

Welcome Hukilau, Honest Liars, Hootie

As downtown Fort Lauderdale dolls itself up for younger suitors — the kind who are bedazzled by a place like Sparrow, the recently opened rooftop bar that lords over the city from the 25th floor of the Dalmar, its crown of colorful lights and siren's song of youthful laughter both a tease and an annoyance to those below — one can't help but have a renewed appreciation for the down-to-earth.

Take **the Hukilau**, the rum-soaked celebration of tiki culture now in its 18th year at three iconic spots that have defined Fort Lauderdale for decades: the **Mai-Kai** restaurant, the **Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina** and the **B Ocean Resort**, which locals will always call the Yankee Clipper.

Running through Sunday, the Hukilau's endless menu of cocktails, cocktail seminars, live music,



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burlesque, mermaid shows and events that defy description are always a hot ticket, with visitors from across the United States and beyond. This year there are several new gatherings aimed at enticing locals, especially, to dip a toe in, including the **Hukilau Sunday Funday**, a noon-6 p.m. Pier Sixty-Six pool party with guest-bar cocktails, rum samples, and seminars. Cost: \$69. For information on all Hukilau events and tickets, visit TheHukilau.com.

The city returns to its bare-feet-in-the-grass roots on Friday with the **Starlight Musicals in Holiday Park**, a free, family-friendly tradition that kicks off the season with live music and a community-picnic vibe. First up are the horns of plenty in **Mikey's Hotswing Latin Band**. The music runs from 7:10 p.m. every Friday through Aug.



TAYLOR HILL/GETTY

Hootie and the Blowfish will bring their reunion tour to the Coral Sky Amphitheatre in West Palm Beach on Saturday.

9. For more information, visit FortLauderdale.gov/Starlight.

Not to pick on Sparrow (it's fine for what it is and the view is magnificent, though a similar effect can be found in the more accessible sixth-floor Lobby Bar), but my new favorite watering hole in Fort Lauderdale is pretty much the opposite of Sparrow: **Rec Room** in the **MASS District**

(RecRoomFL.com). I don't want to say too much, for fear of it getting ruined, but they have duck pin bowling. One man's prosaic is another man's awesome.

Like the MASS District, the corridor of development north of Sunrise along **Northeast 13th Street**, has an attractive, organic vibe. So even a new spot like **Gulf Stream Brewing** feels familiar. At 8 p.m.



June 7 - August 18, 2019

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Saturday, the (very) dog-friendly spot hosts local rabble-rousers **Mark Dubin and the Honest Liars**, who play music to drink beer by. Like the old days in Fort Lauderdale. Visit [Facebook.com/MarkDubinAndTheHonestLiars](https://www.facebook.com/MarkDubinAndTheHonestLiars).

Looking ahead, **Cadence Living and Friends of Mockingbird Trail** again will celebrate **International Picnic Day** by organizing a blanket-enabled lunch at noon Tuesday, June 18, in downtown **Fort Lauderdale's** chill-friendly **Peter Feldman Park** in **Flagler Village**. A small thing, but the kind of gesture on which communities are built. Visit [Facebook.com/CadenceLiving](https://www.facebook.com/CadenceLiving).

Hootie is back

Hootie and the Blowfish bring their long-awaited reunion tour to **Coral Sky Amphitheatre** in **West Palm Beach** on Saturday for what could be one of the defining concerts of the season. On their first tour in a decade, **Darius Rucker** and the band are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the album "**Cracked Rear View**," a still massively popular collection that includes "Hold My Hand," "Let Her Cry," "Only Wanna Be With You," "Time" and "Drowning." A variety of tickets are available, beginning at \$29.50 for general-admission lawn seats at [LiveNation.com](https://www.livenation.com).

Florence visit

Led by the sublime **Florence Welch** (look, a female rock star!), **Florence and the Machine** close the U.S. dates on a summer tour supporting the album "**High As Hope**" on Sunday at **American Airlines Arena** in **Miami**. The 7:30 p.m. show includes two strong opening acts: **Nathaniel Rateliff and the Night Sweats** and **Grace VanderWaal**. You can still get tickets, starting at \$35.50 at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com).

Battle of Boca

The annual **Summer in the City** series at **Mizner Park Amphitheater** in downtown **Boca Raton** opens with a bang on Friday with a **Battle of the Bands**, with top local groups playing to win \$1,500 each in two categories, one for teen bands and another for ages 20 and older. Finalists in the older category are **Big City, the Cytokines, Coral Canyons, SpiderCherry** and **Del Pelson**; the teen competition includes **Pear, Expressway to the Stars** and **Audio Crisis**. Gates open at 6 p.m., with music beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is free to all Summer in the City performances, which take place each Friday through Aug. 11. For information on the rest of the summer lineup, visit [Facebook.com/BocaRaton.MiznerParkAmphi](https://www.facebook.com/BocaRaton.MiznerParkAmphi).

Here's looking at you

Rooftop in downtown **Fort Lauderdale** will elevate its Wednesday movie night on June 12 with a screening of the iconic Humphrey Bogart-Ingrid Bergman romance "**Casablanca**." This follows the June 5 showing of Ben Stiller's cat-milking Focker in "**Meet the Parents**." Which film is more you? The 8-11 p.m. gatherings are free and include popcorn, plus free rosé and Sipsmith Gin for women. Space is limited up there, so RSVP at [Rooftop1WLO.com](https://www.rooftop1wlo.com).

Go Wes, young man

You know **Wes Anderson**, his movies and his knack for dropping odd eggs into them (like, Steve Zissou gives a tour of his boat in "The Life Aquatic" to background music from "The Royal Tenenbaums," played backward). You can jump down the rabbit hole of Anderson's oeuvre during **Trivia Night** at 7 p.m. Thursday (June 6) at **Bangin' Banjo Brewing Co.** in **Pompano Beach**. There will be beer. Visit [Facebook.com/BanginBanjoBrewing](https://www.facebook.com/BanginBanjoBrewing).

Morning beer

The third annual **BeerFest 5K** at **C.B. Smith Park** in **Pembroke Pines** on Sun-

day is like a night out that begins at 7:15 a.m. with a run. It ends in a beer garden, where you'll find free beer, corn hole, beer pong and local rock favorites **Yardij**, performing that always popular 8 a.m. set. Top finishers overall and in various age groups get medals. For running. Entry: \$40. Visit [Facebook.com/Beerfest5K](https://www.facebook.com/Beerfest5K).

Summer beer

NoBo Brewing Co. in **Boynton Beach** throws a family-friendly summer kickoff party at noon Saturday, with outdoor games, food trucks and the release of their refreshing seasonal **Water-Me-Lawn Blonde** on draft and in cans. Teachers will find thank-you specials and discounts. Visit [Facebook.com/NoBoBrewing](https://www.facebook.com/NoBoBrewing).

Summer jams

My quintessential summer soundtrack definitely includes "Closer to the Sun" by beach-minded San Diego stalwarts **Slightly Stoopid**, who bring their **How I Spent My Summer Vacation Tour** to the **Pompano Amphitheatre** on Friday, aided by **Matisyahu, Tribal Seeds** and **Hirie**. The all-ages show begins at 5:20 p.m. General-admission tickets cost \$34.50. Visit [TheAmpPompano.org](https://www.theamppompano.org).

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