

# Send North America: Miami

## Miami Fun Facts

1. A Cleveland woman named Julia Tuttle is credited with being the founder of Miami—the only female founder of a major American city. On July 28, 1896, the city of Miami, named after the Miami River, was incorporated with 502 voters.
2. Today nearly 5.7 million people live in the Greater Miami area.
3. Miami is the only large U.S. city with a Hispanic majority.
4. Half the population of Miami was born in another country.
5. Miami entertains 12.6 million visitors every year.
6. Greater Miami covers 2,042 square miles.
7. The Everglades National Park is the only subtropical nature reserve in North America. It spans most of Florida Bay and the southern tip of the Florida Peninsula.
8. Originating in Spain, the Jai Alai game is a local favorite. In this game, balls are thrown at speeds of 170 mph.
9. Homestead's Fruit and Spice Park is the only tropical botanical park in the United States. It has more than 500 types of fruits, vegetables, nuts, herbs and spices from all over the world and more than 75 types of bananas, 125 types of mango and 70 bamboo plants.
10. Miami's cuisine reflects its characteristic cultural diversity. It has restaurants featuring everything from French to Cuban to Ethiopian cuisine.
11. Greater Miami is the only metropolitan area in the United States whose borders encompass two national parks. You can hike through pristine Everglades National Park or ride on glass-bottom boats across Biscayne National Park.
12. Miami Beach pharmacist Benjamin Green invented the first suntan cream in 1944. He accomplished this by cooking cocoa butter in a granite coffee pot on a stove.
13. The Florida Museum of Hispanic and Latin American Art in Coral Gables is the first and only museum in the United States dedicated to the preservation, diffusion and promotion of Hispanic and Latin American Art.
14. There is one Southern Baptist Convention church for every 9,087 metro Miami residents.