



FORT LAUDERDALE

Comments collected by 'DarryDFL' & 'PegEggFL'.

Contributor names are social network aliases.

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HOMEWOOD SUITES

Homewood Suites Ft. Lauderdale Airport & Cruise Port, 2061 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312-5912 (954) 967-9063, <http://hwsfllairport.com>

➔ DarryDFL, 25 Sep 2011: We're staying there for \$112/night during Oct 2011.

➔ DarryDFL, 13 Oct 2010: We stayed at the Homewood Suites, in a room with two double beds, living room, and bath for \$90. [Click to see our photos](#) of the motel & room.



We got that rate because several people on the CruiseCritic thread had agreed to stay there and one lady made a call telling them that we had 30+ rooms that would be booked. The motel quickly agreed to a special prices for the group.

The Homewood Suites are about 7 minutes from the port conveniently located just off I-95 and near two filling stations. Because we drove down from Tampa, getting fuel before we began the journey home is important. Gas was 10¢ more per gallon here than in Tampa.

The Suites offers free parking while you're on a cruise even if — as is our case — you're on a back-to-back cruise of 14 days.

We reserved seats on the 10:30 AM shuttle to the port. The shuttle cost \$4-per-person.

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OTHERS MOTELS

➔ SeaBlu, May/14/2010: We found a really good deal at the **Westin, North Fort Lauderdale**. For the first night, we pay the going rate; but for the next two nights, we pay the amount equal to the year I was born. (I was born in 1947, so we pay \$47/night.) We felt that was a great deal at a nice hotel for the four of us. We are going to be driving around sightseeing anyway so if we drive 5 minutes or 20 minutes the morning of the cruise does not matter to us. We read that there is a parking location right outside that port where you can park, it is suppose to cost a little less and they will shuttle you into the port.

➔ Cheryl20772, May/14/2010: We will be driving from up north & plan to stay at the **Days Inn on West Broward Blvd**. The Days Inn has “paid parking for guests that want to leave their vehicle for a long period of time but charges will apply, contact the hotel for details”. We prefer to use a lot that has parking as their primary business and not trust the kind of security found in motel parking lots.

➔ Javanaut, May/31/2010: I made reservations at the **Hyatt Summerfield** in Ft Lauderdale. We have not stayed there before. Parking is free for 7 nights — \$8 for the 8th night. Shuttle to ship is contracted at \$8/pp each way. The parking is gated and lighted according to <http://www.ParkSleepFly.com>. I called the hotel and got AARP price (\$2 less than ParkSleepFly and reviews on ParkSleepFly were not good — cost more than quoted). I did not ask about gated and lighted.

➔ Cruising Grandma, Jun/1/2010: We are staying at the **Embassy Suites** on Saturday. There are nightly social there, too, but I think its just for guests. They do offer a complimentary made-to-order breakfast and complimentary shuttle to the port. I don't know about parking, since we will be flying down.

➔ Hedda E, Jun/2/2010: We did PriceLine for a Saturday night hotel and ended up with **The Westin Beach Resort**, Fort Lauderdale. I've never stayed there before. but the pictures look nice, If it turns out badly, I'll at least have a story to tell at the connections party. They don't have a cruise parking deal. In fact, we have to pay even as a hotel guest so we'll likely park at the port.

➔ LizFLL, Jun/3/2010: The **Westin**, Fort Lauderdale is gorgeous (and relatively new)! Really a great top choice hotel!! I can't imagine you'd have a bad experience there.

➔ DarryDFL, Jun/22/2010: We stayed at the **Homewood Suites**, 954-967-9063. We got a room for four for \$119 plus tax. If you stay one night, you can

park your car for a week at no cost. It offers a Courtesy Shuttle for \$6 to go to the port and \$10 to come back. It offers a list of 12 restaurants to which you can get a free shuttle ride between 4-10 PM. Also it has a list of four places that will deliver to the motel. (You coordinate with the front desk which orders and pays the delivery person so no one knows your motel room but the clerk at the front desk.) If MS. Marife Lehrer is the hostess, she can answer any questions you have about the local area.

➔ Stavman, May/21/2010: I know a lot of people stay at the **Radisson** when cruising. Last time I checked, the Radisson was about \$30 cheaper than Country Inn and their pool looks pretty amazing to boot! As long as you select the "cruise and park" rate, the parking is included in the room fee. We stayed there last time on an employee discounted rate through a friend had had to pay an additional \$20 to leave the car parked there.

➔ DarryDFL, 25 Sep 2011: **Fairfield Inn & Suites** Fort Lauderdale Airport & Cruise Port, 2081 Griffin Road, Dania Beach, Florida 33312 ☆ (954) 981-2700 ☆ (954) 981-9125 ☆ <http://www.ffisflairport.com/> is located across the street from the [Homewood Suites](#).

PARKING

➔ Cheryl20772, May/14/2010: If you prefer to save \$\$, my research brought up Park N Fly Cruise which is half a mile from the pier, and Airport Park N Go Cruise Parking Ft Lauderdale. Both have free shuttle buses to and from the port. There are various group discounts such as AARP and AAA, and its recommended to reserve in advance by going through the links on the group websites. I don't know what effect the Oasis crowds have had on parking availability.

RENTAL CAR

➔ The Big Booper, May/14/2010: We have a Hertz car and plan to turn it in at Fort Lauderdale Airport (FLL). After we finish the cruise, we plan to pick up another rental car at FLL for our next 8 days in Florida. Hertz is still running shuttles from the FLL to the pier, correct? I know Avis doesn't anymore.

➔ DarryDFL, Jun/22/2010: We contemplated renting a car in Tampa, Florida, on Saturday (before the cruise), driving it to Fort Lauderdale, and turning it in

on Sunday after we dropped off our luggage. Then renting a car on the Sunday we returned, driving it to Tampa, and turning it in. That plan was a non-starter because the local rental car companies are closed on Sunday. If you rent one at the airport, you must be going out on a flight from that airport. (I'm told it's one of the changes from the 9/11 terrorist attack.)

➔ INeedAShot, May/26/2010: I have found the best deals are in Orlando. We always rent a car from Avis and return it the morning of the sailing in Cocoa Beach. They have a free shuttle to get you to the port and do not charge a "one way charge" for p/u at the airport & return at the port. The Farmers AWD code or Florida tourist AWD code usually are the cheapest.

TRAVEL TIME

➔ DarryDFL, 22 Jun 2010: Travel time from Tampa, FL (intersection of I-75 and I-4) to Fort Lauderdale (vicinity of the port) is 4 hours and 25 minutes. Travel south on I-75, across Alligator Alley, to I-95 south, to the airport. That permits 3 potty stops only. We eat in our Dodge Ram truck.

WEBSITES

★ Hollywood Suites, <http://hwsfillairport.com>