



Presents:
"The Mound Key Expedition"

Cruise across the stunning, shallow, sun-dappled waters of Estero Bay as we examine the rich ecosystem upon which the native peoples of Southwest Florida constructed their prosperous society. See native birds, mangrove islands and prolific estuarine breeding grounds on the way to a hidden alcove that marks the entrance to the state archaeological treasure we call Mound Key.



Climb with us to the top of Mound One, the highest point in Southwest Florida and legendary home of the King of the Calusa Empire. From here, witness the realm over which these talented and industrious people ruled. Then, descend to the ancient water court, an inner sanctum for the native Calos here in their capital city.

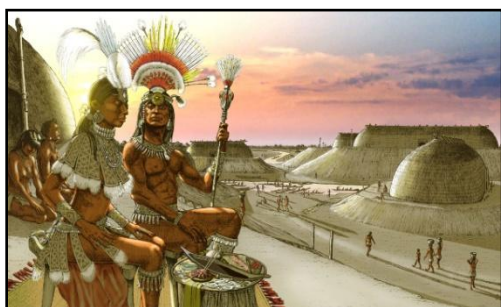


Photo credit: RRC, Florida Museum of Natural History

Learn about the various peoples who have called this 125-acre island home for the past 2,000 years: the Calusa, the Spanish missionaries, an aging pirate, some Cuban fisherman far from home and members of a now-defunct utopian commune that settled on the island in the late Victorian era.

LOCATED IN THE HISTORIC CORAL GABLES BILTMORE HOTEL
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