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Florida's magic (even without the Magic Kingdom): Forget rollercoasters – the Sunshine State is bursting with attractions, from the Art Deco splendour of Miami to the sparkling waters of Key West... and even a singing cowboy or two

- · Britons are permitted to visit Florida from next month, making it an ideal spot for a winter getaway in the sun
- Nature-lovers should make a beeline for the Everglades, Alligator Alley and the lush Ocala National Forest
- · For a cosmopolitan experience, roam around Miami's Art Basel fair and Sarasota on a twin-city cultural break

By JANE KNIGHT FOR THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

PUBLISHED: 06:40 EDT, 22 October 2021 | UPDATED: 06:40 EDT, 22 October 2021

## Just get away from it all



Holidaymakers can learn to sail off the coast of the five-mile-long Captiva Island (pictured)

A sliver of land off the south-west coast, Captiva Island has the ultimate get-away-from-it-all feel. Just five miles long, it has no through traffic nor high-rise buildings.

What it does have is the nature reserve of South Seas Island Resort, with a long stretch of sand. There you can learn to sail or take a boat to one of the other small islands off the coast, including North Captiva, tiny Cabbage Key, Cayo Costa and Boca Grande.

After four nights, drive to the busier Naples Bay Resort down the coast, where one of the best boat excursions is to the saltwater mangrove estuary of the Everglades national Park, to spot bottlenose dolphins and osprey, herons and egrets.

**Book:** Seven nights' room-only in November costs from £1,570pp, with flights to Fort Myers and car hire included (americaasyoulikeit.com).