

Historic Hotels!

LI: Miami Beach's *Raleigh Hotel*

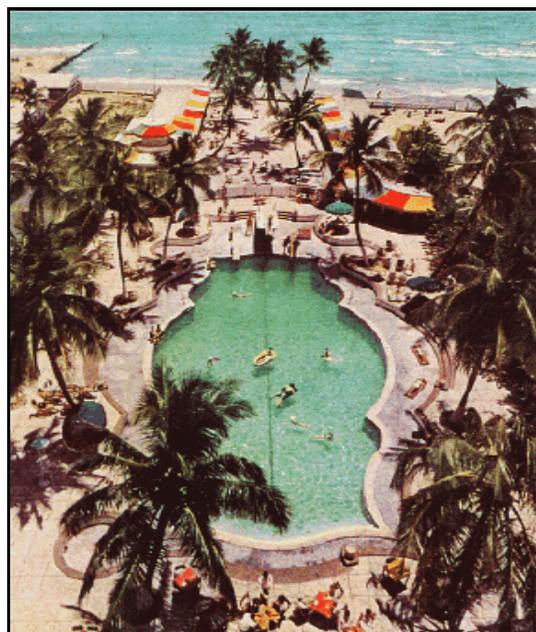
The Raleigh was designed by L. Murray Dixon, one of the most prolific and acclaimed architects of South Beach's historic Art Deco District. It remains one of the most significant buildings from the formative years of Miami Beach. With its regal facade, impressive interiors, and lagoon-sized pool heralded as a 'jewel' of modernist design, The Raleigh commands its place along one of the most famous beaches in the world.

The Raleigh, Miami Beach opened in 1940. Opening night's white tie ball featured Martha Raye. Desi Arnaz, an unknown local drummer, filled in for a sick band member and was discovered that very night. In the 40's the hotel was featured on the cover of Life Magazine. Ester Williams was filmed in over 20 of her famous swim scenes at The Raleigh, Miami Beach's award-winning swimming pool. The hotel remained at the forefront of Miami Beach's upscale hotels resulting from the tourism boom until the mid 60's.

In 1991 then The Raleigh, Miami Beach re-opened its doors for business, it was the first luxury hotel on South Beach offering 4 star service and cutting edge design. Extensive property and service enhancements have been made continuously each year since then. Throughout the hotel's public areas and guestrooms you will find vintage Art Deco 1940 furnishings, colorful fabrics and smart design, authentic terrazzo tile floors and hand weaved area rugs. Each guestroom features: JVC CD player and VCR, mini refrigerators, waffle bathrobes, irons and boards as well as walk-in cedar closets, in-room safes and hairdryers.

One of the first "Smart Hotels", The Raleigh, Miami Beach offers the most advanced high tech amenities. All rooms are equipped with bedside remote controls, which at the touch of the screen can turn on and off the lights, activate all audio and video equipment, adjust the air conditioning and dial all food and beverage facilities.

Today, The Raleigh, Miami Beach continues to be the backdrop of popular culture. Celebrity photographers Herb Ritts, Peter Lindberg, Bruce Weber and Ellen Von Unwerth have all shot photographs here. MTV's, The Grind and ESPN's Official Dan Marino retirement party were filmed poolside and recent motion pictures include: The Birdcage, Bad Boys, Fair



Game, Up Close and Personal and The Versace Story. [<http://www.amazing-miami-hotels.com/raleigh.html>]