



bonita bonita

The next time you are driving to or from Naples, check out the town of Bonita Springs. It is located between Fort Myers and Naples. And it is booming, bustling and beautiful. ¡Bonita Springs es muy bonita!

Bonita History

Pirate ships and galleons crossed bows in Bonita Springs' waters in the 1700s. At that time, even the earliest Spanish explorers were latecomers to this

coastal land, which had supported ancient tribes of Indians for thousands of years.

Later, religious leader Cyrus Teed established the Koreshan Unity, his New Jerusalem, on the bank of the Estero River, just north of Bonita Springs in the mid-1890s.

And world-famous inventor Thomas Edison traveled from Fort Myers over dirt roads with friend Henry Ford, who owned a lodge in Bonita's woods.

Bonita Background

Today, Bonita Springs has emerged as the premiere destination for people attracted to the Gulf Coast of Florida.

Bonita People

Each year, thousands of visitors are enchanted by the warm, sunny and balmy nights that are so common here.

But Bonita Springs is as diverse as its geography. Neighborhoods are filled with young families and long-time residents who share backyards, parks and afternoon chats.

And don't be surprised by the residents, who still give directions by landmarks, not maps.

Bonita Activities

Southwest Florida has something for people of all ages. The warm, tropical environment allows for year-round

A bird's eye view of gorgeous Bonita Beach (above) and the surrounding area of Bonita Springs.

activities at the world-class beaches, wildlife preserves, championship golf courses (below, left) and exceptional resorts that cater to your every whim.

Bonita's beaches are gorgeous! The boardwalk with tram service to the beach at Carl E. Johnson Park winds through lush vegetation and wildlife habitat, and the boardwalk bridge at Lover's Key crosses waters filled with Florida marine life. Beach enthusiasts will enjoy sunning, swimming, shelling and leisurely strolls. The fishing is fantastic for both saltwater and freshwater. The picnic grounds are pastoral and perfect for family picnics.

Golf is a year-round sport here. And indoor sports enthusiasts are celebrating the arrival of the Florida Everblades, the area's professional hockey team, with a home arena located near the heart of Bonita Springs.

Two nearby performing arts centers with professional orchestras host great entertainment, from Gallagher to Goulet, Broadway to ballet.

Bonita Scenery

But more than anything else, Bonita Springs is well known for its natural beauty. Wildlife, such as bald eagles, sea turtles and manatees, inhabits many of the sanctuaries and parks.

Beyond the neighborhoods and shopping areas, wild orchids and wildlife thrive undisturbed. Flourishing citrus groves and rich farmland touch Bonita's eastern border.

Bonita Climate

Bonita nights are warm and balmy.

Each year, up to 56 inches of rain falls, and much of it arrives during the summer months. But the sun usually emerges an hour or so later, creating fabulous rainbows.

Bonita Lifestyle

The recent opening (August, 1997) of Florida's newest state university, Florida Gulf Coast University, enhances Bonita Springs' exceptional business opportunities.

Bonita Springs is easily accessible to Southwest Florida airport, and its



great location has made it one of the hottest business locations and residential options in Southwest Florida. Bonita has been called the area's epicenter for commercial development.

Bonita is a great place to shop, with its quaint boutiques and plazas, regional malls, and intimate sidewalk shops.

Generally, tourism, construction,

Boating (below, right) is an activity that many Floridians enjoy, and visitors to Bonita Springs are no exception.

retail and agriculture form the base of Bonita's economy. Also, the area's healthy retirement community provides a steady flow of pension and social security dollars. Furthermore, the Southwest Florida Film Commission actively works with the industry, which has already chosen several locations in the area to shoot feature movies, national advertisements and fashion photography.

So, add Bonita to your list of places to visit; you won't be disappointed!

For more information, contact the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce at (800) 226-2943.

