

A Tale of Two Vagabonds

Written by Terence Cantarella - BT Contributor
August 2012

There's the motel and there's the nightclub. So where did Sinatra hang out?



On a sweltering summer night in 1954, Frank Sinatra swaggers into a plush nightclub on Biscayne Boulevard. America is booming. Miami is its ritzy, neon-lit playground. And Sinatra has the world on a string.

He struts over to the bar, where his pals Dean Martin, Jackie Gleason, and Arthur Godfrey are drinking with tanned showgirls. He orders a Jack on the rocks, loosens his silk tie, and settles in to watch the stage show. Several drinks later, he's onstage too, snapping his fingers and belting out his latest hits with the house band. It's Miami in the Fabulous 50s, and impromptu performances by Ol' Blue Eyes are part of what gives the town its glamour.

Where those legendary performances took place, however, has been misreported and wrongly promoted in the decades since Sinatra and his cuff-linked crew left the scene.

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the **Vagabond** MOTEL
• COLOR T.V. IN LOBBY



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