



## Is Florida your next Destination?

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The COVID-19 pandemic put a huge stop to the travel industry all across the world, especially within the United States. The tourism market took a massive hit during this time, but some states opened up and allowed tourism to start moving again earlier than others.

According to [Business Insider](#), Florida ranks second in the most visited state by tourists in the United States. Florida was one of the first states to open up and get tourism flowing again. The whole state has a lot to offer when visiting, whether you are going inland or along the coast!

Central Florida, Orlando specifically, is a common place to visit due to Walt Disney World. Anywhere Disney makes its presence, it draws a lot of tourism. The Walt Disney company also uses Florida's coastal access to launch cruise ships of their own, which adds to the tourism in the state. Disney World spans across four theme parks, many hotels, as well as a shopping and dining district known as "Disney Springs". Disney world also offers discounted rates at different times of the year and has what they call "value resorts" which are hotels on property that are

more affordable to the public. This massive resort is one of Florida's biggest tourist attractions and makes up a large part of their immense tourism culture.

Moving down the coast, South Florida has many great reasons to visit and offers great places to relax and get away from normal life. Fort Lauderdale is one great place in South Florida to spend time in. The beaches are like no other and offer a great place to relax and take in the beauty of the Atlantic Ocean. People can fill their trips with surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing, and many more water-related activities. It is a great place to vacation if you enjoy activities on the water! With clear blue water, and white sand beaches, you will feel like you are living the life of a "Visit Florida" poster. Fort Lauderdale is a great place to travel and spend your vacation at any time of year.

The South Florida coastline is notorious for launching cruises and offers a close proximity to desirable cruise locations. COVID-19 really slowed down the cruising industry, but it is now starting up again with other tourism being in full swing. With Royal Caribbean, Carnival Cruise Line, and Disney Cruises to name a few, cruises are leaving regularly from Fort Lauderdale, Miami and everywhere up and down the coast. These cruises offer routes to multiple destinations in the Caribbean, such as the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, St. Maarten, as well as private islands that they own and operate. Carnival has an island they own and operate called "Half Moon Bay", Royal Caribbean has "Perfect Day at Coco Cay" and "Labadee", and the Disney cruise line has one of their own as well called "Castaway Cay". Without Florida being the hub for these cruise lines to leave from, the ships would not be able to visit these fantastic locations.

The state of Florida offers so much to do in terms of tourism and vacation. Next time you want to plan a vacation, think about visiting Florida to fully enjoy your time away!

Sources:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/the-most-popular-us-states-for-tourism-2014-10>