## the knot

## Top Beach Honeymoon Destinations in the US

Stay stateside for a sand, sun and surf-filled romantic getaway.

Thinking about hitting the beach for your honeymoon? Well, you're in good company: The Knot 2016 Romance Travel Study showed 76 percent of couples plan honeymoons with beach activities in mind. And we get the appeal. After all of the work you put into planning your wedding, some serious relaxation is in order. Want an even more stress-free trip? Consider one of these easy-to-get-to continental US destinations—no passport required.

## Emerald Isle, North Carolina



South of the Outer Banks is a chain of barrier islands known as the Crystal Coast, a string of seaside communities perfect for your romantic getaway. Rent a cozy bungalow in Emerald Isle on the island of Bogue Banks, a spot known for spectacular sunsets that rival the Caribbean, with emerald-colored water and golden beaches facing either the Atlantic Ocean or Bogue Sound. Spend days sunning on the beach, surfing or stand-up paddleboarding. You'll also want to make a point to explore the area's maritime history, including scuba diving through shipwrecks and visiting the Cape Lookout Lighthouse.