

About St. Petersburg

St Petersburg has an unusually strong cultural profile for a city of 275,000. Within downtown there are four museums, with two new ones scheduled to open in 2017, plus a contemporary art and education center with its Chihuly Collection, a major symphony orchestra, performing arts center, a storefront alternative arts center, several commercial galleries and professional regional theaters. Murals have proliferated recently and the city has had a per cent for art public art program for about twenty-five years.

Historically St. Petersburg's growth has been tied to tourism but it now also is home to a significant cluster of Marine Science educational and commercial entities and is home to tech entrepreneurial businesses. Its culture is also historically tied to being a coastal city, with world-class beaches just outside the city limits, a port (across the bay from the Pier) and major marina, part of which is accessed from the Pier uplands.

A multigenerational urban core of water, arts, live and work.

Beach Drive, on the western edge of Straub Park is a lively residential and entertainment area with a multitude of restaurants with outdoor dining, shops, and high rise condominiums. Beach Drive is within view of the Pier park entrance and, it is seen across the water all along the edge of the Pier park. Beach Drive is the eastern border of St. Petersburg's historic and lively downtown which is active day and night and equally patronized by locals and tourists of all ages. Downtown St. Petersburg is a walkable square mile that is a neighborhood and business center. It offers arts and entertainment for all ages and tastes in outdoor and indoor venues. Craft breweries are very popular as are independent and chef-driven restaurants. It has seen a strong resurgence of commerce, culture, residential development.