

DINING

Florida Keys luxury resort lets you dine in the ocean

BY CONNIE OGLE
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Dining out is back, but COVID-19 is still a thing, and other diners can be annoying.

No worries. Now a luxury resort in the Florida Keys is offering the most socially distanced dinner ever.

At Little Palm Resort and Spa on Little Torch Key — which is the only private island resort in the country and lies between Marathon and Key West on the Overseas Highway — you can book a table for two in the water. No, not on the water. *In* the water.

You're so much in the water your reservation time depends on the tides.

Don't worry, though. It's shallow water. No swimming is necessary, and no sharks will come begging. They can't afford it.

"Dinner on the Sandbar" is a five-course dinner for two from executive chef and Miami native **Daniel Ganem**, who has worked with chefs **Norman van Aken**, **Michael Mina**, **Michael Schwartz** and **Laurent Tourondel** over the course of his career.

The experience includes a perfectly decorated table and delicacies like caviar (of course). You won't have to worry about which shoes to wear, because warm water will tickle your toes while you eat. You can enjoy the sunset and the breeze and the bracing fact that no jerk is firing up a cigar at the table next to you.

The menu includes such courses as foie gras creme brulee with mango, cashews and coconut and duck with Vadouvan, apricot, raisins and truffles.

Of course, all this seclusion and luxury comes at a steep price: dinner for two is \$1,000, and that excludes tax, 20% service charge and any beverages in which you might care to indulge.

You can also choose to dine on the beach or in the dining room.

For reservations, call 888-413-0560 or go to www.littlepalmisland.com

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At Little Palm Resort and Spa on Little Torch Key in the Florida Keys, halfway between Marathon and Key West, diners can eat a luxury meal on a sandbar in the ocean.



Does this Miami restaurant serve some of the best pizza in the country?

FOOD

Miami River spot Crust is named one of best pizza restaurants in U.S.

BY CONNIE OGLE
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Hey, Miami — what's wrong with our pizza?

Maybe nothing. But according to the website **The Daily Meal**, only one Miami pizza restaurant is worthy of **its Best Pizzas in America list**.

That restaurant is Crust, which opened in 2015 on the Miami River and is owned and operated by chef **Klime Kovaceski** and his wife, **Anita**.

"Crust occupies a 2,600-square-foot Art Deco building and former 1950s home by the scenic Miami River in Florida," the website writes. "A look at the menu reveals enticing items including a popular Truffled Pizza with fresh tomato, arugula, shaved Parmesan, lemon juice and white truffle oil; and a Surf and Turf Pizza with shrimp, prosciutto, pepperoni and shaved ham."

For the record, we are all about that white truffle pizza, too.

This isn't the first time Crust has made the news. In 2019, it **was named one of the 25 restaurants worth traveling for by the travel** site Kayak and the reservation-and-review platform OpenTable. It was also named one of the **top 100 restaurants in America for 2019** by OpenTable.

No other pizzas in Florida were named to the Daily Meal list. The No. 1 pizza in the country, according to the website? Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana in New Haven, Connecticut, which is famous for a coal-fired pizza with fresh clams, grated pecorino romano, garlic, oregano and olive oil. There are also locations in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York.

To come up with its list, The Daily Meal focused on smaller restaurants and local favorites, compiling internal expertise, Yelp, other review sites, coverage by local journalists and suggestions from readers.

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Birthdays

Comedian **Norm Crosby** is 93. Baseball Hall of Famer **Gaylord Perry** is 82. Writer-director **Ron Shelton** is 75. Actor **Tommy Lee Jones** is 74. Movie director **Oliver Stone** is 74. Rock musician **Kelly Keagy** (Night Ranger) is 68. Football Hall of Famer **Dan Marino** is 59. Actor **Tom Hardy** is 43. Britain's personality **Heidi Montag** is 34.

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Today in history

In 1776, British forces occupied New York City during the American Revolution.

In 1890, English mystery writer Agatha Christie was born in Torquay.

In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.

In 1940, during the World War II Battle of Britain, the tide turned as the Royal Air Force inflicted heavy losses upon the Luftwaffe.

In 1942, during World War II, the aircraft carrier USS Wasp was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine; the U.S. Navy ended up sinking the badly damaged vessel.

In 1959, Nikita Khrushchev became the first Soviet head of state to visit the United States as he arrived at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington.

In 1963, four Black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)

In 1972, a grand jury in Washington indicted seven men in connection with the Watergate break-in.

In 1982, the first edition of USA Today was published.

In 1985, Nike began selling its "Air Jordan 1" sneaker.

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