

MIAMI-DADE · SCHOOLS EDITION · 2026

WHERE YOU LIVE SHAPES WHERE THEY LEARN.

A neighborhood-by-neighborhood school guide for families relocating to Greater Miami.

10

NEIGHBORHOODS

50+

SCHOOLS RATED

3

SCHOOL TYPES

A+

TOP RATING

The school question is the real estate question.

For relocating families, it always comes back to one thing.

Miami is one of the most dynamic real estate markets in the country — but for families moving here, the conversation rarely starts with price per square foot. It starts with schools.

Public, charter, or private? IB, STEM, or dual-language? An A-rated public school a block away, or a waitlist-only charter across town? The answers change depending on exactly which street you live on — and most online resources won't tell you that.

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- 10 neighborhoods mapped to school ecosystems
- Public, charter & private options in one place
- Grades PK–12 covered for every area
- A+ through C ratings with plain-English notes
- IB, STEM, dual-language & magnet flags
- Walkability spotlights for each neighborhood

Ready to find the right neighborhood?

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HOW TO READ THE RATINGS

Each school in this guide is assigned a letter rating based on Florida Department of Education annual grades, GreatSchools data, and Polaris Advisors local market knowledge. Use these as a starting point — not the final word. Program fit, commute, language, and culture matter as much as any letter grade.

RATING	WHAT IT MEANS
A+	Exceptional — elite academic programs, selective admissions, top statewide rankings
A	Excellent — consistently high performance, strong parent satisfaction
A-	Above Average — strong programs, typically on an improving trajectory
B+ / B	Solid — adequate option; magnet and advanced programs often available within the school
C+ / C	Below Average — most families in these zones pursue charter or private alternatives

Always verify current zoning with Miami-Dade County Public Schools before making a housing decision. Charter and private admissions are independent of residential zoning. Ratings current as of 2025–2026 school year.

01 AVENTURA

ZIP 33160

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Aventura sits at the northern edge of Miami-Dade, where gleaming high-rises reflect off the Intracoastal Waterway and manicured landscaping lines every boulevard. The community radiates an upscale yet approachable energy — equal parts resort lifestyle and genuine neighborhood warmth. Residents walk to Aventura Mall, one of the nation's top-grossing retail destinations, and paddle through the Waterways on weekend mornings. Families are drawn by the city's impressive A-rated schools, pristine parks, and a strong sense of civic investment. It's a place where concierge-style living meets genuine community roots.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 5 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Aventura Waterways K-8	K-8	A	IB candidate program; gifted track; consistently top-rated public K-8
Public	Don Soffer Aventura High School	9-12	A	Opened 2019; STEM & arts focus; among top-rated new public HS in county
Charter	ACES (Aventura City of Excellence)	K-8	A	Arts integration model; competitive lottery admission
Charter	Don Soffer Aventura MS	6-8	A	Feeder to Don Soffer HS; strong test scores
Private	Scheck Hillel Community School	PK-12	A+	Dual Hebrew/English curriculum; premier Jewish day school; strong college prep

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

The Point, Prive Island, Waterways condos — pedestrian-friendly internal streets with marina access. Aventura Mall corridor walkable from many high-rises.

02 SUNNY ISLES BEACH

ZIP 33160

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Sunny Isles Beach feels like a perpetual vacation rendered in glass and steel — towering oceanfront residences by Porsche, Armani, and Ritz-Carlton define a skyline that rivals any in the world. Collins Avenue between 172nd and 185th Streets offers a walkable corridor of cafés, boutiques, and beachside dining. The Atlantic breeze carries through open-air lobbies while the city's compact geography means everything is within a short stroll. International buyers and domestic relocators alike prize Sunny Isles for its world-class amenities and zero city income tax advantage.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 4 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Norman S. Edelcup / SIB K-8	K-8	A	Only public school in city; IB Primary Years Program; consistently A-rated
Private	Scheck Hillel Community School	PK-12	A+	Minutes north; top Jewish day school in South Florida
Private	Hebrew Academy Community School	PK-8	A	Conservative Jewish day school; strong academics; nearby N. Miami Beach
Charter	ACES Aventura	K-8	A	Short drive north; arts-integrated charter; competitive lottery

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Collins Ave corridor (172nd-185th St) — beach, dining, and boutique retail all on foot from most residential towers.

NORTH MIAMI BEACH / HIGHLAND OAKS

ZIP 33160 / 33179

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Step beneath the mature canopy of Highland Oaks and the frenetic pace of Miami dissolves into something quieter and more grounded. Ranch-style homes from the 1950s and '60s line wide, shaded streets where neighbors know each other by name. The neighborhood exudes an understated confidence — families who could live anywhere choose Highland Oaks for its exceptional public school pipeline, tree-lined character, and proximity to both Aventura and Bal Harbour without the premium price. This is where smart buyers find extraordinary value in a genuinely livable setting.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 7 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Highland Oaks Elementary	K–5	A	Consistently A-rated; STEM magnet track; high parent involvement
Public	Highland Oaks Middle	6–8	B+	Gifted/advanced program; improving trend; strong athletics
Public	Michael M. Krop Senior HS	9–12	B+	IB World School; AICE program; 90%+ graduation rate
Public	North Miami Beach Senior HS	9–12	B	Magnet programs incl. Forensic Science; diverse student body
Private	Scheck Hillel Community School	PK–12	A+	Dual-curriculum Jewish day school; premier academic reputation countywide
Private	Hebrew Academy Community School	PK–8	A	Established Jewish day school; strong secular and Judaic academics
Charter	ACES Aventura	K–8	A	Arts-focused charter; accessible from Highland Oaks area

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Highland Oaks subdivision (NE 207th–211th St) — internal loop streets ideal for evening walks; adjacent to Ojus neighborhood retail.

04 MIAMI SHORES

ZIP 33138

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Miami Shores is a love letter to a slower, more intentional way of living — one where front porches matter and the village center is a genuine gathering place. Mediterranean Revival and Art Deco bungalows sit beneath royal palms on brick-paved streets, giving the neighborhood an architectural character found nowhere else in Miami. The Village Center east of 2nd Avenue pulses with independent restaurants, yoga studios, and weekend farmers markets. Miami Country Day and St. Rose of Lima anchor an elite private school ecosystem that draws aspirational families from across the metro.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 6 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Miami Shores Elementary	K–5	B+	Community-focused; strong arts program; improving scores
Public	John F. Kennedy Middle	6–8	B	STEM magnet available; serves Shores/Little Haiti area
Private	Miami Country Day School	PK–12	A+	Premier independent school; avg SAT 1250+; exceptional college placement
Private	St. Rose of Lima Catholic School	PK–8	A	Strong Catholic values; excellent academics; competitive enrollment
Private	Archbishop Coleman Carroll HS	9–12	A-	Nearby Catholic HS; strong college placement; athletics programs
Charter	iPrep Academy	K–12	A+	Short drive to Edgewater; top-rated K-12 charter; waitlist-only admission

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Village Center (East of 2nd Ave) — walkable dining, retail, and community parks. Barry University campus adds pedestrian greenery.

05 EDGEWATER / MIDTOWN

ZIP 33137

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Edgewater and Midtown represent Miami's most compelling experiment in urban density done right — a 15-minute city corridor where art galleries, rooftop pools, Michelin-recognized restaurants, and A+ public schools exist within walking distance. iPrep Academy, one of Florida's top-ranked K-12 charters, gives families a legitimate alternative to private school tuition. The Paraiso District delivers resort-quality amenities inside residential towers while the Wynwood Arts District is a short stroll away. Young professionals, growing families, and design-forward buyers are reshaping the neighborhood block by block.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 5 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Charter	iPrep Academy (Int'l Preparatory)	K–12	A+	Ranked top 5% statewide; IB program grades 6-12; waitlist-only; apply early
Public	Phyllis R. Miller Elementary	K–5	A	Consistently A-rated; strong ESOL; bilingual and gifted tracks
Public	Jose de Diego Middle	6–8	B	Dual language program; improvements underway; gifted track available
Charter	SLAM! (Sports Leadership & Arts)	K–12	B+	Arts, leadership & athletics focus; popular choice for urban families
Private	Ransom Everglades School	6–12	A+	20-min to Coconut Grove; top private in S. Florida; \$42K+ tuition

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Midtown 4 retail district + Paraiso bayfront — true pedestrian-first design. Margaret Pace Park waterfront walkable from most buildings.

06 BRICKELL / DOWNTOWN

ZIP 33130 / 33131

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Brickell has earned its 'Manhattan of the South' designation through sheer gravitational pull — global banks, five-star hotels, James Beard-nominated restaurants, and a walkable urban fabric that hums 24 hours a day. The Brickell City Centre and Mary Brickell Village provide luxury retail without leaving the neighborhood while the Metrorail connects residents to the broader metro in minutes. A quiet residential pocket south of Brickell Avenue offers single-family homes with A-rated school access and unexpected green space adjacent to Simpson Park hammock, one of Miami's last old-growth forests.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 6 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Southside Elementary	K–5	A	Only A-rated elementary in the Downtown/Brickell core; growing enrollment
Public	Shenandoah Elementary	K–5	A-	Minutes west; strong bilingual programs; well-regarded
Charter	iPrep Academy	K–12	A+	15-min to Edgewater; top-ranked charter; apply early for lottery
Charter	SLAM! Academy	K–12	B+	Arts/sports integration; popular with Brickell families
Private	Ransom Everglades	6–12	A+	Coconut Grove; top-tier college prep; shuttle services available
Private	Carrollton School of Sacred Heart	PK–12	A+	All-girls Catholic; Coconut Grove; exceptional academic record

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

South Brickell residential pocket (near SW 15th Rd) — tree-lined streets adjacent to Simpson Park. Brickell City Centre & Mary Brickell Village steps away.

07 SHENANDOAH / SILVER BLUFF / CORAL GATE

ZIP 33135 / 33133

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

These three historic neighborhoods share a quiet dignity — 1920s bungalows, Craftsman cottages, and Mediterranean Revival homes on streets that predate modern Miami by nearly a century. Massive shade trees arch over avenues where local artists, architects, and multi-generational families have put down deep roots. Shenandoah Park anchors the community with tennis courts and weekend cultural events. Somerset Gables Academy delivers A-rated charter education to families who have discovered the area's extraordinary value relative to neighboring Coral Gables.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 6 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Shenandoah Elementary	K–5	A-	Strong bilingual program; high parent engagement; improving trajectory
Public	West Flagler Elementary	K–5	B+	Gifted program; solid academics; community school feel
Public	Kinloch Park Middle	6–8	B	Dual language option; athletic programs strong
Charter	Somerset Academy Gables	K–8	A	Top charter in area; STEM focus; lottery admission; highly competitive
Private	Riviera Day School	PK–8	A-	Small independent; personalized education; close community feel
Public	Coral Gables Senior HS	9–12	A	Minutes away; one of Miami's premier public high schools; IB World School

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Streets surrounding Shenandoah Park + Calle Ocho (SW 8th St) — walkable dining, Cuban coffee, and community markets.

08 COCONUT GROVE

ZIP 33133

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

Coconut Grove is Miami's soul — the city's oldest neighborhood and arguably its most beloved, draped in a bohemian canopy of mature banyans and oaks that create green tunnels even in the heart of summer. Three of Florida's most storied private schools cluster within the Grove's borders, making it the unrivaled private school capital of South Florida. The North Grove around CocoWalk delivers a walkable village of independent restaurants and boutiques. Waterfront estates along South Bayshore command some of Miami's most significant price points.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 7 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Private	Ransom Everglades School	6–12	A+	Top-10 private school in FL; Harvard feeder; \$42K tuition; exceptional campus
Private	Carrollton School of Sacred Heart	PK–12	A+	All-girls Catholic; national academic distinction; strong college placement
Private	St. Stephen's Episcopal Day Sch.	PK–8	A+	Highly selective; intimate classes; renowned arts and sciences prep
Public	Coconut Grove Elementary	K–5	B+	Solid neighborhood public; arts focus; improving scores
Public	G.W. Carver Middle	6–8	B	Dual language option; improving trajectory; athletics strong
Public	Coral Gables Senior HS	9–12	A	IB World School; minutes away; one of Miami's top public high schools
Charter	Somerset Academy Gables	K–8	A	STEM charter; competitive lottery; serves Grove families well

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

North Grove near CocoWalk — pedestrian village with dining, shops, and Peacock Park waterfront on Biscayne Bay.

09 CORAL GABLES

ZIP 33134 / 33146

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

George Merrick's 1920s vision of a Mediterranean-inspired city beautiful has aged into one of America's most sophisticated residential environments — a municipality so architecturally self-assured it enforces its own strict design codes to this day. The Biltmore Section and Platinum Triangle deliver tree-canopied boulevards and fountain-adorned plazas that make evening walks feel like a European sojourn. Miracle Mile and Giralda Plaza provide walkable fine dining anchored by independent restaurateurs. For families who demand the complete package — schools, architecture, walkability, prestige — Coral Gables is the standard against which all others are measured.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 9 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Sunset Elementary	K–5	A	Consistently A-rated; gifted & arts magnet; exemplary parent engagement
Public	Carver Elementary	K–5	A-	Dual language program; strong community; solid academics
Public	Ponce de Leon Middle	6–8	A-	IB Middle Years Programme; top-ranked middle school in county
Public	Coral Gables Senior HS	9–12	A	IB World School; Cambridge AICE; avg SAT 1150+; exceptional college placement
Charter	Gables Preparatory Academy	6–12	A	Rigorous academics; small school feel; competitive admissions
Charter	Somerset Academy Gables	K–8	A	STEM-focused charter; lottery admission; strong test scores
Private	Ransom Everglades School	6–12	A+	Borders Coral Gables; pinnacle of S. Florida private education
Private	Carrollton School of Sacred Heart	PK–12	A+	All-girls Catholic; borders Coral Gables; nationally ranked
Private	Univ. of Miami Lab School	PK–8	A	Research-based curriculum; UM faculty families; excellent early education

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Biltmore Section, Platinum Triangle — walkable to Miracle Mile, Giralda Plaza fine dining, and the Venetian Pool.

10 SOUTH MIAMI / PINECREST

ZIP 33143 / 33156

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW

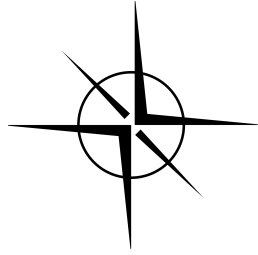
Pinecrest and South Miami represent the pinnacle of Miami-Dade's public school corridor — a leafy, estate-studded arc where Palmetto Senior High has anchored generational family decisions for decades. Acre-plus lots beneath mature canopies give the area a spaciousness rarely found this close to the urban core. Pinecrest Gardens provides a beloved weekend destination right in the neighborhood's heart. The community's demographics reflect its academic reputation: physicians, attorneys, educators, and executives who have done their research and arrived at the same conclusion.

SCHOOL LANDSCAPE · 8 OPTIONS

TYPE	SCHOOL	GRADES	RATING	NOTES
Public	Pinecrest Elementary	K–5	A	Top-5 elementary in Miami-Dade; gifted program; exceptional test scores
Public	Palmetto Elementary	K–5	A	Another A-rated option; strong parent involvement; arts and gifted
Public	South Miami Middle	6–8	A-	Pre-IB program; rigorous academics; feeds directly to Palmetto HS
Public	Palmetto Senior HS	9–12	A	IB World School; Cambridge AICE; #1 or #2 public HS in county annually
Public	South Miami Senior HS	9–12	B+	Performing Arts magnet; dual enrollment with MDC
Charter	Somerset Academy South	K–12	A-	STEM charter; serves South Miami/Kendall corridor
Private	Pinecrest School	PK–12	A+	Premier independent; exceptional college prep; 2 campuses; small class sizes
Private	Gulliver Preparatory School	PK–12	A+	Well-known independent; strong athletics and academics; 2 campuses nearby

WALKABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Pinecrest Gardens pocket — walkable green space and weekend markets. South Miami's Sunset Drive village core adds neighborhood character.



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