

# **Sarasota is a jet set hot spot for the holidays**

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STAFF REPORT

So where were people taking their private jets during the holiday season?

Sarasota.

Flight Options, a Cleveland-based company with 130 aircraft, said that Sarasota was the No. 6 destination for its jets, surpassed only by West Palm Beach, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, Naples and Boca Raton.

The company also said that those results are a harbinger for winter 2008.

That would be good news for Southwest Florida, which is need of all the outside dollars it can get right now in a sluggish economy brought on by the downturn in the housing market.

"During the recently concluded holiday period, unseasonably cold temperatures sent private jet owners heading to warm weather destinations, which accounted for 7 of the Top 10 private jet destinations in December," Flight Options said Friday.

Rounding out its list of the Top 10 were Jacksonville, Aspen, Colo.; Grand Junction, Colo.; and Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

Sarasota's appeal, according to Flight Options? "The white sand beaches, azure waters and magnificent sunsets."