



LOOK SHAP ART FEBRUARY 2008

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The Spontaneous Weekend

> A Smart Man's Guide to Miami

If you thought Miami was simply a haven for chest-waxing jackasses, you've obviously never left South Beach. Here's how to really take in this up-and-coming art-and-design mecca



We know what you're thinking—unless shuffleboard or the champagne room is your thing, why would anyone travel to Miami in search of culture? Well, while some of Miami is still beholden to the Ferrari-and-silicone-implant set, in recent years the city has undergone a quiet revival and become an East Coast bastion of contemporary art and design.

South Beach may still have a heavy jackass quotient, but you shouldn't miss an opportunity for an ocean-view room at the **Raleigh** (1775 Collins Ave.), André Balazs's Art Deco standby with easy beach access and the best pool in the city. It's a brief walk



from there to **BASE** (939 Lincoln Rd.) and **BASE Annex** (927 Lincoln Rd., Suite 118), two essential stores with art-and-design books, modern furniture, and outstanding selections of clothes by under-the-radar labels like YMC and Modern Amusement. If you'd rather avoid the main Collins Avenue drag, opt for a room at the **Standard** (40 Island Ave.), Balazs's newest outpost, on a quiet island in Biscayne Bay. It's close to the impeccable **Tomas Maier** store (1800 West Ave.), where



you can pick up a pair of rare Ray-Ban aviators or *Belle de Jour* on DVD. To get at the true heart of Miami's renaissance, however, you'll need to leave the beach. First, head across the bay to the Design District. There's an abundance of design stores and art galleries (hell, there's even a design *high school* here), but don't miss the Miami

1. Leave the beach—but not for too long.
2. A dish from Michael's Genuine Food & Drink.
3. David Bowie by

- Christian Marclay, 1991. Part of the *Sympathy for the Devil* exhibition.
4. The BASE Annex in South Beach.
5. The Moore Furniture Building.



original **Luminaire** (3901 NE Second Ave.) for modern furniture, and the **Bas Fisher Invitational** (180 NE 39th St., Suite 210) for cutting-edge art. While you're in the district, stop by **Michael's Genuine Food & Drink** (130 NE 40th St.) for some basic organic fare.

A few blocks south is Wynwood, Miami's new creative epicenter, where warehouses have been converted into vibrant artist-run galleries such as

Twenty Twenty (2020 NW Miami Ct.) and revered museums such as the **Rubell Family Collection** (95 NW 29th St.) and the **Margulies Collection at the Warehouse** (591 NW 27th St.). And be sure to head uptown for dinner at **Michy's** (6927 Biscayne Blvd.), one of Miami's culinary gems. Savor the short ribs and a slice of Miami nightlife that doesn't involve dudes with waxed chests. —ANDY COMER

Lay of The Land

Getting around

You'll need a rental car to make the most of your time and to explore Miami's emerging areas. And make it one with GPS navigation; the layout of the city can be exasperating.

Two touristy things you'll enjoy

1. The Wynwood Gallery Walk, which meets on the second Saturday of each month.

2. The Cuban sandwich at Las Olas Cafe.

Outdoor attraction

Book an early-evening waterfront table at the **Standard's Lido Restaurant**, which sits on the edge of Biscayne Bay. Order a cocktail, watch the sunset, and take in an unbeatable view.



What It'll Cost You

SHORT RIBS "FALLING OFF THE BONE," MICHY'S\$31
ADMISSION TO THE MARGULIES COLLECTION AT THE WAREHOUSEFREE
ROOM AT THE RALEIGH\$425 AND UP

YEAR AT A GLANCE

