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A Relaxing Getaway to the Moorings Village

By Irene Edwards | Hotels + Resorts | [Comments](#)



Palm trees, hammocks, sand: this is as stripped-down as a vacation experience gets, and one you'd swear couldn't exist among the shell shops and tiki-festooned marinas of the Florida Keys. Yet here is the **Moorings** (\$\$\$), a former coconut plantation with 18 tidy cottages, the vision of a peripatetic Frenchman who bought the 18-acre parcel in 1988 after spotting it from his windsurfer board. Despite the occasional frolicking model (the beach has seen its fair share of fashion shoots over the years), the resort still feels private. At sunset, amble across the road for rum cocktails and conch fritters at Morada Bay Beach Café, or do what the regulars do—bring back some stone-crab claws from the market to devour on your porch with a cold beer.

Photo by Blasius Erlinger