FOUR PERFECT DAYS WITH THE FAMILY AT THE RITZ-CARLTON, BAL HARBOUR
Concierge tips for a perfectly memorable family stay in our coastal sanctuary

DAY 1

♦ Begin your first day in paradise with breakfast on the terrace of Artisan Beach House, overlooking the waters surrounding the hotel.

♦ Next, spend the day exploring the colors and cultures of Miami. Visit the Wynwood neighborhood and wander among the Wynwood Walls, a colorful outdoor museum showcasing large-scale works by some of the world’s best known street artists. The area is full of distinct artwork—let your little ones choose their favorites and pose for a family selfie! Enjoy lunch at Wynwood Kitchen & Bar and sit outside to be immersed in the artwork as you eat.

♦ When you’ve gotten in your share of street art, take the short walk through the neighborhood to FunDimension for all a child could ever want for a fun-filled afternoon: arcade, indoor playground, laser tag, a theater and more.

♦ Then, make the quick four-mile drive to visit Little Havana and explore the sights, sounds and tastes of Miami’s Cuban neighborhood. Stop for ice cream at Azucar, home of the Abuela Maria (a vanilla base flecked with guava paste, cream cheese and Maria cookies—a tribute to a favorite Cuban afternoon snack.) Kids will love the wide variety of kid-friendly flavors like roasted marshmallow s’mores, birthday cake and ‘cookie monster.’

♦ If you’re enjoying Miami’s Cuban side and getting hungry for dinner, visit La Carreta for “abuela-style” Cuban cooking. This Miami original was born out of a growing demand for Cuban home cooking following the large number of Cubans who moved to Miami in the 1960s and 1970s. They also offer a kids’ menu with smaller portions of Cuban favorites as well as American classics.
DAY 2

♦ Enjoy breakfast in your room or suite (kids will devour the decadent Nutella French toast!) and begin the day with a family bike ride along the Bal Harbour beach path on a Ritz-Carlton cruiser.

♦ Take the remainder of the day to relax in the coastal sanctuary of The Ritz-Carlton, Bal Harbour. Reserve a luxury cabana with a private hot tub, seating in the sun and shade, a TV and personal concierge. Order lunch from the new menu at Water’s Edge, which also features a kids’ menu and unique cocktails for the adults (you can’t go wrong with the Ginger Berry Mojito or refreshing Cucumber Smash.) If you want to stretch your legs, a long walk along Bal Harbour Beach will add to your relaxation. This is a great time for a parent to sneak off for a massage, facial or body treatment at Exhale Spa, located inside the hotel. If it’s a Sunday, be sure to check out the poolside mercadito, which allows guests to create their own fresh juice concoctions. It’s always a hit with the kids!

♦ For dinner, request use of the complimentary house car for the five-minute drive to the Bal Harbour Shops, home to some of Miami’s best dining in addition to luxury shopping. All of the restaurants there are great, but Le Zoo (French bistro cuisine) and Carpaccio (a Miami Italian favorite) are best for younger diners.

DAY 3

♦ After a day of relaxing, today is meant to get out and explore! After breakfast, visit Oleta River State Park—Florida’s largest urban park. Just 10 minutes from the hotel, the park is a haven for mountain bikers, paddlers, anglers, swimmers and picnicking families. Choose your activity—we recommend renting canoes or kayaks and paddling through the calm waters, mangroves and sandy beaches of Biscayne Bay. Rentals are available at the park.

♦ Head back to the resort for a little more pool and beach time, or if you’re still in the mood for exploration, take the 20-minute drive to South Beach to take in the colorful art deco architecture along Ocean Drive. Be sure to get to the beach and visit the unique and artistic lifeguard stands along South Beach for a family photo opp!

♦ After a busy day, choose to dine on the terrace at Artisan Beach House, or order in room dining to your suite or room and curl up for an evening of Netflix with the family.
DAY 4

♦ Today you’ll take advantage of the Bal Harbour Museum Access Pass to gain complimentary admission to some of Miami’s best museums and finest private collections. Opportunities for exploration and discovery abound at the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science. Gaze into outer space at the 250-seat Frost Planetarium (if you happen to visit on the first and third Friday of the month, don’t miss the laser light and music show!) Next, visit the aquarium for a trip through the waters of South Florida, home to rays, hammerhead sharks and fish of all kinds that swim beneath the surface.

♦ If your little ones appreciate the arts, hop next door to the Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) to marvel at the architecture and take in the unique contemporary art. A waterfront lunch at Verde will be in order to fuel up for the remainder of the day. And don’t miss a visit to the museum shop, one of our favorites for unique Miami souvenirs! If the kids need to get out some energy, leave the museums and walk through Museum Park, a 30-acre urban park home to a bay walk and promenade.

♦ If you have the energy for one more museum, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens was built as an elaborate dream home in the 1910s and is now a national historic landmark and museum. The museum features the mansion (with original furnishings,) 10 acres of European-inspired formal gardens and 25 acres of primary growth forests. Kids will love the labyrinth!

♦ If you’re in the mood to explore one more Miami neighborhood, head a bit further south to stroll the quaint, historic streets of Coconut Grove, brimming with outdoor cafés, charming bistros and unique shopping, and grab dinner at a restaurant that speaks to you. If you’re exhausted from your day of museum hopping, head back to Bal Harbour to enjoy a leisurely dinner at Artisan Beach House and toast to your family and an amazing Miami vacation!
REFERENCES

The Wynwood Walls | Website
2520 NW Second Avenue, Miami, FL 33127

Wynwood Kitchen & Bar | Website
2550 NW Second Avenue, Miami, FL 33127; 305-722-8959

FunDimension Miami | Website
2129 NW 1st Ct, Miami, FL 33127; 786-360-1766

Azucar Ice Cream Company | Website
1503 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL 33135; 305-381-0369

La Carreta | Website
3632 SW 8th St, Miami, FL 33135; 305-444-7501

Le Zoo | Website
9700 Collins Ave, Bal Harbour, FL 33154; 305-602-9663

Carpaccio | Website
9700 Collins Ave, Bal Harbour, FL 305-867-7777

Oleta River State Park | Website
3400 NE 163rd St. North Miami Beach, FL 33160

Miami Art Deco District
1001 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139

Patricia & Philip Frost Museum of Science | Website
1101 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33132; 305-434-9600

Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM) | Website
1103 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL 33132; 305-375-3000

Vizcaya Museum & Gardens | Website
3251 S Miami Avenue, Miami FL 33129; 305-250-9133