

GULF HARBORS ON THE FLORIDA SUNCOAST

GULF HARBORS IS A QUALITY PORTSIDE WATERFRONT COMMUNITY CREATED ON DEEPWATER CANALS – WITH IMMEDIATE DIRECT ACCESS TO THE OPEN GULF OF MEXICO BY BOAT FROM YOUR BACKYARD DOCK. ENJOY SAILING

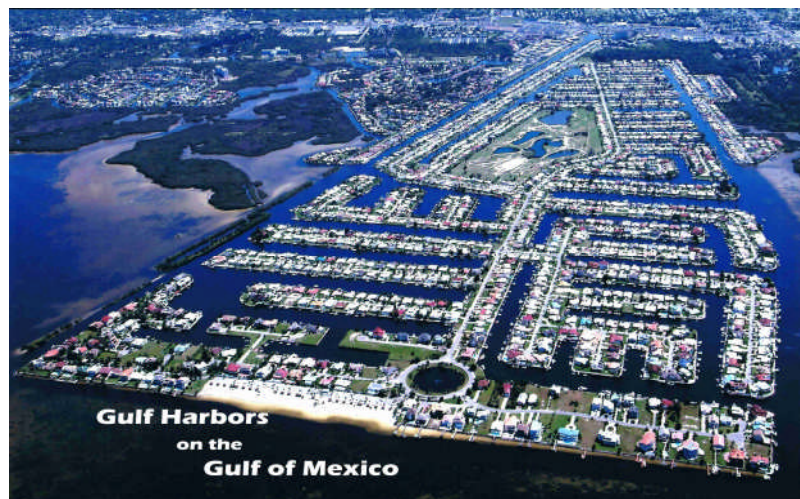


RIGHT OUT ON THE BEAUTIFUL TROPICAL CLEAR BLUE WATER TO OUR PRISTINE BARRIER ISLAND KEYS, NATURAL SHELL-STREWN BEACHES, GREAT FISHING, DIVING, SNORKELING, EXPLORING, GORGEOUS SUNSETS, AND FUN!

Location: Central Florida's Suncoast on the Gulf of Mexico – Clearwater Beach – New Port Richey Area. Only 35 minutes northwest from Tampa Int'l Airport: 15 miles due north of Clearwater; 90 minutes due west of Disney World / Orlando.

Gulf Harbors is a prestigious residential community of boating enthusiasts literally *right on the Gulf of Mexico*, just 22 miles north of Tampa on the Central West Florida coast. Homes quietly sit on deep limestone canals with clear water.

Gulf harbors has its own private gated



sandy beach directly facing west onto the open Gulf. It provides keywest cabana shelters, picnic tables, BBQ grills, showers and restroom facilities The beach and its facilities are always kept clean for everyone's comfort and enjoyment. Watch magnificent sunsets sipping wine with cheese. The Beach is only a short bicycle ride or walk from most homes. There's

plenty of parking too right next to the sand if you prefer driving.

There is also has a small community golf course right in the center of the community. Of course for avid players, there are numerous excellent golf courses in the area (see below for web link to the list).

The typical canal is wide, 15-20 feet deep to accommodate large boats, and is less than 10 minutes by boat to the wide open Gulf. In the 1960's they were dynamited out of limestone rock, so the water is



really clean and clear, frequented by a variety of fish, herons, pelicans, osprey, dolphins and even manatee! Sit back on your dock or up on the patio and enjoy the gorgeous gulf air breezing in. Many residents jump right off their docks for a refreshing dip.

Cruise right in and tie up to your backyard seawall and dock; or trailer in your own boat and launch it via the community boat ramp.

Vacation Activities Nearby

Island & Beaches Exploring
Swimming, Shelling, Sunbathing
Scuba Diving / Snorkeling
Fishing - local / deep sea
Golfing (great courses see below)
Boating / Boat Rentals
Waterskiing / Windsurfing
Jet Ski / Wave Runners
Live Theatre / Cinema
Professional Sports Events
Sightseeing / Swim w/ Manatees
Horseback Riding
Gold's Gym Fitness Center
Casino Cruise Boats



Nearby Attractions

First class shopping plazas, emergency clinics and medical services are a few minutes away, as are numerous quality and family restaurants offering very good food and service at reasonable prices. And because Gulf Harbors is central in the state, you can reach

places like Orlando's **Disneyworld/Epcot, Universal Studios, and Sea World** in 1½-hour highway drive, and the **NASA Kennedy Space Center** in Cocoa Beach.

Fishing is excellent. You can fish right off your dock, go on deep-sea fishing charters.



Or, with a skiff and motor you're able to fish the grass flats around Gulf Harbor, usually catching speckled trout, redfish, snook, mangrove snapper, etc. This snippet from a nautical chart shows the channels that extend out from this community and the fishing areas beside the channels. There are "oyster reefs" beside the channels and the red fish and speckled trout like to hang out around these reefs looking for dinner. These areas are all "grass flats" that are about 3 to 5 ft deep with long grass on the bottom. Many of our guests

eat fresh fish every day during their stay. You can see the 2 to 3 foot long tarpon and snook lurking under the dock at night. Catching them is the challenge. Some of the nearby Fishing Charters:

- Miss Virginia Deep Sea Fishing, New Port Richey; Deep Sea, Bottom (727)862-5516
- C-Crews, Port Richey; Trolling, Bottom, or Deep Sea (727)842-2347
- Bounty Hunter Sport Fishing, New Port Richey; Coastal, Near Shore (727)843-0489
- Dolphin Deep Sea Fishing, Tarpon Springs; Deep Sea (727)937-8257
- Local boat rentals available (ie. www.waterfront-rentals-boats.com)

Beautiful Coastline of Beaches. The beaches along the Sun Coast of Florida are some of the most beautiful and safest in the world. These include the string of beaches from Anclote Key in the north to Fort De Soto in the South. These 36 miles of extraordinary



coastline has some of the best beaches in the United States, including Hawaii. These beaches range from isolated, undeveloped tropical islands accessible only by boat (Anclote Key, Caladesi Island) to packed tourist beaches with all the souvenir shops, grouper sandwich grills, and nightclubs. Caladesi Island State Park, Anclote Key State Park, and Fort De Soto Park rank in the top ten beaches in the entire United States.

Every possible water sport can be enjoyed along these beaches including fishing in the grass flats, deep-sea fishing, boating, sailing, canoeing, sea kayaking, SCUBA diving, wind surfing, shelling, parasailing, swimming, jet skiing, and water skiing.



There are more than 20 "barrier islands" called "keys", along the Florida west coast. The Gulf waters that lap on the shores of these islands are warm and clear. The slope of the beach is very gentle, making the beaches safe for small children to play at the waters edge.



For example, this beautiful beach is on **Anclote Key**. Notice how calm the waterline is. This is true of all of the beaches here on the west coast of Florida. You do not have to worry about the large waves crashing on the beach. It is a very safe environment for enjoying the water without

having to fight the waves.

Anclote Key is a Florida State Park and Game Preserve located three miles off the mainland, so you are in sight of land at all times. It is a beautiful island, about 5 miles long, with an old historic lighthouse that's fun to explore. The entire gulf side of the island is a fine white sand beach with many interesting shells and sand dollars. Sea turtles glide the blue-green waters, especially around the island's south end. Bird watchers marvel at spotting over 40 different bird species natural to the island, especially the Bald Eagle and Osprey (Fish Eagle) nests in the large trees on this island.



Howard Beach is a Florida State Park in Tarpon Springs, only short drive from this vacation home. A favorite with the locals because it is not crowded like Clearwater Beach. It has lots of nice amenities including tree covered as well as sheltered (roofed) picnic tables, restrooms, grills, really nice long fine white sandy beaches, showers, easy beach parking, etc. This picture gives you an idea of the white sands, clear blue water, and the palm trees that are found on many of the Florida beaches. Wonderful swimming, sunbathing, windsurfing and fishing.



Sunset Beach Park in Tarpon Springs. This is very nice local park that is almost never visited by "tourists crowds". It also has lots of amenities including covered picnic tables, restrooms, nice sandy beaches, easy parking, etc.

Honeymoon Island is a State Park with very nice fine white sand beaches, and is accessible by car. The beaches are

very natural like those on Anclote Key, as both islands are part of the same chain of undeveloped barrier islands that extends from Anclote Key south to Cape Romano.

Picnic pavilions, bathhouses and a park concession are all found on Honeymoon Island. The park boasts several nature trails, bird observation areas and the only "pet beach" in the state. You can see osprey nests in the tall pines along with over 208 species of plants and variety of shore birds. Surf and pass fishing can yield catches of flounder, snook, trout, redfish, snapper, whiting, sheepshead and tarpon.



Caladesi Island. For serenity and seclusion, Caladesi Island State Park is ideal. It is rated the 2nd best beach in the USA by Dr. Beach! Shore birds and sea turtles build their nests undisturbed among the dunes. Gulf breezes ruffle the tresses of auburn hairgrass. A beautiful island showcase, it is one of the few remaining undeveloped barrier islands in the state. In addition to the beautiful beach areas, the park boasts several nature trails, bird observation areas. Great shelling, skin diving, fishing, and swimming. A ferry ride gets you there from Honeymoon Island.



Clearwater Beach. Here's a shot of the world famous Clearwater Beach. This is where the tourists congregate for more crowded fun in the sun. All beach activities, grouper



sandwich grills, shops, and bars.

St. Petersburg continues the string of islands and open Gulf Beaches down its coastline to Tierra Verde and world renowned Fort Desoto Beach -- rated and awarded **America's #1 Best Beach** in 2005.

GOLFING IS SUPERB! There are several very well known Golf courses within 30 minutes drive. World famous Innisbrook is about 10 minutes to the south in Palm Harbor.
<http://www.golfflorida.com/departments/resortreviews/westin-innisbrook-golf.htm>

Read Reviews of the Top Golf Courses at:

<http://www.golfflorida.com/destination-guides/tampa-gulf-coast.htm>

<http://www.golfflorida.com/departments/features/tampa-bay-golf.htm>

See More Tampa Area Golf Courses at:

<http://www.golfguideweb.com/florida/tampa.html>

MANY OTHER THINGS TO DO!!! Only 8 miles south is one of the oldest cities on the Florida West Coast -- **Tarpon Springs**. It's also very unique in its genuine Greek heritage. The Greeks first settled Tarpon Springs around the turn of the century and established the sponge diving as an industry. It is the US's only location for commercial sponge diving where it is still actively pursued. Their traditions and vibrant cultural atmosphere continued today with sponge auctions, sponge diving exhibitions, and celebrations. The National Historic Districts register lists the Sponge Docks. There are more than 100 art gallery/studios, antique shops, sponge stores, and boutiques; along with 20 restaurants to experience authentic Greek food, ambiance and revelry. The Tarpon Springs Performing Arts and Cultural Centers host several annual events and festivals. Cruise boats set sail for daily half and full day trips featuring casino gambling or fishing.



It's only 20 miles north to Weeki-Wachee Springs' famous **mermaids** and **Nature Reserve**, and Homassassa Springs' **Wildlife Park** with the lovable **Manatees** you can swim with; only 90 highway miles to the renowned, exciting **Disney World/Epcot, Universal Studios, and Sea World**; and just a little further east to see and tour the fascinating **NASA Kennedy Space Launch Center** in Cocoa Beach.

Conveniently located in north-central Tampa off the Bush Blvd Exit on I-275 is **Busch Gardens/Adventure Island**. Part zoo, part amusement park with exciting rides, part brewery, (about 30 min) is *the* place for the family to enjoy some fun. At Busch Gardens, animals roam free and you are the outsider. You can see the park by monorail, cable car

or train. 7 thrilling roller coasters, wild animals, entertaining shows, rides, food, shopping, sightseeing, bird shows, exotic flowers, train rides, Serengeti adventures, river rapids... the list goes merrily on. Wear comfy walking shoes and spend the day at this 300-acre park. You can even taste the Anheuser Busch brew that started it all.

Adventure Island's 30 acres of water-drenched fun in the sun features the ultimate combination of high-speed thrills and tropical, tranquil surroundings for guests of all ages. Within a soothing Key West atmosphere awaits an unrivaled blend of slides, corkscrews, water falls, a wave pool, children's water playground and other family attractions such as outdoor cafes, picnic and sunbathing areas, gift shops, arcades and a championship white-sand volleyball complex.

And there's always plenty to do in **downtown Tampa** these days, with the **Tampa Aquarium, Salvador Dali Museum, Harbor Island, Ybor City** and the shops at **Channelside** leading the way. There are many excellent restaurants in Tampa, and theatre too. Depending on the season, there of course are Tampa's Pro-Football Tampa Bay **Buccaneers**, Pro Baseball Tampa **Devil Rays**. Tampa is Spring Training home for the **NY Yankees**, while Clearwater has the **Philadelphia Phillies**.

Ybor is a Tampa Bay hot spot. Tampa Bay's Latin Quarter, Ybor City (it's pronounced E-bore), has been duly dubbed "The Nightlife Capital of Florida's West Coast." There are plenty of bars, clubs and restaurants to warrant the name, and Seventh Avenue is closed off to cars on weekend nights for pedestrian traffic. And there's a lot of history within the district as well. One of only three National Historic Landmark Districts in Florida, Ybor City was once known as the "Cigar Capital of the World." Take the afternoon to take a walking tour of the area.

Tampa Bay Pirate Festival. If visiting in early February, don't miss Tampa's annual **Gasparilla** celebration. Sit back in awe (or a cold adult beverage) and watch as 1,000 mach buccaneers invade the Bay on antique pirate ships. Attendance topped off at 450,000 this year, so get there early. You've heard of the hundred-year-old tradition in Tampa Bay known as the Gasparilla Pirate Fest, a weekend long celebration each February that draws nearly 500,000 downtown and includes a pirate invasion, parade, arts festival and lots more fun.



Great Canoeing on the Hillsborough River.

Canoe Escape is a locally-owned business that offers two-hour, four-hour and full-day canoe trips down the Hillsborough River. You can travel just a few miles from downtown and take a canoe adventure through the heart of the 16,000-acre wilderness area on the Hillsborough River, where you are likely to see white ibis, alligators and turtles.

Safaris in Tampa. Busch Gardens' **Edge of Africa** animal attraction features the most intense safari experience outside Africa where

you can encounter species including hippos, lions, hyenas, meerkats and giraffes closer than ever before. For manatee viewing, head to **Lowry Park Zoo** that includes **The Florida Manatee and Aquatic Center**, where guests get the chance to see these gentle

sea-cows up close. The zoo also runs a hospital that treats those rare and endangered manatees that are injured or become ill in the wild.

A Popular Jogging Route. According to Runner's World, Tampa's best downtown run is along Bayshore Boulevard on the world's longest continuous sidewalk, which parallels the west shore of Tampa Bay. Every day from sunrise to sunset you'll find most of Tampa's running population trekking the 4.5-mile north-south stretch between Platt Street (start by the pirate ship and painted fish) and Gandy Boulevard. You'll pass by some of Tampa's most prestigious homes, many on the National Historic Register, in Old Hyde Park.

<http://www.weather.com/weather/tenday/34652?par=OAP&site=GENXH&code=1002748915>



Click the above link for Current Weather in Gulf Harbors

The Wonderful Weather In Tampa Bay. Tampa enjoys a temperate, semi-tropical climate marked by an average winter temperature of 62.5 degrees Fahrenheit and an average summer temperature of 81.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

Gulf Harbors' Own Gated Private Beach on the Gulf – *just down the street* from your home!