

Visit Myrtle Beach, S.C. Announces Latest New Developments

Myrtle Beach, S.C. (June, 2021) - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, continues to safely welcome visitors to its 60 miles of gorgeous coastline, now boasting new attractions, accommodations, dining options, and more for 2021. Visit Myrtle Beach and its partner organizations continue to remind travelers to visit the destination responsibly and created a <u>Healthy Travel</u> section on VisitMyrtleBeach.com with the latest COVID-19 updates and mandates. The following is the latest information on new tourism developments in the region.

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

Cultural Arts Center in Downtown Myrtle Beach

The City of Myrtle Beach and Coastal Carolina University (CCU) have entered into an agreement to purchase property that will be turned into a new cultural arts center and theater in downtown Myrtle Beach. The center will be located in what is now three properties in the downtown area of Myrtle Beach along Highway 501. The space will include a 300-seat theater, art gallery, reception area, dressing rooms and rehearsal space. It will be used for performing arts classes by CCU students as well as allow the city to host up to 30 productions per year. Construction is expected to begin in 2021 with the theater opening in the spring of 2022.

Myrtle Beach Mall Plans for The District

The Myrtle Beach Mall is proceeding with its \$150 million redevelopment for a new retail and restaurant space. Named "The District," current plans include new waterfront restaurants, sports bars, additional shopping areas, clubs, and a boutique hotel. Renderings also include a promenade and garden in the middle. A construction date has not yet been set. Additional details can be found at https://www.mymallmyrtlebeach.com/.

Tanger Outlets of Myrtle Beach

Tanger Outlets of Myrtle Beach (both the Hwy 501 and Hwy 17 locations) are opening several new top brand name and designer stores in Spring 2021. Sea Everything is now open at the Hwy 501 location, and Paradise Wine Company and Crabby J's Arcade will be opening soon. Travis Mathew and Haven's Marketplace are now open at the Hwy 17 location. Locations and store details can be found at www.tangeroutlet.com

American Surf Parks

Myrtle Beach will soon be home to South Carolina's first man-made surf park, called American Surf Park. The park's surfing lagoon will generate up to 1,000 waves per hour, with waves between 2-6 feet in height. The development will also include an amphitheater to accommodate up to 15,000 people. Preliminary renderings of the park have been completed and the building is expected to begin in 2021. Info: https://www.surfworks.com/myrtle-beach

The Hangout

Broadway at the Beach will add a new restaurant, retail and entertainment venue to its Entertainment District, called The Hangout. The new venue is currently under construction at the southeast corner of the property. The Hangout will become a new gathering place for great food and family fun, offering seasonal seafood dishes, beachside burgers, sandwiches and tacos, appetizers and sides made from locally sourced ingredients prepared from scratch in a world-class hi-tech kitchen designed to handle thousands of diners daily. It will also offer live music year-round both on indoor and outdoor stages. For more information, visit www.thehangout.com.

Funplex Amusement Park

Conveniently located just a few steps from the beach on 14th Ave. N., the Funplex Myrtle Beach is designed for families and thrill seekers alike. The new tropical themed park is lined with palm trees, features seven rides, a walk-up bar and restaurant. This attraction also features "Mach Fun", the tallest, interactive 360° jet simulator ride on the market, and first-of-its-kind in North America. Find out more: http://amusementtoday.com/2020/06/new-funplex-amusement-park-location-coming-to-myrtle-beach

Alabama Theatre 2021 Concert Schedule

The Alabama Theatre celebrates its 28th year with new famous Guest Artist Concerts throughout 2021 (in addition to the Theatre's signature productions) including: Comedian Brian Regan, Josh Turner, Easton Corbin, Humorist Jeannie Robertson, Home Free, Righteous Brothers, and many more. The Alabama Theatre also introduced a new comedic juggler, Slim Chance, and musician, Shawn Pittman. Slim is a self-proclaimed sophisticated, juggling hillbilly who never misses a beat. Shawn is a self-taught violin virtuoso who started his career at the age of 11 and has performed all over the United States, even playing for George W. Bush! For more information visit, www.alabama-theatre.com.

Brookgreen Gardens Red Wolf Exhibit

Brookgreen Gardens has started a fundraising campaign to help protect the most endangered wolf in the world – the red wolf. The \$250,000 campaign will fund a new four-acre habitat in Brookgreen's Lowcountry Zoo to allow a pack of red wolves to live safely in their natural environment. The zoo will house two breeding wolf pairs in cooperation with the Red Wolf Species Survival Plan, a program designed to oversee the population management of an endangered species in captivity and enhance their conservation in the wild. For more information visit www.brookgreen.org.

Huntington Beach State Park Nature Center

Huntington Beach State Park opened a new nature center after their previous center was destroyed in a lightning strike fire three years ago. The new nature center is a \$1.2 million investment and features a birding area, a classroom and an exhibit area with live animals. Money for the new nature center's exhibits was donated by several small groups and individual private donations to the Friends of

Huntington Beach State Park group. For more information, visit www.southcarolinaparks.com/huntington-beach.

SkyWheel Upgrades

SkyWheel Myrtle Beach has recently undergone a major makeover to celebrate the iconic attraction's 10th birthday. The SkyWheel makeover included a new wheel structure, refurbished interiors and exteriors of its 42 gondolas, and most noteworthy, a new state-of-the-art lighting system allowing for more dynamic light shows. The SkyWheel reopened in May 2021.

Hot Jersey Nights Christmas Special

Come see the Grand Strands newest Holiday show, Hot Jersey Nights Christmas Special! Experience the very best and most loved Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons Songs of all time with a mixture of all the Holiday Classics you could ever wish for. Take a walk down memory lane with four of the very best Male Vocalists in America as they join together in a Christmas Wonderland onstage to sing all their Hit Songs including, Walk Like a Man, Candy Girl, Jingle Bells, White Christmas, Big Girls Don't Cry, My Eyes Adored You and of course 'Oh What a Night', which is exactly what you will have!

Le Grand Cirque 2.0

Broadway at the Beach teamed up with Dublin Worldwide Productions USA to bring Le Grand Cirque 2.0 to the Broadway Theater in Myrtle Beach. The jaw-dropping visual feast of breathtaking group acrobatics features an international cast of artists handpicked from around the world for their death-defying abilities and precision skills. Le Grand Cirque 2.0 will play from June 1 to October 3. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.broadwaytheatermb.com

The Waccamaw Indian People: Past, Present, and Future

The Horry County Museum is hosting a new exhibit called *The Waccamaw Indian People: Past, Present, and Future*, which will begin on Tuesday, April 27th and is scheduled to remain open until January 2022. This exhibit features the history of the Waccamaw Indian People and their enduring culture through the display and interpretation of the belongings and personal stories integral to their Native American heritage. The exhibit includes hands-on, audio, and visual displays for all audiences and was created by Coastal Carolina University students working with assistant professor Katie Stringer Clary, Department of History, and professor Carolyn Dillian, Department of Anthropology and Geography. The digital exhibit can be found here.

Pro Football Hall of Fame, "Gridiron Glory, The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame"

"Gridiron Glory" will open at Broadway at the Beach in early July and house more than 200 artifacts, such as a leather helmet and jerseys, and photos from various players in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The exhibit will be organized to tell the story of the early stages of NFL football to where it is today, including the stories of Pro Football Hall of Famers Red Grange, Dick Butkus, Joe Namath, Bart Starr, Tom Landry, Joe Montana, John Elway and many other giants of the game. For more information, visit https://www.hofmyrtlebeach.com/.

AVIATION AND TRANSPORTATION

Myrtle Beach Airport Taxiway Project

Due to a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration, Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) will be restoring its taxiway. The taxiway, which takes airplanes from the terminal to the runway, has begun pavement rehabilitation on Taxiway A and will take about a year to complete as part of the Horry County Department of Airports' multiyear, multiphase project to restore its runway system. This project will keep the airport in compliance with FAA standards and prepare MYR for continued aircraft operational growth in the years to come. The project will not interfere with flight operations as most of the work will be done at night. For more information, visit www.flymyrtlebeach.com.

New Flight Routes with Southwest Airlines

Daily, year-round service will arrive in time for summer vacations this year on Southwest Airlines. The airline announced ten (10) new nonstop destinations from the Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR). Here are the start dates for the new routes:

Beginning May 23, 2021, service to:

- Baltimore, MD (BWI) 3x daily
- Chicago, IL (MDW)v- 2x daily
- Nashville, TN (BNA) 2x daily

Beginning May 29, 2021, service to:

- Dallas, TX (DAL) 2x Weekly
- Pittsburgh, PA (PIT) 5x Weekly

Beginning June 6, 2021, service to:

- Atlanta, GA (ATL) 1x Daily
- Columbus, OH (CMH) 5x Weekly
- Indianapolis, IN (IND) 5x Weekly
- Kansas City, MO (MCI) 2x Weekly
- St. Louis, MO (STL). 2x Weekly

New Flight Routes with United Airlines

Beginning on May 28, 2021, service to:

- Cleveland, OH
- St. Louis, IL

Beginning on May 29, 2021, service to:

Milwaukee, WI

New Flight Routes with Delta Airlines

- Beginning April 17, 2021 service to Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN
- Beginning May 8, 2021 service to Boston, MA

New Flight Routes with Frontier Airlines

- Beginning April 12, 2021 service to Denver, CO and Trenton, NJ
- Beginning April 13, 2021 service to Islip, NY and Philadelphia, PA
- Beginning June 10, 2021 service to Providence, RI and Miami, FL
- Beginning June 11, 2021 service to Buffalo, NY
- Beginning June 12, 2021 service to Portland, ME

New Flight Routes with Spirit Airlines

Beginning May 6, 2021

- Kansas City, MO
- Dallas/Fort Worth, TX
- Columbus, OH
- Charleston, WV

CULINARY

Due South at 72nd

Located inside the brand new Grande Cayman Resort is Due South at 72nd, a not-to-miss restaurant with southern-infused food. Known as the "sister restaurant" to Sea Captain's House, Due South at 72nd boasts a relaxing atmosphere along Ocean Blvd. One of the best-kept secrets in Myrtle Beach, this new spot is the perfect place to enjoy great food and an exciting selection of beverages.

Grand Strand Brewing Company

The two-story building that fronts Nance Plaza in the soon-to-be-revitalized downtown area is now home to Grand Strand Brewing Company. The brewery produces a variety of handmade beers available in its taproom. There is also a small, on-site commercial kitchen where local chefs and restaurants can prepare food to pair with the craft beer selection. Grand Strand Brewing Company opened in March 2021 with outdoor seating and entertainment.

Crooked Hammock Brewery

A new brewery is open in Barefoot Landing featuring a restaurant and backyard beer garden. Crooked Hammock Brewery brings to life an all-ages backyard escape that features craft beer, indoor/outdoor seating for more than 500 guests, firepits, hammocks, a playground for kids, bocce ball courts, corn hole, and a bar that is set over the lake. Crooked Hammock Brewery's restaurant features backyard cookout-inspired food such as burgers, oak-smoked baby back ribs, giant Bavarian pretzels, and savory sides such as jalapeno and cheddar cornbread, all in a pet-friendly environment. There is also a food truck on the premises! For more information visit www.CHBMyrtleBeach.com.

Mojo's Marina Bar & Grille

Mojo's Marina Bar and Grille is a new addition to Murrells Inlet waterfront restaurants. Guests can enjoy panoramic views of the inlet while sipping a freshly made mojito and selecting from the restaurant's diverse menu, ranging from local seafood to delectable southern dishes. For more information, visit www.mojosmarina.com.

DinoLand Cafe

Step into a land full of Jurassic creatures at DinoLand Cafe, a full-service restaurant with life-sized animatronic dinosaurs, fiery dragons, Ice Age mammoths and more. This one-of-a-kind dining experience is located in central Myrtle Beach. Children and adults alike can enjoy a variety of meals that won't disappoint, including lava mountain ribs and dino-burgers, to name a few. Learn more: https://dinolandcafe.com/

Drift: A Coastal Eatery

A new breakfast eatery has opened along the Grand Strand. Drift a Coastal Eatery will be open for breakfast and lunch from 7am-3pm daily. In addition to serving up brunch classics like Eggs Benedict and Avocado Toast, more unique menu items include Spanish-Grilled Octopus and a Salmon Power Bowl.

Fried Chicks

Heidi's Corner Restaurant Group opened a new restaurant concept called "Fried Chicks," which is a virtual, delivery-only restaurant serving Fried Chicken and Waffles. The Fried Chicks menu includes their staple item - Fried Chicken and Waffles, but also includes fun variants like Fried Chicken and Grits, Crab Cakes and Waffles, and Fried Chicken and Waffle Nachos. The delivery-only restaurant is now taking orders on DoorDash, GrubHub, UberEats, and ezCater.

Abundance

Abundance is a new fine dining experience that opened in the Grand Dunes Marketplace in Myrtle Beach in April 2021 specializing in modern cuisine with a French influence. Everything prepared at Abundance is made in house by renowned Chef Joseph Palmitessa and sous chef John Boulanger. Abundance can seat up to 72 people within the restaurant as well as 14 at the bar with an additional outdoor dining option. Owner William Tyson will also add a collection of up and coming art to the restaurant for personality and flair.

LandShark Bar & Grill

LandShark Bar & Grill's Barefoot Landing location adds to the already eclectic restaurant scene at Barefoot. This easy-going eatery serving American beach food with a fresh coastal twist will include an outdoor stage hosting live music, plus a waterfront bar and patio seating all overlooking Barefoot Lake. Kids will also have fun playing in the pirate-themed shipwreck play area adjacent to the restaurant.

Earth Cafe

The Earth Cafe is a swanky and hip new cafe located on North Kings Highway and 38th Ave. N offering organic, fresh and real ingredients. Open for breakfast and lunch daily, their menu is full of vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options.

Nola'z New Orleans Dueling Piano Bar and Eatery

Myrtle Beach's second dueling piano bar is opening near the ocean and the Myrtle Beach Boardwalk, in the former home of Gordo's Tacos and Tequila. Nola'z will have dueling green and purple pianos that will be heard from both inside and outside dining. The food options are Cajun and New Orleans inspired, ranging from etouffee and gumbo to alligator bites and speciality bloody mary's.

EVENTS

Carolina Country Music Festival New Artists

The sixth annual Carolina Country Music Fest (CCMF) will take place in Myrtle Beach from June 10-13, 2021. The festival will feature more than 30 of the industry's biggest stars. Performers include Luke Combs, Eric Church, Darius Rucker, Jake Owen, and many more! Tickets are sold out, but for more information, visit www.carolinacountrymusicfest.com.

LODGING

Springhill Suites and Courtyard Marriott

A new dual-branded offering by Marriott is coming to Myrtle Beach's Ocean Boulevard. The new Springhill Suites and Courtyard by Marriott property will replace the recently demolished Breakers Resort near 21st Avenue North. Renderings show the new oceanfront resort will stand 26 stories tall and include rooftop amenities, including outdoor seating complete with fire pits. Additional outdoor amenities include a ground-level pool and lazy river. Plans for the property are in development and approval. Full completion of the project is scheduled for the spring of 2022. Learn more at https://www.brittainresorts.com/brand-new-marriott-tower-coming-to-myrtle-beach/.

Homewood Suites by Hilton

Homewood Suites by Hilton boasts apartment-style living near the beautiful beaches in the Grand Strand. Just three-miles from the Atlantic Ocean, this property is located in close proximity to the area's premier attractions and activities, in addition to being five-minutes away from the Myrtle Beach Airport and fifteen-minutes from five golf courses. For more information, visit

https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/myrgmhw-homewood-suites-myrtle-beach-coastal-grand-mall/

Kingston Resorts

Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort, located along Myrtle Beach's beautiful and spacious Grand Strand, has been transformed with a \$20 million renovation. This 387-room oceanfront destination offers a stunning new open-air gathering space. The transformation continues with a \$30 million renovation to Embassy Suites Myrtle Beach Oceanfront Resort that will be complete in early 2022. The oceanfront is being reimagined with a new pool deck, Brewhouse with garden terrace, a multipurpose lawn with games and firepits and a children's waterpark. This ambitious project refreshes a legacy on the Grand Strand and advances it to the next level. Learn more here: https://www.kingstonplantation.com/

Ocean Lakes Family Campground

Celebrating 50 years in 2021, Ocean Lakes Family Campground is kicking off its anniversary celebration with renovations and expansions to its Main Office. The renovations will provide a more personal and comfortable experience when checking into Ocean Lakes, featuring a new gift shop and seating area for guests while they wait to check in. The renovations are slated to be completed in 2021. Learn more at www.oceanlakesfamilycampground.blogspot.com.

Ocean Escape Condos by Landmark Resort

Ocean Escape Condos by Landmark Resort is now open and features brand-new, second row condos, just steps from Landmark Resort's main building. One of the newest accommodation options in Myrtle Beach, Ocean Escape is home to two and three bedroom condos with new appliances, furniture,

bedding, flooring and more. The new condos come equipped with free Wi-Fi, full kitchens, spacious living space and more. With many of the accommodation units sleeping up to 10 people, there's plenty of space for the entire family. And, families will enjoy additional nearby amenities including indoor/outdoor pools, lazy river, whirlpool, hot tub, swim-up bar, restaurants, an arcade, and seasonal entertainment and activities. For more information visit www.VacationMyrtleBeach.com.

South Bay Inn and Suites to become Homewood Suites Myrtle Beach Oceanfront

Homewood Suites has purchased and will begin to remodel and rebrand South Bay Inn and Suites in Winter 2021. The resort is located on the oceanfront with dozens of family-friendly amenities.

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The Myrtle Beach area, popularly known as the Grand Strand, stretches from Little River to Pawleys Island, comprising 14 distinct cities along the South Carolina coast. Home to 60 miles of sandy beaches, an assortment of entertainment and family attractions, Southern hospitality and world-class golf, the Myrtle Beach area presents the quintessential vacation experience.

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