

MEDIA CONTACT:
Wit Tuttell
(727) 464-7200
or 800-822-6461

KIDS PROGRAMS IN THE ST. PETERSBURG/CLEARWATER AREA

Area Accommodations Host Clubs and Camps for Younger Visitors to Florida's Beach

There are plenty of activities for all ages on Florida's Beach, the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area, and area accommodations are ready to assist parents in keeping the younger crowd busy with days of fun-filled adventures along the beach.

Here's a round up of some of the activities area accommodations provide for kids:

Tradewinds Beach Resorts and Conference Centers

5500 Gulf Blvd.

St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Contact: Kelly Grass Prieto

Phone: (813) 318-9611

E-mail: kelly@hayworthcreative.com

The Tradewinds Resorts include a year-round children's club called the K.O.N.K. Club (Kids Only No Kidding.) The K.O.N.K. activities team implements a 'Kids in Action' program where 80% of the scheduled activities take place outdoors with kids competing in pool relays, beach Olympics, scavenger hunts, games and miniature golf; while the other 20% of the time is spent making crafts or watching movies in the evenings over pizza. The K.O.N.K. Club staff is able to take children on educational walking tours teaching them about the wildlife, types of vegetation and the importance of beach preservation. The programs vary with the seasons and serve three age groups: ages 3-6, ages 7-12 and ages 13-17.

Programs for teens include snorkeling excursions with certified divers when the activities team charts a boat to one of the area's best snorkeling spots to view ocean life in the Bay area.

Tradewinds' K.O.N.K. Kids Programs include themed events such as:

"Pirates Plunder" – Children get their faces painted and create an eye patch to complete their pirate outfits. Then a treasure hunt ensues throughout the property, which includes a boat ride around the resort's winding waterways. Eventually a treasure chest of goodies is found.

(more)

KIDS PROGRAMS – Page 2

“Mexican Fiesta Night” – Provides the children with exposure to the Mexican culture through creating items such as traditional Mexican instruments. The fiesta ends with the breaking of piñatas.

“Mardi Gras Madness”- Children experience a “kid-friendly” New Orleans that includes beads and parades.

“Kids in the Kitchen” – Every Monday evening, children can create tacos with all the fixings for dinner and a dessert plus they design their own chef’s hat. *Electric Bread for Kids* is another program that combines baking skills with math skills and imagination as kids follow recipes and use bread machines to create culinary treats.

Children can **“Pay What You Weigh”** at Tradewinds’ Bermuda’s Restaurant during breakfast on Saturday from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. and dinner on Monday and Wednesday from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Meals cost a penny per pound for children age 10 and under. Children’s Menus are provided in the variety of restaurants on the Tradewinds properties.

The hotel mascot, Beaker the Toucan, is available to tuck kids in Thursday through Saturday for \$7 and for an additional \$11 the tuck-in visit includes a Beaker plush toucan doll.

Radisson Suite Resort on Sand Key

1201 Gulf Blvd.

Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Contact: Francis Purvey, Manager, Travel Industry Marketing

Phone: (727) 596-1100

E-mail: francis@radissonsandkey.com

A full-time professional recreation staff supervises day and night programs for children age 4-12 in the purpose-built “Lisa’s Klubhouse.” Each morning’s activities are free while afternoon participants incur a nominal fee. Planned activities include: “Create-a-T-Shirt,” “Kokomo-Kids’ Playtime,” “Cartoon Breakfast Party,” “Kids Bingo and Sundaes,” “Create-a-Sun-Visor,” and “Shell Craft.” The resort also offers “Kids Night Out” and “Sand Key Cinema” programs which allow children to enjoy organized nighttime activities while parents can dine on their own.

(more)

Westin Innisbrook Resort
36750 U.S. Highway 19 N.
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
Contact: Cindy Cockburn, PR Director
Phone: (727) 942-5221

Located on 1,000 acres with national and international recognition, the Westin Innisbrook has a year round children's program called Camp Innisbrook for children ages 4-12 that provides half-day, full day and evening programs. Children participate in nature excursions, golf and tennis instructional clinics, swimming, assorted games, arts and crafts and luncheons run by qualified counselors. Registration for the camp is located at the Recreation Center on Monday through Sunday from 7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Select activities are offered for teenagers, including dances and pool parties and teens can take the resort shuttle to any area of the property to participate in a variety of recreational activities including biking, fishing, wildlife preserve excursions or relaxing at one of the six pools.

The property also includes the new Loch Ness Monster Pool and Spa with two winding water slides, a sandy beach, pop up jets and a 15-foot waterfall as well as a full recreation center and a children's play area full of swings, seesaws, slides and a climbing fort.

Also new this year is resort shuttle service to Honeymoon Island, with access to Caladesi Island State Park, consistently ranked as one of the top beaches in the United States.

This summer, the Westin Innisbrook is offering a \$65 per person, per night Hot Fun Family Getaway package. The summer rate is available from May 25, 2000 to September 20, 2000 and is based on double occupancy. Children in the same room are free, and the price also includes the resort service charge. Taxes are not included.

(more)

KIDS PROGRAMS – Page 4

The Hot Fun Family Getaway Package also includes a picnic lunch for the beach or poolside for two adults and two children and complimentary Junior Golf and Junior Tennis activities for the kids. Other coupons available with the Hot Fun Family Getaway Package are a 1 hour complimentary Bike rental, a 25% discount on Camp Innisbrook registration, and half off the price for golf clubs rental.

The Don CeSar Beach Resort & Spa
3400 Gulf Blvd.
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706
Contact: Tina Worthington or Sunny Ricks
Phone: (850) 668-2222
or the Don CeSar at (727) 360-1881

The Kids Ltd. Program at the Don CeSar for ages 4-12 and includes such activities as hermit crab races, kid-crafted shell jewelry and T-shirt decorating. Nighttime pizza parties as well as day adventures to nearby miniature golf courses and museums are also included in the kids programs.

Sheraton Sand Key Resort
1160 Gulf Blvd.
Clearwater Beach, FL 34630
Contact: Lisa Brock
Phone: (813) 961-8388

The Sheraton Sand Key presents its summer Kids Camp for children ages 5-12 and runs from June 21 to September 3, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Activities include: beach combing for shells and sea treasures, games on the beach and in the pool and daily trips to local attractions. Indoor games, movies and arts and crafts are part of the fun during rainy days. Kids receive a T-shirt for participating as well as a lunch of pizza, hot dogs or surprise meals. Registration is located at the pool hut from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Cost for the day camp is \$18 per child for the first day and each additional day is \$15 or \$15 per child for two or more siblings.

(more)

KIDS PROGRAMS – Page 5

Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort
400 Mandalay Ave.
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767
Contact: Nancy Cimney
Phone: (727) 461-3222

The **Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort** recently launched a new children's program called Fun Factory. Staff trained in the arts of "funology" and edu-tainment delight children ages 3-11 from the moment they arrive with Fun Factory check-in, Fun Packs and flexible Fun Factory itineraries. The camp runs Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m, Tues & Thurs from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. and Friday and/or Saturday evening from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Activities include guided nature walks, talent shows, beach games including sandcastle contests and volleyball, and arts and crafts. Cost is \$22 per child per session with free pool activities on Tuesday and Thursday.

Holiday Inn Sunspree, Clearwater Beach
715 South Gulfview Blvd.
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767
Contact: Claudia Huber, Director of Sales
Phone: (727) 447-9566

Children's programs and activities are scheduled for 7 days a week from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Activities include arts and crafts, games and cooking. "Kids' Night Out" on Wednesdays and Saturdays are available for \$15 per child. There is also a gameroom/arcade located in the hotel as well as a playground outside and a children's wading pool.

#####