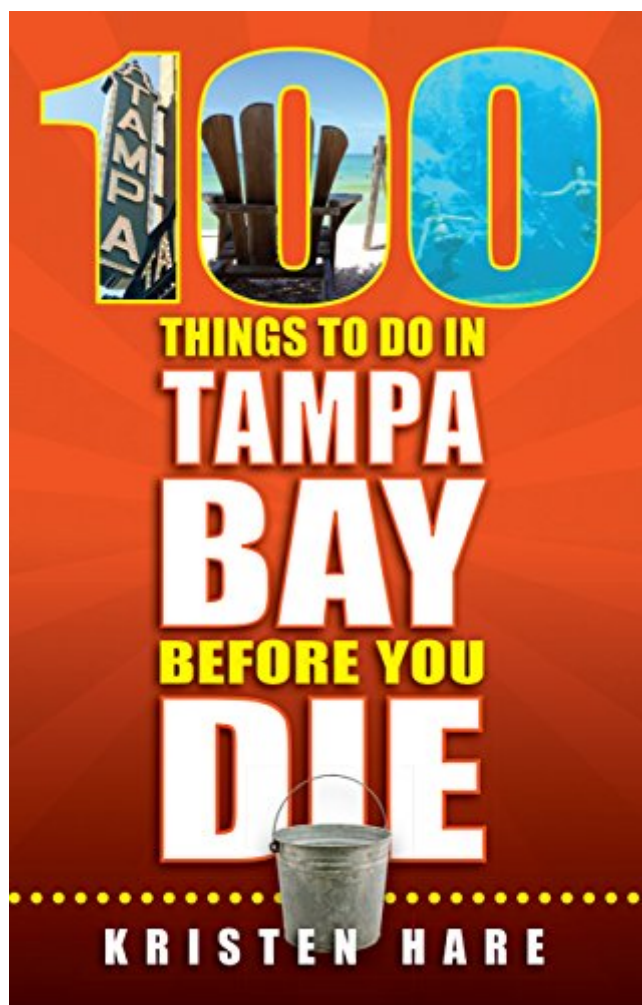




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# 100 Things To Do In Tampa Bay Before You Die



## Synopsis

You don't need a reason to come to Tampa Bay. We have beautiful beaches, aquariums, theme parks, and miles of outdoors to explore. But, as *100 Things to Do in Tampa Bay Before You Die* will show you, there's plenty more to do in Tampa than the obvious. How about stepping into the dark night of Ybor City, discovering the streets and spaces where stories of early immigrants unfold on a walking ghost tour? Get a drink and an ocean view at a hotel that looks like a giant pink birthday cake at the Lowes Don Cesar in St. Pete Beach. Watch the 1940s sponge diving video while taking in Greek culture and some kooky kitsch at Spongeorama in Tarpon Springs. Or travel to the top of the silver onion-shaped minarets at the hotel a railroad baron built at the Plant Museum. One hundred ideas for digging into Tampa Bay await, with insider tips and themed itineraries for those who are ready to do it all. When freelance journalist Kristen Hare learned her family was moving to Tampa Bay, the midwestern girl decided they'd live like resident tourists. This means busy weekends for her husband, 6-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter, but so far, no one has complained.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was so excited to get this book but boy was I disappointed. The things compiled in this book are a replica of 100 things to do in tampa from trip advisor. I was really hoping it was going to actually give new information it did not. Some things I expected to be in there such as MOSI abd Busch Gardens but this book shouldn't have been published. I really wasted my money.

This is a great book! Moved to the Tampa Bay area in 2012 and didn't know about many of the great places and events in this book! Started visiting some the very next day after reading the book. Also great to keep on the coffee table for visitors from out of town.

Has only a half page of info on each thing to do. No maps or photographs. Basic info like hours open is omitted. With just a minimal amount of effort on the author's part, this book could have been much better.

Great price and quick delivery!

Love Florida!

Kristen Hare describes her Peace Corps experience in Guyana as "sweaty, wonderful, sad and hard, and I'd do it again in a second." Kristen married a Guyanese man and, in 2012, they moved to Tampa with their children. Kristen has the soul of a reporter. Presently a reporter for The Poynter Institute, she previously worked as a staff writer with the St. Louis Beacon and as a features writer with the St. Joseph News-Press. Her stories have earned national honors, including the Darrell Sifford Memorial Prize in Journalism from the University of Missouri and first place wins from the Society for Features Journalism. I loved her blog, Hard Corps, a collection of hilarious, horrible Peace Corps stories. So, naturally, Kristen had to explore Florida beyond Disney and the beaches. She collected stories about "the kitchy, the kooky, and the can't miss stops of Tampa Bay the same way she collects sea shells. And she has buckets of those! 100 Things to Do in Tampa Bay is not your ordinary guide book, but describes the historic district of the cigar capital, Ybor City, Latin and European influences on cuisine, the awesome Salvador Dali Museum, the Ringling Museum

with its circus model, professional football and soccer teams that date from the 1970s, and surrounding meccas of St. Petersburg, Clearwater and Sarasota. The book is divided into chapters on "Food and Drink," "Music and Entertainment," "Sports and Recreation," "Culture and History," "Shopping and Fashion," with suggested itineraries and seasonal activities. No tourist should leave home without it. On the other hand, as a long-time resident of the Tampa Bay area, I thought I knew all the great places to see, like the Weeki Wachee Mermaids, and the Greek Spongerama at Tarpon Springs. But I'm embarrassed to admit that I've never been to Busch Gardens or Mahaffey's Bar at Indian Shores, or the Strawberry Festival in Plant City, or Legoland. But you can bet I'm going to explore them, and all my Snowbird friends will be getting copies of Kristen's book for Christmas. I agree with Ernest Hooper, Tampa Bay Times East Hillsborough Bureau Chief, who writes in the Foreword, "Longtime residents might just discover, doggone it, that we're good enough to hold our own with any other city in America."

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