

Table of Contents

Lakewood Ranch

pg.4 Overview pg.5 Nature Bound

 Nathan Benderson Park
pg.6 Nature Bound
Parks

Pg.7 Schools pg.8 Dining

Venice

pg.20 Overview pg.21 Sharky's on the pier pg.22 Natural Attractions pg.23 Dining pg.24 Downtown pg.25 Schools

Sarasota

pg.9 Overview pg.10 Legacy Trail pg.11 Ringling Bridge pg.12 Historical Hotspot pg.13 School System pg.14 Family Activities pg.15 Waterfront dining pg.16 Sights on siesta

- pg.17 Siesta Shores
- pg.18 Siesta Village
- pg.19 Siesta Dining

Bradenton pg.26 Overview pg.27 Anna Maria Island

- pg.28 Beach
- pg.29 Water Amenities
- pg.30 Family Fun pg.31 School Stats pg.32 Dining pg.33 Shopping



Lakewood rate Overview

Sights and Seeing

A BIG PART OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA IS THE UPCOMING LAKEWOOD RANCH COMMUNITY THAT IS GROWING DAY BY DAY, BUT IS A NECESSARY MUST VISIT. WHETHER YOU'RE A NATURE LOVER OR SIMPLY SEEKING A PEACEFUL RETREAT, BE SURE TO EXPLORE THE SCENIC TRAILS AND PARKS THAT OFFER A SANCTUARY AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF EVERYDAY LIFE. FROM THE LUSH GREENERY TO THE TRANQUIL LAKES, LAKEWOOD RANCH IS A FEAST FOR THE SENSES.

Now, let's talk culture and creativity. Dive into the local art scene at galleries and exhibitions showcasing the talents of our community's artists. Destinations such as Main Street, are sure to captivate your interest.You'll be amazed by the depth and diversity of experiences waiting to be discovered.



Lakewood Ranch

Nature Bound

WHEN IT COMES TO WHAT LAKEWOOD RANCH CAN OFFER, NATURE COMES IN FIRST PLACE. ITS HIGHLIGHTED PARKS AND TRAILS OFFER MUCH MORE THAN A SCENIC STROLL.

Nathan Benderson Park A FAMILY FAVORITE AND MUST VISIT WHEN IN LAKEWOOD RANCH IS NATHAN BENDERSON PARK. ITS MASSIVE AREA INCLUDES A 309 ACRE LAKE WHICH IS FAMOUS FOR ITS POPULATED ROWING RACES AND OTHER WATER SPORT ACTIVITIES. MY PERSONAL FAVORITE IS THE 3.5 MILE TRAIL THAT MANY LOVE TO WALK AND RUN, BUT FOR ME IS TO BIKE.





TO TOP IT ALL OFF, BENDERSON IS SURE TO INCLUDE A TON OF KID ENGAGEMENT WITH WITH A NEWLY UPDATED PLAYGROUND THAT RANGES FROM AGES 2-12. ITS STATE OF THE ART DESIGN ALONG WITH SAFETY MAKES IT THE PERFECT FAMILY DESTINATION.

Lakewood Ranch

Nature Bound

Heron's Nest Nature Park A Hotspot for Nature, Heron's Park Offers everything FROM DEEP WETLAND TRAILS TO BIRD WATCHING OPPORTUNITIES. FOR ANIMAL LOVERS ITS A CHANCE TO SEE FLORIDA WILDLIFE AT ITS FINEST!





Summerfield community Park Located in the heart of lakewood ranch, summerfield Park is always on yhe hustle of sports. Its big fields offer a home to many sports such as soccer, basketball, Baseball, and tennis. Its big park and large covered areas Makes it an amazing place to have an afternoon picnic.





Lakewood Ranch school systems

Most of all Lakewood Ranch schools are located in Manatee County. Ranging from k through 12, the schools here are really some of the best in state.

Robert E. Willis Elementary

01	2nd in all of Manatee County Willis
	is an amazing primary school,
	located in the heart of Lakewood
Elementary	Ranch and from personal
	experience it is truly one of the
	best.

Lakewood Ranch High School



High

K-12

Remaining an "A" school for the past 5 years, Lakewood Ranch highschool is known for its college prep and providing aid in all categories of success.

Lakewood Ranch Preparartory Academy

An inside look on Lakewood Ranch's newest and only k-12 charter school. What sets this school apart is its AICE program which is built up with the years and earns students a Cambridge diploma.

Lakewood Ranch Hospitals

Lakewood Ranch Medical Center

located in the heart of Lakewood Ranch, FL, is a top-rated healthcare facility known for its exceptional patient care and advanced medical services.



It has earned high marks for patient satisfaction and safety, receiving a 4-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The hospital is particularly recognized for its cardiac care, orthopedic surgery, and maternity services. With a dedicated team of skilled physicians and state-of-the-art technology, Lakewood Ranch Medical Center is a trusted choice for residents seeking quality healthcare in the region. Highly recommended for its comprehensive and compassionate care.

Dining and Food

THE HEART OF LAKEWOOD RANCH

Right in the middle of the town is the hustle and bustle of it all; Main Street. Its cozy style and layered buildings add to its charm and for me is a beautiful getaway. With so much to do; let us first grab a bite





If your craving seafood, **Pinchers** has your back, with a fresh seafood menu that ranges from fresh caught crab to grilled fish

With the best burgers I've tasted in Florida, **Ed's Tavern** offers a lakefront view that is hard to beat.

The Grove is the number one restaurant in Lakewood Ranch. It offers a wide range menu and its fine dining even hosts parties

Sarasota overview

DIVE INTO THE DEEP HISTORY AND ATTRACTIONS THAT MAKE SARASOTA THE FAMOUS HOTSPOT

As one of Florida's most visited cities, Sarasota is sure to have a lot to offer. From Historical sights, and Dining, to Family Fun, it is sure to not leave you empty handed





Legacy For the Long Run

LEGACY TRAIL

Stretching from Sarasota all the way south to Venice, Legacy Trail is one of the most famous and favorite of many Sarasota citizens. The recreational trail offers a home to many runners and bikers that are looking for a peaceful and nature filled environment.







Run the Ringling

RINGLING BRIDGE

Being the highlight of downtown Sarasota, Ringling bridge offers ksomething for everyone. The 65 foot tall bridge showcases a breath taking view at any time of day, which sets it apart from many other exercising experiences. Its 3,097 foot length makes it a perfect for a run. CAUSEWAY PARK



Causeway Park offers an ""underground" inside look of Ringling Bridge. The park Feautures a small pier that reaches from under the bridge and even a playground for the little ones. It is definitely a family favorite of mine!





HISTORICAL HOTSPOT

JOHN RINGLING

John Ringling IS what makes Sarasota, Sarasota. His work in the 1900's brought culture and art to the city. His landmarks mark an important part of the city and are a must visit for field trips and are hotspots for tourists. From museums to mansions, John Ringling is sure auto bring artifacts to life.



RINGLING MUSEUM OF

The Ringling Museum of Art is a cultural gem, featuring a vast collection of European paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts. Its beautiful gardens, striking architecture, and unique attractions offer a rich blend of culture and art in a unique setting.

CA'D'ZAN

The Ca'd'Zan is one of John Ringlings' most signature landmarks and was a winter home for home and his wife, Mable Ringling. Its medditerreanean style sets it apart from his other works and makes it the perfect place for an inspirational tour.



Sarasota Systems

Sarasota is home to some of the best schools in the state. From kindergarten to state of the art colleges, Sarasota is sure to offer something for the family.

Pineview School



Keeping its rank as number one high school in Florida, Pineview Magnet School is celebrated for its rigorous academics and exceptional student achievements. Offering a diverse and engaging curriculum, it fosters a love for learning. With dedicated faculty and excellent facilities, Pineview is a top choice for quality education.

Ringling College of Art and Design



Ringling College of Art and Design is renowned for its exceptional art and design programs, attracting talented students globally. Its innovative curriculum and advanced facilities foster a dynamic learning environment, preparing graduates for successful careers in the arts.

Sarasota Systems

offering exceptional academic programs, a focus on creativity, and strong community involvement, making it a premier destination for quality education.

Sarasota School of Arts and Sciences

O3 Grades 6-8 A cool charter school where arts and sciences come together to create a unique learning experience. Middle schoolers get to explore their interests in a hands-on, creative environment while still hitting those academic goals. It's a place where kids can grow academically and personally, setting them up for success in high school and beyond.

Southside Elementary School

Grades K-5

A standout school in Sarasota, known for its strong academics and close-knit community. It's more than just a school—it's a place where kids can get a well-rounded education, from hitting those academic milestones to exploring the arts and physical education. If you're looking for a great elementary school, Southside is definitely one to check out!

Family Fun



JUNGLE GARDENS

Jungle a gardens is one of my favorite family day out destinations. The lush greenery, exotic animals, and engaging shows constantly captivates us, and many families. Its the truly perfect jungle getaway.



BOTANICAL GARDENS

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is a stunning oasis of beautiful plants, offering a peaceful escape in the heart of the city. Its diverse collections provide an inspirational experience for visitors of all ages. A visit to Selby Gardens is a journey through the wonders of nature, perfect for plant enthusiasts and families alike.



MOTE MARINE AQUARIUM

Visiting Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium has always been a fascinating experience for the family. The interactive exhibits and diverse marine life never fail to amaze, providing both education and entertainment for the kids. It's a place where we always discover something new and leave feeling inspired by the wonders of the ocean.

Sarasota Hospitals

SARASOTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

SMH is a top-notch hospital in the Sarasota area, consistently ranked among the best in Florida. It's got a solid 5-star rating from theCenters for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and is known for its outstanding care in areas like cardiac services, cancer treatment, and women's health. With state-of-the-art facilities and a compassionate team of expertsit's a go-to for locals and visitors alike. Whether you're looking for routine care or specialized treatment, Sarasota Memorial has you covered with a reputation you can trust.





Waterfront Dining

DRY DOCK WATERFRONT GRILL

Dry Dock is one of the most famous waterfront restaurants in Sarasota. Located in Longboat Key, Dry Dock is just as famous for its food, as it is for its view. Nothing beats a meal on the water, and to add a sunset, dry docks' is unmatched.





MARINA JACK RESTAURANT

To take the waterfront factor even further, Marina jack II takes guests onto a special night on the water. It offers panoramic views of the coastline and sunset vistas, providing an unforgettable dining experience combined with the charm of a scenic boat cruise.

Marina Jack Restaurant is renowned for its waterfront dining with stunning views of Sarasota Bay. It offers a diverse menu from fresh seafood and classic American cuisine, making it a popular choice for both locals and tourists seeking a meal by the water.







DRIFT KITCHEN & BAR

Drifts Kitchen and Bar offers a relaxed and inviting dining experience in a casual waterfront setting. A personal favorite is their fresh seafood, which ranges from fillet fish to mussels. Drifts provides flavorful dishes complemented by picturesque views of Sarasota Bay, ensuring a delightful dining experience for all guests.



The ultimate beach destination, is what we explore next, heading into its fine shores and sea green waters. This small coastal getaway is a vacation hotspot and a proud landmark for south west Florida. To understand what makes it the number 1 beach, we must venture deep into its waters.



SIESTA SHORES



Siesta key is known for its unmatched sunsets that showcase a variety of wonder colors. The spectacular sunset and the breathtaking view of the gulf coast make it one of my favorite evening activities.

To top it off, Siesta Key offers a lot of accommodations for families and kids making it an amazing place for a day in the sun.

Its shallow waters offer top safety for children and its pristine powdery sands give the perfect soft feel.



SIESTA VILLAGE





From art galleries to boutiques, siesta village offers something for everyone! Aside from its proximity to the shore, the village itself has so much to do. Local festivals and events fill the streets day and night, entertaining residents and tourists alike. On top, Siesta key is a hotspot for families, with kid friendly activities such as mini golf and plenty of ice cream shops.

SIESTA DINING



Known for its seafood, Siesta Key offers an extensive selection when it comes to your pick. "Ophelia's in the bay" offers a fine dining seafood experience, that is perfect for an on the water romantic dinner. Siesta Key Oyster bars' shrimp tacos are a personal favorite and the rest of its menu is also a must try. If your looking for a casual lunch spot The Salty Dog is the place to go for a seafood lunch and an American dining experience.







Venice Destination



Venice Destination

Sharky's on the pier



From a one of a kind pier, to an on the water dining experience. The amenities provided stretch from kids clubs, to fishing opportunities, with even two restaurants for a sunset evening on the water. Sharky's provides a casual seafood shack experience that only their menu can beat, while Fin's creates a more fine dining atmosphere. With food just as equally good, and being the only waterfront restaurants in Venic, they truly are a must visit.

Natural Attrractions

With Venice being so close to the water, it's natural scenery focuses on the beauty of the ocean and everything that circles around it. Venice's beaches all have something that make it unique. Broward Paw Beach is a dog beach, a chance for your dog to let loose and make some friends. South Jetty Park offered a rocky pier that is UN.BEATABLE for sunsets. When it comes to a day on the sand or a cute sunset stroll, Venice has your back.







Venice Destination

Venice Dining

In Venice, restaurants are like a menu. The variety is insane, which makes it harder to choose what you're going to go for dinner. From Indian to Seafood, you're sure to find a perfect place to grab a bite.

Tikka Indian cuisine is one of the best restaurants in Venice that offer an authentic Indian experience and a unique taste to their spices. A personal favorite Tikka is a truly must visit and the perfect place for lunch or dinner.



Pinchers has already been mentioned as an amazing diner on Main Street in Lakewood Ranch. To many's delight, another one is located in Venice with a special lakeside view, so that no matter where you are, you can enjoy a fresh seafood dinner.



Venice Destination

DOWNTOWN



Along with typical tourist shops and amazing menus, downtown Venice offers an old timey sense from its style to the multiple buildings that attract history lovers. The area hosts year round activities for all ages, including festivals, farmer's markets, and concerts.



VENICE ACADEMIA

With such amenities in every bend, Venice makes sure to offer top schools so families get the best of everything.

Venice Elementary



Venice Elementary is the 5th rated in the county, and offers a learning sanctuary for ages 5-11

Venice High School

OZ High Venice High School offers a robust academic program with AP courses and career pathways, a strong athletics program with state championship teams, and diverse extracurriculars, to ensure their students get the full high school experience.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Venice Hospitals

SARASOTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – VENICE





SMH -Venice is the newest addition to the Sarasota Memorial family, offering the same top-tier care you'd expect but in a convenient location for those in Venice and surrounding areas. It's quickly earned praise for its cutting-edge facilities, patientcentered care, and comprehensive services, from emergency care to surgery and specialized treatments. With a strong focus on community health, it's becoming a trusted name in the region. Highly recommended for those seeking guality healthcare closer to home.



BRADENTON OVERVIEW

The charming city in between Tampa and Sarasota offers a lot more than we think. From beaches and cafes, to historical attractions, we now dive into the last big city that makes up the rest of South West Florida.



EXIT

ANNA MARIA

The biggest hotspot of Bradenton that attracts hundreds of people across the state, is Anna Maria Island. Its pristine waters and big island amenities are perfect for a family getaway or a couples vacation on the water.





ANNA MARIA

Anna Maria Beach

Anna Maria beach offers so many family friendly amendities to ensure that families have an easy work free beach day. With restrooms, showers, and cafe stands all nearby, families are sure to have a carefree fun day.





What's even better than a beach day? An on the water sunset. Like the rest of South West Florida, Anna Maria Island showcases

sunset scenery unlike you've ever seen

а,

Anna Maria Island Village

WATER AMENITIES

From kayaking to jet skis, Anna Maria has it all. Bring your own or even find rentals to enjoy a fun day on the water.











FAMILY ATTRACTIONS

Families, rejoice! Anna Maria has your back with some of my favorite family activities that are sure to entertain the kids as much as it does to you. With mini golf courses, museums, ice cream shops, playgrounds, and fun trolley transportation, you'll be making memories in no time.



The Fish Hole on Anna Maria Island is a charming miniature golf course with lush landscaping, koi ponds, and fun obstacles. It's a family-friendly attraction, perfect for a relaxing and enjoyable outing.





Two Scoops on Anna Maria Island offers a variety of delicious ice cream flavors in a charming, friendly setting. It's a perfect spot for a sweet treat on the island.

BRADENTON SCHOOL STATS

With such amenities in every bend, Venice makes sure to offer top schools so families get the best of everything.

Anna Maria elementary

O1 Elementary

Pk-8

6-12

Located on the island, Anna Maria Elementary School stands out for its dedicated teachers, strong community support, and proximity to the island's amenities.

Louise r. Johnson School of international Studies

Speaking from personal experience, Johnson provides an amazing curriculum for their student, that includes the IB standards. The IB school makes sure to offer many extra curriculars to ensure their students excel in everything.

State College of Florida Collegiate School State College of Florida Collegiate School (SCFCS) offers a unique program where students earn college credits while completing high school. With small class sizes and dedicated faculty, SCFCS emphasizes academic excellence and STEM education, preparing students for successful college careers.

Bradenton Hospitals

MMH s a well-established healthcare facility known for delivering high-quality care to the community.With a 4-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), it offers a full range of services, including emergency care, heart and vascular services, orthopedic surgery, and maternity care. The hospital has a strong reputation for its patient-centered approach and advanced medical treatments, making it a trusted choice for residents in the area. Whether you need routine care or specialized treatment, Manatee Memorial has you covered.

BLAKE MEDICAL CENTER











Blake Medical Center in Bradenton is a 383-bed, full-service hospital known for its top-tier care and specialized services. It's earned a strong reputation, particularly for its Level II trauma center, heart and vascular care, and comprehensive stroke center. The hospital also stands out with its burn center and advanced surgical services. With a 4-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Blake Medical Center is a goto for both emergency and specialized medical care in the region.

BRADENTON DINING

Bradenton is a very vast and large city and with its size comes many many choices for dinner. With Mexican and steakhouses, to fresh seafood cuisine on the menu, your sure to have anything to everything to choose from.



Pier 22 is one of the most famous restaurants in Bradenton. Its mix of casual American and international cuisine with its fine dining seating makes it perfect for a fancy dinner out, or even a catered party

Anna Maria Oyster Bar is known for its fresh oysters, diverse seafood menu, and relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere. With waterfront locations and excellent service, it's a popular spot for delicious meals and scenic views.



SHOPPING AVENUE

ELLENTON PREMIUM OUTLETS

Ellenton Premium Outlets offers a wide selection of brand-name and designer stores with discounted prices. It's a popular shopping destination featuring a variety of dining options and a convenient, open-air layout.



UTC MALL



The UTC Mall is one of the biggest malls in SWFL and offers all the stores and shops you love, with even a play pit for the kids.