

# 11 “must-sees” while visiting Punta Gorda

## 1. A.C. Freeman House

The A.C. Freeman House Museum is a furnished late Victorian era home picturesquely located on the corner of Tamiami Trail and West Retta Esplanade at the base of the Barron Collier Bridge in Punta Gorda. The house and its period furnishings are under the care of the Punta Gorda Historical Society.  
311 West Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda Tours - 941-639-1887 Punta Gorda Historical Society

## 2. Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center

The Alligator Creek Preserve is the area's four (4+) miles of nature trails. Year-round volunteers offer interpretive trail walks to the public free of charge. Also, the Watershed Resource Center offers free resources to anyone looking for scientific information, maps, periodicals, or presentations about a variety of topics, from water quality in Charlotte Harbor to restoration projects in the Peace River watershed. 10941 Burnt Store Road, Punta Gorda 941-575-5435

## 3. Babcock Wilderness Adventures

Specially built swamp buggies carry visitors through unspoiled pinewoods, fresh water marsh, and sections of the Telegraph Cypress Swamp. A professional tour guide completes the experience with commentaries on the wildlife, ranch activities such as cattle and horses, and history of the area. Bring a picnic or enjoy a lunch of gator bites, hamburgers, hot dogs, and other luncheon items in the seasonal Gator Shack Restaurant.  
8000 State Road 31, Punta Gorda 800-500-5583

## 4. Fishermen's Village

Fishermen's Village Waterfront Mall, Resort & Marina is a delightful, relaxing destination located on beautiful Charlotte Harbor featuring shopping, dining, harbor cruises, fishing charters, boat & jet ski rentals, day spa, marina, and villa vacation rentals. Enjoy live music, special events, and watch the dolphins play as you savor the magnificent sunsets!  
1200 West Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda 941-639-8721

## 5. Punta Gorda Guitar Army Jam

A spontaneous musical gathering of local musicians playing fiddles, spoons and guitars. Bring a lawn chair and a picnic dinner. Always free. Every Thursday evening located in Gilchrist Park.

## 6. Military Heritage & Aviation Museum

The Military Heritage & Aviation Museum is dedicated to educating the public about our rich military heritage, while honoring those who served to preserve our freedom. View more than 50,000 artifacts on display in the Museum's storefront in Fishermen's Village. 1200 West Retta Esplanade, Unit 48, Punta Gorda 941-575-9002

## 7. Get out on the water!

The Peace River and Charlotte Harbor are both exquisite and pristine bodies of water. Take a sunset tour of Charlotte Harbor, a daytime trip to Cabbage Key, a wildlife sightseeing tour of Peace River or a guided fishing charter with one of the area's many first class fishing guides.

## 8. Peace River Wildlife Center and Ponce deLeon Park

The Peace River Wildlife Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation, preservation and protection of Charlotte County's native wildlife. The center is located at Ponce deLeon Park, a 10 acre park directly on Charlotte Harbor at Ponce deLeon Inlet. The park includes a quarter mile raised boardwalk through a wetland area, educational signage, boat ramp, boat trailer parking, two fishing piers, playground, man-made beach, shelter, restrooms and picnic tables.  
3400 West Marion Ave., Punta Gorda 941-637-3830

## 9. Punta Gorda Historic Mural Tour

Punta Gorda offers 23 outdoor murals painted by area artists, each celebrating the history and heritage of our community. Pick up a Punta Gorda Historic Mural Walking Tour Guide to enjoy a one hour walking tour of the 14 murals located in the downtown area.

## 10. Punta Gorda History Park

This approximately 2 acre park was established for development as a historical relocation site. At the park is an 1890's cigar cottage and the Trabue law and land sales office building, which houses the Peace River Center for Writers.  
501 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda Tours 941-639-1887 Punta Gorda Historical Society

## 11. Muscle Car City

Muscle Car City is a 99,000 square foot museum with well over 200 vintage '50s to early '70s muscle cars. Featuring classic cars and hot rods spanning 35 years of makes and models. Entrance fee charged. 3811 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda 941-575-5959

# Main Street Punta Gorda Shopping, Dining & Pampering Guide

This downtown guide is presented by



Main Street Punta Gorda  
is dedicated to the  
growth, development,  
and preservation of the  
historic Main Street district.

Visit us online at:

[www.mainstreetpuntagorda.org](http://www.mainstreetpuntagorda.org)

941-575-9099

326 West Marion Avenue  
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

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## Waterfront West

- A1 Best Western Waterfront Inn
- A2 Benedettos Steakhouse (D)
- A3 Four Points by Sheraton Hotel
- A4 Dockside Grill Harborside (D)
- A5 Vacuum Cleaner Clinic (S)
- A6 The Tropical Store (S)
- A7 Dockside Scooters Rentals (P)
- A8 The Bag Lady (S)
- A9 Cubby's (D)
- A10 BIN 82 - A Tasting Room (D)
- A11 Second Chance Thrift Shop (S)
- A12 Ace Hardware (S)
- A13 Spago (P)
- A14 Old Town Convenience & Deli (S)
- A15 Hessler Floor Covering (S)
- A16 Big D's Chicago Eatery (D)
- A17 Jack's Restaurant (D)
- A18 Salon Art Works (P)
- A19 River City Grill (D)
- A20 The Tavern (D)
- A21 Al Morgan Jewelry (S)
- A22 Pomegranate and Fig (S)
- A23 Café Ruelle (D)
- A24 Sea Grape Gallery (S)
- A25 Tiki's Clothing (S)
- A26 Carrie's Design Studio (S)
- A27 Harbor Medical Spa (S) (P)

## Charlotte Harbor

## Punta Gorda Downtown Shopping, Dining & Pampering Guide

- Chamber of Commerce
- Free Public Parking

## Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center

## Gilchrist Park

## Freeman House

## Downtown West

- C1 Carly's Consignment Boutique (S)
- C2 So Sausalito (S)
- C3 Toucan Travel (S)
- C4 A New Beginnings Hair Salon (P)
- C5 Home Gallery Pottery & Gifts (S)
- C6 Guidittas (S)
- C7 Papillon Gifts, Books & More (S)
- C8 Presseller Gallery (S)
- C9 Presseller Delicatessen (D)
- C10 Sunart Gallery (S)
- C11 Red Hat Studio (S)
- C12 Bisous (P)
- C13 Roosters (D)
- C14 Spazzi Italian Grill (D)
- C15 Yoga Sanctuary (P)
- C16 Pilates for Life (S)
- C17 Swiss Chocolate+ (D)(S)

This guide presented courtesy of:



## Charlotte Harbor

## Waterfront East

- B1 Punta Gorda River Boat Tours
- B2 Laishley Park Shipstore (S)
- B3 Laishley Crab House (D)
- B4 Wyvern Hotel
- B5 LuLu's Restaurant (D)
- B6 Dean's South of the Border (D)
- B7 Charlotte County Flowers (S)
- B8 Encore Tea Room & Café (D)
- B9 Skintopia by Bina (P)
- B10 Tamiami Bar & Package Store (S)
- B11 The Perfect Caper (D)
- B12 The Celtic Ray (D)
- B13 Acupuncture & Alternative Solutions (P)
- B14 Gerro's Hand Painted Fashions (S)
- B15 Massage - Michelle McCall-Olton (P)
- B16 Olde Punta Gorda Cigar Store (S)
- B17 Hill & Hill Barber & Style Shop (P)
- B18 Peggy's Bow Wow (S)
- B19 Wood Street Grill (D)
- B20 Healthy Solutions (S)
- B21 Seams to be (S)
- B22 Hair Designers (P)
- B23 Larry's Time Out Deli (D)
- B24 The Downtown Hookah Lounge (D)
- B25 Creative Window Treatments (S)

## Laishley Park

## Marina

## Shipstore

## East Retta Esplanade

## East Marion Ave.

## Downtown East

- D1 Tom McCarthy, Massage Therapist (P)
- D2 Peter's Knife Shop (S)
- D3 Gabriele Childs Studio & Gallery (S)
- D4 Moosehead's (D)
- D5 Barb's Cedar Point Barber Shop (P)
- D6 Salon Blue (P)
- D7 Lupe's Tacos (D)
- D8 Up the Street Gourmet (D)
- D9 De'Chantas Hair (P)
- D10 Crock Pot Grocery & Diner (S)(D)
- D11 Icehouse Pub (D)
- D12 Darkwood Center (S)(D)

## Hargreaves Ave.

## East Virginia Ave.

## Blanchard House Museum

## Fitzhugh Ave.

## East Charlotte Ave.