



2018

A Guide to Cape Coral, Florida Paradise Found



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SPOTLIGHT ON CAPE CORAL!

Deemed a “waterfront wonderland” and a “Tropical Paradise”, Cape Coral continues to expand and attract a consistent year-round crowd. Reasons why Cape Coral is the best place to live, work and play are endless! Cost of living is 3.7% lower than the U.S average, the Cape is ranked #1 most popular city for the holidays, jobs have increased by 3.95%...and we’re just getting started! Cape Coral has more than 400 miles of canals, making living on the water a lifestyle. This gem of a city is only a short boat ride away from world class beaches, such as Sanibel Island, Cayo Costa, Ft Myers Beach, Captiva, Cabbage Key, Bokeelia, Gasparilla, and more! New restaurants, new home construction and a demand for housing is even more reason Cape Coral is the ideal place for families to enjoy all of the fun activities SW Florida has to offer!



Cork Soakers Deck & Wine Bar – Fun & Funky.

In downtown Cape Coral is a new hangout that has become popular with locals and visitors alike. Cork Soakers has an unusual menu in a fun atmosphere. They have live music almost every day, and an outdoor deck as well as inside seating. Check out their menu and schedule of events here: <http://www.corksoakers.net>

Luxury Meets Affordability! The Westin Cape Coral Resort @ Marina Village

The Westin Resort is located on the Caloosahatchee River. Relax in one of their beautiful and immaculate suites overlooking the water and amazing scenery, or socialize a bit as you sip a cocktail enjoying live music at the outdoor bar and restaurant, The Nauti-Mermaid. With so many amenities, there is nothing The Westin left out. Water taxi to Ft Myers Beach, kayak or fish on the back bay, take a dolphin and sunset tour, or how about a girl's day out complete with a massage and nail therapy? The day isn't complete without a bit of shopping at one of their unique shops, and a bite to eat at Pincher's Crab Shack or Marker 92.

Why The Westin? It has it all! **Call us today for our exclusive discount code,** 239.691.1303

Ford's Boathouse

A novel idea from the owner of Ford's Garage in downtown Cape Coral, this oversized tiki hut features a tropical restaurant with menu items such as burgers, seafood, frozen drinks and more. Enjoy live music, beach services, bait shop, boat fueling station, and tropical décor. This family-oriented hang out is an exciting and popular waterfront destination for tourists and locals alike!

<http://m.mainstreethub.com/theboathouseusa>

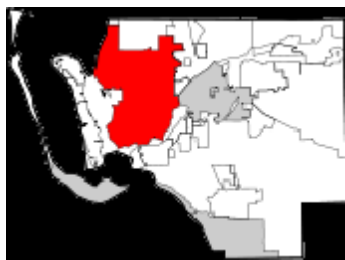
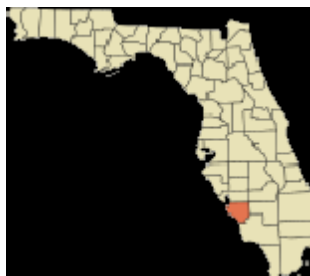


Where is Cape Coral?

Cape Coral is located in Lee County, Florida, United States. With over 400 miles of navigable waterways, Cape Coral has more miles of canals than any other city on earth. According to estimates as of 2015, the city has a population of over 165,000, making it the largest city in Southwest Florida.

Cape Coral is bordered on the South and East by the Caloosahatchee River and on the West by Matlacha Pass. The city of Fort Myers lies across the Caloosahatchee River to the South and East, and Matlacha and Pine Island lie across Matlacha Pass to the West.

Cape Coral is connected to Fort Myers by two bridges. The Cape Coral Bridge connects Cape Coral Parkway to College Parkway in Fort Myers. The Midpoint Memorial Bridge connects Veterans Parkway to Colonial Boulevard. The Caloosahatchee Bridge connects North Fort Myers to Fort Myers. North Fort Myers is North of Cape Coral.



Demographics for Cape Coral/Ft Myers area (US census report):

*Median age is 44. (www.capecoral.net, 2016). Total population is 168,000.

*Median sales price of single family homes as of 2018 is \$277,000

Cape Coral unemployment rate dropped to 5.4% in 2014, the lowest it's been in five years.

*The national unemployment rate is 5.9%.

One of the most attractive features of Cape Coral and Southwest Florida is its terrific year-round weather. The area averages 265 days of bright sunshine each year. The summers are very warm, humid and rainy; the winters in Cape Coral are absolutely beautiful!

History of Cape Coral

The Rosen Brothers

Cape Coral was founded in 1957, when brothers Jack and Leonard Rosen purchased a 103-sq mile tract of land, formerly known as Redfish Point. Filled with barren wetlands and wild palmetto thickets, the brothers formed The Gulf American Corporation to develop the "Waterfront Wonderland", and on November 4 of that year, ground was officially broken as Cape Coral.

Creating the Canal System

A year later the first residents moved in. These pioneers had to drive a long distance to get anywhere – almost 20 miles for a loaf of bread! So the Rosen's took action, and carefully plotted the community. They brought in the largest single shipment of earth-moving equipment in Florida development history to begin digging more than 400 miles of canals. The soil dredged up from the canals was then used as fill dirt for home sites to bring the level of the ground up to the required 5 feet 6 inches.

Cape Coral Comes Alive

Soon, with major promotion through mail order programs and ads on radio, television and print media, northerners slowly made their way down south to the blossoming city. The brothers sold nearly all of the 350,000 residential building sites to people who lived in other states. Cape Coral continued to grow extremely quickly, recording 10,000 residents within the first ten years of its existence.

Cape Coral Today

Just over 50 years later, this relatively young city thrives with life. By 2015, "The Cape" was considered safer than 38% of the cities in the United States. It is the 2nd largest city in Florida in terms of land mass, stretching across 120-sq miles. Filled with parks, canals, excitement and opportunity, it's easy to see why Cape Coral is one of the country's best kept secrets.

Fun Facts

Land Development: November 4, 1957

First Family Moves to Cape Coral: June 14, 1958

Cape Coral Votes to Incorporate: August 18, 1970

First Mayor: Paul Fickinger

First City Council Meeting: December 3, 1970

First City Motto: "City of Superlatives"

First Business: The Nautilus Inn

First Real Estate Agency: Wonderland Realty

First Motel: Ranch House Motel

First Restaurant: Surfside Restaurant

First School: Cape Coral Elementary

First High School: Cape Coral HS '79

Cape Coral Bridge Opens: March 14, 1964

First Movie Filmed Entirely in Cape Coral: The Fat Spy (1966)

"Santiva": Cape Coral's Mail Boat from 1958 to 1963

Cape Coral's First Bank: 1964

A few of the many places to check out:

Rotary Park: Set on 97-acres of land this park is home to a 9-acre dog park, an observation tower, nature trails, an environmental center, playground, and a summer camp for children.

Four Freedoms Park: This 3.2-acre park overlooks the Bimini Basin and is perfect for a beautiful sunset picnic. The park offers a beach area, fenced in playground, and a multipurpose recreational facility for children of all ages.

Eagle Skate Park: This is Southwest Florida's largest skate park, featuring 27,000 square feet of ramps, rails and pipes. Located in Central Cape Coral the park is open seven days a week to all bicyclists and skateboarders.

Cape Coral Yacht Club: Features a sandy beach, grand ballroom, fishing pier, Ford's Boathouse restaurant, community pool and several beach pavilions. Head out on the first Wednesday of every month and take part in a sunset festival, complete with music, drinks, food, dancing and tons of fun.

Caloosahatchee River: Named after the Calusa Indians, the Caloosahatchee River flows 75-miles from Lake Okeechobee down to the Gulf of Mexico. The water is home to an abundance of wildlife including manatees, otters, dolphins and stingrays.

Four Mile Cove: Covering 365-acres of land, this is one of the largest preserved green-spaces in Cape Coral. Visitors can rent kayaks and paddle through unspoiled wetlands or walk on the boardwalk through tropical mangroves. Keep an eye out for local wildlife!

Recreation

Averaging around 265 days of bright sunshine a year, outdoor activities in Cape Coral are a must. The city is home to six golf courses, five official boating ramps and twelve boating marinas, allowing easy access to the water no matter where you live. The area also boasts 39 parks, so you can try a different spot each day of the month!

If your family loves sports, take a trip out to the Cape Coral Sports Complex – the city's largest athletic facility. The 52-acre park boasts five soccer fields, five softball fields, and four regulation-sized baseball fields – all of which are well lit for evening games and practices. The complex also includes three concession stands, restroom facilities, picnic shelters and playground equipment for young children.

Spotting native wildlife is one of the most exciting bonuses about living in Cape Coral. From the Southern bald eagle to the gopher tortoise, you're sure to see an array of creatures on any given day. In honor of the city's official bird, Cape Coral holds the Burrowing Owl Festival each February, where visitors can take an up close look at wild animals, walk through a butterfly tent, watch demonstrations on how to dig owl burrows, and much more.

With more canals than Venice, Italy, the fishing opportunities in Cape Coral are endless. With 295-miles of freshwater and 105-miles of Gulf-access (brackish) water, snook, trout, tarpon and grouper are just some of the fish you may find while cruising through the water. And with places like Cayo Costa, Picnic Island, Sanibel Island and Cabbage Key all within a few miles away, spending a relaxing day on a remote island is easy! Just pack your sunscreen and paradise is just a boat ride away.

Learn more by visiting: www.capecoralparadisefound.com

Entertainment

Mike Greenwell's Bat-A-Ball and Family Fun Park is home to miniature golf, batting cages, an indoor arcade, a fish-feeding dock, paintball field, and playground.

Cape Coral is your premier destination for all things entertainment. Wanting to see the latest blockbuster hit? Check out **Marquee Cinemas**. Located in the heart of the CoralWood Shopping Center, Marquee Cinemas has ten different movie screens and premium stadium seating, ensuring the best theater experience while you watch your favorite films.

If you're worried about becoming acquainted with the city, fear not! **Cape Coral is home to more than 250 clubs and organizations**, offering something for every walk of life. From the Rotary Club to the New Residents Club and the Boat Club, it's easy to feel instantly engaged in the community. With different outings and events held all across the city, meeting new people becomes effortless.



SunSplash Family Waterpark: 14 acres of water slides, a specialized kid zone, a lazy river, family pool, sand volleyball, arcade games, snack shops, and a gift shop.

The Cape Coral-Lee County Public Library is the primary library for Cape Coral, as well as one of the six regional libraries serving Lee County. It houses the system's "Humanities Collection", and also has a large meeting room, Internet access, computers for public use, microform magazine archives and printers, and a busy youth services program. The library offers free programs for adults and children, including story

time, craft corner, and English Café – a chance for adults to improve upon and practice their English.

Fort Myers

Directly across the river are countless attractions in Fort Myers. Take a walk through Thomas Edison's and Henry Ford's winter estates during the holiday season, and see how these two prominent historical figures lived back in the early 1900s. Go shopping at the Edison Mall with anchor stores such as Macy's, Dillards, JCPenney and Sears. Take part in a safari through the Everglades and keep an eye out for snakes and alligators. Visit the Imaginarium, see a play at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater, or watch the Boston Red Sox or Minnesota Twins during their spring training at JetBlue Park or Hammond Stadium. Stroll the streets of Fort Myers during the many Art Walks held on weekends throughout the year, or listen to live music and bands at numerous pubs, restaurants, and bars in downtown Fort Myers. It doesn't matter which side of the river you're on, you're guaranteed a great time out!

Fairs, Festivals and Block Parties



Every year Cape Coral hosts a variety of fairs, festivals and block parties. One of which is **Red, White and Boom** – a traditional event held on the Fourth of July. Families and friends come together to celebrate this day of independence by watching performances of local and national music acts, enjoying delicious food and beverages, and, of course, gazing at the incredible fireworks show at the end of the night. The event shuts down traffic to-and-from the Cape Coral Bridge to make room for the biggest fireworks show in Southwest Florida.

Cape Coral welcomes people from all walks of life. In fact, residents often gather together to celebrate the diversity of the different cultures within the city itself. In May, residents pay tribute to the Mexican culture by coming together for a **Cinco de Mayo** party downtown. Residents and visitors can sing along with traditional mariachi bands, dance with folkloric dancers, or sample different Mexican dishes.

For the past 25 years the German American Social Club has brought Munich to Cape Coral. The six-day long event is full of singing, dancing, laughter, delicious food and beverages, games and entertainment. **Oktoberfest** is fun for the entire family and a true tribute to the German culture.



If parties aren't your thing, take a stroll through the streets at the annual **Festival of the Arts**. Each January artists and craftsmen line the streets of downtown Cape Coral showcasing their latest creations. Typically more than 100,000 people attend the festival, proving the popularity and success of the event. Everything from paintings and sculptures to jewelry and clothes are available for purchase. Come just to look, enjoy the weather, food and refreshments.

Why not spend a day exploring the weekly **Farmer's Market**? Every Saturday, October through May, Cape Coral welcomes more than 100 farmers and vendors from across the state to share their latest harvest with the residents of the city. Whether indulging in a delectable baked good or cutting into a freshly-caught grouper right out of the Gulf, you are guaranteed some of the freshest food in Southwest Florida. Held in Club Square, the market also boasts the eclectic sounds of local musicians, crafts, and specially-made, hand-crafted jewelry. The Surfside Farmers' Market offers a year-round shopping experience to Cape Coral. Enjoy the comfort of indoor shopping from May to November.



Perhaps one of the most anticipated events in the Cape is the annual **Holiday Boat-a-long**. It's Christmas done Florida style. Each December a procession of about 100 boats decorated in a festive holiday fashion with lights, costumes, music – and whatever else their captains can think of – sail along the canals of Cape Coral. People gather on the banks of the water to enjoy the parade and keep an eye out for Santa. Four Freedoms Park also provides an ideal setting to watch the illuminated vessels. The park features live holiday music, decorated trees, Christmas crafts, food and beverages. Whether you're

in the parade or just watching it, you're sure to have a blast.

Are you a motorcyclist enthusiast? Then you won't want to miss **Cape Coral's Bike Night!** Complete with live bands, food, drink and an amazing collection of bikes and great people, you're sure to enjoy this popular street festival. Be sure to check out the city's web site for the next Bike Night, www.capecoral.net.

Dining and Nightlife

If you're in the mood for a one-of-a-kind cuisine, **Cape Coral is home to dozens of locally owned and managed restaurants from a quick burger to a date-night dinner, there is something for every occasion.** Some of our favorites are The Lobster Lady, Cork Soaker's Deck & Wine Bar, Slate's, (Cajun style), Blu Agave, Big Blue Brewing, Point 57, Fish Tale Grille, Woody's, Ceno Grille, (Italian/Greek), Fathoms, Rum Runners, The French Press, (a fresh pastry and gelato café) Marker 92 at The Westin – Cape Coral Resort @ Marina Village, Pinchers Crab Shack, Gather, the Monkey Bar, and Iguana Mia. Many of these tropical restaurants feature live music, a packed menu and happy hour throughout the week.

More locally owned restaurants have been added to the mix!



We are very excited about the Opening in December 2018 of **Redfish Point Garden Bar & Grill** at 1520 Lafayette Street, near Del Prado Boulevard. We will update this as soon as we have a chance to check it out!

Backyard Beer Garden

In downtown Cape Coral, the Backyard Beer Garden is a brand new concept. It's a casual eatery with its focal point a new bar trimmed in reclaimed wood and topped with hammered copper. A series of lounge areas, made from pallets topped by colorful cushions, line one side of the dining room. Strings of Edison bulbs hang from the ceiling, and from an all-new pergola that shades the 60-seat patio on Cape Coral Parkway. It's a great new addition to the South Cape Entertainment District. Find it at 1339 Cape Coral Pkwy E. in the heart of the South Cape Entertainment District.

Gather

The second waterfront restaurant from the creators of Fathoms, Gather gets it. The decor is stunning yet comfortable and welcoming. The menu is international but approachable, and as simple or fancy as you so choose. Crisply battered duck wings come slicked in a citrus-chipotle glaze that seeps into all the craggy nooks. Pear chutney crowns perfect scallops set atop a puree of vanilla-infused parsnips the texture of silk. There's a thick burger, steak frites, chicken and waffles infused with Indian spices — Gather gets it, and it gets you to keep coming back.

Find it: 5971 Silver King Blvd, Cape Coral; 673-9939; gathercape.com



Lehne Burger at 1232 Cape Coral Pkwy E. is another new addition that we are so happy about! No need to go to the fast food chains, this locally owned and operated restaurant makes a great burger at affordable prices. It's kid-friendly and a must stop when looking for a quick bite.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! 🎉

This year we have seen a major improvement project almost completed in the south Cape entertainment district.

As we continue to transform South Cape for an even brighter future, we hope you'll support your local businesses! 🏠



Check out **Paesano's Italian Fresh Market**, where you can bring the taste of Italy right to your home. The market carries both imported and domestic gourmet Italian foods and creates delicious and authentic homemade Italian desserts. A local's favorite, stop in for lunch too!



Westin Cape Coral Resort @ Marina Village in Tarpon Point. What an amazing view! Beautiful boats surround the river, and the "**Nauti-Mermaid**" **Pub and Restaurant** offers great food and live music on the patio.

If you're ready for a night on the town there's a place for everyone. Have a drink at **RumRunners**, or **Fathoms** at Cape Harbour and toast to the sunset, and watch the sun disappear into the sky.

On a balmy summer night go out for ice-cream at "**Ice Ssscreamin**" and take a walk around Four Freedoms Park. Be sure to check out The

Ready for some dancing? Strap on your boots and go line dancing while listening to country music at **The Dixie RoadHouse Saloon**. Blake Shelton once made an appearance...so you never know who might be next! Located in downtown Cape Coral.

Education and Community Service

Public Schools:

Caloosa Elementary:

620 South Del Prado Blvd Cape Coral, FL 33990 (239) 574-3113

Cape Coral Elementary:

4519 Vincennes Blvd Cape Coral, FL 33904 (239) 542-3551

Diplomat Elementary:

1115 NE 16th Terrace Cape Coral, FL 33909 (239) 458-0033

Gulf Elementary:

3400 SW 17th Place Cape Coral, FL 33914 (239) 549-2726

Caloosa Middle School:

610 S. Del Prado Blvd Cape Coral, FL 33990 (239) 574-3232

Challenger Middle School:

624 Trafalgar Parkway Cape Coral, FL 33991 (239) 242-4341

Trafalgar Middle School:

2120 Trafalgar Parkway Cape Coral, FL 33991 (239) 283-2001

Cape Coral High School:

2300 Santa Barbara Blvd Cape Coral, Florida 33991 (239) 574-6766

Ida S. Baker High School:

3500 Agualinda Blvd Cape Coral, FL 33914 (239) 458-6690

Mariner High School:

701 Chiquita Blvd Cape Coral, FL 33993 (239) 772-3324

Lee County is home to 120 "traditional" schools and 24 charter schools.

Cape Coral public schools are part of the Lee County School System, the 9th largest district in Florida and one of the 50 largest school districts in the United States. With approximately 12,000 full- and part-time employees, the School District is the county's largest employer.

Giving Back to the Community

Cape Coral residents are extremely passionate about bettering the community and subsequently are involved in countless local and national charity projects. "Relay for Life" is one event that brings the community together to raise funds for cancer treatment and research. Each year thousands of Cape Coral residents gather at a local high school to walk and raise money for cancer. With food, games, and music, teams of people have fun while raising funds to fight cancer and increase awareness of cancer prevention and treatment. In 2014 alone, Cape Coral raised over \$150,000 during the 24-hour event – just one example of the generosity in the Cape Coral community.

The city is also known for embracing diversity. At **Pop's Café** in City Hall, the eatery is operated and staffed by "Special Populations". In fact, numerous City of Cape Coral employees, who are adults with developmental disabilities, rotate job sites throughout the week. Pops Café is just one of the many job and training opportunities the City of Cape Coral affords participants enrolled at "Special Populations".

Cape Coral is also home to the **Tony Rotino Senior Center.**

This center provides citizens 55 years and older with social, recreational, and educational programs that sustain and improve their quality of life in the community. With computer classes, craft classes, monthly book discussions, writing classes to improve literary skills, card games, and field trips it's easy to feel young at heart!

Health, Safety and Worship

Take comfort in knowing you and your family reside in a city renowned for its lack of crime and extraordinary emergency response. Even though Cape Coral's population is approaching 170,000, it consistently ranks among the safest cities in Florida. With ten fire stations spread across 120-sq miles, and a hospital that has the largest Emergency Department in the county, it's easy to see why the city is continually recognized for its safety and security. In fact, in 2014 Allstate released a report citing Cape Coral drivers ranked as 15th in the country for safe driving. So whether you're in your home, or on the road, you're sure to feel at ease knowing that you and your family are safe.

Cape Coral Hospital is a part of the Lee Memorial Health System, which first opened its doors back in 1916. Today there are more than 9,500 employees and 4,500 volunteers to help make your stay comfortable

Emergency Service

Cape Coral has developed highly effective solutions to combat challenges that may arise due to inclement weather.

CERT, a Community Emergency Response Team, allows Cape Coral Fire Rescue workers – who have been trained by Federal Emergency Management staff – to train Cape

Coral residents to take care of themselves, their family and assist their immediate neighbors. The class is free to Cape Coral residents and is held one night a week over the course of eight weeks. More than 500 people have since graduated from the program, emphasizing the success and the community's interest in safety and security.

Faith plays a major role in many peoples' lives and may be an important aspect on where you choose to live. With countless places of worship around the city, Cape Coral openly welcomes all denominations. From Anglican to Catholic, and Christian, Baptist to Lutheran, in English or Spanish, in a Church or in a Synagogue, there is a place for everyone. In fact, many places of worship also have several locations around the city, so whether you choose to live in the north or south, you're sure to find the perfect place where both you and your family feel comfortable.

Cape Coral is home to more than half a dozen hurricane shelters. These havens offer protection for families when major storms come to the area. Some shelters provide care to those with special needs and others accept family pets.

Cape Bike Routes

Cape Coral, Florida's 2nd largest city by land mass, offers a very special bicycling experience with more than 90 miles of interconnected bike routes bordering nature preserves, scenic canals, marinas, golf courses and the expansive Caloosahatchee River. The 122-square-mile city is ideally suited for cyclists offering:

- More than 90 miles of interconnected bike routes.
- Distinctive, easy-to-navigate signage along seven different routes.
- A 49-mile circular route around the perimeter of the city.
- More than 400 miles of beautiful canals and adjacent streets.
- More than 120 miles of bike lanes, bike paths and multi-use paths.
- Balmy, tropical weather and level terrain.
- Many opportunities to combine cycling with bird watching, kayaking, tennis or walking.
- Bus stops along the bike routes and busses with bike racks. Bike rentals are available, too.

Boating and Fishing

The Cape Street System

Driving around Cape Coral is extremely easy once you understand the street system. The city itself is broken up into four quadrants, the center falling at the intersection of Santa Barbara Boulevard and Hancock Bridge Parkway. On the Cape Coral map, the purple line is Santa Barbara and is the east/west dividing street of the city. The north/south divider is Hancock Bridge Parkway until Santa Barbara, and then it turns into Embers Parkway.

As you move away from the center of the city, the street numbers and addresses increase. House numbers and street numbers start at "0" from these lines and go up in each direction. Thus the first part of an address corresponds with the nearest intersecting street. It is also helpful to know what streets run in which direction.

Within each quadrant, street numbers increase as you move away from Santa Barbara Boulevard or

Hancock Bridge Parkway. To locate an address, first locate the quadrant (NW, NE, SE, SW). Then review the address to locate the intersecting street. For example, 4720 SE 15th Avenue would be in the SE quadrant, located on SE 15th Avenue near the intersection of SE 47th Street/Terrace.

Boating and Fishing

The Cape is also home to numerous boating marinas and ramps, so you always have easy access to the water no matter where you live. Some of these include, but are not limited to:

- Yacht Club Boat Ramp
- Dolphin Marina
- Burnt Store Boat Ramp
- Everest Marina
- BMX Boat Ramp
- Tarpon Point Marina
- Horton Boat Ramp
- Cape Harbour Marina
- Rosen Park Boat Ramp
- Stumps Pass Marina



The Chiquita Boat Lock is another great amenity many residents take full advantage of when cruising the waters. Located approximately 2.75 statute miles from the Sanibel Causeway Bridge, this lock provides access to the Gulf of Mexico from Camelot Canal and the Southwest Spreader Waterway, via the Caloosahatchee River. This lock is operated by the Marine Services Division of the Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department to help manage boat traffic and water levels. It is the only boat lock in Cape Coral, and it is open 16 hours a day, from 6:00am–10:00pm. After-hour boaters should call the lock operator to gain admission, 239.542.5661. This lock takes approximately 3-5 minutes to get through, and holds up to 6 vessels depending on the size: up to 75' with an 18' beam. For all things fishing, boating, and hunting in Florida: WWW.MYFWC.COM

FRESHWATER FISH

Black Bass
Catfish
Garfish
Pan fish
Pickerels
Stripers
Suckers

SALTWATER FISH

Tuna, Bluefish, Grouper, Snapper, Dolphin (Mahi Mahi), Swordfish, Mulletts, Shark, Flounder, Tarpon, Mackerels, Amberjack, Jacks, Snook



Canals and Dredging

Cape Coral canals: Gulf access or freshwater?

SE Cape Coral:

- Most lead to the Gulf of Mexico.
- Most lead to the Caloosahatchee River (the further north, the longer the ride to get to open water).
- Some are landlocked (freshwater and/or lake access only).
- Most canals east of Del Prado Boulevard provide direct Gulf access (no bridges to navigate under).

Water Control Structures

Within these canals, there are approximately 27 water control structures (weirs) designed to:

- Control the amount and timing of freshwater discharge to adjacent marine waters.*
- Create freshwater reservoirs to supply secondary irrigation demands.*
- Regulate flood levels throughout the city.*
- Provide storm water runoff.*

NE Cape Coral:

- All are landlocked – meaning freshwater only –
- they do not provide Gulf access.
- Some do provide access to large bodies of water.

NW Cape Coral:

- Canals west of Burnt Store Road provide Gulf access.
- Canals east of Burnt Store Road are freshwater (no Gulf access).
- Canals west of Old Burnt Store Road provide direct Gulf access (no bridges to go under).

SW Cape Coral:

- Most canals provide access to the Gulf of

Mexico.

- Some are only freshwater access.
- Some require you to exit through a boat lift/lock to get to open water.

The importance of canal dredging

The City of Cape Coral has one of the largest active canal dredging programs in the country. The dredging process removes silt and helps maintain the water quality of the salt water access canal system. Dredging also helps navigability in the waterways, and may take six to eight weeks for one segment of an 80-ft. canal.



Each year the city schedules specific canals for dredging activity. See www.capecoral.net, the city's web site, for information.

Burrowing Owls



Burrowing owls often nest on vacant lots in rapidly developing suburban areas and may respond to disturbed soil conditions associated with early construction activities. Many people wrongly believe that it is not possible to build on a lot if burrowing owls occupy it. One of the key management practices in Cape Coral is the site inspection provided by the contractor prior to permitting. The contractor

must submit a Burrowing Owl Affidavit with all building permits. All burrows on the project site must be reported on the affidavit.

If a burrowing owl nest is present on a prospective construction site, one of two scenarios can occur, depending on the proximity of the owl burrow to development. The developer must first determine if there is any way to construct the project while maintaining a protection zone with at least a ten foot radius in all directions from the burrow entrance. Building around an owl nest is the best scenario for the owls and the contractor.

If the burrow is located within the building envelope, the policy of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is to issue permits to allow destruction of burrowing owl nest burrows only as a last resort and after all reasonable alternatives have been considered and determined impractical. In order to minimize the adverse impacts to the species when a nest is destroyed, the contractor or homeowner is strongly encouraged to place a "starter burrow" some place on the property. For more information, visit www.capecoral.net.

Eagles Nests

Southern bald eagle, osprey, roseate spoonbill, egret, great blue heron and the brown pelican are just a few examples of the many birds found in this area. The terrestrial communities have been the most disturbed by growth, but on any given day one may possibly see animals and birds such as raccoons, rabbits, squirrels, bobwhite quail, white ibis and ground doves. In addition to the bald eagle, terrestrial communities in Cape Coral are also home to some creatures which are endangered or potentially endangered including the burrowing owl, gopher tortoise, and the eastern indigo snake.

A permit is not required to conduct any particular activity, but is necessary to avoid liability for take or disturbance caused by the activity. Therefore, any land altering activity within 660 feet of an active or alternate bald eagle nest that cannot be undertaken consistent with the FWC Eagle Management Guidelines may require a FWC Permit. The FWC will issue an eagle permit where the applicant provides minimization and/or conservation measures that will advance the goal and objectives of this management plan. The following units (specific sections of Cape Coral) may be affected by eagle management zones: 28, 50, 54, 63, 70, 89, 92, 94, 95. Go to the City of Cape Coral's website for more information at www.capecoral.net.



Cape Coral Real Estate

Home buying economics

Cape Coral has always been a haven for home buyers, with homes built in an array of architectural styles and priced in every range. With spacious and airy single-family homes designed for outdoor living to cozy condos with maintenance free lifestyles, Cape Coral has a neighborhood for every taste no matter your stage in life.



Boat from your backyard

Residents call it paradise, and visitors call it a marvel. But home buyers attracted to this coastal community call it "The Waterfront Wonderland". More than 400 miles of navigable canals ribbon the community. Lakes and marina like basins dot the land, making waterfront living and boating from your backyard a way of life

The Cape's intricate canal network grew out of a decades old system of clearing waterways and using the dredged materials as landfill for home sites. Today, Florida's environmental regulations prohibit the creation of new finger canals, so Cape Coral is considered a final frontier in waterfront development.

Attractive prices

Homes on and off the water range from modest to magnificent; rental to ranches, condos, estate-style and multi-family homes. Off water and canal front lots vary dramatically, depending on location, canal width (anywhere from 80 to 200 feet), fresh or saltwater, and distance to the river and Gulf of Mexico.



Homes for all personalities

Many newcomers find their dream homes in the resale market, a highly competitive segment of real estate that can result in a great deal. The majority of newcomers, however, choose to build new and contract with local builders.

Contact us at www.capecoralparadisefound.com for more information.

SW Florida homes come in a wide range of styles, from Spanish influenced Mediterranean style to the ultra modern to the traditional looks.

If you can dream it, you can find it, or you can build it! Condominiums range from one and two bedroom models to elegant penthouses with spectacular water views. From vacation retreats to your retirement dream home, the residential choices in Paradise include something for everyone.

Cape Coral Communities



Cape Coral has countless communities spread across its 120-square miles. One of which is the continuously developing

Tarpon Point Marina. This deep water marina has 175 wet slips for vessels up to 75 feet as well as direct access into the Gulf of Mexico and the Intracoastal Waterway. The lifestyle and aquatics center has a resort style pool and spa, a Junior-Olympic size lap pool, a lawn concert amphitheater, bocce and horseshoes, a 25,000 sq.-foot sun deck, a tropical bar and eatery, dry saunas, a fitness center, tennis courts, walking trails, concierge services, and much more.

At the heart of this spectacular neighborhood is **The Westin Cape Coral Resort at Marina Village**, offering top quality amenities, including four star waterfront views, resort amenities such as room service, housekeeping and concierge services. Experience flawless service in their sleek tower of guest rooms and suites with sweeping views of the Caloosahatchee River, San Carlos Bay and Gulf of Mexico.

Enjoy **The Shops at Marina Village** by indulging in fashionable shopping and waterfront dining. Discover the pinnacle of sophistication within the dazzling waterfront community of Tarpon Point Marina!

Cape Harbour is an incredible yachting and boating community which consists of three unique enclaves, offering a lifestyle for every taste and price range. Whether you prefer a sophisticated villa, luxury condominium or a dazzling custom estate home, you're sure to find your getaway.



Elegant gables, arched entrances, wrought iron grillwork and tile roofs are the architectural trademarks that bring a touch of the Mediterranean to Cape Harbour. Surrounded by a 7,000-acre nature preserve, the tranquil community truly takes hold of the Florida lifestyle.

The community also boasts several restaurants such as **Fathoms** offering live music, and **RumRunners** on the water, shopping, a clubhouse, boathouse, a marina pool and much more. Make the move to Cape Harbour and you'll be living your vacation every day!

Cape Coral Golf Courses

Southwest Florida is home to more than 100 golf courses. With 9, 18, and 27-hole courses, you're filled with options so you can play to your heart's desire. Many of the courses offer a variety of different lakes, bunkers and difficulty levels, so whether you're a beginner or a professional, you're sure to find the perfect place that presents you with just the right challenge! Be sure to check out these local courses:

- Coral Oaks Golf Course
- Hunters Run Executive Course
- Royal Tee Country Club
- Palmetto-Pine Country Club
- Magnolia Landing

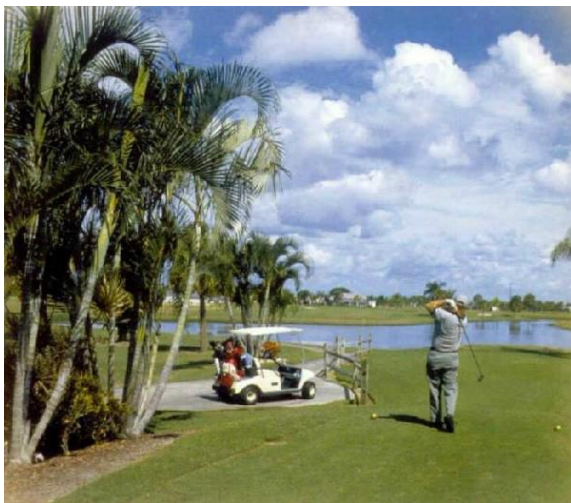
The Golf Club at Magnolia Landing

Located in North Fort Myers, the stunningly beautiful greens and fairways of The Golf Club at Magnolia Landing offers one of the most exciting golf experiences of any private country club. Nature's splendor is the backdrop for an exquisitely designed course that meanders through natural pine forests and oak groves. To enhance the experience, golf members enjoy the pleasures and privileges of a 10,000-square foot Golf Club, with a friendly, inviting ambience. Overlooking the 9th and 18th greens, the Golf Club offers a place to share good times and great golf.

Look for a grill, pro shop, men's and women's lockers, and warm, personal service.



Cape Royale



Royal Tee is the largest semi-private gated golfing community in Southwest Florida. Boasting 27 championship holes designed by Gordon Lewis, the course includes more than 50 acres of freshwater lakes, a driving range, two practice greens and four sets of tees. Royal Tee offers everything a golf enthusiast could possibly want or need. A fully stocked Pro Shop is open 7 days a week and provides access to PGA instruction and a variety of clinics. Twenty five leagues tee off each week with tournaments and outings scheduled throughout the year.

Annual and special seasonal memberships are available. Be sure to allow time for lunch and refreshments with friends in the Crown Pub

before and after your round. Cape Royal is the Cape's only gated golfing community, offering 483 home sites. every day!

Relocation Utility Services

Our goal is to make the move into your new home as smooth as possible. This information sheet includes important phone numbers to help ease your transition. Keep in mind many services may be initiated, transferred, and paid online. Some services may require a deposit. Additional information is available on each service provider website.

ELECTRIC SERVICE:

Cape Coral
Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) Ph 239.656.2300
www.lcec.net
Fort Myers
Florida Light & Power (FPL) Ph 239.334.7754 www.fpl.com



WATER SERVICE:

Cape Coral
City of Cape Coral
Ph 239.574.0868 www.capecoral.net
Fort Myers
City of Fort Myers
Ph 239.321.8100
www.cityftmyers.com



CABLE OR INTERNET:

Cape Coral & Fort Myers
Comcast/Xfinity Cable
Ph 800.266.2278
www.comcast.com



LANDLINE PHONE, TV or INTERNET:

Cape Coral & Fort Myers
CenturyLink
Ph 800.366.8201
www.centurylink.com



REFUSE SERVICE:

Cape Coral & Fort Myers
Waste Pro
Ph 239.945.0800
www.wasteprousa.com



The city of Cape Coral provides refuse containers and recycle bins at your request. Trash pickup service is included in your annual taxes. No need to set up. You can call for bulk pickup of certain items. Trash, recycling and yard waste are all picked up on the same day.

U.S. POST OFFICE: Pick up a change of address form at any US Post Office branch or change your address online, www.usps.com.