

## **VISITOR INFORMATION MAPS SAFETY TIPS:**

### **Welcome to Greater Miami and the Beaches**

To make your stay and driving easy, please follow the routes outlined on this map.

Driving in Greater Miami and the Beaches can be easy if you take the time to read and follow the instructions found on this tourist route map. Identified for your convenience are expressways and major avenues and streets (marked in orange) that are popular routes to and from Miami International Airport, as well as municipalities, hotel areas and attractions.

### **E. Safety Tips**

Safety Tips will be published and revised as necessary after review by the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Miami-Dade Police Director, and shall be printed in English, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese and Italian, as well as other languages as required by the County. The following introduction and Safety Tips are to be included in no less than 10 point type size, either on the Map or as part of a separate brochure, which must simultaneously accompany the Map when distributed.

The Safety Tips shall read:

### **IMPORTANT VISITOR INFORMATION AND TIPS**

#### **Welcome to Greater Miami and the Beaches**

As with any major metropolitan area throughout the world, there are standard precautions that can be taken to ensure a pleasant and safe stay. Miami-Dade County laws require: a) your rental car agency to make this Visitor Information Map and Safety Tips available to you; b) your rental car to have no less than one-half tank of gas at the time you rent it; c) your rental car must be free of stickers, advertisements, or other insignias that identify your vehicle as a rental car; and d) your rental car agency must have a child restraint seat for rent if you need one.

#### **SunPass Prepaid Toll Program:**

This automated program allows drivers to go through designated lanes at toll plazas rather than stopping to pay cash. The cost is typically 25 cents less than cash lanes. Ask your rental car agent about Etoil®, PlatePass® and Pass24®. For a daily fee plus the cost of actual toll usage, these programs enable rental car drivers to use SunPass lanes. Or, call 888-865-5352 for a list of locations where you can purchase a SunPass transponder.

The following safety tips should be carefully observed:

#### **Vehicle Safety:**

1. Review Map(s) and other visitor information before leaving rental car area or elsewhere.
2. If unsure of how to reach a destination, ask for directions prior to leaving your point of departure, be that a hotel, attraction, restaurant, shopping mall or place of business. **Do not ask for casual street corner directions.**
3. **Do not exit expressways to avoid tolls.** Change is available, if necessary, from a Toll Receipt and Change Booth. If you have questions, speak to a toll booth attendant.
4. If you are told by a passing motorist that something is wrong with your vehicle -- or if someone bumps you from behind -- **do not stop.** Drive to the nearest well-lit public area and call for assistance (police emergencies -- dial 911).
5. Always keep doors locked and windows up when driving or parked. Place valuables in the trunk or glove compartment prior to reaching your destination or stopping elsewhere.
6. Learn the signals of the emergency vehicles (police lights are blue or red). Do not stop for flashing headlights alone.
7. In the event that you are approached by a stranger who demands your valuables, do not resist. Your personal safety is more important than your belongings.
8. Always use seat belts. It is the law in Florida and may save your life in the event of an accident. Follow State Laws pertaining to age restrictions for the use of child safety restraints. (Children age 3 years old require a separate carrier must be used or a vehicle manufacturer's integrated child seat. Children 4 – 5 years old may use a separate carrier, integrated child seat, or a seat belt.)
9. Do not drink alcoholic beverages and drive. Open alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the vehicle.
10. Do not give strangers a ride under any circumstances. Always be aware of the pedestrian traffic around your vehicle.
11. Always park in well-lit areas and never leave your vehicle unattended with the motor running.
12. Place all handbags, laptop computers and any other valuable items that must be in the passenger compartments on the floor board and not visible from outside when stopped.
13. Do not leave Global Position Satellite (GPS) units or brackets on the windshield or inside the passenger compartment when the vehicle is unattended. Place the unit in the trunk prior to parking the vehicle.

14. If car trouble is experienced on a major thoroughfare, lock the doors, turn on flashers and await the arrival of a law enforcement officer or a Road Ranger Service Truck. If someone offers assistance, request that they call 911.
15. Do not stop to assist someone with car trouble. Go to the nearest well-lit public area and call for assistance (police emergencies -- dial 911).
16. When you are in the rental car area adjacent to the Airport and need assistance, locate a designated telephone and dial \*81. The call is free.

**Personal Safety:**

1. Do not leave bags, briefcases, purses or luggage unattended.
2. Do not ever leave children unattended anywhere.
3. Be aware of your surroundings. Have car keys in your hand and check the surrounding areas before entering.
4. Avoid carrying large sums of cash. Consider using traveler's checks or credit cards. Carry money and identification separately. If money is lost or stolen, you will still have your driver's license and passport for identification purposes.
5. Avoid using an automated teller machine (ATM) during the evening hours or at isolated locations. If needed, locate a well-lit and highly visible area and do not count the currency until after leaving the location.
6. Keep hotel and balcony room doors locked.
7. All members of your party should carry information with the name, address and telephone number of your hotel.
8. Carry purses and waist packs across the front of your body. Be sure they are closed securely.
9. For all emergencies dial 911 on the telephone.
10. For telephone number information dial 411 on the telephone.