

*"Every time I go back,
I feel like I'm home."*

Melissa

30 years of memories made on our shores



north carolina's

brunswick islands

OFFICIAL VACATION GUIDE

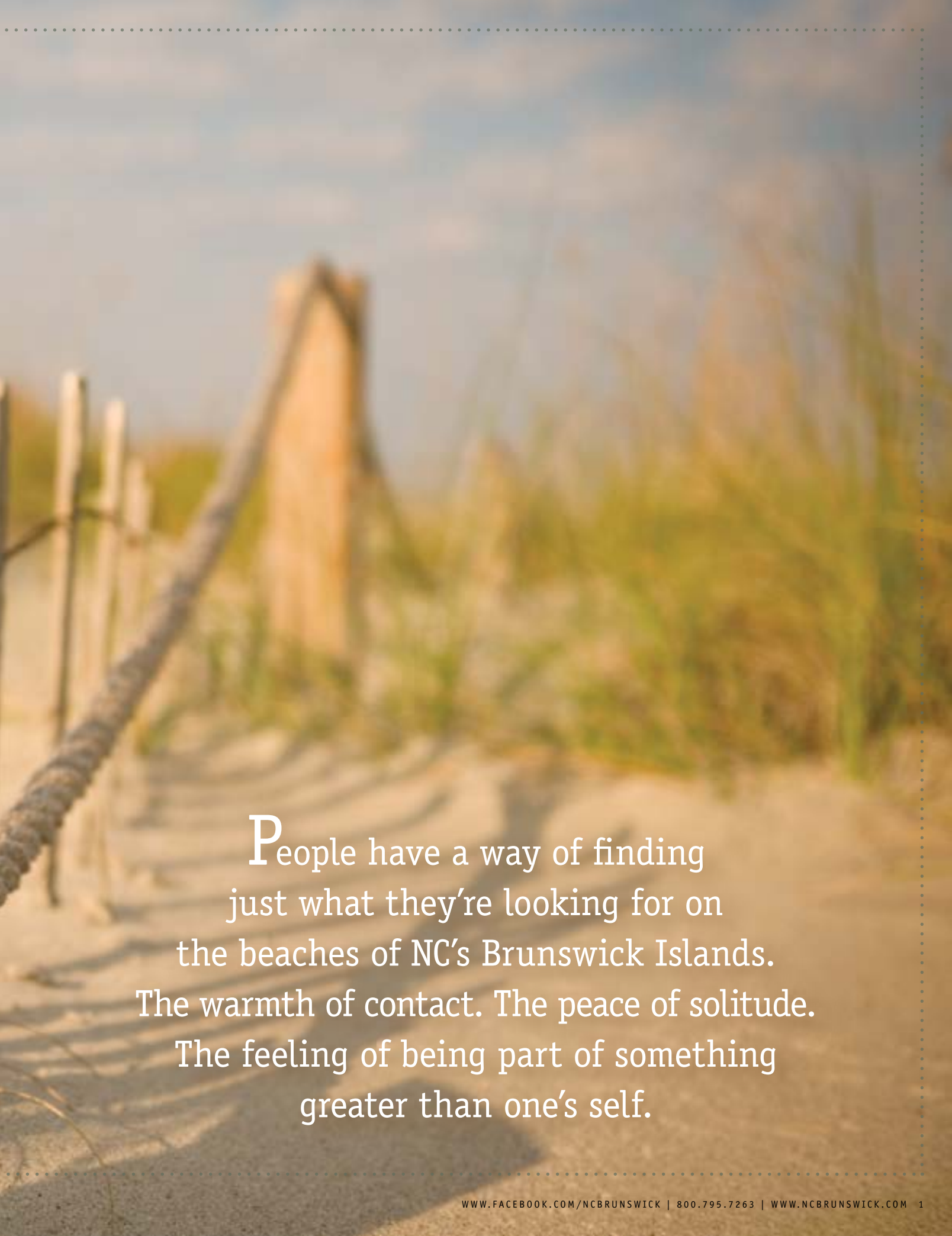
SUNSET BEACH • OCEAN ISLE BEACH • HOLDEN BEACH • OAK ISLAND
CASWELL BEACH • BALD HEAD ISLAND • LELAND • SHALLOTTE • SOUTHPORT • CALABASH



Like a familiar friend.

Mitch

50 years of cherished visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



People have a way of finding
just what they're looking for on
the beaches of NC's Brunswick Islands.
The warmth of contact. The peace of solitude.
The feeling of being part of something
greater than one's self.



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This is a place
of families and friends.

.....

Parents whose first
beach memories
are of being carried
on their own
parents' shoulders.

.....

Kids free to be kids.

.....

Groups of girlfriends
on annual weekends.

.....

Anglers renewing
their love
of the sport.

.....

Golf buddies
trading jibes.

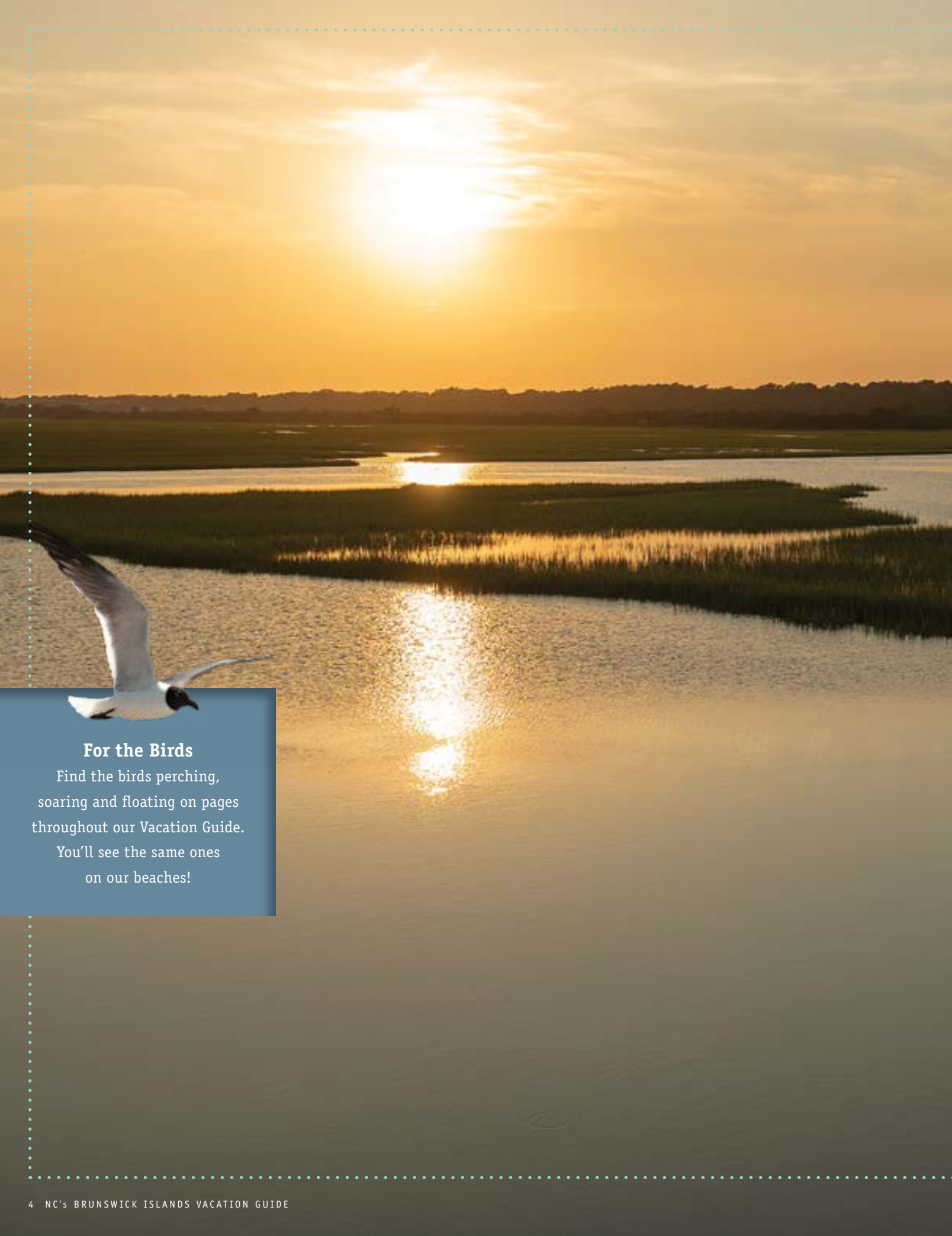
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The things that keep
us young never
get old.

*It's a tradition.
We began when our
youngest was three.
She's 28 now.
We still go each year.*

Eddie

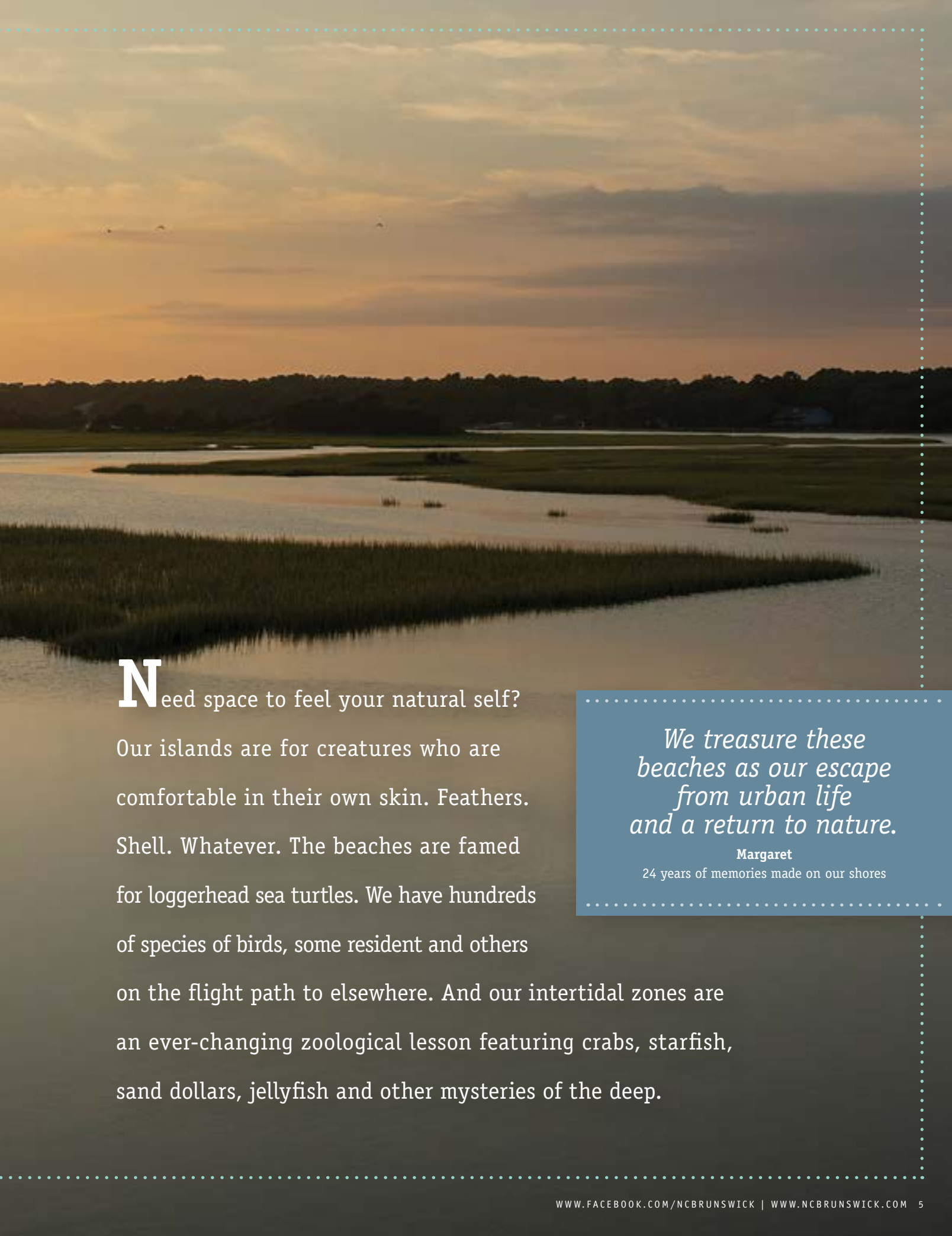
25 years of Brunswick Islands vacations



For the Birds

Find the birds perching,
soaring and floating on pages
throughout our Vacation Guide.

You'll see the same ones
on our beaches!



Need space to feel your natural self?

Our islands are for creatures who are comfortable in their own skin. Feathers. Shell. Whatever. The beaches are famed for loggerhead sea turtles. We have hundreds of species of birds, some resident and others on the flight path to elsewhere. And our intertidal zones are an ever-changing zoological lesson featuring crabs, starfish, sand dollars, jellyfish and other mysteries of the deep.

*We treasure these
beaches as our escape
from urban life
and a return to nature.*

Margaret

24 years of memories made on our shores

*The only beach that I would
drive 700 miles to alone at
the age of 80. My happy place.*

Dawana

traveling to NC's Brunswick Islands every summer since 1970



Some vacations are about seeing things differently. Our beaches dare you to climb to an observation deck of a lighthouse. Or accept the challenge of learning how to ride a surfboard. Discover how many species of birds you can name while paddling our marshes in a kayak. Or see how many days you can string together trying to accomplish as little as possible.



STEP UP YOUR GAME

NC's Brunswick Islands is home to two historic lighthouses with intriguing stories. With a little advance notice, you can tour them both and climb to a view only winged visitors usually see.

Experience all that NC's Brunswick Islands offers

NC's Brunswick Islands is one place, but it's made up of ten distinctly different communities.

No matter where you stay when you visit us, we encourage you to travel around and experience the entire stretch of coastline. You may discover that, over time, you'll find a destination you can return to over and over again – one that's always as special as your first visit.

*I was hooked
the first time I visited
so I had to return!*

Coleman

11 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



p.20 Bald Head Island

Lock your cares in your car and leave them behind. On Bald Head Island, the only traffic is provided by golf carts and bikes. Old Baldy, the familiar stout brick lighthouse, presides over a natural setting of expansive beaches. Spectacular dunes hide spacious beach homes and surprising shops nestled along maritime forest pathways. Quiet, secluded – but with great golf and beautiful marina-side settings – that's the Bald Head experience.

p.28 Calabash

The little town with a legendary style of cooking seafood lives up to its distinction as "Seafood Capital of the World." Plenty of restaurants await you from traditional family style to international cuisine. Wander the shops while seeing how long you can resist the temptation of shrimp, clams, oysters and crabs. Treat the kids to homemade ice cream. Explore the docks where fishing and pleasure boats tie up. Calabash has been synonymous with seafood and family fun for decades.

p.18 Caswell Beach

Got time for shelling on long, secluded beach walks? You'll need it on Caswell Beach, where traditional vacation homes await you behind the line of dunes, and the trusty beacon of the Oak Island Lighthouse watches over all. With its long stretches of sea oat-fringed dunes that beckon you all the way down to the inlet, this is the least inhabited of our beaches. Of course, if it's action you're looking for, simply drive or bike to the shops next door on Oak Island!

p.14 Holden Beach

You could say Holden Beach hit the big time when it was named by *National Geographic Traveler* as one of the country's best. And yet, it was never spoiled by success. Its backyard is the Intracoastal Waterway, where kayakers can mingle with the environment's extraordinary wildlife. Holden Beach never fails to delight, from the pleasures of moonlit walks in the surf to the surprises waiting in the tidal pools at Lockwood Folly Inlet.

p.22 Leland

Leland is where you go for a completely different kind of time. Paddling down the Brunswick River in your own kayak is like drifting into an older, simpler world. One where you're just as apt to come upon osprey, egrets and eagles as you are another paddler. Nearby, the 900-plus acre Brunswick Nature Park also offers many opportunities to view North Carolina's coastal wildlife in their natural habitat. Of course, if it's shops and refreshments you're after, Leland offers that, too!

p.16 Oak Island

There is laid-back. And there is Oak Island laid-back. The quiet streets lined with beach homes summon you to mount a bike and stick a reed in the spokes, like when you were a kid. So much of Oak Island has that air of nostalgia. Yet, if it's water you want, this beach has more than 60 public access points. Boat ramps, fishing piers and a marina put the best of Brunswick Islands fishing right at your feet. And if long romantic beach walks are in your plans, there's no place better.

p.12 Ocean Isle Beach

Ask anyone who's ever done it. There's no family experience quite like watching sea turtles hatch. Once you experience these creatures making their way to the sea on a moonlit night, you'll never forget it. There are miles of Ocean Isle beachfront to share with these fascinating creatures. But don't worry, they like the other beaches, too! Because of its easygoing spirit, Ocean Isle Beach has been a repeat family favorite for generations. It has even grown its own particular celebrations, including the popular North Carolina Oyster Festival.

*Tradition
and enjoyment
from kid to adult.*

Robert

15 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

p.24 Shallotte

Savvy beachgoers know they have to make time for Shallotte. With central access to all six of our beaches, Shallotte is the perfect place to load up on provisions for your beach vacation. Or, to take a break from the sun and salt spray. And while a stop here is a must for any beachgoer, it's also a central focal point for our championship golf courses. You'll discover Shallotte is a timely place for a quick bite on your way sightseeing or taking in an afternoon movie.

p.26 Southport

Rich in history and maritime charm, Southport has been crowned America's "Happiest Seaside Town" by *Coastal Living*. With its oak tree-lined streets and bustling yacht basin, this harbor town has made appearances in feature films, making not only visitors, but directors and moviegoers happy. Local shops and restaurants pepper the waterfront, so you'll always find something pleasant cooking. Explore the streets, historic homes and landmarks, even the local connections to our swashbuckling pirate and shrimping heritage. One could say Southport is a picture of the past.

p.10 Sunset Beach

Sunset Beach is home and way-station to hundreds of species of birds ... and soulseekers. Wander over to adjoining Bird Island on an afternoon, and you'll discover the special magic of this place. This undeveloped coastal reserve is a favorite of those free souls who leave their thoughts in the communal Kindred Spirit mailbox. Sunset Beach, like its namesake, has a peaceful effect on the soul. And of course, for the early birds, it's a favorite for sunrise. It's no wonder *National Geographic* named this special place one of the "21 Best Beaches in the World."





SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

You'll see a lot of this species on our shores, pecking at the sand to pick up a meal. The small, plump bird with black legs and bill is constantly chasing the waves looking for a bite.



*The ocean calls you back.
Your soul gets rejuvenated
and energized.*

Karen

5 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

You have to be a natural paradise in order to make the *National Geographic* list of best beaches on the planet. And guess what? Sunset Beach qualifies.

That won't surprise anyone who has ever strolled a beach access path on the smallest of our barrier islands that's large in spirit. With virtually no commercial development, this place is a favorite of those whose vacation plans include peace for the soul and communing with the natural world.

sunset beach



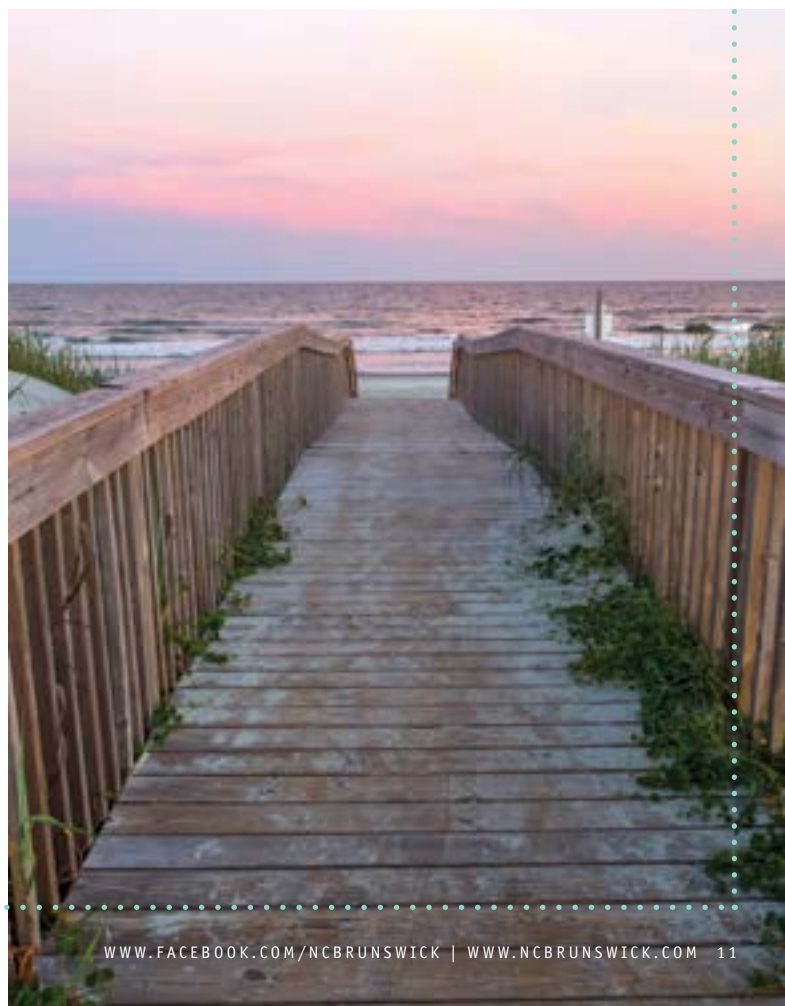
Winged species are so plentiful, that at the far end of the island you'll find the most aptly named Bird Island.


At low tide, the vast expanse of sand comes as a surprise, as well as a pleasant challenge, for beach cyclists. It's a place where people make lasting connections, with each other and with the beauty of nature. You'll agree when you witness your first sunrise in this place of towering dunes and unlimited serenity.



LIFE SENDS ITS BEST

For decades, the iconic Kindred Spirit mailbox on Bird Island is where people from all over have left their personal thoughts and meditations.





*Ocean Isle is a great meeting
place for our family.*

Pete

20+ visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

ocean isle



GET SHUCKING

There's a lot more where this came from. Every island has oysters. Ocean Isle Beach also has the annual North Carolina Oyster Festival. The October festival is not to be missed. Check out this and other events on page 43.

your boat right up to your vacation home, break out the paddleboards and kayaks, or spend your spare hours fishing from your private dock. This island has a wide variety of accommodations, including oceanfront hotel rooms and condos.

The town atmosphere offers something for everyone. There are plenty of options to sate your appetite, many with stunning waterfront views. We've got mini-golf and arcade pastimes for the kids, plus nearby options like the zipline adventures and the mysterious ecosystem of a popular swamp park. For the adults, stop by a brewery or winery for a favorite refreshment.

GREEN HERON

Butorides virescens

This small heron can often be seen at the edges of the marsh. He's dark green in color and sports greenish-yellow or orange legs.

Big vacations can come in small packages. Need proof? *Southern Living* recently named Ocean Isle Beach the South's Best Tiny Town. This vibrant beach village has a lively side that appeals to families with small children, teens and grandparents alike.

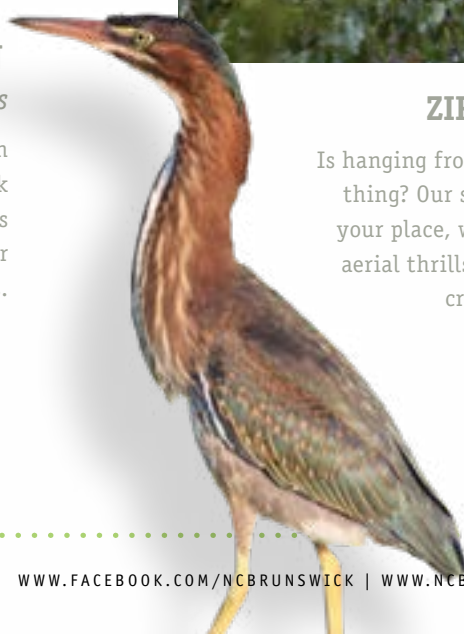
Two lively sides, actually. The beach side is the ideal place to get started fulfilling your surfing or skimboarding dreams. The marsh side is deeply indented with canals where you can pull



ZIPPITY YAY

Is hanging from a wire your thing? Our swamp park is your place, with plenty of aerial thrills and wetland critters to raise goosebumps all over.

beach





*Holden Beach
is very low key. No
Brunswick Islands hotels,
not too many people,
exactly what I need.*

Rebecca

2 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

There's no mistaking Holden Beach. The signature sweeping curve of the bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway announces you've arrived. This perennial favorite combines the pleasures of residential beach homes with the mystique of a working waterfront with shrimp trawlers plying the waves.

On Holden Beach, it seems there's always one more tidal pool to explore, all the way to



holden beach



Lockwood Folly Inlet at the easternmost end of the island. It's a favorite for family beach hiking and biking. Plus, recent beach restoration efforts have provided an unexpected gift: gobs of fully intact sea shells that turn an afternoon into a treasure hunt.



There's no mistaking the maritime spirit here. Maybe it's the fishing pier that attracts both seasoned veterans and newbies to the sport.

Or, the lively comings and goings of boats on the Intracoastal Waterway at the back side of the island. Like its distinctive approach, this beach town surprises but never disappoints.



WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

You can satisfy your sweet tooth no matter where you are in NC's Brunswick Islands. Each town has several choices for a sweet frozen treat as unique and individual as the islands themselves.



WAIT UNTIL DARK

Memo to self: pack flashlights. You and your crew are going to need them when you're out stargazing or hunting ghost crabs.



First permanently settled in the early 1800s, Oak Island has an abundance of old live oaks, windswept pines and other delightful shade trees. It feels as much like a neighborhood as it does a typical barrier island. That's because it is. Oak Island is notable for the kind of easily accessible conveniences a resident would find attractive.

OLLIE OR SHOVE-IT

Visit Oak Island's skateboard park where your kids can show off their stuff and learn new moves.



oak island

Since traveling with pets has become hugely popular, note that Oak Island is also a paradise for dogs. Named as one of the state's most dog-friendly beaches, Oak Island has designated areas on the beach where unleashed dogs are permitted from mid-October to mid-March.

WOOFERS LOVE WAVES

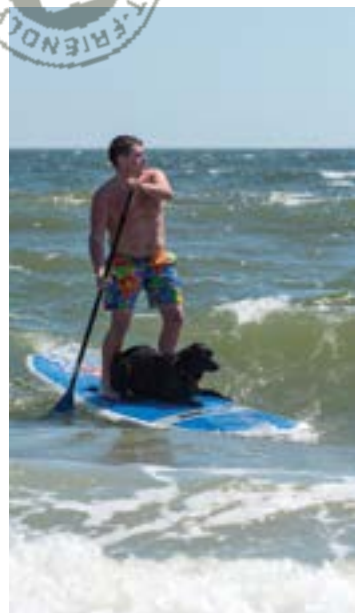
Dogs are family, too. If your canine is giving you that look lately, he just might be telling you he needs to stick his nose in the surf in NC's Brunswick Islands.




TURTLE TREKS

Mind the yellow tape. Our barrier islands are the loggerhead sea turtle's chosen nesting site. We have an entire support society dedicated to protecting these amazing creatures and helping them on their journey to the sea. You'll also find a seasonal series of Turtle Talks for the vacationer interested in learning about these fascinating creatures.

The largest of our barrier islands, Oak Island famously offers the amenities of a large fishing community with two fishing piers and several boat ramps. As well as four kayak ramps and more than 60 public beach access points. In addition, recent beach restoration has inundated the shoreline of this island with an abundance of shells for the picking.



A man and a young girl are sitting on a wooden pier, fishing. The man is wearing a white t-shirt and a tan bucket hat. The girl is wearing a light green t-shirt and pink shorts. They are both holding fishing rods. The pier is made of weathered wood and has a railing. The ocean is in the background, with a small white boat visible in the distance. The sky is blue with some clouds.

*Once we came to Oak Island,
we never went to another beach.
It feels like home when we visit.*

Wanda

15 trips to NC's Brunswick Islands

YAUPON BACK NOW, Y'HEAR?

Yaupon holly is a plant native to the maritime forests of NC's Brunswick Islands, including the wooded areas of Caswell Beach.

It's easy to recognize Caswell Beach. It's pretty hard to disguise a lighthouse, which, at 153 feet, is the tallest thing for miles around. A climb to the observation deck of the Oak Island Lighthouse provides a unique perspective on our barrier island ecosystem.

*It is the only place
we wish to be
when we need
a break to relax.*

Jettie

visiting twice a year for the past 5 years

to detach from the mainland and a great place to wander. As revealed from the lighthouse deck, the marsh side is a maze of waterways and inlets waiting to be explored by kayak or shallow draftboat. This estuarine wilderness is a nursery for birds, fish and other wildlife.



The most sparsely inhabited of our beaches, Caswell Beach is both a wonderful place



WOOD STORK

Mycteria americana

Look for this endangered North American native in the marshes and swamps, feeding on a variety of fish. Predominately white, this wading bird stands up to 45 inches tall and has a large, heavy bill.

Caswell Beach is home to its own golf course. While it feels remote, this sparsely settled beach is only minutes away from restaurants, shops and other vacation amenities.

caswell



beach

BRIGHT & SHINY

Four 2.5 million candlepower lenses.
Four one-second bursts every
10 seconds. That's the signature pattern
of the Oak Island Lighthouse,
the newest of the NC lighthouses.



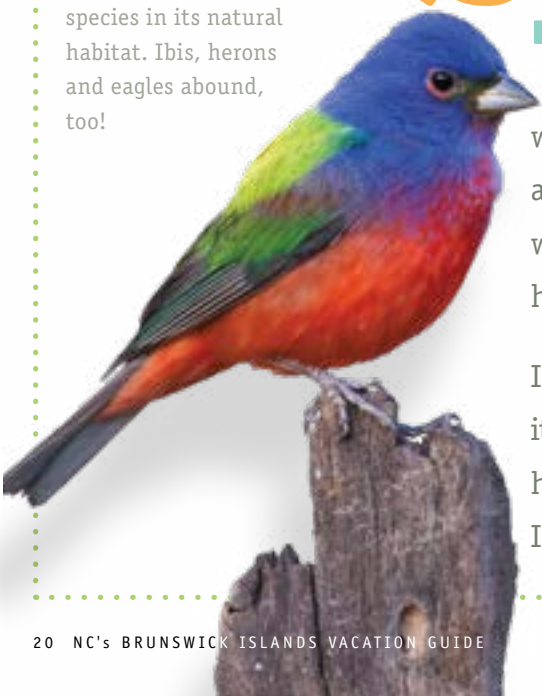
PAINTED FEATHERS

You can book a Painted Bunting tour to try and witness this remarkable species in its natural habitat. Ibis, herons and eagles abound, too!

bald head

Talk about seclusion. Bald Head Island is a place so detached, the only way to get there is by the beloved ferry from Southport. Once you've arrived, your means of conveyance is by golf cart or bicycle on paths that wind their way through the dunes and cabbage palms to elegant beach houses nestled among the natural vegetation.

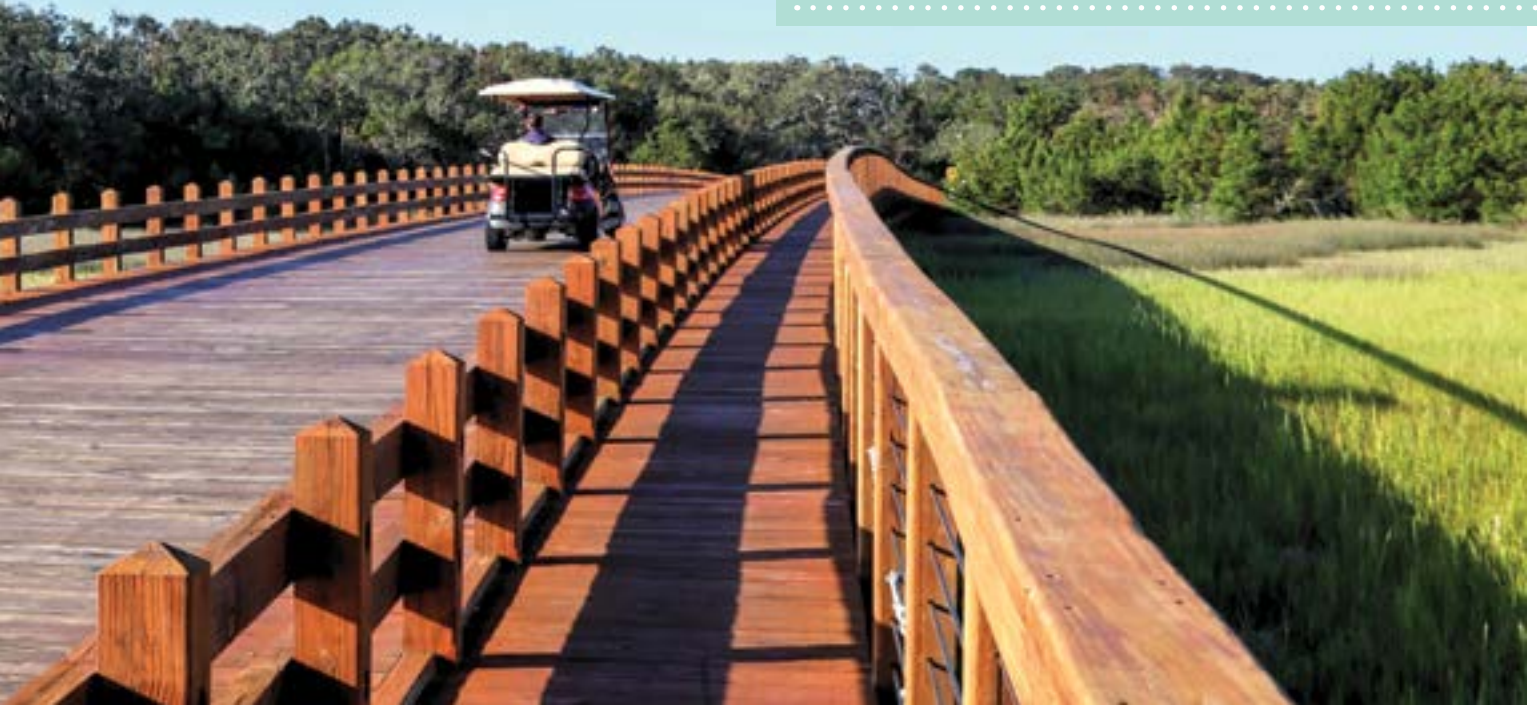
If this island feels like a nature preserve, that's because it is. Fully 10,000 of its 12,000 acres are a wildlife habitat set aside for stewardship by the Bald Head Island Conservancy. As a result, the forests and marshes



*Lets you escape the hectic day-to-day
of reality of life to a happier, calmer,
back to one-on-one family time.*

Jon

5 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



island

are home to an astonishing number of birds and other maritime denizens. The beach is also among the county's most extensive sea turtle nesting sites.




Nature isn't quite everything. Old Baldy Lighthouse has warded off ships and attracted visitors since 1817. You'll find needed creature comforts like restaurants and shopping, as well as fresh seafood, a marina, and one of Brunswick's premier golf courses.



SPEED LIMIT

Life downshifts out here. You'll learn to love that, especially since your choices are driving a golf cart, riding a bike or stretching your legs.



*I honestly cannot stay away.
The atmosphere is addicting.*

Anne

probably over 100 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

Only a mile from the port of Wilmington, Leland has many of the conveniences of its larger neighbor. But not the crowds. For this reason, it's a great place to visit whether you're playing golf at one of our championship courses or visiting the Battleship NORTH CAROLINA.

leland

Nestled against the Brunswick River, Leland and surrounding areas are a haven for those who love paddlesports and natural beauty. Head to the nearby Brunswick Nature Park or the Brunswick Riverwalk Park where visitors can spot osprey,

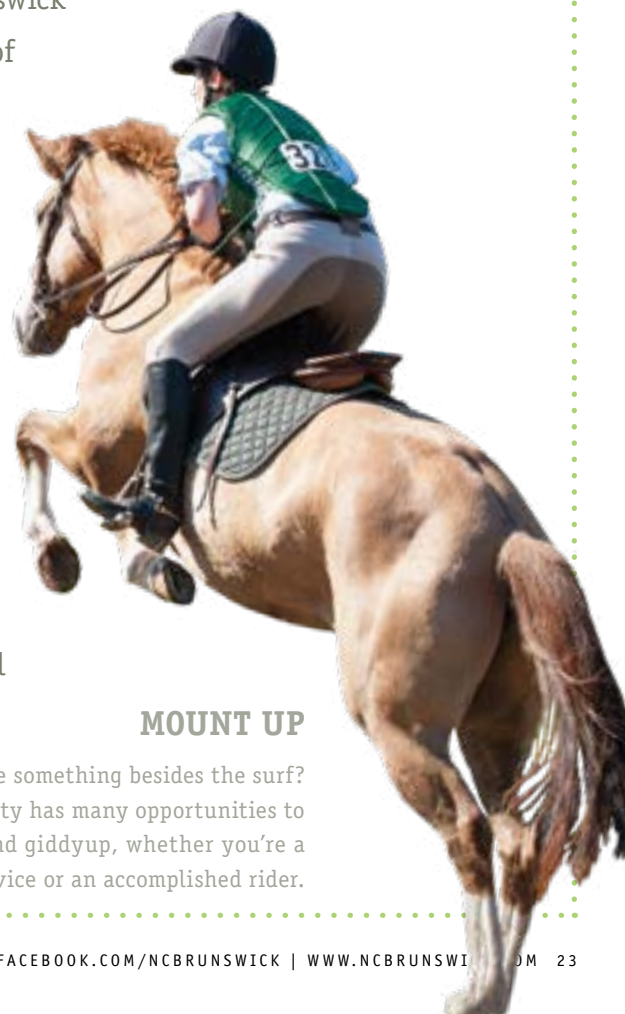
herons and eagles in the air, or connect with nature through the water along the Brunswick Paddle Trail or from one of many small boat or kayak access points. It's a completely different environment from the barrier islands.

Leland combines the laid-back vibe that comes with being close to the beach with the bustle of being a suburb

of a historic port city. Shopping abounds, as well as local eateries and hotels. Discover why being in the heart of everything gives Leland a beat of its own.

COASTAL GOLF *line it up!*

Brunswick County is not just home to more than 30 golf courses, some right in the heart of Leland, in addition to our other islands and towns. A couple of famed course architects, Tim Cate and Rick Robbins, have made their homes here, too.

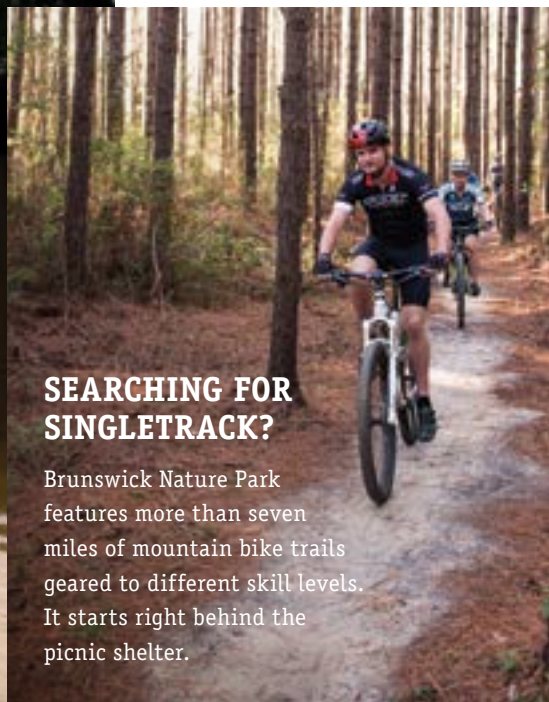


MOUNT UP

Want to ride something besides the surf? Our county has many opportunities to saddle up and giddyup, whether you're a novice or an accomplished rider.

SEARCHING FOR SINGLETRACK?

Brunswick Nature Park features more than seven miles of mountain bike trails geared to different skill levels. It starts right behind the picnic shelter.





HUNT AND PICK

Scouring the antique shops of Shallotte can be as consuming a passion as searching the beaches for the perfect shell specimen.

shallotte

HOW WE ROLL

Whenever your gang needs to be spared another day in the sun, head to Shallotte. Whether you spend it combing the shops or cooling off with popcorn, a drink and a movie, you'll find what you're looking for in this lively town.

Beachgoers know that Shallotte is essential because it has, well, all the essentials. For decades, this town has been known as the place to stock up on any of the necessities before you head for the sand. Because it's close to all the barrier islands, it's also the ideal place to take a break from the sun.

Shallotte has the fun stuff like arcades, laser tag, antique shops, bowling and movies –all the makings of an afternoon or evening that will bring a smile to the face of any sun-drenched family member.

Got a tee time? Players know that Shallotte is in a good central location for the championship golf courses in the county. Which makes it the perfect place to grab anything you might need on the way to play, or refreshments on the way back to your chosen beach community.

*I love the friendliness
of the locals.*

Karen

15 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

TIME OUT

Shallotte's clock is an apt reminder of a) the correct time and b) the fact that while you're here time doesn't make a particle of difference.



FUN ON TAP

The Brunswick craft beer scene combines advanced brewing technology with master brewers committed to developing local traditions.





*When you visit,
there is an atmosphere
that's hard to explain.
Our family "gets it."*

Jacqueline

75 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands since 1978

Like many of our towns, Southport has a recent claim to fame. *Coastal Living* magazine named this historic maritime town "Best Beach Town in America for the Fourth of July." Of course, it helps when you stretch the nation's birthday into multiple days of celebrating! TripAdvisor agrees that Southport is one of the "top places you have to visit."

It's not hard to figure. Stroll down to the Waterfront Park along the Cape Fear River and claim a spot on one of the swings. Soon, you'll be moving to the rhythm of the boats bobbing in the harbor of what many agree is the state's most

CLASSIC CRAFT

Southport's Yacht Basin is a prominent stop for boats traveling on the Intracoastal Waterway, as well as the stage for events like the annual Wooden Boat Show.





Southport

BROWN PELICAN *Pelecanus occidentalis*

This social flier nests in flocks and skims the waves searching for fish. It prefers to feed by diving from the air rather than fishing from the surface.

picturesque seaside town. If scenes look familiar, it's because of the leading role Southport has played in many movies.

Great dining options line the Yacht Basin and downtown area, which also make great backdrops for a selfie that'll make your friends envious. There are also historic sites and museums, from pre-Revolutionary Fort Johnston to the NC Maritime Museum.

AND ... ACTION!

On a self-guided tour around Southport, you can see scenes and memorabilia from some of your favorite movies or TV shows. Stop by the Fort Johnston-Southport Museum and Visitors' Center and step into the movie room for more.



Calabash is a town, a style of seafood, and a freewheeling fishing spirit that's easy to sense just strolling around the docks as the trawlers come in after a day on the waves. Many of the storied seafood restaurants still line River Road as it descends to the wharves and the marsh.

Rather catch your own? With its easy access to both the Intracoastal Waterway and the open ocean, Calabash has many good fishing charter options. Or treat the kids to the excitement of a dolphin cruise.

This charming fishing village offers seafood markets where you can select your dinner from the day's catch. As well as shops where you can pick up anything from a one-of-a-kind gift for someone back home to ice cream made right on the premises.

That's why a trip to Calabash has been a must for vacationing families for decades.

CATCH THIS

No matter where you're staying, Calabash is a great place to either catch your own dinner or get it fresh to cook yourself.



SEAFOOD CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

Shrimp, clams, fish and oysters, coated in a light batter and quickly fried to lock in their freshness. It's become a famed style of preparing seafood that's often imitated, but only here will you find the original.


GREAT EGRET *Ardea alba*

This popular resident is known for its all-white plumage. Ubiquitous in our marshes, the egret can stand up to 3 feet tall and has a wingspan over 5 feet.



calabash





*It has been our
family reunion
destination since 1984.*

Sarah

9 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



*After the first visit,
we've been drawn back.
Everything appealed
to us.*

Jacquelyn
10 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

Of course, the mainland isn't one place, exactly. It's many. The mainland is both the connective tissue of our barrier islands and home of our earliest settlers. So, you'll find expressed both the free spirit of coastal people and evidence of our rich past.

For example, Varnamtown reveals an interesting waterfront on the Lockwood Folly River, where you can see local fishermen in action. Winnabow is home to the county's original settlement, Brunswick Town, which can be experienced at the Civil War Trail site, Fort Anderson. While you're there, be sure to look upon the past at the historic ruins of St. Philips Church.



CHOMP!

Who needs bug killer when you've got these? The Green Swamp is a wonderful place to find carnivorous plants like the Venus Flytrap in the wild.

mainland

At the Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve or the Green Swamp Preserve, you'll discover the perfect place for observing an array of plants and bird species, some rare or endangered. Sampling the pleasures of the mainland offers just the right contrast to days spent playing in the waves or stretched out on the sand doing absolutely nothing.



TREASURE TROVE

Pirates were among the original visitors to the barrier islands. Today, you just might find treasure in one of many gift or consignment shops throughout our islands and towns.



Make your own to-do list

Finding something for your family to do in NC's Brunswick Islands is easy. It's boredom that's difficult. There are simply so many activities that run the full emotional range from goosebumps to wonder to sheer relaxation. That's one reason folks keep coming back. For a complete listing, see the pages that follow or visit ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do.



Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

Introduce a little education to your beach vacation. For a fascinating dose of local history, spend the day aboard the NORTH CAROLINA. The self-guided tour of this battleship begins with an orientation film, then takes you through nine decks before concluding at the Ship Store. Afterward, enjoy a picnic lunch in the riverside Battleship Park. Free parking. Open every day. 1 Battleship Road, Wilmington. Admission charged. 910.399.9100, www.battleshipnc.com.



Bird Island

The Bird Island Reserve has pristine sandy white beaches, high natural dunes and more than 1,200 acres of beautiful salt marsh and tidal creeks. This natural area is one of 10 sites that make up the North Carolina Coastal Reserve & National Estuarine Research Reserve. Visitors are invited to enjoy this perfect sanctuary, visit the Kindred Spirit mailbox, learn about sand dune wildlife and experience the history and habitats of the beautiful coastal preserve. 40th Street and West Main Street, Sunset Beach. Free admission. www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/bird-island/118.



Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve

The preserve is home to the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, a variety of carnivorous plants like the Venus Flytrap and more than 400 vascular plant species. The nature trail allows visitors to walk through a portion of the more than 6,000 fragile acres that make up the preserve. 1 Leeds Road, Boiling Spring Lakes. Free admission. 910.395.5000, www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/boiling-spring-lakes-preserve/116.

Brunswick Community College Odell Williamson Auditorium

Catch a show performed by local players and regional, national and international traveling acts. Located on the campus of Brunswick Community College on Hwy. 17 in Bolivia, the Odell Williamson Auditorium is home to numerous productions throughout the year. 150 College Road NE, Bolivia. Admission charged. 910.755.7416, www.bccowa.com.

Brunswick Islands Birding Trail

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





Brunswick Nature Park

The park encompasses 911 acres of wonderful wilderness that provide a dynamic mix of vegetation, wildlife, ecosystems, vistas, wetlands and waterways. Enjoy hiking trails, biking trails and a kayak/canoe launch site. 40-by-40 picnic pavilion available for rent. Open from 8 a.m. until dusk. 2601 River Road (NC 133), Winnabow. Free admission. 910.253.2670, www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/brunswick-nature-park/131.

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

Explore the excavated ruins of one of North Carolina's oldest settlements. Founded in 1726, this colonial settlement is as mysterious as it is captivating. Stop by the Visitor Center, and see exhibits about life in a colonial town and artifacts gathered from the ruins. ADA ¾ mile trail around site. 8884 St. Philip's Road SE, Winnabow. Free admission. 910.371.6613, www.historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/brunswick-town-fort-anderson.

Canoeing and Kayaking

In addition to more than 40 miles of ocean shoreline, the Brunswick Islands offer miles of black water, brackish creeks and rivers, the Intracoastal Waterway and salt marshes, all providing for a variety of paddling experiences. Surf kayaking and sea kayaking, along with canoeing and kayaking in these local creeks and rivers, offer unmatched opportunities to view the natural wonders and wildlife habitats of the area. Visit www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/attractions-activities/paddlesports.



Dining

Grab a bite – good food is what we do best. Come enjoy world-famous Calabash cooking featuring fresh catches delivered from local docks. Fresh seafood and so much more, right here in the Brunswick Islands. Visit www.ncbrunswick.com/restaurants to learn more.



Ev-Henwood Nature Preserve

Connect with the natural world at this 174-acre coastal forest research and nature preserve. You'll discover miles of walking trails and limitless native flora and fauna. 6150 Rock Creek Road NE, near Town Creek. Free admission. 910.962.4191, www.uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/ev-henwood.

Fishing and Boating

Reel in the big catch and this evening's dinner all in an afternoon. Here, you'll find surf fishing and pier fishing, along with charters from local sea captains. For more information on charters, cruises, marinas, boat rentals and fishing tournaments, visit www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/fishing.

Fort Johnston and Southport Museum

Southport Museum and Visitors' Center is located inside the Fort Johnston Garrison House and features exhibits, original documents and historical artifacts about Southport and Fort Johnston. Fort Johnston was originally built by the British in 1749 to protect the region from Spanish and French attacks; it was conveyed to the City of Southport in 2006. 203 E. Bay Street, Southport. Free admission. 910.457.7927, www.southportnc.org/visitors-and-tourism.

Green Swamp Preserve



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

Nature Conservancy. 910.395.5000, www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/green-swamp-preserve/67.

Ingram Planetarium

The stars always shine at Ingram Planetarium! Visit the free Paul Dennis Science Hall with its interactive displays. Enjoy a movie and live star show in the state-of-the-art Sky Theater. Attend special programs or lectures. 7625 High Market Street, Sunset Beach. Per-show admission charged for Sky Theater Shows. 910.575.0033, www.museumplanetarium.org.

Museum of Coastal Carolina

Walk through and see life-size replicas of marine animals and enjoy a touch tank with live sea animals. View wildlife dioramas of coastal Carolina plants and animals. See collections of seashells and shark jaws. Dig for shark teeth in the outdoor fossil pit, or attend special programs and lectures. 21 East Second Street, Ocean Isle Beach. Admission charged for non-members. 910.579.1016, www.museumplanetarium.org.

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

Experience hands-on history with interactive exhibits for all ages. Discover the first indigenous peoples who fished local waters. Learn about the sailors who fought multiple wars on our waterfront and the importance of local fisheries and the families that made their livelihood from it. Adult, children, and family programs are held year-round. Open Tuesday – Saturday, 9am-5pm. 204 E. Moore Street. Free admission. 910.477.5150, www.ncmaritimemuseumsouthport.com.



Oak Island Lighthouse

Tour the state's newest lighthouse, located on Caswell Beach. Open for second level tours from 10am-2pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays, Memorial Day to Labor Day. Tours to the top, up 131 metal steps to the outside balcony, are available year-round but must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. 300A Caswell Beach Road, Caswell Beach. Free Admission. www.oakislandlighthouse.org.

Oak Island Nature Center

Enjoy a visit with Mother Nature. The center offers a wide range of educational activities for kids and adults, including an interactive Talking Trees Walking Trail, fossil exhibits and animal displays native to the Oak Island community. Open Memorial Day – Labor Day. 5202 E Yacht Drive, Oak Island. Free admission. www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/oak-island-nature-center/172.

Old Baldy Lighthouse and Smith Island Museum

Visit the state's oldest lighthouse, Old Baldy, and the Smith Island Museum, located in a replica of the 1850s keeper's cottage. Half-day excursion package tours available. 101 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island. Admission charged. Call 910.457.5003 for ferry information. Call 910.457.7481 for Old Baldy Lighthouse and tours, www.oldbaldy.org.

Old Bridge Museum

See the bridge and Bridge Tender's house from the historic swing bridge that once connected Sunset Beach to the mainland. Includes re-creation of the Bridge Tender's office. Seasonal hours. 109 Shoreline Drive West, Sunset Beach. Free admission. 910.363.6585, www.theoldbridge.org.



Silver Coast Winery

Sip on a variety of wines at Brunswick County's first and only winery, located just inland of Ocean Isle Beach. Tour the winery and learn about winemaking step by step, from the grapevine to the wine cellar. Wine tasting available. 6680 Barbeque Road, Ocean Isle Beach. Free admission. 910.287.2800, www.silvercoastwinery.com.



Southport Trail

Take a self-guided walking tour through historic Southport. See churches and homes dating from the early 1700s, as well as landmarks like City Hall, the Old Brunswick Jail, Old Smithville Burial Ground and River Pilot's Tower. Contact the Southport Visitors' Center at 910.457.7927.



The Swamp Park

Explore this unique and beautiful natural environment by air or water. Aerial adventure park includes a challenge course with three levels of difficulty. Soar through the treetops high above the swamp on a 10-station zipline tour. Or, take a guided cruise through the cypress swamp where gators, beavers, wading birds and other wildlife await. 5550 Watts Road, Ocean Isle Beach. Admission varies by activity. 910.687.6100, www.shallotteriverswamppark.com. **see our ad on page 60**

WELCOME CENTERS

Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce

800.426.6644

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

North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce

910.383.0553

497 Olde Waterford Way Suite 202, Belville, NC 28451
nbchamber@nbchamber.net
www.nbchamberofcommerce.com

Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce

800.457.6964

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

Southeastern Welcome Center

910.754.2505

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

Southport Visitors' Center & Museum

910.457.7927

203 East Bay Street
Southport, NC 28461
tourism@southportnc.org
www.southportnc.org/visitors-and-tourism



FUN FOR KIDS

The Swamp Park

Skateboard park

Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

Brunswick Nature Park

Oak Island Nature Center

Oak Island Lighthouse

Old Baldy Lighthouse

Surf lessons

Golf lessons

Ingram Planetarium

Kayak excursions

Adventure cruises

Crabbing at low tide

Splash Pad

Go-karting

Miniature golf

NC Maritime Museum

at Southport

Museum of Coastal Carolina

Old Bridge Museum

Day camps

Fishing charters

Pier fishing

Ferry rides

Disc golf

Biking



We know what makes kids tick

"Are we there yet?" This much is certain, when you cross the Intracoastal Waterway to one of our barrier islands, children just know. The excitement of exploring tidal pools, games on the beach, skimming the surf on a boogie board – these things never get old.

Nor does the fascination with scuttling crabs, swimming dolphins or heading out after nightfall to witness your first sea turtle experience. Besides, there are castles to be built, bikes to be ridden, kites to be flown and above all, memories to be made.

*It is better than any
other beach I have been to.
I love the vibe.*

Colleen

18 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



If children – or parents – need a breather, expand your child's stargazing skills with a trip to our planetarium. Take a trip back in time with a tour of historic Southport. Walk through the North Carolina Maritime Museum or Museum of Coastal Carolina to experience maritime culture and natural history. NC's Brunswick Islands is where it's easy for parents to let kids be kids.

For even more kid-friendly options, visit www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/things-to-do-with-kids.

BEACH ESSENTIALS

Don't forget these items for your next trip to NC's Brunswick Islands.

With 45 miles of coastline, you're assured more beach for your blanket.

Beach bag

Beach blanket

Beach towels

Beach chairs

Beach cart
with wheels

Cooler
with wheels

Beach umbrellas

Beach toys

Swimming
goggles

Floats

Boogie, skim
& surf boards

Fishing poles

Waterproof
sunscreen

Sunglasses

Waterproof
camera

Flashlights

Rental Homes By far, the most common accommodations to be found in the Brunswick Islands are the many house and condo rentals available. And there really is no end to the size, style, amenities and locations of these rentals. Bring the entire family for a reunion – even the family dog – or keep it to a simple gathering with close family or friends. Homes come with swimming pools, beach views, commercial-quality kitchens and much more. Whatever your choice, a rental home gives you total privacy and togetherness like no other accommodation.

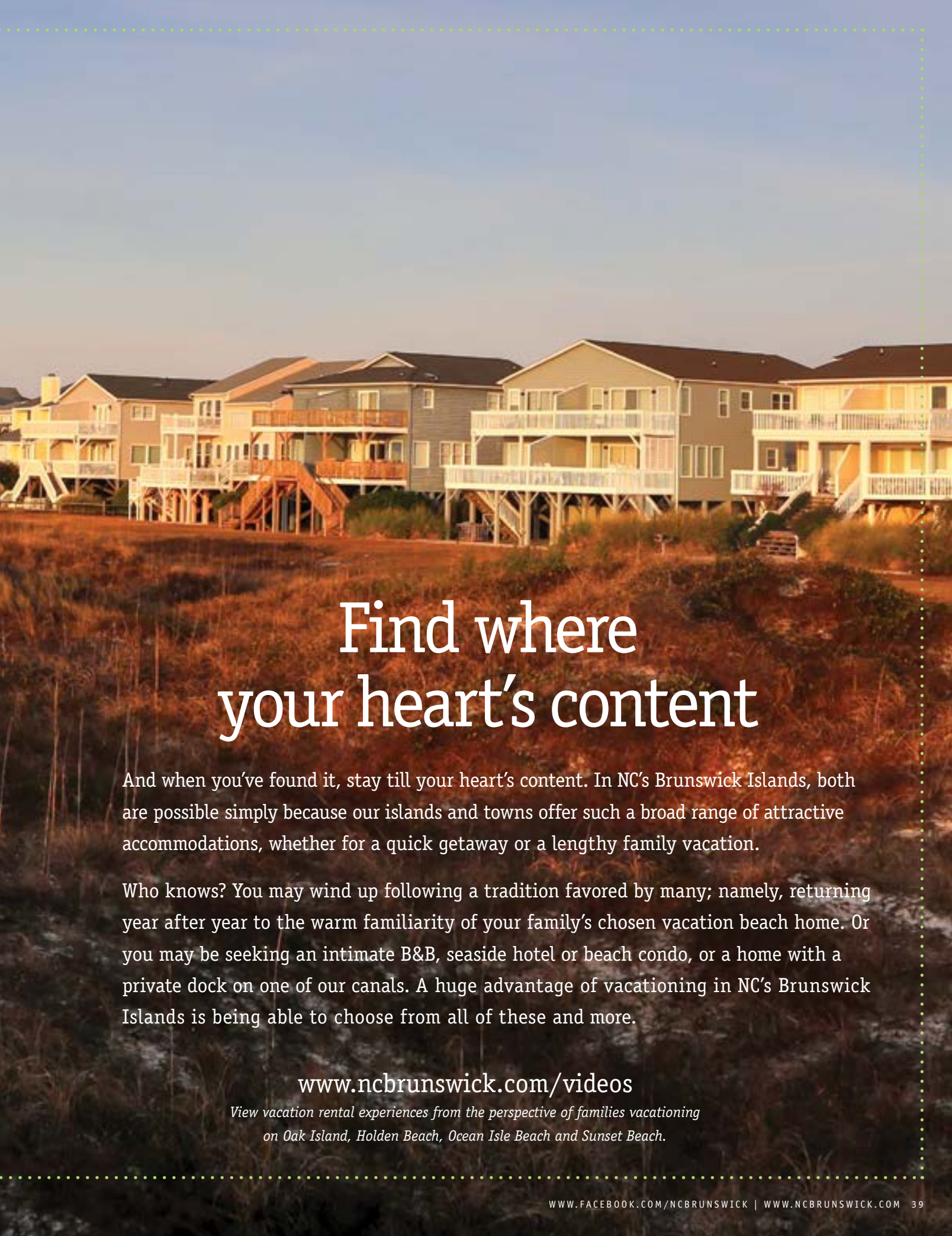


Bed-And-Breakfasts Like most B&Bs, those found in the Brunswick Islands will definitely charm you with their atmosphere. But unlike those found in other vacation destinations, these add to the surrounding island beauty. Enjoy a full breakfast together before embarking on a big day or simply relax in a garden or on a porch as the kids bike and play. Intimate, personal and nostalgic, a B&B vacation in the Brunswick Islands is truly like no other.



Hotels And Inns At the turn of a key, you'll have access to everything the Brunswick Islands offers. You'll find hotels to fit any style and budget. Relax in luxury at a beautiful resort. If you're planning an event, such as a wedding or reunion, many hotels offer catering services, banquet rooms and all the amenities to leave you in want of nothing. On the beach, on the Intracoastal or on the mainland, we'll have a hotel or inn to match your style. Many of the most memorable places to stay are the ones that have been here the longest, small inns that have been owned and operated by the same families for decades. These "mom-and-pops" are part of what makes the Brunswick Islands vacation so charming.





Find where your heart's content

And when you've found it, stay till your heart's content. In NC's Brunswick Islands, both are possible simply because our islands and towns offer such a broad range of attractive accommodations, whether for a quick getaway or a lengthy family vacation.

Who knows? You may wind up following a tradition favored by many; namely, returning year after year to the warm familiarity of your family's chosen vacation beach home. Or you may be seeking an intimate B&B, seaside hotel or beach condo, or a home with a private dock on one of our canals. A huge advantage of vacationing in NC's Brunswick Islands is being able to choose from all of these and more.

www.ncbrunswick.com/videos

View vacation rental experiences from the perspective of families vacationing on Oak Island, Holden Beach, Ocean Isle Beach and Sunset Beach.

Accommodations

Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Bed-and-Breakfasts

Bell-Clemmons House

313 East Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910-477-6242
www.bell-clemmons.com
3 rooms • mainland • breakfast
see our ad on page 67

Best Western

360 Whiteville Road NW
Shallotte, NC 28470
910-754-3044
www.bestwestern.com
58 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Best Western PLUS Westgate Inn & Suites

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

Brunswick Beaches Camping Resort

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

Brunswick Plantation Resort and Golf

380 Brunswick Drive NW
Calabash, NC 28467
1.800.332.8576 • 910.685.7979
www.brunswickplantation.com
343 rooms • mainland 🌞❤️
see our ad on page 61

Captain Newton's Inn

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

Captain's Cove Motel

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

Causeway Inn

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

Comfort Suites

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

Continental Condominiums

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

Days Inn

3670 Express Drive
Shallotte, NC 28470
1.888.440.2021 • 910.754.3300
www.daysinn.com
61 rooms • mainland • breakfast
🐾

Gray Gull Motel

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

Hampton Inn & Suites

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

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

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

Holiday Inn Express- Leland/Wilmington Area

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

The Inn at River Oaks

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

Island Resort and Inn

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

Islander Inn

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

LaPolena Bed and Breakfast

201 River Drive
Southport, NC 28461
910-477-6125 • 503-780-0040
www.lapolenabnb.com
4 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Marsh Harbour Inn

21 Keelson Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
833-644-2441 • 910.454.0451
www.themarshharbourinn.com
12 rooms • island • breakfast ❤️

Oak Island Extended Stay

5611 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.1147
www.betterbeachrentals.com
19 rooms • island 🐾

Oak Island Inn

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

Ocean Crest Motel

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

Ocean Isle Inn

37 West First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.352.5988 • 910.579.0750
www.oceanisleinn.com
70 rooms • oceanfront • breakfast
🌞❤️ **see our ad on page 67**

River Hotel of Southport

704 East Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.294.6070 • 855.624.6835
www.riverhotelsouthport.com
70 rooms • mainland

Riverside Motel

103 West Bay Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.457.6986
8 rooms • mainland

Robert Ruark Inn

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

Southport Inn

119 North Davis Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.713.5799
www.thesouthportinn.com
3 rooms • mainland • breakfast

The Sunset Inn

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

SureStay by Best Western

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

The Winds Resort Beach Club

310 East First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.334.3581 • 910.579.6275
www.thewinds.com
86 rooms • oceanfront • breakfast
🐾

Wingate by Wyndham

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

Cottages and Condos

Alan Holden Vacations

128 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.6061
www.holden-beach.com
see our ad on page 64

Bald Head Island Limited Vacation Rentals

6 Marina Wynd
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
1.877.344.6674 • 910-457-5002
www.visitbhi.com
see our ad on page 64

Bald Head Island Rentals

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

Better Beach Rentals

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

Coastal Vacation Resorts Holden Beach

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

Coastal Vacation Resorts Oak Island

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

Cooke Realty

1 Causeway Drive
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.NC.BEACH • 910.579.3535
www.cookerealty.com

Craig Realty

3262 Holden Beach Road SW
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.2628 • 910.842.2777
www.craigrealtyhb.com

Hobbs Realty

114 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
1.800.655.3367 • 910.842.2002
www.hobbsrealty.com
see our ad on page 68

Holden Beach Fishing Pier Room Rentals

441 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.6483

Holden Beach Vacations

123 Ocean Boulevard West
Holden Beach, NC 28462
1.800.842.6949 • 910.842.6949
www.holdenbeachvacations.com
see our ad on page 65

Isle Sea You

44 East Second Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.866.ISLE.SEA • 1.888.623.2647
www.isle-sea-you.com
see our ad on page 67

Margaret Rudd & Assoc., Inc., Realtors®

210 Country Club Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1.800.486.5441 • 910.278.6523
www.rudd.com
see our ad on page 62

McClure Realty Vacations

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

Oak Island Accommodations

8901 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1-888-288-3694
www.oakislandgetaway.com
see our ad on page 63

Proactive Vacations

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

Sloane Realty Vacations

16 Causeway Drive SW
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.843.6044 • 910.579.6216
www.sloanevacations.com
see our ad on page 66

Sloane Realty Vacations

420 Sunset Boulevard South
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.348.7138 • 910.579.6500
www.sloanevacations.com
see our ad on page 66

Southport Realty, Inc.

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

St. James Properties

P.O. Box 10879
Southport, NC 28461
1.800.245.3871 • 910.253.4734

Sunset Properties

419 South Sunset Boulevard
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.976.8204 • 910.575.8662
www.sunsetbeachnc.com
see our ad on page 66

Sunset Properties

100 Causeway Drive, Suite 2
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.866.976.8204 • 910.575.8662
www.vacationrentalsatoceanisle.com
see our ad on page 66

Sunset Vacations

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

Tiffany's Beach Properties

2 B Merchant's Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
910.457.0544
www.tiffanysbeachproperties.com

Williamson Realty Vacations

119 Causeway Drive SW
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.727.9222 • 910.579.2373
www.williamsonrealtyvacations.com
see our ad on page 65

The Winds Resort Cottages

310 East First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.334.3581 • 910.579.6275
www.thewinds.com



Golf Packagers



Pet Friendly

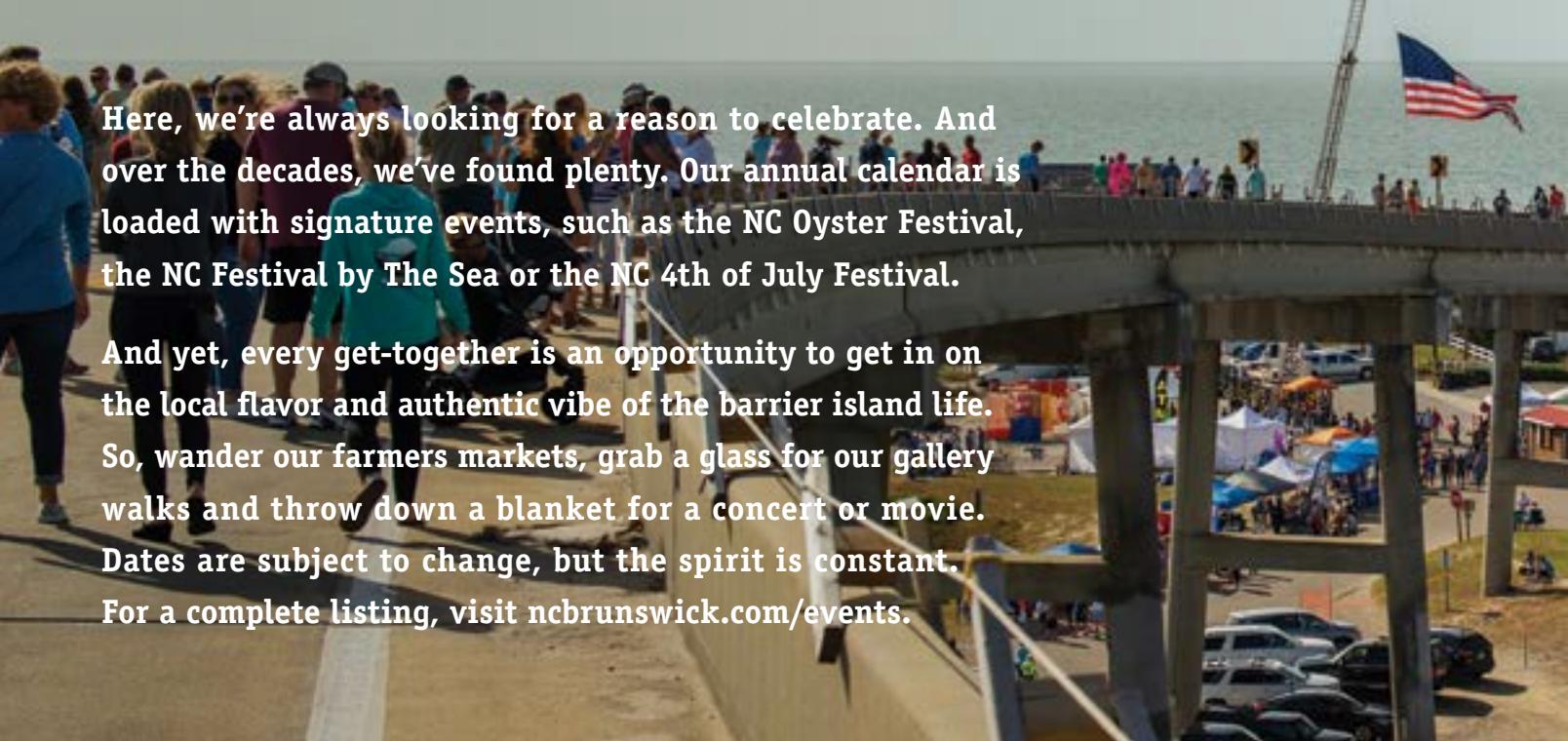


Wedding Packages

*Great beaches, and I can always
find a rental in my price range.
There is plenty to do on the islands,
as well as nearby areas.
These islands never disappoint.*

Mary

4 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



Here, we're always looking for a reason to celebrate. And over the decades, we've found plenty. Our annual calendar is loaded with signature events, such as the NC Oyster Festival, the NC Festival by The Sea or the NC 4th of July Festival.

And yet, every get-together is an opportunity to get in on the local flavor and authentic vibe of the barrier island life. So, wander our farmers markets, grab a glass for our gallery walks and throw down a blanket for a concert or movie. Dates are subject to change, but the spirit is constant. For a complete listing, visit ncbrunswick.com/events.

January

Martin Luther King Jr.
March & Celebration
Navassa

Martin Luther King Jr.
March & Celebration
Southport

The Silver Coast Bridal Show
Ocean Isle Beach

February

Anniversary of the Fall of Fort Anderson
Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

March

Spring Art Show
Southport

Intercultural Festival
Bolivia

NC Rice Festival
Leland

Bikes, Boots
and BBQ
Belville



April

Southport Spring Festival
Southport

Easter Egg Hunts
Multiple Locations

Oak Island Lighthouse
5K, 10K & Half Marathon
Caswell Beach

Day at the Docks Festival
Holden Beach

A Taste of Calabash Festival
Calabash

May

Far Out Shoot Out
Ocean Isle Beach

Memorial Day Observance
Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

Free Summer Concert
& Movie Series
Multiple Locations

Summer Farmers and Artisans Market
Multiple Locations

June

Jolly Mon King Classic
Ocean Isle Beach

Free Summer Concert & Movie Series
Multiple Locations

Summer Farmers and Artisans Market
Multiple Locations

July

NC 4th of July Festival
Southport & Oak Island

Homecoming Parade
Celebration
Navassa

Ocean Isle Beach 4th
of July Celebration
Ocean Isle Beach

Calabash Fireworks
Calabash

Free Summer Concert
& Movie Series
Multiple Locations

Summer Farmers
and Artisans Market
Multiple Locations



Calendar of events



August

National Lighthouse Weekend Celebration
Bald Head Island

Leland Under the Lights
Leland

Annual Arts & Crafts Festival
Oak Island

Free Summer Concert & Movie Series
Multiple Locations

Summer Farmers and Artisans Market
Multiple Locations

September

Labor Day Surf Off
Oak Island

Founder's Day
Leland

Free Summer Concert
& Movie Series
Multiple Locations

October

U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament
Southport

39th Annual NC Oyster
Festival
Ocean Isle Beach

Fall Brawl
King Classic
Ocean Isle Beach

Sunset at Sunset
Sunset Beach

NC Festival by the Sea
Holden Beach

NCKFA Oak Island Classic
Oak Island

Port Brunswick Day
Brunswick Town



November

Ocean Isle Beach Flotilla
Ocean Isle Beach

Annual Ocean Isle Beach Christmas
Parade and Tree Lighting
Ocean Isle Beach

Southport Wooden Boat Show
Southport

December

Christmas by the Sea Parade
Oak Island

Holden Beach
Christmas Tree Lighting
Holden Beach

Shallotte Christmas
Parade
Shallotte

NC Christmas Festival
& Parade
Leland

Calabash Christmas Tree Lighting
Calabash

Southport Christmas Tour of Homes
Southport

Southport Christmas
Flotilla
Southport

18th Century Christmas
Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson



Tie the knot on the



Some people give their heart to a place. Some wind up giving their heart at a place. Over the decades, we've developed an affinity for those who choose to say their vows here. We know how to make your wedding not just memorable but an event that lives up to your vision while being both joyful and carefree for you and your guests.

With miles of shoreline, we can help you choose the perfect site for a wedding right at the surf's edge. Or say your vows at a landmark location, such as a historic lighthouse or Southport's Community Center, with its stunning views of the Cape Fear River.



sand

*My happy place. I was proposed to
and became engaged
on the beach at Ocean Isle Beach.
My love story lives here.*

Kelli

10+ visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

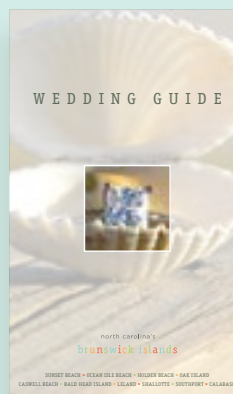
WEDDING VENUES

Bald Head Island Club
The Barn at Rock Creek
Brick Landing Plantation
The Brunswick Center at Supply
Brunswick Plantation
Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson
Carolina National
Endless Summer Sailing Chater
Ingram Planetarium
Islander Inn
The Isles Restaurant & Tiki Bar
Lockwood Folly Country Club
Magnolia Greens Golf Course
Museum of Coastal Carolina
Ocean Isle Inn
Old Baldy Lighthouse
The Pearl Golf Links
Shoals Club
Silver Coast Winery
Southport Community Building
The Sunset Inn
The Village Chapel
of Bald Head Island

No Better Place to Unite – and Reunite

You'll find the same amount of heart on our shores for beloved family and friends looking for the ideal place to host memorable reunions. The traditions, the space to spread out and relax, and the laid-back atmosphere, ideal for reconnecting with those you hold dear – it's all here, waiting for the next family to begin or continue a long-standing tradition.

Whether for a wedding or reunion, the services you need are all right here, delivered by people who want to make your day indelible. Catering, flowers, planners, dresses, personalized gifts – we leave nothing to chance. And you have accommodations for a group of virtually any size. After all, love is what we're all about.



NC's Brunswick Islands has everything you need to create a memorable wedding. Once you've got the ring, visit www.NCBrunswickWeddings.com for your free wedding guide. It's a bridal trove of useful information for planning the beach wedding of your dreams.

BRUNSWICK ISLANDS TIDES

Be sure to visit NCBrunswick.com to find the local tide chart. Use it to find the best times of the day to fish the Brunswick Islands.





We're a 10 on fishing's scale

It doesn't matter if your name is Ahab or if you've never baited a hook. This is a fishing spot like no other. The combination of local estuaries and the Gulf Stream just offshore makes NC's Brunswick Islands a sport fishing playground.

Our local charter captains are the key to blue water adventure, whether inshore or 45 miles out to the Gulf current. They know the species and the microclimate weather conditions to help you

get the most out of a half-day or whole-day trip, whether trolling, bottom fishing or casting for big game fish.

Got your own boat? You may want to look into a rental home with canal or marsh-side access with your own private pier. Speaking of piers, our barrier islands feature five ocean piers that stretch hundreds of feet out into the surf, all with locals on scene who can help you get the most out of your day. And with just a rod, reel and chair, you can always fish right off the beach.



FISHING PIERS

For locations, details and regulations of NC's Brunswick Islands' iconic ocean fishing piers, visit www.ncbrunswick.com.

HOLDEN BEACH PIER

OAK ISLAND PIER

OCEAN CREST PIER

OCEAN ISLE BEACH PIER

SUNSET BEACH PIER

Ecological wonders at your

Our barrier islands aren't barriers to nature. Quite the opposite. The unique confluence of tidal flats, creek-fed marshes, inlets, sand dunes and maritime forests creates an abundance of habitats for nature and a source of amazement for visitors.

Loggerhead sea turtles are among our star attractions, and both locals and visitors are dedicated to keeping nesting sites pristine. Our beaches are treasure troves of interesting shells, often brought in by high tide after storms out at sea.

Thanks to our position on the coastal flyway, bird watchers can discover hundreds of species both resident and transient, including many rare ones. Our local nature preserves offer peaceful hikes in lowland forests, with the added interest of carnivorous plants. There's even a swamp park, where you can take a guided eco-tour deep into the maze of cypress knees with its native reptile and amphibian creatures.

*It's a slice of heaven.
There's nowhere better!*

Floyd

8 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

doorstep



A water world awaits you

kayak tours

Of the countless ways to experience the breathtaking scenery here, a tour through the marshes and waterways is always a favorite. In addition to equipment rentals, expert-guided tours are available to take you or your group out to see the sights from the perspective of the water. Consider catching a twilight tour to take in the brilliance of a sunset or do some stargazing from your kayak. Take advantage of the experts who are available to help you capture the best of the Brunswick Islands.

There's another side to every barrier island. Even when rollers are breaking on the beach, you'll find the marsh side smooth and blue. Exploring a marsh by canoe, kayak or paddleboard unlocks a hidden world of peace and beauty, as well as a microcosm of crabs, skates, fish and oyster banks and the astonishing number of bird species who feed on them.

Feeling adventurous? The entire county offers an amazing variety of paddling experiences, including

*I love it. Peaceful and relaxing.
When I am there, it feels like
I am home!*

Genie

5+ years of visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



OUTFITTERS

The Adventure Kayak Company, Inc.

Beach Fun Rentals

Beachway Rentals and Services, LLC

Blue Planet Watersports

Boomers Rentals, LLC

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Carolina Watersports

Coastal Urge

Julie's Rentals

Lighthouse WaterSports

Long Beach Paddle Company

Mr. Beach Rentals

The Sail Shop

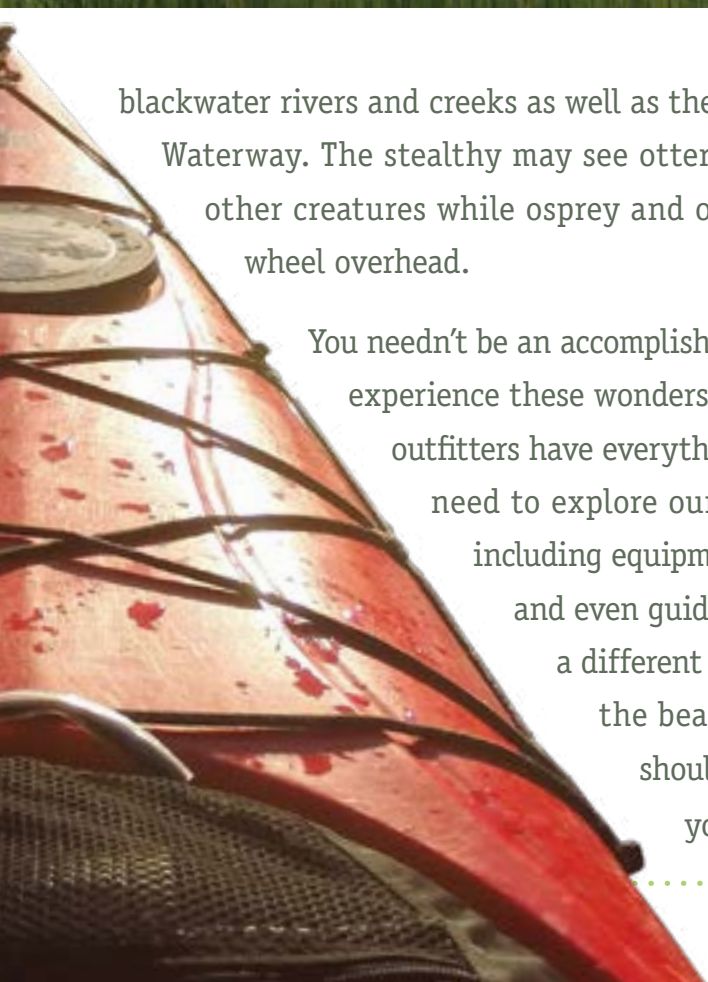
Salty's Surf Shop

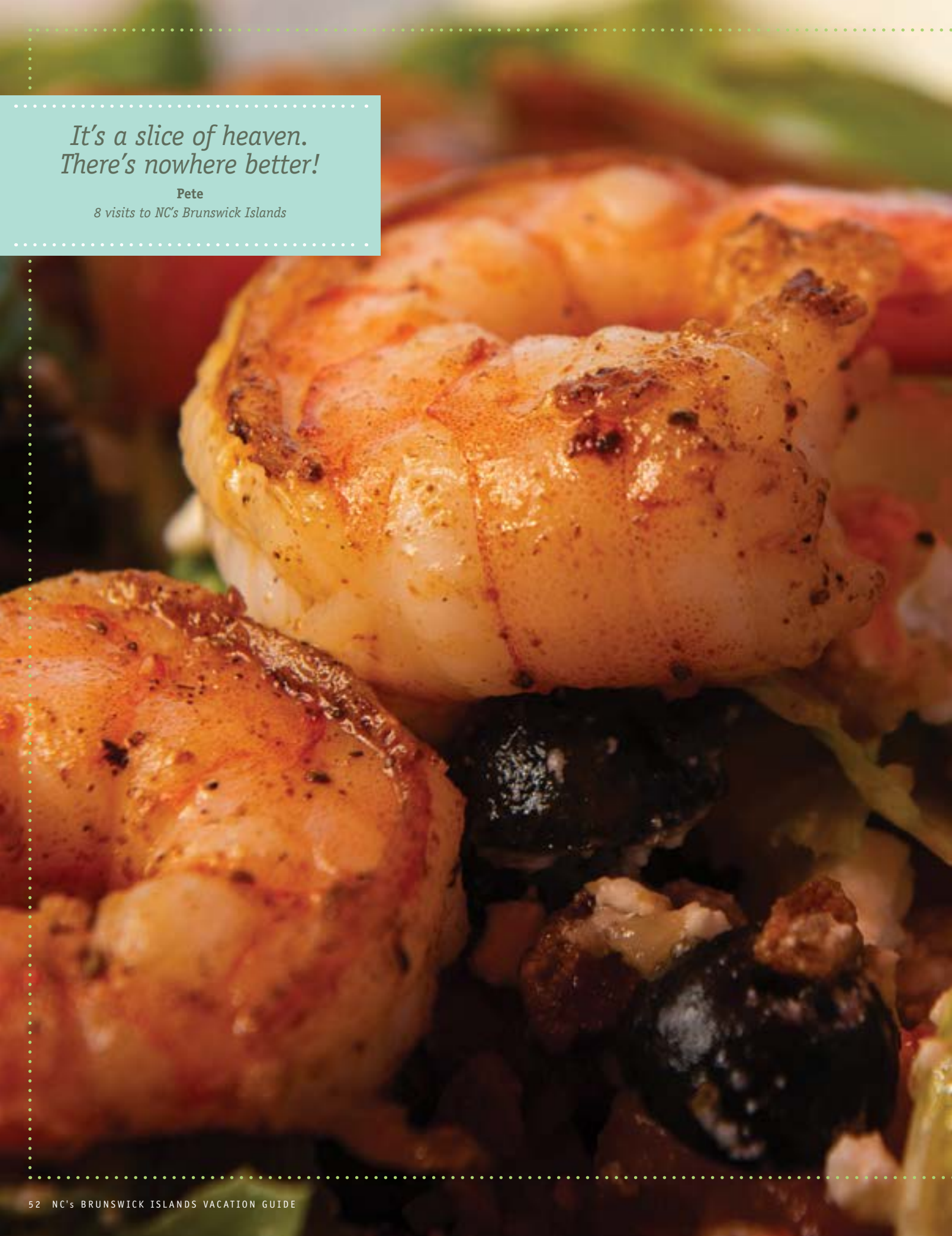
Sandlappers Beach Supplies

Summertide Adventure Tours

blackwater rivers and creeks as well as the Intracoastal Waterway. The stealthy may see otters, deer and other creatures while osprey and other raptors wheel overhead.

You needn't be an accomplished paddler to experience these wonders. Our expert outfitters have everything you might need to explore our wetlands, including equipment, training and even guide services. It's a different world behind the beaches. You should introduce yourself to it!





*It's a slice of heaven.
There's nowhere better!*

Pete

8 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



Get the flavor of beach life

There's nothing wrong with stocking up on provisions, mind you. But don't deny yourself the flavors – and let's be frank, the cook's freedom – of sampling the local fare. Because we know how to bring people together around a table.

What began with a distinct Calabash style has matured into a distinctive Brunswick Islands flavor experience. It's reflected not only in the broad choices of seafood but in the many fine establishments throughout the entire 45 miles of beaches that offer scenic waterfront views. These include Southport's Yacht Basin as well as the bistros and local haunts known to the faithful in our beach towns and the many fresh seafood markets where daily selections are chalked up on a slate board.

Perhaps the best way to enjoy a meal is against the backdrop of a stunning waterfront scene. Oceanfront, riverfront or along the Intracoastal Waterway, we've got all the best spots to savor a meal with a side of scenery. Go find your favorite!



And don't forget to sample the local wine and craft beer scene, too! Whether enjoying an evening out or bringing dinner home to cook up at your beach house, celebrating Brunswick Islands style means heavying up on the fun.

It's called NC's Golf

More than 30 reasons, to be honest. Because that's how many championship courses you have to choose from in NC's Brunswick Islands alone, even without setting foot outside the county. And there are 80 more within an hour's drive.



You're going to love the way the game's greatest course architects have modeled their designs to the coastal landscape of waterways, marshes and forests. And when you play here, we think you'll agree that Arnold Palmer, Rees Jones, Dan Maples, Willard Byrd, Tim Cate, Fred Couples and friends all gave their best.



You can select a course by difficulty, grass type or yardage. You'll find both St. Andrews-style links courses and genteel but often treacherous Southern classics. Whether with family or on a golf buddies' weekend, NC's Brunswick Islands gives you a completely different experience from the Grand Strand. Come renew your love of the game.



Coast for a reason

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Good golf, dining and beaches.

Ross
6 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

Visit www.NCBrunswickGolf.com to request a free Golf Guide or for more information about current specials.



Golf Courses

	Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Packages Available	Course Architect
Bald Head Island Club. 18 holes Bald Head Island, NC 910.457.7310	72	6855	74.3	143	MiniVerde®	Yes	No	Yes	George Cobb/ Tim Cate
Brick Landing Plantation Golf Club. 18 holes 1882 Goose Creek Rd. SW, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.754.2745	71	6586	72	135	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mike Brazeal
Brunswick Plantation Resort and Golf. 27 holes 380 Brunswick Dr. NW, Calabash, NC 1-800-332-8576 • 910-685-7979 • see our ad on page 61	72	6967	73.2	135	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd/ Clyde Johnston
Cape Fear National at Brunswick Forest. 18 holes 1281 Cape Fear National Dr., Leland, NC 910.383.3283 • 1.888.342.3622	72	7217	74.5	143	Bermuda	Yes	No	Yes	Tim Cate
Carolina National Golf Club. 27 holes 1643 Goley Hewett Rd. SE, Bolivia, NC 910.755.5200 • 1.888.200.6455	72	7017	74.4	141	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Fred Couples/ Gene Bates
Carolina Shores Golf & Country Club. 18 holes 99 Carolina Shores Dr., Calabash, NC 910.579.2181 • 1.800.579.8292	72	6783	71.8	135	Bermuda	Yes	No	Yes	Tom Jackson
Compass Pointe Golf Club. 18 holes 2431 The Pointe Club Dr., Leland, NC 910.777.7766	72	7228	74.6	138	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	No	Rick Robbins
Crow Creek. 18 holes 490 S. Crow Creek Dr., Calabash, NC 910.287.3081 • 1.877.287.3081	72	7184	74.9	138	V8 Bent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Rick Robbins
Farmstead Golf Links. 18 holes 541 McLamb Rd. NW, Calabash, NC 910.575.7999	72	7242	75.6	141	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	No	Willard Byrd/ Dave Johnson
The Lakes Country Club. 18 holes 591 South Shore Dr., Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 910.845.2625	72	6692	72.9	129	Bermuda	No	No	Yes	Ed Riccoboni
Leopard's Chase Golf Club. 18 holes 6330 Castlebrook Way, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.579.5577 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7155	74.3	140	L-93 Bent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
Lion's Paw Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1717 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7003	74.0	132	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd
Lockwood Folly Country Club. 18 holes 19 Clubhouse Dr. SW, Holden Beach, NC 910.842.5666 • 1.877.562.9663	72	6836	73.6	140	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	No	Willard Byrd
Magnolia Greens Golf Course. 27 holes 1800 Tommy Jacobs Dr., Leland, NC 910.383.0999	72	6767	71.4	130	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	No	Tom Jackson

		Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Packages Available	Course Architect
Meadowlands Golf Club. 18 holes 1000 Meadowlands Tr., Calabash, NC 910.287.7529		72	7054	74	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	No	Willard Byrd
Oak Island Golf Club. 18 holes 928 Caswell Beach Rd., Caswell Beach, NC 910.278.5275 • 1.800.278.5275		72	6717	71.8	126	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Yes	George Cobb
Oak Island Par Three at South Harbour. 18 holes 4188 Vanessa Dr., Oak Island, NC 910.454.0905 • see our ad on page 60		54	1951	52.3	-	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	No	No	No	–
Olde Fort Golf Club. 18 holes 3189 River Rd. SE, Winnabow, NC 910.371.9940		72	6400	69.6	112	Bermuda	No	No	No	Raeford Trask
Oyster Bay Golf Links. 18 holes 614 Lakeshore Dr., Lakeshore Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.3528 • 1.800.697.8372		70	6685	72.1	136	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Panther’s Run Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1717 • 1.800.233.1801		72	7089	73.7	140	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
The Pearl – East Course. 18 holes 1300 Pearl Blvd., Calabash, NC 910.579.8132 • 1.888.947.3275		72	6749	73.1	135	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
The Pearl – West Course. 18 holes 1300 Pearl Blvd., Calabash, NC 910.579.8132 • 1.888.947.3275		72	7008	73.2	132	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Rivers Edge Golf Club. 18 holes 2000 Arnold Palmer Dr., Shallotte, NC 910.755.3434 • 1.877.RIVER.18		72	6635	72.7	142	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Arnold Palmer
Sandpiper Bay Golf & Country Club. 27 holes 800 N. Sandpiper Club Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.9120 • 1.800.356.5827		71	6503	71.6	119	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Sea Trail. 54 holes 75A Clubhouse Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 910.287.1122	Jones	72	6754	73.2	138	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	No	Rees Jones
	Byrd	72	6649	72.6	129	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	No	Willard Byrd
	Maples	72	6384	72.0	138	Bent	Yes	Yes	No	Dan Maples
Thistle Golf Club. 27 holes 1815 Olde Thistle Club Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 910.444.2500 • 1.800.571.6710	S/C	71	6373	70.8	132	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	C/M	72	6616	72.2	131	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	M/S	72	6494	71.6	133	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
Tiger’s Eye Golf Links. 18 holes 360 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.7227 • 1.800.233.1801		72	7014	73.3	141	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate

Collecting memories





STARFISH

Asterias rubens

Not a fish but an echinoderm, starfish famously regenerate their limbs. However, they should be handled with care. The patient may even see them move in a tidal pool.



LETTERED OLIVE

Americoliva sayana

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



TRUE TULIP

Fasciolaria tulipa

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



COCKLE

Cerastoderma edule

Often mistaken for a scallop, this bivalve is notable for the riotous profusion of colors it comes in. Often used by shellers to make ornaments, necklaces and other accessories.



KEYHOLE URCHIN

Mellita quinquesperforata

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



LIGHTNING WHELK

Busycon contrarium

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



ATLANTIC COQUINA

Donax variabilis

These tiny treasures, once home to a species of clam no bigger than an inch, can be found in an assortment of beautiful colors with a variety of markings. Search for these shells to collect, and keep an eye out for live coquinas to show up in the surf.



BABY'S EAR

Sinum perspectivum

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



MOON SNAIL

Naticarius canrena

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

Average Temperatures (°F)

month	air (high/low)	water
January	55/34.....	49
February.....	58/36.....	51
March	66/43.....	56
April.....	74/51.....	66
May.....	81/59.....	71
June.....	85/68.....	79
July.....	89/72.....	80
August.....	88/71.....	80
September.....	85/65.....	77
October.....	77/54.....	77
November.....	69/45.....	70
December	59/38.....	50



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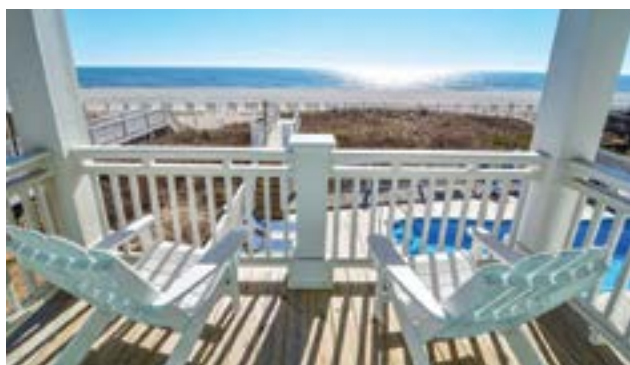
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from	distance (miles)	time
Asheville, NC.....	320	5 hours 25 mins
Atlanta, GA	390	6 hours 16 mins
Charleston, SC.....	135	2 hours 40 mins
Charlotte, NC	187	3 hours 30 mins
Columbia, SC	184	3 hours
Fayetteville, NC.....	92	1 hours 47 mins
N. Myrtle Beach, SC	23	31 mins
Raleigh, NC.....	165	2 hours 44 mins
Richmond, VA	292	4 hours 41 mins
Washington, D.C.....	403	6 hours 22 mins
Wilmington, NC.....	34	39 mins
Winston-Salem, NC	219	3 hours 40 mins

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