

## STILL HEADING SOUTH

After leaving Atlanta, we traveled to Orlando, FL. We stayed in a nice Thousand Trails Park in Clermont, FL, about 9 miles from Disneyworld. We had our mail delivered to our friend's home in Windermere, FL. This town is a very wealthy community. Tiger Woods has a home here as well as Shack O'Neil. Driving around Disneyworld area, we noted many changes. Where once, you could see the entire park with one entrance, there are now 4 different parks with 4 entrance fees and parking fees. Separate freeway interchanges serve each park now. Where once we could have bought a lifetime pass for \$109, it is over \$100 for each park per couple. Outside of being pushed around in a wheelchair, we decided it was too large an area for us old folks to navigate. We are glad we have seen it all before!

Continuing on south in Florida we followed the western coast through Tampa and stopped at Naples. We spent a few days exploring Naples, including riding the Trolley, which gives you a complete narrated tour. It was interesting to find out that this is the home of the largest continental Banyan Tree! As you can see, it doesn't hold a candle to the one in Hawaii.



We have never seen such a display of wealth in homes, as here. One person is building a 62,000 sq. ft. home! There are hundreds of miles of canals lined with boat docks for these homes. In the prime areas the older smaller homes bring fabulous prices and then are torn down and replaced with these mansions! The strange thing is, that at this time of the year, most of them are vacant!

We seem to have left all of the huge thunderstorms and lightning behind us in Orlando. Even though it is not raining, it is still humid and uncomfortable to those of us who are not used to it.

Leaving Naples, we decided to eliminate the mess called Miami, by skirting the city and coming in via "alligator alley". We actually saw a couple of alligators lurking in the swamps along the road. This road is a scenic two-lane highway. It cuts across Florida from East to West and it goes through the Everglades and through Everglades National Park.

We went around Miami and through Homestead, FL and started down the road to Key West.

Dave & Bonnie  
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