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Luxury Living in Tampa Bay



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LATITUDES—WHERE THE JET SET DINE By Susan B. Barnes

Have a special occasion to celebrate, and looking for a truly unique way in which to do so? Perhaps you're ready to pop the question, or celebrate your wedding in an intimate way. Celebrating a "big" birthday, or simply want an ultra-special night out with friends.

Fortunately for those of us who are in Florida, Latitudes, a AAA 4-Diamond Restaurant on Sunset Key, and Aura Jets have partnered to create an exclusive dining experience for the jet set.

With as little as a 24-hour notice and one phone call, a private Aura Jet will be at the ready to whisk you away in exquisite luxury on a champagne flight to Key West International Airport. Once you land in the Keys, you'll be met by a private limousine and driver (SUV for parties of six), who will expedite your quick trip to Sunset Key Guest Cottages, a Westin Resort, via the Sunset Key L'il Princess Ferry.

At Latitudes on Sunset Key, the very best table will have been reserved just for you, and a dedicated attendant will orchestrate your entire dining experience. To add to the ambience of the dinner, plan to be on the island at sunset—Mother Nature will take care of the rest.

Latitudes' Executive Chef Todd Holender works with the freshest in-season ingredients—locally-sourced fish and tropical fruits, to name but a few—to create an inspired menu from which to choose your meal.

To start, opt for the Sunset Key Shrimp: crab-stuffed, prosciutto-wrapped shrimp with an apricot barbeque sauce, served with green tomato and watermelon chutney and passion fruit jicama straw; or a Duo of Tuna: tuna tartare and seared tuna served with wakami, crispy wonton chips, miso aioli and avocado wasabi cream.

Popular entrees include the pan-seared salmon served with blood orange and pink peppercorn beurre rouge, risotto-style faro, Florida citrus and grilled asparagus; or the






honey and ancho chile-crusted Waygu beef skirt steak with roasted garlic potato puree, goat cheese and corn cake, sauce romesco and fried onions.

With Latitude's extensive champagne and wine list, you can toast your good fortune with a bottle of 2007 Kistler, Les

Noisetiers, Sonoma Coast; 2005 Antinori, Tignanello, Tuscany; 2005 Joseph Phelps, Insignia, Napa Valley; or 2005 Lokoya, Napa Valley, to name a few. Or, pop the cork and let the bubbles flow with a bottle of 2002 Louis Roederer, 2000 Moët et Chandon, or 1999 Perrier-Jouët!

When dinner has ended, you'll be returned to the airport, where the jet awaits to fly you home so that you can sleep in your own bed that night, closing your eyes with thoughts of the dream-worthy experience you've just experienced. 

WHEN YOU GO:

Ready to take flight?

The Jet Set Dining Experience is available for parties of two to six, and requires 24-hour notice. In the Tampa Bay area, flights are available from Tampa International Airport and St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport. Pricing begins at \$5,000. Reservations can be made by calling Aura Jets: 800-840-1995.

