

NC'S BRUNSWICK ISLANDS

OFFICIAL VACATION GUIDE

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

Jettie

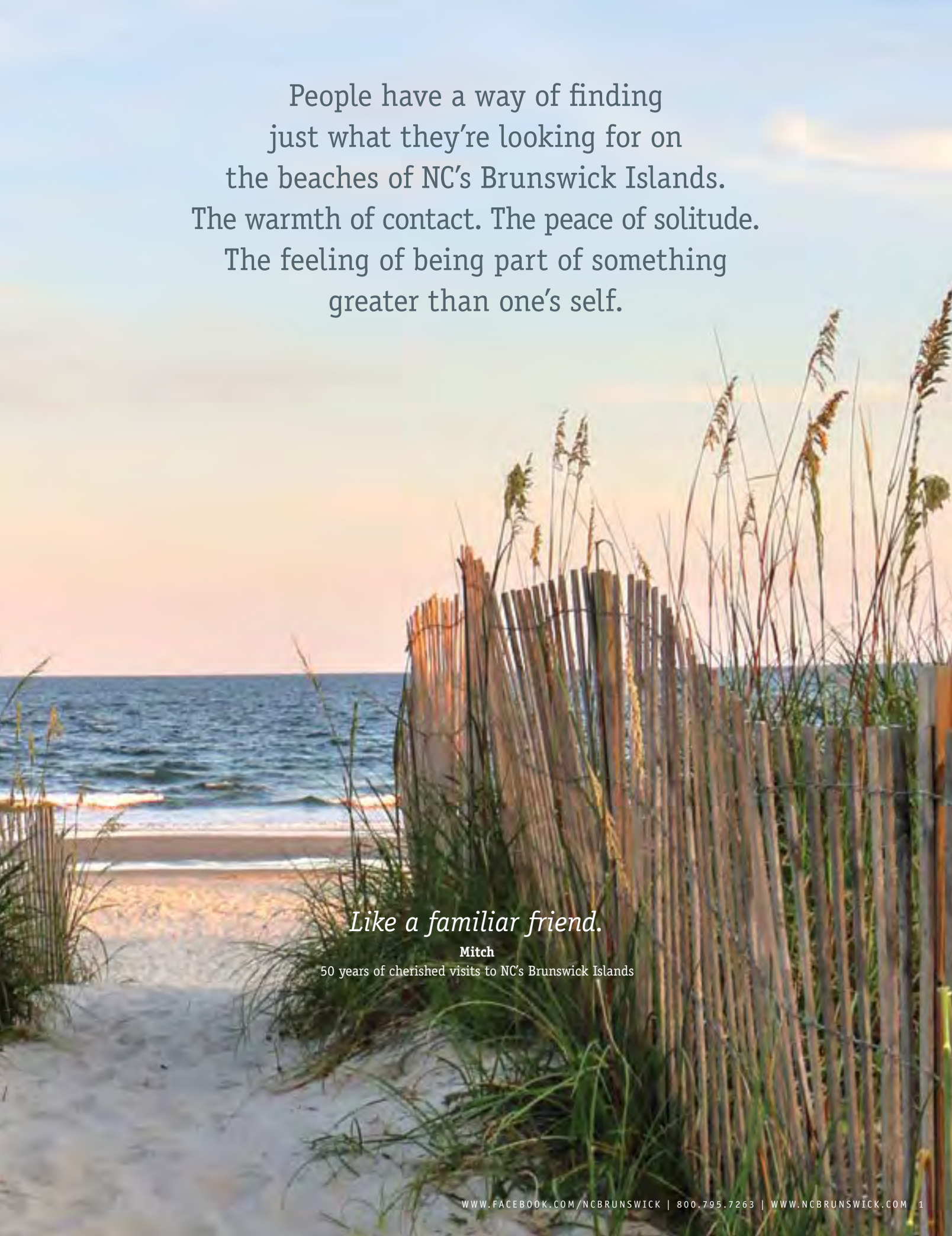
visiting twice a year for the past 5 years

north carolina's

brunswick islands

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



A scenic view of a beach at sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, there is a wooden fence made of vertical slats, partially obscured by tall, thin grasses. The beach is sandy and leads to the ocean. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with a few clouds. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

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.

Like a familiar friend.

Mitch

50 years of cherished visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

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

Edie

25 years of Brunswick Islands vacations

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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.

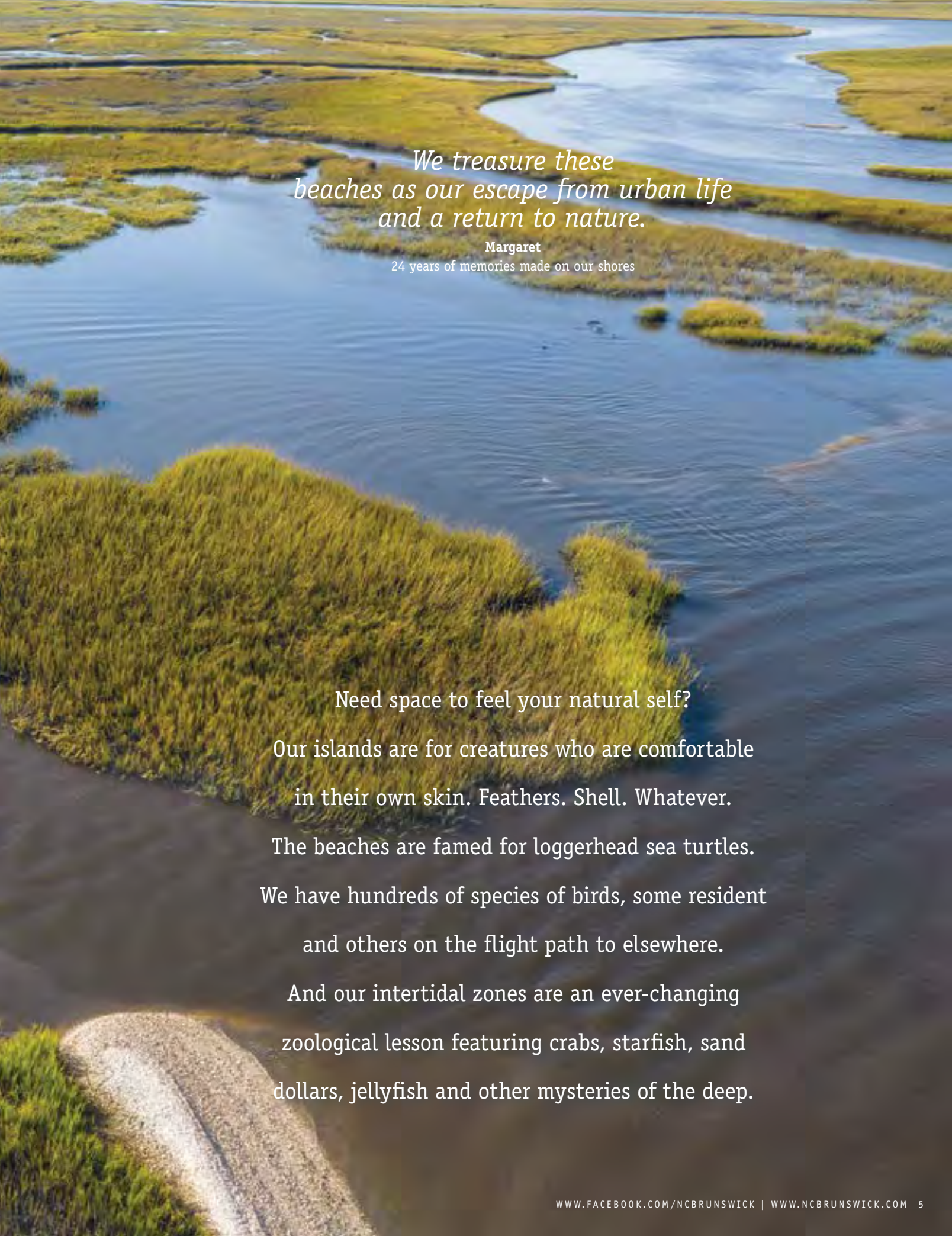
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Golf buddies
trading jibes.

.....

The things that keep
us young never
get old.





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

Margaret

24 years of memories made on our shores


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.



*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.



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

Coleman

11 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

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.

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 Ocean Isle Beach Flotilla.

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."



*Tradition
and enjoyment
from kid to adult.*

Robert

15 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.

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.

Sunset Beach



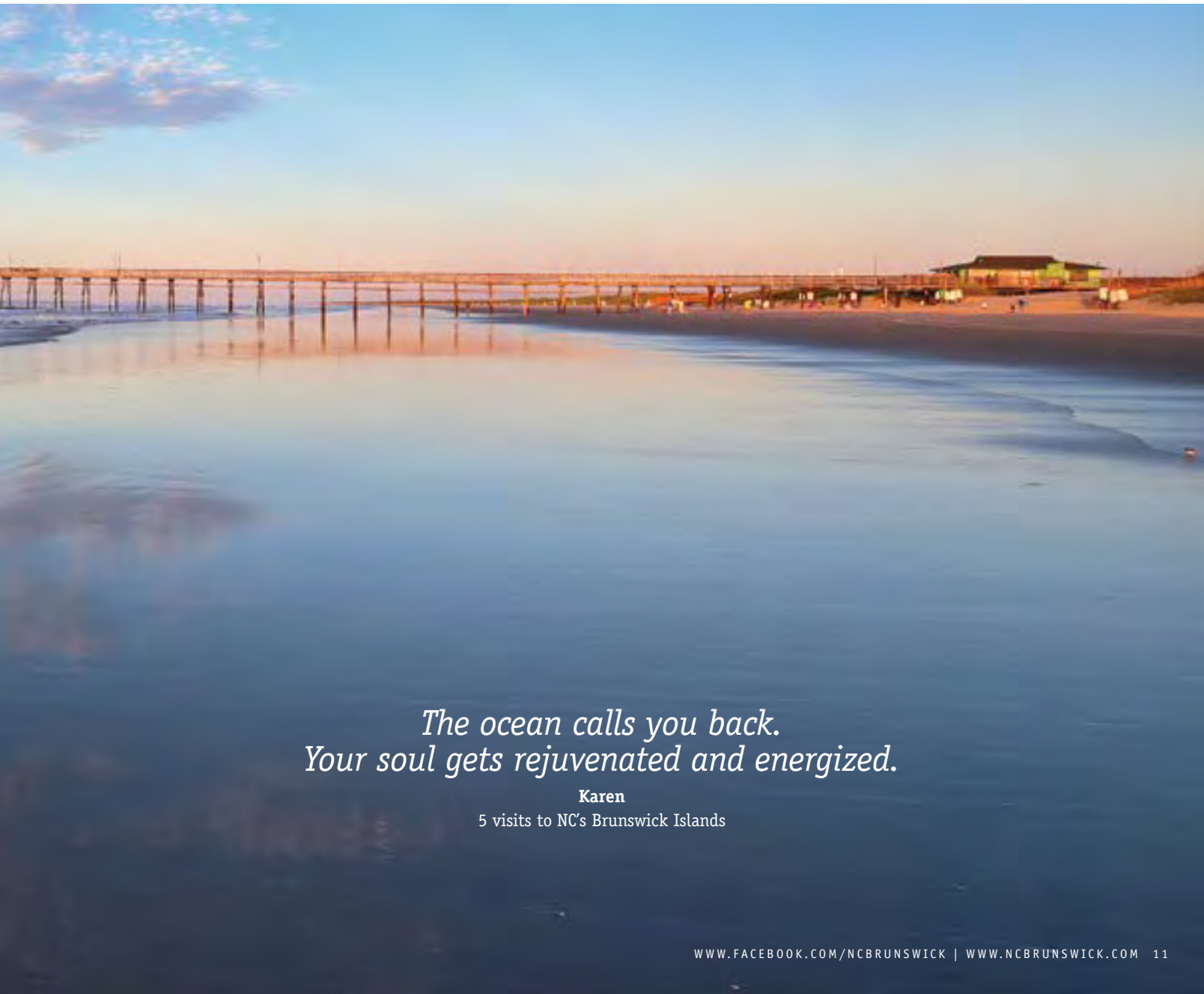


LIFE SENDS ITS BEST

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

GET HOOKED

The long fishing piers are gathering places where you can get tips from the locals on what's running and how to catch them.



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

Karen

5 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

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 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.

Ocean Isle Beach





ZIPPIITY 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.



Ocean Isle is a great meeting place for our family.

Pete

20+ visits to NC's Brunswick Islands





*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 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.

Holden Beach



MARITIME SPIRIT

Our shrimp fleet brings this succulent crustacean fresh to dockside on a daily basis.



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.

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.

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.

Oak Island





TURTLE TREKS

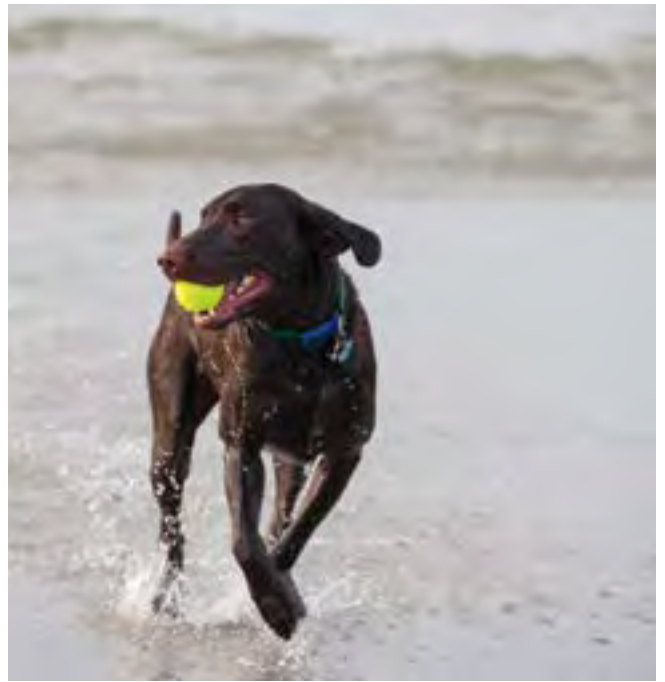
Mind the yellow tape. Our barrier islands are the loggerhead sea turtle's chosen nesting site. We have an entire support society dedicated to protecting these amazing creatures and helping them on their journey to the sea. You'll also find a seasonal series of Turtle Talks for the vacationer interested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



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.



*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



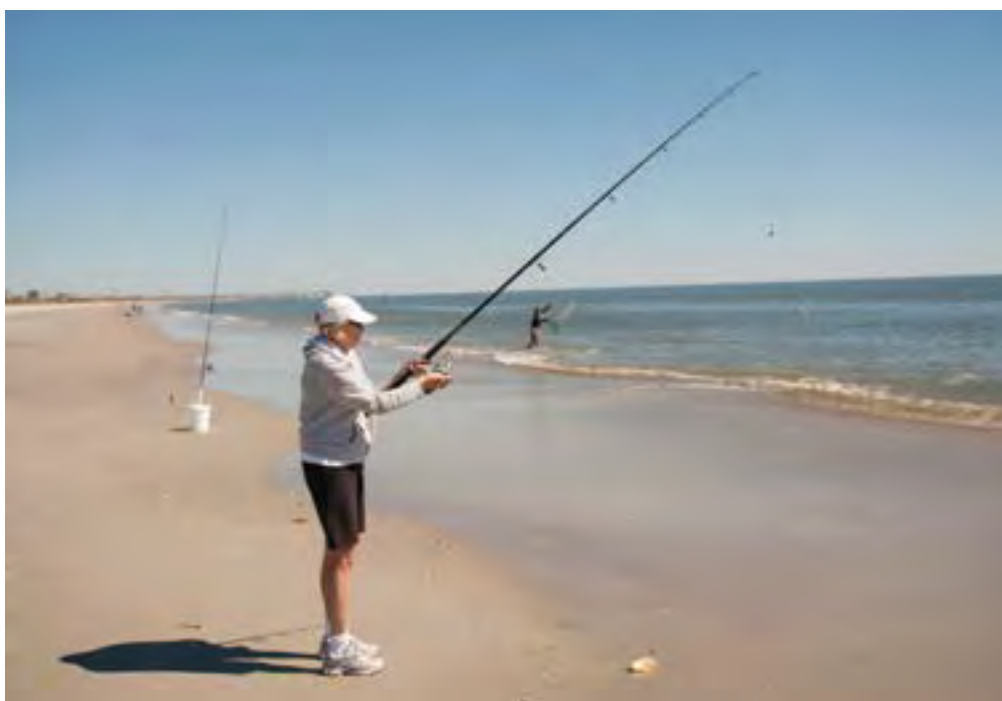
It's easy to recognize Caswell Beach. It's pretty hard to disguise a lighthouse, which, at 153 feet, is the tallest thing for miles around. A climb to the observation deck of the Oak Island Lighthouse provides a unique perspective on our barrier island ecosystem.

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

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



*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



*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



CAPTAIN CHARLIE'S COTTAGES

Occupied by the namesake Captain Charlie from 1903 to 1933, you can still get a sense of the life of a lighthouse keeper at the Historic Captain Charlie's Cottages on Bald Head Island.

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 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.

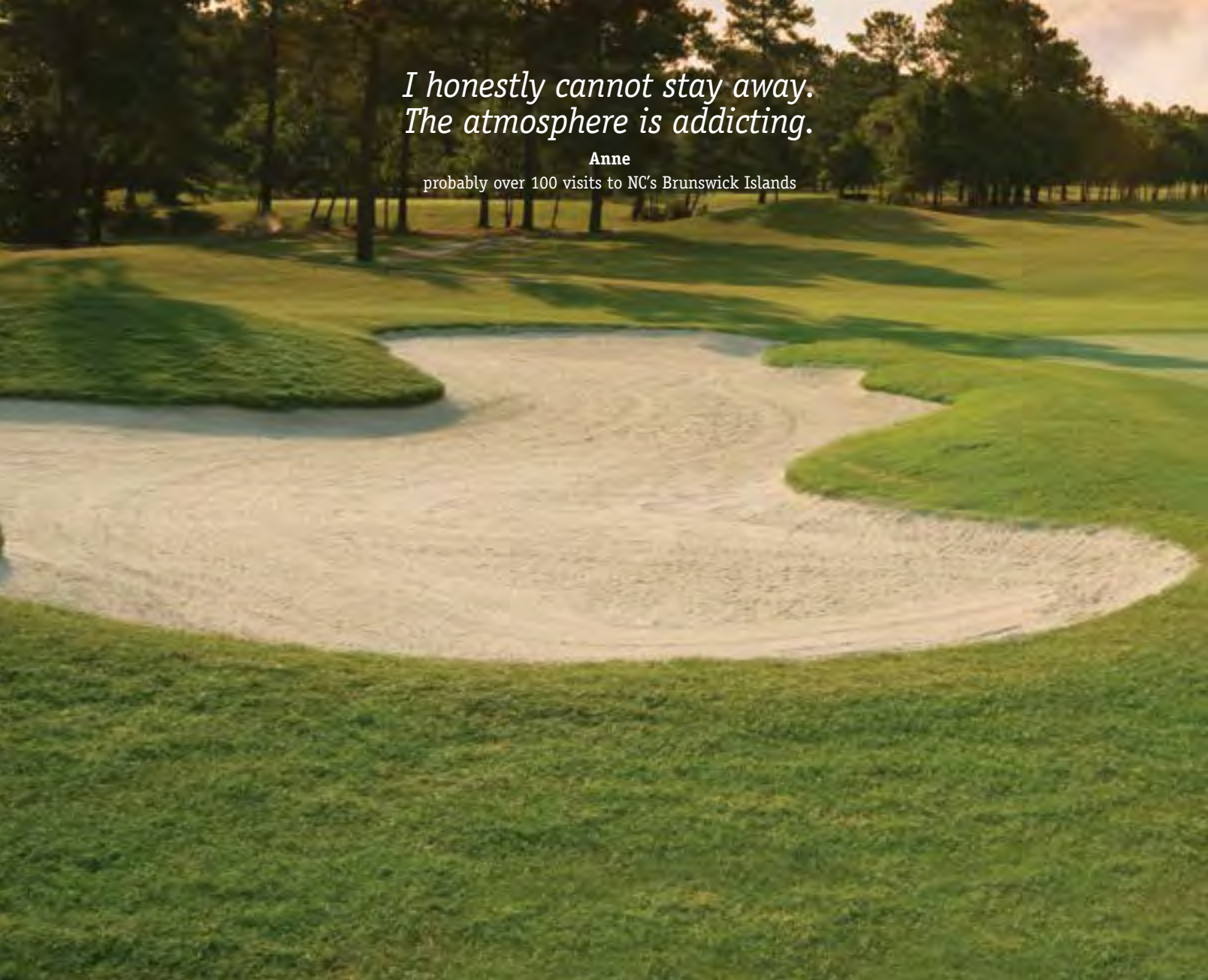
Nature isn't quite everything. Old Baldy Lighthouse has warded off ships and attracted visitors since 1817. You'll find needed creature comforts like restaurants and shopping, as well as fresh seafood, a marina, and one of Brunswick's premier golf courses.

Bald Head Island

SOUTHPORT FERRY

With the ocean breeze on your quarter, the Southport Ferry to Bald Head Island is an adventure in itself.





*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.

Nestled against the Brunswick River, Leland and surrounding areas are a haven for those who love paddlesports and natural beauty. Head to the

Leland

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.



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.



*I love the friendliness
of the locals.*

Karen

15 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



FUN ON TAP

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





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 dining – 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.

Shallotte



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 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.

Southport

*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



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.

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.





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.

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.

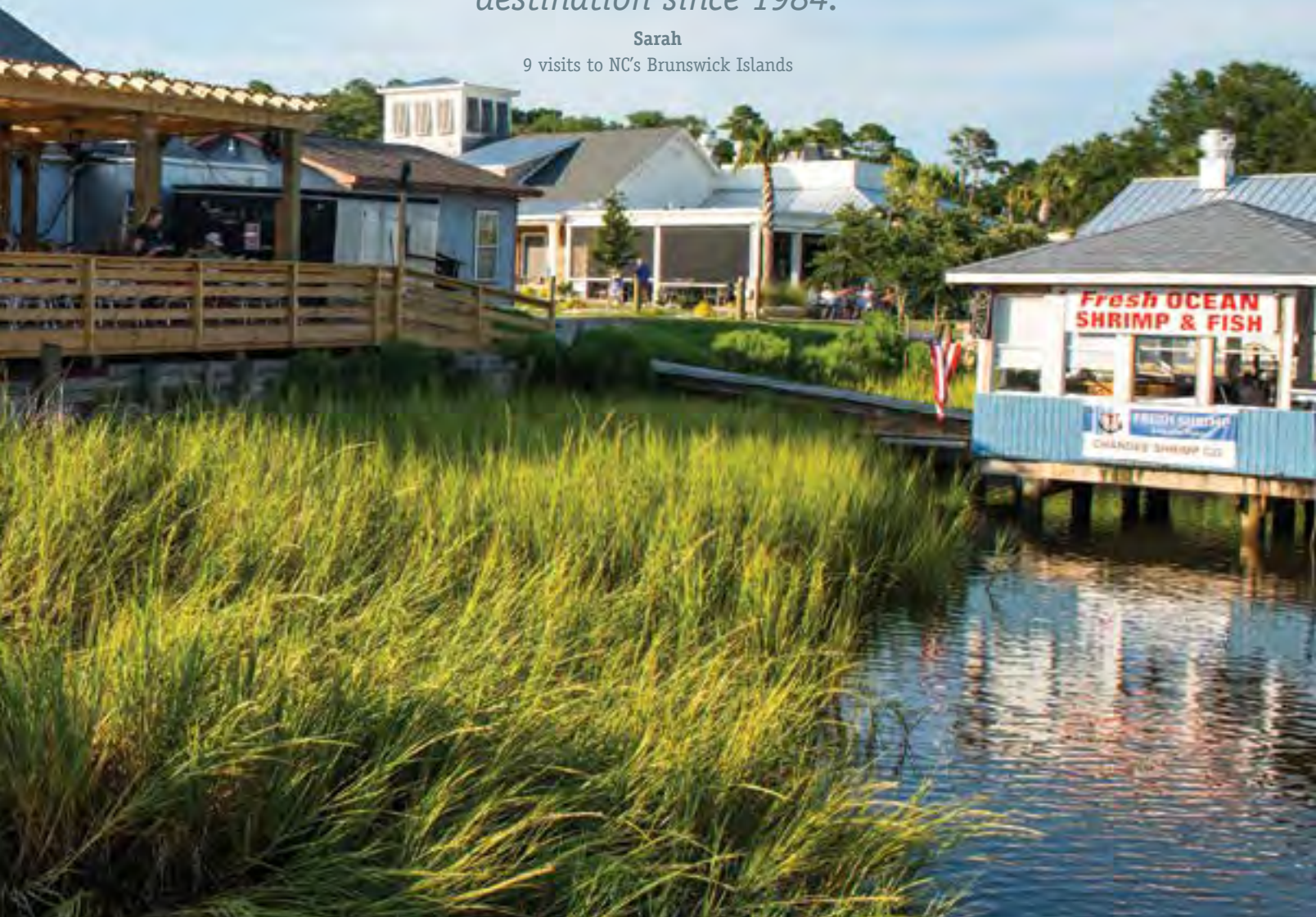
This charming fishing village offers seafood markets where you can select your dinner from the day's catch. As well as shops where you can pick up anything from a one-of-a-kind gift for someone back home to ice cream made right on the premises. That's why a trip to Calabash has been a must for vacationing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

Calabash

It has been our family reunion destination since 1984.

Sarah

9 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



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.





*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.

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.

Mainland



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.

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.





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

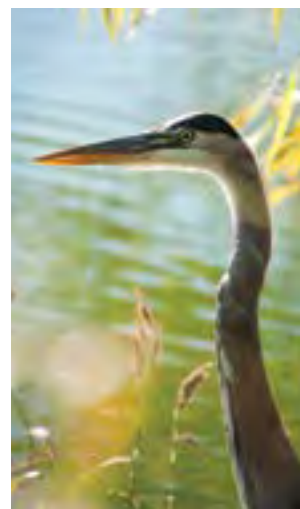
The preserve is home to the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, a variety of carnivorous plants like the Venus Flytrap and more than 400 vascular plant species. The nature trail allows visitors to walk through a portion of the more than 6,000 fragile acres that make up the preserve. 1 Leeds Road, Boiling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





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.

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.

Kayaking and Paddleboarding

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. Sea kayaking, along with kayaking and paddleboarding 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.

see our ad on page 66

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.

see our ad on page 66

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.ncmaritimemuseumssouthport.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 67**

WELCOME CENTERS

Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce

800.426.6644

112 Pine Street, Shallotte, NC 28470

communications@brunswickcountychamber.org

www.brunswickcountychamber.org

North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce

910.383.0553

497 Olde Waterford Way Suite 202, Belville, NC 28451

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



A young boy with brown hair, wearing a blue t-shirt and patterned shorts, is surfing on a white surfboard. He is standing on a small wave, with water splashing around his feet. The background is a clear blue sky and ocean.

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.

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.



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

Colleen

18 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

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



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.*

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.

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

Accommodations

Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Bed-and-Breakfast

The Beach House at Oak Island

500 Ocean Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.278.5644
www.carolinaretreats.com/
The-Beach-House-at-Oak-Island
22 rooms • island 🐾

Bell Clemmons House B&B

313 East Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.477.6242
www.bell-clemmons.com
3 rooms • mainland • breakfast
see our ad on page 66

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 62

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
🐾

Fairfield by Marriott Inn and Suites

5181 Southport Supply Road SE
Southport, NC 28461
910.454.0016 • 888.236.2427
www.marriott.com/ilnfs
80 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Gray Gull Motel

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

Hampton Inn & Suites

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

Holiday Inn Express & 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 Bald Head Island

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

The Inn at River Oaks

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

Islander Inn

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

LaPolena Bed and Breakfast

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

Marsh Harbour Inn

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

Oak Island Extended Stay

5611 East Oak Island Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
910.352.4773
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
42 rooms • oceanfront

Ocean Isle Inn

37 West First Street
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.352.5988 • 910.579.0750
www.oceanisleinn.com
70 rooms • oceanfront • breakfast
🌐 ❤️ see our ad on page 65

River Hotel of Southport

706 E Moore Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.294.6070 • 855.624.6835
www.riverhotelofsouthport.com
70 rooms • mainland

Riverside Motel

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

Robert Ruark Inn

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

Sea Trail Villas

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

The Sunset Inn

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

SureStay by Best Western

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

Wingate by Wyndham

1511 North Howe Street
Southport, NC 28461
910.294.0264
www.wyndhamhotels.com/wingate
84 rooms • mainland • breakfast

Cottages and Condos

Bald Head Island Rentals

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

Bald Head Island Vacations

2H Merchant Row
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
910.368-3250 • 888.367.7091
www.baldheadislandvacations.com
🐾❤️

Better Beach Rentals

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

Coastal Vacation Resorts Holden Beach

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

Coastal Vacation Resorts Oak Island

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

Craig Realty

3262 Holden Beach Road SW
Holden Beach, NC 28462
910.842.2628 • 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 🐾

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

Intracoastal Vacation Rentals

6 Marina Wynd
Bald Head Island, NC 28461
1.877.344.6674 • 910.457.5002
www.bhivacations.com
🌐🐾❤️ see our ad on page 63

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 66

Margaret Rudd & Assoc., Inc., Realtors®

210 Country Club Drive
Oak Island, NC 28465
1.800.486.5441
www.rudd.com
🐾 see our ad on page 60

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 61

Proactive Vacations

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

Sloane Realty Vacations Ocean Isle Beach

16 Causeway Drive SW
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.800.843.6044 • 910.579.6216
www.sloanevacations.com 🌐🐾❤️
see our ad on page 64

Sloane Realty Vacations Sunset Beach

420 Sunset Boulevard South
Sunset Beach, NC 28468
1.866.348.7138 • 910.579.6500
www.sloanevacations.com
🌐🐾 see our ad on page 64

Southport Realty, Inc.

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

St. James Properties

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

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 63

Sunset Properties

100 Causeway Drive, Suite 2
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469
1.866.976.8204 • 910.575.8662
www.vacationrentalsatocanisle.com
🐾 see our ad on page 63

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 64



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 friendly islands and towns feature a variety of festivals and events that boast local flavor and flair, and they have become just as big a part of our visitors' vacations as the beaches themselves. Whether your trip is centered around one of our signature events, such as the NC Oyster Festival, the NC Festival by the Sea or the NC 4th of July Festival, or you're just looking for a little something more to add to your vacation itinerary, you'll find the authentic vibe of barrier island life in every event, making it one you won't soon forget

NC Festival by the Sea

This coastal arts and crafts festival in the heart of Holden Beach has become quite the popular, beloved event on the island. Kick things off with a parade over the Holden Beach Causeway, then spend two days taking in the festivities. Local art and food vendors are set up on the streets and sidewalks, live music fills the air and special activities for the kids are found at every turn. And don't miss your chance to follow the signature curve of the Holden Bridge on foot! It's the only time of year the bridge is open to pedestrian traffic, so you can take in the picturesque views and see all the excitement buzzing on the streets below.



NC 4th of July Festival

A festive celebration of our nation's independence is synonymous with big-time summer fun in Southport, NC. This particular 4th of July festival has been remembering sacrifices, celebrating freedom and promoting family fun for over 200 years. History buffs, arts and crafts enthusiasts, music aficionados and fun-lovers of all ages will find their style of celebration, from a reading of the Declaration of Independence and special ceremonies to live music, games, entertainment and fireworks. After two centuries of reveling in the red, white and blue, Southport has perfected the art of festivity for every family.





NC Oyster Festival

Every year locals and visitors alike come together to enjoy all things oyster at North Carolina's official celebration of the tasty treats. The two-day event now hosted in Ocean Isle Beach is action-packed with cookoffs, contests, music and dancing, and so much more. Enter the oyster shucking contest or sample delectable recipes from local restaurants and vote for your favorite oyster stew. If you'd rather treat your taste buds to something besides the specially celebrated



seafood, you'll find many other local vendors with bites of all kinds, plus live entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, children's activities and more. It's a coastal celebration not to be missed.

Fun For All

In addition to these annual festivals, NC's Brunswick Islands features many special events to put smiles on every face.

Farmers and artisans markets, 5Ks, outdoor movies and concerts, fishing tournaments, art

shows, parades, historical observances and holiday fun - you'll find all this and more, ready to add some flair and extra coastal fun to your beach vacation. Visit our calendar of events at NCBrunswick.com/events to find something that fits your style.



Tie the knot on the sand

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.

A bride and groom are sitting on a wooden pier or boardwalk. The groom is sitting on the ground, leaning against the wooden railing, wearing a grey suit. The bride is sitting on his lap, wearing a white wedding dress, and has her arm around his shoulder. They are both smiling. In the background, the ocean waves are visible. The bride's black high-heeled shoes are on the ground next to her.

*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

801 Ocean Event Center
Bald Head Island Club
The Barn at Rock Creek
Brick Landing Venue
The Brunswick Center at Supply
Brunswick Plantation
Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson
Carolina National
Endless Summer Sailing Chater
Greenland Farms
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
St. James Community Center
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.





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

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.





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

Melissa

30 years of memories made on our shores

Ecological wonders at your doorstep

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.

A water world awaits you



*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

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 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!

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.



OUTFITTERS

The Adventure Kayak Company, Inc.

Beach Fun Rentals

Beachway Rentals and Services, LLC

Blue Planet Watersports

Boomers Rentals, LLC

Coastal Urge

Julie's Rentals

Long Beach Paddle Company

Mr. Beach Rentals

OKI Paddle Co.

The Sail Shop

Salty's Surf Shop

Sandlappers Beach Supplies

Summertide Adventure Tours

Surf Unlimited





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

Pete

8 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

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!



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.

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.



Good golf, dining and beaches.

Ross

6 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

It's called NC's Golf Coast for a reason

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.



NC'S GOLF COAST GOLF PACKAGERS

If you are planning a golf vacation, an area golf packager can handle all the details, plus give you an "insider's" advantage of the best discounts, tee times and accommodations.

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910.371.2858

**Brunswick Plantation
Resort & Golf**
800.332.8576

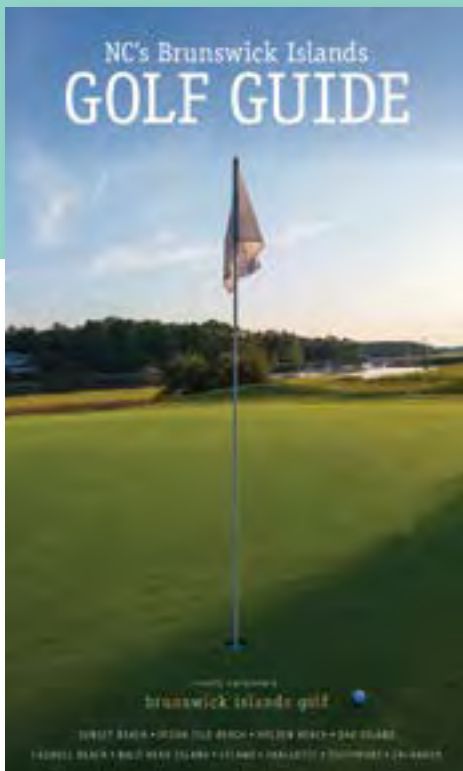
**Holiday Inn Express -
Leland/Wilmington Area**
910.383.3300

**Intracoastal Vacation
Rentals**
844.666.9606

Islander Inn
888.325.4753

Sea Trail Villas
800.675.0193

Sloane Realty Vacations
910.579.7181



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



Golf Courses

	Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Course Architect
Bald Head Island Club. 18 holes Bald Head Island, NC 910.457.7310	72	6855	74.3	143	MiniVerde®	Yes	No	George Cobb/ Tim Cate
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 62	72	6967	73.2	135	Champion Bermuda	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	7130	74.8	140	Bermuda	Yes	No	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	Fred Couples/ Gene Bates
Carolina Shores Golf & Country Club. 18 holes 99 Carolina Shores Dr., Calabash, NC 910.579.2181 • 855.371.0367	72	6783	71.8	135	Bermuda	Yes	No	Tom Jackson
Compass Pointe Golf Club. 18 holes 2431 The Pointe Club Dr., Leland, NC 910.777.7766	72	7085	74.4	138	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	Rick Robbins
Crow Creek. 18 holes 490 S. Crow Creek Dr., Calabash, NC 910.287.3081 • 1.877.287.3081	72	7241	74.9	138	V8 Bent	Yes	Yes	Rick Robbins
The Lakes Country Club. 18 holes 591 South Shore Dr., Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 910.845.2625	72	6692	72.9	129	Bermuda	No	No	Ed Riccoboni
Leopard's Chase Golf Club. 18 holes 6330 Castlebrook Way, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.579.5577 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7155	74.3	140	L-93 Bent	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
The Links at Brick Landing. 18 holes 1882 Goose Creek Rd SW, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.754.7600	71	6030	68.3	126	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	No	Mike Brazeal
Lion's Paw Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1703 • 1.800.233.1801	72	7003	74	132	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd
Lockwood Folly Country Club. 18 holes 19 Clubhouse Dr. SW, Holden Beach, NC 910.842.5666 • 1.877.562.9663	72	6836	73.6	140	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd
Magnolia Greens Golf Course. 27 holes 1800 Tommy Jacobs Dr., Leland, NC 910.383.0999	72	7127	74.7	140	Champion Bermuda	Yes	No	Tom Jackson

		Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Course Architect
Meadowlands Golf Club. 18 holes 1000 Meadowlands Tr., Calabash, NC 910.287.7529		72	7054	74	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd
Oak Island Golf Club. 18 holes 928 Caswell Beach Rd., Caswell Beach, NC 910.278.5275 • 1.800.278.5275		72	6720	73.1	131	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	George Cobb
Oak Island Par 3 Golf. 18 holes 4188 Vanessa Dr., Oak Island, NC 910.454.0905 • see our ad on page 67		54	1951	52.3	-	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	No	No	-
Olde Fort Golf Club. 18 holes 3189 River Rd. SE, Winnabow, NC 910.371.9940		72	6400	69.6	112	Bermuda	No	No	Raeford Trask
Oyster Bay Golf Links. 18 holes 614 Lakeshore Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.3528 • 1.800.697.8372		70	6685	72.1	136	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Panther's Run Golf Links. 18 holes 351 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.1703 • 1.800.233.1801		72	7089	73.7	140	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
The Pearl Golf Links. 27 holes 1300 Pearl Blvd., Calabash, NC 910.579.8132 • 1.888.947.3275		73	7041	72.9	137	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Rivers Edge Golf Club. 18 holes 2000 Arnold Palmer Dr., Shallotte, NC 910.755.3434 • 1.877.RIVER.18		72	6975	72.7	142	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Arnold Palmer
Sandpiper Bay Golf & Country Club. 27 holes 800 N. Sandpiper Club Dr., Sunset Beach, NC 910.579.9120 • 1.800.356.5827	Sand / Piper	71	6504	71.2	127	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
	Piper / Bay	72	6746	72.6	133	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
	Bay / Sand	71	6518	71.6	135	Bermuda	Yes	No	Dan Maples
Sea Trail. 54 holes 75A Clubhouse Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 910.287.1122	Jones	72	6754	73.2	138	Champion Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Rees Jones
	Byrd	72	6658	72.6	129	Bermuda	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd
	Maples	72	6384	72	138	Bent	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples
Thistle Golf Club. 27 holes 1815 Olde Thistle Club Rd., Sunset Beach, NC 910.444.2500 • 1.800.571.6710	S/C	71	6373	70.8	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	C/M	72	6616	72.2	131	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
	M/S	72	6494	71.6	133	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate
Tiger's Eye Golf Links. 18 holes 360 Ocean Ridge Pkwy., Ocean Isle Beach, NC 910.287.7227 • 1.800.233.1801		72	7014	73.3	141	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Tim Cate

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.



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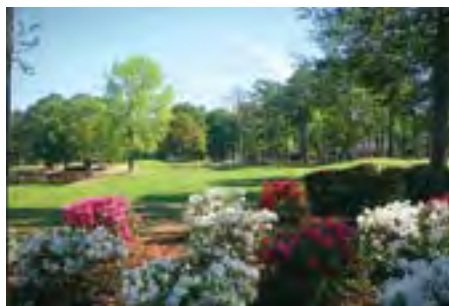
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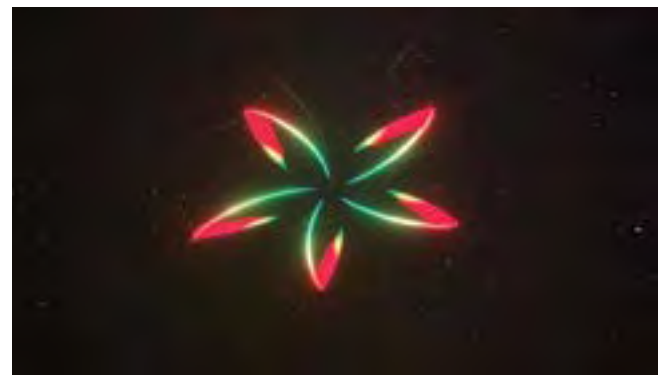


MUSEUM OF COASTAL CAROLINA

Visit a natural history museum located on a NC barrier island. Enjoy our dioramas, interactive exhibits, touch tank, and aquariums with live animals, while exploring the natural history, environment, and culture of coastal Carolina.



21 East Second Street | Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469 | 910.579.1016
www.museumplanetarium.org | minfo@museumplanetarium.org



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www.museumplanetarium.org | pinfo@museumplanetarium.org

Named one of "10 Incredible Phenomena You Have to See in Fall" by *Weather.com*, North Carolina's Brunswick Islands' south facing beaches offer the unique opportunity to watch the sun rise and set over the Atlantic Ocean during fall and winter.



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Average Temperatures (°F)

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

Approximate Drive Times

(to Shallotte, NC)

from	distance (miles)	time
Asheville, NC.....	320	5 hours 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 28 mins
Richmond, VA	292	4 hours 23 mins
Washington, D.C.....	403	6 hours 22 mins
Wilmington, NC.....	34	39 mins
Winston-Salem, NC	219	3 hours 40 mins



Airports

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37 miles from Shallotte

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www.flyilm.com

Cape Fear Regional Jetport

5 miles from Southport

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www.capefearjetport.com

Odell Williamson Municipal Airport

Ocean Isle Beach

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www.airnav.com/airport/60j

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