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CONTACT: Francesca Donlan, Jackie Parker 239-691-2485

'Samantha Brown's Places to Love' features Lee County

New episode airs at 4:30 p.m. (EDT) April 24 on PBS station WGCU; virtual watch party April 23

LEE COUNTY, Fla. – The popular travel show <u>Samantha Brown Places to Love</u> is back with its fourth season, focusing on safe and responsible travel at a time when viewers are all eager to hit the road.

In particular, the episode airing at 4:30 p.m. (EDT) Saturday, April 24, on PBS station WGCU features several Lee County destinations, including ECHO Global Farm, Matlacha, J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Edison and Ford Winter Estates and more.

"To have Samantha Brown and her crew here for an episode of 'Places to Love' is incredible," said Lee County Commissioner Brian Hamman, chairman of the Tourist Development Council. "Everyone watches her travel shows! We are honored that she has shined a spotlight on our natural wonders, beautiful beaches and personalities that make Lee County special."

This season is ideal for explorers, foodies and armchair travelers all looking for inspiration when planning their return to travel. In addition, season four touches on important themes, including supporting small business while traveling, the magic of the American road trip and outdoor adventure experiences.

"We hope we can help to inspire viewers to safely explore destinations that are working to welcome tourism through responsible means," says host Samantha Brown. "Above all, we hope that this season reminds viewers at home of the best parts of travel which include trying new things, experiencing vibrant cultures, meeting new people and celebrating the beauty of our diverse world."

Virtual watch party Friday, April 23

WGCU will host a virtual screening party that includes a Q&A session with Samantha Brown. If you are interested in attending the virtual event from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, April 23, please <u>reserve your spot here</u>. There will be prizes!

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The Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel in Southwest Florida includes Sanibel Island, Captiva Island, Fort Myers Beach, Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Estero, Cape Coral, Pine Island, Boca Grande & Outer Islands, North Fort Myers and Lehigh Acres. For media assistance, visit www.fortmyers-sanibel.com/media-central

* Link to image of Samantha Brown and Capt. Brian Holaway taking a boat ride on Pine Island Sound: https://samantha-brown.com/episodes/season-4/attachment/ft myers sq/