



## **TEN REASONS TO VISIT NORTH CAROLINA'S BRUNSWICK ISLANDS IN OCTOBER:**

*Fishing, Festivals and Accommodation Savings*

BOLIVIA, N.C. (Sept. 21, 2012) – From October 4 through October 28 – a whirlwind 25 days – North Carolina's Brunswick Islands are hosting 10 events. Pirates, pumpkins and parades, fishing aficionados and food lovers will invade the beach towns and inland areas of this stretch of shore halfway between Myrtle Beach and Wilmington.

### **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Oyster Festival**

The biggest food event of the season is the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual North Carolina Oyster Festival, held adjacent to the Museum of Coastal Carolina, Ocean Isle Beach, October 20-21, 2012. The festival's centerpiece is the North Carolina Oyster Shucking Championships, where professionals compete for the state title, perhaps dreaming of the national, or even the World Championships in Galway, Ireland. Amateurs are welcome to try their luck at local recognition. At the Oyster Stew Cook-off, attendees rate chefs' recipes from the area's top restaurants. A mind-boggling 50 kinds of festival food are sold, including seafood, Greek, Italian, German and all-American favorites. Live entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, a road race, tennis tournament, surfing contest and a kid's area add to the fun. Admission is only \$5.00; free for kids under eight. [www.ncoysterfestival.com](http://www.ncoysterfestival.com)

### **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Solomon Cup Croquet Tournament**

October 10-13 marks the 2012 Solomon Cup, when the American team will try to make it three in a row as they battle the British on the croquet lawns of the Bald Head Island Club on Bald Head Island. This is the first time a U.S. hosted international event has been held outside Florida and California. Pre-tournament events will begin on Monday, October 8, with the Solomon Trophy play taking place Wednesday October 10 through Saturday, October 13. As usual the match will be against teams of 6 in a mix of singles and doubles. [http://www.bhiclub.net/club/scripts/library/view\\_document.asp?GRP=15616&NS=PUBLIC&APP=80&DN=SOLOMON](http://www.bhiclub.net/club/scripts/library/view_document.asp?GRP=15616&NS=PUBLIC&APP=80&DN=SOLOMON)

### **34<sup>th</sup> Annual King Mackerel Tournament**

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament, October 4-6, is one of the state's oldest, most prestigious fishing tournaments, attracting more than 500 boats and offering more than \$100,000 in guaranteed cash prizes. It's held in Southport Marina, where spectators enjoy food, beverages and entertainment on Saturday. [www.usopenkmt.com](http://www.usopenkmt.com)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Kayak Fishing Tournament**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Oak Island Fall Classic Kayak Fishing Tournament, held on October 13, is a benefit event with divisions for King Mackerel, Redfish, Flounder, Trout and a Slam. Prizes include a kayak for the winners in each division with prizes and trophies awarded to the top three in each division. [www.nckfa.com](http://www.nckfa.com)

### **Fall Brawl King Classic Tournament**

The Fall Brawl King Classic on Ocean Isle Beach, October 26-28, is among the dozens of fishing tournaments held each year, bringing anglers and families together for great food, fun and fishing. Spot Derby and Cast Net throwing contests are also held, and complimentary food is served. More than \$35,000 in prize money is awarded.

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

### **Festival by the Sea**

The last full weekend in October, 27-28, Holden Beach hosts the North Carolina Festival by the Sea, a free, two-day event kicked off with a parade down the Holden Beach causeway. For that day only, pedestrians can cross the high-altitude Holden Beach bridge to stake out the perfect spot to view the procession. Arts and crafts vendors, food booths, a horseshoe tournament and sandcastle building are featured. Children enjoy face painting, kite flying and rides and amusements. [www.hbmerch.com/events.html](http://www.hbmerch.com/events.html)

### **Colonial Day**

Brunswick Town, a working archaeological site and museum in Winnabow, celebrates "Colonial Day at Brunswick Town" on October 20. Costumed interpreters demonstrate life in an 18th century port town. Visitors participate in interactive activities and events including toys and games, stenciling, candle dipping and more. Living history interpreters demonstrate cooking and blacksmithing. Free admission.

<http://ncbrunswick.com/events.aspx>

## **Farm Heritage Day & Pumpkin Day**

October 6, 2012 brings Farm Heritage Day at Indigo Farms in Calabash. The annual tribute to the history of farming in the area features exhibits of basket making, indigo dyeing, weaving, spinning, paper making, old tools and farm artifacts from the 1800's, blacksmithing, needlework and more. Pony rides, hay rides, and music entertainment add to the fun. [www.indigofarmsmarket.com](http://www.indigofarmsmarket.com) Indigo Farms also holds Pumpkin Day on October 13 featuring old-timey farm games, pig races, hay rides, farm animals, a hay maze, pumpkin painting, pick your own pumpkins and music.

## **Historic Southport Pyrates Invasion**

Arrgh, Mateys! The seacoast's swashbuckling, double-crossing history will come alive at the "Historic Southport Pyrates Invasion," October 12-13, where re-enactors set up pirate and militia encampments and ghost stories are told at the Southport cemetery.

<http://www.cityofsouthport.com/index.aspx?page=125&recordid=345>

For a complete list of festivals, fishing tournaments and events, please visit [www.NCBrunswick.com](http://www.NCBrunswick.com).

## **Fall Accommodation Specials**

### **Brunswickland Realty - Holden Beach**

800-842-6949 | [www.BrunswicklandRealty.com](http://www.BrunswicklandRealty.com)

Holden Beach Vacation Rentals up to 20 to 30 percent off published price.

### **Oak Island Accommodations - Oak Island**

800-243-8132 | [www.SandyToesSavings.com](http://www.SandyToesSavings.com)

Sandy Toes Savings

Stay three nights and get fourth night free or Stay seven nights and only pay for five. Offer valid on all rooms at the "Island Inn" motel.

### **The Winds Resort Beach Club - Ocean Isle Beach**

800-334-3581 | [www.thewinds.com/family-discovery](http://www.thewinds.com/family-discovery)

Sea and Sky Family Discovery Package

Bring your family for a three-day/two-night discovery package and receive free admission to the Ocean Isle Museum, an Ingram Planetarium Sky Theater show and picnic lunch from our Tiki Bar.

### **Sunset Properties - Ocean Isle Beach**

910-575-8662 | [www.SunsetProperties.travel](http://www.SunsetProperties.travel)

Enjoy the Best of Our Beaches.

Rental rates for vacation homes drop by 25 percent in mid-August and up to 50 percent as of August 25 from our mid-summer levels. Valid August 4 - December 31, 2012

### **Bald Head Island Limited - Bald Head Island**

877-344-7440 | [www.BaldHeadIsland.com](http://www.BaldHeadIsland.com)

Pay for a minimum of two nights and get an additional night free. You will also receive a

welcome gift of a featured North Carolina wine and six pack of beer. Use the promotion code WINEHOP. Good on arrival dates between October 1 and October 31, 2012.

**Econo Lodge Inn & Suites - Shallotte**

910-755-6444 | [www.econolodge.com/hotel-shallotte-north\\_carolina-NC686](http://www.econolodge.com/hotel-shallotte-north_carolina-NC686)

Fall Special \$99.99-\$149.99

Stay Friday & Saturday night for only \$99.99 plus tax or choose any three nights and stay for just \$149.99 plus tax. Valid September 12 - December 31, 2012.

**Ocean Crest Motel - Oak Island**

910-278-3333 | [www.Ocean-Crest-Motel.com](http://www.Ocean-Crest-Motel.com)

Our Pay for Five, Stay for Seven Weekly Special means you can stay through October 27 starting as low as \$350 a week! Guests also receive 10 percent off dinner at Island Way restaurant.

**The Sunset Inn - Sunset Beach**

910-575-1000 | [www.TheSunsetInn.net](http://www.TheSunsetInn.net)

October Fallapalooza

Stay at The Sunset Inn anytime from October 15-19 and receive 15 percent off.

**Comfort Suites Magnolia Greens - Leland**

910-202-8506 | [www.ComfortSuitesMagnoliaGreens.com](http://www.ComfortSuitesMagnoliaGreens.com)

Cruise and Paddle Package

Explore the waterways of the historic Cape Fear River basin with this adventurous package for two! A \$400 value for only \$295.95. Valid through November 30, 2012. Includes accommodations, kayak adventure and river cruise.

**About North Carolina's Brunswick Islands**

In the southernmost corner of North Carolina, stretching from the Cape Fear River to the South Carolina border, lie North Carolina's Brunswick Islands. Five barrier islands provide secluded spots on six pristine beaches for families and nature-lovers, while quaint island and mainland towns beckon with family-owned B&Bs, restaurants and shops. Forts, lighthouses, historic architecture, boating, fishing and 35 golf courses offer plenty to do and see on a trip that harkens back to a simpler time. For more information, visit [www.ncbrunswick.com](http://www.ncbrunswick.com).

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