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## Lighten Up in Miami

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Not the typical Miami skyline

By Jan Ross

My husband, like most lighthouse fans, is a trifle obsessive about his fixation. So fixated, in fact, that while clambering over slippery boulders in order to get the perfect shot of the Peggy's Cove lighthouse in Nova Scotia, he ignored the warning signs and managed to tumble down the rocks, cutting his hands in the process.

He didn't care.

He got the shot.

If you are just as obsessed with lighthouses, the Stiltsville, Key Biscayne and Cape Florida Lighthouse Boat Tour is going to be smooth sailing for you.

Sorry. Couldn't help myself.

On Sunday, November 11 from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM, History Miami will offer a boat tour of this beautiful area. Dr. Paul George will be conducting the tour. He is the historian for History Miami and an expert on the area.

Stiltsville is a community of seven houses perched on stilts in the middle of Biscayne Bay – that's one way to avoid tsumanis. Located one mile south of Cape Florida at the edge of Biscayne Bay, the structures stand on wood or concrete pilings and have an interesting and storied history. The buildings date from the 1920's and has been made a part of the National Park Service.

You will also see the Cape Florida lighthouse as you learn about the history of Key Biscayne. Mobsters may be mentioned. The lighthouse was built in 1825, replaced by the Fowey Rocks lighthouse in 1878 and put back into use in 1978. The lighthouse has been featured in a number of movies and TV shows, most recently in an episode of "Burn Notice."

The price for members of History Miami is \$44, \$54 for non-members and children under 12 are only \$25. The tour is suitable for all ages.

Information about the tour: [http://events.miami.com/miami\\_fl/events/show/283742965-stiltsville-key-biscayne-and-cape-florida-lighthouse-boat-tour](http://events.miami.com/miami_fl/events/show/283742965-stiltsville-key-biscayne-and-cape-florida-lighthouse-boat-tour)

Voted best tour, Miami New Times. Enjoy this beautiful boat trip with Dr. Paul George to one of Miami's hidden gems—Stiltsville, a remnant community of seven houses perched on stilts in the middle of the turquoise waters of Biscayne Bay. See the Cape Florida Lighthouse, learn about the history of Key Biscayne and hear stories of Bikini Club parties and nefarious mobsters.

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