

Southern Living®

Fresh & Easy Ideas

Refresh With Spring Soups

Have a Grill It Your Way Party

Cherry Tomatoes By the Handful

EDITORS' PICKS

The Best Interstate Exits

OUR TEST KITCHENS'

Secret Ingredient

BONUS SECTION
MID-ATLANTIC LIVING: PEOPLE & PLACES

special home section

GOOD DESIGN GOES GREEN

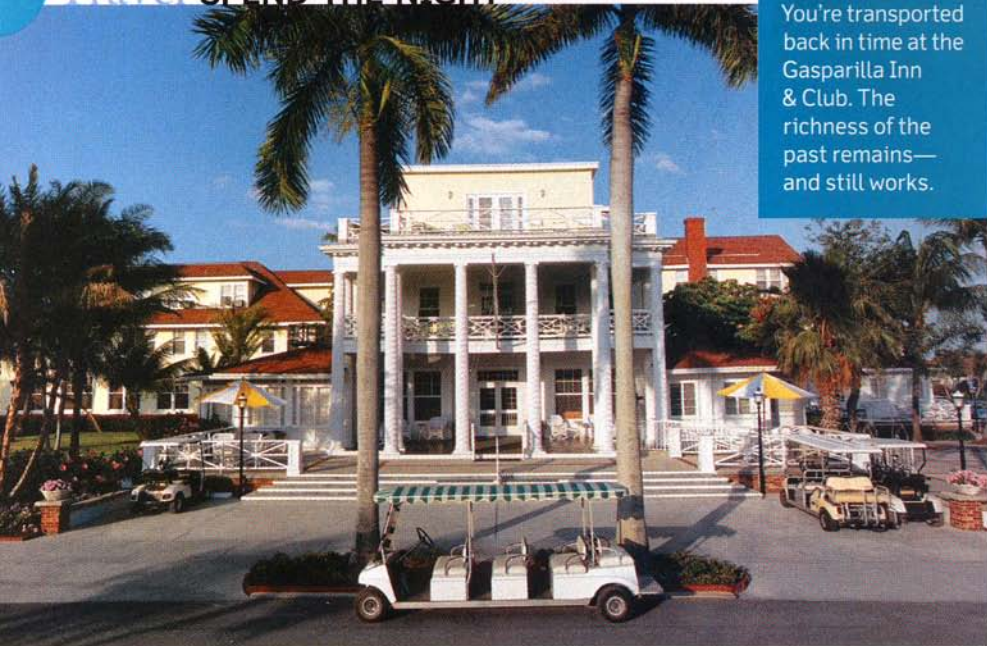
\$4.99US \$6.50CAN



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Travel SPEND THE NIGHT



You're transported back in time at the Gasparilla Inn & Club. The richness of the past remains—and still works.

People around here talk about an old-Florida feeling. Drive up to the Gasparilla Inn & Club in Boca Grande, a property bathed in elegance, and you'll understand. For generations, families have congregated at this historic 1913 resort for the youth programs and country club-style atmosphere.

Bonus: Make reservations this month, during the off-season, to enjoy all the amenities for a fraction of the price.

Stretch Out and Relax Bringing a bunch? Rent one of the 20 multibedroom cottages, some fully outfitted with kitchens, surrounding the main inn. If you're just getting away—something a little more romantic—reserve a room or suite in the inn. We were wonderfully impressed

A Classic at the Right Time

Book your trip now to this off-season family resort getaway. By **Tanner C. Latham**

at how bright the rooms are, especially when the morning light comes streaming through the windows. Refreshing.

Beach Club Bound Large palm trees shade the edges of the family pool at the inn's private Beach Club. Of course, your stay entitles you to temporary membership (including access to the pool, full-service spa, fitness room, and tennis courts).

After a day in the sun, stick around for Sunset at the Beach, tapas-style dining around an open fire pit. Settle the kids in around the fire while you enjoy a fruity cocktail as the sun drops into the Gulf.

Dining Details Chef James Dyer presents traditional Continental cuisine with a focus on fresh, local fish on his nightly menu. Place your dessert order early for the raspberry soufflé. During the spring, guys only need a collared shirt and slacks at dinner; ladies do well with casual dresses.

Editor's tip: Breakfast is delicious, but be aware that the window is a bit skinny

(7:30-9:30 a.m. Monday-Saturday and 7:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday). ●

Gasparilla Inn & Club: 500 Palm Avenue, Boca Grande, FL 33921; www.gasparilla.inn.com or 1-800-996-1913. **Rates:** European Plan (no meals included)—double occupancy starts at \$236 per night. Modified American Plan (includes breakfast and dinner)—double occupancy starts at \$346. **Editor's tip:** In lieu of tipping, there's an 11% service charge added to your bill.

Famous Guests

Stay at the Gasparilla Inn, and you'll join a list of distinguished guests who've enjoyed the inn through the years, including the following.

- J.P. Morgan
- John Singer Sargent
- Katharine Hepburn
- Henry Ford
- Thomas Edison
- George H.W. Bush and family



Children can have their fun at the pool at Gasparilla Inn & Club, while adults can enjoy the resort's spa amenities, such as Gulf-side massages.