

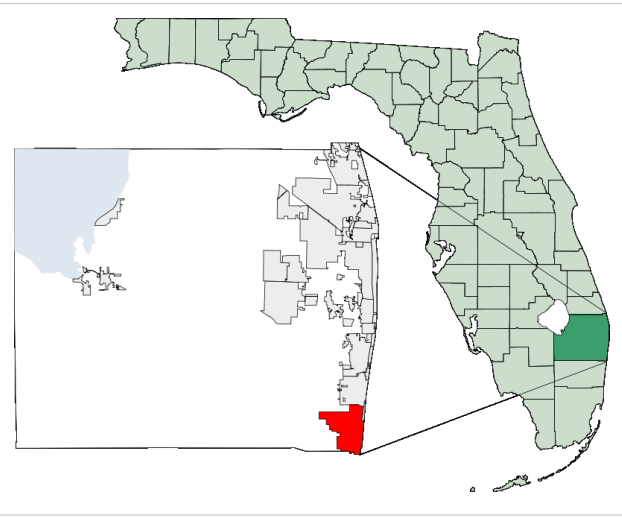


Boca Raton, Florida

City of Boca Raton	
— City —	
	
<p>Downtown Boca Raton skyline, seen northwest from the observation tower of the Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex</p>	
 <p>Seal</p>	
<p>Nickname(s): A City for All Seasons</p>	
	
<p>Location in Palm Beach County, Florida</p>	
<p>Coordinates: 26°22'7"N 80°6'0"W</p>	
Country	United States
State	Florida
County	Palm Beach
Settled	1895

Incorporated (town)	May, 1925
Government	
- Type	Commission-manager
- Mayor	Susan Whelchel (N)
Area	
- Total	29.1 sq mi (75.4 km ²)
- Land	27.2 sq mi (70.4 km ²)
- Water	29.1 sq mi (5.0 km ²)
Elevation	13 ft (4 m)
Population	
- Total	86396 ('06 estimate)
- Density	2682.8/sq mi (1061.7/km ²)
Time zone	EST (UTC-5)
- Summer (DST)	EDT (UTC-4)
ZIP code(s)	
Area code(s)	561
FIPS code	12-07300 ^[1]
GNIS feature ID	0279123 ^[2]
Website	www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us ^[3]

Boca Raton (pronounced /ˈboʊkə rəˈtoʊn/) is a city in Palm Beach County, Florida, USA, incorporated in May 1925. In the 2000 census, the city had a total population of 74,764; the 2006 population recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau was 86,396.^[4] However, the majority of the people under the postal address of *Boca Raton*, about 200,000^[5] in total, are not actually within the City of Boca Raton's municipal boundaries. It is estimated that on any given day, there are roughly 350,000 people in the city itself.^[6]

In terms of both population and land area, Boca Raton is the largest city between West Palm Beach and Pompano Beach, Broward County.

History

The literal translation of "Boca Raton" is "Mouse Mouth" ("mouse" in Spanish is "ratón").^[7] ^[8] ^[9] One explanation for the origin is the Spanish word *boca* (or mouth) was (and still is) used to describe an inlet and *ratón* (literally "mouse") was used by Spanish sailors to describe rocks that gnawed at a ship's cable. Another explanation is that it refers metaphorically to the sense of pirate's cove.^[10] ^[11] The name *Boca Ratones* originally appeared on eighteenth century maps associated with an inlet in the Biscayne Bay area of Miami. By the beginning of the nineteenth century, the term was mistakenly moved north to its current location on most maps and applied to the inland waterway from the closed inlet north for 8.5 miles (13.7 km), which was called the "Boca Ratones Lagoon".

Land boom

During the city's early history during the Florida land boom of the 1920s, Addison Mizner's Ritz-Carlton Cloister Inn was built in 1926,^[12] later renamed the Boca Raton Resort & Club. It is today often referred to as the "pink hotel" and a 1969 addition is visible from miles away as a towering building on the Intracoastal Waterway.

War

Japanese farmers of the Yamato Colony converted the land west of the city into pineapple plantations beginning in 1904. During World War II, much of their land was confiscated and used as the site of the Boca Raton Army Air Force Base, a major training facility for B-29 bomber crews. There was also a radar school and research facility there. Much of the airbase was later donated to become the grounds of Florida Atlantic University, many of whose parking lots are former runways of the airbase, while part of the airbase is now used as the Boca Raton Airport. The Japanese heritage of the Yamato Colony survives in the name of Yamato Road (NW 51st Street) just north of the airport and at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens northwest of the city. The headquarters building of the Army Air Forces Base has survived as the office building for the Cynthia Gardens apartment complex on Northwest 4th Avenue.

Post-war

In the late 1960s, the International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) announced their intentions to open a manufacturing plant in the area. In 1965, well before the extension of I-95 into Southern Florida, IBM purchased several-hundred acres of real estate just west of the CSX rail line and northwest of Florida Atlantic University in University Park. It would be one year after the facility opened that the area would be controversially annexed into Boca Raton.^[13]



The Boca Corporate Center and Campus was originally one of IBM's research labs where the PC was created. It is located on Yamato Rd (NW 51st St), and stands next to the Boca Raton Tri-Rail Station.

Construction of IBM's main complex began in earnest in 1967, and the mammoth manufacturing and office complex was dedicated in March 1970. The campus was designed with self-sufficiency in mind, and to that end sported its own electrical substation, water pumping station, and rail-spur. Among other very noteworthy IT accomplishments, such as the mass manufacture of the System/360 and development of the Series/1 mainframe computers, IBM's main complex was the birthplace of the IBM PC, which later evolved into the IBM Personal System/2, developed in nearby Delray Beach. Starting in 1987, IBM relocated their manufacturing for what became the IBM PC division to Research Triangle Park in Raleigh, North Carolina, and converted the cavernous manufacturing facilities into offices and laboratories, later producing products such as the OS/2 operating system and VoiceType Dictation, later known as ViaVoice voice-recognition software.

IBM maintained its facilities in the South Florida area until 1996, when the facility was closed and sold to Blue Lake Real Estate, who in turn sold it to T-REX Management Consortium. Today, T-REX has revitalized the facility and its surrounding real estate into a highly-successful and landscaped business/research park. What used to be IBM's Building 051, an annex separated from the former main IBM campus by Spanish River Boulevard was donated to the Palm Beach County School District and converted into Don Estridge

High Tech Middle School. It is named for Don Estridge, whose team was responsible for developing the IBM PC. IBM later returned in July, 2001 opening the current software development laboratory at Beacon Square off Congress Avenue.

Bluegreen Corporation has had its main office in Boca Raton since 1966.

In the 1980s, because of an explosion of development to the west of the historical center of the city, some eastern areas began to decay, including the downtown corridor. For instance, the old Boca Raton Mall, a shopping mall in the downtown area was beginning to experience higher vacancy, and occupancy by marginal tenants, due to the opening of Town Center at Boca Raton west of the city in 1980.

In 1991, the new downtown outdoor shopping and dining center, Mizner Park, was completed over the site of the old Boca Raton Mall. It has since become a cultural center for the southern Palm Beach County. Featuring a landscaped central park between the two main roads (collectively called Plaza Real) with stores only on the outside of the roads, Mizner Park resembles a Mediterranean suburban "town center" with a more contemporary look. It features many restaurants and is home to the Boca Raton Museum of Art which moved to the new facility in 2001. "Boca Raton Museum of Art" ^[14] In 2002, a new amphitheater was built replacing a smaller one, providing a large-capacity outdoor venue where concerts and other performances are held. ^[15]



Mizner Park is a downtown attraction in Boca Raton's financial district. It is the furthest north part of Boca's *downtown* area, and home to 'Mizner Park Amphitheater'.

Mizner Park has significantly aided downtown revitalization. Many new eight to ten story mixed-use buildings have been constructed, are currently under construction or are proposed for the downtown area. The surrounding areas to the downtown have benefited from the downtown redevelopment.

The National Cartoon Museum (formally the International Museum of Cartoon Art) built a 25000-square-foot (2300 m²) facility on the southwest edge of Mizner Park in 1996. Open for six years, the museum closed in 2002 and the space has been empty since. The Museum has since relocated to its original home in New York City. The building is currently undergoing renovations for public uses, including the local public TV station, and private uses, such as a locally-owned and operated bookstore.

As development continued to focus to the west of the city in the 1980s and 1990s, the mall area, Town Center at Boca Raton, became the geographic center of what is referred to as Boca Raton, though this mall was not actually annexed into the city until 2004. The area referred to as Boca Raton, including the unincorporated area west of the city (and discussed below), is now almost entirely built out.

In 1999, the Simon Property Group bought Town Center at Boca Raton and redeveloped it. Nordstrom was added as the anchor department store for the new wing. Neiman Marcus is the newest department store tenant as of 2006. In-late 2006, Simon began the construction stage of an outdoor lifestyle center near the new wing. Town Center Mall has become a tourist attraction and the largest indoor mall in Palm Beach County.

Boca Raton has a strict development code, including the size and types of commercial buildings, building signs and advertisements which may be erected within the city limits. No car dealerships are allowed in the municipality, according to the city zoning code. Additionally, no billboards are permitted in the city. The only billboard was

grandfathered in during recent annexation. Corporations such as McDonald's have subdued their Golden Arches due to the code. The unincorporated areas still contain restaurants with the classic arches, but the heights of the signs have also been reduced. Many buildings in the area have Mediterranean and Spanish architectural themes, initially inspired in the area by Addison Mizner. The strict development code has resulted in several major thoroughfares without large signs or advertisements in the traveler's view; significant landscaping is in its place.



Geography

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 75.4 km² (29.1 mi²). 70.4 km² (27.2 mi²) of this is land and 5.0 km² (1.9 mi²) of it (6.63%) is water. Boca Raton is a 'principal city' (as defined by the Census Bureau) of the South Florida metropolitan area. Like most south Florida cities, Boca Raton has a water table that does not permit building basements, but there are several high points in the city, such as 4th Avenue which is aptly named "High Street". The highest point in this area is the guard shack at Camino Gardens, which is 24 ft (7.3 m) above sea level. The Boca Raton Hotel's Beach Club rests at 23 ft (7.0 m) above sea level.^[16]

Several small tunnels run under roads in Boca, but the roads are built up several feet at these locations, or are located on dunes. Several of these tunnels are under State Road A1A at Spanish River Park, from the west side of the road where parking is available to beachgoers, to the east side of the road, which is where the beach is located. A1A is already higher than the surrounding land here due to sand dunes formed by erosion and other natural features.^[16]

Climate

Boca Raton has a Tropical monsoon climate (Köppen climate classification *Am*).

Demographics

As of the census^[1] of 2000, there were 74,764 people, 31,848 households, and 20,000 families residing in the city.^[17] The population density was 1,061.7/km² (2,749.8/mi²). There were 37,547 housing units at an average density of 533.2/km² (1,381.0/mi²). The racial makeup of the city was 90.75% White (84.2% were Non-Hispanic White),^[18] 3.76% African American, 0.16% Native American, 1.99% Asian, 0.04% Pacific Islander, 1.39% from other races, and 1.90% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 8.51% of the population.

There were 31,848 households out of which 24.1% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.1% were married couples living together, 7.1% had a female householder with no husband present, and 37.2% were non-families. 29.5% of all households were made up of individuals and 11.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.26 and the average family size was 2.81.

In the city, the population was spread out with 18.9% under the age of 18, 8.1% from 18 to 24, 26.4% from 25 to 44, 26.7% from 45 to 64, and 19.8% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 43 years. For every 100 females there were 95.1 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 92.8 males.

According to a 2007 estimate, the median income for a household in the city was \$67,531, and the median income for a family was \$92,057. Census factfinder^[19] Males had a median income of \$52,287 versus \$33,347 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$45,628. About 4.1% of families and 6.7% of the population were below the poverty line, including 6.0% of those under age 18 and 4.9% of those age 65 or over.

According to Forbes, Boca Raton has three of the ten most expensive gated communities in the U.S. The Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club holds the #1 spot, The Sanctuary takes #6, and Le Lac takes the #8 spot.^[20]

As of 2000, English was spoken as a first language by 79.89% of the population, Spanish by 9.28%, French by 1.46%, Portuguese by 1.45%, French Creole by 1.29%, and Italian by 1.05% of the population. There is a substantial Jewish population in Boca Raton, and a small percentage of them add to the linguistic variety, with 0.36% of Boca Raton residents speaking Hebrew and 0.27% of the population speaking Yiddish at home.^[21]

Culture and attractions

Boca Raton is known for its affluent social community and high income demographic. Boca Raton has a large Jewish and South American population. Boca Raton's South American population includes a large demographic from Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela.

Boca Raton was the site of two now vanished amusement parks, Africa U.S.A. (1953–1961) and Ancient America (1953–1959). Africa U.S.A. was a wild animal park in which the tourists rode a "Jeep Safari Train" through the park. There were no fences separating the animals from the tourists on the "Jeep Safari Train".^[22] It is now the Camino Gardens subdivision one mile (1.6 km) west of the Boca Raton Hotel. A red wooden bridge from Africa USA can still be seen at the entrance to Camino Gardens. In the 1970s, peacocks could still be found in the subdivision, having escaped from the attraction. Ancient America was built surrounding a real Indian burial mound. Today, the mound is still visible within the Boca Marina & Yacht Club neighborhood on U.S. 1 near Yamato Road.^[23]

Boca Raton is home to the Caldwell Theatre Company, the longest-running professional theater in South Florida, celebrating its 34th season in the recently inaugurated Count de Hoernle Theatre on South Federal Highway.^[24]

Boca Raton has beaches along its eastern shore, notably Red Reef Park,^[25] where snorkeling from the shore can bring a visitor to a living reef without the expense of renting a boat. Also in the 20-acre (81000 m²) park is Gumbo Limbo, an Environmental Education Center. A small fee is charged to enter the park.

Crime

Crime statistics

According to the Department of Justice, the following offenses occurred in Boca Raton in 2006.^[26] The Federal Bureau of Investigation assembles these data each year through the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.^[27]

Murders and nonnegligent manslaughters 3

Forcible rapes 13

Robberies 72

Aggravated assaults 150

Total violent crimes 238

Burglaries 799

Larceny-thefts 2,232

Motor vehicle thefts 170

Arson 2

Total property crimes 2,956

Estimated population 88,093

Technological issues

According to MessageLabs (an email security vendor), Boca Raton is the "spam capital of the world", being the source of a significant proportion of all spam generated worldwide, not surprising given the area's appeal, the personal fortunes of typical spammers, and the area's notorious past as a favorite of organized crime. According to the Miami Herald, the city has a long history of involvement in confidence tricks. Richard C. Breeden, former U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission chairman, once called the city "the only coastal city in Florida where there are more sharks on land than in the water". In the keynote address to a computer security conference on June 8, 2004, Bruce Sterling described the city as the "Capone-Chicago of cyber fraud".

On July 22, 2004, Boca Raton resident Scott Levine was charged with the largest computer crime indictment in United States history. Federal prosecutors allege that Levine unlawfully accessed Acxiom, a database of consumer data, to steal detailed personal information of millions of people.

Organized crime

In 2007 it was reported that there were nine known gangs operating in Boca Raton.^[28]

Boca Raton has a connection to the Mafia. Although not known for violent crime, it is a popular hangout for many suspected Mafia members. According to a number of US Federal indictments, as of June 2004, the Gambino family continues to operate in Boca Raton. The Television show, The Sopranos has featured the city in its plot, and Mafia Wife author Lynda Milito resides in Boca Raton.^{[29] [30] [31]}

Politics

The City of Boca Raton has a Council-Manager form of government. Information about the City government is available at the city website^[32].

The city council, including Mayor Susan Whelchel, is nonpartisan. As of April 13, 2010, incumbent Ted Deutch, who represents a portion of the city in the United States Congress, is a Democrat.

Economy

Office Depot, a supplier of office products and services, has its global headquarters on a 28-acre campus in the city.^[33] The GEO Group, a company that operates prisons, also has its headquarters in Boca Raton based out of One Park Place.^[34] Media companies American Media and FriendFinder Networks and hotel company Luxury Resorts are also based in Boca Raton

Top employers

According to the City's 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report,^[35] the top employers in the city are:

#	Employer	# of Employees
1	Florida Atlantic University	2,776
2	Boca Raton Resort	2,200
3	Office Depot	2,100
4	Boca Raton Regional Hospital	2,100
5	City of Boca Raton	1,288
6	National Council on Compensation Insurance	872
7	Campus Management	750+
8	Lynn University	700
9	The Continental Group	640

10	IBM	600
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Education

Public schools

Public education is provided and managed by The School District of Palm Beach County. Boca Raton is also home to several notable private and religious schools.

As of 2007, Boca Raton is served by four public high schools. Within the city's limits, Boca Raton Community High School serves the eastern part of the city. Spanish River Community High School serves the west-central part of the city limits and parts of unincorporated Boca Raton. Olympic Heights Community High School serves the western unincorporated areas. Finally, West Boca Raton Community High School serves the far-west unincorporated areas. Spanish River, Olympic Heights, and West Boca Raton also serve students from Delray Beach and Boynton Beach.^[36]

The area is served by five public middle schools:

- Boca Raton Community Middle School,
- Don Estridge High Tech Middle School, a technology magnet school named for Don Estridge, the leader of a small group of engineers who developed the IBM Personal Computer in Boca Raton.
- Eagles Landing Middle School
- Loggers' Run Community Middle School
- Omni Middle School

The area is served by twelve public elementary schools:

- Addison Mizner Elementary (Founded in 1968. It is named after Addison Mizner, a famous architect who shaped and had enormous influence on Boca's architecture.)
- Boca Raton Elementary
- Calusa Elementary
- Coral Sunset Elementary
- Del Prado Elementary
- Hammock Pointe Elementary
- J.C. Mitchell Elementary
- Sandpiper Shores Elementary
- Sunrise Park Elementary
- Verde Elementary
- Waters Edge Elementary
- Whispering Pines Elementary

An alternative to the Palm Beach County Public Schools in Boca Raton is the Alexander D. Henderson University School is located on the Florida Atlantic University campus. A. D. Henderson University School (ADHUS) is organized as a unique and separate school district; it is not part of the Palm Beach County School System. Henderson School is recognized as Florida Atlantic University School District #72, under the College of Education's administrative oversight.

University schools in Florida are authorized to provide instruction for grades K-12 and university students, support university research efforts, and test educational reforms for Florida schools. ADHUS is a public school and thus does not charge tuition. It is open to children who reside in Palm Beach County or Broward County and admission is by lottery. Student characteristics of gender, race, family income and student ability are used to match the student population profile to that of the state.^[37]

Private schools

- Hillel Day School of Boca Raton
- Boca Raton Christian School
- Pine Crest School, based in Fort Lauderdale, has a campus in Boca Raton.
- Saint Jude Catholic School and Parish Saint Jude School and Parish is a Elementary and Middle School founded in 1985. The Parish also has a Preschool founded in 1995.
- Saint Andrew's School
- Pope John Paul II High School
- Grandview Preparatory School is an independent college preparatory, nonsectarian, coeducational day school founded in 1997. Student enrollment is offered for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12.^[38]
- Donna Klein Jewish Academy
- Boca Prep International School
- Saint Joan of Arc Catholic School and Church
- Weinbaum Yeshiva High School
- Summit Private School, a Montessori school^[39]
- Spanish River Christian
- Saint Paul Lutheran School
- Advent Lutheran School
- Claremont Montessori School
- American Heritage School



Pope John Paul II High School is a Catholic school located in Boca Raton near Florida Atlantic University and Lynn University.

Higher education

- Florida Atlantic University, founded in 1961, held its first classes in Boca Raton in 1964. FAU is a member of the State University System of Florida and the largest university in Boca Raton. It has over 26,000 students, 3,000 of which are residential students, and a Division I athletics program.
- Palm Beach State College has had a Boca Raton campus, adjacent to Florida Atlantic University, since 1971.
- Lynn University (originally founded as Marymount College, then renamed the College of Boca Raton in 1974, and finally Lynn University in 1991) is a four year co-educational institution re-named to honor the Lynn (Eugene & Christine) family who continue to be generous benefactors of the university.
- Digital Media Arts College, founded in 2001, offers bachelor's and master's degrees in computer animation and graphic design.
- Everglades University

Libraries

The Boca Raton Public Library serves city of Boca Raton residents. A second municipal library building on Spanish River Boulevard west of I-95 was opened in January, 2008.

The Glades Road Branch Library and the West Boca Branch Library serve Boca Raton residents who live outside the city limits. The West Boca Branch opened on February 20, 2009. It is located on State Road 7 just north of Yamato Road. The Glades Road Branch Library, formerly known as the Southwest County Regional Library, is located on 95th Street and Glades Road, between Lyons Road and State Road 7. It closed for renovations in early 2009 and reopened as the Glades Road Branch Library on May 29, 2010. County library card holders may use any of the

sixteen branches in the Palm Beach County Library System and have access to many databases and downloadable e-books and audio books.

Transportation

Air

- The Boca Raton Airport (BCT) is a general aviation airport located immediately adjacent to Florida Atlantic University and Interstate 95. It has a control tower which is manned from 0700 to 2300. The Boca Raton Airport is publicly owned and governed by a seven member Authority appointed by the City of Boca Raton and the Palm Beach County Commission.
- Palm Beach International Airport (PBI) is located to the north near West Palm Beach.
- Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is located to the south in Dania Beach.

Highways

- U.S. Highway 1 passes through the city's downtown, commercial, and industrial districts in the eastern part of the city.
- U.S. Highway 441, also popularly known as State Road 7, passes through commercial and residential districts west of the city limits.
- Interstate 95 bisects the city from north to south with four interchanges serving Boca Raton.
- Florida's Turnpike passes through unincorporated Boca Raton, forming part of the city limits in the north, with one interchange at Glades Road (State Road 808).

Main roads

- Florida State Road 808 (locally known as Glades Road) is the main state road of the city having a west terminus at US 441 and east terminus at US 1.
- Other major east/west roads include Palmetto Park Road and Yamato Road.
- Major north/south roads include US 441, Military Trail and Powerline Road

Rail

- The Tri-Rail commuter rail system serves the city with its Boca Raton station located on the south side of Yamato Road just west of I-95.
- CSX Transportation and the Florida East Coast Railway also serve the city.

Water

Long before any settlers arrived, the original 1870 government survey of the area^[40] showed that just west of and parallel to the Atlantic Ocean's coastal dune was the "Boca Raton Lagoon", which extended south for nine miles (14.5 km) from just north of the present location of Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach. Along the southern half of the lagoon were three wide areas each called a "Lake", which are now named (north to south) Lake Rogers, Lake Wyman, and Lake Boca Raton. At the southeast end of the lagoon was a short protrusion toward the south which would become the Boca Raton Inlet after a sandbar at its mouth was removed. The lagoon and lakes were part of a half-mile (0.8 km) wide swamp, west of which was scrub land a mile (1.6 km) wide (part of the Atlantic coastal ridge) where the Florida East Coast Railway (1896) and Dixie Highway (1923) were built. To the west of the scrub was a half mile or wider swamp within which flowed north to south the "Prong of Hillsborough River", which is now the El Rio Canal. It now forms the eastern border of Florida Atlantic University and the Old Floresta neighborhood. The prong entered the "Hillsborough River" at the present eastern end of the straight portion of the Hillsboro Canal (dredged 1911–14), which is the southern city limits. The river flowed southeast in several channels along the

western edge of the present Deerfield Island, formerly called Capone Island (named for Al Capone who owned it during the 1930s), which did not become an island until the Royal Palm Canal was dredged along its northern edge in 1961.^[41] ^[42] Flowing south from the lagoon to the river along the eastern edge of the 'island' was a "Small boat Pass into Hillsboro' River", also called the Little Hillsboro. The river continued due south about four and a half miles (7.2 km) just inland of the coastal dune until it emptied into the Atlantic Ocean at the "Hillsborough Bar", now the Hillsboro Inlet.

The lagoon was dredged in 1894–95 to form part of the Florida East Coast Canal from Jacksonville to Biscayne Bay with a minimum depth of 5 feet (1.5 m) and a minimum width of 50 feet (15.2 m).^[43] After 1895, the lagoon and canal were sometimes called the Spanish River. Between 1930 and 1935 the canal was improved to 8×100 feet (2.4×30.5 m) by the federal government and renamed the Intracoastal Waterway. It was improved again between 1960 and 1965 to 10×125 feet (3×38.1 m).^[44] All three versions were subject to shoaling which reduced their depths below the specified minimum. Forming part of the northern city limits is the C-15 canal, connecting the El Rio Canal to the Intracoastal Waterway. The first settler was T. M. Rickards in 1895 who resided on the north shore of Lake Boca Raton. The Cloister Inn, now the Boca Raton Resort and Club, was built on the western edge of the lake in 1927 by Addison Mizner.

Notable residents, past and present

- Jozy Altidore, soccer player
- Carling Bassett-Seguso with husband Robert Seguso, both tennis players
- Derek Bell, motor racing driver
- Yuniesky Betancourt, baseball player
- Ian Bishop, former English soccer player
- Ryland Blackinton, musician/guitarist for Cobra Starship
- Jon Bon Jovi, singer & musician
- Jason Bonham, rock and roll drummer & son of Led Zeppelin drummer John Bonham
- Ernest Borgnine, actor
- Don Brewer, drummer for Grand Funk Railroad
- Keith Byars, former football player
- Jennifer Capriati, tennis player
- Chris Carrabba, lead singer & guitarist of Dashboard Confessional
- Cris Carter, All-Pro football player
- Elena Dementieva, Russian tennis player
- Dion DiMucci, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame member
- Chris Evert, tennis player
- Dr. Frank Field, TV Personality, and NYC Meteorologist for 5 Decades
- Jeff Gordon, NASCAR racer
- Ariana Grande, actress, model and singer
- Taurean Green, basketball player
- John Grogan, author of *Marley & Me*
- Sébastien Grosjean, French tennis player
- Megan Hauserman, model & reality television actress
- Jesse Levine, tennis player
- Scott Levine, computer criminal
- Marilyn Manson, shock rocker
- Leonard Marshall, football player
- Tucker Max, writer
- Nicko McBrain, Iron Maiden drummer
- Vince McMahon, professional wrestler & promoter
- Scott Mersereau, professional football player for the New York Jets
- Juan Mora, Fashion blogger, Socialite
- Corina Morariu, tennis player
- Paul Newman, entrepreneur
- Greg Norman, golfer
- Sabby Piscitelli, football player for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- Maury Povich and wife, Connie Chung, Tabloid and News Media Personalities
- Morgan Pressel, golfer
- Mark Richt, head football coach of the University of Georgia
- Andy Roddick, tennis player
- Pete Rose, baseball player
- Frank Rosenthal, ex-Las Vegas casino owner & handicapper
- Marion Ryan, 1950s British singer
- Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook
- Ryan Shore, contemporary film composer
- Vince Spadea, tennis player
- Scott Stapp, lead singer for the rock band Creed

- Scott Hirsch, boxing manager & former e-mail spammer^[45]
- Ryan Hunter-Reay, IndyCar Series driver
- Khori Ivy, former football player
- Dennis Kozlowski, former CEO of Tyco International
- Bernhard Langer, golfer
- Horia Tecău, tennis player
- Sahaj Ticotin, lead singer for the rock band Ra
- Danny Valencia, baseball player
- Brian Voss, bowler
- Ernie Wise, UK comedian & half of the double act Morecambe and Wise had a holiday home here, where he spent much of his time after Morecambe's death in 1984.

Greater Boca Raton

A majority of postal Boca Raton lies outside of the actual city limits. This large unincorporated area to the west of the city limits is included in the Boca Raton mailing address and local telephone calling area. There are many large planned developments in the area, including gated communities, and a number of golf courses. This is a result in the later start of development in these areas, and the availability of large tracts of land. Many of these affluent communities are large enough to be designated as census-designated places, including Boca Del Mar and Boca Pointe, geographically in *Central Boca Raton*, and Avalon at Boca Raton, Boca Falls, Boca Winds, Cimarron, Hamptons at Boca Raton, Mission Bay, Loggers' Run, The Polo Club Boca Raton, Sandalfoot Cove, and Whisper Walk as *West Boca Raton*.

On November 2, 2004, the voters of the Via Verde Association, Waterside, Deerhurst Association (Boca South), Marina Del Mar Association, Rio Del Mar Association (both originally Boca Del Mar communities), and Heatherwood of Boca Raton Condominium Association approved annexation into the Boca Raton city limits, increasing the city land area to 29.6 square miles (77 km²).

Boca Raton in popular culture

Boca figures in many forms of popular culture.

Boca has been mentioned in many movies, including *All the President's Men*, *Bewitched*, *Cats & Dogs*, *Marley and Me*, *The Mexican*, *Mr. 3000*, *Music and Lyrics*, *A Perfect Murder*, *Wag the Dog*, and *Wonderland*, and in many TV shows, such as *American Dad!*, *American Dragon: Jake Long*, *Code Name: The Cleaner*, *Lizzie McGuire*, *Nip/Tuck*, *The Golden Girls*, *Histeria!*, *Mad Men*, *MADtv*, *My Name Is Earl*, *The Nanny*, *Phil of the Future*, *Robot Chicken*, *The Sopranos*, *Sponge Bob*, *Two and a Half Men*, and *The Venture Bros.*. These references usually have something to do with Florida's reputation for its resorts, or high concentration of condominiums, or alternately, especially in the case of *Seinfeld*,^[46] numerous references to Boca Raton as "God's waiting room". Additionally, rapper Trick Daddy says in his smash hit song, "Shut up", "But all my Boca (Raton) Boys they know dough, that's fo' sho' doe".

Additionally, Boca Raton is almost idiomatically used for indicating retirement. For example, Fran Drescher's character in *The Nanny* is always pushing her parents to move to Boca, and Chelsea Handler frequently uses the city in reference to the elderly on her talk show, *Chelsea Lately*.

Development of Boca Raton features prominently in the 2008 Stephen Sondheim/John Weidman musical, *Road Show*, which centers on the lives of Addison Mizner and his brother Wilson Mizner.

Boca Raton has also been the stage and background for many movies filmed on location in Boca Raton, including *Paper Lion* (1968), *Paper Moon* (1973), *Caddyshack* (1980), *Caddyshack II* (1984), *Where the Boys Are '84* (1984), *Stella* (1990), and *Sex Drive* (2008).

Boca Raton is mentioned in several books, including *The Appeal* and *Marley and Me*.

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External links

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- City of Boca Raton (<http://www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/>)
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