

# THE INN ON FIFTH

## *Inviting Elegance*

by Melissa Wolcott Martino and Al Martino

Entering the lobby of the elegant Inn On Fifth in Naples, FL, one would never guess the building housing the hotel was once a 1951-era bank. The hotel is a mere 15 years old, but has the look and feel of seasoned grand dame — perhaps because of all the marble, warm lighting, and lovely antique furnishings adorning the lobby and common areas.

*W*e were warmly greeted by staff when checking in to the Inn On Fifth, and they could not have been more accommodating, trying to anticipate our every need.

An unexpected surprise at a hotel as lovely as this one, is discovering that parking is free — including valet — and there are no separate resort fees for the use of the pool and exercise equipment, etc. that most hotels tack on to your bill.





*photo supplied by the Inn On Fifth*



*M*odern British Colonial comes to mind in describing the hotel's guest rooms decor. Inviting and comfortable, yet sophisticated with predominate shades of buttercup yellow and pale green. The Inn's pillow-top bedding is divine, and slumber came easily to us after busy days exploring Naples. All the rooms have sliding French doors leading to balconies or terraces with rattan or wrought iron furniture. We made full use of our balcony in the mornings with coffee and conversation in our snuggly hotel-supplied robes while watching Fifth Avenue come alive. To get ourselves going, we enjoyed a dip in the Inn's rooftop pool before heading out for the day.

A must during a stay at the Inn is a visit (or two!) to the Inn's luxurious **Spa On Fifth**. Utilizing Feng Shui and all natural products, skilled staff will relax or rejuvenate you with a variety of treatments. How does a Chocolate Raspberry Brown Sugar Body Scrub, or a romantic couples massage sound-?

Although the hotel is not old, it recently underwent complete refurbishing of all the guest bathrooms in Italiante marble. And the Inn is actually expanding, having purchased buildings directly across the street and renovating them to become new suites (some at 1,000 sq feet) with exclusive club level check-in, and with retail shops on the ground floor. The project is expected to be complete in the fall of 2012.



*Judy Nelson, Spa Manager,  
will see to your every need.*



*Couples massage.*





*McCabes Irish Pub*

*D*ining can be found right at the hotel's location, with McCabe's Irish Pub and Truluck's Seafood, Steak and Crab House.

**McCabe's** is a truly authentic Irish Pub, as a lot of the interior findings, paneling and decor were shipped over from Ireland. The menu consists of traditional Irish fare, with hearty Irish stew, shepherd's pie, angus beef and grilled seafood, and, of course, Irish beer. The pub's site includes the old bank vault (complete with the thick steel tumbler door) which they utilize as a private dining room. With live entertainment and a fun crowd, McCabe's is the place to be.

**Truluck's Seafood, Steak and Crab House** is next door to McCabe's, and is the most popular fine dining spot in Naples. The restaurant is elegant, and service is impeccable. The food, however, is what keeps folks returning, and reservations are a must (months in advance for Saturday night!) The Naples Truluck's is one of eleven owned by the company (others located in Texas, California and more in Florida.) To supply all the restaurants, Truluck's founded their own sustainable fisheries. Their menu changes seasonally, as their seafood is only the freshest possible. The most popular dishes are their Dungeness and King Crab when in season. All their vegetables and meats are organic, and the absolutely delicious, tender steak comes from Niman Ranch grass fed, free-range cows. Truluck's has over 100 wines by the glass, and their wine program is always changing.



*Rick Rinella,  
Manager of  
Truluck's.*



*Truluck's Seafood, Steak  
and Crab House*





*Naples Zoo*

*Zoo handler shows us how a sloth likes to just hang around.*



They say real estate is most valued by location, so the Inn On Fifth is prime. It is located right in the heart of Naples, on it's most prized shopping street, and short ride to most area attractions. Unfortunately, we did not have a lot of time to stay in Naples, but did manage to visit two of the area's popular attractions, the Naples Zoo, and the Naples Princess luxury yacht, and both experiences were memorable.

**The Naples Zoo** is non-profit, with conservation being key. Begun in 1919 as a botanical garden, animals were introduced in 1969. The animal enclosures are all natural abitatns, so they are able to roam around comfortably. A guided boat takes visitors around islands inhabited by different primates, where the animals swing freely in trees and "jungle gyms". Among other events are a giraffe feeding (where guests can feed the giraffes themselves) and an alligator feeding (no, no guests - just handlers for this one!) The shows are fun and fascinating.

**The Naples Princess** is a beautiful three-year-old, 105 ft. long, \$4M custom built yacht, which sails several times a day out of the Port O Call Marina. There are different sailing options available, from afternoon sightseeing to a sunset dinner cruise. You glide past waterfront mansions, and most likely will see some interesting wildlife, like dolphins playing in the wake of the boat, or some slow-moving manatees. We heartily recommend the sunset cruise, for the beauty of the area and catching one of Florida's spectacular sunsets.



*Naples Princess*

The Inn On Fifth offers some very attractive vacation packages year round, and with an average 75° temperature in Naples, it is well worth a visit at any time of year.



*A gorgeous sunset seen from the Naples Princess cruise.*



*Upscale shopping is right outside your door at the Inn On Fifth.*

## *If you Go*

**Inn On Fifth** - 239-403-8777; [www.innonfifth.com](http://www.innonfifth.com)

**McCabes Irish Pub** - 239-403-7170;  
[www.mccabesirishpub.com/](http://www.mccabesirishpub.com/)

**Naples Visitor Bureau** - 239-225-1013;  
[www.paradisecoast.com/](http://www.paradisecoast.com/)

**Naples Princess Cruises** - 239-649-2275;  
[www.naplesprincesscruises.com](http://www.naplesprincesscruises.com)

**Naples Zoo** - 239-262-5409; [www.napleszoo.org](http://www.napleszoo.org)

**Truluck's Seafood, Steak and Crab House** -  
239-530-3131; [www.trulucks.com/](http://www.trulucks.com/)