

OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE

# Wilmington.C.

River District & Island Beaches



**Experience the Best of  
the Carolina Coast  
All in One Place**

## AREA MAPS

Centerfold Pull-Out

**WILMINGTON**  
Outdoor Adventure  
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Food, Nightlife & Music  
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**THINGS TO DO**  
Coastal Activities Galore  
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Carolina Beach • Kure Beach • Wrightsville Beach

Publication of Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau

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2 Courtyards &  
Warehouse +  
3 Tiered Step  
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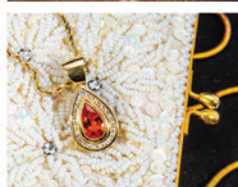


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Carolina Beach • Kure Beach • Wrightsville Beach  
**Wilmington.C.**  
River District & Island Beaches

## WELCOME

### *to the Best of the Carolina Coast*

One destination, four towns with distinct personalities, and endless vacation experiences await visitors to Wilmington and our Island Beaches.

**R**anked one of the “South’s Best Cities on the Rise” by *Southern Living Magazine*, Wilmington and its two-mile Riverwalk lined with boutiques, cafes, and a riverfront park and amphitheater, plus the 230-block National Register Historic District, is the gateway to the pristine waters of Carolina Beach, Kure Beach, and Wrightsville Beach, each with its own style and flair. Wilmington’s vibrant arts and

entertainment scene, galleries, restaurants, and historic architecture, all situated along the legendary Cape Fear River, is the perfect place from which to launch a vacation unlike any other.

The vintage charm and laid-back atmosphere of Carolina Beach and its historic seaside boardwalk invites you to weekly summer concerts and fireworks. Kure Beach is a playground of natural wonders and is North Carolina’s hub of coastal exploration. Easily walkable Wrightsville Beach offers island adventures like surfing, standup paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing, and more, all with unparalleled amenities and accommodations.

This year-round destination where no two getaways are alike is especially well-suited for mid-week and off-season excursions when accommodations and amenities are more easily accessible and affordable. Regardless of when you visit, this is the Southeast’s premier destination for



both urban and island adventures, fresh air, rest and relaxation, from the Riverwalk and marinas to oceanfront boardwalks and beyond.

- Take in the views, shopping, and entertainment in the walkable river district.
- Experience the best of waterfront and outdoor dining and taste the fresh, coastal flavors as the sun sets over the Cape Fear River or rises over the beaches.
- Relive the past as you tour historic homes and marvel at the renowned architecture in the 230-block downtown Historic District.
- Dive into watersports, take a sailing or surfing lesson, or just relax by the Atlantic Ocean.
- Hike the scenic trails at two state parks or pedal river-to-sea bikeways and hit the Ale Trail after the adventure.
- Enjoy libations at lively speakeasies, brewpubs, rooftop or island tiki bars, or dance the night away to famed musical acts at a riverfront or lakeside amphitheater.
- Tour first-class gardens and museums recounting area history at Airlie Gardens, the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA, Fort Fisher State Historic Site, and Cape Fear Museum of History & Science.
- Visit celebrated attractions at the Cameron Art Museum, North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, or Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park.
- Immerse yourself in a thriving arts scene through galleries, historic theaters, and performing arts centers.
- Take a ghost walk, haunted pub crawl, river cruise, or horse-drawn carriage tour.

Find a fresh take on a coastal vacation like no other – in the city, at the beaches, and beyond.



## EXPLORE

### *Visitors Services & Area Information*

Free visitor information is available at any of our Visitor Information Centers and at [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com); [WilmingtonAndBeaches360.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches360.com) (virtual tour); or [WilmingtonTripGuide.com](http://WilmingtonTripGuide.com) (mobile guide).

**A**lso, download the free Wilmington History app, then purchase a tour through the app for a self-guided stroll through nearly three centuries of area history.

- African American History
- Pub Crawl Wilmington
- Civil War Wilmington
- 2nd Street to the River
- 3rd Street & East

Begin when you want. Walk at your own pace. [wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours](http://wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours)

Contact the Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau at **877-406-2356** or via email at [visit@WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](mailto:visit@WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

### **WILMINGTON RIVERWALK**

The riverfront Visitor Information Booth operates on a seasonal schedule.

- 9am-4:30pm, March, April, May, Sept., and Oct.
- 9:30am-5pm, June, July, and Aug.
- 10am-4pm, Nov. to Mid-March
- 📍 Foot of Market Street at Water Street

### **CAROLINA AND KURE BEACH – PLEASURE ISLAND VISITOR INFORMATION**

- ▶ [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com)
- ▶ [VisitKureBeachNC.com](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com)

### **WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH CHAMBER & VISITORS CENTER**

- 📍 305 W. Salisbury St.  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  
(Seasonal)
- ▶ [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com)



## STOP BY & SAY HELLO

The office for the Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau is located on the Riverwalk and is a great place to learn about things to see and do in town or at one of our island beaches. Monday to Friday 8:30am-5pm.

📍 1 Estell Lee Place  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
☎ 910-341-4030

## WILMINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Carriers include American Airlines, Avelo Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and United Airlines.

📍 1740 Airport Blvd., 28405  
☎ 910-341-4125  
▶ [flyilm.com](http://flyilm.com)

## LIFEGUARDS

Certified lifeguards are on duty Memorial Day through Labor Day on our island beaches.

## ACCESSIBLE BEACH EQUIPMENT

Use of ADA beach ability equipment is available on our island beaches.

☎ Carolina Beach: 910-458-2977  
or visit [carolinabeach.org](http://carolinabeach.org).  
☎ Kure Beach: Kure Beach Fire Department, 910-458-2014.  
☎ Wrightsville Beach: 910-256-7925  
or visit [townofwrightsvillebeach.com](http://townofwrightsvillebeach.com).



**Wilmington International Airport (ILM)** offers non-stop flights from Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, Philadelphia, New York, Newark, Washington, D.C., and seasonal flights from/to Boston, Chicago/O'Hare, Baltimore/Washington and Fort Lauderdale. A \$60 million airport expansion, completed in 2022, included four additional gates, a restaurant, concessions, and more added to the terminal. As part of a partnership with the Arts Council of Wilmington, four public art projects were included in the expansion.

## AN ANCHOR

### *to Adventure, History & Entertainment*

There is no place quite like Wilmington. Nowhere else does one city provide the portal to so many options for year-round vacation adventures.

Wilmington.c.  
River District & Island Beaches

**T**he water here beckons and transforms visitors. Whether you are strolling the scenic Riverwalk alongside the storied Cape Fear River, taking in the history of the 230-block National Register Historic District, or enjoying the city's vibrant entertainment scene with many live performances, you'll learn quickly this is no ordinary coastal town.



RIVERWALK

Anchored by the two-mile Riverwalk, Wilmington is the hub of arts, culture, shopping, and dining in the area. Here you will find an array of opportunities to enjoy the never-ending beauty, history, and allure of the legendary Cape Fear River. The combination of timeless character, outdoor recreation, entertainment, water tours, and alfresco dining options have earned Wilmington's Riverwalk distinction as one of *USA Today's* 10Best Readers' Choice Best Riverwalks. See the sights from a horse-drawn carriage, on foot, or on a cruise and experience the city voted by *Southern Living*



LIVE OAK BANK PAVILION AT RIVERFRONT PARK

magazine readers as one of the “South’s Best Cities on the Rise.”

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Live Oak Bank Pavilion at Riverfront Park is the newest place to catch your next concert or show. The outdoor amphitheater overlooks stunning panoramic views of the Cape Fear River and attracts major national acts. Greenfield Lake Amphitheater is another venue that brings in popular acts throughout the year. Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts, noted as one of the most beautiful and historic theaters in the country, and the Wilson Center, which offers a lineup of Broadway shows, concerts and more, make Wilmington a great place to find entertainment in any season.

## CULTURE & HISTORY TOURS

Wilmington’s culture and history come to life on tours and through the area’s historic attractions and museums. Explore the WWII-era Battleship NORTH CAROLINA, named one of the “Best Museum Ships.” Delve into life of another age at three house museums: Bellamy Mansion Museum of History & Design Arts, Burgwin-Wright House & Gardens, and the Latimer House Museum. Immerse yourself in the visual arts at the Cameron Art Museum or explore the history and science of the region at the Cape Fear Museum of History & Science. Climb aboard a century-old steam locomotive at the Wilmington Railroad Museum.

## OUTDOORS & FAMILY FUN

Wilmington’s ample parks, recreation areas, and access to three colorful nearby beaches make it an outdoor lover’s paradise. Take in the pristine beauty of the New Hanover County Arboretum, Airlie Gardens, Greenfield Park, and Blue Clay Bike Park, to name just a few.

For great family fun, spend time at Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park, known for its seasonal water park and year-round arcade games, mini bowling, go-karts, mini golf,



laser tag, and more. Or bounce high at Defy Wilmington or Flip n Fly, Wilmington’s two trampoline parks.

## CULINARY & SPIRITED DELIGHTS

Come sample traditional Southern fare, coastal cuisine, international dishes, and more. Wilmington’s River District alone has more than 40 locally owned restaurants and pubs, with cafés and restaurants lining the Riverwalk, Front Street, and beyond. Craft beer enthusiasts can follow the Wilmington Ale Trail for a self-guided tasting tour of local brews. Discover abundant nightlife at cozy speakeasies and open-air rooftop bars, where craft cocktails come with a side of stunning river views.

Wilmington’s preserved history and new experiences, along with nearby island beaches, promise no two vacations are alike. Immerse yourself in the year-round vibrancy of Wilmington’s sights, sounds, and tastes.

# STAY SOCIAL

Whether you're striking a pose in front of a vibrant mural or capturing an adventure on the water, you'll find an abundance of picturesque settings throughout

Wilmington, C.  
& Island Beaches



CAROLINA  
BEACH



Wilmington and our island beaches. Take us along with you on your coastal getaway by using our destination hashtags.

#WilmingtonNC, #WrightsvilleBeach, #CarolinaBeach, #KureBeach



Wrightsville  
Beach • NC



KURE  
BEACH, NC



## EXPERIENCE THE FRESH, COASTAL AIR

Opportunities for outdoor adventure are abundant throughout the city and the islands, no matter the season.

### Eco Tours, Parks & Hidden Gems

#### ZEKE'S ISLAND KAYAK TOUR

Zeke's Island is one of the most exceptional habitats on the North Carolina coast. Accessible only by boat or kayak, take a guided tour and paddle out to explore the changing landscapes and spectacular wildlife of this ecological gem.

#### NATURE CRUISES

Come aboard for new adventures on a river cruise designed to showcase natural coastal wonders and wildlife, swamp forests, and other unusual habitats.

#### FORT FISHER STATE RECREATION AREA

Enjoy six miles of protected shoreline spanning the ocean and the river. Cruise along the beach with four-wheel drive, allowed with permit. Hike maritime forest trails past a WWII bunker to an observation deck with uninhibited views.

#### GREENFIELD PARK

Walk or bike the nearly five-mile trail that hugs the lake, then catch a waterside concert at Greenfield Lake Amphitheater featuring nationally recognized performers.



GREENFIELD PARK



## Active Lifestyle & Wellness

### YOGA

Channel your inner yogi in classes set in scenic locations such as oceanfront on the Crystal Pier, in peaceful Airlie Gardens and more.

### STANDUP PADDLEBOARDING

Make the most of mild temperatures and fewer crowds after summer with a SUP lesson in one of the top SUP hubs in the U.S. or explore area waterways on a guided tour.

### RIVER TO SEA BIKEWAY

Feel the breeze as you pedal on this 11-mile on-and-off road trail that runs from Wilmington to nearby Wrightsville Beach.

### GOLF

Hit the links at one of several area golf courses and take advantage of the beautiful fall and spring seasons while perfecting your swing.

### TOURS & CRUISES

Sip around town on the Wilmington Ale Trail or see famous film and TV sites on a self-guided tour. Experience cool breezes and the warm fall colors on a sunset sailing cruise or get a scare on a haunted pub crawl.

For more information, visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/things-to-do/trip-ideas](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/things-to-do/trip-ideas).



# GET OUTSIDE



## On Two WHEELS

### CAROLINA BEACH STATE PARK

– Ride through the distinct habitats of Carolina Beach State Park, where rare Venus flytraps reside, or bike the 1.2-mile Island Greenway path connecting off-street trails, on-street bicycle lanes, and parks.

### SHOOT AROUND THE LOOP AT WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH –

Walk or jog the 2.5-mile loop past marshes and waterways, across waterway bridges, and among gardens, looping back around to your starting point. Cycle around The Loop and throughout bicycle-friendly Wrightsville Beach on designated bicycle lanes and shareable roadways.

### GARY SHELL CROSS-CITY TRAIL –

Ride your bike along this scenic 15-mile, off-road trail from the Intracoastal Waterway in Wrightsville Beach through the university, by Cameron Art Museum and along several city parks in Wilmington.



## On FOOT

### HIKE HALLOWED GROUNDS

– Meander along a scenic outdoor trail shaded by live oaks, featuring interpretive exhibit panels telling the story of Fort Fisher State Historic Site, location of the largest land-sea battle of the Civil War.

**SEE GARDEN OASES** – Stroll through premier Southern gardens at places like Airlie Gardens, New Hanover County Arboretum, or experience history at the Burgwin-Wright House and Gardens in Wilmington.

**HEAD TO THE ISLANDS** – Relax in the sun by the water, stroll along the boardwalks, and get lunch at a local, beachside restaurant. Carolina Beach, Kure Beach, and Wrightsville Beach each has its own vibe.

For area outfitters and fishing charter companies, visit [wilmingtonandbeaches.com/outfitters](http://wilmingtonandbeaches.com/outfitters) or scan the QR code for the mobile link.





## On Four WHEELS

### TAKE A SELF-GUIDED TOUR –

From the comfort of your vehicle, see the historic homes of downtown Wilmington using the Wilmington History Tours app. The self-guided tours let you choose from five historical options.

**SEE THE SIGHTS** – If you don't want to drive and want a guided tour of the historic district, hop on a trolley or a horse-drawn carriage tour.

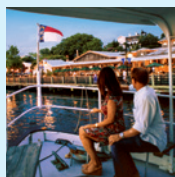


**DRIVE ON THE BEACH** – Have a 4x4? Take it to Fort Fisher State Recreation Area or Freeman Park Recreation Area, park on the sand (permit required), picnic, and have an unforgettable day at the beach.



## By WATER

**CAST A LINE** – Anglers will want to take advantage of some of the best fishing in the country. Charter captains know all the best spots, and there are plenty ready to help you reel in the big one.



### TAKE A CRUISE

– Release your inner swashbuckler on a family-friendly pirate cruise, see the sights on a

scenic cruise of the Cape Fear River, or embark on a sailing or fishing expedition off our barrier islands.

### DIVE IN AND RIDE THE WAVES

– Dive into some of the most beautiful waters on the East Coast and explore the shipwreck of the Civil War Blockade Runner *Condor*, a North Carolina Heritage Dive Site. Learn surfing from a pro or perfect your board skills on a SUP.



## With the FAMILY



**JUNGLE RAPIDS FAMILY FUN PARK** – Soak up the fun splashing in the waterpark, playing mini golf or laser tag, driving go-karts, and more.

### NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM AT FORT FISHER

– See the rescued bald eagle habitat while strolling through the aquarium's outdoor gardens or go indoors to see stingrays, sharks, sea turtles, otters, and more.

**PLAYGROUNDS & TRAILS** – Biking and walking trails, a skate park, an outdoor amphitheater, boat and kayak rentals, as well as playgrounds and an outdoor art park create an oasis in Wilmington and our island beaches.

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Wilmington NC

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# VACATION: ALWAYS IN SEASON

With plenty of sun, the beaches, festivals, and events we enjoy here, summer vacations in Wilmington and our Island Beaches are legendary. But the fun isn't limited to the time between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Spring, Fall, Winter – it's still vacation season and here's why.

## Spring

AVG.  
HIGH:

**74°**

AVG.  
LOW:

**52°**

- Attend the North Carolina Azalea Festival
- Catch a concert at Live Oak Bank Pavilion at Riverfront Park
- See Venus flytraps at Carolina Beach State Park
- Explore art during Fourth Friday Gallery Nights
- Go brew hopping on the Wilmington Ale Trail or sample new beers during Cape Fear Craft Beer Week



## Fall

AVG.  
HIGH:

**76°**

AVG.  
LOW:

**55°**

- Be brave and go on a ghost walk, haunted pub crawl, or visit the Museum of the Bizarre
- Attend a show at the historic Thalian Hall Center for Performing Arts
- Take a sunset cruise on the Cape Fear River
- See soaring kites of all shapes and sizes at the seaside Cape Fear Kite Festival
- Catch a movie at the Cucalorus Film Festival, named one of the coolest in the world



## Winter/Holidays

AVG.  
HIGH:

**58°**

AVG.  
LOW:

**42°**

- Cheer on the lighted boat parade & fireworks at the NC Holiday Flotilla in Wrightsville Beach
- Walk among the decorated historic homes or enchanting lights of Airlie Gardens
- Enjoy the Island of Lights Festival in Carolina Beach and Kure Beach
- Ring in the New Year on the Riverwalk with themed parties where the nightlife is sure to make memories
- Hear all-star musicians at the North Carolina Jazz Festival



## FOR THE LOVERS

### *of Good Food*

Wilmington and the beaches are a foodie's dream, complete with restaurants made famous on The Food Network.

**E**njoy effortless outdoor dining riverfront to oceanfront, international cuisine from several continents, and passionate owners and chefs who just may welcome you at the door.

#### OPEN AIR TABLES

Enjoying a meal or drinks outdoors on the Riverwalk, rooftops, by marinas, or on boardwalks and piers is the coastal way of life here, so pull up a chair and enjoy the food and the view.

Downtown, experience the terrace at Tarantelli's for dishes created from original family Italian recipes. Riverfront, indulge in oysters on the half-shell at Elijah's or Smoke on the Water while toasting to exquisite riverfront views.

Take in Wrightsville Beach oceanfront views while dining on sun-kissed shrimp

at the Oceanic. Order a perfectly prepared steak at The Bridge Tender or crab mac & cheese from Bluewater Waterfront Grill that you can enjoy on the patio overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway and marina.

Ocean Grill & Tiki Bar in Carolina Beach serves seafood and light snacks complimented by tropical cocktails, local craft beers, and microbrews to enjoy on the outdoor patio. And Jack Mackerel's Restaurant in Kure Beach invites you to dine on delicious Caribbean-inspired dishes on their second-floor covered deck.

#### FRESH-TO-TABLE

Wilmington and our island beaches have plenty of locally raised meats and produce to support a thriving epicenter of culinary excellence. The area has become a destination not only for diners but also for chefs and restaurateurs who are committed to serving locally sourced ingredients. Savor standout dishes at PinPoint Restaurant, previously named one of "The South's Best Restaurants" by *Southern Living*, or

pair famous craft cocktails with inventive dishes at manna ave. 123, the first and only restaurant in Wilmington to receive the prestigious AAA Four Diamond Award. Look for the farmer's name on the menu at Rx Chicken and Oysters or go for James Beard Award Best Chef Southeast nominee Chef Keith Rhodes' signature Lowcountry dishes at Catch.

At Port Land Grille, ingredients from local, sustainable farms are grilled over natural hardwood charcoal in casually elegant settings indoors and out. Spanish-inspired Savorez brings Latin flavors to downtown Wilmington while Northern Italian dishes made with local, seasonal ingredients are the highlights of Floriana's menu, which can be enjoyed on a private balcony or inside.

Everywhere you turn in Wilmington and our island beaches, you'll find fresh-caught seafood. Dig into seafood paella downtown at Circa 1922. Indulge in the oysters, raw or baked, the slow-smoked yellowfin tuna small plate, or the seasonal seafood tower from James Beard Semi-finalist Chef Dean Neff's Seabird in Wilmington.

In Carolina Beach, grab a table at Salt Fish Restaurant and Tiki Bar with its "first plates" salmon or tuna poke.



Wrightsville Beach's Blockade Runner Beach Resort's award-winning chef uses fresh-caught seafood complemented by fresh-grown ingredients from its own seaside garden at the resort's restaurant, EAST Oceanfront Dining, where patrons can dig into locally harvested clams, mussels marinières and more.

## DINERS & DIVES

With a class of restaurants that have been showcased on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives," visitors can experience an array of famous flavors. Keep it fresh with seasonal offerings and Southern-style breakfast, brunch, and lunch at establishments like Cast Iron Kitchen (known for its famous Dirty South Biscuit) and Sweet n Savory Café in Wilmington.

Taste around town like Guy Fieri at downtown's The Copper Penny, with its eclectic mix of appetizers and hearty sandwiches or satisfy your comfort food craving at Fork N Cork with favorites like the Duck Duck Goose Burger, everchanging pot pies, and mac n' cheeses.

 <p><b>HALF PRICED OYSTERS</b> Every Wednesday 4-6 PM</p> <hr/> <p><b>SUNDAY BRUNCH</b> with live music from 11:30 am-3 pm</p> <p><b>910-343-1448</b> 2 Ann St. Wilmington, NC <a href="http://www.elijahs.com">www.elijahs.com</a></p>	 <p><b>\$5 Appetizer Menu</b> SUNDAY – THURSDAY 4-7 PM</p>  <p><i>Come enjoy our heated outdoor deck and river view bar.</i></p> <p><b>910-343-0200</b> 2 Ann St. Wilmington <a href="http://www.pilothouserest.com">www.pilothouserest.com</a></p>
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Sample classic oysters, shrimp, or crab legs at Shuckin' Shack in Wilmington or Carolina Beach, named one the "Best Seafood Dives in America" by *Coastal Living*. Explore Calabash-style seafood at SOMETHING FISHy Seafood Restaurant in Wilmington or try Ceviches' Latin American twist on classic seafood near Wrightsville Beach.

The seasonal walk-up Beach House Burgers in Kure Beach has a low-key exterior but serves up big flavor with burgers, fries, and onion rings fresh to-go with a side of ocean views. Look for a line as patrons wait to try the famous porkchops at Freddie's Restaurant.

Take in Carolina Beach oceanfront views and savor fall-off-the-bone BBQ while dining on the topside deck at Carolina Smokehouse. Or nosh on Kick-flip quesadillas and more at Nollie's Taco Joint.

## BREWS & FOOD

Cheers to planning your brewcation to one of the fastest-growing craft beer hotspots in North Carolina. Wilmington was named one of "America's Beeriest Beach Towns" and was listed among the top five places to experience a "beery, beachside getaway" by CraftBeer.com.

Several Wilmington area breweries complement their suds with food menus that range from pub-style to inventive cuisine. Wilmington's original restaurant and brewery, Front Street Brewery, offers delicious appetizers, lunch, dinner, craft beer, and Wilmington's largest bourbon selection. Savor local-caught oysters and signature items like kimchi and fried oyster bites, shrimp po' boy or crab cake pizza at Wrightsville Beach Brewery.

Of course, brews aren't restricted to alcohol. A growing array of eclectic coffee

Dine In, Bar, Patio, Curbside & Dockside Take Out.






WEEKEND BRUNCH



313 Canal Dr.  
Carolina Beach  
North Carolina



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**AWARD WINNING  
CRAFT BEER**

**WILMINGTON'S LARGEST  
WHISKEY SELECTION**

"Great prices and  
amazing food..."

— Wilmington Parent Magazine

**KIDS MENU AVAILABLE**



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**9 N. FRONT STREET | DOWNTOWN WILMINGTON, NC**

**PORT CITY JAVA**

--- est. 1995 | Wilmington, NC ---

*Wilmington's local coffee shop  
for over 25 years!*

- Fresh locally roasted coffee
- Breakfast all day
- Smoothies, shakes, tea, & more!

Cafés located  
throughout  
Wilmington &  
surrounding area



**[[PortCityJava.com](http://PortCityJava.com)]**



# BLUE SURF CAFE



Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**Our goal is to provide interesting, flavorful cuisine that is accessible and reasonably priced.**

We utilize local ingredients within the seasons as they are available to us and blend classic cooking techniques with modern styles to bring you our own fresh perspective on dining. It is Delicious!

250 RACINE DR, WILMINGTON, NC 28403

☎ (910) 523-5362 ▶ [BlueSurfRestaurants.com](http://BlueSurfRestaurants.com)



## BLUE SURF Arboretum West



Brunch (weekends) | Lunch | Dinner

**Same great food as Blue Surf Cafe, plus some tasty new dishes!**

We have a beautiful dining room and a wonderful outdoor patio with a large fireplace and heaters to enjoy all year round. Come and have a great meal or sit at our indoor/outdoor bar and have an inventive cocktail.

414 ARBORETUM DRIVE WEST, WILMINGTON, NC 28405

☎ (910) 406-5050

▶ [BlueSurfRestaurants.com/blue-surf-arboretum-west](http://BlueSurfRestaurants.com/blue-surf-arboretum-west)



houses, roasters, and cafes are ready to cater to your caffeine cravings. Enjoy a handcrafted latte at Blue Cup Roastery in the Cargo District or a Market Bowl Breakfast at one of Drift Coffee & Kitchen's three locations. Choose a muffin or bagel to go with your nitro cold brew or kombucha at Happy Hippies Java Hut on Kure Beach.

### KID-FRIENDLY EATS

Parents shouldn't have to narrow their dining options based on their kids' cravings, especially on vacation. Our area eateries satisfy kids and adults alike. Stop by celebrity-chef Vivian Howard's restaurant Benny's Bigtime Pizzeria, known for its open kitchen and wood-burning pizza ovens.

Wilmington's riverfront Steam Restaurant and Bar creates innovative dishes with fresh seafood, local meats, and local vegetables, but the kids can still order grilled cheese and turkey sandwiches.

Enjoy a family-friendly meal with a harbor-side view from South Beach Grill's outdoor patio. Try the day's fresh-catch chalkboard special at this Wrightsville Beach classic. For a casual family dinner with a coastal vibe, check out Shark Bar and Kitchen and its second-story Admirals Deck just steps from Wrightsville Beach.



**SEABIRD**  
QUALITY FISH, OYSTERS, WINE,  
COCKTAILS, COFFEE, AND MORE  
DOWNTOWN  WILMINGTON  
1 S. Front St., Wilmington, NC 28401  
**(910) 769-5996**  
**seabirdnc.com**

For a complete list of restaurants, visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/restaurants](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/restaurants) or use the QR code to go to the mobile listing.



Satisfy an after-dinner sweet tooth with an Italian gelato, shake, or candy from GelaRto on the Riverwalk or small-batch, Irish-style ice cream from Celtic Creamery in Carolina Beach. Or grab a scrumptious breakfast donut from local favorite Britt's, on the Carolina Beach Boardwalk.

### NEW OFFERINGS

There's always something new to taste in Wilmington and the beaches. Check out chef and owner Bobby Zimmerman's creation, True Blue Butcher & Barrel, a restaurant and butcher's market in the South Front District. Savor authentic Hellenic cuisine featuring fresh, local seafood and locally grown produce at Kipos. In the Brooklyn Arts District, the Angus Grill is a polished-casual restaurant offering 30 varieties of juicy classic Angus burgers, tasty brisket, carefully crafted cheesesteaks, wraps, salads, and more. The Green House gives vegan dishes the fine dining treatment with plant-based menu items centered around modern American cuisine with a Southern flair. Dine on fresh, light fare like charred octopus with chickpeas or seared scallops over spaetzle with a view of the chefs at work at Origins.

### EPICUREAN EXPERIENCES

Food festivals and culinary tours paired with area history make Wilmington and the beaches ideal for adventurous lovers of good food. Meet area chefs while learning about the history and culinary scene of Wilmington's historic downtown on a gourmet food tour or sample remarkable coastal fare or drinks-only while hearing tales on an island tasting history tour.

## OUTDOOR FOOD & DRINKS

On the Riverwalk, rooftop, by marinas, or on boardwalks and piers, dining outdoors is a way of coastal life here. This is just a sampling; see page 25 to find more options.

Dining outdoors is a popular request that is easily granted by many area restaurants thanks to our year-round mild climate and scenic views. In fact, downtown Wilmington was voted the “#1 Best Al Fresco Dining Neighborhood” in *USA Today*’s 10Best Readers’ Choice awards.



OCEAN GRILL & TIKI BAR



CAROLINA SMOKEHOUSE



EAST OCEANFRONT DINING



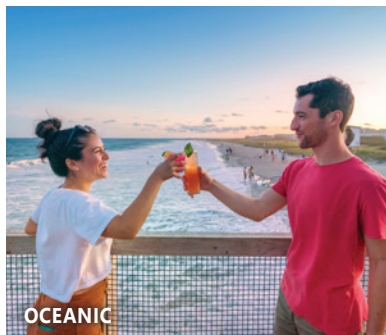
HANG TEN GRILL



CLOUD 9 ROOFTOP BAR



PILOT HOUSE



## MUSIC + NIGHTLIFE

### *Heat Up After the Sun Goes Down*

There is nothing like live music with a view, and in Wilmington and the beaches, there are plenty of options.

**Y**ou'll find outdoor venues overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and the Cape Fear River, historic concert halls, pubs featuring local acts, and music festivals to suit every taste throughout the year.

#### TUNES WITH A VIEW

Experience live music and beautiful sunsets. Catch can't-miss acts at Live Oak Bank Pavilion, Wilmington's newest and largest outdoor entertainment venue and amphitheater at Riverfront Park. The Live Nation venue hosts a full slate of national touring musical and comedy acts.

Ideal for a sunset show, Greenfield Lake Amphitheater is a waterside outdoor venue with the performance stage tucked into a 250-acre park and grove of beautiful cypress trees.

Sway to tunes beneath majestic live oaks during the family-friendly Airlie Gardens Summer Concert Series. Take in ocean views and live music on the pier at Ocean Grille & Tiki Bar or boogie down seaside at the free summer Boogie in the Park Concerts in Kure Beach. Head dockside for the Bluewater Summer Concerts at Bluewater Waterfront Grill in Wrightsville Beach or start your weekend with ocean views and live tunes at the Oceanic Summer Music Series.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS & VENUES

We've got it all! Two-step on the dance floor during the Signature Sunday Evening Live Bluegrass Jams at Satellite Bar and Lounge. Jazz it up in the courtyard of the Bellamy Mansion during their seasonal Jazz at the Mansion concerts. Dance the night away at island hotspots like SeaWitch Café and Tiki Bar in Carolina Beach, which offers a year-round lineup of live music. Enjoy the Reggae Festivus every summer Sunday plus local artists throughout the year at The Lazy

Pirate Island Sports Grill. The Palm Room in Wrightsville Beach has been a popular go-to for specialty drinks and live music since the 1950s.

## LOUNGES, BARS & SPEAKEASIES

Eclectic nightlife venues channeling old-school vibes and serving perfectly crafted cocktails can be found throughout downtown Wilmington. Wander down Smith Alley to enter the Blind Elephant, a Prohibition-style speakeasy serving Moscow mules on-tap alongside spirits and craft cocktails.

For live music, Bourgie Nights is an off-the-beaten-path gem known for handcrafted cocktails. Taste thoughtfully made libations and signature elixirs at Earnest Money & Sons. Whiskey, Tango, Foxtrot is shaking and stirring top-of-the-line concoctions, with live music on the weekends. Sip on craft cocktails at the rooftop bars Cloud 9 or aView Rooftop Bistro, two of the best spots in town to catch the sunset over the Cape Fear River, or float on a barge while enjoying frozen concoctions at Anne Bonny's Bar and Grill.

## CRAFT BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

Wilmington was named among "America's Beeriest Beach Towns" for a reason. Don't miss Wilmington's thriving craft beer scene. Stop by Wilmington's first brewhouse, Front Street Brewery, for a beer and food, or Hi-Wire Brewing with its 24 taps of Hi-Wire beers and wine that can be enjoyed in two outdoor beer gardens. Sip suds inside a historic firehouse, originally built in 1907, at Edward Teach Brewing. Noteworthy ales like sours and Belgians take center stage at Flytrap Brewing or visit New Anthem Beer Project, home to a large, bright, airy taproom and food trucks.

Waterline Brewing Co. serves up easy-to-drink ales alongside an array of events like yoga, while Wilmington's largest brewery, Flying Machine Brewing, creates everything from Berliner Weisse



GREENFIELD LAKE AMPHITHEATER

to a simple IPA at its original Wilmington location or its taproom and kitchen in Wrightsville Beach.

In Carolina Beach, Good Hops Brewing offers small batch brews like the Boardwalk Brown Ale and Flip Hop IPA alongside a dog-friendly beer garden and 9-hole disc golf course. Savoring regional flavors, Wrightsville Beach Brewery offers classics like their Oysterman Stout and Puppy Drum Pale Ale and a full menu, beer garden, and year-round events.

Taste the handcrafted selections and tour the area's breweries on the self-guided Wilmington Ale Trail; download a map at [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

The entrepreneurial spirit and rich heritage of distilling lives on in Wilmington with two distilleries creating small-batch spirits. End of Days' (1815 Castle Street) hand-distilled, corn-based vodka and gin, along with rum made with molasses and raw cane sugar, have won national awards. Tours are currently by reservation.

► [eoddistillery.com](http://eoddistillery.com)

You can also sample and purchase signature rums from Four Hounds Distilling in Carolina Beach knowing that 1% of your purchase goes to dog rescues.

► [fourhoundsdistilling.com](http://fourhoundsdistilling.com)



## WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOODS

### *Enjoy authentic, immersive Wilmington & beyond*

Wilmington's explore-worthy neighborhoods each have their own distinct character that make the city perfect for year-round excursions.

**CARGO DISTRICT**

**Y**ou will find vibrant arts and culture, funky coffee shops, stores full of both trending and vintage wares, and restaurants and bars that cater mostly to residents but fully embrace visitors as if they are one of us.

We are famous for our summertime beach vacations, but from September through April visitors get the chance to explore Wilmington more thoroughly – like a local. Transcend beyond the obvious coastal experiences and embark on an unforgettable journey, no matter the season.

### **DOWNTOWN/RIVER DISTRICT**

Enjoy a breathtaking view of the Cape Fear River on the two-mile Riverwalk while shopping eclectic boutiques, finding local treasures at art galleries, and dining at cafés and restaurants. Taste around town during one of many food festivals or on a gourmet

food tour. Enjoy a concert at the Live Oak Bank Pavilion, Wilmington's newest music venue at Riverfront Park. Spend time at the friendly, six-acre park featuring a playground, seasonal water feature, large plaza and green space, and trails and gardens.

### **HISTORIC DISTRICT**

Explore the area's historic roots on a guided, self-guided, or horse-drawn carriage tour of downtown's 230+ block National Register Historic District. Don't miss the Burgwin-Wright House and Gardens, the only structure in Wilmington from the colonial era open to the public. Visit Bellamy Mansion, built on the eve of the Civil War, and see one of the finest examples of Victorian-era architecture at Latimer House, which transports visitors back with tales of the Latimer family. In addition to guided tours, explore the area's historic homes on holiday candlelight tours or Colonial gardens in full bloom in spring.

## BROOKLYN ARTS DISTRICT

Anchored by the circa 1817 Brooklyn Arts Center, shop at the BAC Holiday Flea. Attend gallery crawls, sip craft ales at Edward Teach Brewing or Flytrap Brewing, pop in to Bottega Art & Wine, a wine bar-meets-art gallery, or tempt your tastebuds with a gourmet burger at Angus Grill.

## SOUTH FRONT DISTRICT

Catch a Sunday night bluegrass jam session at Satellite Bar and Lounge or dine at celebrity chef Vivian Howard's restaurant, Benny's Big Time Pizzeria. Sip vino in a cool wine bar, The Second Glass, while craft beer connoisseurs can pop into the airy and spacious taproom at New Anthem Brewery. Feast on tasty tacos at BlockTaco. Peruse the visual creations at the ArtWorks™ gallery. For the wellness focused, relax in a salt cave at Native Salt Cave and Wellness or drop in for a yoga class at YogaSalt.

## CASTLE STREET ARTS & ANTIQUE DISTRICT

From live music and vinyl records at Gravity Records, to Michael Moore Antiques and Jess James + Co's vintage clothing, this little slice of Wilmington is a treasure hunter's dream. Eat at Wilmington's original farm-to-table spot, Rx Chicken and Oysters. Owner James Doss strives to offer his guests seasonally inspired, ingredient-driven Southern cuisine.

## CARGO DISTRICT

Wilmington's Cargo District neighborhood is home to a variety of dining options, bottle shops, coffee shops, boutiques and creative businesses, most housed in shipping containers. Spend time at End of Days Distillery, Wilmington's first craft distillery. Grab a coffee or tea at Blue Cup Roastery. Dine on burgers and tots at the Mess Hall, or try Cheesemith for artisanal grilled cheese sandwiches and sides.

## GALLERIES

Awaken your creative side and get inspired on Fourth Friday Gallery Nights

exploring the area's art scene. From oil on canvas to 3-D art and sculptures, national and regional pieces are displayed in local businesses and several art galleries including ACES Gallery, Acme Art Studios, Art in Bloom, Eclipse Artisan Boutique, Gallery Citrine, New Elements Gallery, Port City Pottery & Fine Crafts, The Bryand Gallery, and The Gallery of Fine Art, just to name a few.

## MUSEUMS

Meet Wilmington's first resident, a giant ground sloth, at the oldest history museum in the state, the Cape Fear Museum of History & Science. Hop aboard locomotive history at Wilmington Railroad Museum and explore a variety of interactive, whimsical exhibits at The Children's Museum of Wilmington. Or meander among works of regional artists and sculptors at the Cameron Art Museum.

## THEATERS

Intimate stages dedicated to thought-provoking productions, a cutting-edge performance center, and one of the most historic theaters in the country make Wilmington the coastal epicenter for musical, theatrical, and dance performances throughout the year. Catch a show at historic Thalian Hall, The Wilson Center, Brooklyn Arts Center, or Dead Crow Comedy Room.

## WELLNESS & ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

A mild year-round climate means that our quiet gardens, scenic trails, state parks, and wellness activities can be enjoyed non-stop, both in Wilmington and our island beaches. For more on our active lifestyles, please turn to page 14.

For ideas of ways to enjoy year-round fun in Wilmington's neighborhoods, visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/things-to-do/river-district/](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/things-to-do/river-district/) or scan the QR code.



## SHOPPING

### Coastal Style

Take home a piece of the coast as you meander the boardwalks, Riverwalk, and shopping villages and districts of Wilmington and our island beaches, where the boutiques and shopping are as fabulous as the destinations.

### THE COTTON EXCHANGE

### VILLAGES & CENTERS

Shopping here is down to earth and brimming with local crafters and retailers full of indie spirit. Breeze through the Cotton Exchange, a set of eight restored 19th-century buildings in downtown Wilmington with 30 specialty shops and restaurants connected by open-air courtyards. Peruse the riverside boutiques at the century-old Chandler's Wharf and head to Market and Front streets for an eclectic mix of vintage



*M*  
MAYFAIRE

Mayfaire is an 800,000 square foot *lifestyle center* rich in fashion, home goods, entertainment and great spots to eat and hang out. Nestled in Wilmington, just 1.5 miles from Wrightsville Beach. *We have it all.*

Located on Military Cutoff Road.  
910.256.5131  
mayfaire.com

accessories, designer clothing, coastal décor, and handmade wares. Lumina Station is an outdoor, pedestrian-friendly shopping village near the beach with locally owned boutiques and distinctive restaurants.

At The Forum, an array of upscale gifts, fashions, jewelry, antiques, and imported furniture are side-by-side with sidewalk bistros and gourmet cafés. Make time for shopping at Mayfaire Town Center, a one-stop destination featuring nationally known retailers, restaurants, and movie theaters. Round out your shopping experience at The Pointe at Barclay and renovated Independence Mall in Midtown.

### GIFT SHOPS

For an unparalleled selection of local treasures, wander the aisles of Blue Moon Gift Shops, consistently voted Best Gift Shop in Wilmington. Cruise through the Old Wilmington City Market, a one-story brick and stucco building with 14-foot ceilings and glass skylights, to browse the assortment of specialty shops and art and craft galleries.

### ANTIQUES & FURNISHINGS

Search for one-of-a-kind lamps, pop-culture relics, vinyl records, classic clothing, and more in the Castle Street Antique & Arts District. Venture to the four warehouses of The Ivy Cottage, the South's largest consignment store, featuring jewelry and furniture. Rare pieces like custom tables, barn doors, art, pottery, and chandeliers abound at Vintage Marketplace, while Uptown Market is a one-stop destination for everything from industrial and primitive pieces to artisan jewelry and custom-made furniture.

### SURF SHOPS

No beach vacation would be complete without a stop into a local surf shop. Near the UNC Wilmington campus, Hot Wax Surf Shop stocks all the top surf and skateboarding brands. In Wrightsville Beach, shop for contemporary surf gear and lifestyle apparel at Annex Surf Supply, South End Surf Shop, and Sweetwater Surf Shop. In Carolina Beach, CB Surf Shop has been helping shoppers enjoy the coastal way of life for nearly two decades with its selection of apparel, sandals, sunglasses, and board rentals.



**OVER 5000 SQ. FT.**

**WELCOME**

**HOT WAX**  
surf shop

Surf Boards • Clothing • Skateboards  
Surfboard Shaping Room

**hotwaxsurfshop.com**

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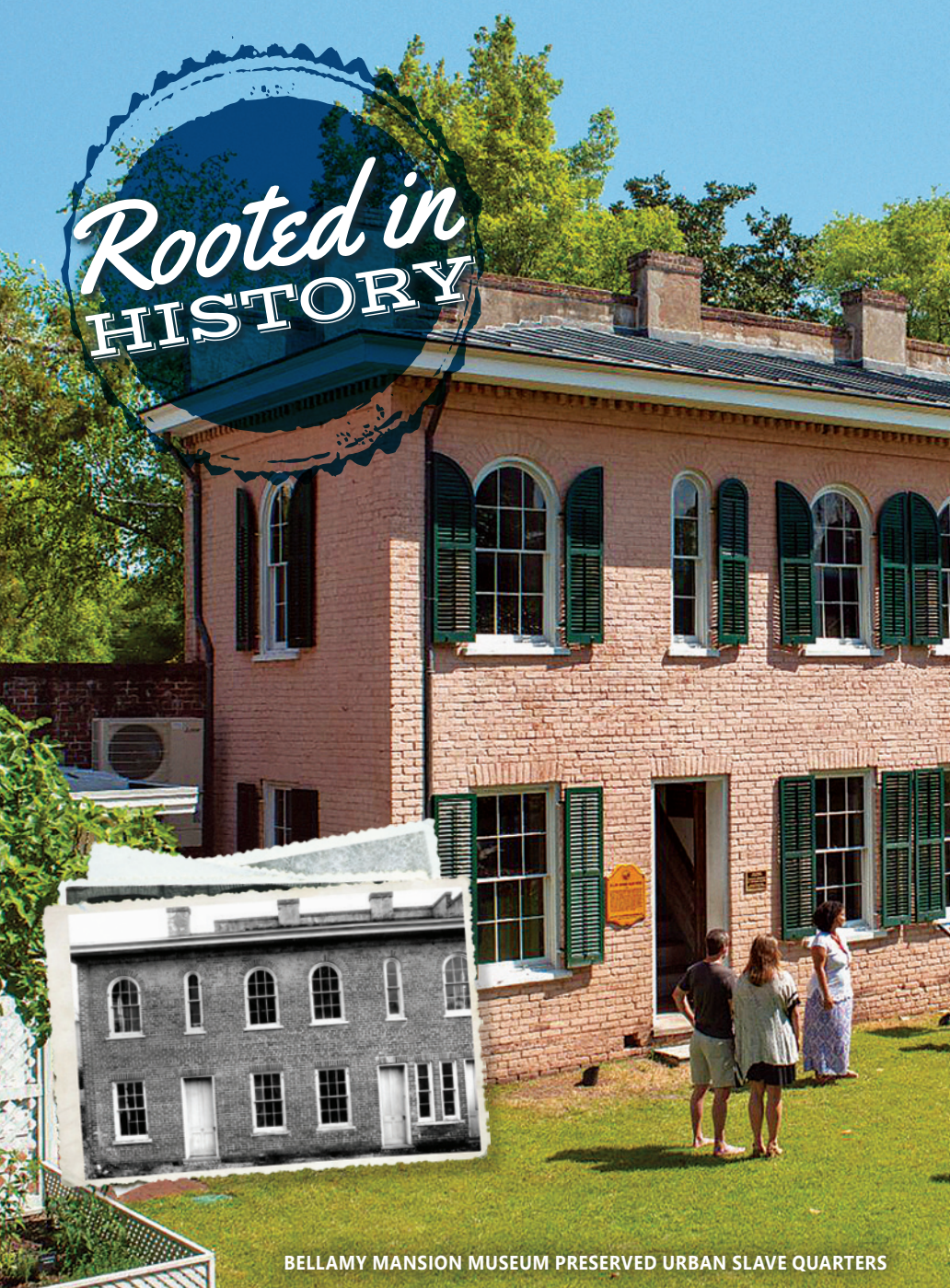
**(910) 791-WAVE (9283)**

**4510 Hoggard Dr, Wilmington, NC 28403**

Visit **WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/things-to-do/shopping** or use the QR code to go to the mobile listing.



# *Rooted in* HISTORY



BELLAMY MANSION MUSEUM PRESERVED URBAN SLAVE QUARTERS

## On Land and at Sea, Wilmington and Our Island Beaches Span Centuries

**F**rom the 1500s – when mariners and pirates coined the treacherous offshore seascape “Cape of Feare” because it was spiked with shipwrecks – to today, Wilmington and the nearby islands can transport you to another time. Relive the triumphs, the struggles, and the adventures that shaped not only coastal North Carolina, but American and world history as well.

Explorers first arrived on the beaches of North Carolina in 1524 but European settlers didn’t colonize and incorporate Wilmington until 1739. The city quickly became a hub for trade, politics, and culture, its proximity to the river and the Atlantic Ocean making it a gateway to the rest of the world.

Many of Wilmington and the Beaches’ most famous places and spaces are now museums or are open for public tours. From the preserved urban slave quarters at The Bellamy Mansion Museum to the 230-plus block National Register Historic District, Wilmington’s history is rooted deep in the fabric of the city. Wilmington has a rich history begging to be explored, from the American Revolution to the Civil War and WWII to the Civil Rights era.

### • 1776-1782 •

#### THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge took place in February of 1776 just 20 miles northwest of Wilmington. Referred to as the Lexington and Concord of the South, the fight resulted in an American victory that ended British authority in North Carolina and boosted Patriot morale. The Burgwin-Wright House, built in 1770, serves as an invaluable reflection of the Revolutionary Era.

• The Burgwin-Wright Museum House & Gardens offers daily and special candlelight tours where interpreters reveal the rituals of bygone times.

## • 1840-1859 •

### EARLY 19TH CENTURY

The arrival of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad in 1840 boosted the already active port of Wilmington to become the largest city in North Carolina. Some of the city's most impressive structures were built between 1850 and 1860, several of which allow public tours and special events.

- **Bellamy Mansion Museum (c.1861)** is a meticulously preserved historic home. The recently restored slave quarters as well as the main house can be toured.
- Take a guided tour of the **Latimer House Museum (c. 1852)**, a true gem.
- Go behind-the-scenes at one of the oldest theaters in the country with a guided tour of **Thalian Hall (c.1858)** by request.

## • 1861-1865 •

### THE CIVIL WAR

Fort Fisher, which protected Wilmington, was the last Atlantic Coast port of the Confederacy until it fell to Federal troops on Jan. 15, 1865, during the largest naval bombardment of the 19th Century.

The Cameron Art Museum (CAM) stands on the site of the Battle of Forks Road, a Civil War skirmish won by the United States Colored Troops (USCT), leading to the fall of Wilmington. Many of the African American soldiers who fought there were native to the area, and after the war, many stayed to build the community. These 1,600 USCT soldiers fought for the Union, but also for their freedom and the abolishment of slavery.

- Explore the **South's largest earthen fort, walking trails, and exhibits at Fort Fisher State Historic Site.**
- See re-enactors in January at the annual anniversary of the **Battle of Fort Fisher.**
- In CAM's USCT Park, visit *Boundless*, a bronze sculpture by artist Stephen Hayes that honors the USCT with life-size casts of 11 African American men who are USCT descendants and reenactors.

## • 1865-1898 •

### RECONSTRUCTION & BEYOND

Wilmington's newly freed Black population started businesses, ran for office, and took up professions. These freedoms were attacked in a dark moment by a violent white supremacy campaign that resulted in the Wilmington Coup of 1898. The insurrection culminated in electoral fraud, the burning of the city's Black newspaper offices, and the deaths of an unknown number of African Americans.

- **Cape Fear Museum of History's exhibits** interpret the experiences of African American Wilmingtonians and explores ways the region has changed.
- **Wilmington Tours offers an African American History self-guided app tour** that includes stops at 32 significant sites.
- **WilmingtonColor Tours** offers group tours by advance registration.

## • 1940-1970 •

### THE MID-20TH CENTURY

The Wilmington shipyard built 243 ships in the 1940s as the city became a hub of World War II home-front activities. Wilmington was designated as the first city in the country to be an American World War II Heritage City for its preservation of WWII heritage.



One of the only remaining USO buildings still stands in Wilmington and serves as a community arts center housing a small WWII home-front heritage museum. The city is also home to Battleship NORTH CAROLINA, one of the most decorated battleships of her time. Walk the nine decks of the restored WWII-era battleship. The half-mile SECU Memorial Walkway surrounds the Battleship and honors each branch of the military.

- **Seasonal events aboard the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA include the Battleship Memorial Day Observance.**
- Explore rarely seen sections of the ship during special tours.

# THINGS TO DO

*Overflowing with coastal activities*

1

## Historic Sites & Attractions

### BATTLESHIP

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Walk the decks of an authentically restored WWII battleship and behold her glory from the SECU Memorial Walkway.

- Nine ship levels to explore
- Memorializes approximately 11,000 North Carolinians who died during WWII
- Voted #2 Best North Carolina Attraction in *USA Today's* Readers' Choice Contest

📍 1 Battleship Rd. NE, 28401

☎ 910-399-9100

➤ battleshipnc.com

### BELLAMY MANSION MUSEUM OF HISTORY & DESIGN ARTS

Tour this elaborate early 1800s mansion with its restored gardens and rare urban slave quarters.






- Self-guided tours; guided tours are available
- Hosts events and live music series
- The museum features rotating art exhibits and a year-round calendar of events.

📍 503 Market St., 28401

☎ 910-251-3700

➤ bellamymansion.org

### BATTLESHIP NORTH CAROLINA

KEY:  = INDOOR ATTRACTION |  = PET FRIENDLY |  = ACCESSIBLE |  = ADMISSION CHARGED |  = FREE ADMISSION





BELLAMY MANSION MUSEUM


## BRUNSWICK TOWN/ FORT ANDERSON STATE HISTORIC SITE **FREE**

Experience what was the premier Colonial port on the Cape Fear River before the Revolutionary War, the largest earthen fort on the river's west bank and one of the best-preserved.

- Mosaic by artist Claude Howell
- 3/4-mile, ADA-accessible riverside trail
- Museum shop, exhibits, picnic area

 **8884 St. Philip's Rd. SE,**  
**Winnabow, NC 28479**

 **910-371-6613**

 [historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/  
Brunswick-town-fort-anderson](http://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/Brunswick-town-fort-anderson)

## BURGWIN-WRIGHT HOUSE & GARDENS

Tour this superb example of Georgian architecture (c.1770). Four colonial structures, on the property include the 1744 city jail.

- Guided tours of the fully furnished house

- Self-guided tours of terraced gardens

 **224 Market St., 28401**

 **910-762-0570**  [burgwinwrighthouse.com](http://burgwinwrighthouse.com)

## CAPE FEAR HISTORIC BYWAY **FREE**

Hit the open road on this scenic route that covers Wilmington's key urban landscapes.

 **1-877-DOT-4YOU**

 [scenicbyways.info/byway/73108.html](http://scenicbyways.info/byway/73108.html)

## CAPE FEAR MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE

For a full description, see page 41.

## HANNAH BLOCK HISTORIC USO/ COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER **FREE**

Tour the 1943 USO's lobby museum, and check out the 2nd Street Stage, the Community Arts Center, and Gallery.

- Lobby houses a WWII exhibit

 **120 S. 2nd St., 28401**

 **910-341-7860**

 [wilmingtoncommunityarts.org](http://wilmingtoncommunityarts.org)

## HISTORIC DISTRICT, DOWNTOWN WILMINGTON

Explore the alluring heritage of downtown Wilmington through stately historical homes, beautiful churches, and inspiring museums.

- 230-block National Register Historic District
- Official Guide Map available from the

# STEP BACK IN TIME

Where History Comes Alive





**BATTLESHIP**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**









**910.399.9100**

**OPEN DAILY**

**BATTLESHIPNC.COM**

Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau

- Guided and self-guided tours via carriage rides, trolley tours, and more

☎ 866-534-0845

► [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com)

### LATIMER HOUSE MUSEUM

Experience Victorian life at this 1852 Italianate Revival home that includes living quarters and gardens.

- 14 rooms, 600+ objects on display
- Archives & library

📍 126 S. 3rd St., 28401

☎ 910-762-0492 ► [lcfhs.org](http://lcfhs.org)

### MOORES CREEK NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Walk the site of the first Patriot victory of the American Revolution. Stroll past cannons and militia earthworks.

- Visitor's Center & Gift Shop
- Walking trails

📍 40 Patriots Hall Dr., 28435

☎ 910-283-5591 ► [nps.gov/mocr](http://nps.gov/mocr)

### OAKDALE CEMETERY

Eloquent epitaphs and symbolic funerary art tell stories of those who lived before us and their interesting lives.

- Educational and themed walking tours

📍 520 N. 15th St., 28401

☎ 910-762-5682

► [oakdalecemetery.org](http://oakdalecemetery.org)

### POPLAR GROVE PLANTATION

Within the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor of the National Park Service, this former peanut and sweet potato plantation testifies to the skills and labor of enslaved workers.

- Guided and self-guided tours
- Barnyard animals; picnic area; seasonal farmers market
- Pet-friendly Abbey Nature Preserve

📍 10200 U.S. Hwy. 17 N., 28411

☎ 910-398-5673

► [poplargo.org](http://poplargo.org)

### THALIAN HALL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

For a full description, see page 50

### WWII HERITAGE

Honor the important home-front role Southeast North Carolina played during World War II. Download a free WWII Heritage Guide Map with dozens of sites in Wilmington, designated a World War II Heritage City.

► [wilmingtonnc.gov/WWII](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/WWII)



*Poplar Grove*  
PLANTATION

Historic House & Museum

The only surviving plantation home open to the public in the Lower Cape Fear Region.

*Explore History. Explore the World*

910.398.5673 • [poplargo.org](http://poplargo.org)

10200 US HWY. 17 N., WILMINGTON, NC 28411

2

## African American History

Commemorate the importance of African American heritage and culture in Wilmington by visiting these memorials and historic markers. Download the guide map and heritage guide here: [wilmingtonnc.gov/home/showdocument?id=16](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/home/showdocument?id=16)

### 1898 MEMORIAL PARK (FREE)

This park honors the memory of those who stood against racial inequality during the riots of 1898. The monument serves as a symbol of social progress and harmony.

📍 **Corner of North Third & Davis Streets**

### ORANGE STREET LANDING

**ON CAPE FEAR (FREE)**

A historical marker commemorates the story of 22 brave African American slaves who escaped in 1862 on 3 docked boats, floated down the Cape Fear River, and met Union forces near Fort Caswell. The men immediately joined the U.S. Navy to fight for equality. The site is part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

📍 **Downtown Wilmington, on the Riverwalk at the foot of Orange Street**

### U.S. COLORED TROOPS

**HIGHWAY MARKER (USCT) (FREE)**

Pay homage at Wilmington National

Cemetery – the largest USCT burial ground in North Carolina – at the marker that honors the U.S. Colored Troops in the 1865 Civil War battle to capture Fort Fisher.

📍 **2011 Market St. between 20th & 21st**

### WILMINGTON HISTORY TOURS (S)

Download the free Wilmington History app, then purchase the full African American History Tour through the app for a self-guided stroll through nearly three centuries of African American history.

➤ [wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours](http://wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours)

### USCT PARK (FREE)

Visit USCT Park, within the historic Forks Road Civil War Site on the grounds of Cameron Art Museum to see *Boundless*, a public bronze sculpture commemorating the United States Colored Troops who fought in the Civil War.

3

## Museums

### CAMERON ART MUSEUM

(S) (F) (A)

Get in touch with your creative side. Explore exhibitions and attend lectures in music, film, literature, and dance. Children's programs inspire alongside family friendly exhibits.

- Museum park with trails
- Live music in the CAM Cafe

📍 **3201 S. 17th St., 28412**

☎ **910-395-5999** ➤ [cameronartmuseum.org](http://cameronartmuseum.org)



**WILMINGTON RAILROAD MUSEUM**

The Wilmington Railroad Museum has a great collection of displays and fun activities for both adults and children.

**910-763-2634**  
505 Nutt St., Wilmington, NC 28401

For hours, prices & info visit us at: **wrrm.org** 

## CAPE FEAR MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE

Explore regional artifacts that tell the story of the Lower Cape Fear region. Meet a giant ground sloth, peruse Cape Fear Stories history exhibit, and more.

- Michael Jordan Discovery Gallery
- Park and native plant garden
- Smithsonian Affiliate

📍 814 Market St., 28401

☎ 910-798-4370 ▶ [capefearmuseum.com](http://capefearmuseum.com)

## THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WILMINGTON

Give your kids the gift of magical and playful experiences in science, math, and art.

- Serves children 10 & under
- Children under 12 months enter free

📍 116 Orange St., 28401

☎ 910-254-3534 ▶ [playwilmington.org](http://playwilmington.org)

## HISTORIC HOME MUSEUMS

For full descriptions for Bellamy Mansion Museum, Burgwin-Wright House, and Latimer House Museum, see pages 37-39.

## MUSEUM OF THE BIZARRE

From the Crystal Skull of Knowledge to Houdini's Ouija Board, explore the wild and weird at Wilmington's curiosities museum.

- Laser Vault Maze & Mirror Maze

📍 201 S. Water St., 28401

☎ 910-399-2641 ▶ [museumbizarre.com](http://museumbizarre.com)



CAMERON ART  
MUSEUM ART PARK

## WILMINGTON RAILROAD MUSEUM

Preserving the history of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and railroading in the Southeast, the museum is housed in a freight warehouse. Check out the historic steam locomotive and caboose.

- Children's Hall and play area
- 25+ operating scale model trains

📍 505 Nutt St., 28401

☎ 910-763-2634 ▶ [wrrm.org](http://wrrm.org)

4

## Family & Adventure Attractions

## CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WILMINGTON

For a full description, see page 41.

## AXES & ALLIES

Enjoy craft beer and wine, other refreshments and throwing axes.

- Age 18+ after 9pm

📍 1122 S. 3rd St., 28401

☎ 910-833-5863 ▶ [axesandalliesnc.com](http://axesandalliesnc.com)



814 Market Street  
910-798-4370

[CapeFearMuseum.com](http://CapeFearMuseum.com)



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- Indoor & outdoor pools
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- Minutes from NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher
- On-site Bistro with Starbucks coffee

**Walk to shops,  
dining, & the  
Boardwalk!**

Your year-round **vacation** destination.

100 Charlotte Avenue, Carolina Beach, NC 28428

**910.458.2030** [Marriott.com/ilmcb](http://Marriott.com/ilmcb)

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BY MARRIOTT

**Perfect Location. Perfect Price. Perfect Hotel.**

Find all three at the Fairfield by Marriott  
Wilmington/Wrightsville Beach

- ▶ Minutes from Wrightsville Beach and the UNC Wilmington Campus
- ▶ Complimentary Hot Breakfast Buffet
- ▶ Heated indoor pool with 24-hour fitness center
- ▶ Spacious rooms and suites featuring a 32" flat screen television and mini-fridge
- ▶ Centrally located between Wrightsville Beach and Historic Downtown

[Marriott.com/ilmwe](http://Marriott.com/ilmwe)

**910.791.8082** 307 Eastwood Road • Wilmington, North Carolina 28403

## CROSSFIRE INDOOR PAINTBALL & NERF PARK



Jump start your adrenaline with North Carolina's only indoor paintball and Nerf park. Stain-free paintballs available. Now offering GellyBall battles and axe throwing.

- Parties and team building events

📍 1413 Castle Hayne Rd., 28401

☎ 910-466-4427 ▶ [crossfirenc.com](http://crossfirenc.com)

## DEFY WILMINGTON



Reach new heights within a wall-to-wall, cutting-edge trampoline sports park.

- One of the largest trampoline dodgeball cages in the U.S.

📍 6431 Market St., 28405 ☎ 910-444-1002

▶ [defy.com/defy-wilmington](http://defy.com/defy-wilmington)

## FLIP N FLY TRAMPOLINE PARK



Jump into fun at this state-of-the-art indoor trampoline park that includes a dodgeball court, aerial silks, a trapeze, 5 foam pits, full ninja course, kids' course, and arcade.

- Parties, Neon Nights & Family Nights

📍 830 Inspiration Dr., 28405

☎ 910-679-5050 ▶ [flipnfly.com](http://flipnfly.com)

## GREENFIELD GRIND SKATEPARK (FREE)

Shred this park's multi-bowls and banked street courses for daylight skateboarding,

inline skating, and BMX sessions.

📍 Greenfield Park, behind 302 Willard St., 28401 ▶ [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

## GREENLIGHT ESCAPE ROOM



Choose from five one-of-a-kind scenarios including Kidnapped, Alien Escape, Jurassic Labs, Attic, Brewery Heist. Try to solve the mystery and break free in 60 minutes.

- All rooms are wheelchair accessible
- All games are private bookings

📍 130 N. Front St., #202, 28401

☎ 910-833-5522 ▶ [greenlightescape.com](http://greenlightescape.com)

## JUNGLE RAPIDS FAMILY FUN PARK



Take your pick from arcade, mini bowling, go-karts, mini-golf, laser tag, climbing wall, sky tower, indoor playground, water slides, lazy river, and a million-gallon wave pool.

- Water park open seasonally

📍 5320 Oleander Dr., 28403

☎ 910-791-0666 ▶ [junglerapids.com](http://junglerapids.com)

## OGDEN SKATEPARK (FREE)

Includes a skate bowl and street features such as railings and steps. Skateboards and BMX freestyle bikes welcome. Helmets and pads are required. Open 8 a.m. to sunset.

📍 615 Ogden Park Dr., 28411

▶ [parks.nhcgov.com](http://parks.nhcgov.com)



**BATTLE  
HOUSE**



**25% OFF  
YOUR FIRST VISIT  
USE CODE: BEACHES**







**TACTICAL  
LASER  
TAG**  
FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY!

**BATTLEHOUSE.NET**

# Ghost Walk

Of Old Wilmington



Wilmington's  
#1 Tour  
Since 1999

**Home Of The Haunted Pub Crawl**

910.794.1866  
www.HauntedWilmington.com

## WILMINGTON WATER TOURS LLC



**NARRATED CRUISES** Live Music • Full Bar • Wow Views  
**DAILY CRUISES** & Private Charters

**WilmingtonWaterTours.net**

**BZZLY BEE** BUGLES BUSINESS INC.

Shuttle service to and from the  
Battleship North Carolina  
• Call for Hours

Located on the riverfront in historic downtown  
Wilmington, between Orange & Ann Streets  
**910.338.3134**  
info@wilmingtonwt.com

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ART VILLAGE • ART GALLERY • EVENT VENUE

**910-352-1822**  
200 WILLARD STREET, WILMINGTON, NC  
www.theartworks.co

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UNIVERSITY of  
NORTH CAROLINA  
WILMINGTON

**LIKE NO OTHER.**

An EEO/AA Institution

# CRUISE ON THE NEW HENRIETTA

Tickets are available the **DAY OF THE CRUISE** at the dock ticket booth at South Water Street, or on our website.



- Sunset Cruises
- Sightseeing Tours
- Black River Nature Tours
- Private Event Cruises
- Full Bar
- A/C

**910-343-1611**  
**cfrboats.com**

108 South Water Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
(at the corner of Dock Street - over 700 parking spaces within 2.5 blocks)



Cape Fear Riverboats  
Scenic Cruises & Private Charters

## THE EXIT GAMES



Prepare for 60 minutes of immersive adventure! Save Buddy the golden retriever, steal the casino's loot, or join the secret magic society! Do you have what it takes?

📍 2 N. Front St., 2nd Floor, 28401

☎ 910-833-5881 ▶ [theexitgames.com](http://theexitgames.com)

## TREGEMBO ANIMAL PARK



Return to the wild at Southeast NC's oldest zoo, which features a white tiger, alligators, monkeys, a giraffe, and more.

- More than 100 species on exhibit

📍 5811 Carolina Beach Rd., 28412

☎ 910-392-3604

▶ [tregemboanimalpark.com](http://tregemboanimalpark.com)

## WILMINGTON ICE HOUSE



Lace up your skates for an icy adventure no matter the season. On-site pro shop.

- Public skating, parties & summer camp
- Figure skating & hockey classes

📍 7201 Ogden Business Lane, 28411

☎ 910-686-1987

▶ [wilmingtonice.com](http://wilmingtonice.com)

## WILMINGTON RAILROAD MUSEUM

For a full description, see page 41.

## WILMINGTON RIVERWALK



Stroll the scenic, nearly two-mile Riverwalk, that skirts the historic Cape Fear River and is lined with hotels, boutiques, art galleries, restaurants, and cafes.

- Boat tours and cruises available
- Full-service public docks

☎ 910-341-7852

▶ [douglas.lewis@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:douglas.lewis@wilmingtonnc.gov)

▶ [Wilmingtonnc.gov/visitors/riverwalk](http://Wilmingtonnc.gov/visitors/riverwalk)

- Port City Marina

- Available to private events

📍 10 Harnett St., 28401

☎ 910-251-6151

5

## Tours & Cruises

Take a guided walking tour or a horse-drawn carriage ride



through historic downtown Wilmington. Get on board a narrated riverboat or catamaran cruise, or hop on a pedal-pub boat. Call the Wilmington and Beaches Visitors Center at 866-534-0845 or visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com) for information on tours and cruises.

## BREWBOAT WILMINGTON



BrewBoat Wilmington is a one-of-a-kind BYOB cruise on the Cape Fear River.

- Accommodates up to 15 passengers

📍 Docked by Port City Marina,  
10 Harnett St., 28401

☎ 910-239-7703

▶ [brewboatnc.com](http://brewboatnc.com)

## BREWERY & DISTILLERY TOURS

More than 15 breweries operate in Wilmington and our island beaches, and many offer tours. Or discover the nuances of grain-to-glass distilling on a tour of End of Days Distillery.

▶ [wilmingtonandbeaches.com/restaurants/drinks/wilmington-ale-trail/](http://wilmingtonandbeaches.com/restaurants/drinks/wilmington-ale-trail/)  
▶ [eoddistillery.com](http://eoddistillery.com)

## CAPE FEAR RIVERBOATS



Enjoy historically narrated sightseeing tours or scenic sunset cruises. Canopy covered, open air or a fully enclosed, climate-controlled deck allow for all weather trips.

- Nature tours and private charters available
- Bar and light snacks available on board
- Ample parking nearby

📍 Departs from Dock & Water Streets

☎ 910-343-1611

▶ [cfrboats.com](http://cfrboats.com)



## "DAWSON'S CREEK"/"ONE TREE HILL" SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Satisfy your inner fandom with a self-guided tour of filming locations for these two popular series.

- ▶ [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/one-tree-hill](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/one-tree-hill)
- ▶ [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/dawsons-creek](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/dawsons-creek)

## TOURS ON DEMAND

Listed tours are a sampling of guided and self-guided tours available in Wilmington. For tours not listed here, including culinary, theater and more, please visit: [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

## EZ ELECTRIC BIKE RENTALS

This one-stop shop for all-electric vehicle rentals offers electric bikes and mobility electric wheelchair scooters in the heart of historic downtown. Guided tours are available; book a one-hour Sunset Tour or the two-hour Tour de Wilmington.

- 📍 200 Market Street, Unit 120, 28401
- ☎ 910-474-0003 ▶ [ezelectricbikerentals.com](http://ezelectricbikerentals.com)

## FILM & TV TOURS

Wilmington has been nicknamed "Hollywood East" and "Wilmywood" as more than 400 television and movie productions have filmed here since 1983. Discover filming sites and tours at the link below.

- ▶ [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/hollywood-east](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/hollywood-east)



### EZ ELECTRIC

*E-BIKE RENTALS & TOURS*

- ⚡ **RENT** electric bikes, scooters, and wheelchairs
- ⚡ **TOUR** Wilmington on guided day and night tours
- ⚡ **ENJOY** exploring with friends, family, or a loved one...

Our e-bikes are affordable, easy to operate, and FUN!

**(910) 474-0003**  
[ezelectricbikerentals.com](http://ezelectricbikerentals.com)  
 200 Market St, #120  
 Wilmington, NC 28401







## GHOST WALK OF OLD WILMINGTON

Journey into the depths of old Wilmington on a 90-minute adventure to the city's most actively haunted homes and burial grounds.

- Family Friendly Tour, stories vary nightly

 910-794-1866

 [hauntedwilmington.com](http://hauntedwilmington.com)

## HAUNTED PUB CRAWL

Hoist a pint or three and celebrate Wilmington's dark history on a 2.5-hour adventure to the city's most intriguing local pubs. Must be age 21 or older

- Drinks and tips not included
- Featured in *Southern Living*, The History Channel, TLC, and elsewhere

 910-794-1866

 [hauntedwilmington.com](http://hauntedwilmington.com)

## HISTORIC TOURS

Explore times past in Wilmington. Tour the Bellamy Mansion, Burgwin-Wright House, and the Latimer House Museum (see pages 37-39 for full descriptions) for a glimpse into life from the 1700s through the Victorian age. Take one of Tour Old Wilmington's daily walks. Climb into a horse-drawn carriage to ride through the historic district with a costumed narrator. Download

Wilmington History Tours' mobile app and choose a self-guided tour. Or download a World War II Heritage Guide Map from [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/wilmington-history](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/wilmington-history).

 [touroldwilmington.blogspot.com](http://touroldwilmington.blogspot.com)

 [wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours](http://wilmingtonhistory.com/apptours)

## HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE & TROLLEY TOURS

Enjoy one of the longest standing tours of Historic Wilmington. Costumed drivers give daily narrated tours year-round, weather permitting.

- Private tours available with reservation

 **Departs from Market, between Water & Front Streets**

 910-251-8889


 [horsedrawntours.com](http://horsedrawntours.com)

## SHAMROCK SAILING ADVENTURES

Sail aboard a 42-ft. sailing yawl for an intimate look at the coastal beauty of Wrightsville Beach, Banks Channel, and surrounding barrier islands.

- Morning, afternoon, & sunset sails

 **Departs from Wrightsville Beach**

 919-302-3421

 [shamrocksailing.com](http://shamrocksailing.com)



**Shamrock  
SAILING**

**(919) 302-3421**

[www.shamrocksailing.com](http://www.shamrocksailing.com)

## Relax on a Coastal Sailing Experience! 3 Daily Cruises - Morning, Afternoon, & Sunset

- 2 hour Eco-Tours of Masonboro Island & Wrightsville Beach Waterways
- 3.5 Hour Private Charters
- Corporate Team Building Programs
- Sail with Experienced USCG Captain



**Boat Tours, Sailing, Boat Charter in Wrightsville Beach**

## TASTE CAROLINA GOURMET FOOD TOURS

Explore the flavors of historic Wilmington. Sample an assortment of restaurants, meet the city's best chefs, and learn why the city is a foodie's dream.

☎ 919-237-2254

► [tastecarolina.net/wilmington](http://tastecarolina.net/wilmington)

## WILMINGTON WATER TOURS

Enjoy historic and eco-tours, sunset cruises, or narrated tours of the beautiful Cape Fear River. Cruises offered year-round.

- Themed cruises, private charters available
- Enclosed, 49-passenger boat with full bar
- Bizzy Bee River Taxi offers multiple stops including the Battleship

☉ [On the Riverwalk between Orange & Ann Streets](#)

☎ 910-338-3134

► [wilmingtonwatertours.net](http://wilmingtonwatertours.net)

## WILMINGTON RIVERWALK

For full description, see page 45. This is a self-guided tour.

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## Arts, Theater & Music

Experience Wilmington's art and culture through performances, exhibits, music, and theater. Find performances online at [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).



THALIAN HALL

## BROOKLYN ARTS CENTER & THE ANNEX

Experience this beautifully restored church and brick schoolhouse turned venue.

- Hosts national concert tours

☉ 516 N. 4th St., 28401

☎ 910-859-4615 ► [brooklynartsnc.com](http://brooklynartsnc.com)

## CAMERON ART MUSEUM

For a full description, see page 40.

## BIG DAWG PRODUCTIONS

See entertaining, thoughtful, and socially responsible theater.

- Ruth and Bucky Stein Studio Theatre at Historic Thalian Hall

- Call the Thalian Hall Box Office at 910-632-2285 for tickets

☉ 310 Chestnut St., 28401

☎ 910-367-5237 ► [bigdawgproductions.org](http://bigdawgproductions.org)

## DEAD CROW COMEDY ROOM

Laugh it up at weekly shows and special events – Improv and Open Mic Nights.

- Hosts annual Cape Fear Comedy Festival

☉ 511 N. Third St., 28401

☎ 910-399-1750 ► [deadcrowcomedy.com](http://deadcrowcomedy.com)

## GREENFIELD LAKE AMPHITHEATER

Catch a show in the intimate outdoor setting of scenic Greenfield Park.

- Tickets available online
- Most shows are general admission

☉ 1941 Amphitheater Dr., 28401

☎ 910-343-3614

► [livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A2qV/greenfield-lake-amphitheater-events](http://livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A2qV/greenfield-lake-amphitheater-events)

## KENAN AUDITORIUM AT UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT WILMINGTON (UNCW)

The 1,000-seat Sarah Graham Kenan Auditorium is home to 170 diverse events and performances per year.

- Location of Kenan Presents and the Lumina Arts Festival

☉ 515 Wagoner Dr., 28403

☎ 910-962-3500 ► [uncw.edu/arts/kenan](http://uncw.edu/arts/kenan)



**Art in Bloom Gallery**  
6866 Main Street in Mayfaire  
910.679.4257  
[www.aibgallery.com](http://www.aibgallery.com)



**Eclipse Artisan Boutique**  
203 Racine Drive, #101  
910.799.9883  
[www.eclipseartisanboutique.com](http://www.eclipseartisanboutique.com)



**Gallery Citrine**  
17 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
[gallerycitrine@gmail.com](mailto:gallerycitrine@gmail.com)  
[www.gallerycitrine.com](http://www.gallerycitrine.com)



**Port City Pottery & Fine Crafts**  
307 North Front Street  
910.763.7111  
[www.portcitypottery.com](http://www.portcitypottery.com)

*Visit Wilmington's Fine Art Galleries!*



**The Arts Council**  
of Wilmington & NHC  
**The ACES Gallery**  
221 N. Front Street, Suite 101  
910.343.0998  
[www.artswilmington.org](http://www.artswilmington.org)



**theArtWorks™**  
200 Willard Street  
910.352.7077  
[www.theartworks.co](http://www.theartworks.co)



**The Bryand Gallery**  
20 South Front Street  
910.233.4296  
[www.wilmington360.net](http://www.wilmington360.net)



**Wilma W. Daniels Gallery**  
200 Hanover Street  
910.362.7252  
[www.wilmadanielsgallery.com](http://www.wilmadanielsgallery.com)



## AIRLIE GARDENS

### LIVE OAK BANK PAVILION

Wilmington's newest music venue is on the Cape Fear River at Riverfront Park.

- Hosts up to 20 concerts per year
- Tickets available online

📍 10 Cowan St., 28401

➤ [livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A0DZ/live-oak-bank-pavilion-events](https://livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A0DZ/live-oak-bank-pavilion-events)

### THALIAN HALL CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Revel in the glorious tradition and history of Thalian Hall, one of the nation's oldest and most distinctive performance halls.

- Over 500 performances annually
- Guided tours available by request

📍 310 Chestnut St., 28401

📞 Tours: 910-632-2241

📞 Box Office: 910-632-2285

➤ [ThalianHall.org](https://ThalianHall.org)

### THE WILSON CENTER

Enjoy national Broadway tours, theater, music, comedy, dance, and much more in the largest, most technologically advanced performing arts center in Eastern North Carolina.

- Cape Fear Community College's arts hub

📍 703 N. 3rd St., 28401

📞 910-362-7999

➤ [WilsonCenterTickets.com](https://WilsonCenterTickets.com)

## ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

To learn more about specific arts and cultural organizations, contact the Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau at [866-534-0845](tel:866-534-0845) or [910-341-4030](tel:910-341-4030) or visit the Arts Council of Wilmington and New Hanover County at [artscouncilofwilmington.org](https://artscouncilofwilmington.org).

## 7

### Collegiate

#### CAPE FEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE (CFCC)

CFCC in historic downtown Wilmington is home to eastern North Carolina's most technologically advanced performing arts center and hosts several events and activities.

📍 411 N. Front St., 28401

📞 910-362-7000

➤ [cfcc.edu](https://cfcc.edu)

#### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON (UNCW)

UNCW offers activities, events, sites, and venues that support its ranking among the Top 100 Public National Universities.

- Campus Tours/Admissions: [910-962-3243](tel:910-962-3243)

➤ [uncw.edu/admissions](https://uncw.edu/admissions)

📍 601 S. College Rd., 28403

📞 910-962-3000

➤ [uncw.edu](https://uncw.edu)

## 8

## Parks, Gardens &amp; Outdoor Fun

Connect with nature in

Wilmington's many parks and gardens. Rent a bike from Bike Cycles Shop or Shore Break Bikes and enjoy a ride on miles of trails from downtown Wilmington to Wrightsville Beach.

- ▶ [crosscitytrail.com](http://crosscitytrail.com)
- ▶ [wmpo.org/maps](http://wmpo.org/maps)
- ▶ [capefearcyclists.org](http://capefearcyclists.org)

Discover Wilmington and the beaches' nine sites on the NC Birding Trail. Visit [ncbirdingtrail.org](http://ncbirdingtrail.org) for a complete list of birding trail sites in New Hanover County.

Public boat ramps and docking facilities are available. For downtown Wilmington docking information: [wilmingtonnc.gov/departments/parks-recreation/docking](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/departments/parks-recreation/docking).

### AIRLIE GARDENS

Walk 67 acres of paths and trails and see the nearly 500-year-old Airlie Oak.

- Butterfly house: open May-October; weather dependent
- Minnie Evans Bottle Chapel
- Seasonal Events: Summer Concert Series, Annual Art Exhibit and Holiday Enchanted Airlie

📍 300 Airlie Rd., 28403  
☎ 910-798-7700 ▶ [airliegarden.org](http://airliegarden.org)

### BLUETHENTHAL WILDFLOWER PRESERVE

This 10-acre forest in the center of UNCW's campus is home to many plants and animals, including the carnivorous plants native to the area.

- Stay on the designated trails
  - No biking, fishing, or swimming
- 📍 4855 Price Dr., 28403 ☎ 910-962-3107  
▶ [uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/bluethenthal.html](http://uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/bluethenthal.html)

### CITY OF WILMINGTON PARKS & RECREATION

Stay active with the city's parks, two golf courses, and recreational facilities.

☎ 910-341-7855  
▶ [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

### EV-HENWOOD NATURE PRESERVE

Walk two self-guided learning trails, and watch for wildlife and birds, dawn to dusk.

- Dogs not allowed
- 📍 6150 Rock Creek Rd., Leland, NC 28451  
☎ 910-962-3107  
▶ [uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/ev-henwood](http://uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/ev-henwood)

### GARY SHELL CROSS-CITY TRAIL

Bike or hike from Wade Park to the Intracoastal Waterway on nearly 15-miles of off-road, multi-use trail. Area bike shops can easily put you on two wheels.

☎ 910-341-7855 ▶ [crosscitytrail.com](http://crosscitytrail.com)

### GREENFIELD PARK

Breathe easy in this 190-acre city park with a lake, cypress swamp, 20 acres of gardens, and nearly 5-miles of walking/biking trails.

- Canoe, kayak, and paddleboat rentals
- 📍 302 Willard St., 28401  
▶ [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

### HALYBURTON PARK

Escape to a 58-acre nature preserve with 1.3-miles of biking and walking trails, picnic shelters, playgrounds, and nature center.

📍 4099 S. 17th St., 28412  
☎ 910-341-0075 ▶ [halyburtonpark.com](http://halyburtonpark.com)

### LONG LEAF PARK

This 75-acre park includes Little League baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball court, six picnic shelters, outdoor gym, and a 1.55-mile walking trail.

- Fully inclusive playground, storywalk, dog park and seasonal splashpad
- 📍 314 Pine Grove Dr., 28409  
☎ 910-798-7275 ▶ [parks.nhcgov.com](http://parks.nhcgov.com)

### THE NEW HANOVER COUNTY ARBORETUM

Relax in the contemplation garden, experience a Japanese tea house and koi pond, and discover horticultural trends.

- Ability Garden for persons with disabilities
- 📍 6206 Oleander Dr., 28403  
☎ 910-798-7660  
▶ [arboretum.nhcgov.com](http://arboretum.nhcgov.com)

## NEW HANOVER COUNTY PARKS & GARDENS

Enjoy nature on 1,800 acres of parks and athletic facilities, including Airlie Gardens.

 **Information:** 910-798-7620

 **Reservations:** 910-798-7275

 [parks.nhcgov.com](http://parks.nhcgov.com)

## OGDEN PARK (FREE)

With lighted baseball, softball, soccer/football fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, picnic shelters, dog park, skate park, and fitness trail, there's a lot to do at Ogden Park.

 **615 Ogden Park Dr., 28411**

 **910-798-7275**

 [parks.nhcgov.com](http://parks.nhcgov.com)

## OLSEN PARK & MIRACLE FIELD

  (FREE)

The largest wheelchair-accessible playground in the region.

- 33,000 sq. ft. rubberized baseball field

 **5510 Olsen Park Lane, 28405**


 **910-508-6788**

 [wilmingtonnc.gov/departments/parks-recreation/athletics/olsen-park](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/departments/parks-recreation/athletics/olsen-park)

## RIVERFRONT PARK & LIVE OAK BANK PAVILION

The Riverfront Park includes gardens, play space, Riverwalk access, and the Live Oak Bank Pavilion amphitheater.


 **10 Cowan St., 28401**


 [livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A0DZ/live-oak-bank-pavilion-events](http://livenation.com/venue/KovZ917A0DZ/live-oak-bank-pavilion-events)

 [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

## STANLEY REHDER CARNIVOROUS PLANT GARDEN (FREE)

See native Venus flytraps, pitcher plants, and sundews in the only public carnivorous plant garden in the world. Open year-round.

 **3800 Canterbury Rd., 28403**

 **910-341-7852**

 [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

 [coastallandtrust.org/lands/rehdergarden](http://coastallandtrust.org/lands/rehdergarden)

## VETERANS PARK (FREE)

Practice your favorite pastime on lighted

Little League baseball, softball, soccer, and football fields or hit the basketball, tennis, pickleball, or volleyball courts; plus a walking trail, picnic shelters and event space.

 **835 Halyburton Memorial Pkwy., 28412**

 **910-798-7275**

 [parks.nhcgov.com](http://parks.nhcgov.com)

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## Golf

### BEAU RIVAGE GOLF & RESORT

Escape to one of the most dramatically landscaped courses in Wilmington.

- Pool & tennis courts

 **649 Rivage Promenade, 28412**

 **800-628-7080 | 910-392-9021**

 [beaurivagegolf.com](http://beaurivagegolf.com)

### CLUB GOLF INDOOR

Swing by this relaxing, casual, family-friendly sports bar for some fun play on the state-of-the-art sports simulators.

- Top PGA courses, driving range, target golf games

- Soccer, zombie dodgeball, football, and carnival games

 **109 Pier Master Point, Suite 140, 28412**


 **910-833-5877**


 [clubgolfindoor.com](http://clubgolfindoor.com)

### INLAND GREENS

#### PAR 3 GOLF COURSE

Knock out a quick 9-hole round on this par 3 course with adjacent passive park.

 **5945 Inland Greens Dr., 28405**

 **910-765-7459**

 [inlandgreensgolf.com](http://inlandgreensgolf.com)

### PORTERS NECK

#### COUNTRY CLUB

Play your way through a 4-star rated, 18-hole course designed by Tom Fazio.

- Staffed by PGA professionals

- Complete practice facilities

 **8403 Vintage Club Dr., 28411**

 **910-686-8180**

 [portersneckcountryclub.com](http://portersneckcountryclub.com)

# Wilmington's Best Golf *is just the beginning...*



WILMINGTON STAR NEWS SHOREPICKS 'BEST OF THE BEST' - VOTED WILMINGTON'S BEST GOLF COURSE & BEST COUNTRY CLUB (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)

## *Golf & Travel Testimonials*

"We never get tired of playing at Beau. All the elevation changes, blind shots and strategically placed trees and hazards make every round as fun as it is challenging. Each hole has its own character and the greens are the best we've played on. The staff are friendly as can be and know how to treat their customers right. We loved the built-in course GPS on their new fleet of premium golf carts... This place really knows how to provide the overall experience!"

📍 - TripAdvisor Review (Scratch Player, Charlotte, NC)

"During our trip, our entire group was treated tremendously by the staff at all times. The convenience of the guest suites being located directly on the course was outstanding. You can literally roll out of bed, take a few steps to the pro shop and restaurant, eat a delicious breakfast and walk right over to the first tee box. We have taken so many group trips in years past in which we had to drive all over the place to reach courses so this was a nice change. The golf course was challenging, but fair, and in immaculate condition... not to mention beautiful. You cannot beat the value of Beau Rivage golf packages."

📍 - TripAdvisor Review (Avid Golf Traveler, Raleigh, NC)





## ROUNDS GOLF & LEDO PIZZA

Play some of the same championship courses the pros are playing.

- Variety of virtual sports

 **6801 Parker Farm Dr., Suite 115, 28403**

 **910-839-3006** ▶ [roundsgolf.com](http://roundsgolf.com)

## WILMINGTON MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Championship 18-hole public golf course designed by Donald Ross.

 **311 Donald Ross Dr., 28409**

 **910-791-0558** ▶ [wilmingtonmuni.com](http://wilmingtonmuni.com)

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## Camping

For a list of campgrounds, visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

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## Sports

There's something for every athlete and sports fan in

Wilmington, which has facilities for youth and amateur sporting events. For more information, visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/plan-sports-events](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com/plan-sports-events).

## OUTFITTERS

For rentals, lessons, guided excursions and more, visit one of the area's local outfitters. Visit [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

## CAPT'N BILL'S SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS

Named the #1 place to play sand volleyball in North Carolina, Captain Bill's offers 10 lighted courts. There are leagues for all levels.

- Three bars and a full kitchen
- Tournaments

 **4240 Market St., 28403**

 **910-762-0173**

▶ [seeyouatbills.com](http://seeyouatbills.com)

## COLLEGIATE SPORTS

- UNCW Athletic Tickets: **910-962-3233**; [uncwsports.com](http://uncwsports.com)
- CFCC Sports: **910-362-7010** or **910-362-7042**; [goseadevils.com](http://goseadevils.com)

## LEGION SPORTS COMPLEX

Stadium hosts community and professional league games.

- Lighted tennis courts, swimming pool, baseball field, football field

 **2131 Carolina Beach Rd., 28401**


 **910-343-3682**

▶ [wilmingtonrecreation.com](http://wilmingtonrecreation.com)

## WILMINGTON SHARKS BASEBALL TEAM

Part of the Coastal Plain League of summer collegiate baseball, the Wilmington Sharks offer affordable family fun in a minor league baseball setting.

- Home games at Legion Sports Complex
- Postgame fireworks (select games)

 **910-343-5621**

▶ [wilmingtonsharks.com](http://wilmingtonsharks.com)

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Elegant Meetings & Events  
Exclusive Gourmet Catering  
Overnight Accommodations  
Award-Winning Golf Course

WILMINGTON STAR NEWS MEDIA SHOREPICKS 'BEST OF THE BEST'  
BEST GOLF COURSE & BEST COUNTRY CLUB (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)



BEAU RIVAGE GOLF & RESORT • 649 RIVAGE PROMENADE • WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28412 • 910.352.9021

## Wilmington Accommodations

### • Hotels/Motels

= Water View

= Pet Friendly

= Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	Handicap Accessible
Aloft Wilmington at Coastline Center	501 Nutt St., 28401 aloftwilmingtonnc.com	910-377-7600			
ARRIVE Wilmington	101 S. 2nd St. 28401 arrivehotels.com/wilmington	910-408-3840			
Azalea Inn & Suites	2929 Market St. 28403	910-763-3318			
Baymont by Wyndham Wilmington	4926 Market St. 28405 wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/wilmington-north-carolina/baymont-wilmington/overview	910-791-8850			
Beau Rivage Golf & Resort	649 Rivage Promenade 28412 beaurivagegolf.com	910-392-9021			
Best Western Plus Coastline Inn	503 Nutt St. 28401 coastlineinn.com	910-763-2800			
Best Western Plus Wilmington/ Carolina Beach	5600 Carolina Beach Rd. 28412 bestwestern.com	910-796-0770			
Best Western Plus Wilmington/ Wrightsville Beach	5345 Market St. 28405 bestwestern.com	910-799-4292			
Comfort Inn University	151 S. College Rd. 28403 choicehotels.com	910-791-4841			
Comfort Suites of Wilmington	4721 Market St. 28405 comfordsuites.com/hotel/nc387	910-793-9300			
Country Inn & Suites by Radisson	4706 New Centre Dr. 28405 countryinns.com/wilmingtonnc	910-398-6470			
Courtyard by Marriott Wilmington Downtown/Historic District	229 N. 2nd St. 28401 marriott.com/ilmwc	910-632-2900			
Courtyard by Marriott Wilmington – Wrightsville Beach	151 Van Campen Blvd. 28403 courtyard.com/ilncy	910-395-8224			
Embassy Suites Wilmington Riverfront Hotel	9 Estell Lee Place 28401 embassysuiteswilmington.com	910-765-1131			
Extended Stay America	4929 New Centre Dr. 28403 extendedstayamerica.com	910-793-4508			
Fairfield Inn & Suites Wilmington/ Wrightsville Beach	307 Eastwood Rd. 28403 fairfieldwilmington.com	910-791-8082			
Hampton Inn Wilmington Downtown	225 Grace St. 28401 Wilmingtondowntown.hamptonbyhilton.com	910-251-3930			
Hampton Inn Wilmington – Medical Park	2320 S. 17th St. 28401 wilmingtonmedicalpark.hamptoninn.com	910-796-8881			
Hampton Inn Wilmington – University Area/Smith Creek Station	124 Old Eastwood Rd. 28403 wilmingtonuniversityarea.hamptoninn.com	910-791-9899			
Hampton Inn & Suites Wilmington/ Wrightsville Beach	1989 Eastwood Rd. 28403 wrightsvillebeachlandfallsuites.hamptoninn.com	910-256-9600			
Hilton Garden Inn Mayfaire Town Center-Wrightsville Beach	6745 Rock Spring Rd. 28405 wilmingtonmayfairetowncenter.hgi.com	910-509-4046			

## ● ACCOMMODATIONS

### ● Hotels/Motels

☞ = Water View ☞ = Pet Friendly ☞ = Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	☞
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Wilmington West– Medical Park	839 Medical Center Dr. 28401 ihg.com/holidayinnexpress	910-660-4297			☞
Holiday Inn Express & Suites – University Center	160 Van Campen Blvd. 28403 hiexpress.com/wilmington-unv	910-392-3227			☞
Holiday Inn Express Wilmington – Porters Neck	168 Porters Neck Rd. hiexpress.com/wilmingtonpnnc	910-686-4341			☞
Holiday Inn Wilmington – Market Street	5032 Market St. 28405 wilmingtonhi.com	910-392-1101			☞
Home2 Suites by Hilton Wilmington/ Wrightsville Beach	5518 Market St. 28405 hilton.com/en/hotels/ilmwmht-home2-suites-wilmington-wrightsville-beach/	910-395-8000		☞	☞
Homewood Suites at Mayfaire	6732 Swan Mill Rd. 28405 homewoodsuites.com	910-791-7272		☞	☞
Hotel Ballast, Tapestry Collection by Hilton	301 N. Water St. 28401 hotelballast.com	910-763-5900	☞		☞
Howard Johnson by Wyndham Wilmington	3901 Market St. 28403 howardjohnson.com	910-343-1727			☞
Inn at City Club	23 S. 2nd St. 28401 cityclubofwilmington.com	910-343-1880			
MainStay Suites	5229 Market St. 28405 mainstaywilmingtonnnc.com	910-392-1741		☞	☞
Quality Inn	5102 Dunlea Ct. 28405 qualityinnwilmington.guestreservations.com	910-452-5660			☞
Red Roof Inn	5107 Market St. 28405 redroof.com	910-395-5045		☞	☞
Residence Inn Wilmington Landfall	1200 Culbreth Dr. 28405 marriott.com/ilmri	910-256-0098		☞	☞
Rodeway Inn & Suites	5025 Market St. 28405 choicehotels.com	910-799-6001		☞	☞
Sleep Inn of Wilmington	5225 Market St. 28405 sleepinnwilmingtonnnc.com	910-313-6665			☞

**Stemmerman's Inn**

Located on the banks of the Cape Fear River  
in The VonKampen Building in historic  
downtown Wilmington, NC.




**910.763.7776**  
**stemmers.com**  
130 S. Front Street  
Wilmington, NC

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Wilmington NC

202 Nun St., Wilmington, NC 28401

**(910) 251-2212**  
**VerandasBedAndBreakfast.com**

## • Hotels/Motels

☞ = Water View ☞ = Pet Friendly ☞ = Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	☞
SpringHill Suites Wilmington/Mayfaire	1014 Ashes Dr. 28405 marriott.com/ilmsh	910-239-9975			☞
Staybridge Suites	5010 New Centre Dr. 28403 staywilmington.com	910-202-8500		☞	☞
Stemmerman's Inn	130 S. Front St. 28401 stemmermans.com	910-763-7776	☞		
Studio 6	4118 Market St. 28403 motel6.com/motels.nc.wilmington.5263.html	910-762-4426			☞
Suburban Extended Stay	245 Eastwood Rd. 28403 suburbanhotels.com	910-793-1920		☞	☞
Suites on Market	2828 Market St. 28403	910-254-1300			☞
The Hive	505 N. 2nd St. 28401 thehivewilmington.com	833-782-9456		☞	☞
TownePlace Suites Wilmington/ Wrightsville Beach	305 Eastwood Rd. 28403 marriott.com/en-us/hotels/ilmts-towneplace-suites-wilmington-wrightsville-beach/overview/	910-332-3326		☞	☞
Travel Inn	4401 Market St. 28403	910-763-8217			
Wingate by Wyndham Wilmington	5126 Market St. 28405 wingatehotels.com	910-395-7011			☞
WoodSpring Suites Wilmington	2657 Carolina Beach Rd. 28412 woodspring.com	910-791-1318		☞	☞

## • Bed & Breakfast

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	☞
Angie's Bed & Breakfast	1704 Market St. 28403 angiesbandb.com	910-762-5790			
C.W. Worth House Bed and Breakfast	412 S. 3rd St. 28401 worthhouse.com	910-762-8562			
DREAMERS by DW	118 S. 4th St. 28401 dreamersbydw.com	910-399-5020		☞	
French House Bed and Breakfast	103 S. 4th St. 28401 thefrenchhouse.com	910-763-3337			
Front Street Inn	215 S. Front St. 28401 frontstreetinn.com	910-762-6442	☞		☞
Graystone	100 S. 3rd St. 28401 stayatthegraystone.com	910-763-2000			
Hoge Wood House Bed & Breakfast	407 S. 3rd St. 28401 hogewoodhouse.com	910-762-5299		☞	
Nacho Mamas Bed & Snack	415 S. Front St. 28401 nachomamasnc.com/wilmington-b-s.html	910-297-0145		☞	
Port City Guest House	1511 Market St. 28401 portcityguesthouse.com	910-762-1790		☞	
Rosehill Inn Bed & Breakfast	114 S. 3rd. St. 28401 rosehill.com	910-815-0250	☞		
Taylor House Inn Bed & Breakfast	14 N. 7th St. 28401 taylorhousebb.com	910-763-7581			
The Verandas	202 Nun St. 28401 verandasbedandbreakfast.com	910-251-2212			

## ● ACCOMMODATIONS

### • Vacation Rentals

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	♿
Beacon House Inn - City Flat	17 S. 2nd St. 28401 beaconhouseinnb-b.com/city-flat.htm	910-458-6244		☒	
Figure Eight Island Realty	15 Bridge Rd. 28411 figure8island.com	910-686-4400	🌊		
Figure Eight Properties	10191 Sidbury Rd. 28411 figure8property.com	910-686-4131	🌊		
KOA at Wilmington (cabins)	7415 Market St. 28411 koa.com/campgrounds/wilmington	910-686-7705		☒	♿
Magnolia House	111 N. 15th St. 28401 vrbo.com/149409	910-777-5102		☒	
Moore House	10 Pipers Neck Rd. 28411 moorefigure8.com	910-859-9475	🌊	☒	
NachoMamasNC	319 S. Front St. 28401 nachomamasnc.com	910-297-0145	🌊	☒	
Sea Coast Rentals	1018 N. Lake Park Blvd., Ste. 102, CB 28428 seacoastrentals.com	910-458-9073	🌊	☒	
The Gallery Vacation Rental	112-C Market St. 28401 vrbo.com/7019720ha	919-616-2304			
The Top Shelf: A Literary Loft	249 N. Front St. 28401 thetopshelfliteraryloft.com	910-762-6657			
Wilmington Vacation Homes	901 Martin St, 28401 wilmingtonvacationhomes.com	910-508-6817			



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WyndhamHotels.com/wingate/  
wilmington-north-carolina/wingate-by-wyndham-wilmington/overview

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## CAROLINA BEACH

### *Stay Original*

The second you arrive on the island, you'll feel the high energy that radiates from the colorful buildings and free-spirited locals, see the eclectic murals and enjoy the boardwalk-lined beach.

**S**troll along the vintage Carolina Beach Boardwalk and take in the mouth-watering smells and tastes of fresh seafood, fall-off-the-bone BBQ, classic burgers, hotdogs, sweet treats, and, of course, legendary glazed doughnuts.

Indulge in the blossoming foodie scene of Carolina Beach. Restaurants with outdoor seating and rooftop decks or stylish patios are perfect for wave watching or dock-and-dine at sunset. After, watch a summer outdoor movie at Carolina Beach Lake Park or experience the vibrant nightlife at a tiki bar or seaside café.

Have fun shopping here. Find mermaid-themed gifts, handmade nautical treasures, and the latest swimwear at town shops. After browsing the local shops and dining at delicious restaurants, partake in the free summer concerts and weekly fireworks.

It's impossible to stay indoors. Bike the Island Greenway, hike across Carolina

Beach State Park to discover the native Venus flytrap, or take a scenic sandy path leading to a gorgeous view of the Cape Fear River. Hang ten with a surfing lesson from the pros at a local surf school. Rent paddleboards or book a guided kayak tour to navigate the coastal waters. See the sights on a relaxing island cruise. Enjoy an outdoor beer garden after the adventure.

Drop a line surf fishing from the shoreline or take the family offshore fishing on a half-day charter from the Carolina Beach Fishing Center and Marina. You'll still have time to hit the beach in the afternoon.

No matter how you choose to spend your time, there's always something original to do at Carolina Beach.

# THINGS TO DO

*There's fun for all ages in Carolina Beach.*

1

## Attractions, Parks & Recreation CAROLINA BEACH

### BOARDWALK **FREE**

Amble along the Carolina Beach Boardwalk, the site of family fun for decades. Enjoy a vintage oceanfront walkway with swings, great restaurants with ocean views, souvenir shops, ice cream stands, and legendary glazed donuts.

- Weekly concerts and fireworks (June-Aug.)
- Carolina Beach Music Festival (June)
- Seaside July 4th Celebration
- Seasonal Boardwalk Tours

📍 **Between Harper & Charlotte Aves., 28428**

▶ [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com)

### CAROLINA BEACH LAKE PARK

Take a breather from the ocean and bask in this 11-acre park and lake, just two blocks from the beach. Rent a kayak, feel the breeze under the shade of the gazebo, let the kids frolic on the playground, or catch an outdoor movie during the summer.

📍 **Hwy. 421 & Atlanta Ave., 28428**

☎ **910-458-2977**

▶ [carolinabeach.org](http://carolinabeach.org)

KEY:  = INDOOR ATTRACTION    = PET FRIENDLY    = ACCESSIBLE    = ADMISSION CHARGED    = FREE ADMISSION



# ATLANTIC TOWERS

*Oceanfront Suites*

- Indoor Pool
- Full Kitchen
- Free WiFi
- Sundeck/Gazebo

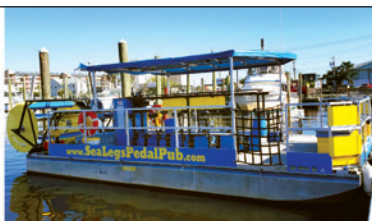
1 & 2  
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800-BEACH-40



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Carolina Beach, NC  
910.775.3132





CAROLINA BEACH LAKE PARK

### CAROLINA BEACH PIER

Visit this iconic landmark that features the High Tide Lounge & Tiki Bar.

1800 Carolina Beach Ave. N., 28428

carolinabeachpier.com

### CAROLINA BEACH STATE PARK

Nearly nine miles of hiking trails in this 761-acre park allow you to search for migratory and marshland birds and see carnivorous plants like Venus flytraps and pitcher plants in their native habitat.

- Accessible fishing platform
- Picnic areas
- Marina & campsite check-in (fee): 910-458-7770

1010 State Park Rd., 28428

910-458-8206 ncparks.gov

### FREEMAN PARK RECREATION AREA

Drive onto the beach in your four-wheel-drive vehicle to access this beautiful recreation area. No all-wheel drive vehicles allowed on the beach.

- Access passes required year-round
- Permits required for four-wheel-drive access
- Reservations and permits for camping required; Camping available Labor Day through the Thursday before Memorial Day

1800 Canal Dr., 28428

910-458-4614 carolinabeach.org

### ISLAND GREENWAY

Walk, run, or ride on the 1.2-mile paved Island Greenway that offers smooth travels and no vehicular traffic. The 10-foot-wide



multi-use path begins at Mike Chappell Park and winds southward through scenic wooded areas to the intersection of Alabama Avenue and Spot Lane.

carolinabeach.org/visitors/island-greenway

### JOSEPH RYDER LEWIS JR. PARK

Stroll through the trails in this 10-acre park and visit a place that played an important role in the end of the Civil War. The park contains 150 yards of restored Civil War earthworks that provided backup defense in the event Fort Fisher were to fall.

1018 N. Lake Park Blvd., 28428

910-458-2977 carolinabeach.org

### MIKE CHAPPELL PARK

There is something for everyone, even the family dog, at this 10-acre park. Two tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, a basketball court, youth basketball area, baseball and softball fields, a soccer field, playground equipment, and a dog park make this a great place to spend the day. There is also an unsupervised skateboard park.

501 S. Dow Rd., 28428

910-458-2977 carolinabeach.org

### NC BIRDING TRAIL/ BIRD WATCHING

Track the activities of local and migrating feathered friends through NC Birding Trail sites at Carolina Beach State Park, Fort Fisher State Historic Site, Fort Fisher State Recreation Area, North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, and Zeke's Island National Estuarine Research Reserve. For Birding Trail information: [ncbirdingtrail.org](http://ncbirdingtrail.org). For other birding information: [nc.audubon.org](http://nc.audubon.org).

2

### Fishing CAROLINA BEACH FISHING CENTER & MARINA

Choose your adventure from a large

recreational fishing fleet, plus party and cruise boats. You can also rent skiffs, outboards and personal watercraft, kayaks and canoes from outfitters.

► [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com)

## CHARTERS

Fishing charters are available to take you on an adventure – inshore, nearshore, offshore, or even deep-sea fishing.

► [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com)

3

## Historic Sites FEDERAL POINT HISTORY CENTER



Discover the rich history of the Federal Point region through exhibits of the colonial period, Civil War era, World War II home-front defense, and the development of tourism.

• Includes historical archives, meeting room,

and gift shop

► 1121-A N. Lake Park Blvd., 28428

► 910-458-0502

► [federal-point-history.org](http://federal-point-history.org)

4

## Family Friendly CAROLINA BEACH ARCADE



Release your inner child as you test your skills on new and classic arcade games. The sights and sounds of your youth abound at this Carolina Beach Boardwalk mainstay.

► 103 Carolina Beach Ave. N., 28428

## IESCAPE ROOMS

Play the area's most immersive live escape games. Imagine you are trapped in a themed space. Find clues, solve puzzles and try to escape in 60 minutes!

► 100 N. Lake Park Blvd., 28428

► 910-707-3948

► [iescaperooms.com](http://iescaperooms.com)

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Ice Cream Shops  
in America by  
Katie Jackson  
of Today Food.



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5

## Tours & Cruises

### ISLAND CRUISES

Book a public or private cruise that lasts approximately two hours along the Intracoastal Waterway. Sunset cruises are narrated and relaxing.

📍 301 Carl Winner Dr., 28428

☎ 910-232-3272

➤ [islandcruises.fun](http://islandcruises.fun)

### ISLAND TIME WATER TOURS

Spend the day on the pontoon for a cozy ride down the Intracoastal Waterway. Enjoy entertainment from the captains and skippers as they tell you about the history of the area, watch for dolphins and sea turtles, and visit the beaches you can't get to by car.

📍 #6 Carl Winner Ave., 28428

☎ 910-200-6959

➤ [islandtimewatertours.com](http://islandtimewatertours.com)

### TASTING HISTORY TOURS

Feel the sea breeze and savor local flavors as you tour Carolina Beach and Kure Beach, collectively known as Pleasure Island, and learn about the rich and varied history of the quaint island towns.

📍 Carolina Beach, 28428

☎ 910-350-8901

➤ [tastinghistorytours.com](http://tastinghistorytours.com)

6

## Sports & Water Activities

### DIVE

Treasure seekers delight as area dive shops lead you on unforgettable underwater adventures to dozens of nearby shipwrecks in inland waters and off the coast.

Carolina Beach Scuba can get you started.

[VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com) for information.

### BIKE

Cruising the island has never been easier with self-guided bike tours and paved paths that run south to Fort Fisher. Local bike shops such as Pleasure Island Rentals

rent beach cruisers, tandem bikes, kid trailers, and tag-a-longs by the hour, day, or week. PaddleNC has bike rentals inside Carolina Beach State Park. Go to [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com) for bike shops.

### TRINITY DISC GOLF COURSE

Challenge yourself in a new sport on the free 9-hole Trinity Disc Golf Course at Good Hops Brewing.

- Free and open to the public during daylight hours

📍 811 Harper Ave., 28428

➤ [goodhopsbrewing.com/disc-golf](http://goodhopsbrewing.com/disc-golf)

### CAROLINA BEACH SKATE PARK

Glide and grind at this public park designed for skateboarders and in-line skaters of all levels. Safety is a top priority, so helmets and pads are required.

📍 Mike Chappell Park, 501 Dow Rd., 28428

☎ 910-458-2977

➤ [carolinabeach.org](http://carolinabeach.org)

### KAYAK/SURF/SUP

Take a surf lesson with the pros at Tony Silvagni Surf School or Odysea Surf School. Rent a stand-up paddleboard, kayak or canoe and arrange a lesson from PaddleNC inside Carolina Beach State Park, or take



**North Carolina's Premier kayak and paddle board rental experience.**

a guided kayak tour. Lessons and camps will have you mastering these water sports in no time. [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com) for information.

## BOAT

Depart from Carolina Beach State Park Marina for one of the best days on the water ever. Rent a pontoon boat or jet ski from local outfitters and explore the calm waters of the Intracoastal Waterway. [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com) for information.

7

## Camping

Savor the clear night sky with a campout. For a list of campgrounds, go to [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com).

8

## Restaurants & Nightlife

From the fresh catch of the day served at seafood grills to diner

specialty pancakes and soul flavor cuisine and barbeque, Carolina Beach offers a variety of choices for every budget...not to mention fresh glazed donuts! Take a Tasting History tour through the streets of Carolina Beach and into several of the restaurants for an afternoon of interesting island history and tasty eats. Go to [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com/restaurants](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com/restaurants) for a full list of local eateries.

After dinner, revel in the nightlife at some of the best tiki bars and lounges in the state. Island newspapers provide information about things to do in Carolina Beach, or go to [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com).

9

## Shopping

The area is brimming with classic beach shops, boutiques, and bookstores, beach-gear outlets, surf and tackle shops. For a list of stores: [VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com](http://VisitCarolinaBeachNC.com).



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[bryantre.com](http://bryantre.com)

## Carolina Beach Accommodations

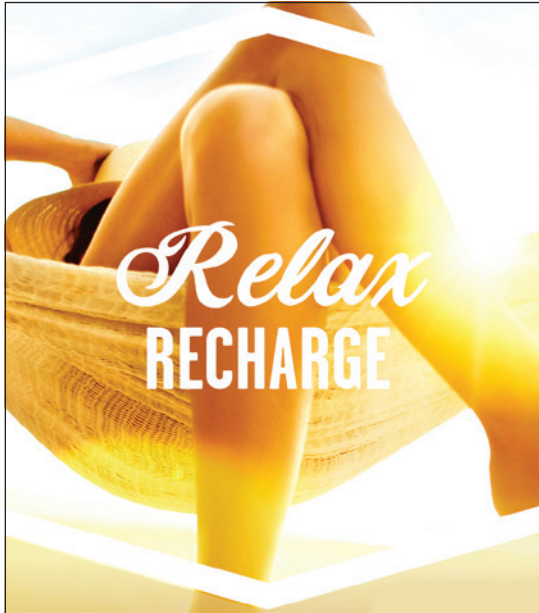
### • Hotels/Motels

☞ = Water View   ☒ = Pet Friendly   ♿ = Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	♿
Atlantic Towers Oceanfront Suites	1615 S. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 atlantic-towers.com	910-458-8313	☞		
Carolina Beach Inn	205 Harper Ave. 28428 carolinabeachinn.com	910-622-8393		☒	
Coles Motel & Pool	213 Raleigh Ave. 28428	910-458-5176		☒	
Courtyard Marriott Carolina Beach Oceanfront	100 Charlotte Ave. 28428 courtyardcarolinabeach.com	910-458-2030	☞		♿
Dolphin Lane Motel	318 Carolina Beach Ave. N. 28428 dolphinlanemotel.com	910-458-5594	☞		
Drifter's Reef Hotel	701 N. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 driftersreef.com	910-458-5414		☒	♿
Dry Dock Family Motel	300 S. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 drydockclub.com	910-458-8346			
Golden Sands Beach Resort	1211 S. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 goldensandsmotel.com	910-458-8334	☞		♿
Hampton Inn & Suites Carolina Beach Oceanfront	1 Harper Ave. 28428 carolinabeachcoceanfront.hamptonbyhilton.com	910-707-1770	☞		♿
Joy Lee Apartments	317 Carolina Beach Ave. N. 28428 joyleepartments.wordpress.com	910-620-8065		☒	
Oceaneer Motel	1621 Lake Park Blvd. S. 28428 cboceaneer.com	910-458-8537	☞	☒	♿
Sea & Sun Motel	501 Lake Park Blvd. S. 28428	910-458-7918			
Sea Ranch Motel	1123 S. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 visitsearanch.com	910-458-8681	☞		♿
SeaWitch Motel	224 Carolina Beach Ave. N. 28428	910-707-0058	☞		
The Beach House	412 Carolina Beach Ave. N. 28428 carolinabeachhouse.com	910-707-3335	☞		
The Savannah Inn	316 Carolina Beach Ave. N. 28428 thesavannahinn.com	910-458-6555	☞		
The Starlite Inn	201 Cape Fear Blvd. 28428 thestarliteinn.com	910-500-6241			
The Windstar Hotel	907 N. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 thewindstarhotel.com	910-458-1300			♿
Wanda Inn Motel	4 N. Lake Park Blvd. 28428	910-458-8367			

### • Vacation Rentals

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	♿
A1 Property Management	617 Spartanburg Ave., #2 28428 a1propertyman.com	910-409-6687	☞	☒	
Beach Girls Realty	203 N. 8th St. 28428 beachgirlsrealty.com	910-458-5611	☞		♿
Bryant Real Estate - Carolina Beach	1230 N. Lake Park Blvd. bryantre.com	910-458-5658	☞	☒	



**Hampton Inn & Suites  
Carolina Beach Oceanfront**  
1 Harper Avenue  
Carolina Beach, NC 28428

910-707-1770 • [CarolinaBeachOceanfront.hamptonbyhilton.com](http://CarolinaBeachOceanfront.hamptonbyhilton.com)

### • Vacation Rentals

☞ = Water View   ☞ = Pet Friendly   ☞ = Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	☞
Bullard Realty, Inc.	1404 Lake Park Blvd. S. 28428 <a href="http://bullardrealtyonline.com">bullardrealtyonline.com</a>	910-458-4028	☞	☞	☞
Carolina Beach Realty	1009 N. Lake Park Blvd., Ste. B3 28428 <a href="http://carolinabeachrealty.net">carolinabeachrealty.net</a>	910-458-4444	☞	☞	☞
Carolina Retreats	1000 S. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 <a href="http://carolinaretreats.com">carolinaretreats.com</a>	910-458-3001	☞	☞	
Intracoastal Rentals - Carolina Beach	1025 N. Lake Park Blvd. 28428 <a href="http://intracoastalrentals.com">intracoastalrentals.com</a>	910-256-3780	☞	☞	☞
iTrip Vacations NC Beaches	8200 River Rd., Wilmington 28412 <a href="http://itrip.net/nhc">itrip.net/nhc</a>	888-457-1830	☞	☞	☞
Network Real Estate	1029 N. Lake Park Blvd., 28428 <a href="http://networkwilmington.com">networkwilmington.com</a>	910-458-8562	☞	☞	
Palm Air Realty™	1009 N. Lake Park Blvd., 28428 <a href="http://palmairrealtync.com">palmairrealtync.com</a>	910-458-5269	☞	☞	☞
Sea Coast Rentals	1018 N. Lake Park Blvd., Ste. 102 28428 <a href="http://seacoastrentals.com">seacoastrentals.com</a>	910-458-9073	☞	☞	
Victory Beach Vacations	206 Fayetteville Ave., 28428 <a href="http://victorybeachvacations.com">victorybeachvacations.com</a>	910-458-0868	☞	☞	☞



## KURE BEACH

### *Nature's Playground*

Give your family the same beach vacation experience you had when you were a child. Enjoy boundless natural beauty, a laid-back atmosphere, and abundant opportunities for pure fun at Kure Beach.

It's all here to recreate those perfect childhood beach memories. Miles of unspoiled beach, loads of small-town charm, retro motels with modern amenities, big-time attractions, local events, and outdoor activities await.

Hook a catch at the Kure Beach Fishing Pier, one of the oldest piers on the East Coast. Head to Fort Fisher State Recreation Area to soak up some sun on the beach, spot shore birds, or hike maritime forest trails at the sanctuary for wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts.

Come face-to-face with wonders of the underwater world at The North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. When you see alligators, sharks, stingrays, seahorses, sea

turtles, and the Asian small-clawed otters, you'll see why Travel Channel named the aquarium among the best in the country.

Tour sacred grounds and the largest earthen fort in the South at Fort Fisher State Historic Site, where the largest land-sea battle of the Civil War occurred. If you're up for a dive, explore North Carolina's first heritage dive site and shipwreck, the Civil War Blockade Runner *The Condor*.

Family events abound on Kure Beach. All visitors can enjoy free Boogie in the Park concerts, Storytime by the Sea, Turtle Talks, and other family events at the Ocean Front Park throughout the summer.

Our small beach town has big flavors from classic diner fare and thick, juicy burgers at beachside walk-ups to wait-worthy Italian or Caribbean seafood.

It's easy to see why the website TripSavvy.com named Kure Beach one of the best family vacations in the Southeast. Start your own family beach vacation tradition in Kure Beach.

# THINGS TO DO

*Unplug and discover the natural and historic treasures of Kure Beach.*

1

## Parks, Nature & Historic Sites FORT FISHER STATE

### HISTORIC SITE (FREE)

Experience living history at the South's largest earthen fort and site of the largest land-sea battle of the Civil War.

- Donations are welcome
- Occasional guided tours (fees apply)

📍 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd. S., 28449

☎ 910-251-7340

➤ [historicsites.nc.gov/allsites/fort-fisher](http://historicsites.nc.gov/allsites/fort-fisher)

### FORT FISHER STATE RECREATION AREA (FREE)

Roam six miles of undeveloped beach and secluded maritime forest searching for rare birds or the perfect wave. A public beach access point provides a protected swimming area with seasonal lifeguards, picnic area, and visitors center.

- Four-wheel drive access by permit only

📍 1000 Loggerhead Rd., 28449

☎ 910-458-5798

➤ [ncparks.gov/fort-fisher-state-recreation-area](http://ncparks.gov/fort-fisher-state-recreation-area)



FORT FISHER STATE HISTORIC SITE

KEY:  = INDOOR ATTRACTION    = PET FRIENDLY    = ACCESSIBLE    = ADMISSION CHARGED   (FREE) = FREE ADMISSION

## JOE EAKES PARK 🐾 FREE

Break a sweat or stretch your legs at Kure Beach's Joe Eakes Park, which includes tennis, basketball, and bocce ball courts, plus a baseball field, disc golf course, pickleball, playground, dog park, bicycle repair station, and shaded picnic area.

📍 7th Ave. S., 28449

☎ 910-458-8216

➤ [townofkurebeach.org/recreation](http://townofkurebeach.org/recreation)

## KURE BEACH COMMUNITY CENTER ♿ 🚻 📺

Plan your next big event at the Community Center, which includes a kitchen, small

meeting room, main hall, and restrooms.

• Hosts classes and activities for the public

📍 118 N. Third Ave., 28449

☎ 910-458-8216 ➤ [townofkurebeach.org](http://townofkurebeach.org)

## OCEAN FRONT PARK & PAVILION

♿ 🐾 FREE

Dance beside the ocean at the Boogie in the Park summer concert series or search for the perfect gift at seasonal open-air markets. Ocean Front Park features a pavilion with a stage for concerts, weddings and events, restrooms, a walking path, a play area, swings, and summer children's programs.

• Event space and pavilion available for rental

📍 105 Atlantic Ave., 28449

☎ 910-458-8216 ➤ [townofkurebeach.org](http://townofkurebeach.org)

## ZEKE'S ISLAND RESERVE 🐾 FREE

The public is welcome to visit this unspoiled natural reserve of marshes and tidal flats with shorebirds, mammals, and loggerhead sea turtles. Part of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve.

• Primarily accessed by personal watercraft  
• Third party kayak tours are available

☎ 910-962-2998 ➤ [nccoastalreserve.net](http://nccoastalreserve.net)

## NORTH CAROLINA BIRDING TRAIL

Launch into a new favorite pastime at Kure Beach's four North Carolina Birding Trail sites. For Birding Trail information: [ncbirdingtrail.org](http://ncbirdingtrail.org). For other birding information: [nc.audubon.org](http://nc.audubon.org).

2

## Family Friendly FORT FISHER STATE HISTORIC SITE

(For full description, see page 69)

## HI-TECH ARCADE 🎮 📺

Load up the crew and test your skills. See who can earn the biggest prize. Games include basketball, ice-ball, ticket time, smokin' token, and others.

📍 111 K Ave., 28449

☎ 910-458-6801

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*Kure Beach, NC*

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to receive  
15% off

kurelighthouseinn.com 910-444-4737

## NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM AT FORT FISHER

Connect with nature and discover all the diverse aquatic animals that call the aquarium home. Come face-to-face with an albino alligator and sea turtles. Watch sharks, rays, and eels swim and glide. Meet Asian small-clawed otters in the “Otters on the Edge” habitat.

- Adventure Reef & Nature Play areas
- Programs and special events
- Top regional and national attraction
- Purchase tickets in advance online

 **900 Loggerhead Rd., 28449**

 **910-772-0500**

 **[ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher](http://ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher)**

**3**

### Boating & Fishing

Embark on your next aquatic journey from the Federal Point boat ramp. Canoes, kayaks, skiffs, outboards, and personal watercraft are available to rent

from local outfitters. Nearby Carolina Beach Fishing Center and Marina offers a variety of recreational fishing fleets and cruise boats. For marina/boating information, go to **[VisitKureBeachNC.com](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com)**.

Drop a line at the oldest privately owned fishing pier along the Atlantic coast, a haven for blue fish, mackerel, flounder, drum, spot, and more. Half-day and deep-sea fishing charters depart from nearby Carolina Beach Fishing Center and Marina. For more information, **[VisitKureBeachNC.com](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com)**.

### KURE BEACH FISHING PIER

Bait your hook or stroll along the 711-foot wooden pier which has more than 1 million visitors annually. Includes seasonal tackle shop, arcade, and souvenirs.

- Oldest privately owned fishing pier on the East Coast
- Free to walk, seasonal fishing fees

 **K Avenue, 28449**

 **910-458-5524**  **[kurepier.com](http://kurepier.com)**

Offenly  
**AWESOME!**



NORTH CAROLINA  
AQUARIUM  
Fort Fisher

**Reserve Today.  
Discover  
Tomorrow.**

900 Loggerhead Road  
Kure Beach, NC 28449

**(910) 772-0500**

**[ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher](http://ncaquariums.com/fort-fisher)**



## NORTH CAROLINA FERRY AT FORT FISHER/SOUTHPORT

Cross the Cape Fear River in style on this 30-minute voyage aboard the Fort Fisher-Southport Ferry. The N.C. Ferry Service shuttles vehicles and passengers 365 days a year.

📍 2422 S. Fort Fisher Blvd., 28449

☎ 800-293-3779 ▶ [ncferry.org](http://ncferry.org)

4

## Sports & Water Activities

### BIKE

Try an organized ride or self-guided tour through Kure Beach. For more cycling information, visit [capefearcyclists.org](http://capefearcyclists.org), or find rentals at [VisitKureBeachNC.com](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com).

### DISC GOLF

A flick of the wrist is all it takes to have some fun on the 18-hole disc golf course at Joe Eakes Park off K Ave. Individual and tournament play available.

## DIVE

Explore *The Condor*, North Carolina's first heritage dive site, as well as nearby shipwrecks, reefs and ledges along Kure Beach. Local dive shops provide instruction, charters, certification, and equipment rentals. Info available at [VisitKureBeachNC.com](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com).

## KAYAK/SURF

Join a kayak tour of Zeke's Island/Ft. Fisher Basin, launching from the Federal Point Wildlife Access Ramp and guided by the pros at Kayak Carolina. Or put your board in the water and ride the waves.

5

## Restaurants

Head to an island grill to enjoy the catch of the day. Local favorites include wait-worthy pork chops and Italian fare, thick juicy burgers at a walk-up burger shack by the beach and diner home-style cooking. For more, go to [VisitKureBeachNC.com/restaurants](http://VisitKureBeachNC.com/restaurants).



**SEVEN SEAS INN**

- Oceanfront rooms, efficiencies, suites & interconnecting rooms
- Oceanfront pool
- Picnic area with barbecue grill
- Laundry facility
- 1/2 block from pier & restaurants
- Ground floor rooms
- All units non-smoking
- WiFi available
- No pets, please

130 N.Fort Fisher Blvd., Kure Beach, NC 28449  
**(910) 458-8122**  
[www.SevenSeasInn.com](http://www.SevenSeasInn.com)

## Kure Beach Accommodations

### ● Hotels/Motels

= Water View

= Pet Friendly

= Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	
Admiral's Quarters	129 Fort Fisher Blvd. S. 28449 admiralsquartersmotel.com	910-458-5050			
Blue Marlin Beach Vacation Lodging	309 N. Fort Fisher Blvd., 28449 blue-marlin.com	910-458-5752			
By the Pier Motel	122 Fort Fisher Blvd. N. 28449 bythepiermotel.com	910-458-1153			
Kure Lighthouse Inn	329 Atlantic Ave., 28449 kurelighthouseinn.com	910-444-4737			
Moran Motel	118 Fort Fisher Blvd. S. 28449 moranmotel.com	910-458-5395			
Seven Seas Inn	130 Fort Fisher Blvd. N. 28449 sevenseasinnkurebeach.com	910-458-8122			
South Wind Motel	109 S. Fort Fisher Dr. 28449 southwindmotel.com	910-458-8573			
The Sand Dunes Motel	133 Fort Fisher Blvd. S. 28449 thesanddunes.com	910-458-5470			

### ● Vacation Rentals

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	
A1 Property Management	617 Spartanburg Ave., #2, CB 28428 a1propertyman.com	910-409-6687			
Bryant Real Estate	1230 N. Lake Park Blvd., CB 28428 bryantre.com	910-458-5658			
Carolina Beach Realty	1009 N. Lake Park Blvd., Ste. B3, CB 28428 carolinabeachrealty.net	910-458-4444			
Carolina Retreats	1000 S. Lake Park Blvd., CB 28428 carolinaretreats.com	910-458-3001			
Crystal Shores	225 Fort Fisher Blvd. S., KB 28449 crystalshoreskurebeach.com	910-274-2260			
Intracoastal Rentals - Carolina Beach	1025 N. Lake Park Blvd., CB 28428 intracoastalrentals.com	910-256-3780			
iTrip Vacations NC Beaches	8200 River Road, Wilmington 28412 itripncbeaches.com	888-457-1830			
Network Real Estate	1029 N. Lake Park Blvd., #1, CB 28428 networkwilmington.com	910-458-8881			
Palm Air Realty™	1009 N. Lake Park Blvd., CB 28428 palmairrealtync.com	910-458-5269			
Sea Coast Rentals	1018 N. Lake Park Blvd., Ste. 102, CB 28428 seacoastrentals.com	910-458-9073			
Victory Beach Vacations	206 Fayetteville Ave., CB 28428 victorybeachvacations.com	910-458-0868			



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ADVENTURES  
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SUP, Cruises, Yoga

AWARD WINNING  
Restaurant  
& Catering Team

KIDS PROGRAMS  
Enjoy Sandcampers  
Summer Offerings



## Wrightsville Beach • NC

### WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

#### *Island Bliss*

Wrightsville Beach is the quintessential beach town, the perfect place to find exceptional experiences.

**C**rystal blue waters, pristine natural beauty, and a vibrant community have rightfully earned it accolades from the likes of *Southern Living*, who name it among the Top 10 "South's Best Beach Towns."

Dive into an abundance of water activities, with the pros offering sailing and surfing lessons, or SCUBA dive historic shipwrecks. Wrightsville Beach is the birthplace of surfing in North Carolina, earning it the distinction as one of the best surf towns in America according to *Coastal Living*. Wrightsville Beach hosts national surfing and stand-up paddleboarding competitions, marathons, triathlons, and the Carolina Cup, one of the world's five major SUP races.

There are plenty of active lifestyle options on land as well. Walk or run The Loop, a 2.5-mile paved path around the

island, taking in marsh and intracoastal views. Or explore uninhabited islands on an eco-tour. There are also sunset cruises, pirate treasure hunts, yoga on the Crystal Pier, and nearby, the 67-acre Airlie Gardens.

The walkable village-like town also offers upscale resorts featuring surf to sound adventures and full-service hotels just steps from the beach. Indulge in quality shopping at chic beach boutiques, surf shops, and nearby open-air shopping villages. Or stop by the Wrightsville Beach Museum of History to marvel in Wrightsville Beach's more than 100-years of island stories.

Dine on the day's fresh catch-to-table specials paired with live music during the summer and sip in the views with surf-inspired cocktails or craft beer from a local sustainable brewpub. Plan to take in the energy of the nightlife maintained from the momentum of the day's activities.

Expect more from a getaway to Wrightsville Beach.

# THINGS TO DO

*Dive right in to Wrightsville Beach's unlimited experiences.*

1

## Museums & Attractions Wrightsville Beach

### Museum of History

🚶🚗 – limited

Glimpse Wrightsville Beach's past through exhibits housed in the historic Myers Cottage (c. 1909) and Bordeaux Cottage (c. 1924), designed to reflect beach cottage life in the early 1900s through the 1970s.

- Weekly children's programs (Summer)

📍 303 & 307 W. Salisbury St., 28480

☎ 910-239-9219

➤ [wbmuseumofhistory.com](http://wbmuseumofhistory.com)



KEY: 🏠 = INDOOR ATTRACTION 🐾 = PET FRIENDLY ♿ = ACCESSIBLE 💰 = ADMISSION CHARGED 🆓 = FREE ADMISSION

## FRED & ALICE STANBACK COASTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Learn about the importance of water quality in North Carolina's coastal areas and beyond through events, programs, and hands-on exhibits.

📍 309 W. Salisbury St., 28480

☎ 910-509-2838

▶ [nccoast.org/about-us/fred-alice-stanback-coastal-education-center](http://nccoast.org/about-us/fred-alice-stanback-coastal-education-center)

## 2

### Parks, Gardens & Recreation BIRD WATCHING

Witness nature's glory as you search for willets, least terns, black skimmers, and more from North Carolina Birding Trail sites: Mason Inlet Waterbird Management Area and Masonboro Island National Estuarine Research Reserve. For birding sites and tours, visit [wrightsvillebeachscenictours.com](http://wrightsvillebeachscenictours.com) or [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).

### HARBOR WAY GARDENS 🐾

On the west end of Wrightsville Beach Park, this one-acre garden is an oasis and a quiet place to reflect and enjoy native plants and flowers. Harbor Way Gardens is also the only public garden in North Carolina to have Witherspoon Roses thanks to a generous donation from an island resident.

- Children's Fountain

📍 321 Causeway Dr., 28480

☎ 910-256-7925

▶ [townofwrightsvillebeach.com/475/Harbor-Way-Gardens](http://townofwrightsvillebeach.com/475/Harbor-Way-Gardens)

### MASONBORO ISLAND RESERVE 🐾

Wander wild nature trails and glimpse marine life and shore birds on the largest undisturbed barrier island on North Carolina's southern coast. Part of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve, the island is accessible by boat only. Daily boat tours are offered by third parties. For outfitter excursions, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).



HARBOR WAY GARDENS

## WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH PARKS & RECREATION 🐾

Relax, work out, sit, play, or run at Wrightsville Beach Park, a 13-acre public complex that includes an event stage, tennis, pickleball and basketball courts, softball, football and soccer fields, fitness equipment, picnic shelters, a 2.5-mile fitness trail, and an inclusive playground with wheelchair swing.

- Contact Parks and Recreation for access to wheelchair swing

📍 1 Bob Sawyer Dr., 28480

☎ 910-256-7925

▶ [townofwrightsvillebeach.com](http://townofwrightsvillebeach.com)

## 3

### Tours & Cruises

Leave the land behind as you spend a day on a paddleboard, sailboat, kayak, powerboat, charter boat, or personal watercraft. Sailing lessons are available, from beginner to advanced. Numerous dry docks, marinas, boat ramps, and service centers exist to serve recreational boating. For more information, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).



## MASONBORO ISLAND RESERVE

### EPIC EXCURSIONS

Island hop to the amazing uninhabited islands surrounding Wrightsville Beach. Soak up the area's natural beauty on a sunset cruise or enjoy a private dinner on one of the beautiful islands. Glide through the serene salt marshes on a paddleboarding tour or spend an evening "glamping" on an uninhabited island as the ocean lulls you to sleep.

 910-239-9248  [epicexcursionsnc.com](http://epicexcursionsnc.com)

### FEEL GOOD FISHING CHARTERS & ADVENTURES

Reel in the big one on a deep-sea charter, net your own dinner on a family explorer day, or book a sunset cruise. Feel Good has it all.

 109 Causeway Dr., 28480

 910-431-7777  [feelgoodfishing.com](http://feelgoodfishing.com)

### LA DEE DAH SUNSET CRUISES

La Dee Dah Sunset Cruises provides an intimate sunset experience. Looking for a wonderful date? In search of that perfect backdrop for a special moment? Fun with friends? Food, drinks, sunsets, and great memories are all waiting for you aboard the La Dee Dah!

 120 Short St., 28480  910-231-8455

 [ladeedahcruises.com](http://ladeedahcruises.com)

### SOUNDSIDE ADVENTURES

limited  

Take the Masonboro Island Hopper Cruise,

a sunset harbor cruise, a cocktail cruise, and more, or fish in the inlet on the resort's own Carolina Runner large pontoon. There are so many options. Learn to surf or sail with certified instructors, rent or take a guided tour on standup paddleboards or kayaks.

 275 Waynick Blvd., 28480

 910-622-2503

 [soundside-wb.com](http://soundside-wb.com)

### WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH SCENIC TOURS & WATER TAXI

Every trip is a quest for fun aboard the Shamrock. Try a sunset cruise filled with dolphin sightings, take a family shuttle for a day on Masonboro Island, search for birds on an eco-tour, hook a record catch charter fishing, or give the kids the thrill of adventure on the Pirate Island Treasure Hunt.

- Private parties, family, and corporate events up to 18 people

 109 Causeway Dr., 28480  910-200-4002

 [wrightsvillebeachscenictours.com](http://wrightsvillebeachscenictours.com)

### WRIGHTSVILLE PERFORMANCE SAILING

Challenge yourself to learn a new skill or sit back and let the pros do the work. With a variety of cruises, charters, and lessons available, you'll find several ways to take in the scenic views of Banks Channel, the Atlantic Ocean, and Intracoastal Waterway.

- Sails by appointment only

 330 Causeway Dr., 28480

 910-622-2503  [WPsail.com](http://WPsail.com)

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## Sports & Water Activities

Wrightsville Beach is an ideal place to feel and stay healthy while on vacation with endless activities.

### BIKE

Pedal from downtown Wilmington to Johnnie Mercers Pier along the 10-mile River to the Sea Bikeway. For leisurely rides, cyclists opt for the beach or several miles of paved paths. Bike rentals are available from Aussie Island Surf Shop.

- ▶ [wmpo.org/maps](http://wmpo.org/maps)
- ▶ [capefearcyclists.org](http://capefearcyclists.org)

### DIVE

Take the plunge to uncover centuries-old shipwrecks in the waters along the Carolina coast. Outfitters such as Aquatic Safaris and WB Diving can get you suited up and in the water. For information, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).

### KITEBOARD/KAYAK/SURF/SUP

When the wind is good, kiteboarders head out to the jetties at the south and north ends of the island. Learn how to surf or standup paddle board (SUP) from local pro

instructors in this top-rated surf town and SUP hub. Or rent a kayak to explore our waters. Outfitters that offer lessons and equipment include Aussie Island Surf Shop, Indo Jax Surf School, South End Surf Shop, WB Surf Camp, and Wrightsville SUP, or go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).

### WALK, JOG & RUN

Walk, jog, or run The Loop – a 2.5-mile paved trail around the island – and take in sights of the inner island's waterways and marshes.

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## Fishing

From pier fishing, surf fishing, and shell fishing, inshore explorations, and deep-sea outings, there's something to catch year-round. For fishing charters and guides, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).

### CRYSTAL PIER (FREE)

Attached to the Oceanic Restaurant, the Crystal Pier features an area for free public access and fishing, as well as outdoor dining with live music Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons at Oceanic.

- ▶ 703 S. Lumina Ave., 28480
- ▶ 910-256-5551
- ▶ [oceanicrestaurant.com](http://oceanicrestaurant.com)

# Deep Sea Express

## FISHING CHARTERS

### ▶ Captain Ger Hardin

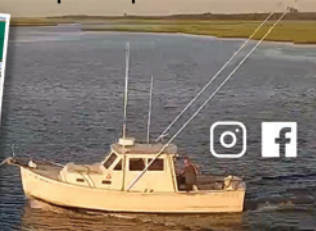
Wrightsville Beach, NC

(910) 269-9307

[DeepSeaExpress.com](http://DeepSeaExpress.com)



- ✓ Private fishing charter boat located in Wrightsville Beach for parties up to 4 people.
- ✓ Sunset cruises & backwater sand bar excursions for parties up to 6.





## OCEANIC RESTAURANT

### JOHNNIE MERCERS PIER

This state-of-the-art, concrete pier extends 1,200 feet from the shore and offers a grill, a game area, bathrooms, a gift shop, and a fully stocked tackle shop for all your beach and fishing needs.

📍 23 E. Salisbury St., 28480

☎ 910-256-2743

➔ [johnniemercersfishingpier.com](http://johnniemercersfishingpier.com)

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### Restaurants & Nightlife

Taste sea- and farm-to-table while sampling the day's blackboard specials. Family friendly eats include hotdogs



with 1,000+ combinations possible, Baja Mexican, gourmet burgers, and more. Dock and dine at the marina or oceanfront to enjoy Southern seafood favorites. Go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com/restaurants](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com/restaurants) for a full list of local restaurants.

Wrightsville Beach is known for its cool hotspots and live music from dockside bars to an oceanfront pier. Or catch live concerts at the local park or nearby Airlie Gardens. Sip on a craft brew or watch the sunset on an evening harbor cruise. For nightlife listings, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).

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### Shopping

Known for upscale and wallet-friendly options, find everything from beach boutiques and surf shops to open-air pedestrian-friendly shopping villages nearby. For a complete list, go to [VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com](http://VisitWrightsvilleBeachNC.com).


A large advertisement for Lumina On Wrightsville Beach, a Holiday Inn Resort. The top half shows a wide view of the resort's outdoor pool area with many lounge chairs and blue umbrellas, situated on a sandy beach with waves in the background. The text "LUMINA ON WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH" is prominently displayed in large, dark letters, with "a Holiday Inn Resort" in a smaller font below it. The bottom half of the ad features a dark blue background with a QR code on the left, the text "Newly Renovated" in the center, and "Stay Brilliant" in large white letters on the right, followed by the website "LuminaResortWrightsville.com".

## Wrightsville Beach Accommodations

### • Hotels/Motels

 = Water View

 = Pet Friendly

 = Handicap Accessible

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	
Blockade Runner Beach Resort	275 Waynick Blvd. 28480 blockade-runner.com	910-256-2251			
Carolina Temple Island Inn	550 Waynick Blvd. 28480 carolinatempleislandinn.com	910-256-2773			
Harbor Inn	701 Causeway Dr. 28480 harborinnwb.com	910-256-9402			
Lumina on Wrightsville Beach, a Holiday Inn Resort	1706 N. Lumina Ave. 28480 luminaresortwrightsville.com	910-256-2231			
Sandpeddler Inn & Suites	15 Nathan St. 28480 thesandpeddler.com	910-256-2028			
Shell Island Resort	2700 N. Lumina Ave. 28480 shellisland.com	910-256-8696			
Silver Gull Motel	20 E. Salisbury St. 28480 silvergullmotel.com	910-256-3728			
Summer Sands Suites	104 S. Lumina Ave. 28480 summersandswb.com	910-256-4175			
The Surf Suites	711 S. Lumina Ave. 28480 thesurfsuites.com	910-256-2275			

### • Vacation Rentals

Name	Address/Website	Phone	Water View	Pets	
Bryant Real Estate	1001 N. Lumina Ave., WB 28480 bryantre.com	800-322-3764			
Intracoastal Rentals - Wrightsville Beach	605 Causeway Dr., WB 28480 intracoastalrentals.com/wrightsville-beach-rentals	910-509-1915			
One South Lumina Suites	1 S. Lumina Ave. 28480 onesouthluminasuites.com	910-509-1915			
Sea Scape Properties	232 Causeway Dr., WB 28480 seascapevacationhomes.com	910-332-7284			
Waterway Lodge Vacation Rentals	7246 Wrightsville Ave., Wilmington 28403 waterwaywrightsvillebeach.com	910-256-3771			
Wrightsville Sands Realty	530 Causeway Dr., Ste. 6, WB 28480 wrightsvillesands.com	910-679-4082			

# Must Attend Events

It's always a celebration when you're in Wilmington or our island beaches. Don't miss our signature area festivals and events. For a complete calendar and event dates, call the Wilmington and Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau at **866-534-0845** or visit our website, [WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com).

## Know Before You Go

Visitors are advised to check event websites or social media pages to determine specific event dates.

## Winter



- Enchanted Airlie (Nov.-Dec.)
- Christmas by the Sea (Nov.-Dec.)
- NC Holiday Flotilla & Day in the Park Festival (Nov.)
- Island of Lights Festival (Nov.-Dec.)
- Old Wilmington by Candlelight Tour (Dec.)
- Island of Lights Holiday Flotilla & New Year's Eve Celebration (Dec.)
- Battle of Fort Fisher Anniversary (Jan.)
- NC Jazz Festival (Feb.)
- Novant Health Wilmington, NC Marathon (Feb.)
- Wilmington Winter Wine & Beer Walk (Feb.)

## Spring



- Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival (Mar.)
- Cape Fear Craft & Cuisine (Mar.)
- Carolina Pro-Am SUP Surf (Apr.)
- Poplar Grove Herb & Garden Fair (Apr.)
- The Carolina Cup (Apr.)
- North Carolina Azalea Festival/ Home & Garden Tours (Apr.)
- Airlie Garden Summer Concert Series (May-Sept.)
- Battleship NC Memorial Day Observance (May)
- Fireworks By the Sea & Boardwalk Blast (May-Labor Day)

## Summer



- Cape Fear Blue Marlin Tournament (June)
- Carolina Beach Music Festival (June)
- Boogie in the Park Concert Series (June-Sept.)
- City of Wilmington July 4th Family Fireworks
- Pleasure Island July 4th Fireworks
- East Coast "Got-em-On" King Mackerel Tournament (July)
- Wrightsville Beach Wahine Classic (Aug.)



## Fall



- Dragon Boat Regatta & Festival (Sept.)
- Wilmington Fall Wine & Beer Walk (Sept.)
- IRONMAN 70.3 North Carolina (Oct.)
- Lighthouse Beer & Wine Festival (Oct.)
- Pleasure Island Surf Fishing Challenge (Oct.)
- Riverfest (Oct.)
- Voracious & Rare Beer Festival (Oct.)
- Cape Fear Kite Festival (Nov.)
- Cucalorus Festival (Nov.)
- Taste of Wrightsville Beach (Nov.)

Discover the full  
Calendar of Events at  
**WilmingtonAnd  
Beaches.com/events** or  
use the QR code to go  
to the mobile listing.



Carolina Beach • Kure Beach • Wrightsville Beach  
**Wilmington.C.**  
River District & Island Beaches

1 Estell Lee Place, Suite 201, Wilmington, NC 28401  
[WilmingtonAndBeaches.com](http://WilmingtonAndBeaches.com)

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