

*There is no better way to spend the day:
a beautiful beach, great shopping and a fine dinner.*

Lido Beach and St. Armand's Circle (Sarasota)

Monday October 16, 2023

Please join us while we bask in the autumn sun at Lido Beach, located approximately 2 1/4 hours south off the coast of Sarasota. You may enjoy strolling the shoreline, discovering beautiful shells, relaxing with a good book, or just engaging in an interesting conversation. Come have some fun on another beautiful beach in Florida. Our buses will depart at 8:30 am.

Upon our 11:00am arrival you will find the necessary amenities available on Lido Beach. The amenities include restrooms, outdoor showers, and a changing room. There is also an observation deck.

Beach chair and umbrella rental: Rental gear is available from an attendant on the beach. We were unable to negotiate a reasonable group rate, so are not collecting or pre-paying beach equipment this trip. The distance from the bus to the beach is not overwhelming. However, if you wish to rent equipment, the fees will be single chairs \$14 and single umbrellas \$16. (Yes, that totals \$44 + 7% tax and gratuity for a set.)

There is a pavilion with a covered patio next to the beach access area. This is a great place to picnic in the shade. Of course, if you do not have time to prepare a bag lunch the pavilion has a concession, the **Lido Island Grill**, featuring their famous **lobster**

roll plus alcoholic beverages. Food at the Grill is prepared when you order it so it's not quite your ordinary concession stand.

Menu: <https://www.lidoislandgrill.com/menu>

Another lunch option for beachcombers is the **TIKI BAR**: (located in the Lido Beach Resort) 700 Benjamin Franklin Drive. The Tiki Bar has a lovely atmosphere and offers delicious handcrafted sandwiches, salads, appetizers, and alcoholic beverages.

Tiki Bar: <https://www.opalcollection.com/lido-beach/restaurants/poolside-tiki-bar/menu/tiki-bar/>.

NOTE: LIFEGUARDS WILL NOT BE ON DUTY

The bus will depart from the beach parking lot at 2:30 pm for St. Armand's Circle Shopping Center, an island shopping experience unique in concept, history, and beauty. The shopping center is .05 mile from our beach.

St. Armand's Circle provides an unforgettable experience. It is set amidst a tropical paradise. St. Armand's is an enchanting circle of fine shops and gourmet restaurants. Lush tropical plants adorn courtyards and patios. Antique statuary and contemporary architectural design skillfully contribute to an international atmosphere of friendly warmth, enduring elegance, and timeless style. Its circular shape and layout is inspired by its designer John Ringling, who is famous for shaping the modern day circus.

Explore the shops then relax over dinner.....from trinkets to treasures from gourmet snacks to candlelight feasts. There is something for everyone from casual to fine dining. There are sidewalk cafes, pubs, and ice cream shops with fudge dessert treats. You cannot go wrong but it is quite possible to go broke!

Follow this link for a map and directory of St. Armands Circle:
<https://starmandscircleassoc.com/shop-%7C-dine-%7C-relax>

For beachcombers that wish to relax and enjoy the beach all day, a bus will return at 4:30pm to pick you up to dine at the circle.

Restaurants in St. Armand's Circle:

Blu Kouzina; 25 N. Boulevard of the Presidents: serving Greek specialties. <https://blukouzina.com/qr/usa/Food.pdf>

Cha Cha Coconuts; 417 St. Armands Circle. Featuring fried shrimp. <https://chacha-coconuts.com/main-menu/>

Cafe L 'Europe; 431 St. Armands Circle; fine dining. <https://cafeleurope.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/23-06-20-CLE-DINNER-8.5x14-.pdf>

Cilantro Grill; 419A St. Armands Circle; Mexican <https://cilantrogrillsrq.com/>(menu tabs do not work).

Columbia Restaurant; 411 St. Armands Circle; authentic Spanish dishes; <https://www.columbiarestaurant.com/food-drink>.

Crab & Fin; 420 Armands Circle; unique seafood dishes; <https://www.crabfinrestaurant.com/daily-catch-selections>

Daiquiri Deck; 325 John Ringling Blvd.; specializing in daiquiris while offering a variety of seafood, burgers, and chicken.

<https://www.daiquirideckstarmands.com/menu/food-menu>

Le Colonne; 22 S. Blvd of the Presidents; Italian dishes; <https://lecolonnerestaurant.com/menu/dinner-menu/>

Lobster Craft; 28A S. Blvd of the Presidents; specialty-Lobster; <https://www.lobstercraft.com/menu/main-menu/>

Lynches Pub & Grub; 19 N Blvd of the Presidents; specializing in whiskey & Irish dishes. <https://lynches.pub/menu>

Madison Avenue Cafe & Deli; 28 N. Blvd of the Presidents; sandwiches, wraps and salads;

<https://www.madisondelisrq.com/about-1>

Pizzolo Pizza; 438 St. Armands Circle; Brazilian pizza;

<https://pizzolopizza.com/>

Shore; 465 John Ringling Blvd #200; steak, seafood, vegan dishes; <https://www.dineshore.com/menus-shore-st-armands-circle/#dinner-menu>

Speaks Clam Bar; 29 N Blvd of Presidents; seafood; <https://speaksclambar.com/locations/st-armands-circle/menu>

Tommy Bahama; 300 John Ringling Blvd; fancy drinks and unique food items; <https://www.tommybahama.com/restaurants-and-marlin-bars/recipes>

Venezia; 373 St. Armands Circle; Italian dishes, pizza, pastas, salads; <https://venezia-1966.com/dinner-menu/>

Desserts:

You may be disappointed if you depart St. Armand's Circle without a visit to an ice cream or candy store. The products in these shops are all produced using only high-quality ingredients, superb craftsmanship, all while being offered up by genuinely friendly team members. A trip to only view the beautiful creams and candies is, in itself, a real delight!

Ben & Jerry's: 372A St. Armand's Circle; exclusive flavors of ice cream.

Big Olaf Creamery: 561 N. Washington Dr.; many flavors of ice cream.

Kilwins: 312 John Ringling Blvd; a visit to Kilwins provides an authentic sensory and taste experience like none other.

Le Macaron: 362 John Ringling Blvd; French pastries; a perfect delicacy that brings an elegance to these irresistible treats.

River Street Sweets: 318 John Ringling Blvd; featuring world famous pralines.

Settimi's Gelato: 367 St. Armand's Circle; offering gelato and espresso.

The buses will depart at 6:30pm for The Villages from a designated location on St. Armand's shopping circle. The Villages arrival time will be approximately 8:30pm.