

SARASOTA COUNTY At A Glance



Located on Florida's Gulf Coast, approximately 60 miles south of Tampa and 75 miles north of Fort Myers, Sarasota County welcomes more than 2.8 million visitors each year. Spanning 725 square miles, the destination offers an exceptional blend of arts, culture, outdoor recreation, and coastal experiences. Visitors can explore Sarasota's vibrant downtown, discover the charm of Old Florida in Venice and Englewood, relax on nationally acclaimed beaches such as Siesta Key and Longboat Key, or enjoy the parks, trails, and waterways that make North Port a haven for outdoor enthusiasts.

What's Trending

- Sarasota County has 35 miles of beautiful coastline and six barrier islands.
- U.S. News & World Report named Siesta Key the Best Beach in the U.S. for 2026, while Siesta Beach also earned a spot on the World's 50 Best Beaches list.
- Sarasota earned recognition from Southern Living as one of the South's best cities, reflecting the destination's unique blend of arts, culture, beaches, and coastal living.
- Sarasota Bradenton International Airport (SRQ), recognized by USA Today as one of the nation's top resort airports, connects travelers to Sarasota County through more than 67 nonstop destinations.
- Known as Florida's Cultural Coast®, Sarasota County boasts a world-class arts scene with more than 90 cultural organizations.
- Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, known for its world-renowned orchid collection, has earned recognition from TIME and Travel + Leisure for its leadership in sustainability.
- Opened in October 2025, Mote SEA brings immersive marine exhibits and world-class ocean science to Sarasota's waterfront.
- Waterside at Lakewood Ranch and Wellen Park have become premier lifestyle destinations with vibrant town centers, waterfront amenities, and year-round events.

