



Cocoa Beach, Florida – Just North of Melbourne

Still warm in November and December, Cocoa Beach Florida, is on the eastern side of Florida on what is called the Space Coast. And just a short 30-minute drive south brings you to Melbourne, Florida, a little town inland from the banks of Florida that borders the Atlantic Ocean.

On December 5th, at the King Center for the Performing Arts, the traditional presentation of Peter Tchaikovsky's Ballet, *The Nutcracker*, based on the Joffrey choreography. Many versions of the holiday special are performed around the country, but this is one of the more acclaimed ones. It is an artistic masterpiece produced by Kirov Ballet trained directors and features Internationally acclaimed principals, sumptuous sets and elegant costumes which combine to rival any production in New York, or any where else for that matter.

And on December 8th, at this same King Center in Melbourne, is presented *Avenue Q*. It was a smash hit on Tony Award winner in 2004 on Broadway for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book. It is a hilarious show featuring a cast of people and "Muppet-like" creatures (although care is taken to be sure you know that The Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop have NO responsibility for its content, nor do they authorize or approve any part of the show).

It is about trying to make it big in New York with big dreams and a tiny bank account. Sounds a lot like *La Boheme* and *Rent* go to *Sesame Street*. It is more adult in nature than one might expect (full-puppet nudity), so the little ones might best stay home from this one.

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