keys identify sites on this map, heading NW from the confluence of the Miami River and Biscayne Bay. Locator keys are in one of the following four categories:

- **HISTORIC SITES:** Blue numbers
- **RIVER BRIDGES:** Blue letters
- **POINTS OF INTEREST:** Green numbers
- **AREA BUSINESSES:** Red numbers

MIAMI RIVER BRIDGE

Bascule (B); Fixed (F)

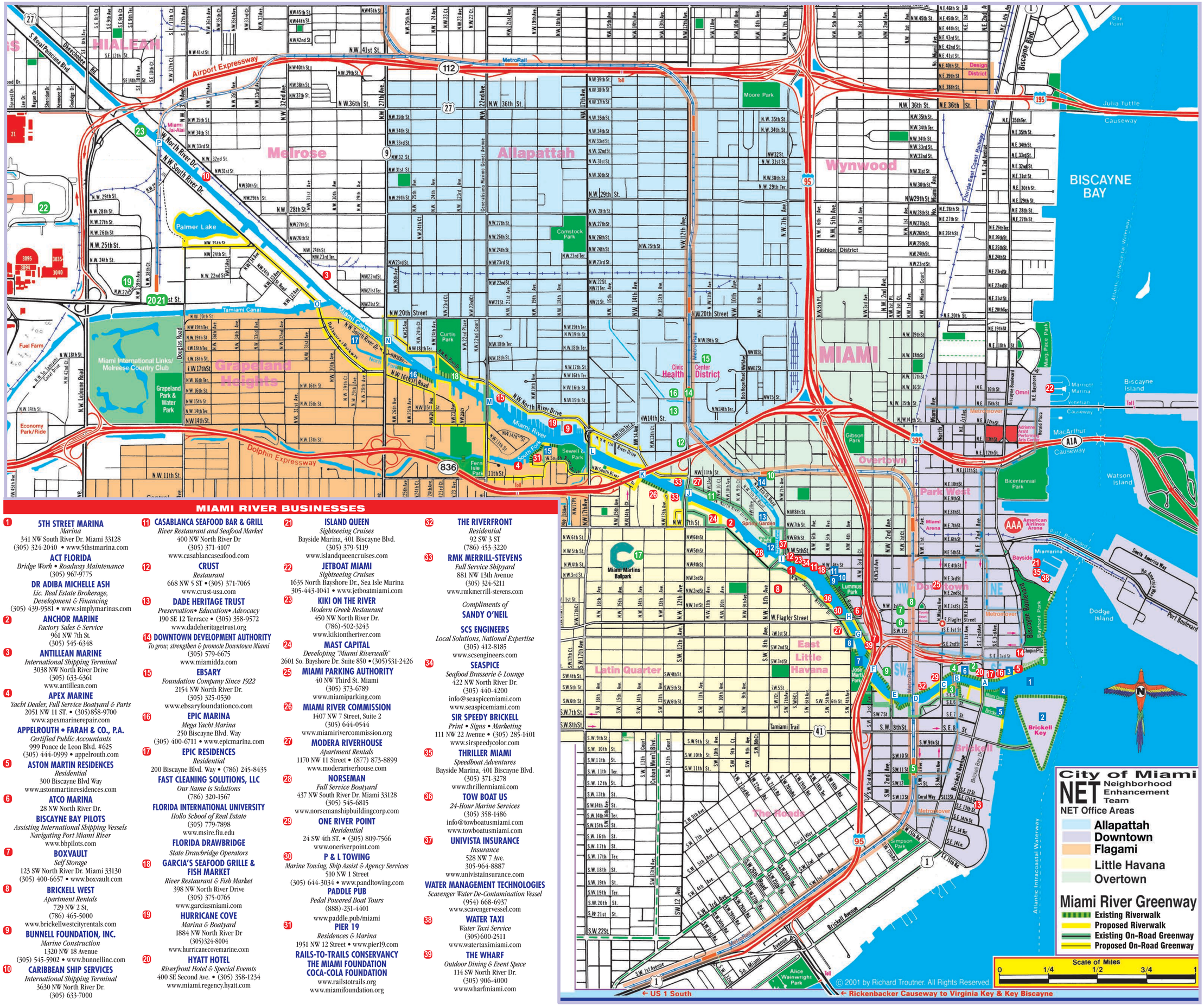
- Brickell Bridge (B) . . . . . A
- Metro Mover Bridge (F) . . . . . B
- South Miami Avenue (B) C
- Metrorail (F) . . . . . D
- S.W. 2nd Avenue (B) . . . . . E
- Interstate I-95 (3F) . . . . . F
- S.W. First Street (B) . . . . . G
- West Flagler Street (B) . . . . . H
- N.W. 5th Street (B) I
- N.W. 12th Avenue (B) . . . . . J
- S.R. 836/Dolphin Expwy. (F) . . . . . K
- N.W. 17th Avenue (B) L
- N.W. 22nd Avenue (B) . . . . . M
- N.W. 27th Avenue (B) . . . . . N
- N.W. South River Dr. (B) . . . . . O
- Railroad (B) . . . . . P

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Beginning of Miami River Greenway. 1
- James L. Knight Convention Center. 2
- Metro-Mover "Fifth Street" Station . 3
- Metro-Mover "Riverwalk" Station. . 4
- Metro-Rail "Brickell" Station. 5
- Miami-Dade Cultural Center 6
- Stephen P. Clark Government Center 7
- Metro-Rail "Government Center" Station 8
- City of Miami Administration Building. 9
- Metro-Rail "Culmer" Station 10
- Greenfield Garden 11
- Miami-Dade Justice Building 12
- University of Miami Medical Center 13
- Metro-Rail "Civic Center" Station 14
- Jackson Memorial Hospital 15
- Veterans Administration Hospital 16
- Miami Marlins Ballpark 17
- Public Boat Ramp 18
- Miami Intermodal Center. 19
- Metro-Rail "Airport" Station 20
- Tri-Rail Airport Station. 21
- Miami International Airport. 22
- Salinity Dam 23

HISTORIC MARKER SITE . . . . . ■

- The Historic Miami River. 1
- Brickell Key. 2
- Royal Palm Hotel 3
- Miami Circle 4
- Brickell Park 5
- Flagler Workers House 6
- Jose Marti Park 7
- Miami River Inn 8
- Wagner Homestead 9
- Fort Dallas. 10
- Scottish Rite Temple 11
- Point Park 12
- Spring Garden 13
- Hindu Temple 14
- Coppinger's Village 15
- Musa Isle. 16
- Miami River Rapids 17



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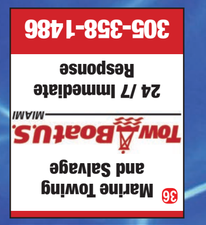
NET Office Areas
- Allapattah
- Downtown
- Flagami
- Little Havana
- Overtown

Miami River Greenway
- Existing Riverwalk
- Proposed Riverwalk
- Existing On-Road Greenway
- Proposed On-Road Greenway











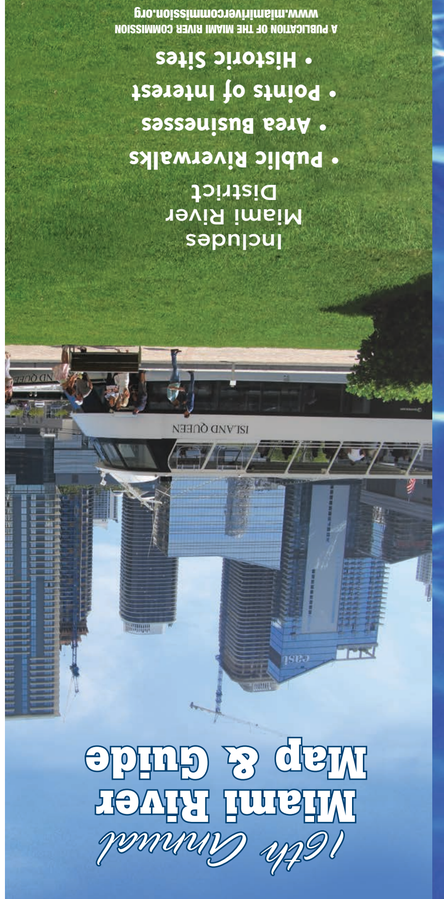












Miami River Historic Sites

THE HISTORIC MIAMI RIVER 1

The Miami River was central to the birth of the City of Miami. Until 1910 the Miami River was the City's main source of drinking water. The word "Miami" is a Tequesta Tribe term for "sweet water" which emanated from the river. Miami's first inhabitants (1500 B.C.), hotel, tourist attraction, trading post, etc. were all located on the Miami River.

BRICKELL KEY 2

Brickell Key, previously known as Claughton Island, was made in 1909 when Florida Governor Napoleon B. Broward commenced the State's Everglades drainage project. A portion of the project was the creation of the Miami Canal. When the Miami Canal opened in 1912, a massive flow of water from the Everglades lasted three weeks, as the water levels there dropped. The sediment blocked entry of large commercial vessels in the lower Miami River, so between 1912-1914 the sediment was dredged and used to fill portions of the river's shore, brickell point, and Claughton Island. Today the beautiful Brickell Key has several residential buildings, retail, office space, and the five star Mandarin Oriental Hotel, surrounded by the publicly-accessible Miami River Greenway.

ROYAL PALM HOTEL. 3

In 1896 Henry Flagler, owner of Florida East Coast Railroad and Florida East Coast Hotel Company, built the Royal Palm Hotel. The luxurious hotel was Miami's first major tourist accommodation.

MIAMI CIRCLE 4

A 2,000 year-old stone circle was discovered during a mandatory archeological survey of the site when two residential buildings were planned for construction. The south bank of the Miami River's mouth was a Tequesta Tribe village circa 750 B.C.

The State of Florida, Florida Inland Navigation District, South Florida Water Management District, City of Miami and the Downtown Development Authority completed replacement of the site's seawall and in 2011 finished contstruction of the publicly-accessible riverwalk.

BRICKELL PARK 5

Brickell Park is named after one of Miami's founders, Mary Brickell. In 1871 the Brickell family had a home on this location, and owned the first trading post in Miami. In 2000 an archeological survey discovered the remains of the Tequesta Tribe burial ground in Brickell Park.

FLAGLER WORKERS HOUSE. 6

Henry Flagler arrived in the late 1800s to build the railroad, the Royal Palm Hotel and other developments. When the hotel was built, he offered ongoing employment by constructing 30 similar houses along what is now SE 1st and 2nd Street, between SE 1st and 2nd Avenues. This frame vernacular style "Royal Palm Cottage", was constructed in 1897 from native pine with a gabled, shingled roof. The one remaining is the only structure of its age, size and type in downtown Miami. It has been moved to Fort Dallas Park on the Miami River. The City Commission designated the Flagler Workers House a historic site in 1983.

JOSE MARTI PARK 7

The site was an Native American camp, circa 400 A.D., preserved beneath river fill dredged in the early 1900s. Excavations in 1982 recovered pottery shards, shell tools, projectile points, Native American woman's grave and other artifacts. Dozens of similar camps existed along the river. In 1980 the location was known as "tent city", housing Cuban political refugees who fled Cuba during the Mariel boat lift. The site became Jose Marti Park in 1984, named after a Cuban Independence hero and poet.

RIVER INN MIAMI. 8

The River Inn Miami was constructed in 1906. Sallye Jude, restored the historic Inn in the late 1980's. The active Historic Miami River Hotel is on the National Register of Historic Places and was designated a historic site by the City Commission in 1987.

WAGNER HOMESTEAD. 9

This pre-1858 structure is the county's oldest standing house. It was built by William Wagner, an 1855 pioneer, whose homestead included a coontie mill and Miami's small wooden church, which burned down in 1892.

The Dade County pine house is a hand-hewn, peg fastened and wood-shingled example of mid-19th century shelters.

Development in the 1920s prompted its donation to the Dade Heritage Trust, a private preservation group who undertook relocation and restoration. The City Commission designated the Wagner Homestead a historic site in 1984.

FORT DALLAS / WILLIAM ENGLISH SLAVE. 10

Fort Dallas was built in 1844 as slave quarters in the William English plantation located on the north bank of the Miami River's mouth. It is built from oolitic limestone quarried at that site. After English left for the 1849 California gold rush, the Army reopened "Fort Dallas" on the site in preparation for the 3rd Seminole War.

Subsequent uses of the building were a trading post, the County courthouse, post office and a tea room. A plan to destroy the building in 1925 rallied the community. By agreement with the city, it was disassembled and re-built in Lummus Park.

Fort Dallas and the Wagner Homestead are prominently displayed in scheduled historical re-enactments. The City Commission designated Fort Dallas a historic site in 1984.

SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE 11

This 1922 building was designed and built by architects Kiehnel and Elliot, an important Miami firm. The Art Deco, Egyptian inspired temple is noteworthy for combining classical detail with Art Deco abstraction in elements such as two-headed eagles and a ziggurat roof. The original and present owner is the Miami Scottish Rite Temple Association. The City of Miami recently included this property within the designated Lummus Park Historic District.

POINT PARK 12

Alligator Joe's, an original tourist attraction, occupied this location between 1895-1915. Today, Spring Garden Point Park is the newest park on the Miami River Greenway. Miami's first tourists would take a paddlewheel boat from the Royal Palm Hotel to Alligator Joe's. The City of Miami rezoned this historic site from medium density (R3) residential to Parks and Recreation.

SPRING GARDEN 13

Spring Garden was formed as a subdivision in 1919. It is home to an eclectic collection of artists and professionals. Its early residents included Miami Herald editor Frank Stoneman as well as his daughter Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, Miami baker John Seybold, and several doctors, lawyers and businessmen. Spring Garden was designated a historic neighborhood by the City Commission in 1997.

HINDU TEMPLE 14

In 1919 "The Jungle Trail" motion picture was filmed in Spring Garden. When the Hindu Temple movie set was removed after the filming completed, John Seybold, the owner of the Spring Garden subdivision, hired August Geiger (famous Miami architect who designed the City Hospital) to develop a palatial residence in the style of the Hindu Temple set. The residence is on the National Register of Historic Buildings.

COPPINGER'S VILLAGE 15

Florida's first commercial Native American village was Coppinger's Tropical Gardens, Alligator Farm and Seminole Tribe Village. It opened in 1917 on land bought in 1911 by Henry Coppinger, Sr., a noted horticulturalist who came to Miami to plant the grounds of Flagler's Royal Palm Hotel. With his son, he developed the gardens as a botanical showcase. Native Americans camping on the grounds were encouraged to stay. More chickees were added and the area opened to tourists to provide income, food and medical attention for the Native Americans. Henry, Jr. wrestled alligators with the Seminoles.

MUSA ISLE. 16

Otis Richardson established a fruit grove here in 1896. Later, the area's first mail order fruit business operated as Musa Isle after the botanical name for banana. It was the last stop of a 50¢ "jungle cruise" on a paddlewheel boat running 4.5 miles from the mouth to the rapids where the river began. A 1907 wooden tower enabled tourists to view the Everglades.

A Seminole village was added in 1919. A trading post, craftwork, alligator wrestling, tropical plants and a zoo were featured. Musa Isle operated until 1964 as one of the successful operations that helped preserve Miccosukee and Seminole cultures.

MIAMI RIVER RAPIDS. 17

The north fork of the Miami River began with river rapids just south of the park. Everglades water spilled down a 6 foot natural ridge. The rapids ceased in 1912 with opening of the Miami Canal drainage project. The man-made canal begins at NW 24th Avenue near the end of the river's north fork, which continues a short distance to the west.

In the 1840s, George Washington Ferguson and Thomas Jefferson Ferguson operated a coontie starch mill over a stream with remnants just east of the park. The water driven mill employed 25 people and one year earned $24,000 selling "Ferguson's Florida Arrow Root" throughout the U.S. The mill was abandoned in the Third Seminole War. In 1990, the City Commission designated the Miami River Rapids Archaelogical Zone a historic site.

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