

Hello Beach Bums!

Happy New Year! We are ready to open registration for our February trip. Unfortunately due to a closed beach in Tarpon Springs we will have to visit that area another time. February is a bit chilly to get in the water anyways so our Trip Leaders have chosen an adventure in St. Petersburg, FL to enjoy the pier, restaurants, museums, glass blowers and more. It's more than just a PIER. It's an exPIERience. Registration is now OPEN. Please sign up by January 11th, 2025. Checks need to be made payable to NBBC and mailed to the trip leader noted below.

St Petersburg pier is a landmark extending into Tampa Bay from downtown St. Petersburg. <https://stpetepier.org/>. Located on the city's picturesque waterfront, it is 26 beautiful acres combining peaceful blue water of Tampa Bay with the vibrant greenery of downtown St. Petersburg parks. Stroll, dine, drink, shop, explore the museums or take a dolphin boat ride; all in walking distance or trolley ride from the pier. Find out more about this exciting day trip adventure by clicking on this link about visiting St. Petersburg <https://www.stpete.org/visitors/index.php> and check out the downtown St. Petersburg trolley and map to get around on this link <https://www.discoverdowntown.com/default.aspx?redirect=/interactiveMap/interactiveMap.aspx%3Fnp%3D5%26nc%3D20%26do%3D2%26dr%3D1>  
We have many more links below to help you plan.

As with all NBBC trips the price includes bus transportation, parking, tolls and driver gratuity, and all trips are NON-refundable. You are on your own for the day to explore, just be back to the bus on time to get home.

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NBBC (NORTHERN BEACH BUMS CLUB).**

PRINT your Trip Registration Form from our website; PLEASE MAIL TO Cheryl McLean this month, address below. A registration form can be found on our website, [Northernbeachbums.org](https://northernbeachbums.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2025Trip-Registration.pdf),  
<https://northernbeachbums.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2025Trip-Registration.pdf>

**Mail your check (payable to NBBC) and registration form to**

Cheryl McLean  
8030 S.E. 167<sup>th</sup> Hilltop Loop  
The Villages, FL 32162

**TRIP DESCRIPTION:**

Trip leaders: Cheryl McLean & Pie Piehuta

**WHEN:** Wednesday February 12th, 2025

**WHERE:** St Petersburg, FL

**BUS BOARDING:** 9:30 am at Lowe's Parking Lot. Hwy 441, behind the Cracker Barrel Restaurant

**ARRIVE:** 11:45 am

**RE-BOARD BUS TO TV:** 6:00 pm

**ARRIVE IN TV:** APPROXIMATELY 8:30 pm

**Cost:** \$30.00 pp (includes bus transportation and driver gratuity)

**All NBBC trips are Non-refundable; participate at your own risk.**

Payment and your Trip Registration form must be received by January 11th, 2025.

**If needed, seats will be distributed by lottery.** Notice of bus assignments will be provided by February 1st. If you are not chosen, we will contact you. If you want to ride with a spouse or a bus partner, please sign up together **with one check. Only 2 members can sign up (enter lottery) together.** If you want to request seats on the same bus as other members, make sure those members are going, and make sure those member(s) also place your name on their registration form. **Read the trip registrations form and follow the instructions.** No guarantee can be given that we will match up members on the bus, but we do our best.

### **TRIP INFO:**

Our adventure will begin as our buses drop us off near St. Pete Pier at South Staub Park. The pier is a landmark pleasure pier extending into Tampa Bay from downtown St. Petersburg. <https://stpetepier.org/>. It's more than just a PIER. It's and exPIERience. Located on the city's picturesque waterfront. Its 26 beautiful acres combining peaceful blue water of Tampa Bay with the vibrant greenery of down town St. Petersburg parks. Stroll, dine, drink, shop, explore the museums or take a boat ride; all in walking distance or trolley ride from the pier. Last time we were at the pier in 2023 they even had a shuttle to take you to then of the pier. We will check before our trip to find out if that service is still available. There is some walking even with the trolleys pick up directly across the street from where buses normally drop off, be prepared.

Take a stroll thru Staub Park or explore the pier <https://stpetepier.org/explore/> or grab some drinks and food at Spa Beach Bistro, Doc Fords Rum Bar & Grille, Pier Teak, Driftwood, Care Fresco's, or Waterfront Bistro. You can visit St. Petersburg Museum of History, The Museum of Fine Arts in north Straub Park, or located on the over-water walkway approaching the St. Pete Pier is the Discovery Center. 2,000 sf of exhibits that tell the story of Tampa Bay's unique ecosystem. Interactive Exhibits, free and affordable daily programs are available. <https://www.tbwdiscoverycenter.org/eco-tours>. Take a ride on the Trolly's available in St. Petersburg to shops, galleries, museums, and restaurants. Trolly's run every 20-30 minutes, so planning is essential. The Central

Ave Trolley departs from the Pier where we will be dropped off and you can ride for as little as 50 cents within the Grand Central Station area or beyond for \$2.25 (or Seniors with ID get half off at \$1.10) <https://www.psta.net/media/1006/central-avenue-trolley.pdf> all the way to Passe-a-Grille beach on the beautiful waters of the Gulf Coast. Enjoy lunch on the beach, rent a chair or take a stroll.

<http://www.discoverdowntown.com/default.aspx?redirect=/contentManaged/gettingAround/03-CentralAveTrolley/StPetersburg-Central-Avenue-Trolley.aspx>

Central Avenue is the heart of St. Petersburg and we recommend riding the Central Ave Trolley to visit the amazing art glass galleries and museums on what's known as Florida's glass coast. The Chihuly Collection by artist Dale Chihuly is a special treat and located across from the Morean Arts Center, <https://moreanartscenter.org/>, The Chihuly ticket price also includes admission to the Morean Glass Studio and Hot Shop glass blowing demonstration. If you plan to visit this exhibit, it is strongly suggested that you order your ticket online. The Chihuly will be take about 45 minutes and the Hot shop will be about 30-45 minutes depending on your interests.

The Dali Museum, <https://thedali.org/>, you will see the unparalleled works of renowned artist Salvador Dali. It has been the unofficial heart of fine arts in the Tampa Bay Area since it's opening in 1982. Advanced ticket purchase is recommended and include access to all galleries. It will take about 2 hours and the self guided tour is recommended.

The Imagine Museum <https://www.imaginemuseum.com> showcases a spectacular collection of glass art around the world both American contemporary and International artists. The museum suggest to allow 2 hours to tour depending your interest and appreciation for glass art.

If you are interested in shopping you may want to visit the mall at Sundial, <https://sundialstpete.com/>, Just steps away from the waterfront. It features a nearly 3 story working Sundial and fountain. It offers dining options as well. Also you can just stroll along Central Ave and visit it's many boutiques, restaurants and bars <https://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com/central-ave>

[Please note some of these sites may have been affected from the hurricanes and have changed availability since our last visit. Please check the websites before planning.](#)

See you all soon  
Kathy Eastman - President  
Northern Beach Bums Club (NBBC)