

HOTEL INTEL

Florida resorts opening from Atlantic to Gulf



ROCHELLE LASH

To go or not to go? The boom in new properties, ideal for post-pandemic travel, shows that Florida is perennially a favourite. For now, Canada has instituted mandatory COVID-19 tests and quarantines for incoming travellers. Please follow guidelines for international travel.

For decades before COVID-19, an average of nearly 4 million Canadians headed annually to the Sunshine State. We have been valued visitors, whether as one-week vacationers or all-winter snowbirds. The tourism numbers have been down recently, but we'll be back when the time is right.

Hotel Intel reported on new hotels for post-pandemic travel in Palm Beach County on Nov. 14, 2020, and in Fort Lauderdale on Dec. 19, 2020. Here is the scoop on other openings.

ATLANTIC COAST

The upbeat AC Hotel Fort Lauderdale Beach, a Marriott, is aiming to open within months, steps from Fort Lauderdale Beach and the Atlantic Ocean. A moderately priced brand, the 171-room AC will glow with modern décor and ocean views. Guests can frolic in a large pool or take break from the sun in the library. The lobby bar will serve tapas and cocktails and AC Kitchen will dish out a Euro-inspired breakfast including Italian prosciutto, French croissants and Spanish egg tarts,



Guests of the new Hotel Effie in Sandestin in northwestern Florida enjoy the cuisine of Iron Chef Hugh Acheson (originally from Ottawa), and all the facilities of its affiliate, Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. HOTEL EFFIE

plus cheese and yogurt.

Moving up the coast, the historic AAA-Five Diamond Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, a classic resort founded in 1928, has unveiled two new oceanfront buildings with Atlantic views and private terraces that lead to the beach. Ponte Vedra is halfway between Jacksonville and St. Augustine with full resort facilities, including dining, golf, tennis, dining, several shops, a full spa, and a surf club with water sports.

Margaritaville Beach Hotel Jacksonville Beach has brought island time and tropical cocktails to the northeast coast. The hotel, which opened this winter, features a beachside zero-entry pool, and restaurants and shops all with Margaritaville's signature tropical theme. Rooms, suites and cottages are available. Walt Disney World Resort is nine kilometres from the resort. Courtyard by Marriott, accessi-

ble and comfortable, and Spring Hill Suites, an all-suite hotel, will be two moderately-priced getaways across the street from the Atlantic Ocean. The complex is near the entertaining town of Fernandina Beach and adjacent to Fort Clinch, a national park. The hotels will share a pool, restaurants and bars. For dining out, the Boat House is one of Amelia Island's newest and best restaurants.

GULF COAST

In Fort Myers, the Luminary Hotel & Co., part of the design-forward Autograph Collection of Marriott International, opened in 2020 in the spirited, downtown River District, which pops with shops and entertainment. The 243-room Luminary is home to Silver King Ocean Brasserie, the Beacon Social Drinkery rooftop lounge and Ella Mae's Diner, indoor and outdoor fitness

and a spacious pool. Fort Myers, served by Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW), is 48 km north of Naples.

Naples is another popular destination, especially with celebrities, including TV's Judge Judy, musician Bob Seger and Hollywood icon Steven Spielberg. The posh Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, is making huge updates this year, including a new swimming pool, an outdoor restaurant (done in 2020), a bar and an event lawn, in addition to existing to pristine beaches, championship golf, spa life and creative children's activities.

The beautiful Hotel Effie in Sandestin in northwestern Florida opened recently with 250 guest rooms and suites, four dining areas by Iron Chef Hugh Acheson (originally from Ottawa), a luxurious spa and a rooftop pool and bar. It's near the shopping and restaurants of

IF YOU GO

Hotel information available at Visit Florida: 888-735-2872, visitflorida.com.
Air Canada: aircanada.com (subject to change): Air Canada flies from Montreal to Fort Lauderdale (three times a week in April, increasing to four times in May). It also flies from Toronto to Fort Lauderdale and Orlando.

the Village of Baytowne Wharf, 140 km east of Pensacola. Guests have access to its affiliate, Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, including beaches, championship golf, tennis courts and a marina.

INLAND

Calling all horse lovers! The deluxe hotel at the World Equestrian Center is expected to open in June in Ocala, Florida's "Horse Capital of the World." One of the largest equestrian complexes in the United States, it showcases spectacular show jumping, hunter classes, dressage and Western horsemanship. Besides the hotel, there will be shopping, a spa and dining and bars, all about 90 km northwest of Orlando.

Especially for children, Legoland Pirate Island Hotel is the new-new destination at Legoland Florida Resort, with the Shipwreck Restaurant, Smuggler's Bar for adult swashbucklers, a heated pool and kid-friendly programming. Breakfast is free. Legoland is a theme park with rides, a water park and botanical gardens in Winter Haven, halfway between Orlando and Tampa. This pirate-themed getaway joins Legoland Hotel and Legoland Beach Retreat, a lakefront resort.)

TV TIMES TONIGHT - SATURDAY, APRIL 24

MOVIES SPORTS TALK

| | B | W | E | V | 7 PM | 7:30 | 8 PM | 8:30 | 9 PM | 9:30 | 10 PM | 10:30 | |
|----|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|--|---|--|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 2 | SRC | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | Les enfants de la télé | Pour emporter (N) | | Sur scène (N) | | Le Téléjournal (N) | Encore 2 mètres (N) | |
| 3 | CBS | 282 | 21 | 21 | 87 | Entertainment Tonight Weekend (N) | FBI | | S.W.A.T. | | 48 Hours | | |
| 5 | NBC | 280 | 23 | 18 | 84 | Jeopardy! | Wheel of Fortune | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit | Law & Order: Organized Crime | | Saturday Night Live | | |
| 6 | CBC | 206 | 13 | 13 | 6 | NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Winnipeg Jets. From Bell MTS Place - Winnipeg, Man. | | | | | NHL Hockey Ottawa vs Vancouver. | | |
| 8 | CJOH | 229 | - | - | 10 | W5 | ** Mad Mom ('19, Thril) Kari Matchett, Romy Rosemont. | | | | This Is Pop | | |
| 9 | MATV | - | 9 | 9 | 9 | Buvons local | Présence autochtone | Esprit nomade | Ma première Place des Arts | | Aller-retour country | Route vers l'ouest | |
| 10 | TVA | 115 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 6:30 ** Le destin des dangereux ('17, Act) Jason Statham, Vin Diesel. | | | 10 ** Quitte ou double ('13, Act) Mark Wahlberg, Denzel Washington. | | | | |
| 12 | CTV | 70 | 11 | 11 | 7 | W5 | ** Mad Mom ('19, Thril) Kari Matchett, Romy Rosemont. | | | | This Is Pop | | |
| 17 | TQC | 138 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 6:00 Le rêveur: Inspiré d'une histoire... | :05 Cette année-là | | :05 *** L'aviateur ('04, Bio) Cate Blanchett, Leonardo DiCaprio. | | | | |
| 22 | ABC | 281 | 22 | 22 | 86 | Extra Weekend (N) | NBA Countdown | NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Dallas Mavericks. From American Airlines Center - Dallas, Texas | | | | | |
| 33 | PBS | - | 57 | - | 88 | Fawly Towers | My Hero | Death in Paradise | Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries | | Shakespeare Teach Me, Dear Creature | | |
| 35 | Noovo | 114 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6:30 **** Thor: Ragnarok ('17, Act) Cate Blanchett, Chris Hemsworth. | | | **** Le vrai courage ('10, West) Matt Damon, Jeff Bridges. | | | | |
| 44 | FOX | 283 | 46 | 36 | 85 | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | The Masked Singer | Game of Talents | | Local 44 News (N) | NFL Draft | |
| 49 | GBL | 234 | 3 | 3 | 8 | The New Reality (N) | Hidden Hate (N) | Private Eyes | Nurses | | Ransom | | |
| 57 | PBS | - | 24 | 40 | 89 | M.Lake Journal | New York NOW | Masterpiece Classic | Inspector Morse Pt. 1 of 2 cont'd next | | Inspector Morse Pt. 2 of 2 | | |
| 62 | CITY | 207 | 14 | 14 | 14 | NHL Hockey Montréal Canadiens at Calgary Flames. From Scotiabank Saddledome - Calgary, Alta. | | | Hudson and Rex | | | | |
| | A&E | 615 | 39 | - | 90 | 6:00 Andre the Giant | Biography 'Stone Cold' Steve Austin | | | | WWE's Most Wanted Treasures | | |
| | AMC | 293 | - | - | 209 | 5:00 *** Moneyball ('11) Brad Pitt. | *** True Lies ('94, Act) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis. | | | | | | |
| | APTN | 23 | 10 | 58 | 16 | Gespe'gwa'gi (N) | Wild West (N) | First Contact Australia | One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk ('19, Dra) Apayata Kotierk, Kim Bodnia. | | | | |
| | CBCNN | 502 | 48 | 48 | 18 | The Fifth Estate | The Nature of Things Rebellion | | CBC News Live (N) | marketplace | CBC Docs: POV Rare Bird Alert | | |
| | CD | 129 | 20 | 20 | 36 | Tout pour une prise | Je suis déménageur | Enquêtes incendies | Madame Lebrun (N) | | Hôpital Hanté | | |
| | CNN | 500 | 36 | 27 | 81 | CNN Newsroom (N) | CNN Newsroom (N) | | The Movies The Eighties | | | | |
| | CRVM1 | 300 | - | - | 211 | 6:45 *** Spider-Man: Far From Home ('19, Act) Samuel L. Jackson, Tom Holland. | | | The Wolf of Snow Hollow ('20) Riki Lindhome, Jim Cummings. | | Most Wanted | | |
| | CTVDr | 30 | 34 | - | 92 | The Closer | The Closer | | The Closer | | The Closer | | |
| | CTVSc | 90 | 32 | - | 101 | 6:30 ** The Conjuring ('13, Hor) Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson. | | | ** The Nun ('18, Hor) Taissa Farmiga, Demián Bichir. | | | | |
| | CV | 135 | 44 | 35 | 44 | Le Grand Move | Offre acceptée | Dragnifique! | Bienvenue chez les Derrico | | 17 ans et maman: nouvelle génération | | |
| | DISC | 636 | 37 | 37 | 102 | North Woods Law Outfoxed | North Woods Law Man vs. Animal | | North Woods Law Distress Call | | North Woods Law Trail of Trouble | | |
| | FAM | 556 | - | - | 64 | :55 Survivalists | The Next Step | Dwight Shining | Earth to Echo ('14, Adv) Brian 'Astro' Bradley, Teo Halm. | | | | |
| | HBO1 | 306 | - | - | 215 | 5:50 *** 61* ('00) Anthony Michael Hall. | Real Time With Bill Maher | | Chernobyl | | Chernobyl | | |
| | HGTV | 83 | 29 | - | 97 | Property Brothers: Forever Home | Home Town | | Island of Bryan | | Farmhouse Facelift | | |
| | HIST | 84 | 47 | - | 107 | Assembly Required | Course of Oak Island Be There or T-Square | | SEAL Team | | SEAL Team | | |
| | MAX | 142 | 48 | 32 | 32 | 6:00 Mon mari veut me tuer! ('18) | ** Bienvenue chez les Riley ('10, Dra) Kristen Stewart, James Gandolfini. | | :15 * Revanche ('90) Kevin Costner. | | | | |
| | MUCH | 570 | 35 | - | 112 | 5:45 *** Watchmen ('09, Act) Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman. | | | The Simpsons | The Simpsons | The Simpsons | The Simpsons | |
| | OWN | 526 | - | - | 94 | The Oprah Winfrey Show | Love & Marriage: Huntsville | | Belle Collective | | The Oprah Winfrey Show | | |
| | PEACH | 294 | - | - | 218 | Atlanta Eats | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | People Weekend | Celebrity Page (N) | Modern Family | Modern Family | |
| | RDI | 126 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 6:30 Découverte (N) | Le National (N) | Grands rep. Chroniques d'un dictateur | Le Téléjournal (N) | La Facture (N) | Le Téléjournal | Le National (N) | |
| | RDS | 123 | 33 | 33 | 25 | UFC le décompte | UFC UFC 261 From VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena - Jacksonville, Floride | | Boxe Top Rank. - Kissimmee, Floride | | | | |
| | SC | 73 | 205 | 205 | 205 | Movie | A Perfect Plan ('20, Myst) Carlo Rota, Kathleen Munroe. | | Paydirt ('Act) Luke Goss, Val Kilmer. | | Movie | | |
| | SE | 180 | - | - | 201 | :10 Divorce Club ('20, Com) François-Xavier Demaison, Arnaud Durcet. | | | Phénix ('20, Dra) Sofia Carson, K.J. Apa. | | Cinéma | | |
| | SHOW | 616 | 40 | - | 105 | 6:00 Terminator Genisys ('15, Fant) | | | ** Transformers: The Last Knight ('17, Act) Anthony Hopkins, Mark Wahlberg. | | | | |
| | SLICE | 27 | - | - | 99 | 6:30 ** Book Club ('18, Com) Jane Fonda, Diane Keaton. | | | ** Fifty Shades of Grey ('15, Dra) Jamie Dornan, Dakota Johnson. | | | | |
| | SN1 | 418 | - | - | 184 | 6:00 MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Tampa Bay Rays. - St. Petersburg, Fla. | | | Sportsnet Central (N) | | Curling Players' Championship. | | |
| | SNE | 406 | 38 | 38 | 179 | NHL Hockey Montréal Canadiens at Calgary Flames. From Scotiabank Saddledome - Calgary, Alta. | | | | | NHL Hockey Ottawa vs Vancouver. | | |
| | STARZ1 | 304 | 55 | - | 216 | 6:15 **** The English Patient ('96, Rom) Juliette Binoche, Ralph Fiennes. | | | **** Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri ('17) Frances McDormand. | | | | |
| | TCM | 292 | - | - | 219 | 5:30 *** The Secret of Santa Vittoria | *** Sergeant York ('41, War) Walter Brennan, Gary Cooper. | | | | Movie | | |
| | TLC | 521 | 27 | 39 | 91 | Seeking Sister Wife (N) | Seeking Sister Wife (N) | | Seeking Sister Wife (N) | | Seeking Sister Wife (N) | | |
| | TLN | 700 | - | - | 250 | Billionaire Wonderland | David Rocco's Italia A Taste of Travel | | *** A Good Day to Die Hard ('13, Act) Jai Courtney, Bruce Willis. | | | | |
| | TOONE | 85 | 49 | - | 57 | Pokémon the Movie: Volcanion and the Mechanical Marvel ('16) | | | Lego Scooby-Doo! Blowout Beach Bash ('17, Ani) | | | | |
| | TOONF | 87 | 45 | 34 | 53 | Titans/15 Titans | Titans/45 Titans | American Dad! | American Dad! | Les Simpson | Les Simpson | Family Guy | Family Guy |
| | TSN2 | 401 | - | - | 187 | 6:00 MLS Soccer Seattle vs Los Angeles FC. | SC Plays | Top Plays 2020 | SC | SC | MLS Soccer Vancouver vs Toronto. | | |
| | TSN5 | 404 | 28 | 28 | 190 | UFC Countdown (N) | UFC UFC 261 | | | | Boxing Top Rank. - Kissimmee, Fla. | | |
| | TV5 | 145 | 15 | 15 | 29 | Vivement dimanche! (N) | La lettre Patrick Fiori, Carla Bruni, Patrick Bruel (N) | | | | Voisins/ Voisins | | |
| | TVAS | 193 | - | - | 23 | LNH Hockey Canadiens de Montréal c. Flames de Calgary. From Scotiabank Saddledome - Calgary, Alta. | | | :45 Dave Morissette en direct | | LNH Hockey | | |
| | TVO | 22 | - | - | 71 | Wild 24 | ONStreet | Digging for Britain | *** Amy ('15, Doc) Amy Winehouse. | | | | |
| | VISN | 65 | - | - | 159 | 6:00 Signed, Sealed, Delivered: From t... | Sardari | | Des Pardes | | Aikam | | |
| | WGN | 295 | - | - | 222 | Friends | Friends | MLS Soccer Chicago Fire at Atlanta United FC. - Atlanta, Ga. | | | WGN Weekend News at 9:00 p.m. (N) | | |
| | WSBK | 296 | - | - | 223 | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | MLS Soccer New England Revolution at D.C. United. From Audi Field - Washington, D.C. | | | Seinfeld | | |
| | YTV | 25 | - | - | 65 | 6:00 The Croods ('13) Nicolas Cage. | ** The Jungle Book ('16, Fam) Bill Murray, Neel Sethi. | | | | The Hardy Boys | | |