

# Breaking it Up



By Alicia Piazza

Take a step back in time and arrive at the historical Breakers Hotel, founded by oil tycoon Henry Flagler in 1896. A true legend of its kind, the Breakers is an iconic destination with Italian Renaissance glamour. This 140-acre beachfront resort is fully equipped with restaurants, entertainment and shops; making it so that you never has to leave the premises. But although everything you might need is at your fingertips, the property also provides the

intimacy and service of a small boutique hotel, likely because the hotel is family owned. You will be treated as an invited guest to someone's Chateau or Villa, rather than a hotel visitor at a commercial hotel. The warm staff is more than accommodating and most have been with the hotel for at least a decade. With long hallways, arched high ceilings, fireplaces, chandeliers and flowers galore, the décor is also simply breathtaking.

The furniture is modern yet traditional with gorgeous vibrant fabrics. There is no stuffiness here, although the hotel merits snobbery of the highest level. Quite the contrary, somehow The Breakers is able to accomplish a relaxed atmosphere while exuding elegance and class. No detail is spared.

Some of the unique and special treats include: A full moon massage offered once a month under the moonlight and accompanied by champagne and strawberries; made-to-order facials; wine tasting and personal training services upon request. If a trainer sounds like a bit much while on vacation, take a walk along the ocean and feel the Palm Beach breeze, or perhaps a stroll around the properties exquisite grounds.



Aside from trainers, though, if you are looking to incorporate some physical activity there is plenty to do. From tennis and golf to a daily activities schedule including everything from snorkeling to Pilates, the choices are endless. It's likely that you will discover new parts of the hotel each time you visit. During your stay, make sure to also cruise by the herb garden where chefs handpick the home-grown herbs infused in the five-star cuisine.

Another highlight of The Breakers is that it appeals to all ages. It is a family destination and a weekend getaway for the sophisticated couple. You will find several cosmopolitan people throughout the hotel, while the Kid's Club is one of the best in the country. In addition to arcades, movie theaters, basketball courts and jungle gyms, the Club counselors actually teach children about marine life with the Club's 1000-gallon aquarium. They feed them, "fun them," and educate them. What more could you ask for? And while the kids enjoy the perks of the property, mom and dad can dine out at one of the Five Diamond restaurants.

Upon departure, the staff's smiling faces will load your vehicle with fresh-bottled water for everyone in your party and present you with a departing gift for the children. From floor to ceiling and beginning to end, the experience is utterly delightful.

All in all, The Breakers is a must-see destination for the seasoned traveler. Go see for yourself!

