

1. Welcome To “The Waterfront Wonderland”



Source: Flickr user Liz Mc

Cape Coral sits on Florida's stunning Gulf Coast, and the fun-to-say Caloosahatchee River runs here. But that's not all—oh no.

There are more than 400 miles of canals here, making it the city with the most miles of navigable waterways in the world. Stick that in your pipe and smoke it, Venice!

2. Where Boating Life Is The Good Life



Source: Flickr user Cliff

All those waterways mean it's easy to score waterfront living.

You can easily hop right into a boat and cruise the canals or head straight out to the Gulf of Mexico via the Caloosahatchee River or the Matlacha Pass.

3. It's Snowbird Central In The Winter



Source: Flickr user Jason Persse

“Snowbirds” are Northerners who head down to Florida to escape their unbearably frigid winters, just like migrating birds. One in five people of Cape Coral only live here seasonally.

It probably has something to do with the fact that average highs hit the upper 70s to lower 80s November through March, with average lows staying in the mid 50s to low 60s.

4. And Home To The Cutest Burrowing Birds All Year Round



Source: Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife via Facebook

The city has the largest population of burrowing owls in Florida, with about 1,000 nesting pairs.

They're one of the smallest owl species, averaging an adorable 5 to 8.5 ounces and 7 to 11.5 inches tall.

In celebration, the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife has been hosting the Annual Burrowing Owl Festival for well over a decade.

5. You'll Want To Spend The Day Soaking Wet At Sun Splash Family Waterpark



Source: Sun Splash Family Waterpark via Facebook

Sun Splash Family Waterpark is a massive recreation center with all sorts of wet fun, including pools, splash pads, water slides, tube rides, flume rides and more. There's stuff for kids of all ages, and for adults who want to act like kids.

6. And Then Take In Great Local Theater At Night



Source: Cultural Park Theater via Facebook

Treat the theater lover in you to the diverse plays and musicals performed September through May at the Cultural Park Theater.

Take a stab at the stage yourself, too; acting classes are offered to kids and adults, and production auditions are open to local talent.

7. If You Aren't Oiled Up And Sandy, You Aren't Living The Cape Coral Life



Source: Flickr user Mohd Althani

Cape Coral has its own beautiful Gulf beach, not to mention plenty of fantastic sandy escapes right next door.

Sanibel Island and Fort Myers beaches are always beckoning.

8. Kayak Through The Gorgeous Mangroves



Source: Cape Coral Florida via its website

At 365 acres, Four Mile Cove Ecological Preserve is the biggest public-accessible nature preserve in the city.

Hike the scenic trails, stop by the visitor's center and the Veterans Memorial Area and rent a kayak to explore from the water.

Keep watch for eagles, ibises, herons and other awesome avians.

9. Grab A Brat And Join Us For A Huge Oktoberfest Celebration



Source: Flickr user Tom Rungitom

Every year, the city's German-American Club hosts one of the biggest Oktoberfest celebrations in the state. An average of 30,000 people usually attend the two-weekend bash that includes;

- Carnival
- Live German music
- Dancing
- Traditional German food
- And of course overflowing steins of beer!

10. Cape Coral Has An XTREME Side



Source: Flickr user Stig Nygaard

That's right... it's not all about quiet waterfront living in this humble city.

Cape Coral has hosted a number of state and national BMX Motocross competitions at the Strausser BMX Sports Complex.

11. Amazing Birds Are Just Waiting To Be Seen



Source: [TripAdvisor](#)

The Rotary Park Environmental Center hosts environmental classes, plant sales, summer camp, the aforementioned Annual Burrowing Owl Festival and more.

Visit on a Monday, Friday or Saturday morning for a free tour of the Tom Allen Memorial Butterfly House (at other times you can only see in from outside).

12. Take Flight, Hobbyists



Source: Flickr user Burlington_RC

Here's something you don't find in many places: there's a landing strip and airfield for radio-controlled airplanes and helicopters at Sea Hawk Park. Serious fliers only, though; to take advantage, you need to be a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics and the Cape Coral R/Sea Hawks Club.

13. Cape Coral Remembers And Honors Those Who Serve



Source: Flickr user DVIDSHUB

The Southwest Florida Military Museum and Library offers 34,000 square feet of military history in the form:

- uniforms
- medals
- photographs
- weapons
- vehicles
- and other equipment and memorabilia

There's an extensive library with military books, letters and other personal correspondence, too.

14. There Are Seven Quality Courses To Perfect Your Short Game



Source: Flickr user Joe Shlabotnik

Florida's well known for its many choice golf courses, and that's one stereotype Cape Coral happily conforms to. There are more than seven courses in and just outside the city, many of which are open to the public.

15. No, No, I Wasn't Calling YOU A Sea Cow...



Source: Flickr user U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southeast Region

Manatees are some of Florida's most famous and beloved wildlife, and Sirenia Vista environmental park is a prime spot to spot them. There's also some great fishing and a kayak launch to get you out to the Calusa Blueway.

16. Go Carb Crazy With Pignoli's Flatbread Pizza



Source: Pignoli on the Harbour via Facebook

Pignoli on the Harbour is worth stopping into for breakfast, lunch or dinner. It's got an extensive menu, appealing views, a fun atmosphere and even a jazz brunch on Sundays.

17. Or Consider The World Class Seafood



Source: Rumrunners at Cape Harbour via Facebook

Right here on the Gulf of Mexico, fresh seafood is never in short supply. This city's stocked with fantastic places for seafood meals. Local independent favorites include Rumrunners and Fish Tale Grill by Merrick Seafood, which also operates its own seafood market.

18. Fish Not Your Thing? Get A "Yee-Ro"



Source: Nelly's Taste of Greece via Facebook

Nelly's Taste of Greece has been serving it up to hungry folks here since 2008. Have a gyro, a fresh Greek salad or some authentic Greek pastries, all delivered with friendly service.

19. Or Put Some Delicious Coal-Fired Pizza In Your Piehole

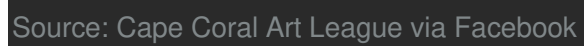


Source: Dante's Coal Fired Pizza via Facebook

Nobody wants to be anywhere they can't find great pizza. Rest easy; Cape Coral is proud to present Dante's Coal Fired Pizza.

This amazingly delicious and consistent restaurant is another clear community favorite. But don't just go for the pizza—the wings, subs, paninis and other food is all top-notch, too.

20. After Dinner, There Are Plenty Of Options To Get Your Culture On



Culture Park is home to the Cape Coral Historical Society Museum, the Cape Coral Art League and our beloved community theater from number six, the Cultural Park Theater.

21. Just Don't Forget To Hit Up The Harbour For Classic Views



Source: Cape Harbour via Facebook

Yeah, they use the British spelling, but don't hold it against them. Cape Harbour is a quintessential Gulf Coast, Florida experience.

There are gorgeous waterfront views, boat slips and houses, unique shops and restaurants and other pleasant ways to pass the day.