

# Florida – The Sunshine State.

Florida combines all the best parts of a great holiday in one destination – a wide selection of amazing theme parks in Orlando, miles upon miles of soft sandy beaches, acres of wild parkland, superb shopping, fantastic food, excellent entertainment and great fun for all.

Orlando is one of the most popular and reasonably priced holiday destinations for 2010 and with direct flights from Dublin, it is now more accessible than ever. Five of the world's greatest theme parks are located here - Wet 'n Wild, Sea World, Discovery Cove, Universal Studios, Universal Islands of Adventure and a brand new water park ' Aquatica.”

In Orlando, it all happens on International Drive - it is approximately 6 miles long and offers a variety of hotels and restaurants with hundreds of wonderful dining options, all with a unique and distinct theme. On International Drive, you will soon discover that dining is an attraction all of its own, check out West Sand Lake Road and Dr Philips which is commonly known as "Restaurant Row". You'll find every category of cuisine prepared, including Brazilian, Caribbean, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Japanese, Latino, Mexican and of course traditional American.

## **Nightlife**

If you have the energy to make it past 11pm the nearest hot spots are located at Universals City Walk and I would highly recommend -  
Bob Marley's Tribute to Freedom - Live Reggae performed nightly in the open air gazebo.  
Pat O'Brien's - visit the exact replica of the famed New Orleans watering hole where it's Mardi Gras 365 days a year.  
City Jazz – Dance to high energy funk, R&B soul, rock and more at Orlando's Premier Nightclub.

## **Things to do**

Orlando has so much to offer - from the magic of Walt Disney World Resort to Universal Resort, sharks, whales and dolphins at Seaworld Orlando, splashing fun at Wet'n Wild and scenic animal habitats at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay.

## **The beaches**

The gorgeous Gulf Coast shores include the white sands of lively Clearwater, leisurely St Petersburg, laid-back Fort Myers and stylish Naples. It stretches along Florida's west coast, with the beautiful beaches gently caressed by the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

## **Places to see**

When you can bear to tear yourself away from all the fun in Orlando's theme parks, head east for a day trip to the race track in Daytona or find out how to become an astronaut at the Kennedy Space Centre. The south is famous for the swamps, crocodiles and alligators of Everglades National Park.

## **On the menu**

Most of the Gulf Coast resorts have a good choice of lovely up-market restaurants along with more casual eateries. Orlando has a little of everything from fast food to seafood, themed venues and specialty cuisines.

## **Shopping**

If bargain-hunting is your thing there are plenty of malls and factory outlets in and around Orlando to browse for that special something. Sarasota, on Florida's west coast is well known for Palm Avenue - excellent for antiques and Naples is renowned for its chic boutiques.

## **Getting around**

If car hire is included in your holiday package, it's easy to take the Sunshine State at your own pace to do some independent exploring, and if the driver wants a break from behind the wheel,

many hotels within the Orlando area operate a complimentary shuttle service to and from the major theme parks.

Eblana Travel currently has some special offers to Orlando with direct flights from Dublin as follows, price shown is per person sharing and includes flights, taxes, and 7 night's accommodation –

**QUALITY INN PLAZA** from € 599.

**HOLIDAY INN** from € 660.

**FLORIDAYS** from € 879.

**PRIVATE HOME WITH POOL** from € 569.

Includes direct flights, 7 nights in 3 Bedroom Home, Mini Van hire & all taxes, based on 6 sharing

Whatever your holiday dreams, you can be sure they'll come true in Orlando. There's no other place on the planet that provides such a magical escape from everyday life. Whether meeting favourite Disney Characters enjoying high-speed thrills, relaxing sunbathing or indulging in unbelievable shopping, there's something for everyone - from toddlers and teenagers to grown ups and grandparents.

**Eblana Travel has special offers on family holidays and honeymoons, to book your holiday to Florida, contact the experts at Eblana Travel on (091) 501 400 or email [sales@eblanatravel.ie](mailto:sales@eblanatravel.ie)**