



**March 2nd
2022**

Tarpon Springs

Sponge Docks and Cruise

Full Day Tour Includes

Luxury Travel Direct From your Community

Nature Cruise on the Anclote River

Beautiful Tarpon Springs and Sponge Docks



Please Contact

Dee Sordillo

781-910-8525

Bus Departs 8 am

Checks or Money Order

Payable to Tours4you

Payment Due By February 16th

**Only
\$89**

Tarpon Springs

The first settlers in the area now known as Tarpon Springs were A.W. Ormond and his daughter, Mary. They arrived in 1876. They built a cabin near Spring Bayou. J.C. Boyer, an adventurer from Nassau, sailed into the Bayou. He and Mary Ormond were soon married.

Mary was very pleased with her home. She especially liked the great fish that inhabited the Bayou. They would leap into the air and spray water. In 1879, she named the small settlement Tarpon Springs. (Actually the fish were mullet, not tarpon!)

In 1884, a post office was established in Tarpon Springs. Soon the railroad arrived and a depot was built to accommodate passengers and freight. Tarpon Springs was fashioned into an exclusive winter resort for wealthy Northerners.

In 1887, Tarpon Springs was incorporated. It had a population of 52 residents. John Cheney, a promoter discovered money could be made by harvesting the sponges growing in the waters of the Gulf. Although Tarpon Springs was successful as a resort, it wasn't long before the sponge industry became the community's most important industry.

By 1890, the sponge industry was firmly established in Tarpon Springs. The Cheney Sponge Company sold almost a million dollars worth of sponges that year.

In the next few years, experienced divers from Greece were brought to Tarpon Springs. By using rubberized diving suits and helmets, they increased harvests. By 1905, over 500 Greek sponge divers were at work using 50 boats

In addition to seeing the history of sponge harvesting, visitors can experience the Greek influence. Greek restaurants and shops are scattered throughout the area. Seafood, Greek salads, and pastries are particularly popular. Many visitors attend Greek Festivals. St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral was modeled after the great Byzantine cathedrals such as St. Sophia Cathedral in Constantinople and is open daily to visitors.

Today, Spring Bayou, site of the first settlement, is still a delightful place. Visitors can stroll along the winding streets and see houses that reflect the grandeur of the wealthy who came to Tarpon Springs each year to escape the harsh Northern winters. Tarpon Springs still has a peacefulness and quaint charm.

Days Activities

For your convenience, your tour bus will arrive at your community at a pre arranged time to begin a wonderful day out. Upon arrival you will disembark directly in the heart of Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks where you will board the boat for a relaxing cruise. You will then spend the day in the heart of this beautiful historic venue where you will have plenty of opportunity make the most of the wonderful boutique style shops and fabulous restaurants (lunch on own) during your day.

Please note: you will depart your Community in the morning at the set time arriving home early evening. As we can not control traffic times or delay's your tour bus Driver will keep you informed of the time schedule of the days activities. (What time for lunch when and where to board the bus and boat etc)