

## **DAY TRIP: CRABS, CHACHKIES & A SUNSET (SOUTHWEST REGION)**

**Day trip snap-shot:** Your day begins as a “mate” on a working commercial crab boat on beautiful Tampa Bay. This is a hands-on old Florida adventure that ends with a seafood lunch that you’ll talk about for decades. Around 2PM it’s off to Shell Point Cottage to take in an onslaught of FL chachkies like no other. Then you’re off to the SunSet Grill for a drink and dinner as you watch the sun free fall into the warm Gulf waters.

### **1ST STOP- GUS CRABBY ADVENTURES**

**About:** A once-in-a-life time Eco-experience with live blue crabs *and* stone crabs, all the living creatures of the bay including it’s manatees, dolphins and a wide variety of birds. Gus instructs “Mates” or “you” on how crab traps are pulled and baited. “Mates” learn to grade, clean, and steam blue crabs and stone crabs. Captain Gus will also let you pull the traps if you so desire. Gus has commercially caught blue crabs and shed soft shell blue crabs for 31 years.

**Address:** Gus’s Crabby Adventures LLC, 3031 Manatee Ave Ruskin, FL 33570

**Time:** Arrive at 8 AM – 9 AM, ends at 12 PM-1PM

**Activity:** You will be baiting and pulling commercial blue crab traps and learning about FL ecosystem from crabbing legend Capt. Gus Muench. Great activity for kids ages 4 to 84.

**Cost:** About \$150 per person, includes drinks and a crab feast for lunch.

**Local Tip:** Buy and wear a white rubber boots, commercial fisherman wear them to keep their feet dry and cool. You can buy a pair at most home improvement stores or bait and tackle shops will have them. Wear them on the trip and make sure to have Gus sign them at the end.

### **2ND STOP- SHELL POINT COTTAGE**

**About:** Great little place to buy, wonder and marvel the endless array of FL chachkies

**Address:** 102 W Shell Point Rd Ruskin, FL

**Arrive:** 1-2 PM

**Activity:** Walk, shop and take art classes

**Local Tip:** Ask about their art classes and make your own nautical creation

### **3RD STOP- SUN SET GRILL**

**About:** Great seafood restaurant with an epic view of the Tampa Bay

**Address:** 602 Bahia Del Sol Dr Ruskin, FL 33570

**Arrive:** 4-5 PM

**Activity:** Eat, Drink and watch sunset

**Local Tip:** Arrive early to get a table near the water.