

WELCOME TO MIAMI

ABOUT MIAMI

Miami is well known across the globe for its beaches and sunny weather. It is a melting pot of all cultures. While most places have English speakers, you may come across areas that have only Spanish speakers. All cities in Florida including Miami fall in the Eastern Time Zone

SAFETY

When planning travel to Miami Airport, we highly recommend packing your valuables & electronics in your carry-on luggage. Miami Beach, Brickell, Coral Gables, and Coconut Grove are safe neighborhoods. When you are on vacation stay alert and use caution with whom you give your trust. Walk with a purpose and be aware of what is happening around you. You should avoid walking on the beach after dark. If you need to walk late at night, choose to walk on a busy street. **FIU's Modesto Maidique Campus (MMC) (also referred to as Main Campus) is located in the University Park area and the Engineering Center is located 8 blocks north of FIU's Modesto Maidique Campus within the Sweetwater & West Flagler neighborhoods** which are generally safe areas. There are several hotels near FIU in the Doral area which is considered one of the safest areas in Miami. Please note that you will find a minority of Spanish only speakers and others that speak broken English at many of the eateries & businesses in the neighborhoods around the FIU Main Campus and the Engineering Center.

WEATHER

The predicted weather in Miami for April 22-24, 2024, is warm weather with temperatures ranging between 70 – 84°F. Expect rain showers throughout the day on some days. At times you may experience wonderful sunny weather but within minutes rain and thunderstorms can quickly develop. Carry an umbrella with you as a precaution when exploring the city. September is the last true summer month in Florida, "The Sunshine State".

Monthly Weather - Miami, FL

As of 11:32 am EDT

< Mar Apr ▼ 2024 ▼ [View](#) May >

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 ☀️ 83° 70°	1 ☁️ 83° 72°	2 ☁️ 84° 71°	3 ☁️ 83° 67°	4 ☁️ 80° 67°	5 ☁️ 81° 67°	6 Avg 82° 67°
7 Avg 82° 67°	8 Avg 82° 67°	9 Avg 82° 68°	10 Avg 83° 68°	11 Avg 83° 68°	12 Avg 83° 68°	13 Avg 83° 68°
14 Avg 83° 68°	15 Avg 83° 69°	16 Avg 83° 69°	17 Avg 84° 69°	18 Avg 84° 69°	19 Avg 84° 69°	20 Avg 84° 69°
21 Avg 84° 69°	22 Avg 84° 70°	23 Avg 84° 70°	24 Avg 84° 70°	25 Avg 84° 70°	26 Avg 84° 70°	27 Avg 85° 70°

TRAFFIC

Depending on your hotel location, many of the shopping and eating areas are within reasonable driving or walking distance. If you decide to rent a car, please note that Miami traffic can be congested in the morning between 8 – 9 am and early evening between 4 – 6 pm due to people commuting to and from work, so expect longer commute times during these hours. School zones may also cause traffic congestion in certain areas between 8 – 9 am and 2 – 3 pm.

Note also that there are tolls throughout most major Miami highways. It is advisable to purchase a [SUNPASS](#) and open a personal toll account so you are not charged exorbitant toll rates by the car rental agency.

TAXIS & PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Taxis/Shuttle information at Miami International Airport (MIA): <http://www.miami-airport.com/taxicabs-shuttles.asp>

There are options for yellow taxis & Super Shuttle, accessible in the Arrivals (ground) level at the airport where you pick up your luggage. Lyft & Uber also pick up passengers from the ground level of the airport which require booking via their phone app. Several hotels also provide round-trip complimentary shuttle services to and from MIA.

Wi-Fi

MIA-WiFi Network is available at the airport and is complimentary with advertisements. Many hotels also provide complimentary Wi-Fi service.

SHOPPING

One aspect of shopping in the United States that often confuses visitors from other countries is the sales tax. In Europe, a Value-Added Tax (VAT) is included in the price of everything sold. In the United States, it's different in most cases. For example, Miami adds a 7% "sales tax" on purchased items that is not marked on the label or menu. The tax will be added to the price at the cash register or added on the bill. Alcohol, cigarettes, medicines, restaurant meals, clothing, electronics, jewelry, and many other items, except gasoline, can have a tax tacked on to it at the end.

Below are the most popular places to splurge, save a few dollars, or just window shop:

[Sawgrass Mills](#): Famous for its factory outlet stores, this mall offers great bargains and dining opportunities. It's located in Broward County, 45 minutes+ north of Miami.

[Dolphin Mall](#): The Dolphin Mall, located 5 miles west of MIA at the intersection of the Dolphin Expressway (SR 836) and Florida Turnpike, offers shoppers over 200 restaurants and stores. Some hotels in the Doral area offer complimentary round-trip transportation to this mall.

[Miami International Mall](#): Miami International Mall is in Doral and is home to select retailers like Macy's and JCPenney. It features 22 eateries and offers more than 120 of the latest retail and fashion brands., including American Eagle Outfitters, Forever 21, Guess, H&M, Mango, Mayors Jewelers, Pandora, Swarovski, Tous, and Victoria's Secret.

[Aventura Mall](#): This is the largest shopping mall in Miami. The main department stores include Bloomingdale's, Nordstrom, and Macy's. The mall also has over 300 specialty stores, including Louis Vuitton, Abercrombie & Fitch, Apple, and Diesel.

[Bal Harbour Shops](#): For high-class shopping, few places compare to Bal Harbour Shops. Stores include Tiffany, Prada, Saks Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus.

[Lincoln Road](#): Full of stores, boutiques, art galleries, and restaurants, this open-air pedestrian mall in Miami Beach is a fun place to shop and people watch. The mall also offers a farmer's market on Sundays.

FOOD

[Publix](#) is the largest grocery store chain in Florida. Drug stores also sell food and alcohol. You can also find small Cuban markets in Miami with food and vegetables for sale. If you are staying in a hotel, we suggest doing some food shopping to avoid the high cost of food and drinks at the hotel.

ELECTRONICS

For your convenience there is the **[FIU Panther TECH](#)** store located in the Graham Center at FIU's Modesto Maidique Campus.

PHARMACIES

[CVS](#) & [Walgreens](#) are two of the largest pharmacy store chains in the United States. Please note that both pharmacies are located within walking distance of the FIU Main Campus and the FIU Engineering Center.

Most malls and stores open at open at 10:00 AM and close at 9:00 PM. Drug stores and food stores may close later, or even be open 24 hours a day. Most shops are open on Sunday. Tip: Keep your receipts as large stores usually offer a 30-day return policy.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE options are available at MIA Airport and Dolphin Mall (https://www.shopdolphinmall.com/stores/currency_exchange_international)

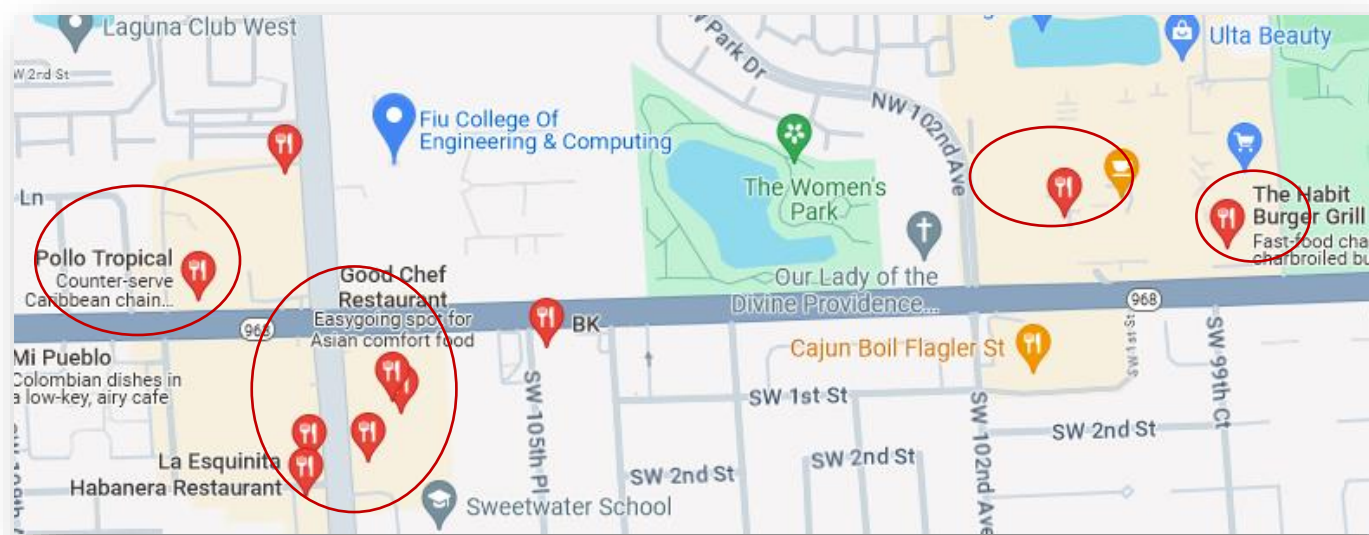
WHERE TO EAT NEAR FIU's MODESTO MAIDIQUE CAMPUS (MMC) / MAIN CAMPUS

A variety of small eateries are located within the **Graham Center** building at FIU's Modesto Maidique Campus, including [Burger King](#), [Chili's](#), [Jamba Juice](#), [Panera Bread](#), [Pollo Tropical](#), [Sergio's](#), [Starbucks](#), [Subway](#), [Sushi Maki](#) and [8th St. Campus Kitchen](#).



WHERE TO EAT NEAR FIU's ENGINEERING CAMPUS

The following places are within walking distance to FIU's Engineering Campus: [Pollo Tropical](#), [McDonalds](#), [Don Pan Bakery](#), [Vegan and Juice](#) (vegetarian options only), [Los Ranchos](#), [Publix](#), [Pdq](#), [Chipotle](#), [Pieology](#), and [The Habit Burger](#).



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

[FIU](#) is a metropolitan public research university in Greater Miami, FL. Its main campus is located in University Park. FIU belongs to the 12-campus State University System of Florida and is one of Florida's primary graduate research universities, awarding over 3,400 graduate and professional degrees annually. The main campus, University Park, renamed Modesto Maidique Campus in 2009, encompasses 344 acres in the Miami neighborhood of University Park. Florida International University is Miami's first and only public research university, with a focus on the academic and local community. Designated as a top-tier research institution, FIU has positioned itself as one of South Florida's anchor institutions by solving some of the greatest challenges of our time. We are dedicated to enriching the lives of the local and global community. With a student body of over 55,000, we are among the top 10 largest universities in the nation and have collectively graduated more than 200,000 alumni. FIU offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, including over 80 attainable fully online.

FIU Modesto Maidique (Main) Campus Entrance



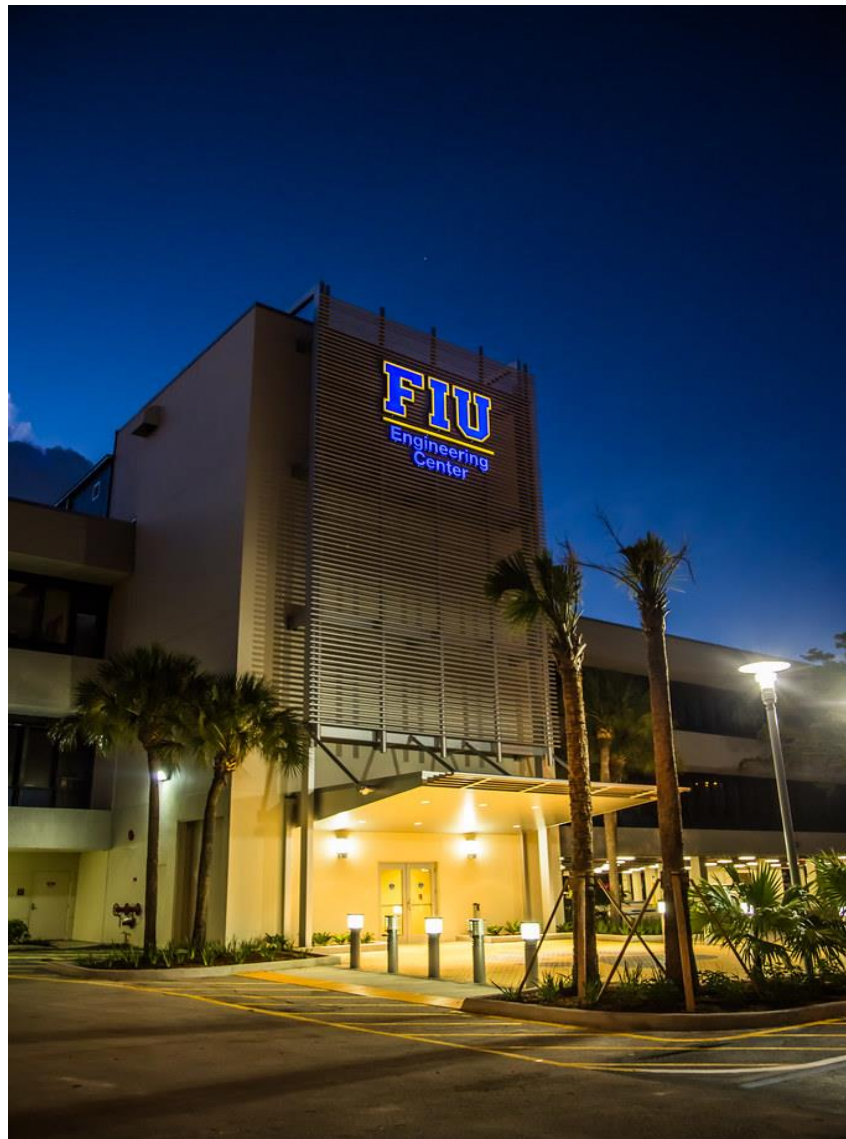
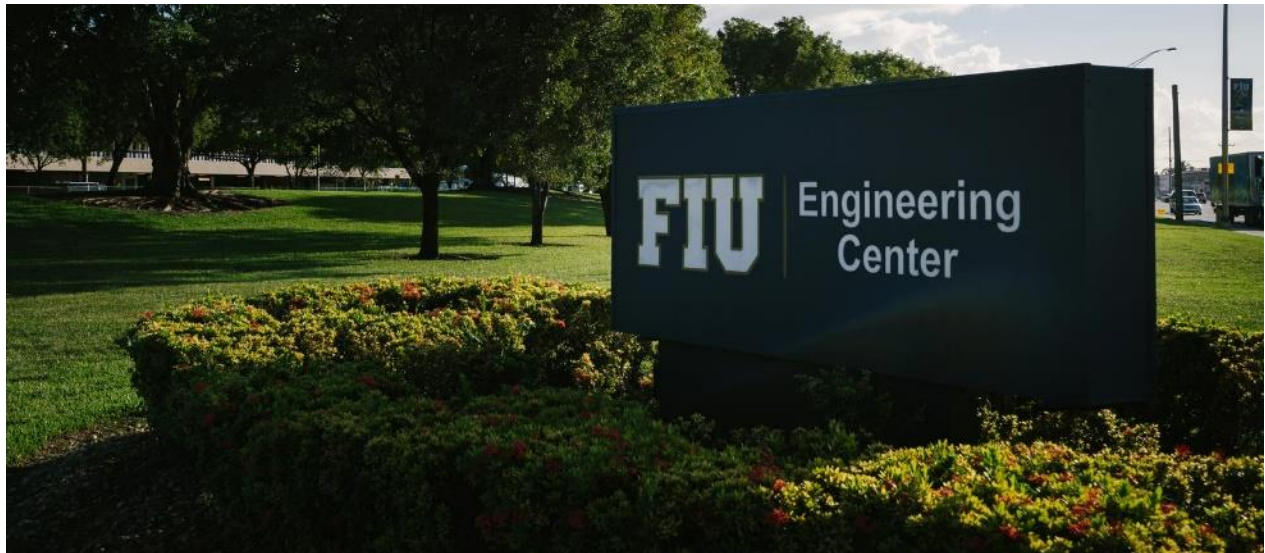
Steven and Dorothea Green Library at FIU Main Campus



FIU's Graham Center at Main Campus



FIU's [Engineering Center](#) (located 8 blocks north of FIU's Modesto Maidique Campus)
– a research and education center-point of FIU in Miami, FL





Distance from Hotels near FIU's Main Campus (2.2 miles/3.54 km)

[FIU MAIN CAMPUS INTERACTIVE MAP \(MMC\)](#)

Distance from Hotels near FIU Engineering Center Campus (1.5 miles/2.41 km)

[FIU ENGINEERING CAMPUS INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

FIU's SUGGESTED HOTELS

[Hilton Garden Inn Miami Dolphin Mall](#)

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn Miami Dolphin Mall

Hotel Address: 1695 NW 111th Ave Suite A, Sweetwater, FL

Hotel Phone: 305-500-9077

Nightly Rate: \$189 plus taxes (no FIU Discount)

Gov. Rate is \$199/night

Hotel Contact: Email katricia.ferrer@hilton.com for questions on the property

Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024

Breakfast for a fee, complimentary parking & wi-fi

[Homewood Suites by Hilton Miami Dolphin Mall](#)

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn Miami Dolphin Mall

Hotel Address: 1695 NW 111th Ave Suite B, Sweetwater, FL

Hotel Phone: 305-500-9019

Nightly Rate: \$192 plus taxes (no FIU Discount)

Gov. Rate is \$199/night

Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024

Breakfast included, complimentary parking & wi-fi

[Doubletree Hotel Doral](#)

Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Miami Doral
Hotel Address: 102 NW 19th St, Doral, FL 33172
Hotel Phone: 305-639-9555
Nightly Rate: \$150.65 plus taxes (after 15% FIU discount applied for guests of FIU, reg. rate \$189/night)
Gov. Rate is \$199/night
Hotel Contact: Email carmen.castillo@hilton.com so your booking can have this discount applied
Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024
Breakfast for a few, complimentary parking & wi-fi

[Residence Inn by Marriott](#)

Hotel: Residence Inn by Marriott Doral Mall Area
Hotel Address: 10234 NW 19th St., Doral, FL 33172
Hotel Phone: (305) 499-3300
Nightly Rate: \$190/night
Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024
Complimentary breakfast, parking & Wi-Fi

[Courtyard Miami at Dolphin Mall](#)

Hotel: Courtyard Miami at Dolphin Mall
Hotel Address: 11275 NW 12th Street, Miami, FL 33172
Hotel Phone: 305-994.9343
Nightly Rate: \$199 plus taxes (no FIU Discount)
Gov. Rate is \$199/night
Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024
Breakfast for a few, complimentary parking & wi-fi

[Holiday Inn Express & Suites Doral](#)

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Doral
Hotel Address: 1691 NW 107th Ave, Doral, FL 33172
Hotel Phone: 305-468-8568
Nightly Rate: \$150 plus taxes (no FIU Discount)
Gov. Rate is \$199/night
Hotel Contact: Email dorellanos@dhhhotels.com for questions about the property
Event Name: Guest attending FIU-ARC's AI & Robotics Workshop from April 22-24, 2024
Breakfast included, complimentary parking & Wi-Fi