

**2019 Conchologists of America Convention**  
**Field Trips & Tours**  
**Monday and Tuesday June 17 & 18, 2019**

**Shelling with Captain Brian Holaway      Monday & Tuesday 8:00 – 12:00      \$100      Limited to 12 persons each day**

Captain Brian Holaway is a Certified Florida Master Naturalist who has been guiding shelling and nature trips out of Captiva for 20 years. He spends an average of over 200 days a year on the water. This time of year you will probably see live shells, manatees and dolphins on the way to “out of the way beaches.” TripAdvisor awarded Brian a Certificate of Excellence again in 2018, and in September he was recognized by the Lee County Visitors’ Bureau and the American Hotel & Lodging Assn. as a Certified Guest Service Professional for his knowledge, experience and commitment to maintaining the highest standard of competence.

**The Sanibel Thriller      Monday 10:30 – Noon      \$65**

The Sanibel Thriller is a 55’ super-catamaran with twin 440 hp Yanmar engines that will take you for an exciting ride that circumnavigates the islands of Sanibel & Captiva. While you cruise the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and Pine Island Sound, a naturalist will provide interesting facts about the islands and their wildlife. You are guaranteed to get “up close and personal” with dolphins. If you want to get great dolphin photos, sit in the back couple rows of seats, but “spoiler alert,” you probably will get wet. In fact, plan to bring a beach towel with you anyway because if it is breezy, you could get damp no matter where you sit.

**Visit the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife & the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Marine Laboratory**  
**Monday 1:30 – 4:30      \$40      Limited to 10 persons**

Established in 1968, **CROW** is one of the nation's leading wildlife rehabilitation centers. CROW provides medical care for more than 200 species and about 3,500 wildlife patients every year with the goal of returning them to their natural habitat. Our special “Wildlife Walk” Guided Hospital Tour will give you a chance to go “behind-the-scenes” and see the veterinarians in action.

The **SCCF Marine Laboratory** has been tracking water quality changes from Lake Okeechobee to the Gulf of Mexico since 2007. You will learn about their red tide studies, the toxic sea grass beds created by the red tide, and their oyster and sea grass restoration projects.

**Shelling Trip to Cayo Costa      Tuesday 10:00 – 4:00      \$65**

Travel on a power catamaran for an hour to Cayo Costa State Park. Watch for dolphins along the way. Chances are you will see them. They like to play in the boat’s wake. Cayo Costa has 9 miles of unspoiled beaches and is perfect for beach combing and shell collecting. The boat pulls into the State Park Dock on the bayside of the island where the ranger station is located. You can rent a bike and kayak at this location if you like, but most of us are more interested in the beach and shelling. Six miles of nature trails cross-cross the island. You can walk to the beach from the dock (about 1 mile across to the Gulf side) or climb aboard the free tram service to ride to the beach. Lunch is included.

**Cruise to Useppa Island      Tuesday 10:00 – 3:00      \$60**

You will travel aboard *The Lady Chadwick* to Useppa Island, an exclusive private island club with picturesque white cottages, pink pathways and lush tropical vegetation. Only members of the Island Club, guests of a members and people arriving with Captiva Cruises are allowed on the island. You will have lunch “on your own” in what once was the home of publishing magnate Barron Collier. Collier entertained his friends, the Rockefellers, the DuPonts, Thomas Edison and Henry Ford at this beautiful home. Visit the superb Barbara Sumwalt History Museum while you are there. It takes you back in history to the time of the Calusa Indians and up to the present day. Learn how the island was used to train troops for the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion. There is a \$5 charge to visit the museum, but it is thoroughly worth it. Dolphins love to play in the boat’s wake and you certain to see them during your trip. For great dolphin photos, go to the boat’s lower level back deck.

**Inside Thomas Edison’s Laboratory      Tuesday 10:30 – 3:00      \$55      Limited to 15 Persons**

This tour includes a 2-hour in depth behind the scenes program inside Edison's Botanical Research Laboratory, a National Historic Chemical Landmark. Learn about the operation of this historic laboratory first-hand from Edison/Ford curators. You will be given the extraordinary opportunity to have an up-close look at the machines and equipment used by Edison during in his research. Have lunch on your own at nearby Pincher’s and then continue touring the Edison-Ford estates.

**Trips you might like to take on your own. (Do not send payment for these tours.)**

**Buck Key Mangrove Tours**

**Kayak Tour      9:00 am, 11:30 am, 2:00 pm**  
**Paddle Boarding Tour (S.U.P.)      9:00 am, 11:30 am, 2:00 pm**

These 2-hour guided tours by Adventure Sea Kayak & S.U.P. take you from the ‘Tween Waters Resort on Captiva through the Roosevelt Channel to the island of Buck Key (less than ½ mile away). When you reach Buck Key you will follow a mangrove water trail through the heart of the island. Be on the lookout for manatees, dolphins, herons, egrets, anhingas, cormorants, ospreys, otters and live shells. The tours begin daily at 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM. The sea kayak tours are \$42.40 per person and the S.U.P. tours are \$53.00 per person. For more information call (239) 822-3337.