

100 Bars in 100 Days

Hops MacBarley's 2012 Key West Bar Boondoggle
"The Peace, Love, and I.P.A. Tour"

BAR 10:

Kelly's Caribbean Bar, Grill & Brewery

<http://kellyscaribbean.com/>

301 Whitehead Street

Thursday 7/26, 6:15 pm

Havana Red Ale



People tend to forget that there is a brewery in Key West. Kelly's brews three flavors: Havana Red Ale, Key West Golden Ale, and Southern Clipper Wheat Beer. They are served on premises only, so if ya want one, ya gotta come here to get it.



And Happy Hour is as good time to do it. Jacko and I convened here for a mid-week HH to quaff the homebrews and chow down some wings. The Jamaican Jerk wings are outstanding! And at \$2 for a draft, and \$4 for a pound of wings, with this kind of flavor and quantity, ya can't beat it.

Jacko and I each had 2 Havana Red Ales and an order of eight Jerked wings and the combined bill came to \$18.28. How thrifty!

Chris and Doug were the barkeeps on this night. It seems like they have been the barkeeps here every time I've been here. They had a good crowd on their hands. All the outdoor stools and tall tables were taken, and only two indoor stools remained. Even a few standees hung out here and there. Beers kept pouring, and plate after plate of wings kept going by.

What makes it even better is the lay of the land. I probably don't go there often because I almost feel that it is too nice for me. It's not -- I'm pretty fucking nice too, dammit -- but the backyard patio area, with its tall trees, tropical veg, and strings of white lights, is just a little more refined than your typical bar area.





Every time I have visitors, I bring them here for dinner. The food is good, the prices are better than most, and the atmosphere blows people away. But every time I do come here for Happy Hour, I wonder why the hell I don't do it more often.

The inside is pretty cool too, though it might be easy to overlook the ceiling fans in the design of vintage aircraft engines, and the propeller blades that make up the legs of the tall bar stools. The history of the building as the original location of Pan Am Airlines is well preserved.

Even though the Tour is young, there have already been some nudges by places that used to be in the loop, poking me and saying *Hey, scrumhead, we're still here. Where the hell have you been?* Ah, hell hath no fury like a bar scorned.