OS FLORIDA GROUP

OUR FAVORITES · CURATED WEEKLY EVENTS

# Top 10 Things to Do in *Southwest Florida*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27 – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026

## 01 Johnsonville Night Lights in the Garden TOP PICK

The Botanical Garden after dark — thousands of lights threaded through the tropical collections, with live music on select nights. It opens Friday and runs nightly through January 3, and it is the single prettiest evening stroll in Naples this time of year.

**Where:** Naples Botanical Garden, 4820 Bayshore Dr, Naples | **When:** Nov 27 – Jan 3 (dark Dec 24, 25 & 31) | **Tickets:** Members $18–21, non-members $36–42 | naplesgarden.org

## 02 Holiday Nights at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates

The 51st annual edition of Fort Myers' beloved tradition: Edison's and Ford's winter homes dressed for Christmas under this year's "Peace on Earth" theme, with the gardens lit in blue from 5:30 to 9 nightly. Worth the drive up McGregor Boulevard.

**Where:** Edison & Ford Winter Estates, 2350 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers | **When:** Nov 27 – Jan 3, 5:30–9:00 PM (closed Dec 24–25) | **Tickets:** $23 adults, members free

## 03 Naples Art in the Park FREE

One of the oldest outdoor art shows in Florida, back in Cambier Park for its season run: working artists, original work, and an easy Saturday morning in the shade of downtown Naples.

**Where:** Cambier Park, downtown Naples | **When:** Saturday, Nov 28 | **Admission:** Free

## 04 Christmas at Palm Cottage

Naples' oldest house — the 1895 Palm Cottage — decorated for the season by the Naples Historical Society. A small, charming window into how Christmas was celebrated in old Naples.

**Where:** Palm Cottage, 137 12th Ave S, Naples | **When:** Season run opens Tuesday, Dec 1

## 05 Bonita Springs Holiday in the Park

Riverside Park's holiday kickoff — tree lighting, music, and the small-town Christmas feel Bonita does so well, right on the Imperial River.

**Where:** Riverside Park, 10450 Reynolds St, Bonita Springs | **When:** Tuesday, Dec 1

## 06 Festival of the Trees — Marco Island

The Marco Island Center for the Arts fills its galleries with decorated trees and wreaths from local artists and businesses. A festive excuse for a day on the island.

**Where:** Marco Island Center for the Arts, 1010 Winterberry Dr, Marco Island | **When:** Opens Tuesday, Dec 1

## 07 Mercato Tree Lighting & Holiday Cirque FREE

Cirque and dance performances on the Event Lawn, a holiday market along Activity Row, face painting for the kids — and at about 7 PM, the lighting of the largest real Christmas tree in Southwest Florida. The biggest free night out of the week.

**Where:** Mercato Event Lawn, 9132 Strada Place, Naples | **When:** Wednesday, Dec 2, 5:30–8:00 PM | **Admission:** Free | experiencemercato.com

## 08 Daniil Trifonov, Piano Recital

Arguably the most celebrated pianist of his generation, in recital at Artis—Naples. If you go to one concert this month, this is the one — and tickets for a name like this do not last.

**Where:** Artis—Naples, Hayes Hall, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd, Naples | **When:** Wednesday, Dec 2

## 09 CREW Bird Rookery Swamp Guided Walk

A naturalist-led walk on the boardwalk and trails of Bird Rookery Swamp — wading birds, otters if you're lucky, and old-growth cypress ten minutes from town. The wild side of Naples, at its best in the cool season.

**Where:** CREW Bird Rookery Swamp Trail, 1295 Shady Hollow Blvd, Naples | **When:** Wednesday, Dec 2 (recurring in season)

## 10 Worth the Drive: Miami Art Week

Art Basel Miami Beach and Art Miami open this week — hundreds of exhibitors from around the world at the Convention Center alone. Previews run Dec 2–3, public days Dec 4–6. Go early, before the Season crowds discover it.

**Where:** Miami Beach Convention Center, 1901 Convention Center Dr, Miami Beach | **When:** Dec 2–6 | artbasel.com

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