

# Palm Beach in the Rankings

- **Equestrian Capital of the World:** Wellington in Palm Beach County is known as the Equestrian Capital of the World because it has a protected equestrian preserve and is home to the International Polo Club Palm Beach and the internationally renowned Winter Equestrian Festival.
- **The World's 28th-best Golf Course:** Seminole Golf Club in Juno Beach is a majestic Donald Ross-designed course in Palm Beach. It is one of America's most exclusive clubs and will be home to the 2021 Walker Cup. (Source: Golf Digest — 2016)
- **Top Place to Launch a Career:** Forbes Magazine ranked the West Palm Beach/Boca Raton/Boynton Beach area as the top place in the entire state of Florida for business and careers in 2014. (Source: Forbes Magazine — 2014)
- **3rd-Best Airport in the United States:** Palm Beach International is ranked among the best airports in the country. (Source: Conde Nast Traveler magazine — 2014)
- **2nd Hottest Single-Family Home Market in the United States:** Palm Beach County ranked No. 2 for the best single-family home market in the United States in the 3Q of 2016 because of its strong population and employment growth (Source: Ten-X in November 2016)
- **29th-Best City in Florida for Young Families:** Jupiter's home affordability, growth and educational quality helped its ranking as one of the best cities for young families: (Source: NerdWallet — 2015)
- **Seven Top 100 Golf Communities in America:** Admiral's Cove (Jupiter), The Bear's Club (Jupiter), the Loxahatchee Club (Jupiter), the Medalist Golf Club (Hobe Sound), Mirasol (Palm Beach Gardens), Old Marsh (Palm Beach Gardens) and Old Palm Golf Club (Palm Beach Gardens) rank among America's Top 100 Golf Communities. (Source: Travel & Leisure magazine — 2016)
- **Four Cities Ranked in Top 10 Places to Retire in Florida:** North Palm Beach (fifth-best city to retire in Florida), Palm Beach Gardens (sixth), Boca Raton (seventh) and Delray Beach (10th) performed among the best in terms of tax rates, doctor offices, recreation centers, etc. (Source: SmartAsset — August 2016).
- **36th-Best Place to live in the United States:** Wellington, known as the equestrian capital of the world, ranked among Money Magazine's Best Places to Live 2016. Wellington offers top schools, quality health care and low crime. (Source: Money Magazine — 2016)
- **4th-Hottest Retail Real Estate Market in the United States:** West Palm Beach ranked as the fourth hottest retail market in the country, posting a four-year rent increase of 12.8 percent (Source: Ten X in October 2016)
- **Most-Searched U.S. Region for International Home Buyers:** South Florida is the top U.S. destination for foreign home buyers. (Source: Realtor.com — November 2016)
- **2nd-Best Place in America to Start a Business:** South Florida finished second behind Austin, Texas for the best location to start a business. (Source: American City Business Journals study of small-business vitality, April 2016)
- **8th-Most Populated Region in the United States:** The Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach metro area added 500,000 new residents in the past five years and now boasts more than 6 million residents for the first time (Source: U.S. Census Bureau — March 2016)
- **23rd-Best Area for Launching a Career in the United States:** The Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach metro area ranked as the 23rd best area for launching a career. South Florida earned high marks for career advancement (No. 15), quality of life (No. 20) and social opportunities (No. 11). (Source: Bankrate.com — April 2016)

# TOP PALM BEACH FACTS

**Ocean, Lakes, Waterways:** On the sea or in fresh water, Palm Beach offers fishing, diving, boating and more water activities. Participate in the nation's best bass fishing in Lake Okeechobee, the largest lake in the southeastern United States. Snorkel and dive in the Gulf Stream-warmed water to view more than 20 reefs in the area. Palm Beach also has direct access to the world-renowned Florida Everglades.

**Picturesque Beaches:** With 47 miles of Atlantic coastline, Palm Beach County has numerous public beaches and areas to enjoy the surf and sand. Many of the beaches are dog friendly with easy public access/parking.

**Florida's Golf Capital:** Palm Beach County has the most public and private golf courses in the state with 160 public and private courses. Known as Florida's Golf Capital, the county boasts some of the nation's most acclaimed golf resorts, pro-designed executive and championship courses, and regularly hosts leading PGA-sanctioned tournaments.

**Boating, Watersports & Fishing:** The waters off Palm Beach are perfect for boating, watersports, pleasure boating, sport fishing and lobster fishing. Palm Beach to the west end Bahamas is three hours by sea.

**Equestrian Capital of the World:** The Palm Beaches are considered the world's winter equestrian capital as it has a bevy of horse show arenas. This is a multi-billion dollar industry. Polo is another top sport here. The International Polo Club in Wellington host some of the world's biggest tournaments.

**World-Class Shopping:** From Worth Avenue to the Town Center at Boca Raton, Palm Beach County offers some of the most beautiful and luxurious shopping venues in the U.S.

**Ecotourism:** Palm Beach County has 35 nature areas encompassing more than 30,000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands. Hike and use the public-use facilities at Delray Oaks, Frenchman's Forest, High Ridge Scrub, Hypoluxo Scrub, Juno Dunes, Jupiter Ridge, Leon M. Weekes, Ocean Ridge, Rosemary Scrub, Royal Palm Beach Pines, Seacrest Scrub, Sweetbay and Yamato Scrub.

**Top Tourist Destination:** One of America's top tourist locations, Palm Beach County draws seven million visitors annually, which is equivalent to the population of Maryland. Tourism employs 60,000 residents and contributes \$6.8 billion in total economic impact to Palm Beach County each year.

**Convenient Aviation Hub:** Palm Beach International Airport serves more than six million passengers a year, and is within close proximity to the destination's legendary resorts, beaches, and the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Twelve domestic and international airlines serve the airport with approximately 200 scheduled commercial flights arriving and departing daily. Voted third best airport in the U.S. the Conde Nast Traveler magazine in 2014. Palm Beach is also home to many private airports and the Palm Beach County Park Airport (LNA) in Lantana.

**Schools:** The School District of Palm Beach County is the eleventh largest in the nation with 185 schools. Education Week recognized the District as having the eighth-highest graduation rate in the nation. Palm Beach County also has seven community colleges and two major universities: Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach Atlantic University. Palm Beach County is also a four-hour drive away from two top-50 universities: The University of Florida in Gainesville and the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

**Hospitals:** Sixteen Palm Beach hospitals have 24/7 emergency rooms. Several hospitals have received national honors, including Jupiter Medical Center, which ranks among nine U.S. hospitals identified by Consumer Reports as the highest rated in fighting infection.

**Clean Air, Sunny Weather:** Palm Beach County averages one day per year of excessive ground-level ozone or smog, according to the American Lung Association's latest report on the nation's air quality. Palm Beach also boasts an average annual temperature of 78 degrees and about 234 days of sunshine year-round.

**Hotels:** Palm Beach County has more than 16,000 hotel rooms available, ranging from hotels along the coast to properties adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway to those in walking distance to historic districts. Palm Beach County hotel occupancy climbed in 2014 to 73.4 percent compared to 71.6 percent in 2013, according to STR data.

**Luxury Real Estate:** With 47 miles of Atlantic coastline and pristine island views, Palm Beach County offers some of the world's top luxury oceanfront homes. Singer Island and Billionaire's Row attract high-net-worth individuals.

**Art & Culture:** The nationally acclaimed Antique Row, the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, and the Norton Art Museum are just some of the top places in Palm Beach County for art, culture, and entertainment.

**Budding Rail System:** All Aboard Florida, a high-speed passenger rail connecting downtown Miami to Orlando, will have a West Palm Beach stop. Service is set to begin in early 2017 from Miami to West Palm Beach and the rest of the line by the end of 2017.

**Port of Palm Beach:** The fourth busiest container port in Florida and one of the top-20 busiest container ports in the U.S., the Port of Palm Beach is primarily an export port. About 80 percent of its cargo is being exported all over the world. The Port and its tenants contribute a staggering \$185 million annually in business revenue to the county.

**Emerging Tech Hub:** App developers, website builders, and interactive game creators are launching businesses in Palm Beach County. The growth in the tech sector fueled the recent start of Palm Beach Technology Association, an organization trying to build Palm Beach as the next American tech hub.

**Major League Baseball:** Two professional baseball teams — the St. Louis Cardinals and the Miami Marlins — play spring training in Jupiter. The Houston Astros and the Washington Nationals host spring training at The Ballpark of the Palm Beaches in West Palm Beach in 2017. The new state-of-the-art facility will also be used for tournaments, corporate functions, concerts, festivals and other events.

**Restaurants:** In Palm Beach County, you can savor worldwide cuisine. Celebrity chefs are opening restaurants throughout the region. Clematis Street and City Place are two top places for upscale dining.

**Great Biking Trails and Kayaking:** The Lake Trail is one popular ride. It runs along the Intracoastal Waterway on Palm Beach Island, ending in a pier at the inlet. Riverbend Park, an award-winning park, offers biking, hiking, horseback riding and paddling opportunities. Jupiter is home to 188 miles of waterways, which are perfect for paddling, kayaking and canoeing.

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