Frequently Asked Questions

Where do the most students live?
Most commuter students live near campus in either Coral Gables or South Miami. The Coral Gables campus is on the Southern edge of Coral Gables and South Miami is just south of the campus across South Dixie Highway (US1). The University Inn Condominiums and Valencia Apartments are just two very popular complexes near campus. There are many other apartment complexes, houses and efficiencies available within walking distance of the school.

Where are the most economical places to live?
Kendall and Dadeland areas are some of the least expensive places to live. They are suburban areas that overlap a few miles south and west of Campus. Two students could share a 2 bedroom apartment in the Kendall area for around $600 per person including utilities, with a bit of research and negotiation.

Is Kendall nice?
Kendall Drive (SW 88th Street) hosts a variety of restaurants and retail stores, while the area extending dozens of blocks north and south is home to many city commuters. Kendall is a safe middle class suburban area. Many grad and undergrad students live there. However, it is a bit far from campus and the commute can be trying. If you are looking at places in Kendall, look at apartments near the Snapper Creek Expressway (878/874) on-ramp at about 100th Ave; or near the Palmetto Expressway (826) around the Dadeland Mall area. Kendall drive and US 1 are parking lots during rush-hour. At best, the commute to school from Kendall will take 30 to 45 minutes during rush hour. You probably would want to avoid anything west of the Florida Turnpike /117th Ave. as the commute will take longer.

Can I live in South Beach?
While a fair number of third and fourth year commuter students live in South Beach, it is not recommended for first or second year students. The commute from SoBe is against rush-hour traffic and takes about 30 minutes most days. There are numerous low rise units (approx. $1,100 1bdr) and the rental prices for waterfront high-rises are negotiable. Areas such as Bal Harbour, Sunny Isles, Surfside, North Miami Beach, Haulover Beach and anything north of about 40th Street/the Julia Tuttle Causeway/I-195 would put you too far from the Gables Campus. Traffic really picks up north of I-195 so you will be fighting rush hour traffic north of Miami.

Is Coconut Grove nice?
Coconut Grove has a tropical atmosphere with sidewalk cafes and shops, yacht clubs and marinas. The Grove has an energy all of its own and is frequently visited by people from all over the world. It is advisable to physically check apartments posted as located in “Coconut Grove” as some listings may be in the surrounding areas and not best suited for commuter students. The commute from Coconut Grove is against traffic and takes about 10 minutes.

How can I feel a part of UM if I am not living on campus?
Student organizations welcome all students. Get involved. There are two specific student organizations for commuter students, CAB Commuter Advisory Board and Association of Commuter Students which offer opportunities to bond with fellow students and to participate in all that the University of Miami has to offer. Check out their website now... http://www6.miami.edu/studorgs/acs/