



History, Houses and Gardens

Description



The “Little

White House” was one of our favorite tourist attractions in Key West. President Truman spent 175 days at this house from 1946 through 1952 during eleven different trips. The house, which had been the naval station’s command headquarters during the Spanish-American War, World War I and World



decorated to serve as the winter White House of President Truman. Five found it a restful place as other presidents have used Camp David.

President Truman recorded his trips in official trip logs, which include

numerous mentions of key staff, both political and military, flying to Key West to meet with him. What they did and said are not revealed in the logs as the details may have been classified at the time. Part of the house is now a museum, and houses much of the furniture and decorations from Truman's presidency.

A few rooms of the house (not on the tour) are still available for use by presidents, their immediate families, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Interior, so it's protected by the Secret Service. No photos inside of the house, and cell phones must be turned off as their sensitive alarms.



One of the things the tour guide mentions about President Truman's

personality is that he frequently interacted with media at the Little White House and was referred to as "Truman the Human" by its members. He described Key West as his second favorite place after his





Category

1. Florida
2. RV fulltimers
3. States Visited

Tags

1. flowers
2. museums

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