



EXPLORE TAMPA BAY

A TASTE OF THE TOWN

GO ON A FLAVOR-FILLED ADVENTURE WITH TAMPA BAY FOOD TOURS

By Heather Turk

Sampling a city's signature cuisine has become an important part of many people's vacation itineraries. However, there are only so many hours in a day to check out a city's restaurant scene — and only so much a person can eat throughout the day. Luckily, Allegiant passengers visiting the Tampa Bay area can get a taste of what its culinary scene has to offer thanks to Tampa Bay Food Tours.

The idea of Lead Taste Ambassador Kimberly McAvoy, Tampa Bay Food Tours began in 2017 after McAvoy saw the need for a high-quality walking food tour in the area.

"Walking food tours are a unique and fun way to explore and learn more about the neighborhood or town you are visiting while tasting the local cuisine," McAvoy told *Sunseeker*. "They have become a vital component of the tourism experience and can be found in almost any major city or town around the world. I take a food tour in any area I visit."

Offering a variety of weekly tours led by McAvoy or one of three other local guides, Tampa Bay Food Tours takes guests on a flavor-filled journey. Each three-hour tour

showcases various locations in a city — Tampa, Dunedin or St. Pete — and has its own unique personality. Tours are limited to just 12 people, and guests will visit up to five tasting locations on each tour.

While the places guests visit may vary, McAvoy handpicked each location herself to showcase the best local flavors in each destination. Diners may get to savor a Hogfish Slider from Hog Island Fish Camp on the Dunedin Food Tour, the Lobster Mac & Cheese at River's Edge on the Tampa Riverwalk Dine & Wine Tour or champagne and caviar at Flute & Dram on the St. Pete Beach Drive Dine & Wine Tour. For guests with dietary restrictions, menu substitutions can easily be made with advance notice.

Additional walking tours are available highlighting the flavors of downtown Tampa, downtown St. Pete and Dunedin's craft beer scene. Prices average around \$75 per person, which includes all food and beverage samplings. Private tours for groups of 10 or more people are also available. Part of the fun of Tampa Bay Food Tours, however, is meeting fellow "taste buds." tampabayfoodtours.com

Photos courtesy of Tampa Bay Food Tours



Each tour satisfies guests' hunger to learn more about the area



Relish a variety of delectable dishes with Tampa Bay Food Tours