



FROM TOP  
Casa Faena; HFM's  
Dawn Emery; a  
bedroom at The  
Betsy; the Design  
District's Dior store

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**DREAM DESTINATION**  
**MIAMI**

*With its palm trees, beaches, designer shopping and over-the-top nightlife, Miami has become Florida's hedonistic heartland*

**STAY** Film director Baz Luhrmann was an interior designer on Faena Hotel Miami Beach, and "edited the architecture", saying, "This wall doesn't belong, I need to see the ocean." The nearby Casa Faena has decor inspired by 1900s Spain, and even the lift is Insta-worthy, with an art installation. The Betsy on Ocean Drive has a commitment to the arts, running exhibitions, literature and music events. It's home to Miami's only Writer's Room, where writers come to seek inspiration. **EXPLORE** Miami has the highest concentration of art deco buildings in the world – take a tour with the Miami Design Preservation League on Ocean Drive. On the same street is The Versace Mansion (officially The Villa, Casa Casuarina). Designer Gianni embarked on a lavish redecoration when he bought the property in 1992 (think a swimming pool lined with 24-carat gold mosaics). Following his untimely death outside the mansion in 1997, it's now the third most photographed house in the US, after the White House and Graceland. Meanwhile, Wynwood Walls boasts one of the world's greatest collections of

street art. Ryan the Wheelbarrow (a real person and graffiti artist) leads tours at Miami's Best Graffiti Guide. **SHOP** The Design District has attracted big names including Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Tom Ford and Givenchy. The stores' on-point designs make as much of a statement as the clothes – Dior's exterior has curved white panels, resembling dress pleats. The four-storey Louis Vuitton boutique's aluminium panels are reminiscent of its chequerboard Damier pattern. They even light up! **EAT** Lincoln Road is lined with shops and restaurants, including our favourite, Sushi Samba. Or, escape Miami for lunch at Cantina Beach at the Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne, situated on what has been voted one of America's best beaches. Its guacamole is the best we've tried. They also have South Florida's largest tequila selection. **PRICES & FLIGHTS** Faena Hotel Miami Beach from £488 per room; Casa Faena from £280 per room (faena.com). The Betsy from around £255 (thebetsyhotel.com). Fly there with Virgin Atlantic from £574 (virginatlantic.com).



TOP TO BOTTOM  
A boombox mural in  
Wynwood; the Kenneth  
Cole store on South  
Beach; even the lifeguard  
huts look cool in Miami

TRAVEL BLOG SPOT ✈️



**WHERE'S MOLLIE?**  
@molliebylett

Globetrotter Mollie Bylett gives an insight into her light and fun-filled world through smiley pictures of the sights she sees and activities she undertakes. Her enthusiasm is contagious – and of course, the question we're always asking is, "Where's Mollie?"

WORDS: DAWN EMERY PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, ROBIN HILL