

KEY SAILING

Sail America's Best Beach!



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Key Sailing has a reputation more as a lifestyle than a simple business. Can you explain?

We offer our local and global community true rest from the stress of daily life. Key Breeze group charters carry only three couples off into the sunset, so your “date night” never includes someone else’s children. Private charters are affordable for family reunions, sailing instruction, birthdays, marriage proposals and even weddings.

You survived a foiled kidnapping while serving as a relief worker in Colombia. How has that affected your business?

This second chance at life was the gift that inspired our business. My U.S.C.G. Master Captain/Minister husband Tim and I are still interacting globally, but there is also a certain mission in serving “Fresh air, fine chocolates, and a few hours of peace on earth.” And while I do live with constant pain from the facial nerve damage caused by the Colombian incident, my story is not the most touching told from the Key Breeze.

As a published author with doctoral work in cross-cultural studies, you focused previously on educational journals and religious books. What are your latest projects?

“Sailing Home — You Can Go Home Again” shares the story of a young flautist from paradise who (with her childhood sweetheart) sets out to change the world. When she returns after serving in every continent but Antarctica, she discovers the world has “come to her” marina, right across from the bay front veterans park named in honor of her father. “25,000 Miles from Home” shares the inspiring stories of those first 12,000 guests sailing 25,000 miles in less than four years.

What are some of the accolades you have received in this short time?

Since 2007, Key Sailing has been recognized as a Sarasota *Top Five Star Tourist Attraction* by Trip Advisor; Official Educational Vessel of Sarasota by county proclamation; winner, “Siesta Key Business Person of the Year;” winner, Sarasota Chamber Small Business Awards’ Woman Entrepreneurial Excellence; has nominations for environmental excellence, guest service excellence, and “Tourism Leader of the Year” and has been a film site for both motion picture and national television.

What’s next for the “Key Breeze?”

Sailing another “25,000 Miles from Home.”