We’ve been sharing tips and insider info to help you visit responsibly and #LoveItLikeaLocal during your next trip to the Bradenton Area. We hope you’ve been taking notes, because it’s time for the final exam!

Take your time answering the below questions, hit “submit” and then share your results for a chance to win X to enjoy during your next trip to the destination!

And relax! Because our tests are just as easy as our way of life…

Let’s start with CLEANLINESS:

1. After enjoying a family lunch at one of our pristine sugar-white sand beaches, what is the best way to dispose of the trash?
   1. Dig a hole in the sand and bury it
   2. Toss it into the ocean when no one is looking. Turtles love plastic straws.
   3. Place it in a bag, take it back to your room to sort for recycling and / or dispose of it in a nearby trash can when you leave
2. If you come across trash on the beach or on the roadway, you should:
   1. Pick it up carefully and dispose of it in the garbage
   2. Throw it in the ocean to see if it floats
   3. Find a shorebird to give it to.

Nice work. Let’s move on to WILDLIFE:

1. Check it out! A manatee swimming gracefully just feet from the shore! What should you do?
   1. Jump in and try to ride it. Yee haw!
   2. Approach quickly to snap an epic selfie together
   3. Take in the moment then take a photo from the shore to show your friends at home
2. It’s the summer, meaning its Sea Turtle Nesting Season in the Bradenton Area! On a morning walk you encounter what looks to be an unmarked nest. What should you do next?
   1. Dig it up and tally the number of eggs
   2. Keep walking. Got to get those steps in!
   3. Do not disturb the nest and call a local turtle watch organization or Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to report its location

Don’t give up yet! It’s time to see about SUNSCREEN:

1. When purchasing a broad-spectrum sunscreen for your trip to the Sunshine State, what should you look for on the bottle to ensure it is eco-friendly?
   1. A 50% off sticker
   2. Biodegradable ingredients such as Zinc oxide and titanium oxide and no mention of Oxybenzone
   3. An aerosol sprayer

Let’s talk TRANSPORTATION!

1. Lots of our communities are golf-cart friendly and in many, those and bikes are the preferred methods of transportation. When sharing the destination’s 35mph (or less) roads with golfcart drivers and bicyclists what should you do?
   1. Go slow, leave them plenty of room on the right-hand side of the road, only pass when necessary and watch for signals
   2. Challenge them to a race
   3. Speed up and pretend you don’t see them
2. What’s the best, most eco-friendly way to get around while on vacation?
   1. Multimodal options like Anna Maria Island’s free trolley or Island Monkey bus, golf carts or bikes, or downtown buses
   2. Driving three cars per family
   3. Monster trucks. Definitely, monster trucks

We are almost done! Next up, PRESERVATION!

1. The Bradenton Area is home to nature preserves (including Robinson Preserve and Emerson Point Preserve in Bradenton) as well as National Wildlife Refuges (such as Passage Key located between Egmont Key and Anna Maria Island). How can you help protect these important areas when visiting?
   1. Throw a party in the mangroves and invite all your friends
   2. See how many native plants you can pick to create a souvenir bouquet
   3. Educate yourself about which ones are visitor friendly (Robinson and Emerson) and which are off-limits (Passage Key)

Next up, SUSTAINABILITY!

1. What are some of the best ways to keep sustainability top of mind while visiting the Bradenton Area?
   1. Shopping locally at places such as Pine Avenue, Village of the Arts or Bridge Street, taking short showers, recycling and not using plastic straws
   2. Leaving your trash in the street, the water on and your car running. Relax, you’re on vacation after all!
   3. Taking a shorebird home with you. They’ll love flying in an airplane, right?!

And, finally… RESPECT:

1. It’s always fun to visit somewhere new and interact with the locals. What should you do when discussing the Bradenton Area’s traditions, culture and way of life with someone who lives here?
   1. Laugh, then pretend to get a phone call, and excuse yourself
   2. Interrupt and ask them to take a photo of you riding a manatee
   3. Listen, learn and do your best to love and protect the destination as if it was your home, too

Extra Credit:

What is your top tip for visitors looking to #LoveItLikeaLocal in the Bradenton Area? Share it here for a chance to be featured on our social media channels!