

Your Official Vacation Guide

north carolina's  
**brunswick islands**

*A place that will steal your heart.*

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



# Return to you.

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

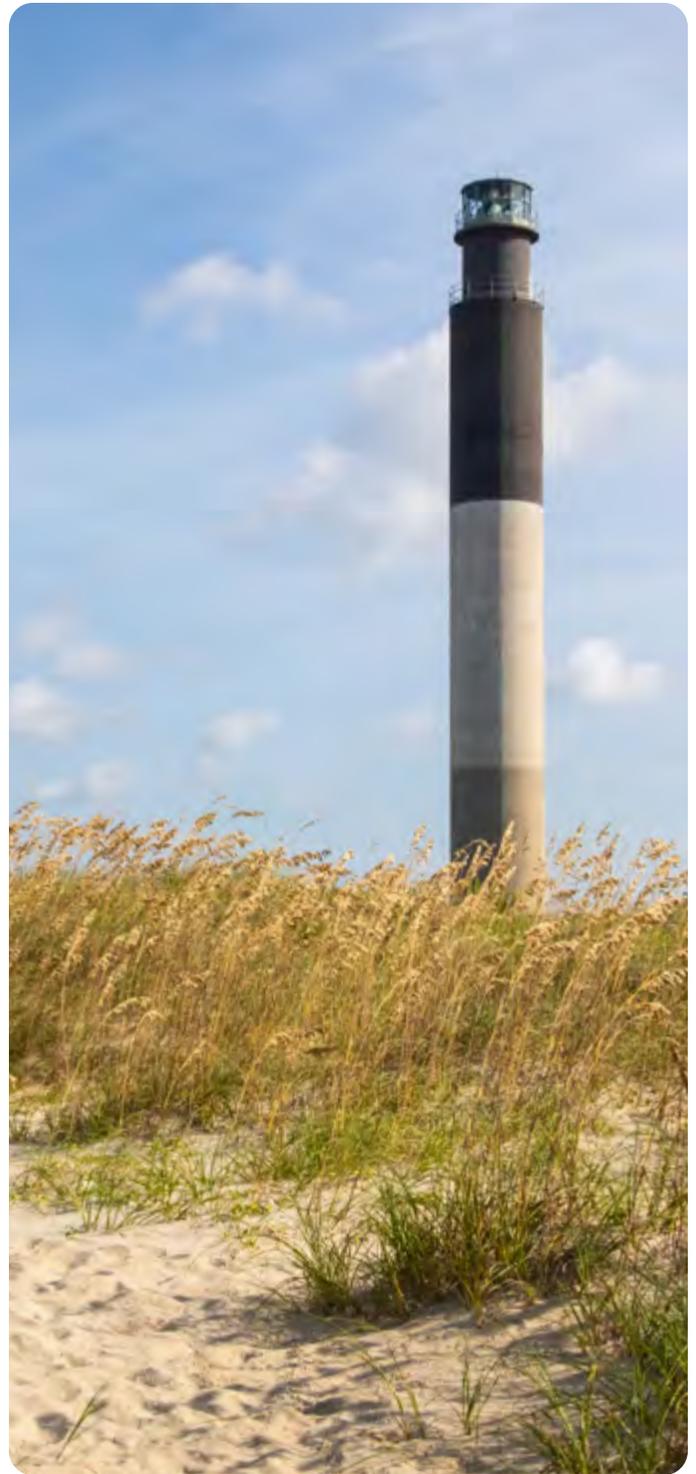
Here, no two vacations are alike with hundreds of ways to find your unique joy among our coastal towns and 45 miles of pristine beaches.

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



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

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





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<b>DIVE IN . . . . .</b>	

Every moment reveals  
**new wonders.**





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

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

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

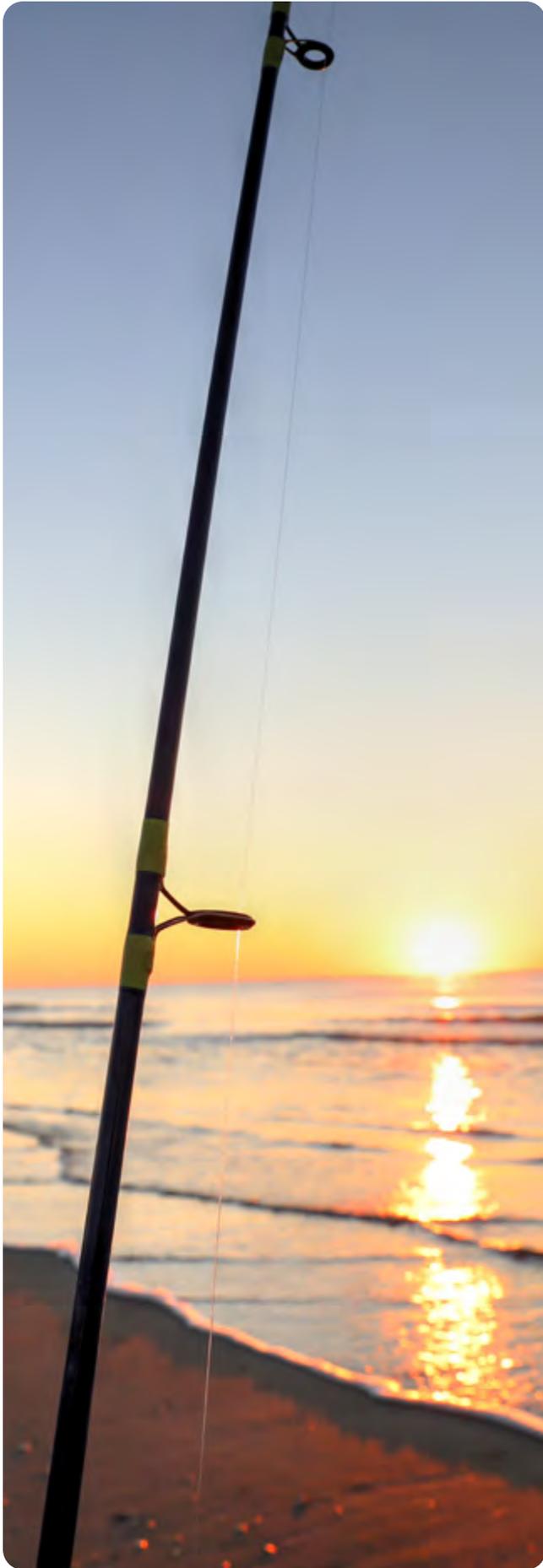
Keep your eyes open and binoculars handy. You don't want to miss any of the natural wonders we have to offer.

# Do nothing. *Do everything.*

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

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

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







# We share our home with some amazing friends.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Look what the tide brought in!

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

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

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





### 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 semitransparency. Its former occupant is known to feed on other snail and clam species.

# No two vacations are alike here. *Neither are the accommodations.*

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

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

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

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





## Vacation Rental Homes

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



## Hotels and Inns

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



## Bed & Breakfasts

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

# Accommodations

## Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Bed-and-Breakfast

### Anchor Inn Motel

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

### The Beach House at Oak Island

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

### Best Western

360 Whiteville Road NW, 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  
🐾🐾

### 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/ilmf5  
80 rooms • mainland • breakfast

### Gray Gull Motel

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

### Hampton Inn & Suites

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

### Holiday Inn Express- Leland/Wilmington Area

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

### Holiday Inn Express & Suites

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

### The Inn at Bald Head Island

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

### The Inn at Southport

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

### Islander Inn

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

### LaPolena Bed and Breakfast

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

### Marsh Harbour Inn

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

### Oak Island Inn

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

### Ocean Crest Motel

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

### Ocean Isle Inn

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

### River Hotel of Southport

706 East Moore Street  
Southport, NC 28461  
910.294.6070  
www.riverhotelsouthport.com  
68 rooms • mainland  
see our ad on page 66

### Riverside Motel

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

### Robert Ruark Inn

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

### Sea Trail Villas

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

### The Sunset Inn

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

### Tru by Hilton

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

### SureStay by Best Western

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

### Wingate by Wyndham

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

## Cottages and Condos

### Bald Head Island Rentals

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



### Bald Head Island Vacations

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



### Better Beach Rentals

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



### Coastal Vacation Resorts

#### Holden Beach

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

### Coastal Vacation Resorts Oak Island

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



### Craig Realty

3262 Holden Beach Road SW  
Holden Beach, NC 28462  
910.842.2628 • 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 69



### 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 68



### Intracoastal Vacation Rentals

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

see our ad on page 66



### 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 69

### iTrip Vacation Rentals Oak Island

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



### 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 68



### McClure Realty Vacations

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



### Oak Island Accommodations

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

see our ad on page 65



### 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 67



### 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 67



### Southport Realty, Inc.

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



### St. James Properties

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



### Stellar Beach Realty & Rentals

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



### Sunset Properties

#### Sunset Beach

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



### Sunset Properties

#### Ocean Isle Beach

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



### Sunset Vacations

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



### Tiffany's Beach Properties

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



### Williamson Realty Vacations

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

see our ad on page 67



Golf Packages



Pet Friendly



Wedding Packages

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

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

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

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

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



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





# Salt marshes and waterways lead the way to new adventure.

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

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

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

## **How about a guided tour?**

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



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

### **Rather walk than paddle?**

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

## **OUTFITTERS**

The Adventure Kayak Company, Inc.

Beach Fun Rentals

Beachway Rentals and Services, LLC

Blue Planet Watersports

Boomers Rentals, LLC

Coastal Urge

Island Dan's

Julie's Rentals

Long Beach Paddle Company

Mr. Beach Rentals

OKI Bike & Paddle Co.

Riverwalk Rentals

Salty's Surf Shop

Sandlappers Beach Supplies

Summertide Adventure Tours

Sunset Beach Umbrellas

Surf Unlimited

The Oak Island Experience

# Hooked with your first cast. This is an angler's paradise.

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

## What's your pleasure?

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

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

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

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

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



FOR THE CURRENT TIDE CHART GO TO  
[WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/BEACHES/TIDE-CHART](http://WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/BEACHES/TIDE-CHART)



### **HOLDEN BEACH PIER**

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

### **OAK ISLAND PIER**

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

### **OCEAN CREST PIER**

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

### **OCEAN ISLE BEACH PIER**

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

### **SUNSET BEACH PIER**

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

# Get ready for the best seafood you've tasted.

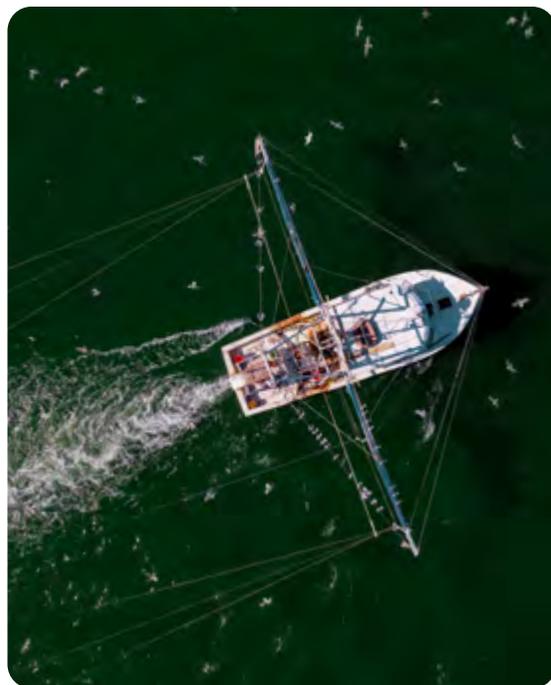
Raise your glass—whether craft beer or tropical umbrella drink—to the seafood capital of the world.

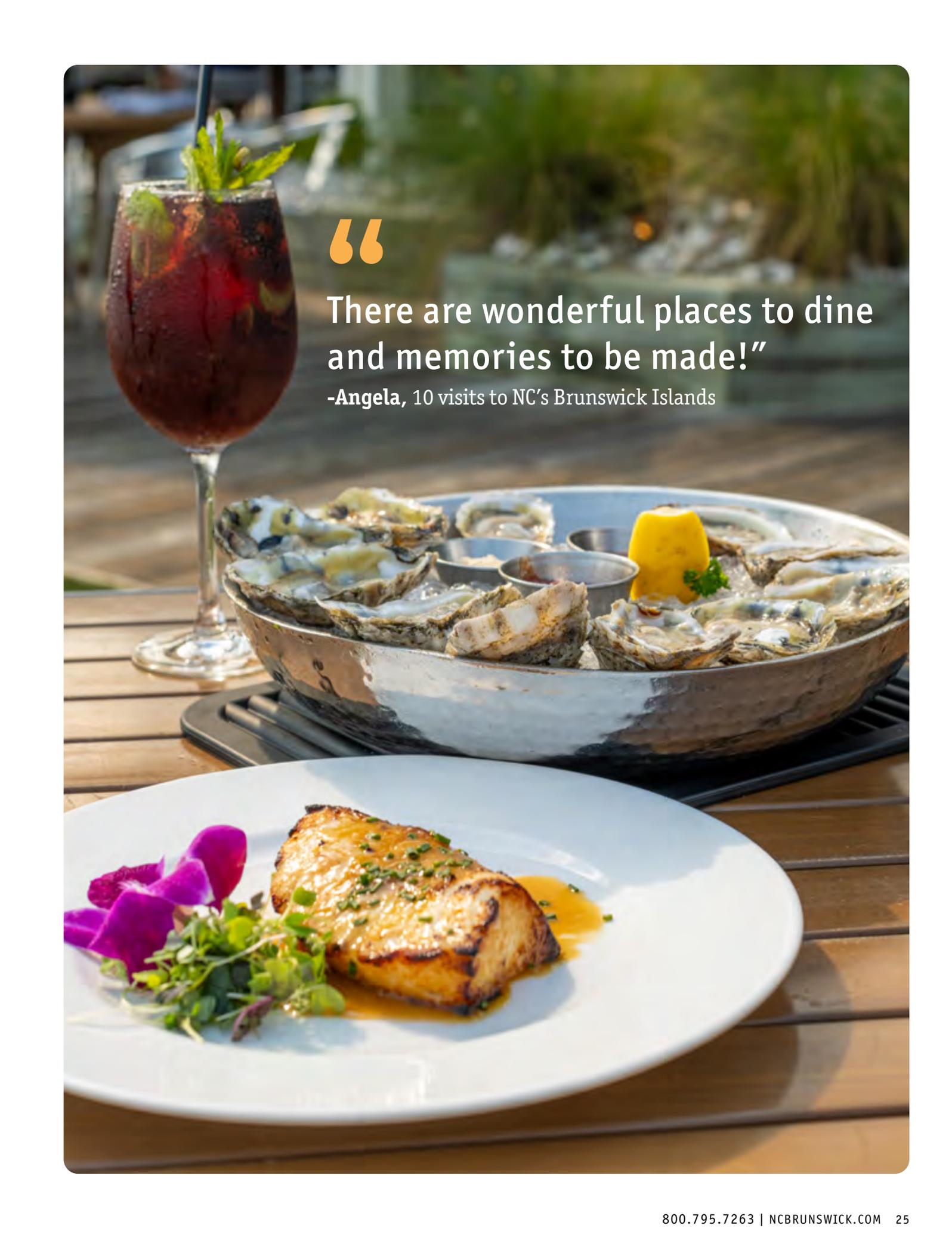
Find your culinary bliss in fresh catches from the ocean, inlets, and bountiful salt creeks. Fresh-picked produce from local Carolina farms and fields are all lovingly prepared and fussed over to perfection.

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

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

**DIG IN.**





“

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

-Angela, 10 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

# Every sip. Every bite. Every meal. Everyone finds their bliss.

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

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

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

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

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

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

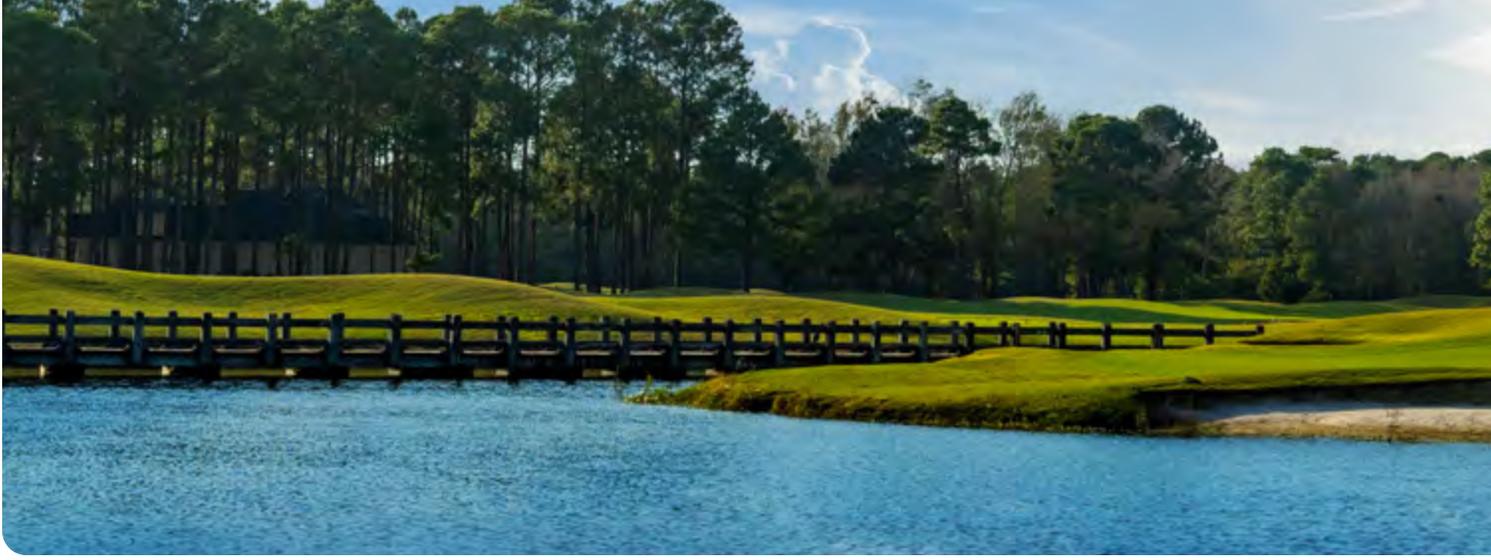
Mornings at the beach should come with fresh-brewed coffee, tea, or other eye-openers. Our coffee shops are amazing and range from those that boast fancy barista wizards to coffee/surf shops that send you out with a good cup of joe and a few surf tips. For something liquid a little later in the day,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

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

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







# They call this “North Carolina’s

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

It’s hard to keep your head down when there’s scenery like this to enjoy—a picturesque coastal landscape of ocean dunes, waterways, salt marshes, and forests. You’ll find 120 miles of sweeping





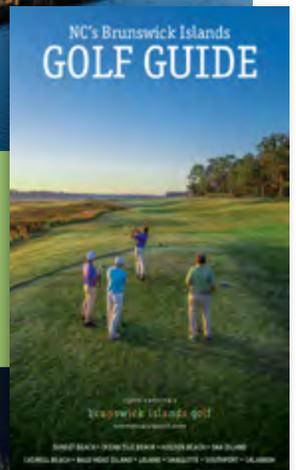
# Golf Coast™ for good reason.

emerald fairways including classic St. Andrews-style links courses, along with genteel but deceptively tricky Southern classic courses.

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



Visit  
[www.NCBrunswickGolf.com](http://www.NCBrunswickGolf.com)  
to request a **free Golf Guide**  
or more information.



# Golf Courses

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

Course Name, # of Holes Location, Contact Information	Course Par	Yardage	Course Rating	Course Slope	Type of Greens	Practice Range	Carts Mandatory	Course Architect	
<b>Meadowlands Golf Club.</b> 18 holes 1000 Meadowlands Tr., Calabash, NC 910.287.7529	72	7054	74	132	TifEagle	Yes	Yes	Willard Byrd	
<b>Oak Island Golf Club.</b> 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	
<b>Oak Island Par 3 Golf.</b> 18 holes 4188 Vanessa Dr., Oak Island, NC 910.454.0905	54	1951	52.3	-	Sunday Ultra-Dwarf Bermuda	No	No	-	
<b>Olde Fort Golf Club.</b> 18 holes 3189 River Rd. SE, Winnabow, NC 910.371.9940	72	6400	69.6	112	Bermuda	No	No	Raeford Trask	
<b>Oyster Bay Golf Links.</b> 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	
<b>Panther's Run Golf Links.</b> 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	
<b>The Pearl Golf Links.</b> 27 holes 1300 Pearl Blvd., Calabash, NC 910.579.8132 • 1.888.947.3275	73	7041	72.9	137	MiniVerde®	Yes	Yes	Dan Maples	
<b>Rivers Edge Golf Club.</b> 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	
<b>Sandpiper Bay Golf &amp; Country Club.</b> 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
<b>Sea Trail.</b> 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
<b>Thistle Golf Club.</b> 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
<b>Tiger's Eye Golf Links.</b> 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	

# A kingdom for kids.

*And the lucky parents who join them.*



LEARN MORE AT  
[WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/THINGS-TO-DO-WITH-KIDS](http://WWW.NCBRUNSWICK.COM/THINGS-TO-DO/THINGS-TO-DO-WITH-KIDS)



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

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

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

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



## MORE IDEAS FOR KIDDING AROUND

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

**There's no better place to say,  
"I love you."**



For your free wedding guide,  
visit [www.NCBrunswickWeddings.com](http://www.NCBrunswickWeddings.com)  
and let the planning begin!



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

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

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

## **Our special settings make more than weddings special.**

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

## **WEDDING AND REUNION VENUES**

801 Ocean Event Center

The Barn at Rock Creek

Brick Landing Venue

The Brunswick Center at Supply

Brunswick Plantation

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

Carolina National Golf Club

Davis Event Hall

Endless Summer Sailing Charter

Greenlands Farm

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

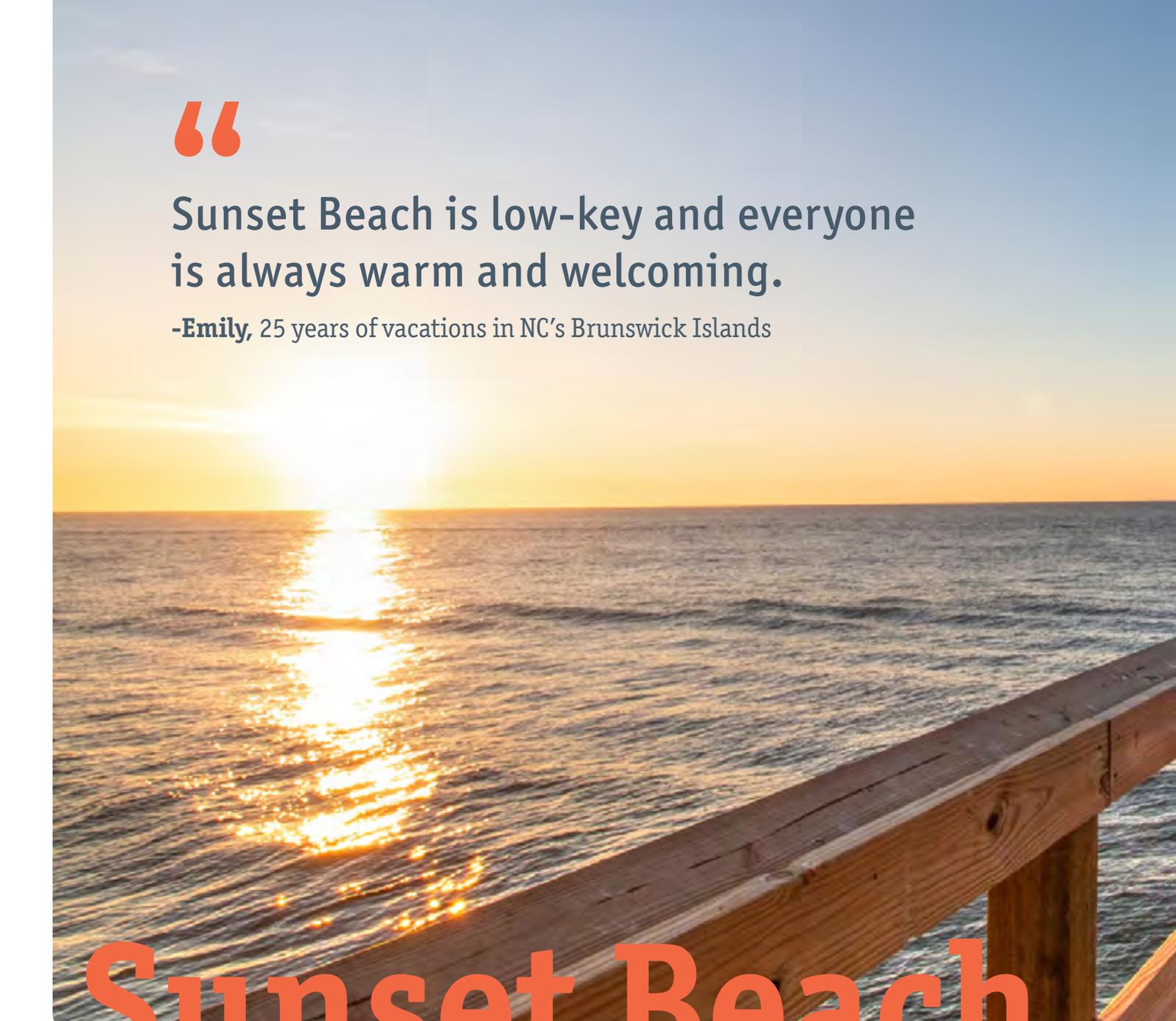
Sea Trail Convention Center

Silver Coast Winery

Southport Community Building

St. James Community Center

The Village Chapel of  
Bald Head Island



“

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

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

# Sunset Beach

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

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

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

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



# Ocean Isle Beach



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

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

Ocean Isle has been named “The South's Best Tiny Town” by *Southern Living*. Tiny perhaps, but this beach village is packed with big fun. The lively town offers something for everyone with a wide array of restaurants, many with waterfront views. Challenge the family to a mini-golf tournament, try your luck at the arcade, or take a zip-line tour above the wonders of the ecosystem at The Swamp Park. Adults can also enjoy the adventure of finding a new favorite refreshment at the local brewery or winery.

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



“

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

-Kellie, 10 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



“

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

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



# Holden Beach

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

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

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

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

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



# Oak Island

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

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

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

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

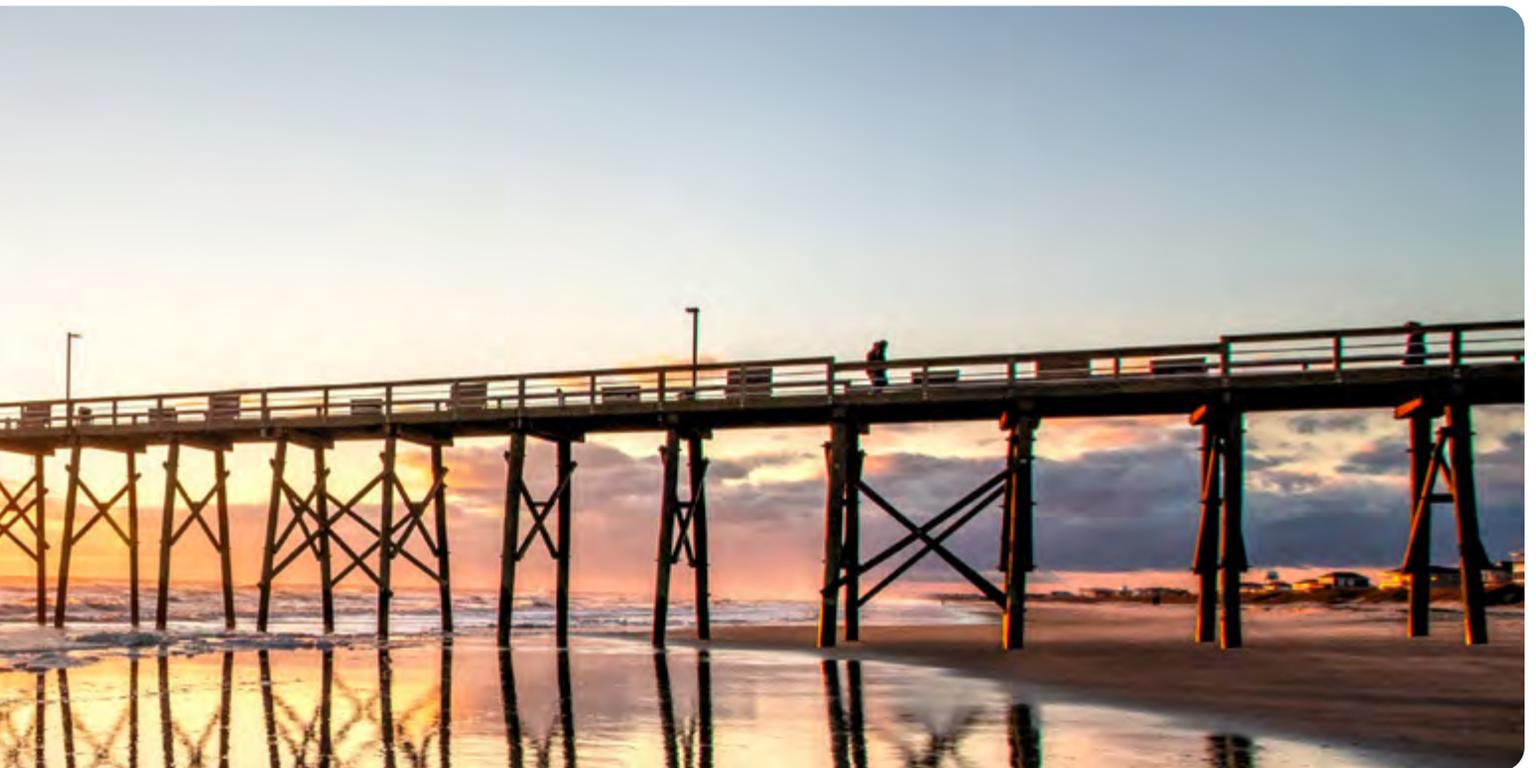
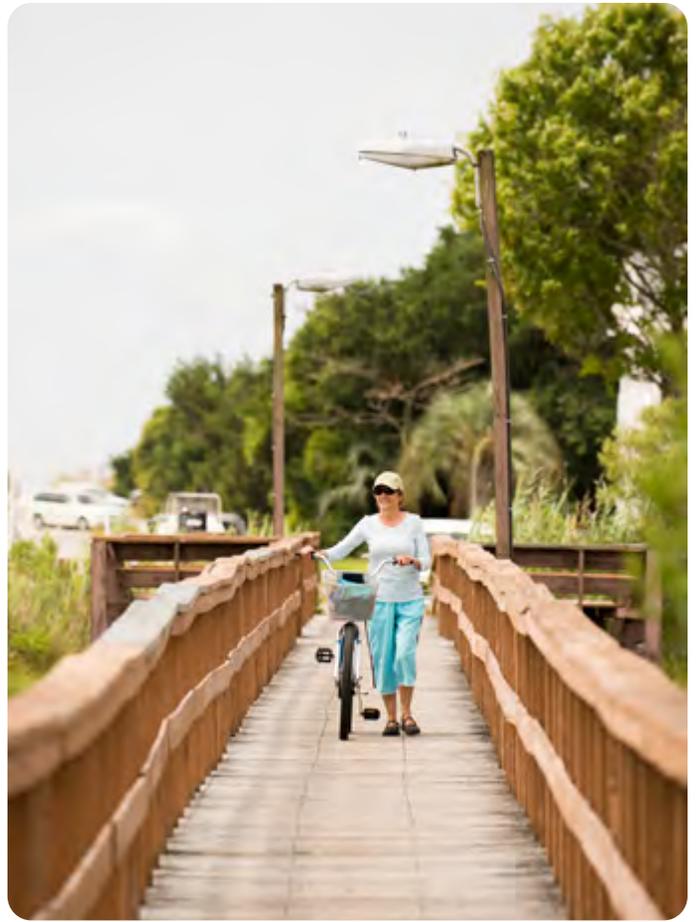
Dogs may wag their tails in approval here. The rest of us are more than happy to sit and stay.

“

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

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





“

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

-Cynthia, 12 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands



# Caswell Beach

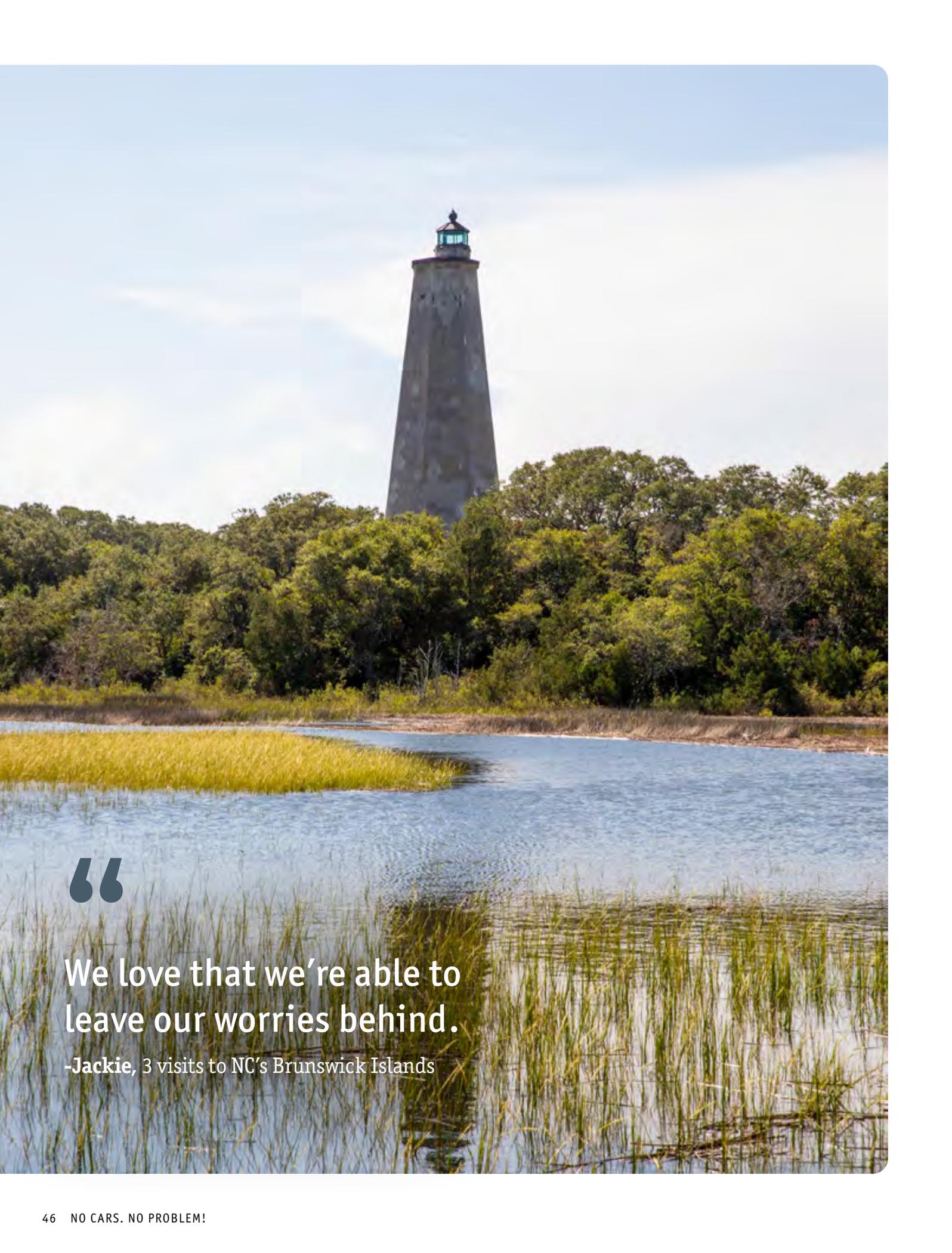
If the climb to the top of Oak Island Lighthouse in Caswell Beach doesn't leave you breathless, the view will. At 153 feet high—the tallest structure for miles—your climb is rewarded with a perfect perch to overlook the beauty and expanse of our barrier island ecosystem.

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

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

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





“

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

-Jackie, 3 visits to NC's Brunswick Islands

# Bald Head Island



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

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

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

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

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



# Leland

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

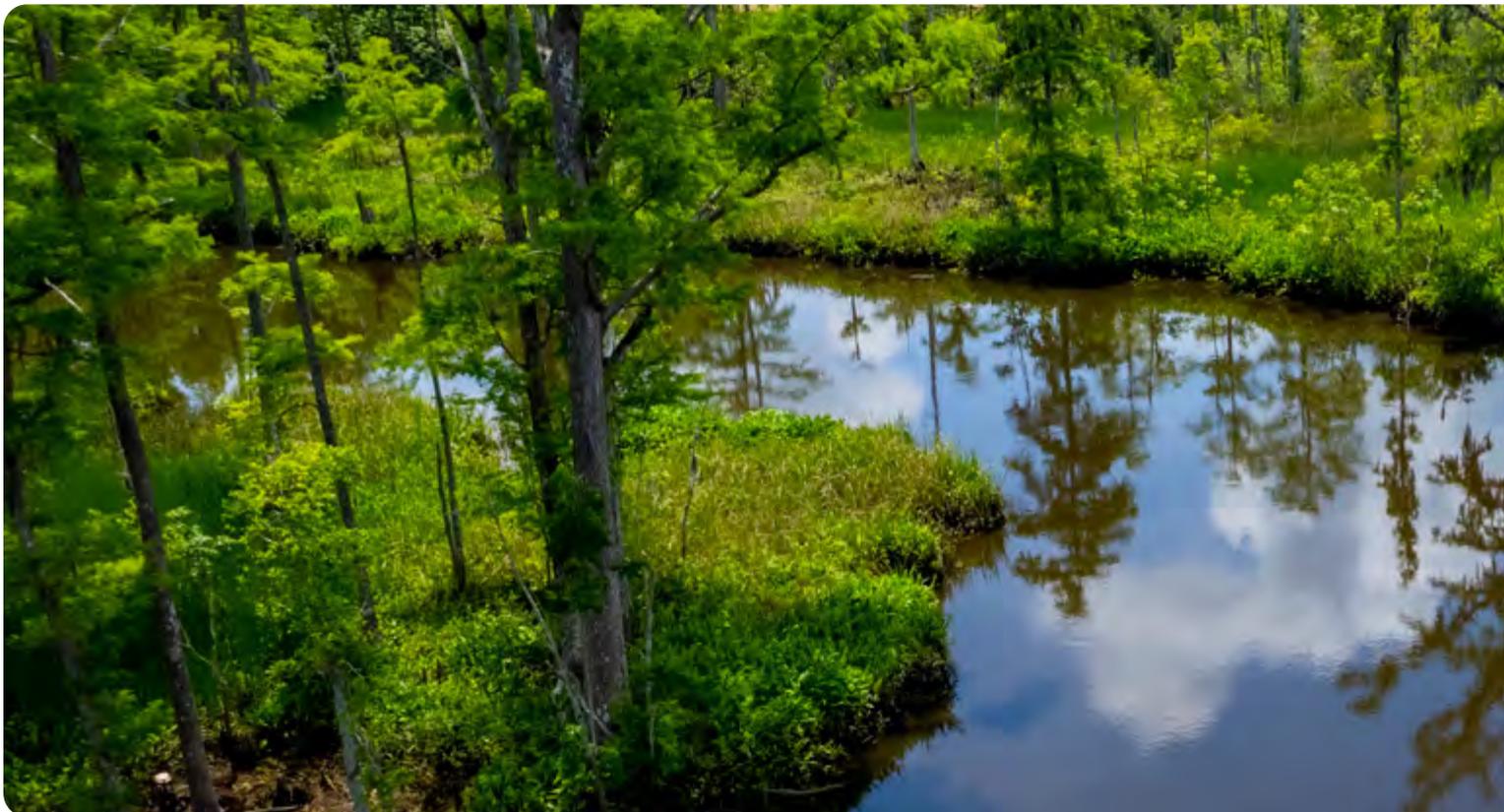
The town is a haven for those who love to commune with nature by kayak, bike, or foot. Nearby Brunswick Nature Park offers more than seven miles of mountain bike trails for all skill levels. At Belville's Riverwalk Park, you can watch for osprey, herons, and eagles

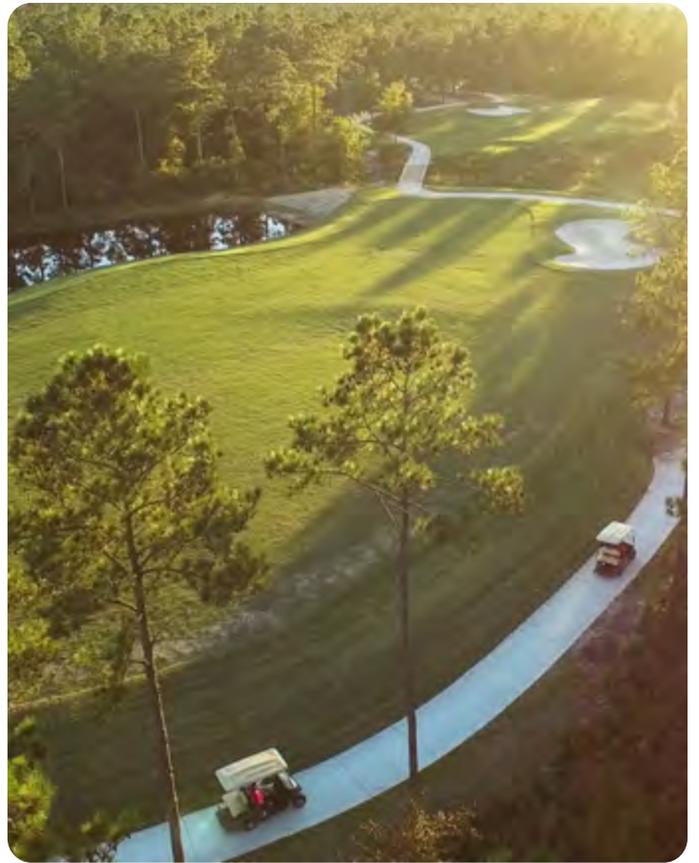
in flight or glide along the Brunswick Paddle Trail by kayak or boat.

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

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

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







# Shallotte

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

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

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

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

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





# Southport



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

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

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

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

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

# Calabash

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

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

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

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

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

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

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









# Mainland

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Looking for new adventures? We have a bucket full.

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

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

For more detailed information visit [ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do](http://ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do)



## Battleship NORTH CAROLINA

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

1 Battleship Road, Wilmington. 910.399.9100,  
[www.battleshipnc.com](http://www.battleshipnc.com)

## Bird Island

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

40th Street and West Main Street, Sunset Beach.  
[www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/bird-island/118](http://www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/bird-island/118)



## Boiling Spring Lakes Preserve

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

1 Leeds Road, Boiling Spring Lakes. [www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/boiling-spring-lakes-preserve/116](http://www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/boiling-spring-lakes-preserve/116)

## Brunswick Community College Odell Williamson Auditorium

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

150 College Road NE, Bolivia. 910.755.7416, [www.bccowa.com](http://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.

[www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/nature/birding](http://www.ncbrunswick.com/things-to-do/nature/birding)

## Brunswick Nature Park

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

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

## Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

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

8884 St. Philip's Road SE, Winnabow. 910.371.6613, [www.historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/brunswick-town-fort-anderson](http://www.historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/brunswick-town-fort-anderson)

## Ev-Henwood Nature Preserve

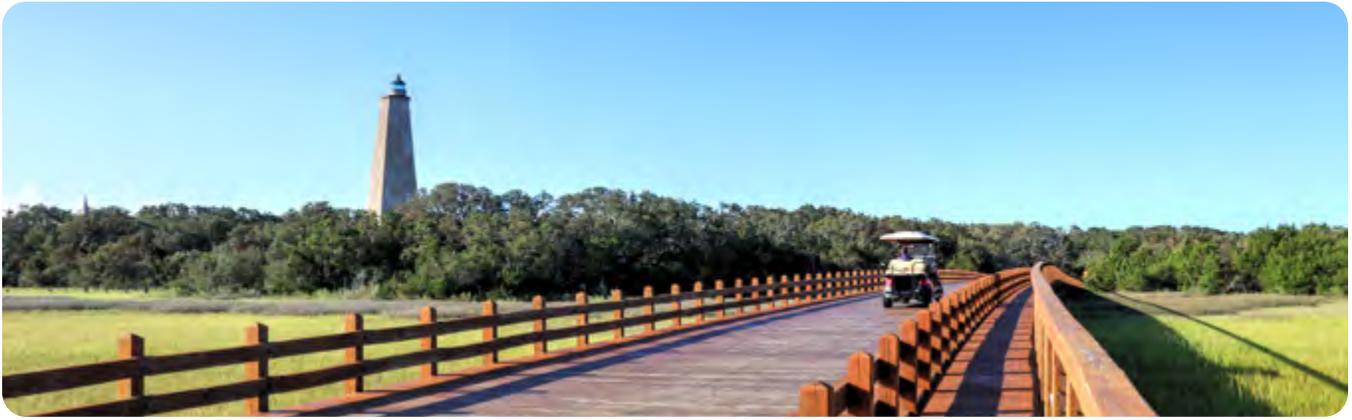
Connect with the natural world at this 174-acre coastal forest research and nature preserve. You'll discover miles of walking trails and limitless native flora and fauna. Free admission.

6150 Rock Creek Road NE, near Town Creek. 910.962.4191, [www.uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/ev-henwood](http://www.uncw.edu/physicalplant/arboretum/ev-henwood)

## Fort Johnston & Southport Museum

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

203 E. Bay Street, Southport. 910.457.7927, [www.southportnc.org/visitors-and-tourism](http://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](http://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. Per-show admission charged for Sky Theater Shows.

7625 High Market Street, Sunset Beach.  
910.575.0033, [www.museumplanetarium.org](http://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. Admission charged for non-members.

21 East Second Street, Ocean Isle Beach.  
910.579.1016, [www.museumplanetarium.org](http://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–4pm. Free admission.

204 E. Moore Street, Southport. 910.477.5150,  
[www.ncmaritimemuseumsouthport.com](http://www.ncmaritimemuseumsouthport.com)

## Oak Island Lighthouse

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

300A Caswell Beach Road, Caswell Beach.  
[www.oakislandlighthouse.org](http://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. Free admission.

5202 E Yacht Drive, Oak Island. [www.ncbrunswick.com/listing/oak-island-nature-center/172](http://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. Admission charged.

101 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island. Call 910.457.5003 for ferry information. Call 910.457.7481 for Old Baldy Lighthouse and tours, [www.oldbaldy.org](http://www.oldbaldy.org)

## Old Bridge Museum

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

109 Shoreline Drive West, Sunset Beach. 910.363.6585, [www.theoldbridge.org](http://www.theoldbridge.org)

## Silver Coast Winery

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

6680 Barbeque Road, Ocean Isle Beach. 910.287.2800, [www.silvercoastwinery.com](http://www.silvercoastwinery.com)

## The Swamp Park

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

5550 Watts Road, Ocean Isle Beach. 910.687.6100, [www.shallottriverswamppark.com](http://www.shallottriverswamppark.com)

# Welcome Centers

## Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce

800.426.6644  
112 Pine Street, Shallotte, NC 28470  
[communications@brunswickcountychamber.org](mailto:communications@brunswickcountychamber.org)  
[www.brunswickcountychamber.org](http://www.brunswickcountychamber.org)

## North Brunswick Chamber of Commerce

910.383.0553  
497 Olde Waterford Way Suite 202, Belville, NC 28451  
[nbchamber@nbchamber.net](mailto:nbchamber@nbchamber.net)  
[www.nbchamberofcommerce.com](http://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](mailto:info@southport-oakisland.com)  
[www.southport-oakisland.com](http://www.southport-oakisland.com)

## Southeastern Welcome Center

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

## Southport Visitors' Center & Museum

910.457.7927  
203 East Bay Street  
Southport, NC 28461  
[tourism@cityofsouthport.com](mailto:tourism@cityofsouthport.com)  
[www.cityofsouthport.com/community-relations-department/#visitors-center--museum](http://www.cityofsouthport.com/community-relations-department/#visitors-center--museum)



## NC Festival by the Sea— Holden Beach

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

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

## NC 4th of July Festival— Southport and Oak Island

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

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



# We celebrate everything! Come join us.

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

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

## NC Oyster Festival— Ocean Isle Beach

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

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

## Summer Music—Everywhere

Many islands and towns host free concerts throughout the summer season showcasing a variety of acts including jazz, Motown, blues, country, and rock. Bring your beach chair or blanket to relax, swing, sway, and sing along under the stars.

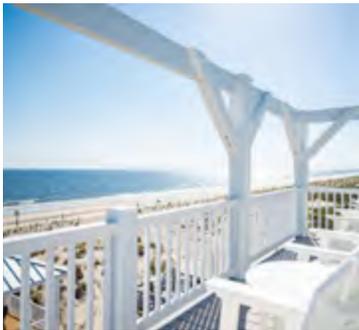
## More to Enjoy

We don't wait to celebrate the beauty, nature, and history of North Carolina's Brunswick Islands. In addition to the larger events, you'll find farmers and artisans markets, 5K runs, outdoor movies, fishing tournaments, art shows, historical observances, and holiday fun throughout the summer season and year-round.

## Love letters in the sand.

You don't see this every day; a mailbox propped by the dunes of Bird Island marked "Kindred Spirit." Placed here over 40 years ago—a mind-clearing, 30-minute stroll from the closest beach access, people from all over write their personal meditations and love letters in the journals within. The inspiration for Nicholas Sparks' novel, *Every Breath*, the Kindred Spirit Mailbox is a gentle reminder of the shared human spirit.

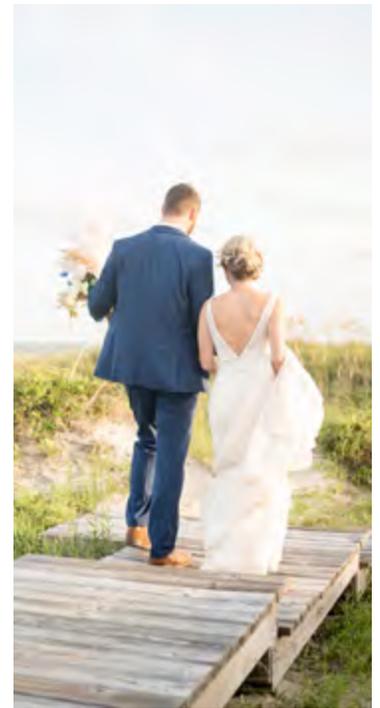




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Just two miles off the coast of Southport, Bald Head Island offers a true departure from the everyday. Arrive by passenger ferry, then travel the island by golf cart, bicycle or foot. Discover 14 miles of beaches, a 200-year-old lighthouse, and outstanding vacation rental cottages.



6 Marina Wynd | Bald Head Island, NC 28461  
1.877.344.6674 | [www.bhvacations.com](http://www.bhvacations.com) | [vacationsbhi@intracoastalrealty.com](mailto:vacationsbhi@intracoastalrealty.com)



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910.294.6070 | [www.riverhotelsouthport.com](http://www.riverhotelsouthport.com) | [riverhotelsouthport@gmail.com](mailto:riverhotelsouthport@gmail.com)



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1.800.727.9222 | 910.579.2373 | [www.williamsonrealtyvacations.com](http://www.williamsonrealtyvacations.com) | [rentals@williamsonrealty.com](mailto:rentals@williamsonrealty.com)



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



# Airports

## Wilmington International Airport

37 miles from Shallotte

910.341.4125

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

## Odell Williamson Municipal Airport

Ocean Isle Beach

910.579.2166

[www.airnav.com/airport/60j](http://www.airnav.com/airport/60j)

## Cape Fear Regional Jetport

5 miles from Southport

910.457.6483

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

## Myrtle Beach International Airport

45 miles from Shallotte

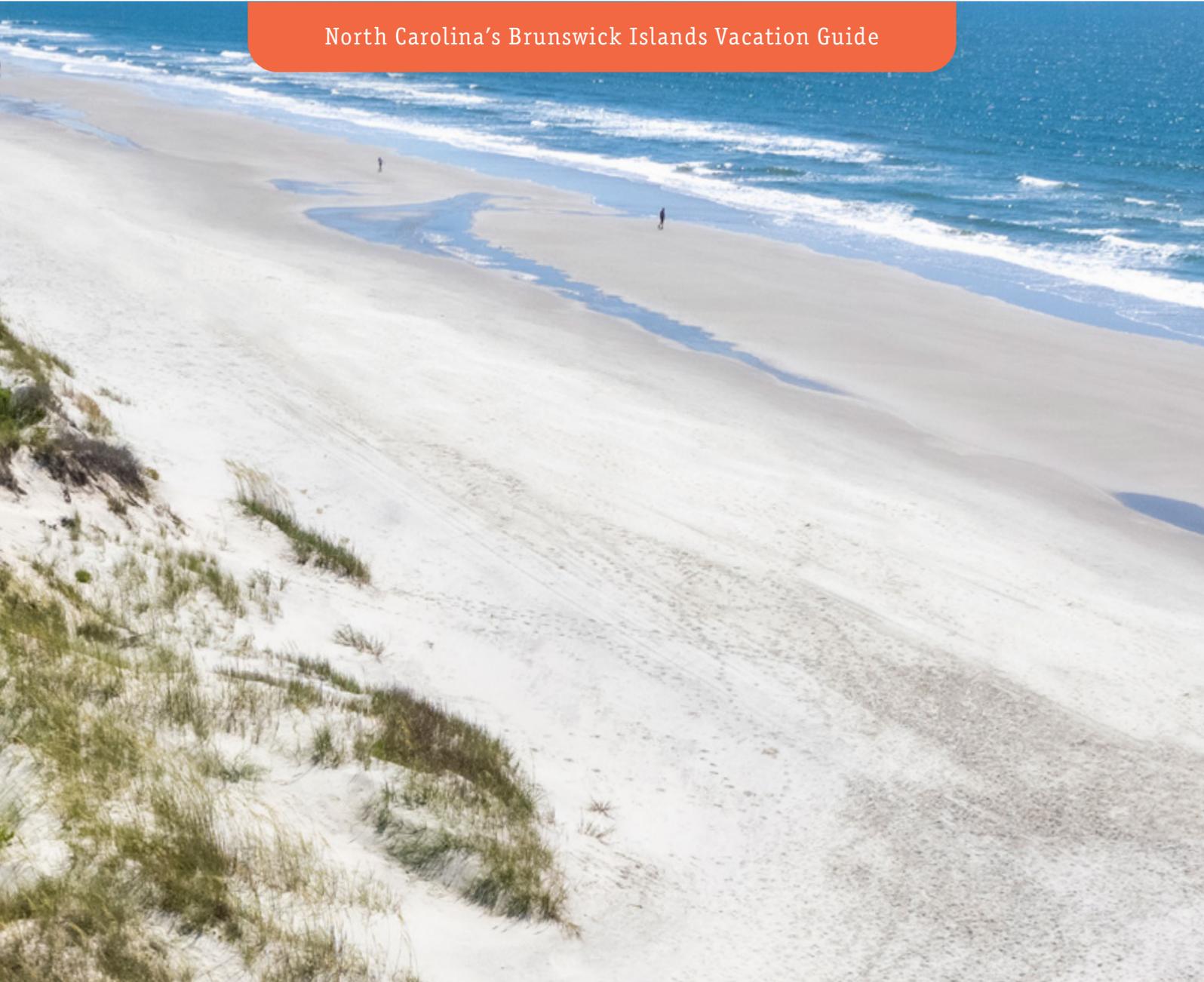
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