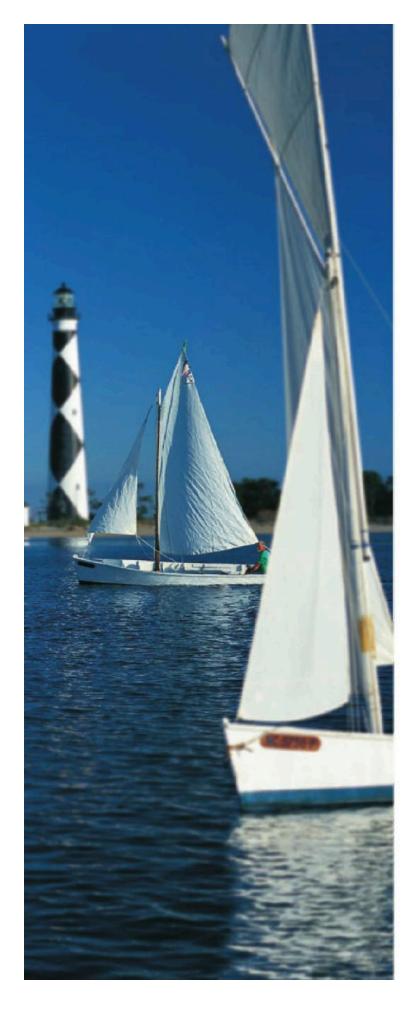




the **/ zimmerman** / agency (continued)



QUIET LUXURY IN THE CRYSTAL COAST

Comprised of 85 miles of glistening coastline, scattered islands, tranquil sea breezes and the crystal blue waters of the Atlantic Ocean, the Crystal Coastlocated along North Carolina's Southern Outer Banks—is the epitome of a true "coastal experience." Built on an eccentric history of legendary pirate adventures and ghostly encounters, there is something truly magical about this North Carolina haunt's otherwise traditional past-an indescribable feeling that changes its visitors' reality from the ordinary to the extraordinary. In the Crystal Coast, there is something for everyone; and its quaint maritime villages, award-winning local fare, pristine beaches, famed lighthouse and coastal manors are all a part of its familiar charm. With Atlantic Beach's historic Fort Macon, the eco-friendly Pine Knoll Shores, the lush greenery that gives Emerald Isle its name, or Morehead City's annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Fishing Tournament, its islands are as different as they are popular. Their commonality is evident in the understated elegance they share—making the Crystal Coast a perfect seaside retreat for travelers in search of a serene, but luxurious, escape.







In the Crystal Coast, travelers can live like kings in whimsical "sand castles" and opulent mansions.

With hundreds of bungalows and elegant estates right on the sand, the Crystal Coast offers visitors the chance to wake up each morning and take in spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and Bogue Sound. Rented by the week or month from companies like Emerald Isle Realty, these homes, ranging from cozy beach cottages to majestic villas—or "sand castles," as the locals call it—have

no shortage of luxurious amenities. For a holiday that's both tranquil and grand, stay in Emerald Isle's classic-Carolina, three-story Casa Bianco, where your group of 15 or more can enjoy spacious outdoor decks on each level, a lavish pool and Jacuzzi, a base-level game room and in-home theater, top-of-the-line technology, an elevator, elegant bedrooms with en-suite master bathrooms, and more. Available for rates spanning \$4K-\$8K weekly, depending on the time of year, reserve your stay with Emerald Isle Realty and prepare to let your imagination run wild.

Exquisite Dining

Whether it's because of its close proximity to the sea, its reputation for having the longest and most diverse fishing season on the Atlantic Coast, or its unique "Carteret Catch" program—guaranteeing fresh seasonal catches, caught daily by local fishermen off the Carolina Coast, for each of the area's 85 privately-owned restaurants—the Crystal Coast is the only place to get that year-round, "fresh from the docks" seafood every epicurean desires.



the **/ zimmerman** / agency (continued)









For a taste of award-winning Southern Outer Banks cuisine, reserve a seat at Circa 81 and enjoy an eclectic menu of executive Chef and Owner, Clarke Merrell's avant-garde tapas and inventive cocktails. Changing his menu daily as a result of the season's best seaside catches, enjoy a succulent selection of small plates like Sun Burst Farm Smoked Trout, Heritage Farm Honey Truffled Pork Belly, Seafood Mac N' Cheese, Confit Pork Jowl, an innovative dessert of Olive Oil Cake with white chocolate and blackberry ginger mousse, and more. The enchanting menu Circa 81 creates is designed to be perfectly paired with a clever cocktailso try a celebrated "Circa 81 Martini," and let Clarke's recipe pacify your palate.

Residents are proud of their area's natural beauty, familiar history

From running with wild Spanish mustangs on Shackleford Banks, to wreck-diving with Olympus Dive Center for a glimpse of Blackbeard's famous ships, kayaking with Hot Wax Surf Shop through the quaint streams of the Croatan National Forest and more, the Crystal Coast has no shortage of experiential pursuits for any type of traveler. Of all of these, one of the most popular cultural gems is none other than Beaufort's Hungry Town Bike Tours, where groups can hop on retro-chic bicycles and peddle their way through a unique guided tour of "America's Coolest Town": Beaufort, NC. Offering a range of themes-from the "Beaufort Lunchbox Tour," which includes a picnic wine and cheese lunch on the waterfront, to the new Nicholas Sparksinspired "A Ride to Remember" tour, which visits significant spots from his most popular novels-guests have the unique opportunity to experience two of the Southern Outer Banks most prominent attributes: history and local fare. The Culinary Bike Tour, a personal favorite, stops at three Beaufort landmark restaurants-like Finz Grill, Old Salt Restaurant and Oyster Bar and

Clawson's 1905 Restaurant and Pub—for a food-and-wine tasting that includes tantalizing treats like Spicy Crab Fritters with a Dijon remoulade, Firecracker Shrimp with Blackbeard's beans and rice, and a true Southern favorite: spicy Shrimp and Grits. After your three-hour excursion, wander through the boutique shops of downtown Beaufort before heading back to your seaside escape. If the weather's nice—which it always is—gather your family and friends, charter a local fishing yacht, like the Bill Collector or Sensation, and end your perfect day with a sunset wine and cheese cruise on Morehead Waterfront.

When it comes to your luxury escape, there's no reason it shouldn't be the vacation of your dreams. So contact the Crystal Coast Tourism Authority (www.CrystalCoastNC.org) and Emerald Isle Realty (www.EmeraldIsleRealty.com) to start planning an opulent adventure along North Carolina's Southern Outer Banks you never thought possible.