

Official Vacation Guide

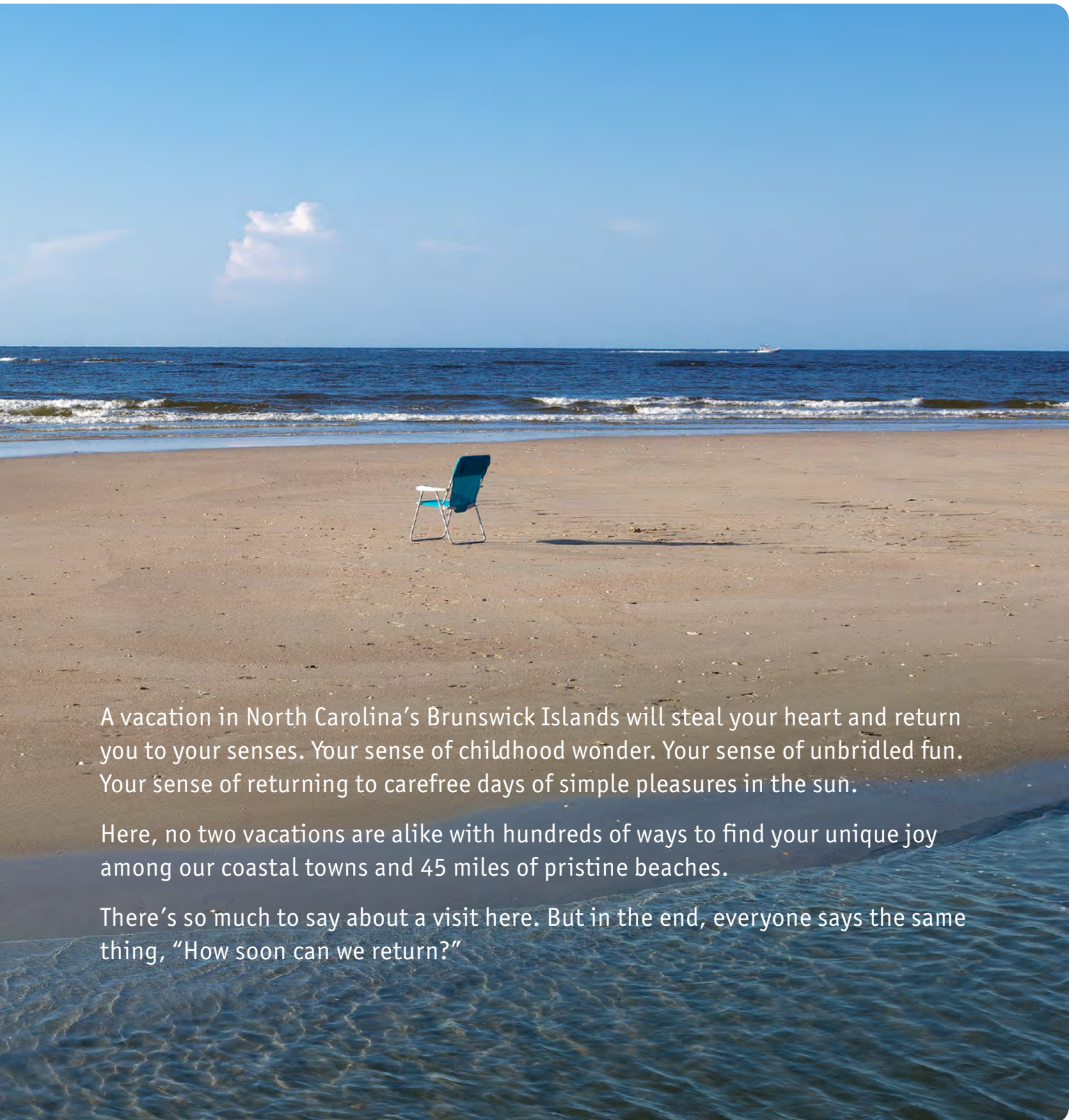
north carolina's
brunswick islands

Memories are made here.

SUNSET BEACH • OCEAN ISLE BEACH • HOLDEN BEACH • OAK ISLAND
CASWELL BEACH • BALD HEAD ISLAND • LELAND • SHALLOTTE • SOUTHPORT • CALABASH

Find your joy.





A vacation in North Carolina's Brunswick Islands will steal your heart and return you to your senses. Your sense of childhood wonder. Your sense of unbridled fun. Your sense of returning to carefree days of simple pleasures in the sun.

Here, no two vacations are alike with hundreds of ways to find your unique joy among our coastal towns and 45 miles of pristine beaches.

There's so much to say about a visit here. But in the end, everyone says the same thing, "How soon can we return?"

**A little book of daydreams, aspirations,
and happy places.**

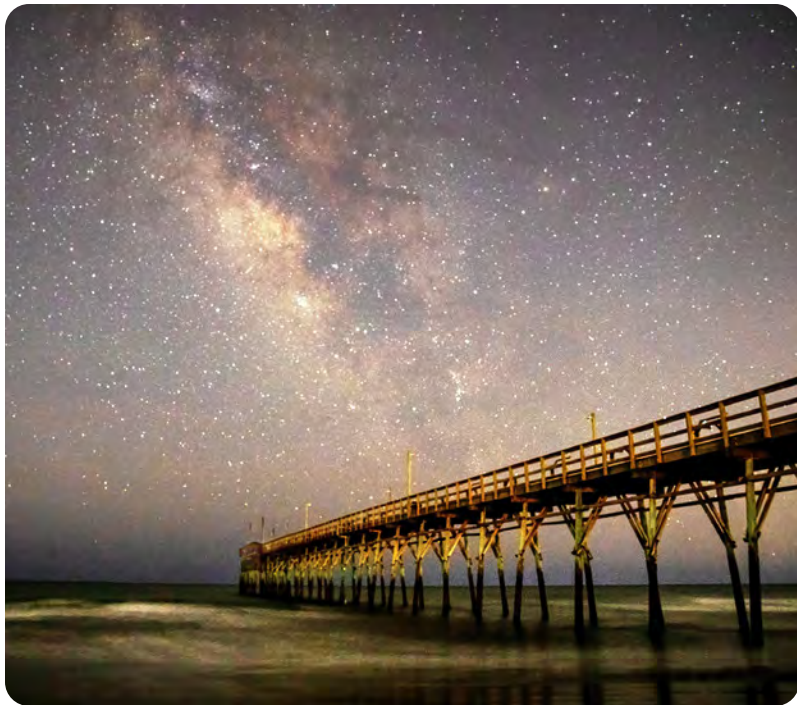
Within each page of your Vacation Guide, you'll uncover stories of sand and surf, saltmarsh wildlife, and friendships old and new. They weave their tales from spectacular ocean sunrises to sunsets to star-filled nights beyond.





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Coastal landscapes that will take your breath away.

Stare out across the marshlands and you'll discover something new—not just day-to-day but minute-by-minute. As the sun passes above, it continually reveals more treasures below. The range of wildlife here is astounding.

Our intertidal zones are an ever-changing zoological study of crabs (including hermit and horseshoe), starfish, sand dollars, jellyfish, and shell life. And, at night, starlight may reveal the wonders of Loggerhead Sea Turtles forming their nests. (We're careful to protect them.)

Here, we have five nature preserves to explore from the Green Swamp Preserve to Bird Island. And speaking of birds—which we do often—birdwatchers come here from all over to spy the hundreds of species that make the Brunswick Islands a temporary home along their migratory path.

Keep your eyes open and binoculars handy. You don't want to miss any of the natural wonders we have to offer.

Do as little as you want or as much as you wish.

Sure, relaxing on the beach doing nothing is what our beaches are all about. But when you're ready for some action, we've got a world of activities everyone will enjoy to fill your day. Dip a paddle into waters filled with natural wonders, dip a toe into the tide at a magnificent ocean sunrise, or dip a fork into a plate piled high with Calabash shrimp. This is your time to do exactly as you please.

Whether you long to join the folks at a festival or celebration or take a solo walk along quiet shores, your every wish is granted. Climb to lighthouse perches that reveal 360 degrees of island splendor, cast a line into the surf, or take a zipline tour through a swamp.

Every day brings new adventures, new pleasures—even if it's a well-earned nap in your favorite beach chair.







We share our home with some amazing friends.

Our barrier islands are surrounded by more than water. Look in any direction, up into the sky and down below the surface, and you'll find a world of habitats to be discovered. Tidal flats, creek-fed marshes, inlets, sand dunes, and maritime forests create healthy homes

where sea creatures, plants, and wildlife thrive. They also create an endless source of amazement for visitors of every age and interest.

Residents and visitors engage in supporting safe nesting sites for Loggerhead Sea Turtles on our beaches. High tides deposit an amazing array of interesting shells, especially after storms churn the waters out at sea.

It seems that birds find our islands to be the perfect rest stop on their travels along the coastal flyway. (Naturally, we named Bird Island in their honor.) Birdwatchers are often rewarded with sightings of rare species, along with glimpses of our beautiful resident bird friends.

There's something mesmerizing about the swooping flight of a snowy egret over the marsh or the fishing skills of a great blue heron. Keep your eyes open. There are as many as 330 species to be found here.

Not far from the beaches, local nature preserves offer hiking trails through lowland forests. You may even spy a few carnivorous plants along the way. Take a guided eco-tour deep into a swamp park through a maze of cypress knees that native reptile and amphibian creatures call home.

Take a hike. Take a boat. Take a kayak. But be sure to take time to explore the wonders around you.



Collect shells *and memories.*

As the tide recedes, you'll find that many of our beaches are laden with natural treasures brought in by the tide. Study up on the many kinds of shells here. You'll find them to be endlessly fascinating. They are Mother Nature's remarkable architecture for our sea creatures' homes.

You're welcome to gather shells as the ultimate beach vacation souvenir. But always remember that if you find a shell with a living creature inside, put it back on the beach or in the water so it can live peacefully and contribute to nature.

New treasures arrive daily here. So come again tomorrow or try another Brunswick Island to expand your collection.





CALICO SCALLOP

Argopecten gibbus

An eye-catching patchwork of red and pink gives this colorful bivalve its name. Often used to make jewelry, ornaments, and other accessories.



LETTERED OLIVE

Americoliva sayana

This olive varies from gray to reddish-brown with zigzag markings and lives near shore or on sand flats near inlets.



TRUE TULIP

Fasciolaria tulipa

This shell can be distinguished from a banded tulip by the 15 or more brown lines on the main body. Grows up to 9.5" in length.



COMMON NUTMEG

Cancellaria reticulata

This small, textured shell with an interesting lattice pattern is also home to a sea snail. The shell is quite sturdy and often still whole once it washes to shore.



KEYHOLE URCHIN

Mellita quinquesperforata

Commonly known as the sand dollar, this urchin is disc-shaped and is identified by its five keyhole slots. Please do not take any living sand dollars from their habitat.



LIGHTNING WHELK

Busycon contrarium

This ribbed whelk with its distinctive alternating bands was used by Native American tribes to fashion both tools and jewelry. Often found in both sand and muddy areas.



AUGER SHELL

Terebridae

The former home of a carnivorous snail, this high-spined shell is aptly named for its resemblance to a rock-drill bit.



BABY'S EAR

Sinum perspectivum

Look for this roundish shell on your stroll down the beach. It's usually solid white with a shallow coil. Don't be fooled by its delicate look. This shell was once home to a carnivorous creature!



MOON SNAIL

Naticarius canrena

This beautiful shell can be identified by its semitransparency. Its former occupant is known to feed on other snail and clam species.

Big group or small, we have the perfect spot for all.

Need a place for the whole family and then some? We guarantee we have the perfect beach home for your family get-together. And once you all fall in love with it, don't be surprised if your extended family invites themselves back again and again.

Maybe you're looking for a cozy room for two and breakfast served with a big helping of charm and hospitality. That's the specialty of B&Bs located in historic Southport.

You'll also find full-service resorts perfect for a wedding or a golf gathering, locally owned inns that have been the pride of generations, and hotels that offer swimming pools and other amenities.

Whether you're in pursuit of a weekend escape or a vacation that allows you to stay for weeks to fully recharge, North Carolina's Brunswick Islands is perfectly accommodating.





Vacation Rental Homes

From smaller bungalows and cottages to homes that sleep 20 or more, you have your choice of vacation rental homes and condos throughout our islands and beaches. What's your idea of the perfect home? A quiet screened porch? An oceanfront view? A canal setting with a private dock for a boat, kayak, crab nets, and evening cocktails? You can find homes with swimming pools and gourmet kitchens. Crowsnest perches and balconies. And many are happy to welcome your dog, too! Vacation rental homes offer privacy and flexibility for your family or group to enjoy each other's company all day and night.



Hotels and Inns

There's a lot to be said for daily housekeeping, breakfast, and a front desk attentive to your needs. Yes, a hotel beach vacation can be a sweet escape, and we offer plenty to choose from to suit your style and budget. Select from hotels on the beach, the Intracoastal, or on the mainland. Many offer catering services and banquet facilities to host weddings, reunions, and business meetings. Choose a golf resort or fairway villa for your foursome. There are also charming inns owned and operated by local families who have helped to make memories for visitors for decades, with amazing views and friendly service.



Bed & Breakfasts

Intimate, personal, and nostalgic, a B&B vacation takes you back to a simpler time when people opened their homes to visitors and shared their love and knowledge of the area. It's not just the homes but the owners' hospitality that make B&Bs so charming. Enjoy a great breakfast and then set out for a day of exploring towns or beachcombing. Return in time for evening cocktails, wine, or tea on a veranda and share your experiences with other guests. Each B&B is unique and offers its own special appeal.

Accommodations

Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Bed-and-Breakfast

Anchor Inn Motel

5611 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.352.4773
www.anchorinnmotelnc.com
18 rooms • island



The Beach House at Oak Island

500 Ocean Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.5644
www.beachhouseoki.com
22 rooms • island



Best Western

360 Whiteville Road NW
Shalotte, NC 28470
910.754.3044
www.bestwestern.com
58 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Best Western PLUS

Westgate Inn & Suites

1120 Towne Lake Drive
Leland, NC 28451
910.371.2858
www.bestwesternleland.com
100 rooms • mainland • breakfast



Brunswick Beaches Camping Resort

7200 KOA Drive SW
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.855.579.2267 • 910.579.7562
www.brunswickbeachescamping.com
5 rooms • mainland



Brunswick Plantation Resort and Golf

380 Brunswick Drive NW
Calabash, NC 28467
1.800.332.8576 • 910.685.7979
www.brunswickplantation.com
343 rooms • mainland



Captain Newton's Inn

120 West Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.477.2743
www.captainnewtonsinn.com
3 rooms • mainland

Captain's Cove Motel

6401 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.6026
www.captainscovemotel.net
42 rooms • island

Causeway Inn

12 Causeway Drive
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.866.931.5201 • 910.579.6216
www.sloanevacations.com
35 rooms • island

Comfort Suites

4963 Southport-Supply Road
Southport, NC 28461
910.454.7444
www.choicehotels.com/nc351
70 rooms • mainland • breakfast



Continental Condominiums

431 Sunset Boulevard S
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.348.7138 • 910.579.6500
www.sloanevacations.com
27 rooms • island



Days Inn

3670 Express Drive
Shalotte, NC 28470
1.888.440.2021 • 910.241.0031
www.daysinn.com
61 rooms • mainland • breakfast



Fairfield by Marriott

Inn and Suites
5181 Southport-Supply Road SE
Southport, NC 28461
910.454.0016 • 888.236.2427
www.marriott.com/ilmf
80 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Gray Gull Motel

3263 Holden Beach Road SW
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.6775
www.graygullmotel.com
17 rooms • mainland

Hampton Inn & Suites

4820 Port Loop Road
Southport, NC 28461
1.800.HAMPTON • 910.477.9830
www.hilton.com
88 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Holiday Inn Express- Leland/Wilmington Area

1020 Grandiflora Drive
Leland, NC 28451
910.383.3300
www.hiexpress.com/lelandnc
105 rooms • mainland • breakfast



Holiday Inn Express & Suites

3400 Southport-Supply Road SE
Bolivia, NC 28422
910.253.9100
www.hiexpress.com/southportnc
93 rooms • mainland • breakfast



The Inn at Bald Head Island

2 Keelson Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
910.367.7091 • 888.367.7091
www.theinnatbaldheadisland.com
10 rooms • island • breakfast



The Inn at Southport

512 North Howe Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.457.1100
www.innsouthport.com
16 rooms • mainland



Islander Inn

57 West First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.888.325.4753 • 910.575.7000
www.islanderinn.com
70 rooms • oceanfront • breakfast



LaPolena Bed and Breakfast

201 River Drive
Southport, NC 28461
910.477.6125 • 503.780.0040
www.lapolenabnb.com
4 rooms • mainland • breakfast



Marsh Harbour Inn

21 Keelson Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
833.644.2441
www.themarshharbourinn.com
12 rooms • island • breakfast



Oak Island Inn

8101 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.1689
www.oakislandinnnc.com
16 rooms • island



Ocean Crest Motel

1417 East Beach Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.3333
www.oceancrestmotel.com
42 rooms • oceanfront

Ocean Isle Inn

37 West First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.352.5988 • 910.579.0750
www.oceanisleinn.com
70 rooms • oceanfront • breakfast



River Hotel of Southport

706 East Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.294.6070
www.riverhotelofsouthport.com
68 rooms • mainland

Riverside Motel

103 West Bay Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.457.6701
www.riversidemotel.net
8 rooms • mainland

Robert Ruark Inn

119 North Lord Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.363.4169
www.robertruarkinn.com
4 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Sea Trail Villas

200 Royal Poste Road
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
800.675.0193
www.seatrailvillas.com
85 rooms • mainland



The Sunset Inn

9 North Shore Drive East
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.888.575.1001 • 910.575.1000
www.thesunsetinn.net
14 rooms • island • breakfast



Tru by Hilton

1462 Olde Waterford Way
Leland, NC 28451
910.523.5101
www.hilton.com/en/hotels/
ilmaaru-tru-leland-wilmington
99 rooms • mainland • breakfast



SureStay by Best Western

4646 East Coast Lane
Shalotte, NC 28470
910.755.6444
www.bestwestern.com
58 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Wingate by Wyndham

1511 North Howe Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.454.0086
www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotel/30565
84 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Cottages and Condos

Bald Head Island Rentals

P.O. Box 3012
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
1.800.680.8322 • 910.457.1702
www.baldheadislandrentals.com



Bald Head Island Vacations

2H Merchant Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
910.368.3250 • 888.367.7091
www.baldheadislandvacations.com



Better Beach Rentals

8601 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.1147
www.betterbeachrentals.com



Coastal Vacation Resorts

Holden Beach
131 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
1.800.252.7000 • 910.842.8000
www.coastalvacationresorts.com

Coastal Vacation Resorts Oak Island

8118 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1.888.703.5469 • 910.278.5405
www.coastalvacationresortsoakisland.com



Craig Realty

3262 Holden Beach Road SW
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.2777
www.craigrealtyhb.com

Hobbs Realty

114 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
1.800.655.3367 • 910.842.2002
www.hobbsrealty.com



Holden Beach Vacations

123 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
1.800.842.6949 • 910.842.6949
www.holdenbeachvacations.com



Intracoastal Vacation Rentals

6 Marina Wynd
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
1.877.344.6674
www.bhivacations.com



iTrip Vacation Rentals Oak Island

8821 East Oak Island Drive, Suite 4
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.250.3016
oakisland.itrip.co



Margaret Rudd & Assoc., Inc., Realtors®

210 Country Club Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1.800.486.5441
www.rudd.com



McClure Realty Vacations

24-A Causeway Drive
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.332.5476 • 910.579.3586
www.mcclurerealtyvacations.com



Oak Island Accommodations

8901 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1.888.297.8066
www.oakislandgetaway.com



PROACTIVE Vacations

Holden Beach
3369 Holden Beach Road
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.1550
www.proactivevacations.com



PROACTIVE Vacations

Oak Island
5515 E Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.500.1400
www.proactivevacations.com



Sloane Realty Vacations

Ocean Isle Beach
16 Causeway Drive SW
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.843.6044 • 910.579.6216
www.sloanevacations.com



Sloane Realty Vacations Sunset Beach

420 Sunset Boulevard South
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.348.7138 • 910.579.6500
www.sloanevacations.com



Southport Realty, Inc.

727 North Howe Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.457.6401
www.southport-realty.com



St. James Properties

4006 St. James Drive
Southport, NC 28461
1.800.245.3871 • 910.253.4734
www.stjames-properties.com



Stellar Beach Realty & Rentals

10B Causeway Drive
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
919.322.8137
www.stellarbeachrealty.com



Sunset Properties

Sunset Beach
419 South Sunset Boulevard
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.976.8204 • 910.575.8662
www.sunsetbeachnc.com



Sunset Properties

Ocean Isle Beach
100 Causeway Drive, Suite 2
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.866.976.8204 • 910.575.8662
www.vacationrentalsatoceanisle.com



Sunset Vacations

401 South Sunset Boulevard
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.800.331.6428 • 910.579.9000
www.sunsetvacations.com



Tiffany's Beach Properties

4 Maritime Way
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
910.457.0544
www.tiffanysbeachproperties.com



Williamson Realty Vacations

119 Causeway Drive SW
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.727.9222 • 910.579.2373
www.williamsonrealtyvacations.com



Golf Packages



Pet Friendly



Wedding Packages

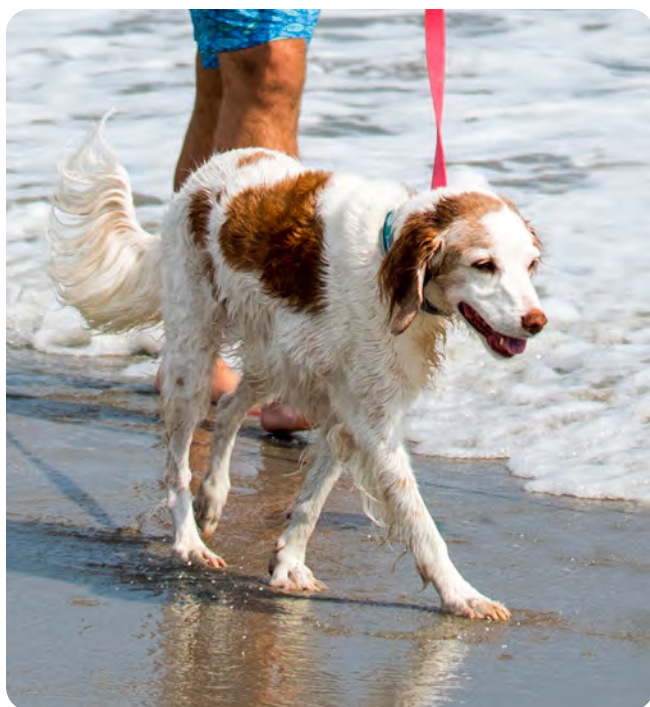
Here's the treat your dog's been begging for.

You know that sad look your dog gives you when you start packing your bags to leave? This time, give your pooch some news that's better than a biscuit. Tripswithpets.com named Caswell Beach and Oak Island numbers 1 and 2 on their list of "Top Dog-Friendly Beaches in North Carolina." So, pack a leash and toys in a bag all their own.

All six of our beautiful beaches welcome leashed dogs year-round (hours vary), and some offer off-leash freedom fall until spring. Your dog must be closely supervised in case they head for the water, and other guests will appreciate that they don't wander into their quiet space to check out their snacks.

You can find pet-friendly hotel and motel accommodations and a wide range of vacation rental homes that welcome pets. You'll also find boarding kennels throughout the area, some even provide beach outings for your dog or let you come by to take the dog out for walks. (Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy!)

Many of our towns and communities feature dog parks for friendly play and sniffing, including Salty Dog Park in Oak Island and Shallotte Township Park in Shallotte. Lots of our restaurants and breweries are pet-friendly, so bring the dog to enjoy our outdoor and waterfront dining settings.





Each of our six pristine beaches has its own dog policies and hours, but all require you to bag and remove dog waste to keep our beach strands beautiful for people and pets. Before you arrive, be sure to check out each island's pet policies at www.ncbrunswick.com/plan/pets.



New adventures are only a paddle away.

Few experiences are more serene and inspiring than a glide through the salt marshes and waterways of North Carolina’s Brunswick Islands. Whether you choose to travel by kayak, paddleboard, or canoe, your perspective changes with this close-range view sitting just above the water’s surface.

Explore an ecosystem of oyster beds, fish, crabs, and skates. In these quiet realms you can hear the call of birds, the rustle of marsh grass, and the splash of fish skipping through the water—along with the occasional squeal of delight from friends and family who spy something new.

No need to haul equipment from home. Our expert outfitters have everything you need to explore our wetlands, including gear, training, and tips for the best routes. The entire county offers paddling experiences, including blackwater rivers and creeks as well as the Intracoastal Waterway. Keep your eyes open for otter, deer, egrets, great blue herons, and brown pelicans, as well as bottlenose dolphins on their own fishing expedition.

How about a guided tour?

Plan a half- or full-day tour with the experts to get the most out of your experience. Outfitters can arrange everything for you,



your family, or group, including kayak, canoe, or paddleboard rentals and transport, along with expert guidance through marshland mazes and waterways. You may opt for a twilight tour to enjoy a magnificent sunset and stargazing from your kayak—truly a one-of-a-kind experience to write home about.

Rather walk than paddle?

Several of our towns provide boardwalks and scenic walkways along our rivers, marshes, and the Intracoastal Waterway. Bring your fishing gear or camera as you look for blue heron, eagle, spot, flounder, and alligator.

OUTFITTERS

The Adventure Kayak Company, Inc.

Beach Fun Rentals

Beachway Rentals and Services, LLC

Blue Planet Watersports

Boomers Rentals, LLC

Coastal Urge

Island Dan's

Julie's Rentals

Long Beach Paddle Company

Mr. Beach Rentals

OKI Bike & Paddle Co.

Riverwalk Rentals

Salty's Surf Shop

Sandlappers Beach Supplies

Summertide Adventure Tours

Sunset Beach Umbrellas

Surf Unlimited

The Oak Island Experience

The perfect destination for any angler.

When you live in a place that includes the “Seafood Capital of the World,” you know a thing or two about where to find and bring in the best catch. But we’re also known for amazing sportfishing. Ask any local and they’ll be happy to give a bit of advice.

What’s your pleasure?

You can simply claim your spot on the beach, plant your rod holder in the sand, and spend a glorious day casting into the surf for red drum, blue fish, whiting, or flounder, depending how they’re running. Cast a bait net and you’re a self-sufficient fishing marvel.

Want to get a little farther out? The five fishing piers on our barrier islands stretch hundreds of feet out into the bountiful ocean. There’s no limit to the conversation with locals and other visitors. Choose one and make a day of it. Fishing passes vary.

For exciting blue water adventure, our local charter captains can get you on the fish. You’ll find larger charters with the speed for deep sea adventure 45 miles out in the Gulf Stream as well as custom skiffs for inshore fishing in the marsh creeks and inlets. These guides know the species and the weather conditions to make the most of your half- or whole-day trip while trolling, bottom fishing, or casting for big game fish.

If you have your own boat, you’ll find plenty of public access ramps with parking throughout our towns, and private marinas offer slip rentals and fueling. For the ideal fishing vacation, tie up your boat on your private dock at a rental home with canal or marsh-side access.

Whether fishing is your passion or just an excuse to be on the water, we promise you’ll reel in great memories day after day.



FOR THE CURRENT TIDE CHART GO TO
WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/BEACHES/TIDE-CHART



HOLDEN BEACH PIER

Purchased by the Town of Holden Beach, plans are underway to upgrade the pier and other onsite public facilities such as concessions and beach access.

OAK ISLAND PIER

Rebuilt in 2019, the pier is complete with a pier house, a bait and tackle store, restaurant, and coffee shop.

OCEAN CREST PIER

Also located on Oak Island, the pier has a full line tackle shop and onsite weather station. A restaurant adjoins the pier.

OCEAN ISLE BEACH PIER

An Ocean Isle family favorite, the pier has bait and tackle as well as an arcade, grill room, and ice cream shop.

SUNSET BEACH PIER

A 900-foot stretch into the ocean, the pier has a snack bar and tackle shop and is fully handicap accessible with free scooter chairs.

Fresh from our shores to your plate.

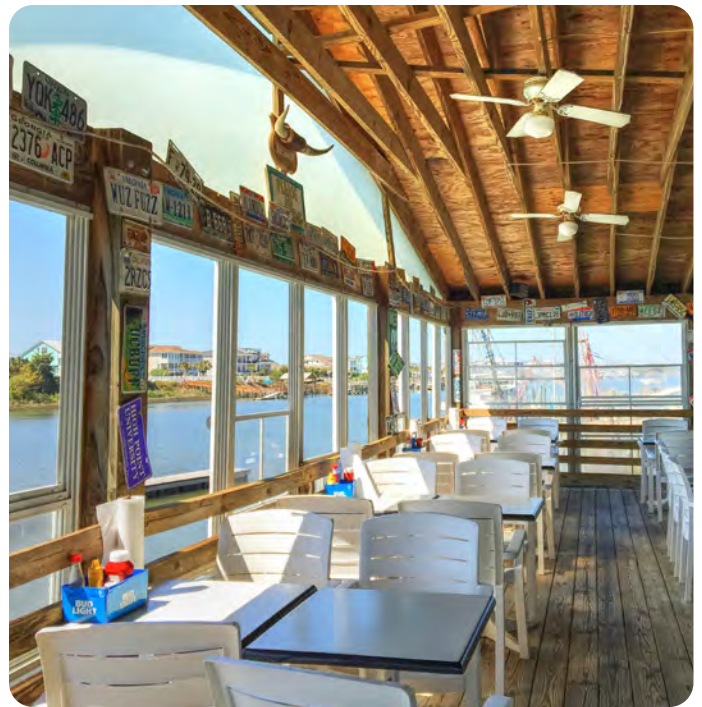
Raise your glass—whether craft beer or tropical umbrella drink—to the seafood capital of the world.

Find your culinary bliss in fresh catches from the ocean, inlets, and bountiful salt creeks. Fresh-picked produce from local Carolina farms and fields are all lovingly prepared and fussed over to perfection.

Here, in NC's Brunswick Islands, we're passionate about good food. Discover why our Calabash shrimp is declared world famous and our oysters are the pearl of the East Coast. See how we raise good ol' Eastern Carolina barbecue to a mighty fine art form. Then, pair them all with our local wines, a flight of craft beer, or our Carolina sweet tea.

Whether you indulge at one of dozens of waterfront bistros or bring your market catch back to your beach house to feed your flock, nobody leaves the table hungry.

DIG IN.



“

There are wonderful places to dine
and memories to be made!”

-Angela, 10 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



All your family's favorites, no matter what their favorite is.

Is it the salt air that makes us hungry? Or just the amazing food that calls us back for more?

Whether you arrive at your favorite restaurant by boat, on foot, or in an SUV filled with family, you're about to experience one of the Brunswick Islands' most coveted vacation traditions—big helpings of freshly prepared food, served with warm and gracious hospitality from hush puppy starters to decadent desserts.

Yes, we have a famous little town heralded as “The Seafood Capital of the World,” but there's no limit to the cuisine offerings throughout the area—Asian, Mexican, Italian, barbecue, burgers—oh, who are we kidding? We're here for the seafood! It's best served with a frosty cold drink while overlooking the Atlantic, the Intracoastal, the Cape Fear River, or beneath oak trees beside green fairways. Some of our restaurants even start their seafood preparation before dawn when

they send out their own boats to pull in the freshest catch.

And then there's world-famous Calabash style seafood—seafood prepared in the style that originated in the 1930's along the docks of its namesake town. What makes it so special that it's now imitated all over the world?

We take fresh shrimp, fish, oysters, clams, and crabs, fuss over them with a feather-light batter, drop them into a sizzling fryer for a hot second, and, voila, you have a puffy, flaky taste of fresh and salty heaven. Calabash style isn't Calabash unless it's served in mega portions. And for purists, Calabash seafood isn't Calabash unless it comes from its Brunswick Islands home. There's no substitute for authenticity.

Mornings at the beach should come with fresh-brewed coffee, tea, or other eye-openers. Our coffee shops are amazing and range from those that boast fancy barista wizards to coffee/surf shops that send you out with a good cup of joe and a few surf tips. For something liquid a little later in the day, you'll find a winery, breweries, taprooms, and wine bars.

Don't miss the North Carolina Oyster Festival each October or any of the other festival celebrations throughout the year. There are always new tastes to try and old favorites to enjoy while you listen to music, explore arts and crafts, or try a carnival game.

Have you worked up an appetite yet? We're ready to serve.





Come see why we're called "North Carolina's Golf Coast."

North Carolina's Brunswick Islands enjoys a rich golf tradition. With 30 championship courses by renowned course architects like Arnold Palmer, Rees Jones, Dan Maples, Willard Byrd, Tim Cate, and Fred Couples, it doesn't take long to understand why this place has been crowned North Carolina's Golf Coast. (And if this isn't enough to keep you busy, there are 80 more courses within an hour's drive.)

It's hard to keep your head down when there's scenery like this to enjoy—a picturesque coastal landscape of ocean dunes, waterways, salt marshes, and forests. You'll find 120 miles of sweeping emerald fairways including classic St. Andrews-style links courses, along with genteel but deceptively tricky Southern classic courses.

Not to brag, but we're masters at hosting golf buddy outings, family and couples play, or a child's first taste of the game—in a low-key setting that many prefer to the Grand Strand down the road. No matter your skill level, there's no better way to hone your skills than in a place where the love of the game is celebrated with every round.





NC's Brunswick Islands
GOLF GUIDE



For your **free Golf Guide** or
for more information, visit
www.NCBrunswickGolf.com

Golf Courses

Course Name, # of Holes Location, Contact Information	Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Course Architect	
Brunswick Plantation Resort and Golf. 27 holes 380 Brunswick Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 1.800.332.8576 • 910.685.7979	72	6967	73.2	135	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd/ Clyde Johnston	
Carolina National Golf Club. 27 holes 1643 Goley Hewett Rd. SE, Bolivia, NC 910.755.5200	Egret/Heron	72	7017	75.2	146	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Fred Couples/ Gene Bates
	Heron/Ibis	72	6961	74.6	146				
	Ibis/Egret	72	6944	74.6	145				
Carolina Shores Golf & Country Club. 18 holes 99 Carolina Shores Dr., Calabash, NC 910.579.2181 • 1.855.371.0367	72	6783	71.8	135	Bermuda	Yes	No	Tom Jackson	
Compass Pointe Golf Club. 18 holes 2405 The Pointe Club Dr., Leland, NC 910.777.7766	72	7085	74.4	138	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	Rick Robbins	
Crow Creek. 18 holes 490 S. Crow Creek Dr., Calabash, NC 910.287.3081 • 1.877.287.3081	72	7241	74.9	138	V8 Bent	Yes	Yes	Rick Robbins	
The Lakes Country Club. 18 holes 591 South Shore Dr., Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 910.845.2625	72	6692	72.9	129	Bermuda	No	No	Ed Riccoboni	
Leopard's Chase Golf Club. 18 holes 6330 Castlebrook Way, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.579.5577 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7155	74.3	140	TiffEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate	
The Links at Brick Landing. 18 holes 1882 Goose Creek Rd. SW, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.754.7600	71	6586	72.0	135	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Mike Brazeal	
Lion's Paw Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1703 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7003	74	132	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd	
Lockwood Folly Country Club. 18 holes 19 Clubhouse Dr. SW, Holden Beach, NC 910.842.5666 • 1.877.562.9663	72	6836	72.9	137	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd	
Magnolia Greens Golf Course. 27 holes 1800 Tommy Jacobs Dr., Leland, NC 910.383.0999	72	7127	74.7	140	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	Tom Jackson	

Course Name, # of Holes Location, Contact Information	Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Course Architect	
Meadowlands Golf Club. 18 holes 1000 Meadowlands Tr., Calabash, NC 910.287.7529	72	7054	74	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd	
Oak Island Golf Club. 18 holes 928 Caswell Beach Rd., Caswell Beach, NC 910.278.5275 • 1.800.278.5275	72	6720	73.1	131	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	George Cobb	
Oak Island Par 3 Golf. 18 holes 4188 Vanessa Dr., Oak Island, NC 910.454.0905	54	1951	52.3	-	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	No	No	-	
Olde Fort Golf Club. 18 holes 3189 River Rd. SE, Winnabow, NC 910.371.9940	72	6400	69.6	112	Bermuda	No	No	Raeford Trask	
Oyster Bay Golf Links. 18 holes 614 Lakeshore Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.3528 • 1.800.697.8372	70	6685	72.1	136	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples	
Panther's Run Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1703 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7089	73.7	140	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate	
The Pearl Golf Links. 27 holes 1300 Pearl Blvd., Calabash, NC 910.579.8132 • 1.888.947.3275	73	7041	72.9	137	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples	
Rivers Edge Golf Club. 18 holes 2000 Arnold Palmer Dr., Shallotte, NC 910.755.3434 • 1.877.RIVER.18	72	6975	72.7	142	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Arnold Palmer	
Sandpiper Bay Golf & Country Club. 27 holes 800 N. Sandpiper Club Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.9120 • 1.800.356.5827	Sand / Piper	71	6504	71.2	127	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
	Piper / Bay	72	6746	72.6	133	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
	Bay / Sand	71	6518	71.6	135	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
Sea Trail. 54 holes 210 Clubhouse Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 800.764.6070	Jones	72	6754	73.2	138	Champion Bermuda	No	Yes	Rees Jones
	Byrd	72	6658	72.6	129	TifEagle	No	Yes	Willard Byrd
	Maples	72	6384	72	138	Bent	No	Yes	Dan Maples
Thistle Golf Club. 27 holes 1815 Olde Thistle Club Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 910.444.2500 • 1.800.571.6710	S/C	71	6373	70.8	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	C/M	72	6616	72.2	131	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	M/S	72	6494	71.6	133	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
Tiger's Eye Golf Links. 18 holes 360 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.7227 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7014	73.3	141	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate	

**Big fun for our
littlest guests.
And their parents.**



LEARN MORE AT
WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/THINGS-TO-DO-WITH-KIDS



You've found an entire island kingdom where kids rule the day. Here, kids can be kids and parents can too. With 45 miles of shoreline to explore, there will always be another sandcastle to create or ebbing wave to boogie board. The firm sand is perfect for bike rides, bocce ball, kite flying, cornhole, and tidal pool exploration.

There are shells to be collected, scuttling crabs to be chased, and dolphins to be sighted. At night the beach becomes a starry wonderland where the ocean's roar feels louder, and the mysteries of a sea turtle's return is something to reverently behold.

This vacation is a perfect time to discover new skills and enjoy new experiences. Sign up for surf lessons, golf lessons, a family kayak excursion, a charter fishing trip, or a dolphin cruise. There's no better way to discover nature than to meet it face-to-face in the many nature preserves, in a planetarium, or zip lining through The Swamp Park.

Of course, kids who rule a kingdom should view their realm from atop a lighthouse where they can shout, "I hereby declare this island in the name of...me!" We are at their service.



MORE IDEAS FOR KIDDING AROUND

- The Swamp Park
- Kevin Bell Skate Park
- Battleship NORTH CAROLINA
- Brunswick Nature Park
- Oak Island Nature Center
- Oak Island Lighthouse
- Old Baldy Lighthouse
- Surf Lessons
- Golf Lessons
- Ingram Planetarium
- Kayak Excursions
- Adventure Cruises
- Crabbing
- Splash Pad Fun
- Go-Karting
- Miniature Golf
- NC Maritime Museum
- Museum of Coastal Carolina
- Old Bridge Museum
- Day Camps
- Fishing Charters
- Pier Fishing
- Ferry Rides
- Disc Golf
- Biking

Let the ocean be your *Something Blue.*



For your **free Wedding Guide**,
visit www.NCBrunswickWeddings.com
and let the planning begin!



There's nothing more love affirming than a destination wedding. And the choices here are many. You can stand before the endless ocean and pledge your commitment to the one beside you. Or take your vows under the awe-inspiring ancient live oaks. If golf is your fancy, a carpet of emerald fairway can make the perfect backdrop for your special day. North Carolina's Brunswick Islands presents not only a perfect setting for a wedding, but everything you need to make it memorable for you and your guests.

Venues abound from elegantly uncomplicated beach set ups to elaborate resort and clubhouse ballrooms. And accommodations for your family and friends run the gamut from hotels, inns, and B&Bs, to vacation rental homes that fit the largest families. Catering, flowers, planners, dresses, personalized gifts—are all given the special Brunswick Islands touch.

And when it comes to the honeymoon, no travel required. You've already begun life's journey together in the perfect spot to make dreams come true—and a lovely place to return for many anniversaries to come.

Our special settings make more than weddings special.

Weddings? Yes, but we're an ideal destination whenever friends and family gather. North Carolina's Brunswick Islands attracts generations as a place to reunite and relax for family reunions, golf outings, class reunions, and friends' getaways. Accommodation options run the gamut from vacation rental homes that can accommodate 20 or more, or at hotels and inns across our friendly islands and towns. With just the right combination of things to do and wide-open spaces to kick back and reminisce, our islands and towns are all about connection.

WEDDING AND REUNION VENUES

801 Ocean Event Center

The Barn at Rock Creek

Brick Landing Venue

The Brunswick Center at Supply

Brunswick Plantation

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

Carolina National Golf Club

Endless Summer Sailing Charter

Greenlands Farm

Ingram Planetarium

Islander Inn

Lockwood Folly Country Club

Magnolia Greens Golf Course

Museum of Coastal Carolina

Ocean Isle Inn

Sea Trail Convention Center

Silver Coast Winery

Slate & Cypress Weddings and Estate

Southport Community Building

St. James Community Center

The Village Chapel of
Bald Head Island



Sunset Beach

What made *National Geographic* rank this beach among the “21 Best Beaches in the World?” Well, you might say “it’s plenty of nothing.” With virtually no commercial development, towering dunes and spectacular sunrises and sunsets are all that are needed to create a world-class setting that speaks to the soul in a whisper.

This natural gem is the smallest of our barrier islands. Just the right size to wander its

expansive beachfront to visit the adjoining Bird Island. Birdwatchers flock here to observe birds of all kinds who find this to be the perfect rest stop on their travels north and south.

At low tide, the vastness of this beach unfolds before you in a magical way—ideal for children’s cartwheels and bike wheels. You just may find yourself twirling around, arms spread wide, in a giddy celebration of the sun and sand.



“

Sunset Beach is low-key and everyone is always warm and welcoming.

-Emily, 25 years of vacations in NC's Brunswick Islands



Ocean Isle Beach



Ocean Isle Beach is a family favorite with its beautiful palm-lined streets. There's no telling how many of its fans caught their very first glimpse of the ocean here as toddlers—then return year after year until it's their turn to share the experience with their children and grandchildren.

The island has a wide variety of accommodations—from oceanfront hotels to condos to vacation home rentals. The island's marsh-side vacation rental homes with docks on deep canals are ideal for families, where you can tie up your boat, launch your paddleboard or kayak, or cast a line or crab net.

Ocean Isle Beach has been named "The South's Best Tiny Town" by *Southern Living*. Tiny perhaps, but this beach village is packed with

big fun. The lively town offers something for everyone with a wide array of restaurants, many with waterfront views. Challenge the family to a mini-golf tournament, try your luck at the arcade, or take a zip-line tour above the wonders of the ecosystem at The Swamp Park. Adults can also enjoy the adventure of finding a new favorite refreshment at the local brewery or winery.

Whether it's your first glimpse of the ocean or one of thousands in your life, the pleasures of Ocean Isle Beach never grow old.



“

My happy place. Ocean Isle Beach is peaceful, tranquil, and serene. I have so many memories here.

-Kellie, 10 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



An aerial photograph of a wide, sandy beach. The ocean is on the left, with gentle waves washing onto the shore. The beach is mostly empty, with a single person sitting under a small umbrella in the middle ground. In the background, a row of colorful houses and buildings lines the coast. A tall, white lighthouse is visible on the horizon under a clear blue sky.

“

There's an atmosphere that is hard to explain. Our family "gets it."

-Jackie, 45 years of visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

Holden Beach

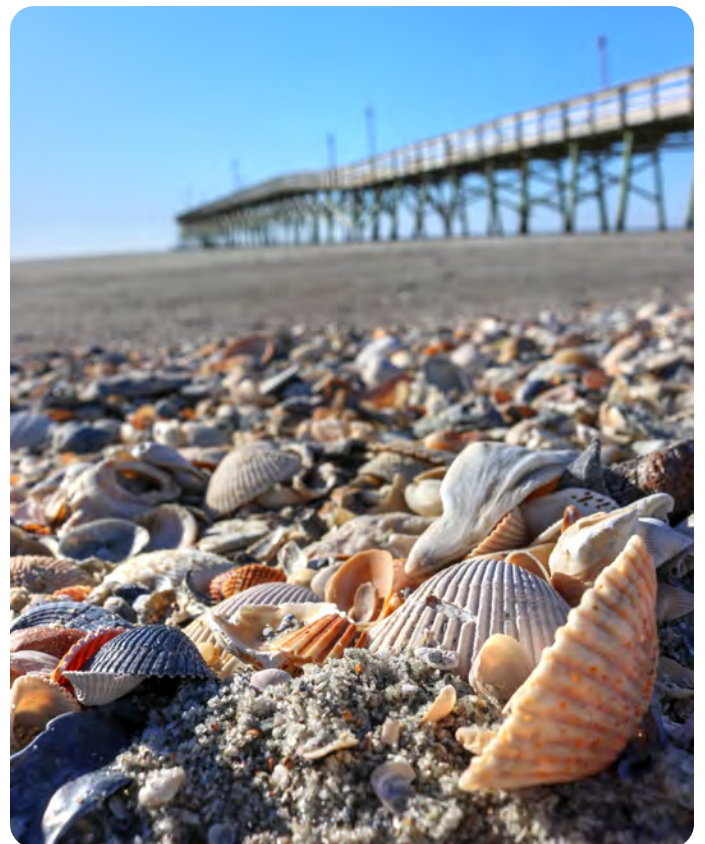
Your spirits soar as you cross over the Intracoastal Waterway on the Holden Beach Bridge. It quite literally lifts you up above the water and sweeps westward providing a bird's eye view of the majestic expanse of beach below. You can't help but say, "Ahhhhh" as you come in for a soft landing in a vacation experience that soothes the soul.

Holden Beach welcomes families to inviting vacation beach homes—no hotels here—as well as fishing and shrimping trawlers to its working waterfront. Spend the days inspecting tidal pools along the beach for treasure troves of perfect shells while working up an appetite for the fresh local seafood arriving daily.

Prefer to bring in your own catch? While the Holden Beach fishing pier is temporarily closed as upgrades are planned for the site, a wade in the surf with a rod and some bait gives intrepid anglers plenty of chances to put dinner on the table.

The Intracoastal Waterway is your backyard where kayakers lazily paddle while checking out the wildlife. And your glorious front yard of pristine beach invites you to cycle or saunter to popular Lockwood Folly Inlet on the island's eastern point.

The epitome of low key, Holden Beach is the bridge to a true vacation escape.



Oak Island

Oak Island welcomes back generations of happy visitors with mile after mile of beautiful beaches, a full-service marina, and oceanfront dining. You'll find that some of our happiest visitors wear nothing but a collar and just can't help drooling over the broad stretch of sand before them. Oak Island and adjoining Caswell Beach have been named as two of "North Carolina's most dog-friendly beaches" with designated areas that allow unleashed pups to frolic from mid-October to mid-March.

For the rest of us, the largest of our barrier islands offers a fishing mecca with two fishing piers and several boat ramps, along with four

kayak ramps. 60 convenient public beach access points welcome sun and surf worshipers. There's always something new to discover at the Oak Island Nature Center where you can explore the island's diverse salt marsh ecosystem or wander down the Talking Trees Trail.

Oak Island lives like a neighborhood with all the everyday conveniences that make you feel at home. Plus you'll find plenty of unique shopping so you don't go home empty-handed.

Dogs may wag their tails in approval here. The rest of us are more than happy to sit and stay.



When I'm there, it feels like I am home.

-Genie, 35 years of vacations in NC's Brunswick Islands





“

Caswell Beach is beautiful and uncrowded.
I love the hometown feel.

-Cynthia, 12 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



Caswell Beach

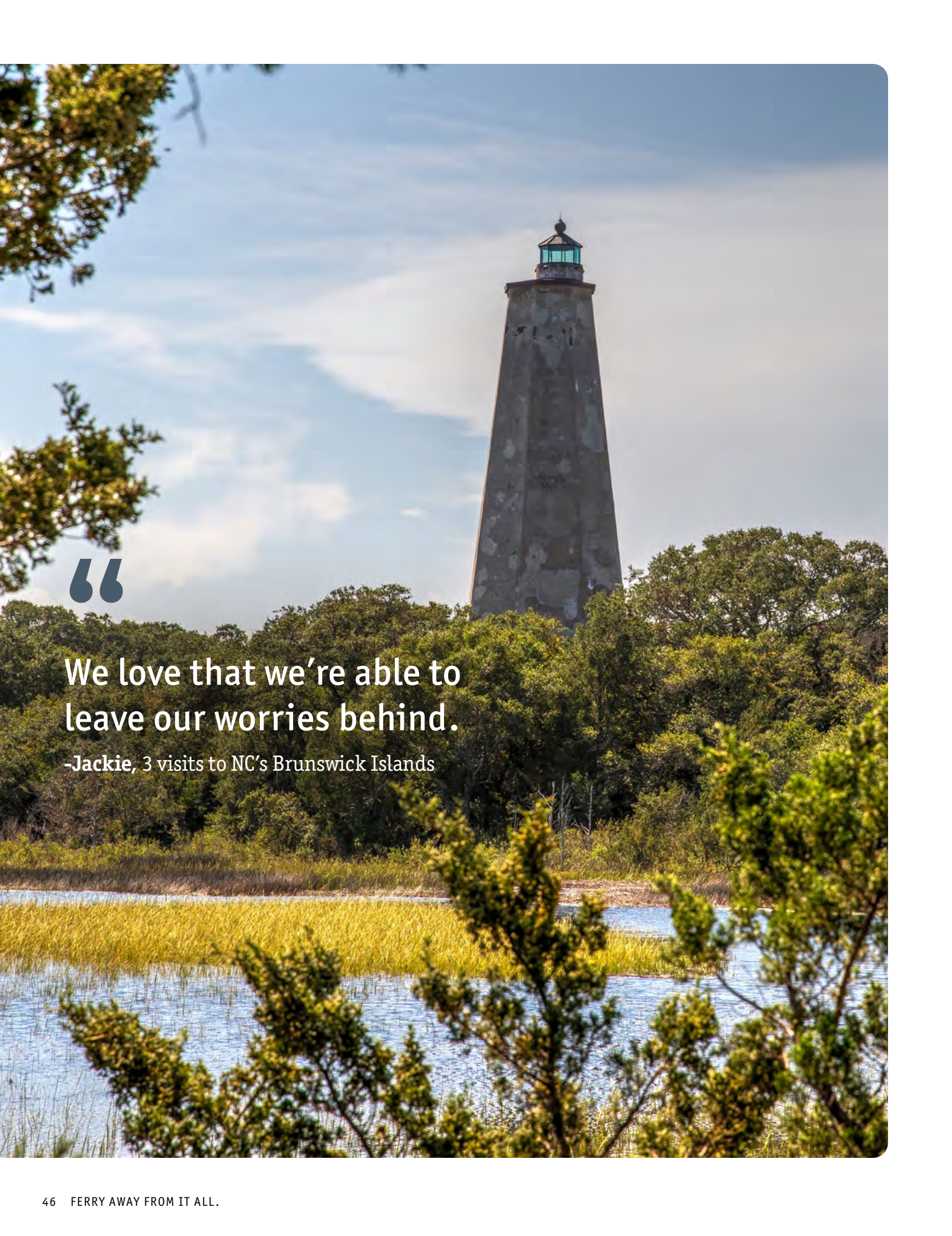
If the climb to the top of Oak Island Lighthouse in Caswell Beach doesn't leave you breathless, the view will. At 153 feet high—the tallest structure for miles—your climb is rewarded with a perfect perch to overlook the beauty and expanse of our barrier island ecosystem.

On the marsh side, a maze of waterways and inlets are waiting to be explored by kayak or shallow draft boat. Your bird's-eye view also reveals the estuarine wilderness, a nursery for birds, fish, and other wildlife.

Wildlife outnumbers people here as dog-friendly and quiet Caswell Beach is the most sparsely inhabited of our beaches. But you'll find plenty of ways to enjoy this peaceful setting including an oceanside Cobb-designed golf course long known as a hidden gem, along with great restaurants and shopping just minutes away.

Quite simply, this is a wonderful place to detach from the mainland, treat yourself to the serenity of the surf, and allow yourself to wander to your heart's content.





“

We love that we're able to
leave our worries behind.

-Jackie, 3 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

Bald Head Island



Your Bald Head Island vacation begins with a farewell to cars and traffic and a refreshing ferry or boat ride to a unique island that's more nature preserve than resort. In fact, 10,000 of its 12,000 acres are wildlife habitats set aside for stewardship by the Bald Head Island Conservancy.

No cars allowed, your mode of transportation is by golf cart, bike, or flip flops. Pathways lead from upscale beach homes through natural vegetation to broad white sand beaches. This environmental oasis attracts visitors of all species. A plethora of birds inhabit the forests, salt marshes, and seashore. The island is also one of the nation's most extensive sea turtle nesting sites.

Your visit isn't complete without a visit to Bald Head Island Lighthouse, lovingly called "Old Baldy." Since 1817, it's welcomed seafarers and enchanted visitors. Only 108 steps to a bird's-eye view!

Creatures of nature may rule here, but we haven't forgotten the natural creature comforts of humans. Bald Head Island offers shopping, restaurants, fresh seafood, a marina, and one of the South's premier golf courses.

A Bald Head Island vacation is the perfect way to unplug, relax, and let nature take care of the rest.



Leland

Even beach lovers can't stay away from this inland town known for its championship golf, great dining, paddle sports, and natural beauty. Just one mile away from the port city of Wilmington, N.C., Leland delivers the best of both worlds—city conveniences and quiet small-town charms.

The town is a haven for those who love to commune with nature by kayak, bike, or foot. Nearby Brunswick Nature Park offers more than seven miles of mountain bike trails for all skill levels. At Belville's Riverwalk Park, you can watch for osprey, herons, and eagles

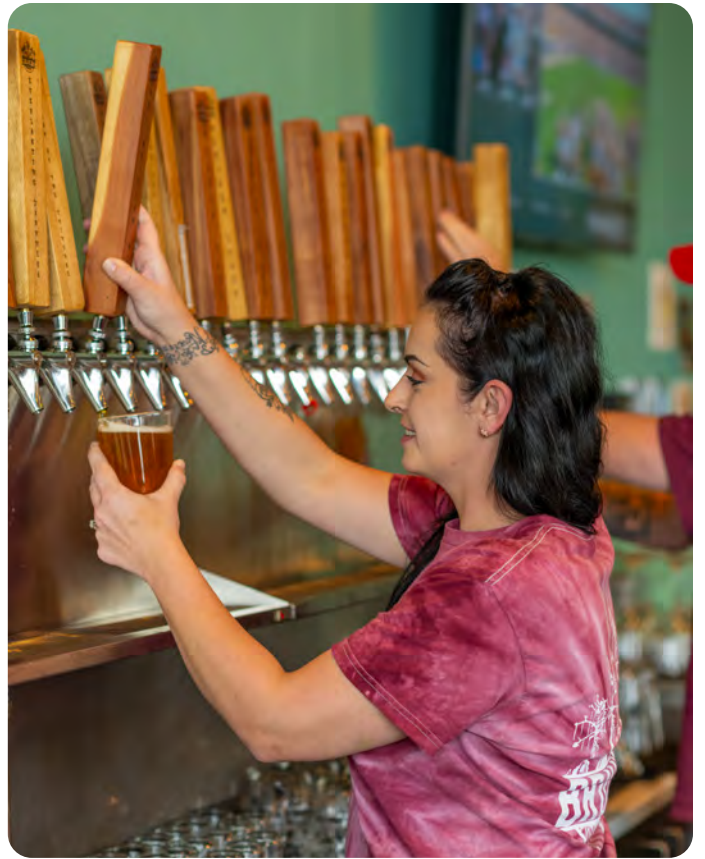
in flight or glide along the Brunswick Paddle Trail by kayak or boat.

Golfers also enjoy natural beauty. Wildflowers, sculpted greens, Carolina pines and grassy meadows grace the local courses. Magnificent views, well-maintained fairways, and sparse crowds delight all levels of play. You'll find hotels and a variety of restaurants and breweries here to accommodate golf groups year-round.

A visit to the nearby Battleship NORTH CAROLINA tells the story of her crew's service in the Pacific theater during World War II. And when you're ready to hit the beach, Oak Island and Caswell Beach are just moments away, so you won't miss a thing when you choose to stay in this inland treasure.

The best of both worlds awaits, and we think you deserve the best—times two.







Shallotte

Close to all the barrier islands, Shallotte is your central hub. Everything you need for a week at the beach or a day in the sun is here. Supermarkets and convenience stores can fill your cooler or beach bag.

Need some fun *out* of the sun? Shallotte can supply that, too. Planet Fun features arcade games, laser tag, cosmic bowling, even midnight drive-in movies. If shopping is your game, you can lead a treasure hunt through locally owned boutiques and antique shops or your choice of brand-name stores. Afterwards, take a break at the Shallotte Riverwalk and enjoy the view.

Reward yourself with great seafood or other favorites at one of the waterfront restaurants. Shallotte is the beach-goers dining hub to satisfy a range of tastes from burgers and pizza to Mexican and Asian cuisine.

Centrally located to the county's championship golf courses, players know this is the perfect place to grab what you need for your round or celebrate your score on the way back to the beach.

While everyone's smiling, why not stop at picture-perfect Shallotte Point for a few shots with the ancient live oak trees framing the Shallotte River. It's the best souvenir of a memorable vacation.





Southport

This historic waterfront has lured pirates and seafarers since the 1500s. The charming maritime town setting is both authentic and picturesque—exactly why so many movie directors have come to the Southport area to put their stories on film. “Safe Haven,” “Crimes of the Heart,” “A Walk to Remember,” and “I Know What You Did Last Summer,” are just a few. Now’s your time to vacation like a star.

Coastal Living named Southport “America’s Happiest Seaside Town.” You’ll find smiling faces everywhere, especially at any one of the fabulous seafood restaurants overlooking Southport’s Yacht Basin where the Cape Fear River, the Intracoastal Waterway, and the Atlantic Ocean meet. Feed your smiles with peel-and-eat shrimp and a cold beer, while you feast your eyes on an amazing sunset.

Take your own walk to remember along charming streets of gracious homes and churches under stately oaks that date back to the 1800s. You’ll find landmarks including the Old Brunswick Jail, City Hall, Old Smithville Burial Grounds, River Pilots Tower, and more. You don’t have to be a history buff to enjoy a visit to the Fort Johnston-Southport Museum and Visitor Center and the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport.

Explore art galleries, boutiques, outfitters, and unique shops for the perfect keepsake to remember the day. Then, lazily sway on “porch swings” that line the Waterfront Park.

If you’re looking for fabulous seafood, great shopping, and the happiest of times, your ship’s come in.



Calabash

How does a tiny fishing town in North Carolina become the “Seafood Capital of the World?” It’s all in our name. People all over the world think they have tasted Calabash seafood—lightly seasoned and flash-fried to lock in freshness—but until you taste the original in its natural habitat, you haven’t experienced the true magic.

Your wait is over as you dive into dozens of great dining options where the shrimp and fish on the menu were swimming that morning. In fact, you can watch the trawlers arrive while you eat at dockside and waterside restaurants. Or you can buy a haul of fresh seafood right off the dock to cook at home.

Think you can match the catch yourself? Then you’re invited to hop aboard one of the charter fishing boats that will fully outfit you to haul in some eyepoppers. Prefer to be a waterway

spectator instead? The whole family will love the experience of a boat tour to enjoy the antics of dolphins and seabirds.

Land lovers can stroll along the docks to check out the boats or spend time reeling in a shopping haul. Callahan’s of Calabash is a great place to find something unusual to mark your visit, including Christmas décor that will warm your heart with Calabash memories each year.

Believe it or not, some people don’t come here for the seafood. Golfers know all about the six championship courses here in Calabash, including Brunswick Plantation Resort and Golf where you can stay in a villa steps away from the course.

With unabashed pride, Calabash welcomes you to a vacation experience that’s a boatload of fun.









Mainland

The perfect complement to our beaches and islands is the mainland areas of the Brunswick Islands. Like our islands, our mainland offers a lot of different experiences destined to make lifelong memories.

The mainland area is located just across the Cape Fear River from Wilmington, NC and stretches south to the South Carolina state line. It includes nine towns—some no more than a crossroads, but each has a story to tell.

History buffs will find plenty to explore in this home of some of our nation's earliest settlers, including more than a few pirates. You can still feel the hearty spirit of freedom that attracted them to our shores.

Brunswick Town in Winnabow is site of the county's original settlement. Today, you can walk the grounds to find archaeological ruins of colonial homes and the shell of St. Philips Church among the ancient trees. Destroyed by the British during the Revolutionary War, Confederate earthworks were built on top of the site in 1862, abandoned in 1865, and the untouched Fort Anderson site still stands as one of the most pristine intact coastal fortifications in the nation.

Varnamtown offers an interesting waterfront on the Lockwood Folly River, where you can watch fishermen in action. The Boiling Spring Lakes and Green Swamp Nature Preserves will reveal rare birds and plants, including the carnivorous Venus Flytrap.

Offering a distinctively different vibe than our beaches, you'll find the mainland is a great way to mix it up on your Brunswick Islands vacation discovering wonders old and new.

So much to do you'll need a longer trip.

So, what floats your boat when you're living on island time? Exploring history, nature, birdwatching, delving into science, or scaling the ships ladder of a lighthouse? Your Brunswick Islands vacation can be packed full of daily adventures or as relaxing as you like.

We don't want you to miss a thing, so here's a bucket list of things to see and do—museums, nature preserves, points of interest, and cultural opportunities. You may be surprised at all the options. Find a few that speak to you. If you can't cover it all this trip, you'll have something to look forward to during your next visit.

For more detailed information visit www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do



Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

Introduce a little education to your beach vacation. For a fascinating dose of local history, spend the day aboard the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA. The self-guided tour of this battleship begins with an orientation film, then takes you through nine decks before concluding at the Ship Store. Afterward, enjoy a picnic lunch in the riverside Battleship Park. Free parking. Open every day. Admission charged.

1 Battleship Road, Wilmington. 910.399.9100,
www.battleshipnc.com

Bird Island

The Bird Island Reserve has pristine sandy white beaches, high natural dunes and more than 1,200 acres of beautiful salt marsh and tidal creeks. This natural area is one of 10 sites that make up the North Carolina Coastal Reserve and National Estuarine Research Reserve. Visitors are invited to enjoy this perfect sanctuary, visit the Kindred Spirit mailbox, learn about sand dune wildlife and experience the history and habitats of the beautiful coastal preserve. Free admission.

40th Street and West Main Street, Sunset Beach.
www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/bird-island/118



Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve

The preserve is home to the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, a variety of carnivorous plants like the Venus Flytrap, and more than 400 vascular plant species. The nature trail allows visitors to walk through a portion of the more than 6,000 fragile acres that make up the preserve. Free admission.

1 Leeds Road, Boiling Spring Lakes. www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/boiling-spring-lakes-preserve/116

Brunswick Community College Odell Williamson Auditorium

Catch a show performed by local players and regional, national, and international traveling acts. Located on the campus of Brunswick Community College on Hwy. 17 in Bolivia, the Odell Williamson Auditorium is home to numerous productions throughout the year. Admission varies.

150 College Road NE, Bolivia. 910.755.8513, www.bccowa.com

North Carolina Birding Trail

Eight birding sites along the North Carolina Birding Trail can be found in NC's Brunswick Islands. More than 330 species of birds can be seen nesting or migrating here, including American Oystercatchers, Anhingas, Wood Storks, and a variety of warblers, sparrows, ibis, plovers, and more.

www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/nature/birding

Brunswick Nature Park

The park encompasses 911 acres of wonderful wilderness that provide a dynamic mix of vegetation, wildlife, ecosystems, vistas, wetlands, and waterways. Enjoy hiking trails, biking trails, and a kayak/canoe launch site. 40-by-40 picnic pavilion available for rent. Open from 8 a.m. until dusk. Free admission.

2601 River Road (NC 133), Winnabow. 910.253.2670, www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/brunswick-nature-park/131

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

Explore the excavated ruins of one of North Carolina's oldest settlements. Founded in 1726, this colonial settlement is as mysterious as it is captivating. Stop by the Visitor Center, and see exhibits about life in a colonial town and artifacts gathered from the ruins. ADA ¾ mile trail around site. Free admission.

8884 St. Philip's Road SE, Winnabow. 910.371.6613, www.historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/brunswick-town-fort-anderson

Ev-Henwood Nature Preserve

Connect with the natural world at this 174-acre coastal forest research and nature preserve. You'll discover miles of walking trails, including two self-guided educational trails, and limitless native flora and fauna. Free admission.

6150 Rock Creek Road NE, Leland. 910.962.3107, www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/ev-henwood-nature-preserve/66

Fort Johnston & Southport Museum

Southport Museum and Visitors' Center is located inside the Fort Johnston Garrison House and features exhibits, original documents, and historical artifacts about Southport and Fort Johnston. Fort Johnston was originally built by the British in 1749 to protect the region from Spanish and French attacks; it was conveyed to the City of Southport in 2006. Free admission.

203 E. Bay Street, Southport. 910.457.7927, www.cityofsouthport.com/community-relations-department/#visitors-center--museum



Green Swamp Preserve

The Green Swamp Preserve is a 15,000-acre nature conservancy that includes many varieties of plant life and wildlife. See 14 species of insectivorous plants, including the Venus Flytrap, as well as the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. For local guides and information, call the Nature Conservancy.

673 Green Swamp Road NW, Supply. 910.395.5000,
www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/green-swamp-preserve/67

Ingram Planetarium

The stars always shine at Ingram Planetarium! Visit the free Paul Dennis Science Hall with its interactive displays. Enjoy a movie and live star shows in the state-of-the-art Sky Theater. Attend special programs or lectures. Per-show admission charged for Sky Theater shows.

7625 High Market Street, Sunset Beach.
910.575.0033, www.museumplanetarium.org

Museum of Coastal Carolina

Walk through and see life-size replicas of marine animals and enjoy a touch tank with live sea animals. View wildlife dioramas of coastal Carolina plants and animals. See collections of seashells and shark jaws. Participate in interactive exhibits or attend special programs and lectures. Admission charged for non-members.

21 East Second Street, Ocean Isle Beach.
910.579.1016, www.museumplanetarium.org

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

Experience hands-on history with interactive exhibits for all ages. Discover the first indigenous peoples who fished local waters. Learn about the sailors who fought multiple wars on our waterfront and the importance of local fisheries and the families that made their livelihood from it. Adult, children, and family programs are held year-round. Open year-round. Free admission.

204 E. Moore Street, Southport. 910.477.5151,
www.ncmaritimemuseumsouthport.com

Oak Island Lighthouse

Tour the state's newest lighthouse, located on Caswell Beach. Open for second level tours from 10am–2pm on Wednesdays and 10am until noon on Saturdays, Memorial Day to Labor Day. Tours to the top, up 131 metal ships ladder steps to the outside balcony, are available year-round but must be scheduled at least two weeks and up to six weeks in advance. Free admission.

300A Caswell Beach Road, Caswell Beach.
www.oakislandlighthouse.org

Oak Island Nature Center

Enjoy a visit with Mother Nature. The center offers a wide range of educational activities for kids and adults, including an interactive Talking Trees Walking Trail, fossil exhibits, and animal displays native to the Oak Island community. Open seasonally. Free admission.

5202 E Yacht Drive, Oak Island. 910.278.5518,
www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/oak-island-nature-center/172

Old Baldy Lighthouse and Smith Island Museum of History

Visit the state's oldest lighthouse, Old Baldy, and the Smith Island Museum of History, located in a replica of the 1850s keeper's cottage. Half-day excursion package tours available. Open seasonally. Admission charged.

101 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island. Call 910.457.5003 for ferry information. Call 910.457.7481 for Old Baldy Lighthouse and tours, www.oldbaldy.org

Old Bridge Museum

See the bridge and Bridge Tender's house from the historic swing bridge that once connected Sunset Beach to the mainland. Includes re-creation of the Bridge Tender's office. Seasonal hours. Free admission.

109 Shoreline Drive West, Sunset Beach.
910.363.6585, www.theoldbridge.org

Silver Coast Winery

Sip on a variety of wines at Brunswick County's first and only winery, located just inland of Ocean Isle Beach. Tour the winery and learn about winemaking step by step, from the grapevine to the wine cellar. Wine tasting available. Free admission.

6680 Barbeque Road, Ocean Isle Beach.
910.287.2800, www.silvercoastwinery.com

The Swamp Park

Explore this unique and beautiful natural environment by air or water. Aerial adventure park includes a challenge course with three levels of difficulty. Soar through the treetops high above the swamp on a 10-station zipline tour. Take a guided cruise through the cypress swamp where gators, beavers, wading birds, and other wildlife await. Or, stick to the mud during a guided ATV tour. Admission varies by activity.

5550 Watts Road, Ocean Isle Beach. 910.687.6100,
www.shallotteriverswamppark.com

Welcome Centers

Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce

800.426.6644
112 Pine Street, Shallotte, NC 28470
communications@brunswickcountychamber.org
www.brunswickcountychamber.org

North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce

910.383.0553
497 Olde Waterford Way Suite 202, Belville, NC 28451
northbrunswickchamber@gmail.com
www.northbrunswickchamber.com

Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce

910.457.6964
4433 Long Beach Road SE, Southport, NC 28461
info@southport-oakisland.com
www.southport-oakisland.com

Southeastern Welcome Center

910.754.2505
394 Whiteville Road NW, Shallotte, NC 28470
(Intersection of Hwys. 17 and 130)

Southport Visitors' Center & Museum

910.457.7927
203 East Bay Street
Southport, NC 28461
tourism@cityofsouthport.com
www.cityofsouthport.com/community-relations-department/#visitors-center--museum



NC Festival by the Sea— Holden Beach

Holden Beach hosts this coastal arts and crafts festival with a kick-off parade over the Holden Beach Causeway. Don't miss this chance to join the celebration at the only time of the year pedestrians are welcomed on the sweeping bridge to the island to take photos from this special viewpoint and see all the excitement brewing in the streets below.

This two-day event features local art and food vendors, live music, and lots of special activities for kids. Sign up for the annual horseshoe tournament and sandcastle building contest. Every member of the family delights in this popular and beloved celebration.

NC 4th of July Festival— Southport and Oak Island

The first 4th of July celebration in Southport was reported in 1795. With more than two hundred years of reveling the red, white, and blue, this historic town has perfected the art of celebrating our nation's independence. This is everything you'd expect and more—from the moving reading of the Declaration of Independence and special ceremonies of honor and remembrance to the fun and games, music, and fireworks that make our hard-won freedom great.

The festivities spill over to the beach at Oak Island with its annual Beach Day of games, food, music, and fireworks. And back in Southport, you'll find a parade, a classic car show, a freedom flotilla, and yes, more fireworks!

Discover local flair and festivities.

We saved you a seat!

Whether you plan your vacation around one of our festivals or concerts, or just stumble upon it by happy accident, you're in for a treat. We love to put on a party. And y'all are invited.

The authentic vibe of our barrier island life lends itself to celebrate everything—the sun, the sand, the salt breezes, good fellowship, great seafood, wonderful music, and unique artistry. Check out a few of our favorites here and visit www.ncbrunswick.com/events to see our current calendar of events.



NC Oyster Festival— Ocean Isle Beach

For more than 40 years, oyster lovers have flocked to this celebration of all things oyster. The two-day celebration includes sample recipes from local vendors and a chance to vote for your favorite oyster stew. But you don't have to be an oyster aficionado to have a great time here.

You'll find wonderful arts and crafts vendor displays with unique treasures to kick off your holiday shopping. Join in the cooking and shucking contests where you can show off your skills or cheer on your favorite participants. And there's a full calendar of music and entertainment from good old rock 'n' roll and beach music to country and R&B. (Bring your dancing shoes!)

Summer Fun For All

When putting together your summer bucket list, be sure to add our seasonal events to your plans. You'll find tunes and tastes for everyone at our summer concert series and regular markets across our islands and towns.

Enjoy free concerts throughout the summer with a variety of acts including jazz, Motown, blues, country, and rock. And when you want to see what flavors, fashions, and flair make NC's Brunswick Islands so special, stop by one of our farmers or artisans markets.

We have summer fun for everyone here—and no matter how you fill your itinerary, a trip here is one you will never forget.

Southport Wooden Boat Show

If you enjoy charming and historical coastal towns, then you won't want to miss the Southport Wooden Boat Show. Each fall, you can see wooden boats of all shapes and sizes displayed in and around the historic Old Yacht Basin in Southport, and even talk to the boat makers and owners. The event features nautical and maritime arts and crafts vendors, children's activities, and delicious food. There's something for everyone at this delightful show, so grab the whole family for a weekend you'll never forget.

Days at the Docks—Holden Beach

Looking for food, dancing, and a chance to win big? Then look no further than Days at the Docks in Holden Beach. It's a two-day festival free to the public with live entertainment including some of the best beach music you'll hear all year. For kids there are inflatable rides, games, and face painting. And with an array of food vendors, you won't leave the docks hungry. The highlight of the festival is the world famous "Bopple Race." Try your luck by buying a \$1 Bopple and you could win up to \$100. To learn what a Bopple is and to line dance the afternoon away, don't miss Days at the Docks.





Sunset at Sunset—Sunset Beach

If you like amazing music, fun and unique crafts, and finger licking food, then the Sunset at Sunset Festival is right up your alley. Nearly 100 local vendors are ready to serve you everything you could possibly want: food, arts, crafts, locally crafted beer and wine, and so much more. Our smallest visitors are also in for a great time with a Kid Korner featuring face painting and inflatables. No matter what you love, you'll find it at the biggest block party in Sunset Beach. Best of all, all this fun and excitement is free to attend for all ages.

Holiday Happenings

Check out our holiday cheer! The fun begins with the Annual Ocean Isle Beach Flotilla, a family favorite event where boats decorated in Christmas lights travel down the Intracoastal Waterway. It's a sight you won't soon forget, and it kicks off a holiday season full of tree lightings, parades, and many other events in our area. From Calabash to Oak Island, 'tis the season for festive fun. You wouldn't want to miss the merriment of Southport's Winterfest, a weeklong holiday celebration featuring the Annual Holiday Tour of Homes, numerous activities for kids, and the Southport Winterfest Flotilla. This year, ho ho hop on over to see how we deck the halls.

Average Temperatures (°F)

month	air (high/low)	water
January	55/34.....	49
February.....	58/36.....	51
March	66/43.....	56
April.....	74/51.....	66
May	81/59.....	71
June.....	85/68.....	79
July.....	89/72.....	82
August.....	88/71.....	82
September	85/65.....	81
October	77/54.....	75
November	69/45.....	70
December	59/38.....	50

Approximate Drive Times

(to Shallotte, NC)

from	distance (miles)	time
Asheville, NC.....	320	5 hours, 15 mins
Atlanta, GA.....	390	6 hours
Charleston, SC.....	135	2 hours, 40 mins
Charlotte, NC.....	187	3 hours, 14 mins
Columbia, SC.....	180	3 hours
Fayetteville, NC	92.....	1 hour, 45 mins
N. Myrtle Beach, SC	23.....	31 mins
Raleigh, NC.....	165	2 hours, 28 mins
Richmond, VA	292	4 hours, 23 mins
Washington, D.C.	400	6 hours, 20 mins
Wilmington, NC	34.....	39 mins
Winston-Salem, NC.....	215	3 hours, 30 mins



Airports

Wilmington International Airport

37 miles from Shallotte

910.341.4125

www.flyilm.com

Odell Williamson Municipal Airport

Ocean Isle Beach

910.579.2166

www.airnav.com/airport/60j

Cape Fear Regional Jetport

5 miles from Southport

910.457.6483

www.capefearjetport.com

Myrtle Beach International Airport

45 miles from Shallotte

843.448.1589

www.flymyrtlebeach.com

north carolina's
brunswick islands

Brunswick County
Tourism Development Authority
P.O. Box 1186
Shallotte, NC 28459-1186
800.795.7263 · www.ncbrunswick.com

North Carolina's Brunswick Islands Vacation Guide

