



Sexy Miami

Travel Magazine | November 2010

Thanks to the ailing U.S. dollar takes a return flight only 400 euros and by the Americans themselves, the country's sexiest city. Shopping, eating, sunbathing and partying as if tomorrow does not exist: Miami now!

"Tonight's gonna be a good night," sing the Black Eyed Peas to the speakers of the Palace Bar on Ocean Drive. I sit at a table under a palm tree with a hearty breakfast of scrambled eggs with bacon and fried potatoes with a Budweiser. Perhaps the best place in Miami to people watch, this terrace, between the tables stroll an endless procession of boys in sandals with bronzed torsos and girls in hot pants and nothing-like tops, interspersed with occasional sunburned Brits and surprised the Japanese.

Next to me sliding on the asphalt of the Ferraris and Lamborghinis passed against a backdrop of swaying coconut palms. Behind them I see a one hundred meters wide and miles long sugary white sand beach full of umbrellas and sun beds, with it many more of those guys in shorts and girls in tops, under a glistening layer of *sunblock* are to sun bake, with a pitcher at your fingertips and views soft rustling azure Atlantic Ocean on one side and the pastel-colored Art Deco palaces of Ocean Drive on the other.

Witness the two palm trees hung rainbow flag and the slogan on the menu – *"Every queen needs a Palace"* – is this a gay bar, but there are just as easy heterosexual couples and families with children on the terrace. I may be in *the Deep South*, but Miami is as tolerant as New York City – just a bit brighter. No one who admires me crazy here at two o'clock in the afternoon is still at breakfast. This is the party capital of the U.S., a *sun-drenched, fun-filled tropical playground*, specially built with one goal in mind: fun.



The Betsy is an outsider to the ornate Art Deco Ocean Drive. The neocolonial palace was lavishly rebuilt and reopened last summer, contemporary design with an emphasis on home comfort – well done, step over the threshold and you feel right at home. \$ 250