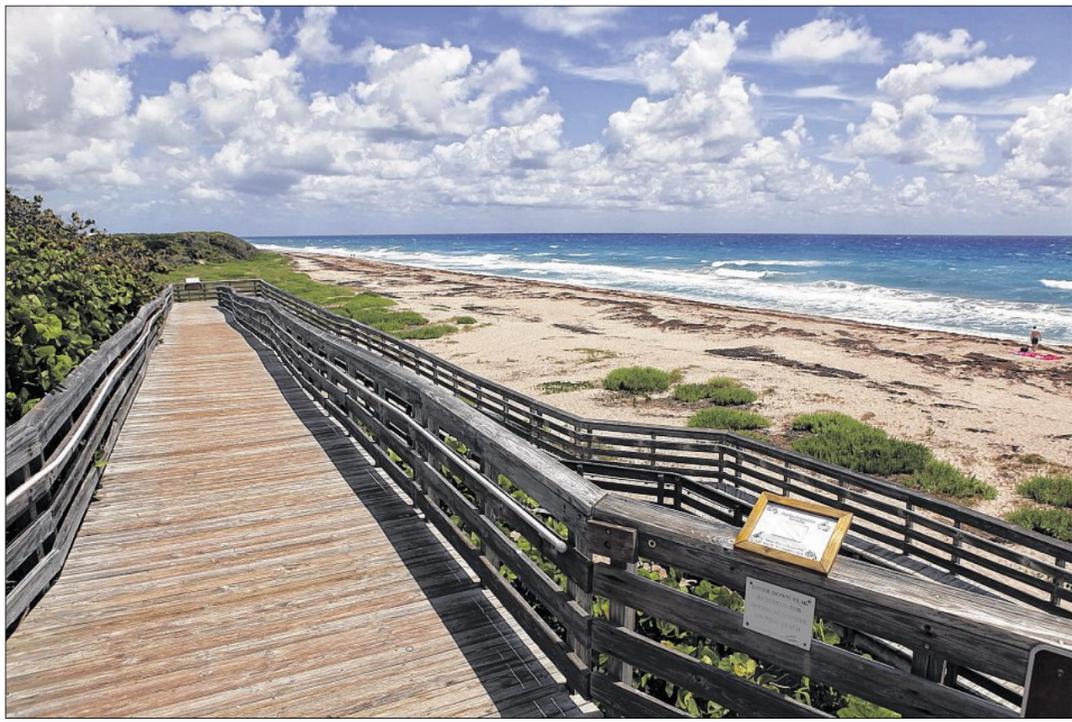


MEMORIAL DAY



The beach at MacArthur Beach State Park is more than 1½ miles long and often feels very secluded. BRUCE R. BENNETT / THE PALM BEACH POST

5 Best Beaches for Memorial Day Weekend

Ready for some chillin' and grillin'? We've got your spots.

By Barbara Marshall
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

As thousands of people flock to the beach this weekend, the question becomes: Which beach?

If you're looking for a spot where you can add some barbecue heat to the mix of sand and surf, we've got five suggestions for chillin' and grillin' at the beach.

Two tips: Go early. Parking spots at the most popular beaches will likely be filled before noon. Bring sunscreen.

From north to south

1. Jupiter Beach Park: 46 acres on the south side of the Jupiter Inlet, including a lagoon for snorkeling and 1,700 feet of shoreline. There's a fishing jetty, lifeguards and picnic areas with grills. *1375 Jupiter Beach Road, Jupiter.*

2. Carlin Park: Carlin Park in Jupiter is one of the county's biggest, most popular beaches, with good reason. With 3,000 feet of shoreline and 120 acres, there's lots of room to stretch out. Picnic areas with grills are scattered west of the dune line along with play structures for kids and bocce courts for adults.



MacArthur Beach State Park schedules numerous events, including guided walks, snorkeling classes and nature talks. BILL INGRAM / PALM BEACH POST



Jupiter Beach is a popular spot for kite boarders and surfers. THOMAS CORDY / THE PALM BEACH POST 2012

400 S. State Road A1A, Jupiter.

3. MacArthur Beach State Park: The only state park in Palm Beach County remains a special piece of deeply wooded native Florida beach hammock and mangrove forest. The beach is

long and usually far less crowded than county or municipal beaches because it's more difficult to reach. Beachgoers follow a boardwalk across a lagoon (there is a tram) to get to the sand. The park includes Munyon Island in the Intracoastal,

as well as kayak rentals (high tide only), nature trails, a nature center, playground and picnic tables with grills. A reef just offshore provides interesting sights for snorkelers. The natural beach is a favorite nesting site for sea turtles. Admission: \$5 per vehicle. *10900 Jack Nicklaus Drive, North Palm Beach.*

4. Phipps Ocean Park: A mile or two south of some of Palm Beach's biggest estates sits these twin beaches separated by a fire station. West of the dune are picnic tables with grills and a playground. A rock formation is often exposed at the waterline, making water shoes a good idea for little ones. **Fun fact:** The wide flat top of the dune is the site of the original A1A, which was moved west after a 1947 hurricane. Note: This is a Palm Beach public beach with parking fees fit for a millionaire. You'll feed the kiosk \$5 an hour. *2201 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach.*

5. Gulfstream Park: This small 7-acre county park fills up quickly on holiday weekends, but it's fun for kids with a play structure, and has picnic tables and grills for that holiday picnic. *4489 N. Ocean Blvd., Gulfstream.*

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AREA MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

The following events occur on Memorial Day

Fort Pierce
■ **Memorial Day Ceremony**, 10 a.m., Navy SEAL Museum, 3300 N. A1A. Keynote speakers will be St. Lucie County Commissioner Tod Mowery and Marine Lt. Col. Tim Nichols. Info: 772-595-5845; www.navysealmuseum.org

Port St. Lucie
■ **Memorial Day Celebration**, 10 a.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 2100 SE Veterans Memorial Parkway. Info: 772-878-2277; www.cityofpsl.com

Stuart
■ **Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony**, 10 a.m., Memorial Park, 300 SE Ocean Blvd. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Southeast Amerigo Avenue and proceed down Southeast Ocean Boulevard to Memorial Park. The Veterans Council of Martin County will host a ceremony at 11 a.m. in the park. Info: 772-220-4127; www.stuartparades.com

Palm Beach Gardens
■ **Memorial Day Ceremony**, 9 a.m., Veterans Plaza, 10500 N. Military Trail. This ceremony will feature fire-rescue and police honor guards and a wreath-laying ceremony. Info: 561-630-1100; www.pbgfl.com



Royal Palm Beach
■ **Memorial Day Observance**, 9 a.m., Veterans Park, 1036 Royal Palm Beach Blvd. Boy Scout Troop 111, American Legion Post 367, Mayor Matty Mattioli and others will lead the ceremony followed by a 21-gun salute. Info: 561-790-5149; www.royal-palmbeach.com

South Palm Beach
■ **Salute To Our Veterans**, 9:30 a.m., Town Hall, 3577 S. Ocean Blvd. Enjoy music and refreshments. Featured speaker is Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth. Info: 561-588-8889; www.southpalmbeach.com

Wellington
■ **Parade and Ceremony**, 8:15 a.m., Wellington Village Hall, 12300 Forest Hill Blvd. Veterans are invited to walk in a parade starting at 8:15 a.m. at Village

Hall, followed by a ceremony at 8:30 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial at Forest Hill and South Shore boulevards. The ceremony will be led by the American Legion Chris Reyka Memorial Wellington Post 390. Info: 561-791-4082; www.wellingtonfl.gov

Lake Worth
■ **Memorial Day Service**, 10 a.m., Pinecrest Cemetery, 1724 12th Ave. S. A service will be led by the American Legion Post 47 and Boy Scout Troop 204. Info: 561-533-7335; www.lakeworth.org

■ **Memorial Day Ceremony**, noon, South Florida National Cemetery, 6501 S. State Road 7. Info: 561-649-6489; www.cem.va.gov

Boca Raton
■ **Commemorative Ceremony**, 9 a.m., Boca Raton Cemetery, 449 SW Fourth Ave. This ceremony will feature veterans groups, city officials, music by Fort Lauderdale Highlanders, Boca Raton High School Band, drills by Boca Raton High School NJROTC and the Boca Raton Police and Fire Honor Guard. Info: 561-393-7995; www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us
■ **"An American Tribute" Concert**, 7 p.m., Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real. New Gardens Band presents a free concert of patriotic music under the direction of Owen Seward. Info: 561-393-7995; www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us

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