

Hidden Gem: FINDING CRANE'S BEACH HOUSE IN DELRAY BEACH

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Many people travel long distances looking for the perfect getaway. I found it in my backyard—well, in Delray Beach. It is only 23 minutes from West Palm Beach by car, so it's close enough.

Crane's Beach House & Luxury Villas is a delightful, tastefully luxurious boutique hotel in Delray that has preserved the intimacy of the small coastal town motel it once was. Located in the heart of Delray Beach, only a block from where the famous Atlantic Avenue meets the Atlantic Ocean, this charming beach house—comprised of 28 one-bedroom apartments and villas—is a hidden gem and a study of quiet chic elegance and idyllic oasis safe from anything remotely flashy or tacky.

Upon entering the courtyard, a wooden sign above reads “No worries” amidst the Florida foliage, including sea grapes. And I did exactly that.



Relaxation and luxury go hand in hand at Crane's Beach House in Delray Beach. Guests can soak up the sun and enjoy the palm tree-lined pools or retreat to their private villa, complete with a fully equipped kitchen and a serene patio. It is the perfect escape for those seeking both comfort and adventure.



My garden apartment faced one of two saltwater pools, making it easy to follow that path each day of my three-day stay. With free Wi-Fi, a terrace, and a full kitchen, living room, and dining room, Crane's Beach House's one-bedroom, one-bath apartment is the ideal home away from home.

The casual yet elegant coastal style, designed like a furnished apartment, sets the tone. The beach plays center stage, and the bedroom boasts nice cotton sheets, vintage lamps, and ceiling fans. The kitchen has all the dining essentials, including plates, utensils, glasses, and cups. A coffee pot, coffee, snacks, and a refrigerator stocked with water, ice cream, and beer are enough to get your party started, but if you need to run for more supplies, plenty of stores are nearby.

The pool area is an oasis and a guest hangout. My party took advantage of its saltwater pool, which is gentle on the skin and the eyes. We only had to pack a little, and certainly not beach towels or chairs, as the closets are stacked with them.

The property is just around the corner from Atlantic Avenue, the most famous street in Delray. A leisurely walk can be an exhilarating Florida afternoon adventure. This well-known city is considered one of the best beach towns in America. You will find ice cream parlors, delis, coffee shops, boutiques, art galleries, bars, and award-winning restaurants.

For entertainment, you can't beat Delray Beach — an intimate coastal town with a big-city personality, eclectic culture, and nightlife.

ANYTHING GOES! Dining at DADA

DADA. If you know the meaning behind the name, then you know the meaning behind this restaurant.

absurd, Dada takes an “anything goes” approach to art, and that's what the ambiance at this hip Delray Beach restaurant is like.

The food captivates the senses, as does the “anything goes” attitude infused in the decor and art selections.

Like the Dada movement, which was not derived from one culture but a mix of cultures, the eclectic



Dada is an artistic term that refers to a movement of art founded by writer Hugo Ball in 1916 in a satirical nightclub in Zurich, the Cabaret Voltaire, and a magazine that would bear the same name. Based on satire, whimsy, and the

DADA's servers will guide you through a culinary journey, where creativity meets refreshment and fun. Indulge in their Jalapeno-Agave Glazed Salmon and pair it with the signature Dada cocktails for the ultimate dining experience.

art movement is reflected in the dishes at DADA, particularly in the DADA Date is one of their most popular appetizers.

This dish includes Black Pepper Bacon, Goat Cheese, Spanish Chorizo, Mango Salsa, Marcona Almonds, and Sherry Gastrique. The flavors burst in your mouth from the first bite. The dates are a blended taste of the most delicious Spanish, Mediterranean, and Italian flavors.

The Entrees

The Braised Short Ribs served with baby green beans, mashed potatoes, red wine gravy, and smoked tomato jam are highly recommended and delicious. The jumbo lump crab cakes are a true culinary masterpiece. The Key lime mustard aioli and grilled corn salsa complement the crab cakes' flavor perfectly, creating a dish that is both satisfying and inspiring. I chose the risotto, which was made to perfection, as my side.

The Dessert

DADA flourishes in its dessert menu. I tried the Warm Banana Bread. As the word DADA professes, it is ordinary and almost homemade in production. However, as a dessert, it is an explosion of unique flavors.

The Ambiance

DADA's atmosphere attracts you and makes you come back. Depending on what room you're

seated in, it has a different vibe, and that's due to the art. The colors on the wall, the art on the wall, and even the ceiling lights envelop you and direct the kind of food you want to try. The room that we received was dark and vibey—very artistic and broody. The room behind us was lit and adorned with colorful pastels, creating a different environment.

The quality of the food is excellent. The service is friendly and quirky, with an edge. All of it makes you want to go back to try other things.

Deck 84

Best Casual Dining with a View
While elegant dining is always a good option, nothing compares to casual dining on the waterfront.

You can fully appreciate the breathtaking scenery and serenity once you sit and enjoy a delicious frozen Piña Colada while watching bikers, walkers, and boats pass by from Deck 84. Always packed on weekend afternoons, the food here is simply delicious!

On this weekend getaway, we walked to Deck 84 on a beautiful Saturday morning to try their brunch menu.



Deck 84 is a waterfront restaurant located in downtown Delray Beach, Florida. This casual dining spot is ideal for those who enjoy drinks, sushi, seafood, and live music while enjoying the stunning waterfront views. The restaurant serves American cuisine and features views of the Intracoastal Waterway, a lively bar, outdoor seating, and weekend brunch.



Deck 84, situated at 840 E Atlantic Ave, offers exquisite lunch, brunch, sushi, seafood, and dinner menus, including a must-try Baja Shrimp Tacos.

My Baja Shrimp Tacos were served with cilantro-lime coleslaw, house-pickled jalapeño, crema, and charred tomato salsa. Others in my party had the Pan-Roasted Salmon served with sautéed broccolini. Though, the surprise of the day was the Hawaiian Chicken Fried Rice.

But the aahs and oohs came shortly after Deck 84's General Manager, Lauren Choquette, had us try their Warm Butter Cake for Two. Served with raspberry sauce, Nutella dip, caramel, whipped cream, and fresh berries, this decadent dessert puts the icing on the cake.

Deck 84 is the perfect place to stop, relax, and enjoy a casual meal while feasting your eyes on Delray

Beach's waterfront. While people and boat watching isn't on the menu, it's certainly a main course at this eatery.

Ciao, CAMPI!

Warm & Welcoming, Divine Dining Nothing says comfort, warmth, and good times like settling down for delicious Italian cuisine in a town screaming, "Ciao!" Dinner time is perfect for visiting CAMPI Italian Restaurant, one of Delray Beach's most popular dining destinations.

CAMPI is the newest Italian spot downtown. It is a must-have for any Italian food lover's party, brimming with warm and welcoming Italian style, featuring delicious pasta dishes and cheeses.

From fabulous age-old Italian favorites with an upscale twist, like the in-house-made fresh pasta dishes and flambéed Fiorentina steaks, to a marvelous selection of wines, cocktails, and desserts, everything here transcends to experience the finest Italian cuisine and hospitality in town. But don't let the antipasti [appetizers] fill you up at CAMPI.

CAMPI is an Upper East Side-inspired gem reminiscent of New York City's iconic 40-year-old Campagnola restaurant. It offers a "casual yet swanky experience that transports diners to an Italian voyage."

We started the night on a high note, ordering the house



At CAMPI, the lobster ravioli with sherry, peas, and Pullman croutons is a perfect example of the promised Italian taste and ambiance, which is nothing short of bellissimo.

champagne. The classic red blend was smooth and paired perfectly with the Fritto Misto antipasti—a fabulous assortment of calamari, shrimp, and banana peppers immersed in arrabbiata sauce. A second appetizer—burrata Caprese—was a hit!

What followed was what I would call cucina perfetta. No translation is needed. The Short Rib Agnolotti I had was served with crispy garlic and fresh horseradish in a red wine sauce, and it was magnificent! The other guests at my table ordered the Angry Lobster Ravioli and the Linguine & Clams “Oreganata.” They were equally impressed by the combination of delicious flavors.

And then came the desserts. A mouth-watering pumpkin cheesecake that was the perfect ending to the night.

Returning Home

Finding Crane’s Beach House was a good surprise. It is cozy, shabby chic, and pops! And most importantly, it looks to accommodate all your needs.

Shortly before I turned in the keys to Crane’s Beach House’s concierge, I had an audacious idea to conclude this fabulous beach getaway the right way. We drove along A1A all the way home, enjoying the stunning views of the Atlantic coast.

For further travel information

Crane’s Beach House Boutique
Hotel & Luxury Villas:

cranesbeachhouse.com

DADA: sub-culture.org

Deck 84: deck84.com

CAMPI: campidelray.com