

Jacksonville

FLORIDA

— Lilla Ross

GO SHOP**RIVERSIDE ARTS MARKET**Riverside Ave beneath Fuller Warren Bridge
904-554-6865

riversideartsmarket.com

This weekly riverfront market took a traditionally wasted space—a concrete interstate overpass—and turned it into a thriving center of culture and commerce, featuring live entertainment, farmers' produce and the best regional artists.

GO SEE**BEACHES MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER**380 Pablo Ave, Jacksonville Beach
904-241-5657

beachesareahistoricalociety.com

Shells are synonymous with the beach, and this month they're spotlighted in two separate exhibits at this museum of local beach history and heritage. *The Sensuous Sea Shell* features photography by John Kuss, and the Jacksonville Shell Club Exhibit displays the rarest specimens found on the area's sands. Through Jan. 8.

JACKSONVILLE LIGHT PARADE

Downtown Riverfront • 904-630-3690

makeascenedowntown.com

In Florida, Santa doesn't visit on his sleigh—he comes by boat. Watch as Jacksonville welcomes the jolly old man with a spectacular fireworks show and boat parade. Nov. 27.

GO EAT**TAVERNA**

1986 San Marco Blvd • 904-398-3005

tavernasanmarco.com

This bistro takes ordinary pizza and kicks it up a notch. How about a slice topped with soppressata salami and fried egg? For dessert, try the bread pudding with rum raisin ice cream when it's available. \$\$

GO PARTY**JACK RABBITS**

1528 Hendricks Ave • 904-398-7496

jackrabbitsonline.com

This neighborhood dive is small and can be pricey, but it's a must for music aficionados. It hosts some of the best music in town, and books both local and visiting acts.

FUN FACT!

Jacksonville was first called Cowford, because it was where farmers and their cattle could cross the St. Johns River to access fresh pastures.

Kansas City

MISSOURI

— Mary Bloch

GO SEE**888 INTERNATIONAL MARKET**10118 W 119th St, Overland Park, KS
913-341-8700

Expect a bit of sensory overload as you walk through the aisles of this superstore. Shelves stocked with everything from hard-to-find Asian ingredients to fresh pork belly and exotic vegetables are a cook's delight.

GO SEE**GOTTLIEB PLANETARIUM**

At Union Station

30 W Pershing Rd • 816-460-2020

unionstation.org/planetarium.html

Take a tour of the stars under a 360-degree domed screen, or enjoy a awe-inspiring laser show paired with music. Finish your day with small plates or a steak upstairs at Pierpont's.

LAWRENCE, KS

54 miles southwest of Kansas City

visitlawrence.com

This is the quintessential college town, where downtown's Massachusetts Ave mirrors a slice of Main Street USA, and high-end bistros are slotted next door to Thai noodle shops and bars. Don't miss the Spencer Museum of Art and the KU National History Museum, both of which are nationally acclaimed.

GO EAT**THE AMERICAN RESTAURANT**

200 E 25th St • 816-545-8001

theamericankc.com

This is fine dining at its most elegant. Ask for a table by the floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Crown Center, and settle in for a lovely three-, five- or seven-course prix-fixe dinner. \$\$\$\$

GO PARTY**CHARLIE HOOPER'S**

12 W 63rd St • 816-361-8841

charliehoopers.com

Choose from more than 150 beers at this neighborhood bar and grill while enjoying a burger, playing pool or watching a sporting event on one of the many TVs.

FUN FACT!

In 1940, Kansas City's Midwest Research Institute made a breakthrough in candy technology: the melt-in-your-mouth-not-in-your-hand M&M candy coating.

Key West

FLORIDA

— Josie Gulliksen

GO SHOP**PELICAN POOP SHOPPE**

314 Simonton St • 305-292-9955

pelicanpoopshoppe.com

This quirky shop is the entranceway to Ernest Hemingway's first home, Casa Antigua. It sells original wall art pieces, wine accessories, Tiffany glass items, lamps and all kinds of decorative parrots.

GO SEE**THE MEL FISHER MARITIME MUSEUM**

200 Greene St • 305-294-2633

melfisher.org

The search for underwater treasures never stops in Key West, so there's always something new at this little museum, including slave ship artifacts and shipwrecked treasure. Currently on view, *A Slave Ship Speaks: The Wreck of the Henrietta Marie* was the first major museum exhibition in the nation devoted to the trans-Atlantic slave trade when it first opened in 1995. See it alongside the largest collection of 17th-century maritime and shipwreck antiquities on this side of the world.

GO EAT**TURTLE KRAALS**

231 Margaret St • 305-294-2640

turtlekraals.com

This landmark now has an upgraded kitchen with a smoker, so there are meats to please the most voracious of carnivores, in addition to awesome classics like pan sautéed yellowtail snapper and mango crab cakes. The Historic Seaport view is priceless. \$\$

GO PARTY**THE GREEN PARROT BAR**

601 Whitehead St • 305-294-6133

greenparrot.com

This "sunny place for shady people" has been a local favorite since it opened 30 years ago (likely because it's off the beaten path of crowded Duval Street). The bartenders are laidback, the drinks aren't fancy and there's original live music every Friday through Sunday. This month, the instrumental band Toubab Krewe takes the stage Nov. 19-20.

FUN FACT!

Even though Key West is the southernmost point in the US, it was Yankee territory during the Civil War.

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