

DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
ONE VISITORS CENTER CIRCLE  
MANTEO, NC 27954

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of:
  - 1. June 17, 2021
  - 2. July 15, 2021 Special Meeting
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Budget & Finance Report-Budget & Finance Committee Chair
- VII. Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Updates
- VIII. Old Business
  - 1. Recommendation on Town of Nags Head Combined Conditional Use Permit
- IX. New Business
- X. Board Member Comments
- XI. Set Date, Time, and Place of Next Meeting
- XII. Adjournment

**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD  
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:**

**In-Person:** Jeff Pruitt, Chair; Tim Cafferty, Vice-Chair; Ervin Bateman, Treasurer; Webb Fuller, Secretary; Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Bobby Owens, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**Via GoToMeeting:** Monica Thibodeau, Assistant Treasurer; Karen Loopman-Davis, and Ivy Ingram.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Doug Brindley, Donna Peele

**STAFF (in person):**

Lee Nettles, Executive Director  
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration  
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist  
Stephanie Hall, Senior Content Coordinator  
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager  
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

**In Person:** Dr. Jack Bagwell, President, College of the Albemarle; Dean Tim Sweeney, College of the Albemarle Dare Campus; James Ayers, Manteo Town Manager; and Philip Ruckle, *The Coastland Times*.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board then recited the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Holland moved to approve the agenda. Second by Mr. Charalambous. There was no discussion.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Charalambous moved to approve the meeting minutes from May 20, 2021, meeting. Second by Mr. Holland. There was no discussion.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments made. No written comments were received.

**PRESENTATION BY COLLEGE OF THE ALBEMARLE:** Dean Sweeney and President Bagwell updated the Board on the progress of the new building on the Dare County Campus, and programs offered at that campus (attachment A). The Board discussed the current hospitality training course and asked about the potential to have a culinary and a wind energy (either building or repair) course at the Dare campus.

**STEERING COMMITTEE:** Lee Nettles reviewed the request from the Town of Manteo for improvements to the Davis Lot (attachment B). Lee Nettles reviewed what the conservation easement dictated could, and could not, be done on the site. Jay Wheless gave his legal opinion that the improvements met the spirit of the easement. Following discussion, Mr. Bateman moved to approve the conceptual plans and to allow staff and Legal Counsel to give approval on the final plans. Second by Mr. Fuller.

Mr. Cafferty asked to clarify that the Board needed no further action on the plans; that Staff and Legal Counsel would handle. Legal Counsel responded that was correct and would only come back if it was deemed necessary.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT:** Mr. Bateman reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received. Receipts for fiscal year 2020-2021 are up 28.74% compared to 2019-2020 actual receipts.

**ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET ORDINANCE:** During review, Mr. Holland asked what happened to the \$600,000 to be paid to the Town of Nags Head and how did it impact the budget. Diane Bognich noted it had been encumbered for the same item, to be spent later.

Mr. Bateman moved to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Ordinance. Second by Mr. Holland.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**AUDITING FIRM RECOMMENDATION:** Lee Nettles reviewed the RFP process and the recommendation from the Budget and Finance Committee to select Thompson Price to conduct the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Audit. The Board and staff discussed pricing, references, remote versus in person work, and past work/relationship with Johnson versus a new company and the additional work required with a new firm, size difference between Dare County Tourism Board and other TDA's listed as references, and any additional work that might arise with using a new firm.

Following discussion, Mr. Cafferty moved to select Johnson, Mizelle to conduct the Fiscal Year Audits for the next three years. Second by Mr. Charalambous.

**Yes:** Ervin Bateman, Tim Cafferty, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Webb Fuller, Leo Holland, Ivy Ingram, Karen Loopman-Davis, Bobby Owens, Jeff Pruitt, and Monica Thibodeau.

**No:** None. The motion passed unanimously (11-0).

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES:** Lee Nettles updated the Board on:

- Marketing strategies from Hoffman York and Ignite Social Media. Work is ongoing for creative for the upcoming year.
- Travel Guide for 2022 will be hybrid between the previous 88-page guide and the six-page guide produced in 2021. It would be a 44-page guide that combines the greater details, provide marketing spaces for partners, and keep costs manageable.
- Soundside Event Site Advisory Ad Hoc Committee meeting on July 8, 2021 at 2 p.m. Lee Nettles hopes that a final concept for a building on the event site will come from this meeting.
- A letter from a visitor praising Faye Lewis, one of the phone representatives, for her help.
- Marketing and Visitation numbers. The Advance Auto Parts Summer Travel Sweepstakes link in our newsletter brought in over 12,000 clicks.

Lorrie Love reported on the Group and Meeting markets, which are returning. She is attending virtual marketplaces and hopes to return to in-person marketplaces in November. She also updated the Board on events, particularly the Fun Fair, which returned to the site June 10-13, 2021. Both the fair organizers and Town of Nags Head Police were pleased with using the parking lot at Pamlico Jacks.

Aaron Tuell reviewed recent media coverage and interviews about the Outer Banks and his work, along with Lee Nettles and community leads, on creating and promoting an African American Experience Trail with six other counties.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business before the Board at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Cafferty asked staff and Legal Counsel to work on solutions for land purchased through the GOSPL and other restricted grant funds and any future purchases.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Mr. Fuller asked if the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau could highlight the beach accesses. Lee Nettles noted the beach and sound accesses chart on the map and website but noted the Bureau could push the message out via social media. Mr. Holland spoke about the traffic measures the Town of Southern Shores put in place for the peak season.

**SET DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:** There will be a Special Meeting on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in Curtis Creech Memorial Boardroom, Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Administrative Office, Manteo, NC (virtual and in-person options available).

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

**ATTESTED:**

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Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board



**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:**

**In-Person:** Jeff Pruitt, Chair; Tim Cafferty, Vice-Chair; Ervin Bateman, Treasurer; Monica Thibodeau, Assistant Treasurer; Webb Fuller, Secretary; Doug Brindley, Bambos Charalambous, Jamie Chisholm, Leo Holland, Karen Loopman-Davis, Ivy Ingram, Bobby Owens, and Jay Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**Via GoToMeeting:** None.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Hatteras-at-large Representative

**STAFF (in person):**

Lee Nettles, Executive Director  
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration  
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist  
Stephanie Hall, Senior Content Coordinator  
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager  
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

**In Person** Ralph Buxton, Bradley Carey, First Flight Adventure Park; Tonia Cohen, Outer Banks Hotel/Motel Association; John DeLucia, Albemarle & Associates; and Danielle Puleo, *The Coastland Times*.

**Via GoToMeeting:** Sarah Emmerton, C.H. Johnson Consulting; Peggy Shen.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board then recited the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Holland moved to approve the agenda. Second by Ms. Thibodeau. There was no discussion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

**SOUNDSIDE EVENT CENTER CONCEPT:** Lee Nettles reviewed the composition and charge of the Ad Hoc Soundside Advisory Committee and reviewed the work leading up to the concept being presented (on file). He reminded the Board that they were focusing on the concept of the center at this time, not final plans as there is still work to be done before reaching that point.

Lee Nettles then reviewed the size of the building, parking and septic needs, events that could be held there, variances needed, and community needs. The Board discussed these, and the pros and cons of a hotel. Ms. Chisholm noted that the Hotel/Motel Association opposed a hotel on the site as it would use occupancy taxes currently collected to compete with them but did support a stand along event center.

Following discussion, Mr. Charalambous moved to approve the [Soundside Event Center Ad Hoc] Advisory Committee's renderings (including the absence of a hotel] on the Tourism Board's property and authorize staff and attorney to explore and determine the next steps in pursuance of the concept. Second by Ms. Thibodeau. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously (12-0).

The Chair asked if there was any further business before the Board. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

**ATTESTED:**

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Clerk, Dare County Tourism Board

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**BUDGET & FINANCE PROJECTIONS  
OCCUPANCY & MEALS FY 2021-2022**

FISCAL YEAR		PROJECTED FY 21-22	ACTUAL FY 21-22	+/- \$	+/- %
JUNE EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$992,065.00	\$1,276,821.42	\$284,756.42	28.70%
JULY RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$320,475.00</u>	<u>\$484,564.78</u>	<u>\$164,089.78</u>	<u>51.20%</u>
		\$1,312,540.00	\$1,761,386.20	\$448,846.20	34.20%
JULY EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$1,318,025.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
AUGUST RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$361,870.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,679,895.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
AUGUST EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$1,185,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
SEPT RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$347,875.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,533,375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
SEPTEMBER EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$471,670.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
OCT RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$241,835.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$713,505.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
OCTOBER EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$224,335.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NOV RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$185,505.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$409,840.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
NOVEMBER EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$98,630.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
DEC RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$117,835.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$216,465.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
DECEMBER EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$48,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
JAN RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$93,525.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$142,125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
JANUARY EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$72,280.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
FEB RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$67,970.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$140,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
FEBRUARY EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$54,705.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
MARCH RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$79,630.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$134,335.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
MARCH EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$85,430.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
APRIL RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$116,040.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$201,470.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
APRIL EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$183,450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
MAY RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$175,685.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$359,135.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
MAY EARNED	OCCUPANCY	\$300,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
JUNE RECEIVED	MEALS	<u>\$220,865.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$520,865.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
TOTALS	OCCUPANCY	\$992,065.00	\$1,276,821.42	\$284,756.42	28.70%
TO-DATE	MEALS	<u>\$320,475.00</u>	<u>\$484,564.78</u>	<u>\$164,089.78</u>	<u>51.20%</u>
		\$1,312,540.00	\$1,761,386.20	\$448,846.20	34.20%
TOTAL	OCCUPANCY	\$5,034,690.00			
PROJECTED	MEALS	<u>\$2,329,110.00</u>			
2020-2021		\$7,363,800.00			

CALENDAR YEAR RECEIPTS <u>2020-2021</u>		ACTUAL 2020	ACTUAL 2021	+/- \$	+/- %
<i>DECEMBER EARNED</i>					
<u>JAN RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$64,325.91	\$99,622.05	\$35,296.14	54.87%
	MEALS	<u>\$105,377.51</u>	<u>\$129,244.28</u>	<u>\$23,866.77</u>	<u>22.65%</u>
		\$169,703.42	\$228,866.33	\$59,162.91	34.86%
<i>JANUARY EARNED</i>					
<u>FEB RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$82,572.04	\$221,256.93	\$138,684.89	167.96%
	MEALS	<u>\$98,628.09</u>	<u>\$96,377.22</u>	<u>(\$2,250.87)</u>	<u>-2.28%</u>
		\$181,200.13	\$317,634.15	\$136,434.02	75.29%
<i>FEBRUARY EARNED</i>					
<u>MARCH RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$68,444.24	\$167,212.81	\$98,768.57	144.31%
	MEALS	<u>\$90,153.63</u>	<u>\$92,066.71</u>	<u>\$1,913.08</u>	<u>2.12%</u>
		\$158,597.87	\$259,279.52	\$100,681.65	63.48%
<i>MARCH EARNED</i>					
<u>APRIL RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$30,251.77	\$277,701.44	\$247,449.67	817.97%
	MEALS	<u>\$69,265.66</u>	<u>\$179,713.69</u>	<u>\$110,448.03</u>	<u>159.46%</u>
		\$99,517.43	\$457,415.13	\$357,897.70	359.63%
<i>APRIL EARNED</i>					
<u>MAY RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$12,691.08	\$395,352.18	\$382,661.10	3015.20%
	MEALS	<u>\$37,629.09</u>	<u>\$259,174.72</u>	<u>\$221,545.63</u>	<u>588.76%</u>
		\$50,320.17	\$654,526.90	\$604,206.73	1200.72%
<i>MAY EARNED</i>					
<u>JUNE RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$280,883.88	\$709,401.52	\$428,517.64	152.56%
	MEALS	<u>\$138,382.35</u>	<u>\$359,081.49</u>	<u>\$220,699.14</u>	<u>159.49%</u>
		\$419,266.23	\$1,068,483.01	\$649,216.78	154.85%
<i>JUNE EARNED</i>					
<u>JULY RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,031,085.56	\$1,276,821.42	\$245,735.86	23.83%
	MEALS	<u>\$343,466.82</u>	<u>\$484,564.78</u>	<u>\$141,097.96</u>	<u>41.08%</u>
		\$1,374,552.38	\$1,761,386.20	\$386,833.82	28.14%
<i>JULY EARNED</i>					
<u>AUGUST RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,522,968.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	MEALS	<u>\$378,907.71</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,901,876.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>AUGUST EARNED</i>					
<u>SEPT RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,386,698.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	MEALS	<u>\$342,807.39</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,729,506.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>SEPTEMBER EARNED</i>					
<u>OCT RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$646,711.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	MEALS	<u>\$312,640.42</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$959,351.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>OCTOBER EARNED</i>					
<u>NOV RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$411,520.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	MEALS	<u>\$220,333.19</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$631,853.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>NOVEMBER EARNED</i>					
<u>DEC RECEIVED</u>	OCCUPANCY	\$149,613.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	MEALS	<u>\$133,492.34</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$283,106.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total To Date	Occupancy	\$1,570,254.48	\$3,147,368.35	\$1,577,113.87	100.44%
	Meals	<u>\$882,903.15</u>	<u>\$1,600,222.89</u>	<u>\$717,319.74</u>	<u>81.25%</u>
		\$2,453,157.63	\$4,747,591.24	\$2,294,433.61	93.53%
Total for Year	OCCUPANCY	\$5,687,767.42			
	MEALS	<u>\$2,271,084.20</u>			
		\$7,958,851.62			

## OCCUPANCY &amp; MEALS FY 2021-2022

## ACTUAL RECEIPTS

FISCAL YEAR RECEIPTS		ACTUAL FY 20-21	ACTUAL FY 21-22	+/- \$	+/- %
<i>JUNE EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,031,085.56	\$1,276,821.42	\$245,735.86	23.83%
<u>JULY RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$343,466.82</u>	<u>\$484,564.78</u>	<u>\$141,097.96</u>	<u>41.08%</u>
		\$1,374,552.38	\$1,761,386.20	\$386,833.82	28.14%
<i>JULY EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,522,968.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>AUGUST RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$378,907.71</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,901,876.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>AUGUST EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,386,698.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>SEPT RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$342,807.39</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,729,506.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>SEPTEMBER EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$646,711.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>OCT RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$312,640.42</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$959,351.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>OCTOBER EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$411,520.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>NOV RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$220,333.19</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$631,853.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>NOVEMBER EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$149,613.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>DEC RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$133,492.34</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$283,106.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>DECEMBER EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$99,622.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>JAN RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$129,244.28</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$228,866.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>JANUARY EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$221,256.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>FEB RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$96,377.22</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$317,634.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>FEBRUARY EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$167,212.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>MARCH RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$92,066.71</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$259,279.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>MARCH EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$277,701.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>APRIL RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$179,713.69</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$457,415.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>APRIL EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$395,352.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>MAY RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$259,174.72</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$654,526.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<i>MAY EARNED</i>	OCCUPANCY	\$709,401.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<u>JUNE RECEIVED</u>	MEALS	<u>\$359,081.49</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>0.00%</u>
		\$1,068,483.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>	OCCUPANCY	\$1,031,085.56	\$1,276,821.42	\$245,735.86	23.83%
	MEALS	<u>\$343,466.82</u>	<u>\$484,564.78</u>	<u>\$141,097.96</u>	<u>41.08%</u>
		\$1,374,552.38	\$1,761,386.20	\$386,833.82	28.14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	OCCUPANCY	\$7,019,145.43			
<b>ACTUAL</b>	MEALS	<u>\$2,847,305.98</u>			
<b>2020-2021</b>		\$9,866,451.41			

# Dare County Gross Collections on Retail Sales

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	Variance 2021-2020	Percent Change
January	4,657,080	3,809,146	3,518,081	3,585,781	3,246,772	2,766,539	847,934	22.26%
February	4,749,304	3,323,370	3,026,989	2,738,341	2,728,504	2,289,103	1,425,934	47.11%
March	4,162,193	3,077,829	2,831,112	2,829,152	2,812,630	2,280,537	1,084,364	38.30%
April	6,474,307	3,465,302	4,266,897	3,948,431	3,729,748	3,547,074	3,009,005	70.52%
May	7,933,574	2,728,392	5,501,100	4,861,088	5,084,042	4,011,689	5,205,182	94.62%
June		5,686,714	7,096,777	6,558,353	6,355,380	5,676,881		0.00%
July		12,370,251	11,321,288	10,815,908	10,038,975	9,085,195		0.00%
August		13,794,215	13,178,541	12,870,106	12,961,419	12,153,647		0.00%
September		12,478,041	11,799,596	10,996,721	10,694,311	10,634,932		0.00%
October		9,103,596	6,834,818	6,542,087	7,181,012	6,631,836		0.00%
November		6,925,862	5,191,614	4,932,146	4,698,891	4,294,600		0.00%
December		5,029,105	3,874,539	3,719,123	3,759,730	3,904,190		0.00%
YTD	27,976,458	16,404,039	19,144,179	17,962,793	17,601,696	14,894,942	11,572,419	70.55%
TOTAL	27,976,458	81,791,823	78,441,352	74,397,237	73,291,414	67,276,223		
YTD % Change	70.55%	-14.31%	6.58%	2.05%	18.17%	8.79%		
Total % Change	70.55%	4.27%	5.44%	1.51%	8.94%	6.70%		

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Gross Occupancy Summary 2008-2021														
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
January	22,515,577	8,223,680	6,272,045	7,115,084	7,131,148	6,278,051	5,968,549	4,638,247	5,037,412	4,289,234	4,628,765	4,494,306	4,171,787	3,571,786
February	16,833,409	6,788,236	6,004,609	5,205,555	4,938,755	3,599,607	3,283,399	2,946,032	2,968,109	3,213,823	2,878,117	2,386,002	2,231,381	2,642,080
March	28,050,784	3,538,436	9,370,541	9,356,430	7,159,836	7,924,692	5,399,408	5,159,003	6,338,567	5,450,681	4,090,156	3,572,289	3,815,488	5,502,196
April	39,424,885	715,316	22,183,138	18,054,916	19,822,692	13,435,059	12,880,393	13,868,051	10,858,691	13,793,507	12,489,121	10,593,724	11,079,765	8,899,988
May	71,629,217	28,192,673	36,428,842	32,964,383	32,005,253	29,786,428	29,618,042	27,441,496	23,051,832	23,748,969	23,011,015	20,819,112	21,820,610	20,903,445
June	127,947,319	103,467,906	102,003,266	94,643,779	79,240,527	74,166,862	78,981,510	77,865,332	74,033,596	70,913,978	60,241,630	59,386,630	56,771,695	65,529,705
July		152,256,684	110,890,945	134,391,620	140,228,393	130,768,381	110,515,903	108,283,329	110,660,664	111,091,066	110,207,729	101,783,465	87,373,542	92,310,020
August		139,737,864	138,805,084	108,717,337	102,930,101	107,787,704	114,304,339	107,054,063	99,755,506	87,953,893	90,043,386	93,084,681	96,469,017	95,817,540
September		63,775,711	45,403,850	48,791,548	48,338,071	45,666,221	44,596,605	39,762,332	37,881,607	39,568,193	36,023,228	34,282,276	34,425,803	30,653,566
October		41,364,509	22,618,642	22,503,851	21,974,957	20,839,990	19,011,742	17,273,123	15,573,451	16,062,554	16,934,908	17,000,119	15,129,892	13,961,791
November		17,053,031	11,523,953	9,965,662	10,734,352	9,132,785	7,573,884	6,873,710	6,118,063	6,038,976	6,795,253	7,062,045	6,708,504	6,392,023
December		11,266,628	6,505,201	4,706,348	4,815,968	3,624,331	3,498,490	3,058,680	4,446,831	3,057,722	2,946,610	2,381,348	3,653,289	3,710,254
YTD Total	306,401,191	150,926,247	182,262,441	167,340,147	150,298,211	135,190,699	136,131,301	131,918,161	122,288,207	121,410,192	107,338,804	101,252,063	99,890,726	107,049,200
Total	306,401,191	576,380,674	518,010,116	496,416,513	479,320,053	453,010,111	435,632,264	414,223,398	396,724,329	385,182,596	370,289,918	356,845,997	343,650,773	349,894,394
YTD % Change	103.01%	-17.19%	8.92%	11.34%	11.17%	-0.69%	3.19%	7.87%	0.72%	13.11%	6.01%	1.36%	-6.69%	4.84%
Total % Change	103.01%	11.27%	4.35%	3.57%	5.81%	3.99%	5.17%	4.41%	3.00%	4.02%	3.77%	3.84%	-1.78%	2.92%
Month Increase/Decrease	23.66%	1.44%	7.78%	19.44%	6.84%	-6.10%	1.43%	5.18%	4.40%	17.72%	1.44%	4.61%	-13.36%	7.32%
Increase(Decrease)/Qtr														
Qtr 1 (Dec-Feb)	135.23%	26.70%	-0.90%	9.19%	17.33%	8.66%	2.32%	8.75%	5.87%	5.68%	-6.13%	4.15%	4.87%	9.77%
Qtr 2 (Mar-May)	328.72%	-52.27%	12.60%	2.35%	15.33%	6.78%	3.08%	15.46%	-6.38%	8.60%	13.16%	-4.71%	3.99%	0.35%
Qtr 3 (June-Aug)	23.66%	12.44%	4.13%	4.76%	3.09%	2.94%	3.61%	3.08%	5.37%	3.63%	2.45%	5.67%	-5.14%	4.45%
Qtr 4 (Sept-Nov)		53.61%	-2.11%	0.26%	7.15%	6.26%	11.38%	7.28%	-3.40%	3.21%	2.41%	3.70%	10.31%	-3.07%
Note: Easter was in March for 2008, 2013, 2016. Easter in April for 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, April 1, 2018, 2019, 2020														
For August 2009, Labor Day was 9/7; it was 9/1 in 2008														
For March 2010, a business in Salvo sent in an amended report showing they reported too much in Jan & Feb by approximately \$300,000. Adjusted gross occupancy \$3,872,289, increase of 1.48%														
For July 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017 there were 5 weekends and four in August 2010, 2011, 2016, 2017. There were 5 weekends in August 2008, 2009, 2015, 2019, 2020 and 4 weekends in July 2008, 2009, 2015, 2019, 2020														
Hurricane Earl struck on Labor Day weekend in September 2010														
Hurricane Irene struck on August 27, 2011, Hwy 12 reopens October 11														
For September 2011, a business reported negative because they returned money to guests unable to make it due to Irene. Approximately \$87,000 revenue reported in September was for August														
For June 2007, 2012, 2013, 2018 & 2019, there were 5 weekends and four in July 2007, 2012, 2013, 2018 & 2019														
Hurricane Sandy struck on October 27, 2012, Hwy 12 in KH is closed for a week, Hwy 12 on Hatteras reopens December 20														
Hurricane Arthur struck on July 4, 2014.														
For September 2015, the county received a settlement of gross OTC funds in the amount of approximately \$2,100,000.														
Hurricane Hermine struck on September 3, 2016. Hurricane Matthew struck on October 8, 2016 which was Columbus Day weekend.														
Mandatory evacuation for Hatteras Island on July 28, 2017 due to cut electric lines. Lifted August 4, 2017														
Tropical Storm Irma September 11, 2017, no evacuation orders. Mandatory evacuation for Hatteras Island Hurricane Maria September 26-28, 2017														
Hurricane Florence mandatory evacuation September 11-September 15, 2018. Tropical storm Michael on October 12, 2018, no evacuations ordered, but flooding occurred.														
For September 2018, a business reported duplicate filings in the amount of \$337,882 and was issued a refund.														
For April 2019, a business reported back filings in Manteo B&B of approximately \$670,000														
For August 2019, approximately \$19.3 million is attributable to July. About \$18 million is real estate and \$926,000 hotel/motel. If added to July, July is a decrease of about 3% and August an increase of about 10%														
Hurricane Dorian mandatory evacuations September 3-September 12, 2019.														
Dare County State of Emergency closed to visitors 3/17/20 and NRPOs 3/20/20 due to COVID-19. Reopen May 16, 2020														

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau														
Gross Meals Summary														
2008-2021														
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
January	10,669,210	9,567,693	9,232,116	6,630,060	6,907,169	6,951,100	7,366,165	6,423,044	5,737,827	5,908,401	5,149,079	4,946,077	5,553,193	5,315,203
February	9,647,064	9,280,396	7,938,346	8,081,163	8,107,544	7,190,738	6,442,985	6,280,032	5,873,076	6,001,197	5,600,305	5,306,714	5,878,828	5,901,277
March	17,851,725	7,466,202	13,993,067	12,472,869	12,750,137	12,593,172	10,133,762	9,481,493	10,153,689	9,324,697	8,342,477	7,944,634	7,371,099	9,906,602
April	26,101,925	3,749,728	20,152,467	17,693,017	19,029,550	15,347,188	15,145,381	14,781,867	13,161,426	15,272,146	13,937,220	12,643,388	12,570,914	10,696,837
May	36,273,162	14,079,809	27,895,551	25,305,198	24,480,322	22,700,007	23,106,126	22,196,739	20,503,341	20,033,102	17,884,885	17,420,030	17,237,550	17,902,993
June	48,603,545	35,377,612	39,212,117	37,728,467	36,369,937	33,185,424	33,214,790	31,198,217	30,968,797	30,676,562	28,170,717	25,929,735	25,850,095	26,110,903
July		37,531,226	47,545,995	44,840,505	43,176,322	42,856,387	41,248,363	38,508,812	37,227,457	36,914,627	36,454,367	35,295,259	32,687,202	33,163,197
August		34,686,508	44,023,260	39,760,919	37,942,828	39,204,887	38,491,312	38,663,206	36,725,099	33,521,889	27,024,599	31,515,361	31,285,408	32,095,228
September		31,758,793	24,552,170	24,228,769	27,122,726	26,673,486	26,274,599	23,584,456	23,168,505	22,057,864	19,239,630	18,678,839	19,444,780	17,335,174
October		22,495,453	19,796,005	18,452,784	19,261,951	15,237,438	16,212,875	16,047,497	14,278,541	13,282,164	13,084,800	13,295,890	12,630,255	12,192,193
November		16,322,421	12,708,341	12,448,598	11,764,460	11,846,267	10,809,353	9,863,383	9,161,206	8,637,935	8,587,922	8,822,724	8,298,475	8,044,142
December		10,519,542	10,994,527	9,670,246	10,184,239	9,049,333	8,333,905	7,902,396	6,839,007	7,025,072	7,391,106	5,983,306	6,123,554	6,457,727
YTD Total	149,146,631	79,521,440	118,423,664	107,910,774	107,644,659	97,967,629	95,409,209	90,361,392	86,398,156	87,216,105	79,084,683	74,190,578	74,461,679	75,833,815
Total	149,146,631	232,835,383	278,043,962	257,312,595	257,097,185	242,835,427	236,779,616	224,931,142	213,797,971	208,655,656	190,867,107	187,781,957	184,931,353	185,121,476
YTD % Change	87.56%	-32.85%	9.74%	0.25%	9.88%	2.68%	5.59%	4.59%	-0.94%	10.28%	6.60%	-0.36%	-1.81%	-0.65%
Total % Change	87.56%	-16.26%	8.06%	0.08%	5.87%	2.56%	5.27%	5.21%	2.46%	9.32%	1.64%	1.54%	-0.10%	-2.12%
Month Increase/(Decrease)	37.39%	-9.78%	3.93%	3.74%	9.60%	-0.09%	6.46%	0.74%	0.95%	8.90%	8.64%	0.31%	-1.00%	-1.09%
Increase(Decrease)/Qtr														
Qtr 1 (Dec-Feb)	3.33%	11.18%	7.81%	3.46%	7.07%	3.52%	11.10%	4.86%	-3.44%	15.35%	2.18%	-8.46%	-4.16%	-2.39%
Qtr 2 (Mar-May)	217.16%	-59.23%	11.84%	-1.40%	11.10%	4.66%	4.14%	6.03%	-1.82%	11.12%	5.67%	2.23%	-3.45%	0.23%
Qtr 3 (June-Aug)	37.39%	-17.73%	6.91%	4.12%	1.95%	2.03%	4.23%	3.29%	3.77%	10.33%	-1.18%	3.25%	-1.69%	1.26%
Qtr 4 (Sept-Nov)		23.70%	3.49%	-5.19%	8.17%	0.86%	7.68%	6.19%	5.98%	7.49%	0.28%	1.05%	7.46%	-9.50%
Note: For January 2009, about \$150,000 was reported from prior months, this is still an increase of \$87,990 or 1.66%														
Easter was in March for 2008, 2013, 2016. Easter in April for 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, April 1, 2018, 2019, 2020														
For August 2009, Labor Day was 9/7; it was 9/1 in 2008														
Hurricane Irene struck August 27, 2011														
Hurricane Sandy struck on October 27, 2012														
Hurricane Arthur struck on July 4, 2014														
Hurricane Hermine struck on September 3, 2016. Hurricane Matthew struck on October 8, 2016 which was Columbus Day weekend.														
Mandatory evacuation for Hatteras Island on July 28, 2017 due to cut electric lines. Lifted August 4, 2017														
Tropical Storm Irma September 11, 2017, no evacuation orders. Mandatory evacuation for Hatteras Island Hurricane Maria September 26-28, 2017														
Hurricane Florence mandatory evacuation September 11-September 15, 2018. Tropical storm Michael on October 12, 2018, no evacuations ordered.														
For January 2019, about \$1,000,000 was reported from prior months in SS.														
Hurricane Dorian mandatory evacuations September 3-September 12, 2019.														
For September 2019, about \$261,000 was reported from prior months in Frisco.														
Dare County State of Emergency closed to visitors 3/17/20 and NRPOs 3/20/20 due to COVID-19. Restaurants Take-Out Only, Open 50% May 23, 2020														
For September 2020, about \$1,200,000 was reported from July and August.														



Outer Banks Visitors Bureau  
Gross Occupancy by Class 2017-2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Bed &	Bed &	Bed &	Bed &	Bed &	Camp-	Camp-	Camp-	Camp-	Camp-					
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	ground	ground	ground	ground	ground	Cottage	Cottage	Cottage	Cottage	Cottage
January	21,243	9,991	21,848	18,954	69,721	50,462	56,934	149,040	101,762	197,792	39,261	77,827	57,144	60,734	73,666
February	52,546	36,814	143,923	27,050	54,287	64,152	69,405	79,720	89,994	183,108	134,203	97,209	54,050	55,880	87,169
March	76,403	65,753	85,386	29,171	136,583	123,529	186,658	249,522	63,921	692,174	149,882	184,588	160,084	65,539	206,483
April	127,482	140,738	877,315	9,994	259,204	580,729	450,715	587,966	1,930	1,235,799	366,481	321,223	365,960	48,233	404,682
May	249,701	329,396	309,416	91,397	282,278	745,164	864,675	990,995	1,130,609	1,918,384	639,286	607,239	600,680	254,673	565,909
June	265,719	263,476	417,010	351,108	570,964	1,431,385	1,666,397	1,830,953	2,412,414	2,845,176	989,369	1,196,072	1,288,613	795,837	919,645
July	321,538	401,465	300,025	363,847		1,336,272	1,613,934	1,966,882	2,685,694		1,435,632	1,542,434	1,563,325	1,043,368	
August	230,703	295,816	369,371	373,764		890,569	1,232,064	1,510,242	1,588,143		1,415,838	1,296,981	872,728	902,896	
September	188,428	125,217	254,760	278,989		503,200	803,646	427,073	1,348,600		656,337	557,989	437,579	551,614	
October	86,645	160,079	149,153	155,303		413,901	349,366	406,219	922,352		421,919	439,412	308,779	493,509	
November	81,256	77,097	74,856	65,719		121,397	118,727	126,014	355,225		205,025	201,959	143,147	63,227	
December	61,634	18,684	82,449	106,697		48,795	32,024	59,397	149,223		110,884	91,303	55,559	214,261	
<i>YTD Totals</i>	<i>793,094</i>	<i>846,168</i>	<i>1,854,898</i>	<i>527,674</i>	<i>1,373,037</i>	<i>2,995,421</i>	<i>3,294,784</i>	<i>3,888,196</i>	<i>3,800,630</i>	<i>7,072,433</i>	<i>2,318,482</i>	<i>2,484,158</i>	<i>2,526,531</i>	<i>1,280,896</i>	<i>2,257,554</i>
Total	1,763,298	1,924,526	3,085,512	1,871,993	1,373,037	6,309,555	7,444,545	8,384,023	10,849,867	7,072,433	6,564,117	6,614,236	5,907,648	4,549,771	2,257,554
Month Increase	-29.96%	-0.84%	58.27%	-15.80%	62.62%	16.44%	16.42%	9.87%	31.76%	17.94%	-5.48%	20.89%	7.74%	-38.24%	15.56%
<i>YTD Increase</i>	<b>-16.70%</b>	<b>6.69%</b>	<b>119.21%</b>	<b>-71.55%</b>	<b>160.21%</b>	<b>23.17%</b>	<b>9.99%</b>	<b>18.01%</b>	<b>-2.25%</b>	<b>86.09%</b>	<b>4.76%</b>	<b>7.15%</b>	<b>1.71%</b>	<b>-49.30%</b>	<b>76.25%</b>
<b>Total Year Increa</b>	<b>-30.96%</b>	<b>9.14%</b>	<b>60.33%</b>	<b>-39.33%</b>		<b>-0.04%</b>	<b>17.99%</b>	<b>12.62%</b>	<b>29.41%</b>		<b>0.80%</b>	<b>0.76%</b>	<b>-10.68%</b>	<b>-22.99%</b>	

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau  
Gross Occupancy by Class 2017-2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
	Motel/	Motel/	Motel/	Motel/	Motel/	Online Travel	Online Travel	Online Travel	Online Travel	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property	Other	Other	Other
	Hotel	Hotel	Hotel	Hotel	Hotel	OTC *	OTC *	OTC *	OTC *	Management	Management	Management	Management	Management	Rental	Rental	Rental
										Agencies	Agencies	Agencies	Agencies	Agencies	Properties**	Properties**	Properties**
January	1,231,693	1,257,924	1,301,265	1,437,035	1,748,076	12,750	19,038	18,951	80,549	5,742,596	5,632,280	4,641,865	6,501,671	20,308,517		4,048,599	7,565,248
February	1,562,373	1,581,432	1,331,764	1,533,776	1,728,750	21,179	21,882	25,687	121,593	3,025,121	3,299,316	4,283,950	4,958,235	14,641,992		3,640,228	8,831,162
March	2,625,980	3,034,735	2,618,614	1,246,258	3,909,056	46,450	48,950	24,532	456,135	4,006,629	5,645,680	6,065,892	2,033,390	22,818,135		392,302	14,285,652
April	5,755,388	4,790,774	5,082,911	272,368	7,371,174	94,478	129,659	6,532	690,426	12,673,454	12,073,020	14,912,027	382,791	29,766,955		54,406	11,899,053
May	7,781,122	7,657,044	8,296,802	3,148,199	11,955,124	223,246	148,954	188,734	1,201,894	22,356,377	23,236,092	25,901,180	23,445,254	56,477,960		7,959,755	11,894,484
June	11,713,936	11,720,032	11,050,965	11,291,492	17,405,621	373,865	220,076	689,124	1,781,971	64,523,921	79,376,489	86,974,007	88,087,699	105,559,551		15,349,447	15,036,636
July	15,241,700	13,517,098	13,333,255	16,489,187		488,402	280,756	291,105		121,406,705	116,827,701	93,189,170	131,031,173		9,774,831	14,163,157	
August	11,871,548	12,441,921	14,094,249	13,307,261		422,935	266,881	244,691		88,138,009	93,023,812	121,424,486	122,944,015		24,094,200	14,432,996	
September	6,960,599	5,190,429	6,280,715	9,374,533		127,801	128,596	495,636		39,786,449	41,912,607	37,793,636	51,755,580		5,444,607	7,502,538	
October	5,255,695	4,729,167	5,163,907	6,047,939		94,511	76,787	91,603		15,566,863	16,607,911	16,375,128	33,435,472		3,090,168	5,199,066	
November	2,754,045	2,101,808	1,972,903	1,882,898		35,749	31,815	7,333		7,540,897	7,319,364	9,080,251	14,518,005		1,659,752	894,605	
December	1,228,853	1,255,150	1,413,200	1,833,474		27,148	22,812	50,865		3,104,990	3,165,578	4,773,626	8,836,444		1,465,862	4,304,339	
YTD Totals	30,670,492	30,041,941	29,682,321	18,929,128	44,117,801	771,968	588,559	953,560	4,332,568	112,328,098	129,262,877	142,778,921	125,409,040	249,573,110	0	31,444,737	69,512,235
Total	73,982,932	69,277,514	71,940,550	67,864,420	44,117,801	1,968,514	1,396,206	2,134,793	4,332,568	387,872,011	408,119,850	425,415,218	487,929,729	249,573,110	45,529,420	77,941,438	69,512,235
Month Increase	9.23%	0.05%	-5.71%	2.18%	54.15%		-41.13%	213.13%	158.58%	6.44%	23.02%	9.57%	1.28%	19.83%			-2.04%
YTD Increase	10.04%	-2.05%	-1.20%	-36.23%	133.07%		-23.76%	62.02%	354.36%	10.98%	15.08%	10.46%	-12.17%	99.01%			121.06%
Total Year Increa	3.60%	-6.36%	3.84%	-5.67%			-29.07%	52.90%		6.35%	5.22%	4.24%	14.69%				

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau  
Gross Occupancy by Class 2017-2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Tmshr	Tmshr	Tmshr	Tmshr	Tmshr	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
January	45,893	80,128	100,883	103,524	117,805	7,131,148	7,115,084	6,272,045	8,223,680	22,515,577
February	100,360	121,379	111,202	123,301	138,103	4,938,755	5,205,555	6,004,609	6,788,236	16,833,409
March	177,413	239,016	191,043	100,157	288,353	7,159,836	9,356,430	9,370,541	3,538,436	28,050,784
April	319,158	278,446	356,959	0	387,071	19,822,692	18,054,916	22,183,138	715,316	39,424,885
May	233,603	269,937	329,769	122,541	429,562	32,005,253	32,964,383	36,428,842	28,192,673	71,629,217
June	316,197	421,313	441,718	529,356	646,362	79,240,527	94,643,779	102,003,266	103,467,906	127,947,319
July	486,546	488,988	538,288	643,415		140,228,393	134,391,620	110,890,945	152,256,684	0
August	383,434	426,743	534,008	621,785		102,930,101	108,717,337	138,805,084	139,737,864	0
September	243,058	201,660	210,087	466,395		48,338,071	48,791,548	45,403,850	63,775,711	0
October	229,934	217,916	215,456	309,934		21,974,957	22,503,851	22,618,642	41,364,509	0
November	31,732	146,707	126,782	167,957		10,734,352	9,965,662	11,523,953	17,053,031	0
December	260,812	143,609	120,970	126,529		4,815,968	4,706,348	6,505,201	11,266,628	0
<i>YTD Totals</i>	<i>1,192,624</i>	<i>1,410,219</i>	<i>1,531,574</i>	<i>978,879</i>	<i>2,007,256</i>	<i>150,298,211</i>	<i>167,340,147</i>	<i>182,262,441</i>	<i>150,926,247</i>	<i>306,401,191</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,828,140</b>	<b>3,035,842</b>	<b>3,277,165</b>	<b>3,314,894</b>	<b>2,007,256</b>	<b>479,320,053</b>	<b>496,416,513</b>	<b>518,010,116</b>	<b>576,380,674</b>	<b>306,401,191</b>
Month Increase	90.96%	33.24%	4.84%	19.84%	22.10%	6.84%	19.44%	7.78%	1.44%	23.66%
<i>YTD Increase</i>	<b>135.28%</b>	<b>18.25%</b>	<b>8.61%</b>	<b>-36.09%</b>	<b>105.06%</b>	<b>11.17%</b>	<b>11.34%</b>	<b>8.92%</b>	<b>-17.19%</b>	<b>103.01%</b>
<b>Total Year Increa</b>	<b>87.86%</b>	<b>7.34%</b>	<b>7.95%</b>	<b>1.15%</b>		<b>5.81%</b>	<b>3.57%</b>	<b>4.35%</b>	<b>11.27%</b>	

DARE COUNTY GROSS														
OCCUPANCY BY DISTRICT														
	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF
	JANUARY	TOTAL	FEBRUARY	TOTAL	MARCH	TOTAL	APRIL	TOTAL	MAY	TOTAL	JUNE	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
AVON	2,483,054	11.0%	1,143,301	6.8%	1,523,212	5.4%	1,984,065	5.0%	4,824,265	6.7%	7,623,717	6.0%	19,581,614	6.4%
BUXTON	544,488	2.4%	364,946	2.2%	683,573	2.4%	1,148,568	2.9%	1,877,712	2.6%	2,850,695	2.2%	7,469,982	2.4%
COLINGTON	14,774	0.1%	20,317	0.1%	55,996	0.2%	91,214	0.2%	146,882	0.2%	322,491	0.3%	651,674	0.2%
FRISCO	538,245	2.4%	226,988	1.3%	378,573	1.3%	739,290	1.9%	1,675,224	2.3%	2,624,849	2.1%	6,183,169	2.0%
HATTERAS	1,613,376	7.2%	430,806	2.6%	657,802	2.3%	1,239,768	3.1%	2,962,198	4.1%	4,566,799	3.6%	11,470,749	3.7%
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3,096,270	13.8%	3,313,303	19.7%	6,741,815	24.0%	9,698,361	24.6%	13,619,166	19.0%	22,855,095	17.9%	59,324,010	19.4%
KITTY HAWK	1,306,830	5.8%	1,491,596	8.9%	2,632,886	9.4%	3,465,663	8.8%	4,959,151	6.9%	8,144,675	6.4%	22,000,801	7.2%
MANTEO-TOWN	430,440	1.9%	236,934	1.4%	548,533	2.0%	923,581	2.3%	1,260,269	1.8%	2,098,059	1.6%	5,497,816	1.8%
NAGS HEAD	3,878,714	17.2%	3,486,075	20.7%	5,978,557	21.3%	9,235,248	23.4%	17,298,910	24.2%	33,579,610	26.2%	73,457,114	24.0%
RODANTHE	1,591,344	7.1%	813,406	4.8%	980,977	3.5%	1,180,404	3.0%	2,895,708	4.0%	4,572,381	3.6%	12,034,220	3.9%
SALVO	2,344,520	10.4%	1,194,950	7.1%	931,211	3.3%	751,039	1.9%	2,557,960	3.6%	3,906,170	3.1%	11,685,850	3.8%
WAVES	1,202,878	5.3%	734,878	4.4%	872,163	3.1%	947,671	2.4%	2,289,789	3.2%	3,503,419	2.7%	9,550,798	3.1%
SOUTHERN SHORES	909,588	4.0%	735,996	4.4%	1,187,933	4.2%	1,311,207	3.3%	3,353,451	4.7%	7,389,945	5.8%	14,888,120	4.9%
DUCK	1,852,901	8.2%	1,640,219	9.7%	3,033,091	10.8%	4,818,415	12.2%	9,371,202	13.1%	20,773,247	16.2%	41,489,075	13.5%
RIM (ROANOKE ISL. MAIN)	627,606	2.8%	878,101	5.2%	1,388,327	4.9%	1,199,965	3.0%	1,335,436	1.9%	1,482,593	1.2%	6,912,028	2.3%
OTC UNATTRIBUTED*	80,549	0.4%	121,593	0.7%	456,135	1.6%	690,426	1.8%	1,201,894	1.7%	1,653,574	1.3%	4,204,171	1.4%
TOTAL	22,515,577	100.0%	16,833,409	100.0%	28,050,784	100.0%	39,424,885	100.0%	71,629,217	100.0%	127,947,319	100.0%	306,401,191	100.0%
* Part of OTC transactions are reported by district.														
The amounts are included in the districts of KDH, KH, NH. The remaining is reported under OTC														

DARE COUNTY GROSS														
MEALS BY DISTRICT														
	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF	2021	% OF
	JANUARY	TOTAL	FEBRUARY	TOTAL	MARCH	TOTAL	APRIL	TOTAL	MAY	TOTAL	JUNE	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
AVON - 1	460,563	4.3%	273,292	2.8%	620,382	3.5%	855,797	3.3%	2,027,700	5.6%	2,488,769	5.1%	6,726,503	4.5%
BUXTON - 2	290,236	2.7%	276,338	2.9%	580,310	3.3%	1,042,990	4.0%	1,391,963	3.8%	1,798,154	3.7%	5,379,991	3.6%
COLINGTON - 3	65,096	0.6%	86,449	0.9%	110,296	0.6%	288,154	1.1%	395,247	1.1%	523,633	1.1%	1,468,875	1.0%
FRISCO - 5	63,587	0.6%	30,632	0.3%	141,058	0.8%	238,549	0.9%	357,830	1.0%	462,776	1.0%	1,294,432	0.9%
HATTERAS - 6	11,248	0.1%	279,511	2.9%	301,289	1.7%	582,593	2.2%	816,477	2.3%	1,157,752	2.4%	3,148,870	2.1%
KILL DEVIL HILLS - 7	2,977,039	27.9%	2,843,490	29.5%	5,234,303	29.3%	7,024,824	26.9%	8,913,791	24.6%	11,207,349	23.1%	38,200,796	25.6%
KITTY HAWK - 8	1,645,334	15.4%	1,641,876	17.0%	2,727,881	15.3%	3,562,952	13.7%	4,546,756	12.5%	6,066,253	12.5%	20,191,052	13.5%
MANTEO-TOWN - 10	1,162,274	10.9%	855,301	8.9%	1,429,690	8.0%	1,801,206	6.9%	2,189,340	6.0%	2,605,650	5.4%	10,043,461	6.7%
RIM (ROANOKE ISL. M	231,731	2.2%	217,208	2.3%	278,626	1.6%	367,469	1.4%	418,473	1.2%	487,559	1.0%	2,001,066	1.3%
NAGS HEAD - 14	2,059,419	19.3%	1,877,182	19.5%	3,915,459	21.9%	5,869,222	22.5%	8,633,929	23.8%	12,853,590	26.4%	35,208,801	23.6%
RODANTHE - 15	50,251	0.5%	33,890	0.4%	90,340	0.5%	285,784	1.1%	489,133	1.3%	581,896	1.2%	1,531,294	1.0%
SALVO - 18	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	229	0.0%	26,126	0.1%	49,767	0.1%	76,122	0.1%
WAVES - 19	35,760	0.3%	28,528	0.3%	168,272	0.9%	412,596	1.6%	646,402	1.8%	890,242	1.8%	2,181,800	1.5%
SOUTHERN SHORES -	391,571	3.7%	534,718	5.5%	611,725	3.4%	775,805	3.0%	1,034,603	2.9%	1,497,738	3.1%	4,846,160	3.2%
DUCK - 21	1,225,101	11.5%	668,649	6.9%	1,642,094	9.2%	2,993,755	11.5%	4,385,392	12.1%	5,932,417	12.2%	16,847,408	11.3%
TOTAL	10,669,210	100.0%	9,647,064	100.0%	17,851,725	100.0%	26,101,925	100.0%	36,273,162	100.0%	48,603,545	100.0%	149,146,631	100.0%

DARE COUNTY GROSS												
OCCUPANCY BY DISTRICT												
	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase
	JANUARY	JANUARY	(Decrease)	FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY	(Decrease)	MARCH	MARCH	(Decrease)	APRIL	APRIL	(Decrease)
<b>HATTERAS ISLAND:</b>												
RODANTHE	1,591,344	138,440	1049.48%	813,406	165,461	391.60%	980,977	124,809	685.98%	1,180,404	7,267	16143.35%
WAVES	1,202,878	173,850	591.91%	734,878	138,772	429.56%	872,163	64,020	1262.33%	947,671	5,772	16318.42%
SALVO	2,344,520	166,784	1305.72%	1,194,950	151,036	691.17%	931,211	52,537	1672.49%	751,039	8,579	8654.39%
AVON	2,483,054	434,039	472.08%	1,143,301	380,590	200.40%	1,523,212	138,732	997.95%	1,984,065	30,048	6502.99%
BUXTON	544,488	153,215	255.38%	364,946	162,973	123.93%	683,573	145,613	369.45%	1,148,568	63,878	1698.07%
FRISCO	538,245	102,027	427.55%	226,988	89,747	152.92%	378,573	47,494	697.10%	739,290	9,747	7484.80%
HATTERAS	1,613,376	239,225	574.42%	430,806	149,163	188.82%	657,802	107,696	510.80%	1,239,768	23,329	5214.28%
<b>TOTAL HATTERAS ISLAND</b>	10,317,905	1,407,580	633.02%	4,909,275	1,237,742	296.63%	6,027,511	680,901	785.23%	7,990,805	148,620	5276.67%
<b>NORTHERN BEACHES:</b>												
DUCK	1,852,901	973,632	90.31%	1,640,219	621,871	163.76%	3,033,091	453,220	569.23%	4,818,415	93,678	5043.59%
SOUTHERN SHORES	909,588	431,854	110.62%	735,996	327,899	124.46%	1,187,933	69,681	1604.82%	1,311,207	9,167	14203.56%
KITTY HAWK	1,306,830	746,475	75.07%	1,491,596	801,188	86.17%	2,632,886	414,239	535.60%	3,465,663	38,020	9015.37%
COLINGTON	14,774	3,274	351.25%	20,317	6,168	229.39%	55,996	10,810	418.00%	91,214	0	#DIV/0!
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3,096,270	2,055,516	50.63%	3,313,303	1,877,121	76.51%	6,741,815	918,296	634.17%	9,698,361	201,342	4716.86%
NAGS HEAD	3,878,714	2,239,211	73.22%	3,486,075	1,513,288	130.36%	5,978,557	844,330	608.08%	9,235,248	164,145	5526.27%
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN BEACHES</b>	11,059,077	6,449,962	71.46%	10,687,506	5,147,535	107.62%	19,630,278	2,710,576	624.21%	28,620,108	506,352	5552.22%
<b>ROANOKE ISLAND:</b>												
MANTEO-TOWN	430,440	170,435	152.55%	236,934	143,543	65.06%	548,533	68,224	704.02%	923,581	46,483	1886.92%
RIM (ROANOKE ISL. MAINLAND)	627,606	178,581	251.44%	878,101	235,653	272.62%	1,388,327	55,283	2411.31%	1,199,965	8,348	14274.28%
<b>TOTAL ROANOKE ISLAND</b>	1,058,046	349,016	203.15%	1,115,035	379,196	194.05%	1,936,860	123,507	1468.22%	2,123,546	54,831	3772.89%
<b>OTC UNATTRIBUTED</b>	80,549	17,122	370.44%	121,593	23,763	411.69%	456,135	23,452	1844.97%	690,426	5,513	12423.60%
*Part of OTC transactions are reported by district. The amounts are included in KDH, KH, NH. The remaining is reported under OTC.												
<b>TOTAL</b>	22,515,577	8,223,680	173.79%	16,833,409	6,788,236	147.98%	28,050,784	3,538,436	692.75%	39,424,885	715,316	5411.53%



DARE COUNTY GROSS									
OCCUPANCY BY DISTRICT									
	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	% Increase
	MAY	MAY	(Decrease)	JUNE	JUNE	(Decrease)	TOTAL	TOTAL	(Decrease)
<b>HATTERAS ISLAND:</b>									
RODANTHE	2,895,708	994,456	191.19%	4,572,381	3,113,249	46.87%	12,034,220	1,430,433	741.30%
WAVES	2,289,789	875,701	161.48%	3,503,419	2,374,280	47.56%	9,550,798	1,258,115	659.14%
SALVO	2,557,960	588,373	334.75%	3,906,170	1,986,086	96.68%	11,685,850	967,309	1108.08%
AVON	4,824,265	2,066,612	133.44%	7,623,717	6,283,223	21.33%	19,581,614	3,050,021	542.02%
BUXTON	1,877,712	847,665	121.52%	2,850,695	2,319,946	22.88%	7,469,982	1,373,344	443.93%
FRISCO	1,675,224	754,299	122.09%	2,624,849	2,146,129	22.31%	6,183,169	1,003,314	516.27%
HATTERAS	2,962,198	1,067,301	177.54%	4,566,799	3,605,207	26.67%	11,470,749	1,586,714	622.92%
<b>TOTAL HATTERAS ISLAND</b>	<b>19,082,856</b>	<b>7,194,407</b>	<b>165.25%</b>	<b>29,648,030</b>	<b>21,828,120</b>	<b>35.82%</b>	<b>77,976,382</b>	<b>10,669,250</b>	<b>630.85%</b>
<b>NORTHERN BEACHES:</b>									
DUCK	9,371,202	3,716,546	152.15%	20,773,247	18,177,434	14.28%	41,489,075	5,858,947	608.13%
SOUTHERN SHORES	3,353,451	1,350,564	148.30%	7,389,945	6,673,186	10.74%	14,888,120	2,189,165	580.08%
KITTY HAWK	4,959,151	2,084,664	137.89%	8,144,675	6,651,519	22.45%	22,000,801	4,084,586	438.63%
COLINGTON	146,882	24,407	501.80%	322,491	216,365	49.05%	651,674	44,659	1359.22%
KILL DEVIL HILLS	13,619,166	5,429,553	150.83%	22,855,095	18,187,203	25.67%	59,324,010	10,481,828	465.97%
NAGS HEAD	17,298,910	7,038,514	145.78%	33,579,610	28,605,413	17.39%	73,457,114	11,799,488	522.54%
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN BEACHES</b>	<b>48,748,762</b>	<b>19,644,248</b>	<b>148.16%</b>	<b>93,065,063</b>	<b>78,511,120</b>	<b>18.54%</b>	<b>211,810,794</b>	<b>34,458,673</b>	<b>514.68%</b>
<b>ROANOKE ISLAND:</b>									
MANTEO-TOWN	1,260,269	504,989	149.56%	2,098,059	1,467,488	42.97%	5,497,816	933,674	488.84%
RIM (ROANOKE ISL. MAINLAND)	1,335,436	663,286	101.34%	1,482,593	986,934	50.22%	6,912,028	1,141,151	505.71%
<b>TOTAL ROANOKE ISLAND</b>	<b>2,595,705</b>	<b>1,168,275</b>	<b>122.18%</b>	<b>3,580,652</b>	<b>2,454,422</b>	<b>45.89%</b>	<b>12,409,844</b>	<b>2,074,825</b>	<b>498.12%</b>
<b>OTC UNATTRIBUTED</b>	<b>1,201,894</b>	<b>185,743</b>	<b>547.07%</b>	<b>1,653,574</b>	<b>674,244</b>	<b>145.25%</b>	<b>4,204,171</b>	<b>255,593</b>	<b>1544.87%</b>
*Part of OTC transactions are reported									
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71,629,217</b>	<b>28,192,673</b>	<b>154.07%</b>	<b>127,947,319</b>	<b>103,467,906</b>	<b>23.66%</b>	<b>306,401,191</b>	<b>47,458,341</b>	<b>545.62%</b>

DARE COUNTY GROSS												
MEALS BY DISTRICT												
	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase
	JANUARY	JANUARY	(Decrease)	FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY	(Decrease)	MARCH	MARCH	(Decrease)	APRIL	APRIL	(Decrease)
<b>HATTERAS ISLAND:</b>												
RODANTHE - 15	50,251	23,211	116.50%	33,890	17,721	91.24%	90,340	29,023	211.27%	285,784	17,392	1543.19%
WAVES - 19	35,760	21,957	62.86%	28,528	25,502	11.87%	168,272	68,108	147.07%	412,596	21,006	1864.18%
SALVO - 18	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	229	0	#DIV/0!
AVON - 1	460,563	270,637	70.18%	273,292	277,555	-1.54%	620,382	220,022	181.96%	855,797	110,415	675.07%
BUXTON - 2	290,236	158,548	83.06%	276,338	131,822	109.63%	580,310	184,755	214.10%	1,042,990	100,175	941.17%
FRISCO - 5	63,587	149,794	-57.55%	30,632	92,226	-66.79%	141,058	9,415	1398.23%	238,549	88,905	168.32%
HATTERAS - 6	11,248	20,554	-45.28%	279,511	39,069	615.43%	301,289	44,105	583.12%	582,593	6,891	8354.40%
<b>TOTAL HATTERAS ISLAND</b>	911,645	644,701	41.41%	922,191	583,895	57.94%	1,901,651	555,428	242.38%	3,418,538	344,784	891.50%
<b>NORTHERN BEACHES:</b>												
DUCK - 21	1,225,101	509,944	140.24%	668,649	602,110	11.05%	1,642,094	451,567	263.64%	2,993,755	79,278	3676.27%
SOUTHERN SHORES - 20	391,571	522,960	-25.12%	534,718	367,120	45.65%	611,725	384,555	59.07%	775,805	129,975	496.89%
KITTY HAWK - 8	1,645,334	1,799,644	-8.57%	1,641,876	1,604,718	2.32%	2,727,881	1,125,357	142.40%	3,562,952	737,774	382.93%
COLINGTON - 3	65,096	61,040	6.64%	86,449	111,816	-22.69%	110,296	57,273	92.58%	288,154	51,470	459.85%
KILL DEVIL HILLS - 7	2,977,039	3,030,736	-1.77%	2,843,490	3,173,984	-10.41%	5,234,303	2,362,500	121.56%	7,024,824	1,093,292	542.54%
NAGS HEAD - 14	2,059,419	1,823,494	12.94%	1,877,182	1,892,513	-0.81%	3,915,459	1,649,672	137.35%	5,869,222	846,543	593.32%
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN BEACHES</b>	8,363,560	7,747,818	7.95%	7,652,364	7,752,261	-1.29%	14,241,758	6,030,924	136.15%	20,514,712	2,938,332	598.18%
<b>ROANOKE ISLAND:</b>												
MANTEO-TOWN - 10	1,162,274	955,731	21.61%	855,301	779,047	9.79%	1,429,690	691,359	106.79%	1,801,206	332,005	442.52%
MANTEO-OUTSIDE - 11	231,731	219,443	5.60%	217,208	165,193	31.49%	278,626	188,491	47.82%	367,469	134,607	172.99%
<b>TOTAL ROANOKE ISLAND</b>	1,394,005	1,175,174	18.62%	1,072,509	944,240	13.58%	1,708,316	879,850	94.16%	2,168,675	466,612	364.77%
<b>TOTAL</b>	10,669,210	9,567,693	11.51%	9,647,064	9,280,396	3.95%	17,851,725	7,466,202	139.10%	26,101,925	3,749,728	596.10%



DARE COUNTY GROSS									
MEALS BY DISTRICT									
	2021	2020	% Increase	2021	2020	% Increase	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	% Increase
	MAY	MAY	(Decrease)	JUNE	JUNE	(Decrease)	TOTAL	TOTAL	(Decrease)
<b>HATTERAS ISLAND:</b>									
RODANTHE - 15	489,133	179,186	172.98%	581,896	457,470	27.20%	1,531,294	266,533	474.52%
WAVES - 19	646,402	219,190	194.90%	890,242	677,632	31.38%	2,181,800	355,763	513.27%
SALVO - 18	26,126	5,010	421.48%	49,767	40,793	22.00%	76,122	5,010	1419.40%
AVON - 1	2,027,700	706,126	187.16%	2,488,769	1,903,871	30.72%	6,726,503	1,584,755	324.45%
BUXTON - 2	1,391,963	431,796	222.37%	1,798,154	1,314,854	36.76%	5,379,991	1,007,096	434.21%
FRISCO - 5	357,830	147,558	142.50%	462,776	264,210	75.15%	1,294,432	487,898	165.31%
HATTERAS - 6	816,477	224,957	262.95%	1,157,752	828,595	39.72%	3,148,870	335,576	838.35%
<b>TOTAL HATTERAS ISLAND</b>	<b>5,755,631</b>	<b>1,913,823</b>	<b>200.74%</b>	<b>7,429,356</b>	<b>5,487,425</b>	<b>35.39%</b>	<b>20,339,012</b>	<b>4,042,631</b>	<b>403.11%</b>
<b>NORTHERN BEACHES:</b>									
DUCK - 21	4,385,392	1,497,309	192.88%	5,932,417	4,225,720	40.39%	16,847,408	3,140,208	436.51%
SOUTHERN SHORES - 20	1,034,603	431,285	139.89%	1,497,738	1,144,690	30.84%	4,846,160	1,835,895	163.97%
KITTY HAWK - 8	4,546,756	2,032,942	123.65%	6,066,253	4,467,270	35.79%	20,191,052	7,300,435	176.57%
COLINGTON - 3	395,247	110,255	258.48%	523,633	323,053	62.09%	1,468,875	391,854	274.85%
KILL DEVIL HILLS - 7	8,913,791	3,552,444	150.92%	11,207,349	9,022,628	24.21%	38,200,796	13,212,956	189.12%
NAGS HEAD - 14	8,633,929	3,059,988	182.16%	12,853,590	8,517,851	50.90%	35,208,801	9,272,210	279.72%
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN BEACHES</b>	<b>27,909,718</b>	<b>10,684,223</b>	<b>161.22%</b>	<b>38,080,980</b>	<b>27,701,212</b>	<b>37.47%</b>	<b>116,763,092</b>	<b>35,153,558</b>	<b>232.15%</b>
<b>ROANOKE ISLAND:</b>									
MANTEO-TOWN - 10	2,189,340	1,213,967	80.35%	2,605,650	1,839,180	41.67%	10,043,461	3,972,109	152.85%
MANTEO-OUTSIDE - 11	418,473	267,796	56.27%	487,559	349,795	39.38%	2,001,066	975,530	105.13%
<b>TOTAL ROANOKE ISLAND</b>	<b>2,607,813</b>	<b>1,481,763</b>	<b>75.99%</b>	<b>3,093,209</b>	<b>2,188,975</b>	<b>41.31%</b>	<b>12,044,527</b>	<b>4,947,639</b>	<b>143.44%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,273,162</b>	<b>14,079,809</b>	<b>157.63%</b>	<b>48,603,545</b>	<b>35,377,612</b>	<b>37.39%</b>	<b>149,146,631</b>	<b>44,143,828</b>	<b>237.87%</b>

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Actual and Budget**  
General Fund - YTD thru 7/31/21

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
3030 · Occupancy Tax - 75%	957,616.07	3,776,018.00	-2,818,401.93	25.4%
3040 · Meals Tax - 75%	363,423.59	1,746,832.00	-1,383,408.41	20.8%
3050 · Website Advertising	10,393.60	100,000.00	-89,606.40	10.4%
3210 · Interest Income	729.52	50,150.00	-49,420.48	1.5%
3220 · Other	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,332,162.78</b>	<b>5,674,000.00</b>	<b>-4,341,837.22</b>	<b>23.5%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>1,332,162.78</b>	<b>5,674,000.00</b>	<b>-4,341,837.22</b>	<b>23.5%</b>
Expense				
5000 · Director Compensation	1,425.00	17,100.00	-15,675.00	8.3%
5001 · Professional Services	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
5002 · Director Travel/Meeting/Meals	0.00	7,000.00	-7,000.00	0.0%
5003 · Directors & Officers Insurance	3,602.86	3,603.00	-0.14	100.0%
5004 · Miscellaneous Items	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
5010 · Salaries (Full Time) Promotion	83,322.72	737,750.00	-654,427.28	11.3%
5020 · Salaries (Part Time) Promotion	9,955.97	126,000.00	-116,044.03	7.9%
5025 · Salaries (Part Time) Welcome AB	8,987.86	79,200.00	-70,212.14	11.3%
5026 · Salaries (Part Time) Welcome RI	14,605.81	134,100.00	-119,494.19	10.9%
5030 · Payroll Taxes	8,813.24	89,285.00	-80,471.76	9.9%
5040 · Employee Insurance	26,211.52	154,200.00	-127,988.48	17.0%
5050 · Retirement	9,730.10	89,930.00	-80,199.90	10.8%
5055 · 401(k) Match	764.94	7,380.00	-6,615.06	10.4%
5060 · Workmens Compensation	2,010.63	2,155.00	-144.37	93.3%
5080 · Employee Relations	35.00	2,805.00	-2,770.00	1.2%
5090 · Training	0.00	11,250.00	-11,250.00	0.0%
5110 · Contracted Service	2,136.95	26,650.00	-24,513.05	8.0%
5140 · Audit	0.00	11,250.00	-11,250.00	0.0%
5170 · Other Professional Services	2,295.00	7,300.00	-5,005.00	31.4%
5180 · Legal	500.00	20,500.00	-20,000.00	2.4%
5185 · Research	24,000.00	263,400.00	-239,400.00	9.1%
5190 · Administrative Advertising	80.00	1,500.00	-1,420.00	5.3%
5500 · Advertising-Printed	22,908.94	1,382,065.00	-1,359,156.06	1.7%
5502 · Advertising - Production Fee	70,867.00	130,000.00	-59,133.00	54.5%
5510 · Advertising - Event Dev & Mktg	1,750.00	73,100.00	-71,350.00	2.4%
5515 · Advertising - Online	220,308.75	2,519,455.00	-2,299,146.25	8.7%
5525 · Community Relations	3,254.17	30,000.00	-26,745.83	10.8%
5530 · Legal Notices	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
5560 · Brochures/Production & Printing	0.00	34,750.00	-34,750.00	0.0%
5580 · Promotional Aids	0.00	9,000.00	-9,000.00	0.0%
6100 · Familiarization Tours	8,762.42	110,000.00	-101,237.58	8.0%
6101 · Group sales	1,500.00	12,000.00	-10,500.00	12.5%
6130 · Uniforms	12.75	1,840.00	-1,827.25	0.7%
6150 · Event Grant	0.00	750,000.00	-750,000.00	0.0%
6170 · Tourism Summit	0.00	20,500.00	-20,500.00	0.0%
6200 · Postage and Delivery	1,525.32	195,200.00	-193,674.68	0.8%
6300 · Travel	182.45	40,400.00	-40,217.55	0.5%
6305 · Vehicle Maintenance	61.70	3,500.00	-3,438.30	1.8%
6320 · Registrations	1,200.00	49,500.00	-48,300.00	2.4%
6340 · Travel Show Exhibit	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
6420 · Dues and Subscriptions	3,325.60	47,600.00	-44,274.40	7.0%
6440 · Insurance	27,354.75	27,820.00	-465.25	98.3%
6460 · Telephone	3,031.98	42,815.00	-39,783.02	7.1%
6500 · Equipment	0.00	77,500.00	-77,500.00	0.0%
6510 · Expendable Equipment	0.00	2,100.00	-2,100.00	0.0%
6530 · Technical Support	0.00	13,050.00	-13,050.00	0.0%
6580 · Utilities	1,005.61	18,360.00	-17,354.39	5.5%
6600 · Cleaning/maintenance supplies	102.08	2,550.00	-2,447.92	4.0%
6610 · Building Maintenance	65.00	25,460.00	-25,395.00	0.3%
6620 · Equipment Service Contracts	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
6640 · Equipment Rent	773.39	34,000.00	-33,226.61	2.3%
6660 · Equipment Repairs	0.00	4,250.00	-4,250.00	0.0%
6700 · Office Supplies	634.33	22,925.00	-22,290.67	2.8%
6800 · Bank Service Charges	60.00	1,920.00	-1,860.00	3.1%
6810 · Web Site/Internet	1,408.86	40,000.00	-38,591.14	3.5%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>568,570.70</b>	<b>7,524,518.00</b>	<b>-6,955,947.30</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>763,592.08</b>	<b>-1,850,518.00</b>	<b>2,614,110.08</b>	<b>-41.3%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Income				
9910 · Transfer from Merchandise Sales				

July is 8.3% of the FY Budget

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**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Actual and Budget**  
General Fund - YTD thru 7/31/21

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
3100 · Sale of Merchandise				
3110 · Sales - Roanoke Island	2,062.30	3,000.00	-937.70	68.7%
<b>Total 3100 · Sale of Merchandise</b>	<b>2,062.30</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>-937.70</b>	<b>68.7%</b>
<b>Total 9910 · Transfer from Merchandise Sales</b>	<b>2,062.30</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>-937.70</b>	<b>68.7%</b>
9920 · Transfer from Travel Guide Fund				
3209 · Sale of Advertising	0.00	35,000.00	-35,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 9920 · Transfer from Travel Guide Fund</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>35,000.00</b>	<b>-35,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
9990 · Unappropriated Fund Balance	0.00	2,172,398.00	-2,172,398.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>2,062.30</b>	<b>2,210,398.00</b>	<b>-2,208,335.70</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
Other Expense				
9925 · Transfer to Travel Guide				
55601 · Production & Printing	0.00	70,000.00	-70,000.00	0.0%
62001 · Freight	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 9925 · Transfer to Travel Guide</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>72,000.00</b>	<b>-72,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
9930 · Transfer to Merchandise				
67101 · Merchandise Purchases	318.41	1,950.00	-1,631.59	16.3%
68001 · Credit Card Charges	98.20	450.00	-351.80	21.8%
<b>Total 9930 · Transfer to Merchandise</b>	<b>416.61</b>	<b>2,400.00</b>	<b>-1,983.39</b>	<b>17.4%</b>
9950 · Transfer to Event Site Fund	0.00	285,480.00	-285,480.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>416.61</b>	<b>359,880.00</b>	<b>-359,463.39</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>1,645.69</b>	<b>1,850,518.00</b>	<b>-1,848,872.31</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>765,237.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>765,237.77</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenses - Actual and Budget**  
**Merchandise - YTD thru 7/31/21**

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
3210 · Interest Income	18.20	125.00	-106.80	14.6%
<b>Total Income</b>	18.20	125.00	-106.80	14.6%
<b>Gross Profit</b>	18.20	125.00	-106.80	14.6%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	18.20	125.00	-106.80	14.6%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Income				
9910 · Transfer from Merchandise Sales				
3100 · Sale of Merchandise				
3110 · Sales - Roanoke Island	2,062.30	3,000.00	-937.70	68.7%
<b>Total 3100 · Sale of Merchandise</b>	2,062.30	3,000.00	-937.70	68.7%
<b>Total 9910 · Transfer from Merchandise Sales</b>	2,062.30	3,000.00	-937.70	68.7%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	2,062.30	3,000.00	-937.70	68.7%
Other Expense				
9930 · Transfer to Merchandise				
67101 · Merchandise Purchases	318.41	1,950.00	-1,631.59	16.3%
68001 · Credit Card Charges	98.20	450.00	-351.80	21.8%
<b>Total 9930 · Transfer to Merchandise</b>	416.61	2,400.00	-1,983.39	17.4%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	416.61	2,400.00	-1,983.39	17.4%
<b>Net Other Income</b>	1,645.69	600.00	1,045.69	274.3%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,663.89</b>	<b>725.00</b>	<b>938.89</b>	<b>229.5%</b>

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - Actual and Budget**  
Travel Guide - YTD thru 7/31/21

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
3210 · Interest Income	5.66	25.00	-19.34	22.6%
<b>Total Income</b>	5.66	25.00	-19.34	22.6%
<b>Gross Profit</b>	5.66	25.00	-19.34	22.6%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	5.66	25.00	-19.34	22.6%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Income				
9920 · Transfer from Travel Guide Fund				
3209 · Sale of Advertising	0.00	35,000.00	-35,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 9920 · Transfer from Travel Guide Fund</b>	0.00	35,000.00	-35,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	0.00	35,000.00	-35,000.00	0.0%
<b>Other Expense</b>				
9925 · Transfer to Travel Guide				
55601 · Production & Printing	0.00	70,000.00	-70,000.00	0.0%
62001 · Freight	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 9925 · Transfer to Travel Guide</b>	0.00	72,000.00	-72,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	0.00	72,000.00	-72,000.00	0.0%
<b>Net Other Income</b>	0.00	-37,000.00	37,000.00	0.0%
<b>Net Income</b>	5.66	-36,975.00	36,980.66	-0.0%

**Outer Banks Visitors Bureau Special Revenue Fund**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Actual and Budget**  
July 2021

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
3030 · Occupancy Tax	319,205.35	1,258,672.00	-939,466.65	25.4%
3040 · Meals Tax	121,141.19	582,278.00	-461,136.81	20.8%
3210 · Interest	164.26	23,000.00	-22,835.74	0.7%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>440,510.80</b>	<b>1,863,950.00</b>	<b>-1,423,439.20</b>	<b>23.6%</b>
Expense				
4000 · Long - Term Projects				
4503 · Capital Improvement	0.00	461,170.00	-461,170.00	0.0%
4525 · Event Site	0.00	2,978,669.00	-2,978,669.00	0.0%
4585 · Unappropriated Long-Term	0.00	430,000.00	-430,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 4000 · Long - Term Projects</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,869,839.00</b>	<b>-3,869,839.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
4100 · Short-Term Projects				
4646 · Town of KH - KH Park Trail Conn	0.00	47,592.00	-47,592.00	0.0%
4648 · TIG - DCAC - Courtyard	0.00	90,950.00	-90,950.00	0.0%
4650 · TIG - Duck - Pedestrian Path	0.00	147,806.00	-147,806.00	0.0%
4652 · TIG - Manteo - Town Common	221,885.00	371,885.00	-150,000.00	59.7%
4654 · TIG -Hatteras District-Pathways	0.00	342,640.00	-342,640.00	0.0%
4655 · TIG - KDH - Meekins Field	0.00	200,000.00	-200,000.00	0.0%
4657 · TIG - NH - Skate Park	0.00	30,000.00	-30,000.00	0.0%
4658 · TIG - NC Coast Fed - Baum Boat	0.00	40,000.00	-40,000.00	0.0%
4999 · Unappropriated Funds	0.00	760,861.00	-760,861.00	0.0%
5140 · Audit	0.00	3,750.00	-3,750.00	0.0%
5160 · Fireworks	0.00	134,669.00	-134,669.00	0.0%
5170 · Traffic Control - Hwy 12 & 158	1,960.00	19,960.00	-18,000.00	9.8%
<b>Total 4100 · Short-Term Projects</b>	<b>223,845.00</b>	<b>2,190,113.00</b>	<b>-1,966,268.00</b>	<b>10.2%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>223,845.00</b>	<b>6,059,952.00</b>	<b>-5,836,107.00</b>	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>216,665.80</b>	<b>-4,196,002.00</b>	<b>4,412,667.80</b>	<b>-5.2%</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
Other Income				
9930 · Appropriated Fund Balance	0.00	4,196,002.00	-4,196,002.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,196,002.00</b>	<b>-4,196,002.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,196,002.00</b>	<b>-4,196,002.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>216,665.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>216,665.80</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau  
Restricted Fund Summary  
2019-2021

	Balance 7/1/2020	Allocation 2020-2021	Allocation Paid	Allocation Transferred	Balance 7/1/2021	Allocation 2020-2021	Allocation Paid	Allocation Transferred	Estimated Balance FY20-21
<b>Short-term Projects</b>									
OB Scenic Byway - Interpretive Plan	26,500		(26,500)		0				0
Town of NH - W. Bypass Multi-Use Phase VIII	487,932		(487,932)		0				0
Town of KH - KH Park Trail Connection	47,592				47,592				47,592
TIG - Chicamacomico - Cisterns	48,000		(32,999)	(15,001)	0				0
TIG - Dare Co Arts Council - Courtyard	90,950				90,950				90,950
TIG - Frisco Native American - Handicapp Access	25,750		(25,750)		0				0
TIG - Town of Duck - Pedestrian Path, Phase IV	147,806				147,806				147,806
TIG - Town of KDH - Baum Street, Phase II	55,618		(55,618)		0				0
TIG - Town of Manteo - Manteo Common	221,885				221,885		(221,885)		0
TIG - Manteo - Town Common Phase II	0	150,000	0		150,000				150,000
TIG - Hatteras Tax District - Pathway	0	342,640	0		342,640				342,640
TIG - KDH - Meekins Field	0	200,000	0		200,000				200,000
TIG - NH - Admiral Street	0	40,000	(40,000)		0				0
TIG - NH - Skate Park	0	30,000	0		30,000				30,000
TIG - NC Coastal Fed - Baum Bridge	0	40,000	0		40,000				40,000
TIG - OB Gun Club - Range Improvements	0	12,000	(12,000)		0				0
Fireworks	55,000	0	(12,831)	37,500	79,669			55,000	134,669
Audit	0		(2,625)	2,625	0			3,750	3,750
Highway 158/Highway 12 Intersection		25,000	(5,040)		19,960		(1,960)		18,000
Unappropriated Funds	188,782	738,480		(639,764)	287,498	586,113		(58,750)	814,860
TOTAL SHORT TERM COMMITMENTS	1,395,815	1,578,120	(701,295)	(614,640)	1,658,000	586,113	(223,845)	0	2,020,267
<b>Long Term Projects</b>									
Multi-Use Center (100%)	263,044	1,626,629	0	0	1,889,673	1,267,213			3,156,886
Natural Historical Cultural	0	0	0	0	0				0
Green Space/Open Space (GOSPL)	0	0	0	0	0				0
Infrastructure (capped)	461,170		0	0	461,170				461,170
L-T Unappropriated Funds	500,000	100,000	-70,000	(200,000)	330,000	100,000			430,000
TOTAL LONG TERM COMMITMENTS UNPAID	1,224,214	1,726,629	(70,000)	(200,000)	2,680,843	1,367,213	0	0	4,048,056
Total	2,620,029	3,304,749	(771,295)	(814,640)	4,338,843	1,953,326	(223,845)	0	6,068,324
Cash on Hand 7/31/21								#	
Total Cash on Hand								Checking Savings	1,193,112 3,434,728 4,627,839
<b>25% of Occupancy &amp; Meals Income per Budget</b>									
August									419,974
September									383,344
October									178,376
November									102,460
December									54,116
January									35,531
February									35,063
March									33,584
April									50,368
May									89,784
June									130,218
									1,512,815
Unappropriated Balances									72,330
Transfer from General Fund						1,953,162 *			
30% Short-term						585,948			
Short-term Interest						164			
						586,113			
70% Long-term								1,367,213	
Long-term Interest								0	
								1,367,213 *	

\*Estimate Based on Actual through July and Budgeted Figures  
# Agrees to Financial Statements

**Dare County Tourism Board - Event Site Fund**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Actual and Budget**  
**July 2021**

	Jul 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
3200 · Site Rental Income				
3205 · Reservation fee	-200.00	1,000.00	-1,200.00	-20.0%
3200 · Site Rental Income - Other	0.00	12,800.00	-12,800.00	0.0%
<b>Total 3200 · Site Rental Income</b>	-200.00	13,800.00	-14,000.00	-1.4%
3210 · Interest Income	36.73	200.00	-163.27	18.4%
3250 · Lease Income	2,669.00	45,600.00	-42,931.00	5.9%
9999 · Unappropriated Funds	0.00	65,000.00	-65,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	2,505.73	124,600.00	-122,094.27	2.0%
<b>Expense</b>				
5160 · Event Development & Marketing	0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.0%
5170 · Other Professional Services	12,000.00	55,000.00	-43,000.00	21.8%
6440 · Insurance	8,554.50	8,550.00	4.50	100.1%
6580 · Utilities	1,961.04	56,375.00	-54,413.96	3.5%
6610 · Repairs & Maintenance	17,632.11	220,085.00	-202,452.89	8.0%
6700 · Office Supplies	0.00	270.00	-270.00	0.0%
9990 · Unappropriated Other Expenses	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	40,147.65	410,280.00	-370,132.35	9.8%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-37,641.92	-285,680.00	248,038.08	13.2%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
3220 · Other Income	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
9910 · Transfer from General Fund	0.00	285,480.00	-285,480.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	0.00	285,680.00	-285,680.00	0.0%
<b>Net Other Income</b>	0.00	285,680.00	-285,680.00	0.0%
<b>Net Income</b>	-37,641.92	0.00	-37,641.92	100.0%



DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD

31-Jul-21

TYPE OF ACCOUNT BANK	CHECKING SOUTHERN	NC CAPITAL MGMT TRUST	M MARKET PNC	M MARKET SOUTHERN	M MARKET FIRST NATIONAL	CD'S SOUTHERN	CD'S FIRST BANK	CD'S TOWNE BANK	TOTAL	
GENERAL FUND	865,567	2,775,867	555,086	1,506,350	2,343,021	0	1,014,991	1,008,119	10,069,001	
RESTRICTED FUND	1,193,112	1,167,079				0	1,000,462	1,267,186	0	4,627,839
TRAVEL GUIDE	49,367									49,367
MERCHANDISE SALES	159,811									159,811
EVENT SITE FUND	286,257									286,257
TOTAL	2,554,113	3,942,947	555,086	1,506,350	2,343,021	1,000,462	2,282,178	1,008,119		15,192,275
TOTAL % EACH BANK	33.31%	25.95%	3.65%		15.42%		15.02%	6.64%		100.00%
INTEREST RATES	0.15%	0.01%	0.01%	0.15%	0.19%	0.21%	.25% & .20%	.17% on 2		
TOTAL CHECKING & CD'S	15,192,275									
60% ALLOWED IN ANY BANK	9,115,365									
25% ALLOWED IN ANY ONE INV	3,798,069									

60% General Fund Reserved Balance is \$4,351,493.

100% Restricted Fund Balance Restricted by House Bill 225 \$4,627,839

## Marketing Dashboard

thru JULY 21

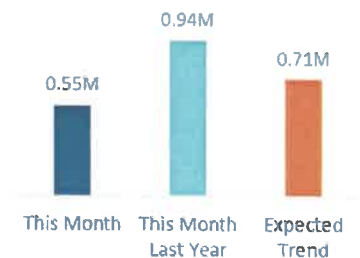
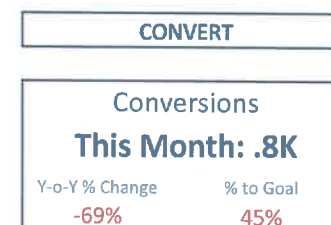
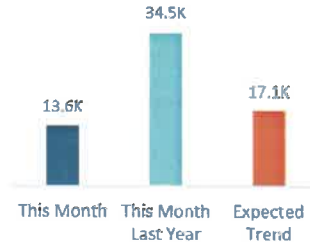
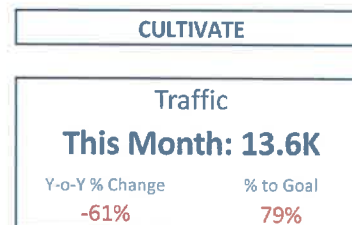
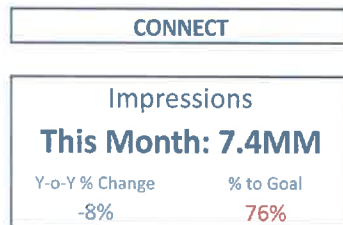
	<u>FY 21/22</u>	<u>FY 20/21</u>	<u>Diff.</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Trackable Guide (Print - Virtual)	4,694	3,611	1,083	30%
Completed Video Views	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total Visits to Website	454,647	400,561	54,086	14%
Online Communities				
Email Subscribers	308,627	257,988	50,639	20%
Facebook	716,899	718,345	-1,446	0%
Twitter	40,800	40,900	-100	0%
Instagram	119,000	99,300	19,700	20%
Pinterest	<u>21,420</u>	<u>20,662</u>	<u>758</u>	<u>4%</u>
Online Communities Subtotal	1,206,746	1,137,195	69,551	6%

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### Devices JULY 2021

Mobile	72%
Desktop	25%
Tablet	3%

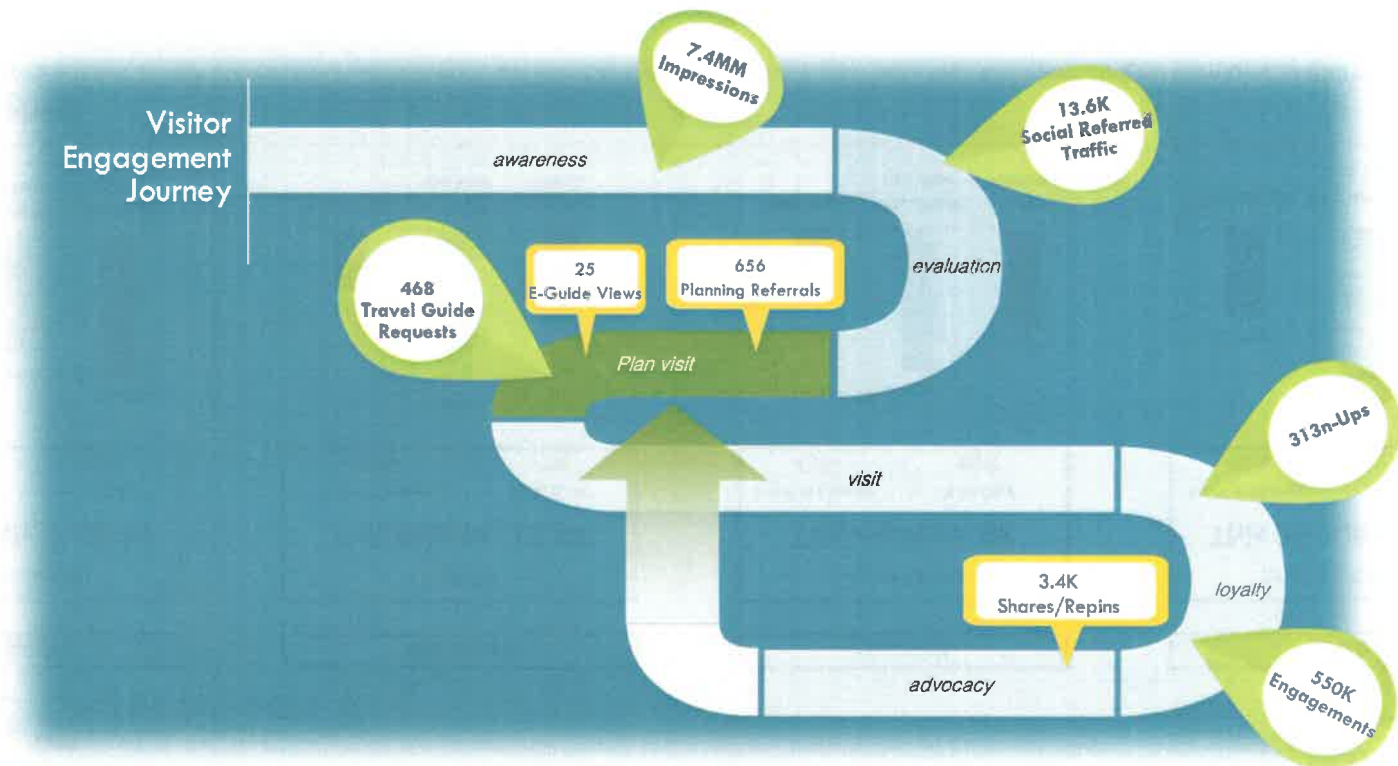
# Executive Summary



## Monthly Highlights:

- While goal projections are not as high compared to performance last year (as the previous fiscal year had a high carryover budget) promoted platforms are proving more expensive than projected going into the new fiscal year.
- Facebook ads experienced higher cost per click, while Pinterest experiences lower cost per clicks.
- Instagram continues to experience strong follower growth as well as significant organic reach as Instagram's Explore algorithm highly-favors OBX content.
- Recommendations/Next Steps:**
  - Launch Snapchat test in August to gain performance benchmarks and diversify social advertising channels.
  - Test awareness campaigns on Pinterest to drive increased impressions and, if CPC costs continue to gain efficiency, allocate additional consideration spend from Facebook to Pinterest to increase traffic.
  - Test dynamic creative for conversion ads using previous top-performing copy and creative to help lower costs

# Visitor Journey





HOFFMAN YORK

## CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

*The Outer Banks*®  
VISITORS BUREAU

## CONSIDERATIONS

- OBVB is off to a strong start with the new fiscal year - July 2021 metrics exceeded many of the benchmarks set from the previous fiscal year.
- Active media in July includes: Native article promotion and retargeting, search efforts across Google and Bing, email marketing and social media (organic and paid - managed by Ignite Social).
- The second season of Netflix's "The Outer Banks" launched at the end of the month, and organic traffic from non-traditional feeder markets began to rise due to the show's popularity - anticipating this trend will continue into August.

Overview of below sections:

- July 2021 Overview reviews MOM change while Fiscal Year Overview reviews YOY change from FY20-21.
- Charts below are either "Month Of" (July data) or "Trending" (variable timeframe)

## JULY 2021 OVERVIEW

- Limited paid media activity in July due to change in fiscal year and reduced priority for marketing due to high sellout rates for 2021 summer season. Paid media efforts will be reduced until launch of FY21-22 Fall season in September 2021.
- Total website traffic, engagement and conversions continues to grow as interest in the Outer Banks is high - website metrics have seen continuous growth for over a year.

Note: All comparisons shown are to the previous month (June 2021)

### Paid Impressions

1,134,193

(Previous Month: 3,789,036)  
▼ -70.07% (-2,654,843)

### Website Sessions

454,647

(Previous Month: 389,970)  
▲ 16.59% (64,677)

### Email Sends

296,769

(Previous Month: 254,985)  
▲ 16.39% (41,784)

### Engaged Website Sessions

221,700

(Previous Month: 195,026)  
▲ 13.68% (26,674)

### Website Conversions (All)

68,684

(Previous Month: 63,340)  
▲ 8.44% (5,344)

### Lodging & Restaurant Listings Conversions

39,138

(Previous Month: 36,545)  
▲ 7.10% (2,593)

## FISCAL YEAR OVERVIEW

- Key metrics are ahead of benchmark pace from FY21-22 year.
- Email sends are down YOY due to launch of co-op email blasts in the previous year - total email activity for standard consumer marketing has grown YOY.

Note: All comparisons shown are to the previous fiscal year (July 2020)

## Paid Impressions

1,134,193

(Custom Range: 846,089)

▲ 34.05% (288,104)

## Website Sessions

454,647

(Custom Range: 400,561)

▲ 13.50% (54,086)

## Email Sends

296,769

(Custom Range: 447,932)

▼ -33.75% (-151,163)

## Organic Search Sessions

293,505

(Custom Range: 244,334)

▲ 20.12% (49,171)

## Website Conversions (All)

68,684

(Custom Range: 53,083)

▲ 29.39% (15,601)

## Lodging &amp; Restaurant Listings Conversions

39,138

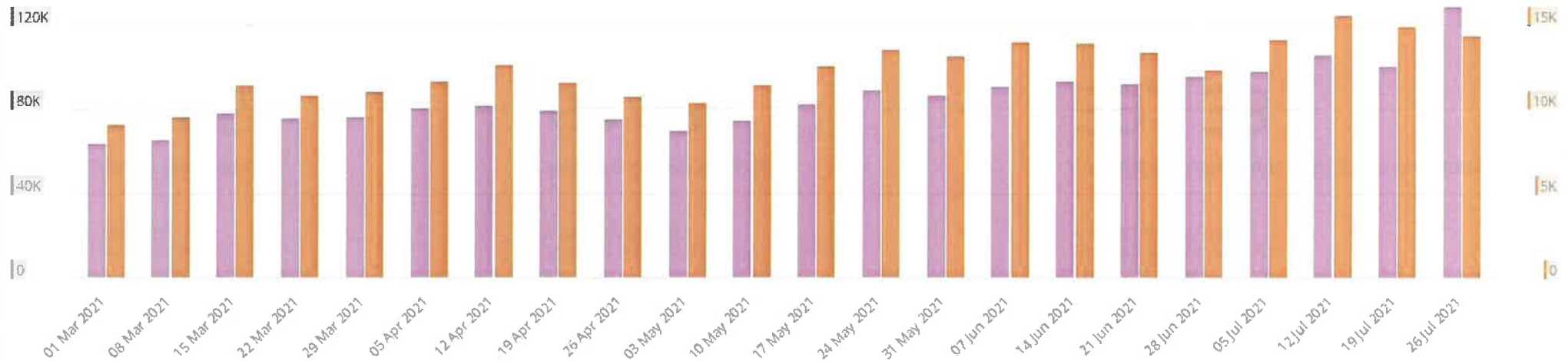
(Custom Range: 34,782)

▲ 12.52% (4,356)

# OUTERBANKS.ORG OVERVIEW

## Site Sessions by Channel - Trending

Sessions Goal Completions



## Total Users - Month Of

**878,886**

(Previous Month: 804,913)

▲ 9.19% (73,973)

## New Users - Month Of

**328,285**

(Previous Month: 285,689)

▲ 14.91% (42,596)

## Bounce Rate

**51 %**

(Previous Month: 50 %)

▲ 2% (1 %)



## Organic Search Sessions

293,505

(Previous Month: 252,756)  
▲ 16.12% (40,749)

## Paid Media Sessions

66,788

(Previous Month: 48,260)  
▲ 38.39% (18,528)

## Time on Site (Seconds)

135

(Previous Month: 144)  
▼ -6.38% (-9)

## Lodging Partner Referral Conversions

30,292

(Previous Month: 29,834)  
▲ 1.54% (458)

## eNews Sign Up Conversions

1,345

(Previous Month: 1,860)  
▼ -27.69% (-515)

## Travel Guide Conversions

3,377

(Previous Month: 3,591)  
▼ -5.96% (-214)

## Top Pages Visited - Month Of

Web Analytics Page Path	# Page Views: Previous Month	# Page Views ↓	▲ Diff	Visitor Bounce Rate
/	96,636	121,662	▲ 26% (25,026)	52.42 %
/blog/post/	49,856	64,379	▲ 29% (14,523)	54.11 %
/plan-your-trip/towns-and-villages/	58,487	59,147	▲ 1% (660)	48.46 %
/things-to-do/	53,763	55,888	▲ 4% (2,125)	43.03 %
/plan-your-trip/getting-here-and-a...	37,403	40,952	▲ 9% (3,549)	56.74 %
/places-to-stay/	34,283	32,174	▼ -6% (-2,109)	45.32 %
Total	684,467	763,748	▲ 12% (79,281)	50.92 %

## EMAIL MARKETING INSIGHTS

- 251K emails received the July Newsletter to our Consumer Marketing and Advance Auto Parts contact lists and the Wedding Association email.
- The Wedding Association email delivered strong open rate and CTR at low send volumes.
- General July Newsletter delivered strong open rate and open CTR performance - strong performance continued from the contacts gained via the AAP partnership.
- All workflows continued in July including Foodie, Active Vacationer, Art, History & Culture, Family, Fishing and Camping/RV emails. Family and Fishing workflows were swapped in July for the FY21-22 refresh - Remaining workflows to be swapped in coming months.
- 161K workflow emails sent to date - large increase in sends occurred in July as the refreshed Family and Fishing workflows were sent on 7/6.

### Email Messages Sent - Performance by Message - Month Of

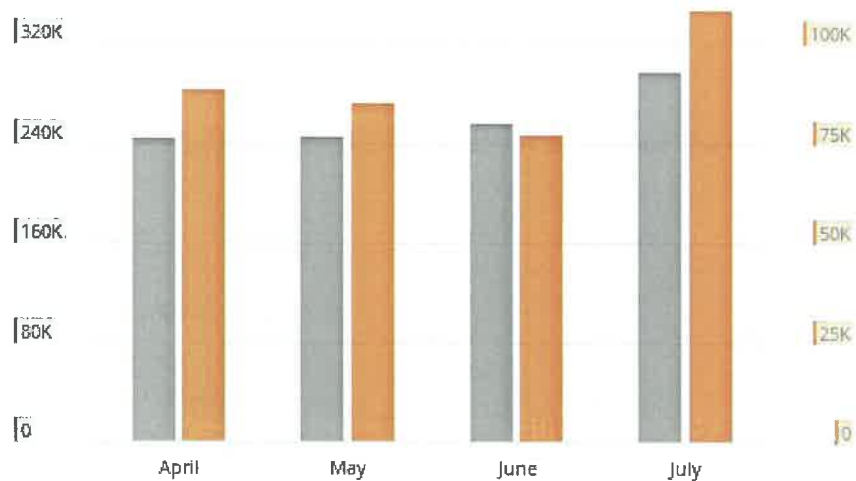
Message Send Name	# Sends ↓	# Opens	# Open Rate	# Clicks	# Bounces
july 2021 obx email (gener...	242,286	73,513	30.39 %	9,224	407
family workflow 2.0	26,249	13,871	52.87 %	2,053	12
fishing workflow 2.0	14,449	7,077	49.05 %	1,003	20
july 2021 obx email (aap)	9,408	4,773	51.22 %	521	89
foodie workflow	1,462	1,859	127.59 %	366	5
art, history and culture wor...	1,394	1,810	130.78 %	405	10
active vacationer workflow	825	985	120.56 %	230	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>296,769</b>	<b>104,472</b>	<b>35.27 %</b>	<b>13,928</b>	<b>552</b>

1 - 10 of 10 items



## Email Sends v. Opens - Trending

Message Sends Message Total Opens



## Top Pages Visited - Month Of

Web Analytics Page Path	# Page Views	# Visits ↓
/blog/post/	4,063	2,430
/places-to-stay/	2,986	1,541
/things-to-do/top-10-things-to-d...	2,105	1,282
/plan-your-trip/webcams/	1,652	1,152
/plan-your-trip/offers-and-pack...	1,470	1,029
/plan-your-trip/trip-ideas/	1,964	677
/event/obx-pirate-festival/	782	619
/things-to-do/water-activities/	1,147	583
/plan-your-trip/travel-guide/	1,531	570
/	826	558
/event/obx-watermelon-festival/	624	493
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,070</b>	<b>12,644</b>

1 - 25 of 25 items

## PAID PERFORMANCE

- Native Remarketing efforts continued in July and supported multiple outdoor activities (i.e. Land Activities, Lighthouse Stops, Kayak/Canoe and Surfing pages).
- Land Activities and Surfing placements delivered the strongest CTR performance in July.
- Native Remarketing efforts will continue into August - launch of some low-funnel OTA placements should occur in August with the larger Fall promotion beginning in September.

### Native Article Promotion - Media Performance - Month Of

creative	# Impressions ↓	# Clicks	# CTR
embrace-summer-surfing	82,185	90	0.11 %
embrace-summer-landactivities	79,814	88	0.11 %
embrace-summer-lighthouses	79,083	67	0.08 %
embrace-summer-kayakcanoe	71,339	57	0.08 %

1 - 4 of 4 items



### Native Article Promotion Performance - Website Analytics - Month Of

Web Analytics Page Path	# Visits ↓	Visitor Bounce Rate	# Time On Site Avg.
/things-to-do/water-activities/	91	90.11 %	17
/things-to-do/land-activities/	41	82.93 %	85
/things-to-do/lighthouses/	40	90.00 %	20

1 - 3 of 3 items



## TOURISM SALES & EVENTS ACTIVITY – AUGUST 2021

### Recent Trade Show Report:

Tourism Sales recently attended (in-person) the VMA-NCMA-MCASC Annual Meeting and Marketplace on August 9 – 11, in Harrisonburg, VA. Staff met with 12 out of the 14 tour operators that took appointments. Sentiments from most of this segment is their business is coming back, but very slowly. There is more interest in day trips and 1-2 nights within their regional area. They are booking a lot of last-minute groups but find accommodations rates are higher than they would like them to be which drives up their package pricing. The decision for spring student travel is still not a firm definite. While many of the student planners are getting calls for itinerary packages from teachers, most of the school districts have not approved overnight travel at this time for students. Our area has been a hot area for itineraries and accommodation proposals as most school districts are staying away from large metropolitan areas for the 2022 season.

**What is NCMA | VMA | MASC?** The North Carolina Motorcoach Association, the Virginia Motorcoach Association and the Motorcoach Association of South Carolina are trade organizations that represent approximately 185 motorcoach and tour companies collectively in the states of North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina. Its members operate charter, group tour, airport express, special operations and contract services (commuter, school, transit). These 3 state associations combined their annual meetings and trade shows into one larger conference. While this is one of the smaller motorcoach marketplaces we attend but it's a valuable show to network with our in state tour operators and group leaders as well as our neighboring states. The majority of our student field trip bookings come from this marketplace.

Attached sales leads were distributed earlier this month to our industry partners. Tourism sales is working on the sales leads to the industry partners and the follow-up to these tour operators with their requests.

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### Request for Proposals:

*Bureau sales staff sent out the following request for proposal recently to our industry partners.*

- ***Spectrum Reach | East Division***, October 12 -14 or October 19 - 21, 2021, 45 rooms per night, 45 ppl, meeting space
- ***ECU Women's Roundtable***, October 21 – 23, 2021, 10 rooms, 25 people, meeting space
- ***2011 Currituck County High School Class Reunion***, any Saturday evening, August 28 – October 30, 2021, banquet space for 150-200 people
- ***Travel Advocates***, June 8 – 13, 2022, 19 rooms per night, 75 students, attractions, activities, meals

## **Future Trade Show Dates and Locations:**

*Staff is currently scheduled for the following trade shows:*

- October 11 – 14 2021: **SPORTS Relationship Conference, Colorado Springs, CO**
  - November 11 – 14, 2021: **National Tour Association Travel Exchange, Cleveland, OH**
  - January 7 – 11, 2022: **American Bus Association's Marketplace, Grapevine, TX**
  - February 13 – 15, 2022: **Southeast Tourism Society's Domestic Showcase, VA Beach, VA**
- 

## **The Soundside Event Site:**

Attached is an updated 2021 and 2002 schedule for your review.

2021 Soundside Event Site Schedule		
Name of Event	Date of Event	Site Reserved
Sumospeed Beach Bash	Saturday, September 18, 2021	Saturday, September 18, 2021
Outer Banks Jeep Invasion	Friday, September 24 - Saturday, September 25, 2021	Friday, September 24 - Saturday, September 25, 2021
Outer Banks Seafood Festival	Saturday, October 16, 2021	Tuesday, October 12 - Tuesday, October 19, 2021
OBX Brewtag	Saturday, October 23, 2021	Wednesday, October 20 - Monday, October 25, 2021
OBSE   1/2 Marathon	Sunday, November 7, 2021	TBD
Outer Banks Food Truck Showdown	Sunday, November 21, 2021	Thursday, November 18 - Tuesday, November 23, 2021

2022 Soundside Event Site Schedule		
Name of Event	Date of Event	Site Reserved
OBX Rod and Custom Festival	Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7, 2022	Thursday, May 5 - Sunday, May 8, 2022
Dare2Care OBX Shred Fest	Saturday, May 14, 2022	Friday, May 13 - Monday, May 16, 2022
Soundside Fun Fair	Thursday, June 9 - Sunday, June 12, 2022	Tuesday, June 7 - Monday, June 13 2022
OBX Jeep Jam	Friday, August 19 - Saturday, August 20, 2022	Wednesday, August 17 - Saturday, August 20, 2022

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT: August 2021**

### BEST LISTS

**Condé Nast Traveler** | “20 Best Weekend Getaways In The U.S.” <https://bit.ly/2ThMayT>

**Condé Nast Traveler** | “Where to Eat, Stay And Play In NC Outer Banks” <https://bit.ly/3hbxfo>

### INTERVIEWS

**Richmond Times-Dispatch** | Jun 12, 2021 – “Summer Vacation Plans In Hot Demand At Virginia Beach And OBX: Vacationers Will Find Staffing Shortages And Sold-Out Beach Rentals” Executive Director Lee Nettles was among local officials and business owners about the phenomenal tourism we’ve experienced over the past year and beyond. <https://bit.ly/3lwqgDx>

**Stateline** | July 19, 2021 – “The Era Of Beach Driving May Be Coming To A Close” Aaron was interviewed for a story on the culture of beach driving and how it is an important part of the Outer Banks brand identity and community heritage going back generations for locals and visitors. The story checks in on how COVID-19 and emerging conservation policies are affecting driving beaches across the U.S. Stateline is a publication of the Pew Charitable Trusts. <https://bit.ly/2UuxrB5>

**The Virginian-Pilot** | Aug 5, 2021 – “What Does ‘Outer Banks’ Mean For The OBX? It’s Hard To Deny The Impact” Lee was interviewed for a review of the Netflix series’ effect on our community. One of his attributions states, “Between April 15 and May 15 of last year, the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau’s website traffic grew by 61%, compared with the same time period in 2019, said Lee Nettles, the executive director of the visitors bureau. Traffic to the bureau’s merchandise page grew by more than 4,400%.” <https://bit.ly/37kfckL>

### EARNED MEDIA – PUBLISHED

**Forbes** | July 2021 – “Five Relaxing Summer Activities Across The Outer Banks” Aaron met New York based travel writer Jared Ranahan at the virtual International Media Marketplace that is usually held in Manhattan. The PR team assisted Jared with some suggested restaurants and activities to make the most of his OBX visit. <https://bit.ly/3zMm3iW>

**Forbes** | July 2021 – “14 Reasons The Outer Banks Should Be Your Next Vacation Destination” The PR Team has worked with contributor Judy Koutsky already this year for a Travel + Leisure story that included the Outer Banks in the “21 Best Babymoon Destinations Around The World.” <https://bit.ly/3qsqhXT> In July, we took the opportunity to help plan her visit in-market for more outstanding media coverage with the Forbes piece. <https://bit.ly/3xFAaGc>

**Our State** | Aug 2021 – “A Guide To Downtown Duck” Staff helped writer Katie King connect with some recommended Duck residents to help her on the deep dive uncovering Dare County’s most northern and newest town. <https://www.ourstate.com/duck-2/>

### ADDITIONAL MEDIA – PUBLISHED

**Recreation News** | July 2021 “Lighthouses Fascinate Visitors Of All Ages” <https://bit.ly/3Ai7uUK>



## THE OUTER BANKS PROJECT

### EARNED MEDIA – IN DEVELOPMENT

**Good Morning America** | Aug 20, 2021 – The PR team helped producers orient and connect with tourism experiences on the OBX. GMA is visiting all 50 states for a “Rise and Shine” series depicting the best iconic places in each one. Hostess Kaylee Hartung is going hang gliding and the OBVB is providing video footage to supplement their national story.

**French TV** | TBD 2021 – Aaron and the team helped a Washington, DC-based news team connect with travel businesses and national park staff for a French facing travel review of the Outer Banks and what makes it so special as a beach community.

**Fodor’s** | TBD 2022 – Stratton Lawrence is updating the Forbes travel content for the Outer Banks, writing the new Eastern North Carolina and North Carolina Coast chapters of the next edition of Fodor’s The Carolinas and Georgia book. Aaron helped him identify places to visit during his April 2020 in-market discovery.

**Our State** | 2022 Coastal Issue – Aaron is helping the editorial staff plan in-market writing visits to cover stories for the 2022 Annual Coastal Issue which will feature boating experiences in Manteo and commercial fishing vessels and crew in Hatteras out next summer.

**Charlotte Magazine** | Fall 2021

### EARNED MEDIA – IN MARKET VISITS

**The Black Southern Belle** | Aug 9-12, 2021 – The Outer Banks Visitors Bureau PR team is working with Michiel Perry, a social media influencer with a substantial following, to explore the Outer Banks as a travel destination with a rich cultural story to tell as part of a greater review of the new African American Experience of Northeast North Carolina. You can follow Michiel’s journey at [Instagram.com/BlackSouthernBelle\\_bsb](https://www.instagram.com/BlackSouthernBelle_bsb)

### CONTENT PARTNERSHIPS

The Outer Banks PR and Content Development team worked with Honest Cooking online brand to create four culinary focused destination articles based on input from staff that live on OuterBanks.org and HonestCooking.com and will be promoted on both parties social media:

**Honest Cooking** | July 2021 “10 Awesome Family Friendly Eats On The Outer Banks”  
<https://bit.ly/3s0h6Ra>

**Honest Cooking** | July 2021 “Where To Eat On A Three Day Foodie Trip To The Outer Banks”  
<https://bit.ly/3fCDh1a>

**Honest Cooking** | July 2021 “The Best Healthy Eats On The Outer Banks”  
<https://bit.ly/3fzHR9J>

**Honest Cooking** | July 2021 “Where To Go For Locally-Sourced Seafood In The Outer Banks”  
<https://bit.ly/37oQyPT>

## THE OUTER BANKS PROJECT

Additional PR Team Supported Articles:

**Macaroni Kid: Fredericksburg, VA** | June 2021 “Family Fun In The Outer Banks”  
<https://bit.ly/3e9ZFHZ>

**Recreation News** | Aug 2021 “Travel Line: A Look At The Mid-Atlantic’s Favorite Waterfront Destinations” <https://bit.ly/2CdKAFu>

**OuterBanks.org** The Outer Banks PR and Content Development team is working with influencers, bloggers and content creators to drive deeper discovery of our visitor experiences and supporting tourism businesses by publishing on the OBX’s number one referral site. Big thanks to Stephanie Hall, Sr. Content Coordinator for her blog editor and site integration expertise.

Here’s just some of the new partnered content published to our site in Aug and July 2021:

**5 Reasons Southerners Should Choose OBX** - Lesli Peterson <https://bit.ly/3ytCLDF>

**Outer Banks Shopping Guide** (seasonal style, boutique shops, etc.) - Megan Wilson <https://bit.ly/3fB3w1l>

**Pregnancy Survival Guide to the Outer Banks** - Megan Nichols <https://bit.ly/2VjTJ9h>

**Romantic Getaway Guide to the Outer Banks** - Kathy Newbern <https://bit.ly/3xs9ZSg>

Staff continues to also publish original content that informs inbound and in-market guests and travel shoppers on the best ways to explore the Outer Banks for meaningful trips. Peruse them all at **OuterBanks.org/Blog**

### OTHER INITIATIVES

**NCBlackHeritageTour.com** | Lee and Aaron remain hard at work developing marketing and promotional efforts for the new six county partnership of the African American Experience of Northeast North Carolina, in addition to looking at expanded content opportunities to enhance the evolving website in the coming months.

**NC Oyster Trail** | The PR and Content Development team worked with the new state trail of united oyster farmers, restaurants and businesses through the local representative to produce a licensed video to represent the Outer Banks portion of the trail. <https://www.NCOysters.org>

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BUSINESS

What does ‘Outer Banks’ mean for the OBX? It’s hard to deny the impact.

By ELIZABETH MOORE and KORIE DEAN  
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT | AUG 04, 2021

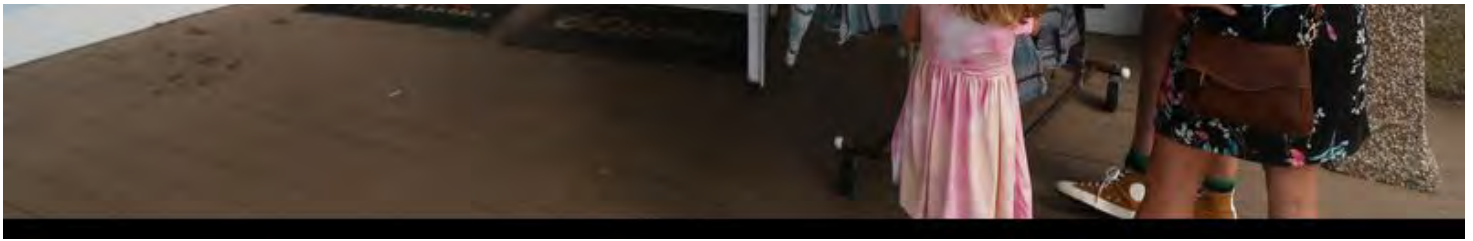
FEEDBACK

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Outer Banks Season Two Launch

A customer checks out a rack of sweatshirts outside of Kitty Hawk Surf Co. in Nags Head, North Carolina, on Friday, July 30, 2021, during a pop-up event for the Netflix show "Outer Banks." Volcom and Netflix partnered to create a clothing collection for the show's second season that premiered July 30. (Trent Sprague/The Virginian-Pilot)

1 / 6

**NAGS HEAD** — The sun had just set behind the dunes of Jockey's Ridge State Park, and dozens of people — young and old, tourists and locals — settled in on the lawn outside of the staged Kildare Island Surfboard Co. on Croatan Highway.

They fixed their eyes on an inflatable projection screen, anticipating the premiere of the second season of Netflix's "Outer Banks," a fictional teen drama that splashed onto the streaming scene at the start of the pandemic.



FEEDBACK

[Kitty Hawk Surf Co.](#) temporarily masqueraded as the Kildare Island business in reference to the fictional setting in the series. The shop was covered in show-themed window graphics featuring John B and Sarah Cameron, two protagonists. Inside, customers purchased T-shirts, shorts and hats from the official "Outer Banks" merchandise line, which [Netflix created in partnership with Volcom.](#)

The apparel is sold in about 400 stores nationwide but in Nags Head, North Carolina, Volcom partnered with Kitty Hawk Surf Co. to create a unique, exclusive store build-out that physically connects customers' love of the fictional show to the real Outer Banks.

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"It's the heartbeat of the show," said Chris Martinez, Volcom's North American retail marketing and special events manager. "It only makes sense to offer this within the Outer Banks and to create this kind of experience, especially being able to touch so many different people."

[Previously: Get ready, Pogues: 'Outer Banks' is back and bigger than before »](#)



Reactions to the [hit show](#) on the barrier islands have been mixed. Some locals say it accurately represents the essence of their home, while some struggle to reconcile that the show wasn't filmed on the Outer Banks or anywhere else in North Carolina.

Regardless of its reception, it's hard to deny that the series, along with a widespread itch to travel domestically during the coronavirus pandemic, has had a significant impact on tourism in the area.

## Hit show spotlights OBX



FEEDBACK

Individuals at Kitty Hawk Surf Co. pack up chairs after a sudden rainstorm delayed a viewing of episode one of the Netflix show "Outer Banks" on Friday, July 30, 2021. The live viewing was part of a pop-up event hosted by Kitty Hawk Surf Co. in partnership with Volcom and Netflix aimed at promoting a clothing collection created by Volcom. (Trent Sprague/The Virginian-Pilot)

"Outer Banks" launched on Netflix on April 15, 2020, and became streaming giant Netflix's No. 1 show within weeks.

The barrier islands were closed to nonresidents from March to May of last year due to the pandemic, but the show's impact on tourism during that time was already becoming apparent.

Between April 15 and May 15 of last year, the [Outer Banks Visitors Bureau](#)'s website traffic grew by 61%, compared with the same time period in 2019, said Lee Nettles, the executive director of the visitors bureau. Traffic to the bureau's merchandise page grew by more than 4,400%.

Around the same time that the show launched, the itch for travel set in around the country due to pandemic lockdowns. When the islands reopened at 12:01 a.m. on May 16, 2020, tourists flocked to the Wright Memorial Bridge to snag a place in line.

The Outer Banks, with its wide-open spaces for recreation and relaxation, made the region ripe for tourism during the pandemic, Nettles said. The renewed tourism was largely a welcome sight in the region, [which has relied heavily on the industry since the 1970s and '80s.](#)

"Tourism is far and away our primary economic engine," Nettles said. "It's been that way for generations, really."

Nettles couldn't say for certain whether the show had a direct impact on tourism, but he said that he thinks the show brought more name recognition to the region and piqued tourists' curiosity.

## 'Phenomenal' summer for tourism



FEEDBACK

A young child briefly lifts off while attending hang gliding school at Jockey's Ridge State Park in Nags Head, N.C. on Friday, July 30, 2021. (Trent Sprague/The Virginian-Pilot)

Alicia and Jay Sutherland have seen the recent tourism boom firsthand as Airbnb co-hosts in the area.

"This is definitely the most crowded tourism summer I think we've ever had," Alicia Sutherland said.

The Sutherlands have lived on the Outer Banks since they got married 24 years ago. Jay Sutherland's parents moved to the area 24 years before that.

Recently, Alicia Sutherland started playing a game: She would count how many different states were represented on license plates around Kitty Hawk. She reached 35 in two weeks.

"I don't remember it ever being that way," she said.

The area used to be “crickets” after Labor Day, Alicia Sutherland said. But over the past 15 years or so, the busy season has extended well into the fall.

That led the Sutherlands to invest in a bargain price condo in early March 2020. They listed the property as a short-term rental on [Airbnb.com](#) and started getting bookings within two hours.

When the islands closed weeks later, the fate of their listing was uncertain. But since the islands reopened, bookings at the Sutherlands' properties haven't slowed down.

Word spread among their friends about their new business venture, and the couple now co-host 11 Airbnb properties in and around Kitty Hawk. This year, the town of Kitty Hawk was [No. 8 in top destinations](#) based on Airbnb search data.

The heightened popularity is also reflected in local numbers. The Outer Banks has been collecting record occupancy tax revenue every month from June last year through May from visitor bookings, Nettles said.

“So it's been pretty phenomenal,” he said.

A study by an apartment news site, RENTCafé Blog, [found the Outer Banks as No. 1](#) on its ranking of “Most Resilient U.S. Destinations During Lockdown,” ahead of Yellowstone National Park. According to its analysis of Google search data, the Outer Banks saw the smallest drop in interest: 25%, compared with the 78% drop of interest for Brooklyn, New York.

## Why the show isn't filmed in NC

“Outer Banks” nods to real North Carolina geographies and culture throughout its first and second seasons, name-dropping places such as Figure Eight Island and Masonboro, and featuring the logo of North Carolina-based soda Cheerwine throughout the sets.

To the chagrin of some locals, though, neither season was filmed on the real-life chain of barrier islands, or anywhere else in North Carolina.

The show's creators — twin brothers and North Carolina natives Jonas and Josh Pate along with University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill alumnus Shannon Burke — envisioned filming the show in Wilmington, North Carolina, which was once a hub of the film industry before the state [ended its tax credit incentive program for the industry in 2014](#).

But [Netflix opted to film the show elsewhere](#) due to anti-LGBTQ legislation passed by North Carolina's General Assembly, including House Bill 2, the controversial 2016 law also known as “the bathroom bill.” The law required people to use the public restrooms that corresponded to the sex on their birth certificate, rather than their gender. House Bill 142, which in 2017 partially repealed House Bill 2, included a provision that prohibited North Carolina cities from enacting nondiscrimination ordinances [until it expired on Dec. 1, 2020](#).

Filming for both seasons of “Outer Banks” instead took place largely in Charleston, South Carolina, where the trio of creators brought to life their fictionalized “amalgam” of places along the North Carolina coast.

## Similarities to the real Outer Banks





FEEDBACK

Kevin DeBell of Kitty Hawk Surf Co. shows off the Volcom "Outer Banks" collection on Friday, July 30, 2021. Volcom partnered with Netflix as promotion for the second season of "Outer Banks," which premiered July 30. As part of the premiere, Kitty Hawk Surf Co. transformed its Nags Head, North Carolina, store into the fictional "Kildare Island Surfboard Co." and held a pop-up event featuring a treasure hunt around the store. (Trent Sprague/The Virginian-Pilot)

Although viewers won't see any images from the real Outer Banks on their screens, some locals say the show at least somewhat accurately captures the essence of the barrier islands.

With more than 100 miles of beaches and coastline, the Outer Banks is almost synonymous with water — and in the show, there's no shortage of scenes where protagonist John B and the rest of the Pogues cruise through the sound in their boat or surf some "burly lefts" out in the ocean.

"I think [the show] is kind of centered around being on the water and being a culture that's driven by the water, and so in that regard, I think we share some similarities," Nettles said.

Beyond the physical landscape, the show also alludes to much of the region's way of life.

Jessie McClary, an art teacher at First Flight High School in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, and a 22-year resident of the Outer Banks, said that she sees many similarities between the show's characters and local high school students, including her daughter and her friends.

"The way those kids care about each other and take care of each other, they do that here," she said.

McClary's 17-year-old daughter, Gabi, said that she and her friends spend their summers the same way that the Pogues do — minus the treasure hunting and violence, of course.

"Working in restaurants, going to the beach, hanging out, going out on the boat in the sound, that's what we have to do here," Gabi McClary said. "And I think that they did a good job of showing that."



For locals, the recent increased tourism in the region can be both a blessing and a curse. While the influx of tourists does overrun the ordinarily small, quiet region, it supports the local economy.

#### LATEST BUSINESS

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AUG 5, 2021

"What people don't realize is that we couldn't live here without the tourism," Jessie McClary said.

Alec Daniel, an 18-year-old from Gloucester County, visits the area each year with his family on vacation. The "Outer Banks" show fan stopped by the Kildare Island Surfboard Co. pop-up event in Nags Head last week and proudly wore a "Kook Princess" shirt from the Volcom line.

"This is somewhere that I've been my whole life," Daniel said, "so it was cool to watch a show about this place."

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Topics: [Outer Banks](#), [OBX](#), [Netflix](#), [streaming](#), [TV](#), [tourism](#), [pandemic](#), [coronavirus](#), [travel](#), [business](#), [Nags Head](#), [North Carolina](#)

FEEDBACK



**Elizabeth Moore**

Staff Writer



Elizabeth Moore is an intern at The Virginian-Pilot. She's a North Carolina native and rising senior studying journalism and Spanish at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As a reporter, she's driven by an investigative curiosity developed over 3 years reporting for The Daily Tar Heel.



**Korie Dean**

Staff Writer



Korie Dean is an intern originally from Efland, North Carolina, and just graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill majoring in journalism and minoring in southern studies. She previously was an intern for The Appalachian Voice, a publication about environmental issues in Appalachia.

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ALERT

## Summer vacation plans in hot demand at Virginia Beach & OBX; vacationers will find staffing shortages and sold-out beach rentals

Colleen Curran  
Jun 12, 2021



The beach town of Cape Charles is 10 miles north of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Staffing shortages and high prices might be the theme of this year's vacation season.

Virginia Tourism Corporation

Colleen Curran

## WATCH NOW: Recipes for a perfect beach vacation

After a global pandemic-induced staycation summer last year, people are ready to hit the road for a return to summer vacation.

According to the U.S. Travel Association, roughly 72% of Americans plan to travel this summer, compared to 37% last year.

While it may feel like a welcome return to normal, travelers should prepare to face higher prices and staffing shortages when they head out on vacation this year. Beach-goers should also plan ahead. Due to high interest, many beach houses and prime weekends in oceanfront hotels are already booked.

“It is an exciting time for both travelers and the travel industry as [COVID] restrictions are rolled back, pent-up demand spurs a surge in travel bookings, and destinations are eager to welcome guests,” said Martha Mitchell Meade, a spokesperson for AAA Mid-Atlantic.

As vaccinations rise, so does the interest in taking a summer vacation.

“There is a definite correlation between vaccines and vacation bookings,” said Beth Faison, travel advisor for AAAd. “We are literally getting to share the excitement with our clients who are often getting their final vaccine and contacting us to confirm a vacation on the same

day.”

Many people haven’t taken a trip since 2019, which is leading to pent-up demand for a vacation to visit family, connect with friends, or get away for rest and relaxation.

“Optimism coinciding with the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and growing consumer confidence are fueling a strong desire to travel this summer as the U.S. takes steps toward putting the pandemic behind us,” Meade said.

Many local families are planning a getaway to nearby beaches such as Virginia Beach, Cape Charles and the Outer Banks. Road trips continue to be the preferred mode of travel during the pandemic. Roughly 63% of Americans plan to take a road trip this year, according to a study from market research group Longwoods International.

It’s a welcome relief for the travel industry. COVID-19 devastated the tourism and hospitality industry, especially food and restaurants, lodging and attractions.

Last year in Virginia, direct spending in travel was down 37% with a net loss of \$10 billion. During the worst of the pandemic, the decline was about 46% in March relative to the previous year, 82% in April, 72% in May and 50% in June. In 2019, the travel industry in Virginia raked in approximately \$27 billion. In 2020, travel spending dropped to \$17 billion over the course of the year.

And while it seems like many in Virginia are ready to take a “real” summer vacation this year, travel levels in Virginia aren’t back to pre-pandemic levels yet.

“We are expecting about a 20% decline relative to 2019 by the end of 2021 and 10% by the end of 2022,” said Dan Roberts with the Virginia Tourism Corporation. He isn’t expecting Virginia travel to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2023.

### Staffing shortages

But a severe worker shortage will alter plans this summer.

Expect lengthy lines at airports and hotels. Some hotels aren't filling all their rooms or changing the sheets as often because they don't have enough housekeepers. And some restaurants will be closed two days per week during their peak season because they just don't have the staff, according to The Associated Press.

"I've been in this business for 25 years and I've never in my life seen anything impact our industry like this: with the pandemic and now the staffing issues that we're all experiencing," said Duane Gauthier, managing director of Commonwealth Lodging, which manages a fleet of hotels on the East Coast, including the Delta Hotels Virginia Beach Bayfront Suites.

"This summer is going gangbusters. Demand is through the roof. Rates are at an all-time high. We're selling out at record rates. The issue is becoming our ability to service the volume of people that we're hosting in our hotels," Gauthier said.

At full staff, the Virginia Beach hotel has 170 employees, but Gauthier said it's currently 50 staff short, a trend that is echoed at many hotels and restaurants in the state and beyond.

The reasons behind the worker shortage are hotly debated. Many employers blame the federal government's extra \$300-per-week in unemployment aid. Others blame lack of access to affordable child care. Many of the hospitality workers who abruptly lost their jobs a year ago have moved on to new careers and aren't coming back.

Also, COVID-19 suspended the Summer Work Travel program where foreign students would live and work at temporary jobs in the U.S. like hotels and restaurants, severely impacting the staffing pools in Virginia Beach and the Outer Banks.

With the staffing shortage, managers are working twice as hard and employees are having to work even harder, Gauthier said.

"We're trying to help by increasing wages for our staff and offering incentives for referrals. In some cases, we offer sign-on bonuses. And we offer a \$50 incentive for vaccinations," Gauthier said.

The Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association launched a job board with over 260 job listings at <https://vrlta.mcjobboard.net/jobs>. Available jobs include everything from sous chefs and dishwashers to front desk clerks and housekeeping.

Steamers, the popular seafood restaurant in Southern Shores on the Outer Banks, has had to change its schedule from seven days a week with lunch and dinner service to five days a week with dinner service only. Other restaurants have to leave tables open during the height of service because they lack the servers and chefs to service them.

But interest is so high, said Steamers owner Linda Welch, that the restaurant is drawing the same numbers on a limited schedule. She also offered another reason for the staffing shortage: lack of access to affordable housing in the Outer Banks.

With the booming real estate market and the introduction of Airbnb, “affordable housing has disappeared on the Outer Banks,” Welch said.

Kings Dominion theme park in Doswell will be closed on select weekdays in June and the park’s hours, when it’s open, are shorter than in previous years due to staffing shortages.

“As we’re seeing across a wide range of industries, the availability of labor has been a challenge,” said Scott Clemons, the park’s director of marketing and sales.

“In response, we have ramped up recruiting efforts and taken steps to ensure we are providing competitive wages and benefits,” he said. “Our goal is to strike the appropriate balance between our operating calendar and the availability of seasonal labor and the anticipated demand from our guests.

At Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Water Country USA, the operating hours are similar or slightly longer this year compared to the parks’ operating hours in the weeks after Memorial Day in 2019.

### Higher prices

If you’re booking your vacation this year and things look a little more expensive — from hotel rooms to rental cars — you’re right.

Airfares and hotel rates are rising as travelers return in high numbers, according to CNBC. Americans set a record for pandemic-era air travel over Memorial Day weekend, when more than 1.7 million people were screened at airport checkpoints on one day, the highest number since March 2020.

Hotel occupancy also reached its highest levels over the Memorial Day weekend since late February 2020, according to hotel data provider STR. As more flights and hotel rooms get booked, prices climb.

Rental cars are also scarce, and they are pricey — the average cost has roughly doubled from a year ago, according to government figures.

The laws of supply and demand are in full play in the travel industry, according to AAA. One of the top tips for travelers this summer is: Be ready to pay more.

### Pent-up demand in OBX

The Outer Banks was closed to visitors from March until mid-May last year to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

“We had cars lined up on the bridges waiting to get in,” said Jan Dawson, owner of the Cape Hatteras Motel. “And since then, it’s never stopped.”

Lodging and rentals in the Outer Banks never slowed down during the pandemic.

“Last year, we were booked at 100%,” said Mike Stone, vice president of Southern Shores Realty — a real estate firm that specializes in beach vacation house rentals — in the Outer Banks.

This year, the firm is already fully booked for the summer for the 365 houses that it rents. Any new houses that come on the market rent quickly, Stone said.

“We had one that rented before we got any photos online,” he said. “Anything that cancels re-rents quickly.”

Lee Nettles, executive director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, said business has been “nothing short of phenomenal.”

“It’s been an extraordinary year,” Nettles said. “We’ve seen high visitation since last June, and it’s never stopped.”

At the Cape Hatteras Motel, “last year was our busiest year to date,” Dawson said. “And we’re on track to surpass that this year.”

With its beachfront motel and open corridors that face the ocean, Dawson said the motel saw many first-time visitors last year who will be returning this year.

Summer typically makes up 70% of the Outer Banks annual business. This year from January to April, occupancy rates were up 450% over last year. About one-fourth of visitors to the Outer Banks come from Virginia, Nettles estimated.

Some people rented beach houses during the pandemic and were able to work remotely, as well as participate in virtual schooling.

“We definitely saw some of that over the past year,” Nettles said.

The Outer Banks promises remoteness with wide-open spaces of beaches as well as private rental homes, and that’s been attractive during the pandemic.

“We have 100 miles of wide open shoreline and a lot of our attractions highlight open spaces like the Cape Hatteras Seashore or the piers or the Elizabethan Gardens. All of these big wide open spaces allow people to socially distance. We were perceived as a safer travel option [during the pandemic],” Nettles said. “The majority of our lodgings are vacation rental homes. You can leave your house, drive to the Outer Banks, enter a code on the keypad, walk into the vacation house and onto the beach without seeing another human being.”

This year, the trend continues. “We’re selling out well in advance of when we typically sell out,” he said.



While many of the Outer Banks rental homes have been booked for the summer, Nettles suggests calling the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, whose staff can help visitors find hotels, cottage courts, B&Bs or even the occasional beach house.

“When people are packing, I would ask they pack patience. Not all businesses are fully staffed. They’re working as hard as they can. A little bit of kindness will work wonders for all of us,” Dawson said.

“I think it requires a little more planning and a little more patience. We’re still able to offer the great Outer Banks experience folks have come to know and love,” Nettles said.

### Air travel

Air travel has been bouncing back from the pandemic as vaccinations continue.

A strong majority of U.S. travelers (90%) intend to fly at some point in the future, and 64% are planning to fly within the next 12 months, according to a new survey from Cirium, an aviation analytics company. More than three-quarters (78%) of those with plans to travel this year are planning only for domestic trips. Only 22% expect to fly internationally in 2021.

Richmond International Airport expects passenger volume to be at least 70% of pre-pandemic levels.

“We have seen an uptick in the number of people flying out of Richmond as more people are vaccinated and as the airlines add more flights to their schedules,” said Chuck Burke, the Transportation Security Administration’s federal security director for the airport. He added that mornings are the busiest time of the day and suggested that travelers arrive a minimum of 90 minutes to two hours prior to their scheduled flights.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s updated guidance for fully vaccinated people continues to require that all travelers wear face masks on airplanes and at airports, as well as on buses and trains.

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## Stateline

# The Era of Beach Driving May Be Coming to a Close

STATELINE ARTICLE July 19, 2021 By: Erika Bolstad Topics: [Economy](#) & [Energy and Environment](#) Read time: 8 min

LAST UPDATED July 20, 2021



Beachgoers await the sunset on one of the remaining drivable beaches north of Pacific City, Oregon. Spurred by crowding and environmental concerns, coastal communities nationwide are changing the rules for accessing beaches by car.

The Pew Charitable Trusts

*Editor's note: This story has been updated to correct the spelling of Derek Brockbank's name.*

PACIFIC CITY, Ore. — To access the beach, Nicole Boulden eased her all-wheel drive Dodge Durango from the highway down a steep, rock-strewn access road toward the ocean. Behind her, Boulden's friend Kari Layman, 47, drove a Dodge Caravan very carefully down the same path.

"We take it kind of slow," Layman said.

They parked in a wind-sheltered cove on the Oregon coast where their children could play and their teenagers could sneak away. Then, they unfolded beach chairs and a sun shelter, and leashed their dogs to the Durango. Only a handful of other vehicles were in view.

To the south, they could see one of the iconic haystack rock formations of the Oregon coast. All around was the roar of the Pacific Ocean. It was a bright, sunny Friday afternoon in early June, and the weekend beckoned. Layman, a native Kansan who embraced the beach when she moved to Oregon five years ago, was at peace.

"If I'm feeling really stressed, I think: 'I need to go to the coast,'" Layman said. "The sound of the waves, it's relaxing and also refreshing. I always feel better after a day at the beach."

But accessing this sort of scene by car is increasingly difficult in states with beaches, a trend sped up by the pandemic. In California, the state's Coastal Commission recently announced plans to phase out vehicular access at its remaining drive-on beach state park, Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, along the central coast near San Luis Obispo.

On Florida's Atlantic coast, officials in Amelia Island decided in 2020 during the pandemic to restrict vehicular access to daytime driving and residents only—and then kept it that way. And just south of where Layman and Boulden parked for the day recently, the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission decided to close a popular beach to driving, in part because of overcrowding.

States must balance the demands of short-term tourism that supports local economies with the desires of permanent residents, many of whom don't want cars or partygoers to interfere with their view or their enjoyment of a quiet walk along the ocean. There are also the competing needs of working fishers and shellfish harvesters, as well as the environmental stress of cars on nesting turtles, birds and other marine life.

And driving itself can damage dunes and other natural formations that protect coastal communities from storms. Many states, particularly those on the East Coast with fragile sea turtle populations, have faced legal challenges from conservation groups over the environmental damage caused in part by beach driving.

"Certainly driving on the beach has historically been a recreational opportunity for some communities, but it also infringes on other uses," said Derek Brockbank, executive director of the Coastal States Organization, an advocacy organization that helps states with coastal management policy. "Managing public use on our coast is a real challenge. There's a lot of different dynamics at play."

A smattering of coastal states allow beach driving. In states such as New Jersey and Massachusetts, it's allowed only by permit and restricted to a few locations, mostly for fishing. Conditions vary, but many beaches—particularly on more remote coastlines—often require four-wheel-drive vehicles or advanced driving skills.

Citing environmental concerns, the California Coastal Commission this spring decided to phase out off-road vehicular access to Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area. The beach, the only coastal state park open to cars, draws thousands of all-terrain vehicles a day and an estimated 1.5 million visitors each year. The commission's decision to ban off-road driving came after a 12-hour public meeting that drew more than 200 virtual public comments. Off-road enthusiasts have filed a [lawsuit](#) challenging the changes, which are expected to be phased in over the next three years.

In Texas, the beaches along the Gulf Coast were historically used as public roadways, according to the state's General Land Office, and even today the primary way to access many beaches there is by vehicle. The state's Open Beaches Act of 1959 gives the public the free and unrestricted right to access Texas beaches.

In fact, the Texas law makes it hard for municipalities to restrict vehicular access. In the Gulf Coast community of Crystal Beach, each May an unofficial gathering known as the Jeep Go Topless event draws hundreds of thousands of people in four-wheel-drive vehicles. In 2019, more than 21,000 people signed a [petition](#) calling for Jeep Go Topless to be discontinued. This spring, the annual event resulted in more than 230 arrests, according to a [local television station](#).

Some locals are unbothered by the Jeep invasion, saying the Go Topless event is no different than any other busy holiday weekend on the Bolivar Peninsula.

"You can camp on our beach," said David Harris, who runs a [visitor bureau](#) for the region. "That's what makes Bolivar. If we didn't have beach access, we would have no tourism down here."

In Oregon, the public also is guaranteed the free and uninterrupted use of beaches, but not drive-on access. Nonetheless, an estimated 25% of the 363-mile Oregon coastline remains open to beach driving, said Chris Havel, associate director of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Beach driving in Oregon got its first endorsement in 1913 when the governor, Democrat Oswald West, declared the tidelands along the coastline a state highway. His action paved the way for the 1967 Beach Bill, which maintains all of Oregon's beaches for public access.

The sands perhaps best known for unfettered beach driving, though, are the Outer Banks in North Carolina. There, off-road driving is both a way of life and a big part of marketing the barrier islands as a vacation destination. The practice allows visitors to explore far-flung places within the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and other state-managed destinations on the barrier islands, said Aaron Tuell, the public relations manager for the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau.

"The ability to move about the islands and enjoy wonderfully wide-open natural spaces is part of the Outer Banks' brand image," Tuell said in an email.

Park rangers patrol the beach every morning to stake out sea turtle nests, said David Hallac, superintendent of the National Parks of Eastern North Carolina. He described driving on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore of the Outer Banks as more akin to a beach "parking" program. In the high season, four-wheel drive vehicles often line up side-by-side, tailgates aimed at the waves, fishing lines pulling in the surf.

"This is not a program where people are where there's sand flying in the air and everybody driving on the dunes," Hallac said. "Typically, they're either anglers or surfers or just families that are spending their day at the beach."

Last year, the National Park Service sold 48,000 off-road vehicle permits, which cost \$120 for an annual pass or \$50 for a 10-day permit. To obtain a permit, drivers must say they watched a safety video.

On Amelia Island in Florida, there were "literally no rules" before the pandemic, said Sabrina Robertson, a spokesperson for the board of county commissioners. Nassau County had been working before the pandemic to restrict nighttime driving to protect nesting sea turtles. The closures during the pandemic allowed the community to address long-standing concerns about beach driving. Now, they've restricted beach driving access to county residents only, those who own property on Amelia Island and people with military identification. Most days, fewer than 200 people drive on the beach.

Daytona Beach, a storied beach driving destination in Florida, until the late 1950s used to host car races on the hard-packed sand. The Daytona 500 moved, and the local government now charges most visitors \$20 a day to drive and park on the beach. But the cost hasn't deterred beachgoers.

"It is very political in nature," said Kate Sark, a spokesperson for Volusia County, which contains the city of Daytona Beach. "We get feedback from the public on both sides. We get some people who say, 'This is what we're famous for, we should have it.' And then we get other people who say there shouldn't be cars on the beach. It's a big toss-up."



A beach north of Pacific City, Oregon, is one of several that the state closed to motorized vehicles in 2021.

The Pew Charitable Trusts

In Oregon, the state Parks and Recreation Commission recently closed public access to a popular drive-in beach in Pacific City, just south of where Boulden and Layman parked on their recent excursion. Two hours west of Portland, the tiny beach town has a photogenic rock formation, excellent surfing conditions and a popular brew pub with a view of the ocean. It's also used by commercial dory boats, flat-bottomed fishing vessels launched directly from land into the sea.

"When you talk about the coast as a dynamic environment, we generally mean physically dynamic, but it's also socially dynamic," Havel said. "People's needs change. And when there's places to park off the beach and when it's better for enjoyment of the beach and better for the natural systems, then parking needs to be moved off."

The state tested the closure during the pandemic, then opened a public comment period before making a decision this spring. In the comments reviewed by *Stateline*, many people pointed out that driving onto the beach was one of the few ways that those with limited mobility could access their favorite spots. But many locals said they were tired of the disruption and environmental costs of beach driving.

"There have been plenty of times that I have witnessed cars on the beach nearly hitting pedestrians," wrote Janine Bulgrin of Pacific City. "In addition, the numerous instances of



cars getting stuck in the sand and, at times, engulfed in the ocean."

One resident even set up "Kooks of the Cape," an [Instagram account](#) highlighting beach driving mishaps in Pacific City. ("Kooks," in surfing lingo, refers to wannabe or disrespectful surfers.)

"It just got too crowded," said Kevin Carmody, 61, a surf kayaker who, on the same recent Friday as Boulden and Layman, drove his Subaru up to the locked entrance gate to observe ocean conditions from the paved parking lot. Closing the beach to all but the dory fleet improved the beach experience, Havel said. He noted that people with physical limitations can apply for a permit to access the beach in vehicles.

"When we made the decision based on weighing all of the factors, there was grumbling, but it wasn't like pitchforks and torches," he said. "It is wonderful down there on that beach. More people taking longer walks, going to the tide pools and not having to worry about cars."

Other beach communities in the Pacific Northwest continue to allow driving, but reluctantly.

In southern Washington state, there's a history of driving on the 28-mile Long Beach peninsula. Long Beach was one of the earliest resorts in the Pacific Northwest, but few roads led there. In the early 1900s, visitors arrived via steamboat on the Columbia River.

Over time, Washington state has closed sections of the Long Beach peninsula to driving. To protect the vulnerable snowy plover, a small wading bird, the northern stretch of the Long Beach is closed to cars and occasionally even foot traffic.

Most visitors to Long Beach are from Portland or Seattle, and understand the environmental consequences of driving on the beach, said Carol Zahorsky of the Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau, which now discourages the practice.

"You don't want to encourage somebody getting stuck and washed out to sea, or their car getting washed out," Zahorsky said.

Beaches that allow driving get dinged in the annual ranking of best U.S. shores by [Stephen Leatherman](#), director of the Laboratory for Coastal Research at Florida International University, and best known as "Dr. Beach." (He also said he knocks off points when beaches allow dogs.) That said, Leatherman doesn't oppose beach driving outright, especially in places such as North Carolina's Outer Banks where public access would otherwise be limited.

"I try to look at this from a holistic point of view in terms of what people are looking for," Leatherman said. "If there are beaches where they can drive, and there's not a lot of people,

and it's not a safety or an environmental issue and it's not hurting anybody, then what's the problem?"

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MARK ELLWOOD

June 23, 2021





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## Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Discover the secret to perfect shoofly pie—a molasses-powered dessert is one of the staples of [Pennsylvania Dutch cooking](#)—in Lancaster. The community was first settled in the early 1700s, and you can still pick up root beer, pickles, and pies at roadside stalls dotting the region, or at the town's Central Market. This area also played a pivotal role in the Underground Railroad—[book a tour](#) with historian Randolph Harris to learn more about its abolitionist past. The best perches to sleep are undoubtedly either [this gorgeous, A-frame house](#) a short drive out of town, or [this countrified cottage](#) on Mill Creek.



Bodie Island Lighthouse Getty

## Cape Hatteras, North Carolina

It's a long drive—around six hours—but the payoff is more than worth it thanks to the astonishing views and bracing air of the **Outer Banks**. The 70-mile-long National Seashore here was the first in the country, and is anchored by the landmark Bodie Island lighthouse; the tallest in the US with more than 200 stairs, it should reopen for climbing later this summer, after renovations on its interior. Head to the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum for a glimpse as to why these waters earned that nickname—more than 600 shipwrecks caused by treacherous, shifting shoals. Then again, with the right captain, you can brave those waters yourself on a fishing charter that can easily reach the Gulf Stream. The choice hotel is the charming **Inn on Pamlico Sound**; wake up with its seaside view, and you'll understand how worthwhile it is to splurge on a sound-front room.

## From Miami



Jul 8, 2021, 06:05pm EDT | 5,185 views

# 14 Reasons The Outer Banks Should Be Your Next Vacation Destination

**Judy Koutsky** Contributor ⓘ

Travel

*I cover adventure, luxury and family travel.*

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Sunrise over the sand dunes at Corolla Beach in the Outer Banks, NC. GETTY

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Coast. Known as OBX by locals and repeat visitors, this region is made of four islands, six towns and 12 coastal villages. It's also home to several state and national parks, which makes it a great place to visit with kids. Here are 14 reasons the Outer Banks should be on the list for your family's next vacation.

## Wright Brothers National Memorial

Visit the place where aviation history was made. In December of 1903 Wilbur and Orville Wright flew their airplane, the Wright Flyer, over the sands of the Outer Banks for 12 seconds changing air travel forever. The museum includes both indoor and outdoor components.

## Jockey's Ridge State Park



Jockey's Ridge State Park OUTER BANKS VB/OUTERBANKS.ORG

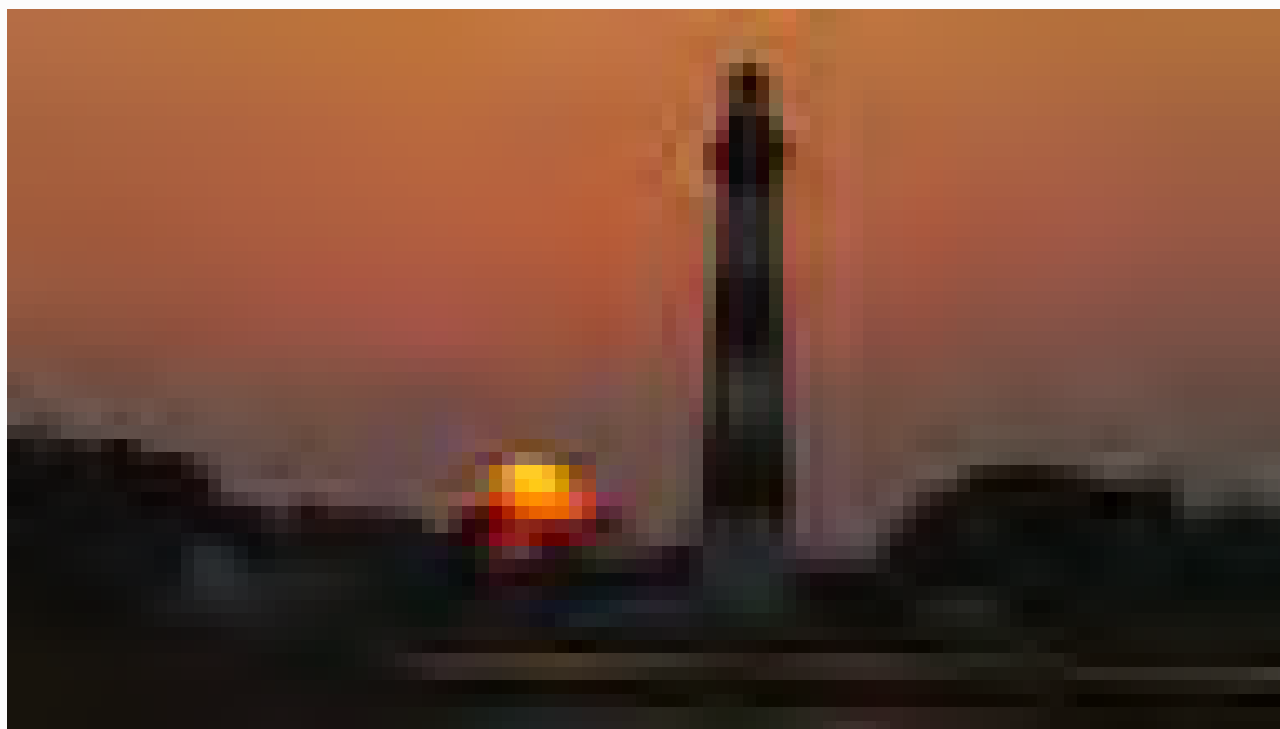
A visit to the Outer Banks is not complete without a visit here. This is 1 of 4 free articles

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for sure) or for those adventure seekers, book a hang gliding lesson. People also come here to fly kites, have picnics and watch the sunset.

## Bodie Island Lighthouse



Bodie Lighthouse OUTER BANKS VB/OUTERBANKS.ORG

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By **Robin Saks Frankel** Forbes Advisor Staff



### Chase The Experience, Not The Fare

By **Dia Adams** Editor



This 156-foot tall horizontally-striped lighthouse is well worth a trip to the top (it boasts impressive views of the ocean and bay). Tickets are required and go on

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## The Boardwalk in Duck

This mile-long wooden [boardwalk](#) located in the town of Duck goes past restaurants, ice cream shops, boutiques and of course the Currituck Sound. Watch families out crabbing, couples enjoying drinks at sunset and kids playing. The town of Duck is buzzing with vacationers shopping, eating and exploring. The ideal time to walk the boardwalk is after dinner, with an ice cream in hand.

## Culinary Delights

Whether it's consuming crab cakes at [Jolly Rogers](#) (also known for their amazing breakfast), eating frog legs (or a fabulous burger) at [Froggy Dog](#) or getting a crab-topped pizza at Tavern on 12, there are no shortages of places to eat in the Outer Banks. Whether you're looking for freshly-caught seafood or some Carolina BBQ, there is no shortage of dining options. Be sure to leave room for homemade ice cream. Also, no visit to the Outer Banks is complete without a stop at Duck donuts.

## Cape Hatteras National Seashore

Be sure to allow for plenty of time to explore this national seashore. There are

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Lighthouse is currently closed for climbing, but still worth a visit. It's one of the tallest lighthouses in the world standing at over 210 feet.

## Horseback Riding Along the Beach



Horseback riding in Cape Hatteras is always a popular excursion. OUTER BANKS VB/OUTERBANKS.ORG

One of the best ways of exploring the south end of Cape Hatteras is on a horse. [Equine Adventures](#) offers rides through the forest of Frisco and then along the beach. On the beach, riders can experience a leisurely walk along the sand, or canter on the coastline. Rides are available at 7am and 5pm (when the weather is cooler) and last about two hours.

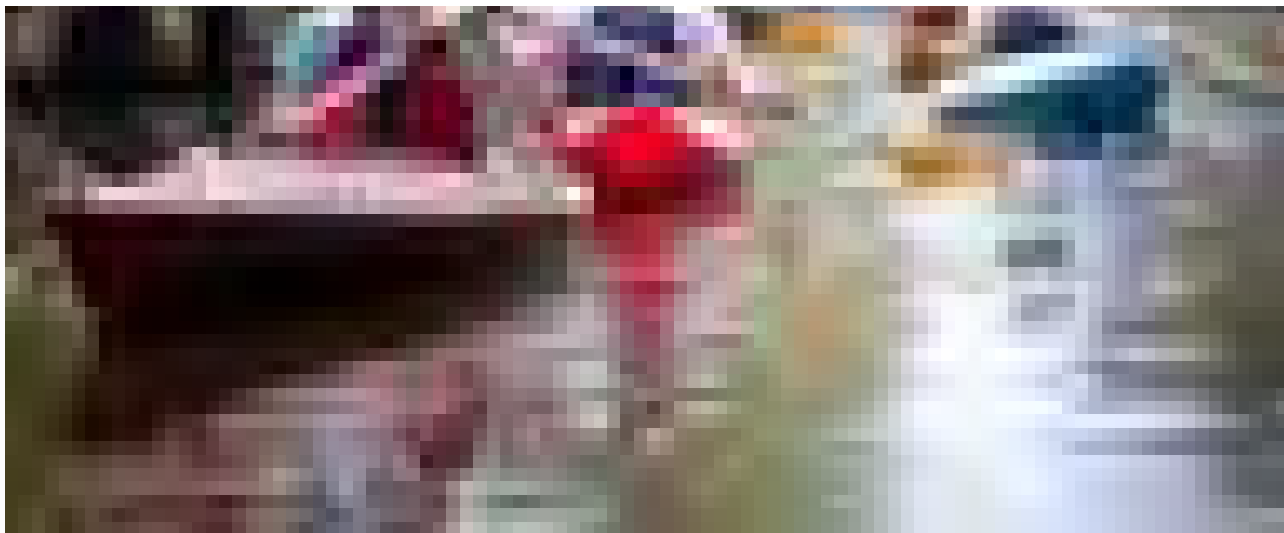
## Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Kayak Tour



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Kayaking is a great way to experience the wildlife of the Outer Banks. OUTER BANKS VB/OUTERBANKS.ORG

A great way to explore nature and get a chance to see alligators up close is through a [kayak tour](#) to Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. There's more than 154,000 acres of wetland habitats and a wide variety of wildlife, including alligators and black bears (plus, turtles and a wide variety of birds). The scenery is stunning with Atlantic white cedar, bald cypress, wildflowers and shrubs. The kayak guide has a plethora of information on the flora and fauna in the area.

## Parasailing in Manteo

Manteo, North Carolina is an adorable small town reminiscent of the fictional Mayberry (in fact Andy Griffith once lived nearby on Roanoke Island). The town is very walkable and has plenty of little shops and waterfront dining, plus there are small lighthouses dotting the shores. A great activity to do while here is to go [parasailing](#). Not only is it something unique, but it offers great views of both the bay and the ocean. Be sure to get dipped in the water while enjoying your ride. Another good activity to do while in town, is seeing the play *The Lost Colony*, which is an interesting perspective of the history of the area. Manteo has an artsy and slow-paced vibe and is a really unique town.

## Wild horses in Corolla

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are beautiful to see in the wild. Officially North Carolina's state horse, visitors come from all over the country to visit Corolla in the northern Outer Banks and catch a glimpse of these rare wild animals.

## North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island

This aquarium is well worth a visit especially if you are on vacation with kids. It's all about the history and exploration of the waters of the Outer Banks, including sea turtles, alligators, river otters and more. It's a smaller aquarium so you can tackle it in a morning or an afternoon with time still left to head to the beach.

## Beaches and Water Sports

You can't go to the Outer Banks without spending time at the beaches. Each town has varying degrees of public access (some rental properties have private beach access points). Of course there are plenty of water sports if you're looking for some adventure. Jet skiing is a good option if you're looking for some speed. Kitty Hawk Kites has a variety of water options including surfing, sailing, fishing charters, kiteboarding and SUP rentals.

## Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge

If you're a birder, this is definitely a place to stop. From egrets and oystercatchers, to herons, osprey and falcons, it's easy to spend a whole afternoon here. Even non-birders will find the scenery captivating.

## Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum

This is one of the most unique museums and a real find. Admission is free (you can give a donation if you'd like). More than 1,500 shipwrecks can be found along the coast of North Carolina giving it the moniker the Graveyard of the Atlantic. This museum looks at maritime history and culture of the Outer Banks

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# Five Relaxing Summer Activities Across The Outer Banks

**Jared Ranahan** Contributor ⓘ


Travel

*Every destination has a story, no matter how small.*

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The Wright Brothers made their first flight in the town of Kitty Hawk in the northern Outer Banks. GETTY

With over 100 miles of sandy shoreline to explore, it's easy to see how the [Outer Banks](#) have become one of North Carolina's hottest summer vacation spots. While surfing, swimming, and sunbathing are particularly popular beachside activities, there's far more to this idyllic region than just lazing in the sand. From remote islands to off-road wildlife excursions, there's a world of opportunity to be found on the edge of the Atlantic.

## Get Accustomed to the OBX Brewery Scene



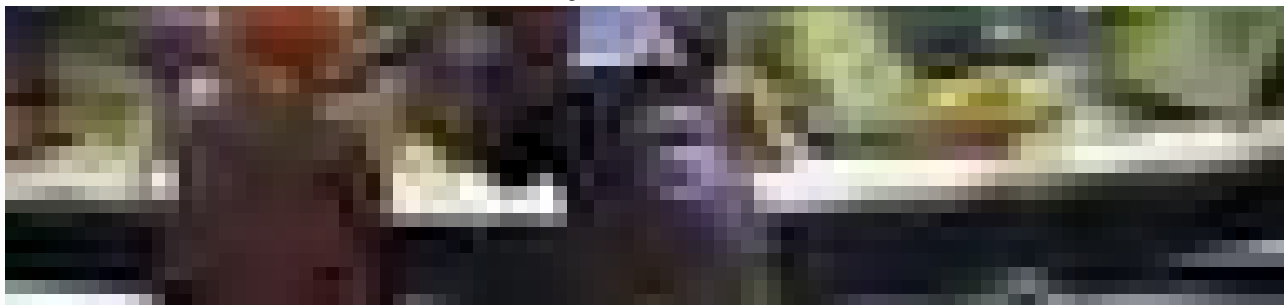
Outer Banks Brewing Station is home to a massive wind turbine that creates all of the energy ... [+] OUTER BANKS BREWING STATION

After a long day of lounging by the beach, nothing quite compares to a crisp lager—and fortunately, the Outer Banks are positively overflowing with fresh craft beer. In Kill Devil Hills, the iconic [Outer Banks Brewing Station](#) has made history as the first wind-powered brewery in the nation, and they also make a pretty killer Kölsch. Up in Corolla, [Northern Outer Banks Brewing Company](#) is a top spot for smooth blonde lager in a lowkey setting, while any adventurous hopheads out there can head to [1718 Brewing](#) for a spectacular array of sours, hazy IPAs, and ciders down in the most remote reaches of the Outer Banks.

## Discover the History of Roanoke Island







The North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island was first launched in 1976. OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU

A particularly fascinating destination for visiting history buffs, the island of Roanoke was once home to the first English colony established in the Americas. While this late 1500s-era settlement was deserted after just a few years, modern-day Roanoke Island has turned out to be a far more hospitable destination, with no shortage of charming attractions to explore. History fans should be sure to visit [Fort Raleigh National Historic Site](#) for a thorough overview of the island's indigenous and colonial history, while nearby [North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island](#) is home to a wealth of informative exhibits ranging from the shark-filled 285,000-gallon Graveyard of the Atlantic to the Sea Turtle Assistance and Rehabilitation (STAR) Center.

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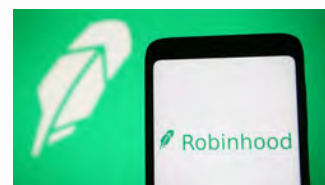
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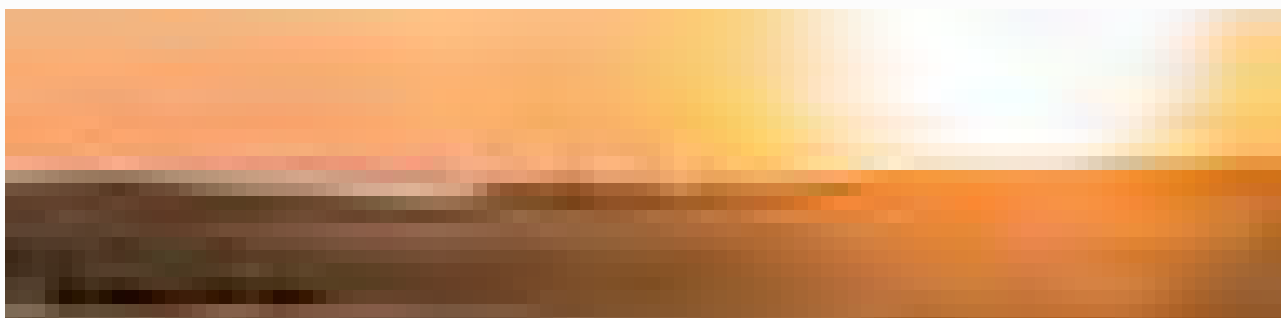
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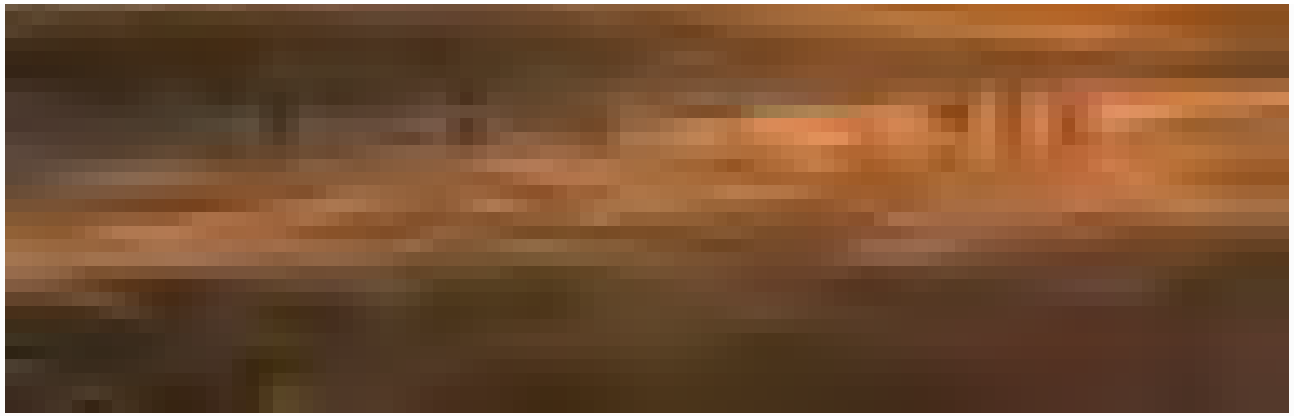
By **Taylor Tepper** Forbes Advisor Staff



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## Trek Across Jockey's Ridge State Park





While there are several theories about how the name "Jockey's Ridge" came into existence, nobody is ... [+]

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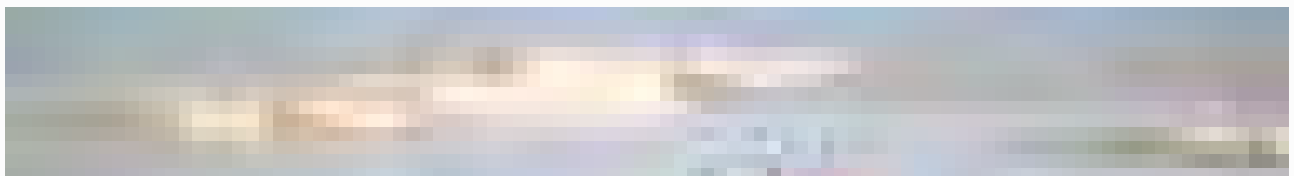
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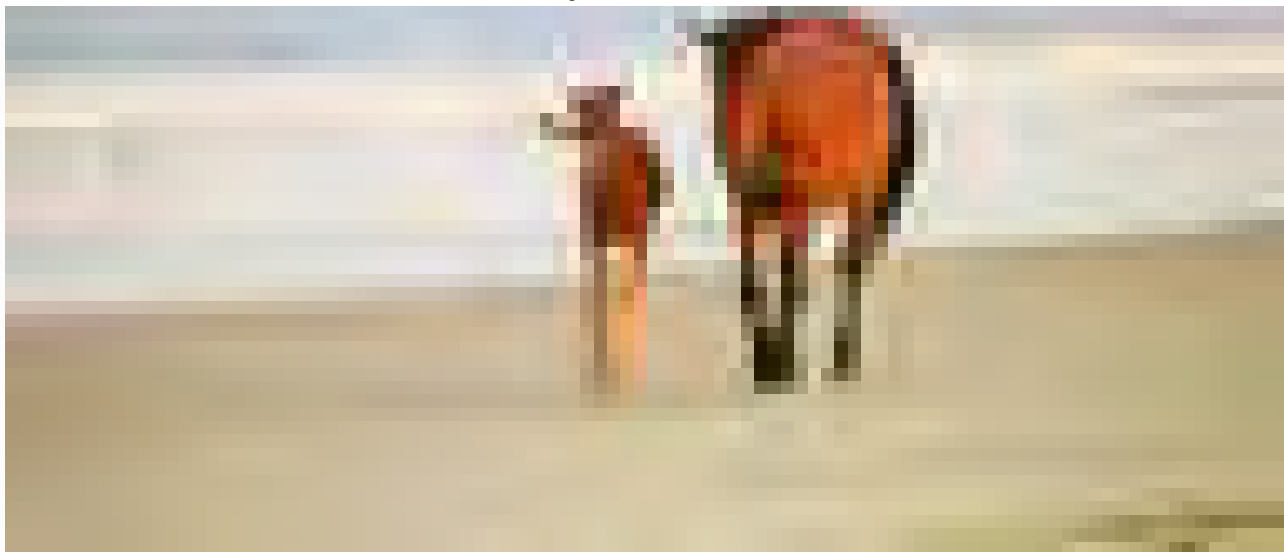
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Pristine forests, native Carolinian flora and fauna, and towering dunes await at [Jockey's Ridge State Park](#), a popular coastal preserve that earned U.S. National Natural Landmark designation in 1974. While the park is best known for its sweeping sand dunes stretching as far as the eye can see, Jockey's Ridge is also home to a large population of live oaks alongside a portion of the Roanoke Sound, where shorebirds and marine life can be spotted in abundance. A few mammalian species also call the park home, ranging from grey foxes to opossums, but these creatures are rarely spotted during the day—though lucky visitors may catch a glimpse of one stalking through the woods.

### Embark on a Wild Horse Tour

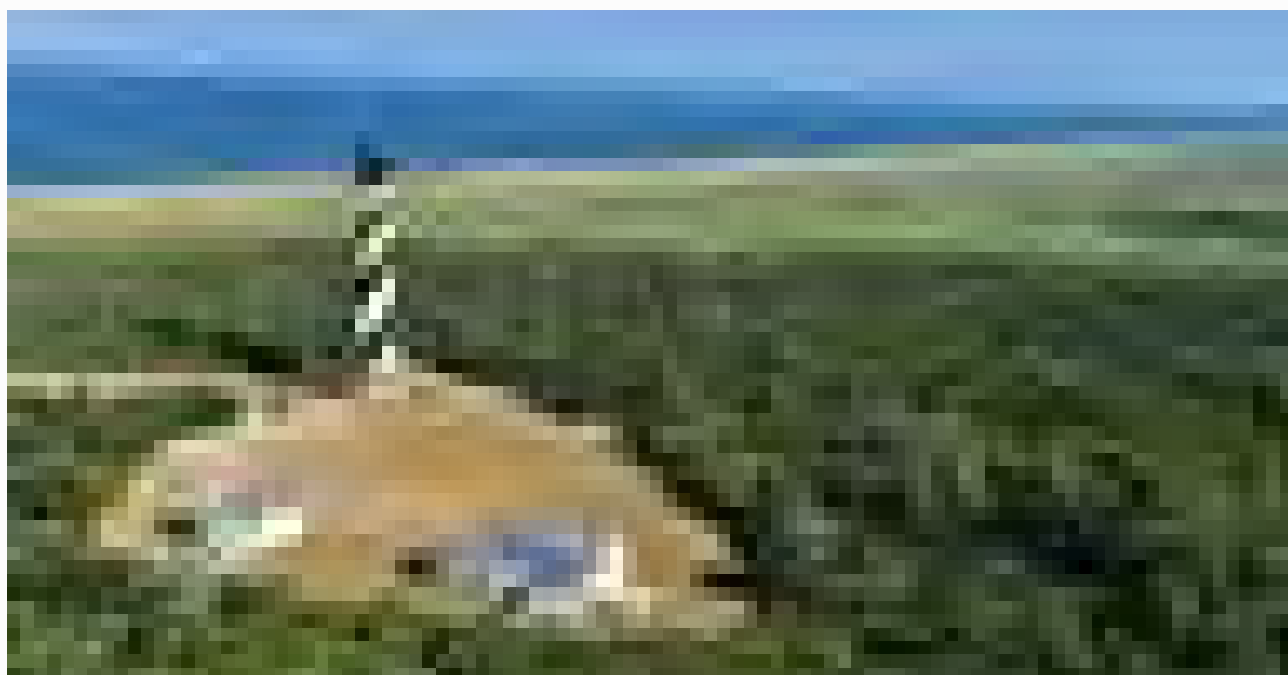





Banker horses will occasionally drink seawater if they can't find any freshwater. CURRITUCK OUTER BANKS

The Outer Banks may be home to massive amounts of seabirds, crustaceans, and other marine creatures, but there's one animal that serves as a major draw for ecotourism in the area—wild horses, to be precise. While nobody is certain how these Spanish mustangs first arrived on the Outer Banks in the 1500s, the equids quickly adapted to barrier island life, learning to dig trenches in the soil to access the fresh rainwater pooling below ground. While lucky visitors might be able to spot a couple of horses on their own, local company [Wild Horse Adventure Tours](#) offers an incredible beachside safari operated out of a customized open-air Hummer.

## Search for Wildlife on Hatteras Island







At 210 feet tall, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is the tallest brick lighthouse in the nation. OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU

Located in the southern reaches of the [Cape Hatteras National Seashore](#), this idyllic island may take a while to get to, but its fascinating history and stunning natural beauty make it well worth the long drive. Upon arrival, visitors will be treated to stunning views of the iconic 1800s-era Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, while the island's [Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum](#) is packed full of intricate displays highlighting the dangers that have plagued local seafarers for centuries. For those in search of wildlife, the island's pristine beaches are perfect for spotting dolphins, sea turtles, and a wide variety of native shorebirds.

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Jared Ranahan

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For the first few decades of my life, my exposure to the world outside of Massachusetts was limited, sparking a desire to experience life outside of New England. This... **Read More**

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THE PLACES WE'LL GO

# Where to Eat, Stay, and Play in North Carolina's Outer Banks

*Stand-out seafood, cozy rentals, and hidden beaches on North Carolina's string of barrier islands.*

HANNAH LEE LEIDY

May 20, 2021

For [sandy beaches](#) and legendary surf conditions, to historic lighthouses, [shipwreck diving sites](#), and wild horses, the Outer Banks is a unique [East Coast beach](#) vacation. No single island or town bears the official name [Outer Banks](#)—rather, the term refers to the string of barrier islands cupping North Carolina's entire coast, a divide between the inland and the Atlantic.

Born of 19th-century fishing villages and game hunting retreats, this destination now provides a year-round haven for surfers, artists, environmental researchers, families, and retirees. While many businesses close during the quiet winter months, come summertime the islands swell with life, drawing visitors to the [family-friendly beaches](#) and historic attractions.

Towns on the islands, running north to south, range from sleepy fishing hubs to commercial centers with ritzy, seaside resorts. Their small sizes make it easy to explore several towns in a day, by following [N.C. Highway 12](#) through each. The 148-mile, mostly two-lane highway lives up to its name as the [Outer Banks Scenic Byway](#)—it traverses the [Cape Hatteras National Seashore](#) between towering sand dunes, past expansive views of the sound and ocean, and through each town before ending (quite literally) on the beach in northern Corolla. Here's what to do in Outer Banks, and everything else you need to know to plan a visit.

*All listings featured in this story are independently selected by our editors. However, when you book something through our retail links, we may earn an affiliate commission.*

## Getting there

Unless travelers [charter a boat](#) or plane, they reach the Outer Banks via car. Virginia's Norfolk International Airport is the closest if you arrive by air. From there, rent a car and make the 1.5-hour drive south. A bridge connects the North Carolina mainland to the town of [Kitty Hawk](#). Once on the island follow U.S. 158 South to get to the towns of [Kill Devil Hills](#), [Nags Head](#), and [Hatteras Island](#). For the northern towns of [Southern Shores](#), [Duck](#), and [Corolla](#), follow N.C. Highway 12 north along the scenic, two-lane road that hugs the island's sound-side. Bridges connect the islands together, except for [Ocracoke Island](#), which is reached by the NCDOT Ferry.

## What to do in the Outer Banks



Bodie Island Lighthouse on Bodie Island catnap72/Getty

Pretty much any beach-oriented activity thrives on these sandy shores: **surfing**, swimming, strolling at the water's edge, sunbathing, picnicking, skim boarding, **fishing**. Plentiful **public access points** lead beachgoers over the dune line that separates the shore from the road, with the exception of Southern Shores and Duck. While public parking is available at many beaches, the high volume of visitors in-season makes carpooling a good idea.

Southern Shores and Duck beaches, which are public, can only be reached by private access points belonging to cottages or home-owners' associations. They provide residents and guests a quiet escape to savor the surf and sand without the crowds.

The Outer Banks' ocean varies from swimmable surf to hazardous conditions. Each island's west side, however, has a sound with calmer, shallow waters for swimming and watersports. Companies such as **Nor'Banks Sailing and Watersports** outfit both experienced sportsmen and newcomers for kayaking, standup paddle boarding, jet-ski rides, sailing, parasailing, and cruises in the Currituck Sound.



The Outer Bankswaters teem with game fish like bluefin tuna, cobia, and marlin. Private charters from the [Oregon Inlet Fishing Center](#) whisk both amateur anglers and old salts into the Gulf Stream current for half- or full-day fishing trips. Keep what you catch (within [North Carolina Fishing Regulations](#)); local restaurants like [Blue Water Grill & Raw Bar](#) and [Basnight's Lone Cedar Cafe](#) offer the option to cook your fish for you.



No sea legs? No problem. Climb atop the [Currituck Beach Lighthouse](#), [Bodie Island Lighthouse](#), and [Hatteras Lighthouse](#) for striking views of the mile-wide islands parting the ocean and sounds. Take to the skies hang gliding at [Jockey's Ridge State Park](#), home to the largest living sand dune on the East Coast, with [Kitty Hawk Kites](#). Or, stay at sea level by visiting the spot where the first flight occurred, at the [Wright Brothers National Memorial](#) in Kill Devil Hills.

For shopping, follow the town of Duck's sound-side boardwalk or central sidewalk for an entirely local and walkable shopping corridor. Gear up for water sports at [Duck Village Outfitters](#) with new and used surfboards and kayaks. Find Bauhaus-style decor and eco-friendly homeware at [Modern Beach House](#), and browse two floors of titles at [Island Books](#). Between the boutiques and galleries, plenty of bistros, wine bars, and coffee shops line the boardwalk and road through town for your choice of pick-me-up.

# Where to eat

Homegrown roasters and independent coffee shops are fixtures within the Outer Banks community.

**Front Porch Café** roasts more than 20 different coffee bean varieties in house, and its three locations feature local artists' paintings, photography, and ceramics. **Duck's Cottage**, a cozy one-room coffeehouse, is also part indie bookstore so you can enjoy a latte while perusing paperbacks.

**John's Drive-In** has been an Outer Banks cornerstone for four generations. The window-service joint across the road from the beach in Kitty Hawk specializes in coastal Carolina mainstays like battered fish baskets and barbecue sandwiches. Only open for lunch in the warmer months, they almost always have a line of people waiting for thick milkshakes and crunchy fried mahi sandwiches (look for 'dolphin sub' on the menu).



The Blue Point in Duck, Outer Banks Courtesy The Blue Point

For elevated food, drink, and hospitality with a dreamy backdrop, make dinner reservations at **The Blue Point**. This 32-year-old Duck establishment pairs classic Southern staples like pimento cheese



and sweet-potato ham biscuits with New South dishes: Go for the tuna carpaccio, or seared sea scallops over curried lentils. Grab a seat at their outdoor bar during golden hour for a waterfront sunset, accompanied by a cocktail or bottle of Burgundy.

## Where to stay



The Corolla Village Inn in Corolla, North Carolina Courtesy Corolla Village Inn

Most people visiting the Outer Banks stay in [vacation rental houses](#) (here are [11 of our favorites](#)), which can range from 1920s cedar-shake cottages to palatial homes that sleep up to 20 people. If you don't want to commit to an entire house, there are a handful of chain hotel brands and boutique inns. Just steps off the dirt road in Historic Corolla Village, the [Corolla Village Inn](#) (rooms from \$265 per night) offers Cape Cod-inspired rooms and suites behind a veil of live oaks. A communal fireside lounge and spacious front porches invite guests to unwind with a glass of wine at the end of the day.

For a boutique hotel feel but with all the amenities of a resort, you can't go wrong with **The Sanderling** (*rooms from \$399 per night*), a longtime oceanfront favorite just north of Duck that's family-friendly, and comes equipped with a pool, tennis courts, spa, and several spots for meals—from a casual poolside cafe to upscale fine-dining spot overlooking the sound.

**Mom's Sweet Shop** in Kill Devil Hills has earned a spot at the cool kids' table by pairing vintage clothing, accessories, and skate gear with a soft-serve/smoothie counter. This nouveau-cottage-style shop also surprises many with a one-bedroom **apartment** (*rooms from \$195 per night*) available as a nightly accommodation. The shop's boho aesthetic inspires every inch of the open floor plan, and its location just one block from the beach positions guests within 15 minutes of shops and restaurants throughout Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills, and Nags Head—in other words, come here for that small-town flavor that brought you to the Outer Banks in the first place.

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# 10 Awesome Family Friendly Eats on the Outer Banks

HC BY [HONEST COOKING \(https://honestcooking.com/author/editorial/\)](https://honestcooking.com/author/editorial/)

**F**rom cool beach cafes and unassuming burger shacks, to ambitious delis and oceanside seafood restaurants – the OBX has something new, exciting, fun and family friendly to offer every day, and for every meal.

The Outer Banks – or OBX as it is affectionately known – offers a unique combination of mind-expanding historic tales to mind-rejuvenating vacation relaxation that very few other destinations come even close to. And that’s probably the reason you are either considering booking your summer vacation to the OBX, or have already done so.

But what about the kids and food? Where will you eat? Are you banished from the delicious seafood and culinary experiences the island offers just because you are traveling as a family? And will your excursions inevitably end up in various corporate-fast-casual-chain-restaurants, leaving you and your family in dire gastronomic straits during your trip?

Fear not dear foodie family, because the Outer Banks has got you covered. From cool beach cafes and unassuming burger shacks, to ambitious delis and oceanside seafood restaurants – the OBX has something new, exciting, fun and family friendly to offer every day, and for every meal. And those pesky corporate-fast-casual-chain-restaurants? Well, they pretty much don’t exist here, so you will be exploring family owned and operated restaurants that all have two things in common; they’re great with kids, and the food is tasty. What more can you ask for, really? Okay, let’s get this vacation started!

**Buxton Munch (<http://www.buxtonmunch.com/>)**

The Buxton Munch says they are a “groovy little place with a whole lotta taste”, and we are inclined to agree. This funky little beach dive has been serving locals and tourists alike for over 20 years, and they are well known for their excellent fish tacos, shrimp tacos, wraps and quesadillas. Enjoy the quirky interior while your food is prepared to

order, and remember their "House Rules"; Be Nice. Be Happy. Be Patient. Be Mellow. Sounds easy enough doesn't it?

47359 Highway 12 Osprey Shopping Center, Buxton, NC 27920



Seared tuna from Goombay's Grille and Raw Bar

**Goombays Grille & Raw Bar (<https://goombays.com/>)**

At Goombays Grille & Raw Bar in Downtown Kill Devil Hills, the tropical vibe comes both in the food and the interior. Whimsical cocktails for both big kids (adults) and little ones infuse a flair of the Caribbean, and the food moves comfortably from Southwestern flavors through BBQ and all the way to Greek inspired salads. But at the core, the food is fresh, vibrant and as pretty to look at as it is good to eat. A great way to add a little color to your vacation! Oh, and did we mention that the kids cocktails come with a surprise toy – as if there weren't enough reasons to make your reservation already.

1608 N Virginia Dare Trail, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948



Get your day started right at Hatteras Bows.

**Hatteras Bowls** (<https://www.hatterasbowls.com/>).

As the name suggests, this place is located on Hatteras Island and it serves bowls. So far, no surprises. But the reason this humble shack is such a gem, is that this is pretty much the perfect breakfast joint for anyone who is looking for an equally healthy and delicious start to the day. Both you and your kids will love their perfect smoothies, creative peanut butter sandwiches and fresh acai bowls that you can build yourself or pick from the menu board. They also serve up delicious vegan ice cream and locally brewed coffee all day, so this will easily and quickly become a family favorite.

25410 NC-12, Waves, NC 27982

**Mama Kwan's** (<https://www.mamakwans.com/>).

This is another family favorite, and another festive, colorful and inviting restaurant where the vacation vibes are dialed up to 100. This awesome tiki bar and grill in Kill Devil Hills has been a local not-so-secret-secret for more than 15 years, and they serve up fantastic Pacific flavors – always with a big smile. From pepper-seared ahi tuna to cellophane noodles with ginger and shrimp, from Hawaiian pork plate to jerk chicken soft tacos – the food is always fresh, vibrant and lively. Also don't miss out on their creative cocktail list (it is a tiki bar after all!) which features fun tropical flavors and daring combinations.

1701 S Croatan Hwy, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

**Poor Richard's Sandwich Shop** (<http://poorrichardsmanteo.com/>).

While there are many restaurants and cafes in the OBX, Poor Richard's Sandwich Shop is most certainly one of the most iconic ones. This pub-slash-deli has been delivering on the promise of delicious sandwiches for over 35 years, and guests keep coming back for their famous Reuben time and time again. Served with a dill pickle? Of course! And it is accompanied by a great view of the Shallowbag Bay and the Manteo town Marina.

305 Queen Elizabeth Street, Manteo, NC 27954

**Sam and Omie's** (<https://www.samandomies.net/>).

Sam and Omie's restaurant in Nags Head is an Outer Banks institution. Originally opened as a breakfast spot for commercial fishermen over 70 years ago, the restaurant today serves up food for everyone, all day, and with a laid back atmosphere and fresh ingredients. Check out the steam-bar menu items and feast on crab legs or spiced shrimp, or try one of the sandwiches "from the sea", like the clam dog, shrimp burger or fried flounder sandwich. Whatever you choose, you can not go wrong in this old-school beach cafe, and you'll feel immersed in local history as you dine.

7228 S Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC 27959

**Tale of the Whale** (<https://taleofthewhalenagshead.com/>).

This classic seaside restaurant sits on the edge of the Roanoke sound, and has been serving up offering wonderful vistas and delicious food for over 40 years. Run by the Bibey family since the start, the restaurant is a beloved staple on the OBX food scene. Families will love the broad selection of local seafood that is offered either fried, broiled or steamed to perfection. From snow crab legs and coconut shrimp, to calamari and flounder – it covers pretty much everything good in the sea that surrounds the restaurant, and if for some reason your little ones aren't into seafood, you'll find plenty of land-based foods that will keep you filled up and happy as you watch the sunset from the patio.

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[golden-paella-of-soccarat/](#).

7575 S Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC 27959



Enjoy the vibe at The Blue Point in Duck

#### **The Blue Point** (<https://thebluepoint.com/>).

Now, we know your kids are well behaved little foodies, so why not treat them to a fancier dining experience while you are visiting the OBX? Yes, The Blue Point is a little pricier than most other restaurants in the area, but when you combine the warm Southern Hospitality, the lovely atmosphere and the creative, delicious fare served up every night (think hoisin glazed pork ribs or seared jumbo sea scallops with curried ginger farro) – you'll definitely walk away feeling that the money was more than well spent. Also make sure to check out the back bar for a combination of a lively scene, live music and a perfect view of the sunset.

1240 Duck Road, Duck, NC 27949

#### **Sugar Creek Soundfront Restaurant** (<https://sugarcreekseafood.com/>).

With one of the best views on the OBX, Sugar Creek Soundfront Restaurant in Nags Head is surrounded by nature. Watch for the resident osprey family nesting on site, or have the kids honk at the Canadian Geese that gather under the overlook. And if you can take your eyes off the natural wonders that surround the restaurant, you'll be inspired by a lovely menu filled with classic fried, broiled and steamed seafood. Try the crab bisque, loaded with local lump crab meat to start, then get the fried seafood platter that features the catch of the day, scallops, shrimp and clam strips. Or go Southern with their award winning shrimp and grits, made with andouille sausage, Sriracha butter and Pepper Jack cheese.

Also check out the next door Sugar Shack – which is a seafood market, restaurant and oyster bar that sell take-home steamer buckets of clams, crab claws, mussels and shrimp.

7340 S Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC 27959

#### **The Village Table and Tavern** (<https://villagetableandtavern.com/>).

This is a casual waterfront restaurant that offers an attractive combination of friendly atmosphere, gorgeous views, good food and a nice lawn for the kids to run around on. Mom and Dad will find an impressive selection of international craft beers and fun wines on the menu, and the kids can choose between a large number of handheld



sandwiches and burgers that are all delicious. And as an extra feature, The Village Table and Tavern hosts musicians and artists almost daily – performing against the backdrop of Currituck Sound in their downstairs Sound Lounge.

1314 Duck Rd, Duck, NC 27949

Now that you have gotten your family friendly deliciousness all planned out, don't forget to check out the many sights across the OBX. From excursions to iconic places like the [Cape Hatteras Lighthouse](https://www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/chls.htm) (<https://www.nps.gov/caha/planyourvisit/chls.htm>), to the vast [beaches](https://www.outerbanks.org/) (<https://www.outerbanks.org/>) that are freely accessible to all visitors and explorers. From tales of famous pirates that met their demise in the Graveyard of the Atlantic – the treacherous stretch of water on the Atlantic side of the Outer Banks – to the mysterious story of the disappearance of America's first colony in Roanoke, known today as "[The Lost Colony](https://www.thelostcolony.org/)" (<https://www.thelostcolony.org/>). Or the inspiring historical moment when the [Wright Brothers](https://www.nps.gov/wrbr/index.htm) (<https://www.nps.gov/wrbr/index.htm>) took flight for the first time on a windy Thursday morning in December of 1903, a few miles outside of Kitty Hawk. Clearly, on the OBX, there's more than enough to keep both mind, body and belly stimulated.

# HC

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## Where to Eat on a Three Day Foodie Trip to the Outer Banks

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BY HONEST COOKING ([HTTPS://HONESTCOOKING.COM/AUTHOR/EDITORIAL/](https://honestcooking.com/author/editorial/))

**W**hether you're looking for a healthy snack, a hearty steak, a hot cocktail, or a heavenly gourmet dinner – the OBX is ready to fulfill all your requests. And to help you out on your OBX foodie adventure, we've compiled a guide to where to eat and drink during a three day getaway.

For decades, the Outer Banks of North Carolina (or OBX for short) have been famous for their seafood. Which makes sense. They're situated in the ocean, after all, on the very edge of the Atlantic, sheltering mainland USA from the roaring ocean. Yellowfin tuna, wahoo, mahi-mahi, rockfish, flounder, crab, oysters and shrimp are some of the more common catches in the waters that surround the OBX, and as expected, that means lots of seafood restaurants and lots of seafood markets. So if you are a pescatarian, well, you're pretty much in culinary heaven on the OBX, because your options are almost endless for every meal – including breakfast.

But perhaps less known is that foodies are increasingly discovering more mouth-watering reasons to travel to the OBX these days. So fear not dear omnivore, because there is something for everyone there. Whether you're looking for a healthy snack, a hearty steak, a hot cocktail, or a heavenly gourmet dinner – the OBX is ready to fulfill all your requests. And to help you out on your OBX foodie adventure, we've compiled a guide to where to eat and drink during a three day getaway.

## DAY 1

### Breakfast

Uglie Mugs Coffee Shop (<https://www.facebook.com/Uglie-Mugs-Coffee-Shop-143010735881073/>)

Start your day off right at this quirky coffee-shop-cum-trinket-store-and-bead-shop in Avon. The selection of really good coffees and beverages is accompanied by bagels and muffins that will get your engines running, and the interior is as lovely as it is wonky. Browse the aisles for postcards, jewelry and – yes – ugly coffee mugs, so you

have something to remember this day by. Or even better, make your own bracelets in the “bead-room” while you connect to the free wi-fi.

The Froggy Dog in Avon

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### Lunch

[The Froggy Dog](https://froggydog.com/menus) (<https://froggydog.com/menus>).

Ok, so this fun pub in Avon has got a lot on it's menu, but you're here for two things. Frog-legs and oysters. The perfect lunch. The frog-legs come served with BBQ sauce, and it's obviously the most famous dish on the menu. And if you're nervous (but why would you be, dear foodie) about eating frog legs, you should know that they pretty much taste like chicken. The oysters? Well, you're in luck, because at The Froggy Dog, they come plentiful. Local, shucked oysters on the half-shell. Garlic herb oysters. Rockefellers. Order a plate of each, and you'll be ready to explore Hatteras Island some more.

Cafe Pamlico sits on the very edge of the Pamlico Sound and offers gorgeous sunset views.

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### Dinner

[Cafe Pamlico](https://www.innonpamlicosound.com/dining/) (<https://www.innonpamlicosound.com/dining/>).

Following a quick nap back at the hotel after a full day of exploring Hatteras Island, it's time for some fine-dining along the shoreline. And if you're staying at the adorable [Inn on Pamlico Sound](https://www.innonpamlicosound.com) (<https://www.innonpamlicosound.com>), you're in luck – because the restaurant is just downstairs. Cafe Pamlico is routinely considered one of the best meals you can get for dinner on the OBX, and its “beach-casual-fine-dining” vibe sings in perfect harmony with the gorgeous sunset views of the water. Look for the Hereford ribeye steak, catch of the day or vegetarian risotto on the menu, order a glass of Champagne and pat yourself on the back for choosing this restaurant for your first dinner on the OBX. Well done, you.

### Cocktails

[Turner's High Moon Bar](https://www.facebook.com/TurnersHighMoon/) (<https://www.facebook.com/TurnersHighMoon/>)

So you don't want to go to bed after dinner? Head over to Turner's High Moon Bar for some exciting local brews and live music entertainment. The selection of drinks is as strong as the atmosphere is warm. With 21 beers on tap and an extensive liquor list, this is a great late night hang out, and if you get hungry again as the evening progresses – there's a fun pub menu available as well.

## Day 2

### Breakfast

[Ashley's Espresso Parlour](https://alltimeroastingobx.com/ashleys-espresso-parlour/) (<https://alltimeroastingobx.com/ashleys-espresso-parlour/>)

Ok, so here's what you need to know. The couple behind All Time Coffee Roasting Co. has been small-batch roasting coffee beans sourced from fair-trade coffee farms around the world for years, and Ashley's Espresso Parlour in Kill Devil Hills is the perfect expression of their craft. With all the coffees and coffee drinks you could ever want for, all sustainable, organic, and roasted on site – this will be the perfect start to your day. Maybe you'll want to mix it up and try a cold brew shake with peanut butter and banana, and give yourself some sustenance by accompanying the beverage with a delicious breakfast croissant or muffin.

### Lunch

[The Kill Devil Grill](https://www.thekilldevilgrill.com/) (<https://www.thekilldevilgrill.com/>)

Time for a lunch break as you explore the area around Kill Devil Hill. The Kill Devil grill is a train-car-turned-diner-turned-part-of-the-national-register-of-historic-places (still following?) that will take you back to a simpler time as soon as you walk in the door. And speaking of simple, let's keep this lunch to two things. First, get a pound (at least) of local, steamed shrimp. Peel and just enjoy. Then, you must – repeat – must try their chicken wings. These 3-day smoked wings are legendary, and they are served with their equally legendary sauce.

### Dinner

[The Colington Cafe](https://www.colingtoncafe.com/) (<https://www.colingtoncafe.com/>)

Set in a beautiful Victorian villa in Kill Devil Hills, adjacent to the Wright Brothers National Memorial, The Colington Cafe is one of the best dining destinations on the OBX. The menu is French-inspired, but ventures south in flavors as well. Local seafood shows up across appetizers and mains, combined with a “filet” section that focuses on tender meats, grilled and served with classic French accompaniments like béarnaise and dijon-black-peppercorn sauce. Start out with the she-crab bisque, then some scallops rumaki before moving on to their “grand trio” plate consisting of grilled filet mignon, grilled shrimp and jumbo lump crabmeat served with béarnaise. Chances are you won't be hungry again tonight.



Head to TRIO Restaurant and Market in Kitty Hawk for delicious drinks, charcuterie and cheese.

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#### *Drinks after dinner*

TRIO Restaurant and Market (<https://obxtrio.com/>)

With 35 wines by the glass and 24 rotating beer taps, you won't run out of drinking options at TRIO Restaurant and Market. This fun retail and tasting destination has a more cosmopolitan vibe than many other places on the OBX. So grab a glass of wine or two, order some cheese and charcuterie, and enjoy the energetic atmosphere.

## Day 3

#### *Breakfast*

Treehouse Coffee Co. and Rope Ladder Kitchen and Biscuits (<https://treehousecoffeeenc.com/>)

Serving local roasts, Treehouse offers fantastic pour-overs, cold brew and espresso in the beautiful Scarborough Faire Shopping Village in Duck. But if delicious coffee isn't enough, their adjoining space – Rope Ladder Kitchen serves up a full breakfast menu consisting of homemade biscuits, morning empanadas, crab cake breakfast sandwiches and much more. The menu is extensive, and absolutely mouthwatering. What a perfect start to the day, and if you decide to stay a little longer on the OBX – well, you might just find yourself coming back again and again.

Who wouldn't get excited about indulging in a fresh lunch on the deck at AQUA Restaurant?

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## Lunch

[AQUA Restaurant \(https://aquarestaurantobx.com/\)](https://aquarestaurantobx.com/)

By now, you probably want to get something on the lighter side for lunch, and why not in an absolutely gorgeous setting? Right on the waterfront in Duck, clinging to the water's edge, you'll find AQUA Restaurant where Executive Chef Cory Bryant creates fresh, vibrant and colorful dishes from the best local ingredients. Try the smoked Baba Ganoush, served with watermelon radishes and Aleppo pepper flakes. Or the Gathering Salad, featuring arugula, watercress, shaved fennel, sliced strawberries, toasted sunflower seeds, goat cheese and tossed in a mulberry vinaigrette. And if you're looking for something a little bigger, but still fresh, order the poke bowl, with marinated sashimi tuna, jasmine rice, shaved marinated cucumber salad, julienned carrots, scallions, edamame, seaweed salad, Bangin' Sauce, unagi sauce, nori and crispy onions.

Kimball's Kitchen in Duck

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## Dinner

[Kimball's Kitchen \(https://www.sanderling-resort.com/sanderling-restaurants/kimballs/\)](https://www.sanderling-resort.com/sanderling-restaurants/kimballs/)

Since this is your last evening of this foodie trip, maybe it's time to get a little bit more formal to celebrate. But just a little. So ditch those shorts, put on a nice shirt and head over to Kimball's Kitchen, located on the grounds of the beautiful Sanderling Resort in Duck. Focusing on freshly caught local seafood, certified Angus beef, handmade pasta and an extensive selection of local oysters, Kimball's Kitchen is classy and upscale, but certainly not stuffy. This is high end cooking, featuring the best products available, presented beautifully. Oh, and did we mention the wine list? It's a Wine Spectator award winner.

## Post Dinner Drinks

[NC Coast Grill and Bar \(https://nccoastobx.com/\)](https://nccoastobx.com/)

Time to wind down with a couple of cocktails after dinner. Head on over to NC Coast Grill and Bar and pretend that you are a local by ordering the "I'm not a tourist, I have a house in Duck" cocktail. Because by now, you will definitely feel like the OBX is as much part of you as you are of the OBX. And as the sun sets over the water, some live music in the background, chances are you'll already be planning your next visit to this magical destination.

## Other places to check out:

[Bros Sandwich Shack \(https://www.brossandwichshack.com/\)](https://www.brossandwichshack.com/), Avon – awesome burgers and sandwiches

[Hatteras Sol Waterside Grill](http://hatterassol.com/) (<http://hatterassol.com/>), Hatteras – breathtaking views, delicious food

[Outer Banks Brewing Station](https://www.obbrewing.com/) (<https://www.obbrewing.com/>), Kill Devil Hills – killer brewpub

[The Thai Room](http://thairoomobx.com/) (<http://thairoomobx.com/>), Kill Devil Hills – great Thai food

[Tortuga’s Lie](https://www.tortugaslie.com/) (<https://www.tortugaslie.com/>), Nags Head – badass Caribbean food

[Waveriders](https://waveridersobx.com/) (<https://waveridersobx.com/>), Nags Head – healthy food, delicious brews

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# The Best Healthy East on the Outer Banks

BY [ROBERT LIBERATORE \(https://honestcooking.com/author/robertliberatore/\)](https://honestcooking.com/author/robertliberatore/)

n vacation on the Outer Banks, but looking to stay away from adding the usual vacation pounds? Here are 10 restaurants, cafes, breweries and shops that are serving up some of the healthiest options the OBX has to offer.

Nestled off the coast of North Carolina, the Outer Banks are a series of barrier islands stretching more than 175 miles south from the Virginian border. Known for its pristine beaches, unique wildlife, historical significance and a general sense of privacy and seclusion, the Outer Banks have long been a coveted destination for people from both North Carolina and all across the country.

Caption: Pad Thai from Single Fin in Nag's Head

While it's no surprise that the string of islands is renowned for its seafood, restaurants like [High Cotton \(https://www.highcottonbbq.com/\)](https://www.highcottonbbq.com/) and the infamous [Duck Donuts \(https://www.duckdonuts.com/\)](https://www.duckdonuts.com/) have helped establish the area as a hotbed for the prototypical southern comfort food that is so easy to indulge in, especially while on vacation.

But what if you're trying to fight the culinary temptations that come with traveling? Are there any healthy restaurants in the Outer Banks that can accommodate the growing list of dietary restrictions that exist these days?

A decade ago the simple answer may have been no. However, the past 5 or 10 years have seen an emergence of healthy options popping up all across the Outer Banks.

Here are 10 restaurants, cafes, breweries and shops that are serving up some of the healthiest options the Outer Banks has to offer.



Mom's Sweet Shop, image from [sweetstuffsinside.com](https://sweetstuffsinside.com/)

First on the list is [Mom's Sweet Shop](https://sweetstuffsinside.com/) (<https://sweetstuffsinside.com/>) in Kill Devil Hills. Despite the name, Mom's might be home to the healthiest food in the Outer Banks. All of their acai bowls are made with pure, organic acai and can be swapped for organic pitaya (dragonfruit) at no extra charge. Mom's also offers an extensive variety of vegan and dairy free smoothies that are packed with an array of supplements, superfoods and other add-ons like CBD and bee pollen. True to its name, Mom's Sweet Shop manages to create options that are just as tasty as they are nutritious and honestly might have the best acai bowls and smoothies in the entire state.

Although it top's our list, Mom's isn't solely focused on healthy food. They've also got an assortment of soft serve ice cream, milkshakes, truffles and candy when you're in the mood for a cheat day. The experience also goes beyond food with a storefront that carries a blend of modern and vintage clothing and two luxury vacation rentals.

Less than a two minute drive down the road from Mom's is [The Spot](https://www.thespotobx.com/) (<https://www.thespotobx.com/>)'s Kitty Hawk location. The other dedicated smoothie and acai bowl option on the list, The Spot has a second location in Nags Head that's only five minutes from Jockey's Ridge State Park. While they aren't nearly as ingredient conscious as Mom's, The Spot's Nag's Head location is still a healthy, refreshing escape from the sun after exploring the great sand dunes at Jockey's Ridge.



Freshfit Café in Nags Head

Similar to Outer Bean, [Freshfit Cafe](https://obxfreshfitcafe.com/) (<https://obxfreshfitcafe.com/>) in Nags Head also offers a wonderful variety of delicious nutrition focused options for breakfast and lunch that are designed to help you meet your fitness goals. Freshfit's menu sources ingredients like local seafood and seasonal fruits and vegetables to deliver everything from smoothies, juices, detox drinks, and organic coffee to wraps, sandwiches, salads, power bowls, pancakes, breakfast platters and tofu scrambles. With such a plethora of options, it's no surprise that the kitchen can easily

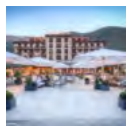
accommodate vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free diets. Their espresso overnight oats, pancakes (gluten-free & vegan options available) and shrimp toast with feta cheese and balsamic drizzle are delicious breakfast options while the build your own protein bowls and varietal salads with fresh seafood are our go to's for lunch.

If you're looking for delicious smoothies and acai bowls, but also want a little more variety on the menu, [Outer Bean Cafe](http://outerbean.com/) (<http://outerbean.com/>) might be the place for you. A staple of the Kitty Hawk community, the cafe has been serving vegetarian and vegan friendly dishes for breakfast and lunch for years now. Locals gravitate towards their hearty salads and sandwiches, as well as their nutrient rich fresh pressed juices. They even offer three day and week long juice and smoothie based detoxes.

If salads are what you're after, then look no further than the [Salad Bowl](https://www.thesaladbowlobx.com/menu/) (<https://www.thesaladbowlobx.com/menu/>) in Kitty Hawk. As their name suggests, they offer a variety of signature salads and a rotating monthly salad, as well as the ability to build your own salad bowl. In addition to leafy greens, the Salad Bowl's menu also features plenty of healthy juices, smoothies and wraps to choose from and sources ingredients from local and / or organic farmers when possible.

[Bad Bean Baja Grill](https://badbeanobx.com/menus) (<https://badbeanobx.com/menus>) is far from the typical healthy food stop. A unique blend of Latin American, Coastal Carolinian, Tex-Mex and Asian culinary influences, this multicultural fusion restaurant is unlike any other in the Outer Banks. Focused on delivering flavor first, the chef incorporates plenty of guilt free and vegetarian friendly options, such as black bean quinoa burgers and marinated grilled tofu, that have health conscious foodies flocking to Kitty Hawk.

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Another potentially unexpected option on the list, the [Outer Banks Brewing Station](https://www.obbrewing.com/) (<https://www.obbrewing.com/>) is another go to for healthy food in Kill Devil Hills. While it certainly has its fair share of comfort food and craft beer, the Brewing Station also rotates a variety of vegan and vegetarian specials and even bolsters a dedicated gluten free menu. Given the recent national food supply chain challenges that came about from the pandemic, they've also committed to getting creative with local sources of seafood and other ingredients to create uniquely tantalizing plates like the Tuna Brewdah Bowl that's made with fresh local seared tuna over Asian noodle salad with edamame, Tokyo collards, roasted red pepper salad & miso roasted sweet potatoes.

[Red Sky Cafe](https://redskycafe.com/) (<https://redskycafe.com/>) in Duck, NC is another restaurant committed to incorporating locally sourced ingredients. In fact, they've been cooking with seafood, poultry, beef, duck and other ingredients directly from the Outer Banks for over 15 years now. The owner and chef, Wes Stepp, is also the author of the Tastefully Fit recipe book and takes pride in transforming traditional southern and seafood plates into healthy, hearty portions that satisfy foodies and picky eaters alike. These healthy dishes have become so popular amongst locals that they even hire Wes and Chefs on Call team for in home private dining and catered events.





Single Fin in Nags Head

Another culinary artist known for his personal chef services, Pok Choeichom, better known as Chef Pok, is the chef owner of both [Single Fin](https://www.singlefinobx.com/) (<https://www.singlefinobx.com/>) in Nags Head and [Pok's Art](https://obxtogo.com/) (<https://obxtogo.com/>) in Kitty Hawk. Single Fin was the first Thai-Sushi hybrid restaurant in the Outer Banks and is home to an incredible assortment of tastefully simple and wildly extravagant sushi rolls, nigiri and sashimi.



Avenue Grille, Manteo

[The Avenue Waterfront Grille](https://avenuegrilleobx.com/) (<https://avenuegrilleobx.com/>) in downtown Manteo doesn't have the robust sushi menu that Single Fin offers, but it's Tuna Sushi Style is certainly a crowd favorite. This sushi inspired plate is constructed with perfectly seared tuna that can be substituted for crispy tofu, a jasmine rice cake, seaweed salad and wasabi cream sauce. The Avenue Grille was one of the first restaurants in the area to creatively accommodate dietary restrictions and the Tuna Sushi Style is just one of the many dishes that can be modified with substitutions for vegan, vegetarian and / or gluten free patrons. As you may have guessed from the name, dining here also involves a spectacular waterfront view that also makes it incredibly easy for the chef to incorporate a diverse selection of fresh seafood from their own backyard.



Last on the list, [The Paper Canoe](https://papercanoeobx.com/) (<https://papercanoeobx.com/>) is a mainstay in Duck that also prides itself in offering a memorable dining experience with an incredible waterfront view and locally caught seafood from the Outer Banks. Owner and restaurateur Tommy Karole handpicks the catches of the day that will be featured in dishes like the Chef's Whim, a menu item that changes daily based on locally sourced ingredients. While some of the sides lean more towards decadence than the health food end of the spectrum, there are gluten free options at every stage of the meal. Make a reservation for sunset well in advance for one of the finest dining experiences the Outer Banks has to offer.

It's also worth noting that Karole recently opened a new elevated comfort food culinary concept in Kitty Hawk called [The Pony and the Boat](https://theponyandtheboat.com/) (<https://theponyandtheboat.com/>) that's certainly not focused on health food, but is probably still good for the soul.



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Robert Liberatore is an adventure, travel and lifestyle photographer, writer and cinematographer based out of Durham, North Carolina. You can find his work on [www.nomadfuel.blog](http://www.nomadfuel.blog) as well as @robert\_lib

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# Where to Eat on a Three Day Foodie Trip to the Outer Banks

HC

BY [HONEST COOKING \(https://honestcooking.com/author/editorial/\)](https://honestcooking.com/author/editorial/)

**Whether you're looking for a healthy snack, a hearty steak, a hot cocktail, or a heavenly gourmet dinner – the OBX is ready to fulfill all your requests. And to help you out on your OBX foodie adventure, we've compiled a guide to where to eat and drink during a three day getaway.**

For decades, the Outer Banks of North Carolina (or OBX for short) have been famous for their seafood. Which makes sense. They're situated in the ocean, after all, on the very edge of the Atlantic, sheltering mainland USA from the roaring ocean. Yellowfin tuna, wahoo, mahi-mahi, rockfish, flounder, crab, oysters and shrimp are some of the more common catches in the waters that surround the OBX, and as expected, that means lots of seafood restaurants and lots of seafood markets. So if you are a pescatarian, well, you're pretty much in culinary heaven on the OBX, because your options are almost endless for every meal – including breakfast.

But perhaps less known is that foodies are increasingly discovering more mouth-watering reasons to travel to the OBX these days. So fear not dear omnivore, because there is something for everyone there. Whether you're looking for a healthy snack, a hearty steak, a hot cocktail, or a heavenly gourmet dinner – the OBX is ready to fulfill all your requests. And to help you out on your OBX foodie adventure, we've compiled a guide to where to eat and drink during a three day getaway.

## DAY 1

### Breakfast

[Uglie Mugs Coffee Shop \(https://www.facebook.com/Uglie-Mugs-Coffee-Shop-143010735881073/\)](https://www.facebook.com/Uglie-Mugs-Coffee-Shop-143010735881073/)

Start your day off right at this quirky coffee-shop-cum-trinket-store-and-bead-shop in Avon. The selection of really good coffees and beverages is accompanied by bagels and muffins that will get your engines running, and the interior is as lovely as it is wonky. Browse the aisles for postcards, jewelry and – yes – ugly coffee mugs, so you have something to remember this day by. Or even better, make your own bracelets in the “bead-room” while you connect to the free wi-fi.



The Froggy Dog in Avon

### Lunch

The Froggy Dog (<https://froggydog.com/menus>).

Ok, so this fun pub in Avon has got a lot on it's menu, but you're here for two things. Frog-legs and oysters. The perfect lunch. The frog-legs come served with BBQ sauce, and it's obviously the most famous dish on the menu. And if you're nervous (but why would you be, dear foodie) about eating frog legs, you should know that they pretty much taste like chicken. The oysters? Well, you're in luck, because at The Froggy Dog, they come plentiful. Local, shucked oysters on the half-shell. Garlic herb oysters. Rockefellerers. Order a plate of each, and you'll be ready to explore Hatteras Island some more.



Cafe Pamlico sits on the very edge of the Pamlico Sound and offers gorgeous sunset views.

### Dinner

Cafe Pamlico (<https://www.innonpamlicosound.com/dining/>).

Following a quick nap back at the hotel after a full day of exploring Hatteras Island, it's time for some fine-dining along the shoreline. And if you're staying at the adorable Inn on Pamlico Sound (<https://www.innonpamlicosound.com>), you're in luck – because the restaurant is just downstairs. Cafe Pamlico is routinely considered one of the best meals you can get for dinner on the OBX, and its "beach-casual-fine-dining"

vibe sings in perfect harmony with the gorgeous sunset views of the water. Look for the Hereford ribeye steak, catch of the day or vegetarian risotto on the menu, order a glass of Champagne and pat yourself on the back for choosing this restaurant for your first dinner on the OBX. Well done, you.

### Cocktails

Turner's High Moon Bar (<https://www.facebook.com/TurnersHighMoon/>)

So you don't want to go to bed after dinner? Head over to Turner's High Moon Bar for some exciting local brews and live music entertainment. The selection of drinks is as strong as the atmosphere is warm. With 21 beers on tap and an extensive liquor list, this is a great late night hang out, and if you get hungry again as the evening progresses – there's a fun pub menu available as well.

## Day 2

### Breakfast

Ashley's Espresso Parlour (<https://alltimeroastingobx.com/ashleys-espresso-parlour/>)

Ok, so here's what you need to know. The couple behind All Time Coffee Roasting Co. has been small-batch roasting coffee beans sourced from fair-trade coffee farms around the world for years, and Ashley's Espresso Parlour in Kill Devil Hills is the perfect expression of their craft. With all the coffees and coffee drinks you could ever want for, all sustainable, organic, and roasted on site – this will be the perfect start to your day. Maybe you'll want to mix it up and try a cold brew shake with peanut butter and banana, and give yourself some sustenance by accompanying the beverage with a delicious breakfast croissant or muffin.

### Lunch

The Kill Devil Grill (<https://www.thekilldevilgrill.com/>)

Time for a lunch break as you explore the area around Kill Devil Hill. The Kill Devil grill is a train-car-turned-diner-turned-part-of-the-national-register-of-historic-places (still following?) that will take you back to a simpler time as soon as you walk in the door. And speaking of simple, let's keep this lunch to two things. First, get a pound (at least) of local, steamed shrimp. Peel and just enjoy. Then, you must – repeat – must try their chicken wings. These 3-day smoked wings are legendary, and they are served with their equally legendary sauce.

### Dinner

The Colington Cafe (<https://www.colingtoncafe.com/>)

Set in a beautiful Victorian villa in Kill Devil Hills, adjacent to the Wright Brothers National Memorial, The Colington Cafe is one of the best dining destinations on the OBX. The menu is French-inspired, but ventures south in flavors as well. Local seafood shows up across appetizers and mains, combined with a "filet" section that focuses on tender meats, grilled and served with classic French accompaniments like béarnaise and dijon-black-peppercorn sauce. Start out with the she-crab bisque, then some scallops rumaki before moving on to their "grand trio" plate consisting of grilled filet mignon, grilled shrimp and jumbo lump crabmeat served with béarnaise. Chances are you won't be hungry again tonight.





Head to TRIO Restaurant and Market in Kitty Hawk for delicious drinks, charcuterie and cheese.

#### *Drinks after dinner*

TRIO Restaurant and Market (<https://obxtrio.com/>)

With 35 wines by the glass and 24 rotating beer taps, you won't run out of drinking options at TRIO Restaurant and Market. This fun retail and tasting destination has a more cosmopolitan vibe than many other places on the OBX. So grab a glass of wine or two, order some cheese and charcuterie, and enjoy the energetic atmosphere.

## Day 3

#### *Breakfast*

Treehouse Coffee Co. and Rope Ladder Kitchen and Biscuits (<https://treehousecoffeenc.com/>)

Serving local roasts, Treehouse offers fantastic pour-overs, cold brew and espresso in the beautiful Scarborough Faire Shopping Village in Duck. But if delicious coffee isn't enough, their adjoining space – Rope Ladder Kitchen serves up a full breakfast menu consisting of homemade biscuits, morning empanadas, crab cake breakfast sandwiches and much more. The menu is extensive, and absolutely mouthwatering. What a perfect start to the day, and if you decide to stay a little longer on the OBX – well, you might just find yourself coming back again and again.

Who wouldn't get excited about indulging in a fresh lunch on the deck at AQUA Restaurant?

## Lunch

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By now, you probably want to get something on the lighter side for lunch, and why not in an absolutely gorgeous setting? Right on the waterfront in Duck, clinging to the water's edge, you'll find AQUA Restaurant where Executive Chef Cory Bryant creates fresh, vibrant and colorful dishes from the best local ingredients. Try the smoked Baba Ganoush, served with watermelon radishes and Aleppo pepper flakes. Or the Gathering Salad, featuring arugula, watercress, shaved fennel, sliced strawberries, toasted sunflower seeds, goat cheese and tossed in a mulberry vinaigrette. And if you're looking for something a little bigger, but still fresh, order the poke bowl, with marinated sashimi tuna, jasmine rice, shaved marinated cucumber salad, julienned carrots, scallions, edamame, seaweed salad, Bangin' Sauce, unagi sauce, nori and crispy onions.

Kimball's Kitchen in Duck

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### **Dinner**

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The Honest Cooking editorial team handpicks inspiring culinary stories to share with you that we think are beautiful. As an international online culinary magazine with the ambition to truly change the face of online food media we hope to create an inspiring place for serious culinary debate, salivating recipes, interesting food news and international food-fun.

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# Where To Go For Locally-Sourced Seafood in The Outer Banks

BY KEYLA VASCONCELLOS (<https://honestcooking.com/author/keylavasconcellos/>)

**W**hether you enjoy fried soft crab, award-winning clam chowder, freshly grilled grouper, or Outer Banks-style sushi, OBX brings an abundant bounty straight from local waters to your plate.

On a map, The Outer Banks (OBX) resembles two connecting magical coral wands extending into the waters of the Atlantic, casting a spell over every visitor to these sand-swept beaches and charming towns.



*Endless beaches on the Outer Banks*

There's no shortage of world-class seafood on the east coast. From Maine lobster rolls to Cape Cod oysters to Maryland crab, the list goes on. But North Carolina holds its own. With its rich colonial history and warm southern hospitality, the razor-thin barrier islands offer a myriad of unique locally-sourced dishes. You'll find the highest quality sustainable seafood here, making OBX a special place for your next seafood excursion.



*Crispy fried calamari served at Blue Water Grill in Manteo*

We know choosing the right places to eat when you're on vacation can be overwhelming, so we've assembled this guide to the best OBX seafood restaurants. Whether you enjoy fried soft crab, award-winning clam chowder, freshly grilled grouper, or Outer Banks-style sushi, OBX brings an abundant bounty straight from local waters to your plate.



*Aqua Restaurant in Duck*

**Aqua Restaurant** (<https://aquarestaurantobx.com/>). Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or enjoying a casual meal outside, Aqua Restaurant provides the perfect environment for both. The town of Duck is known for its pristine beaches, and the busy restaurant overlooks the water showing off stunning views. Chef Cory Bryant serves local-caught fish with sustainably farmed ingredients, and masterfully creates eye-popping dishes paired with top-notch craft cocktails.

Aqua Restaurant

1174 Duck Rd Downstairs, Duck, NC 27949

(252) 261-9700

**Basnight's Lone Cedar** (<https://lonecedarcafe.com/>)

Basnight's Lone Cedar in Nags Head is a classic establishment that opened in 1996. Each day fishermen provide freshly caught fish, which is then prepared to perfection and served with vegetables grown on-site. And to top it all off, you can enjoy your meal while taking in the beautiful view overlooking the Sound. Tip: If you've never had she-crab soup before, order it here for a delectable blue crab treat.

7623 S Virginia Dare Trail, Nags Head, NC 27959

(252) 441-5405

***Blue Water Grill & Raw Bar in Manteo***

**Blue Water Grill & Raw Bar** (<https://www.bluewatergrillobx.com/>) The charming waterfront town of Manteo is home to one of the country's most captivating mysteries: The Lost Colony. Not to mention, it's the birthplace of English colonization, which provides a wonderful opportunity to explore the deep Outer Banks history. After exploring boutiques, gift shops, antique stores and more, hit Blue Water Grill & Raw Bar. Dive into a delightful meal featuring a variety of Manteo's best seafood. Overlooking Pirate's Cove, you can watch fishermen in the marina bringing fresh fish back from sea. With that in mind, the raw bar has a variety of options and during happy hour, oysters are \$1 each. So order as many as you want—sharing isn't necessary.

2000 Sailfish Dr, Manteo, NC 27954

(252) 473-1955





The deck at Breakwater Restaurant in Hatteras is overlooking the Pamlico Sound

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### **Breakwater Restaurant** (<http://dine.breakwaterhatteras.com/>).

Take a break from kiteboarding, parasailing or any of the other countless adventures in Hatteras and head over to Breakwater Restaurant for coastal classics. Try to arrive near sunset and ask for a table on the deck to watch the colorful hues along the Pamlico Sound. Then enjoy a delicious cocktail accompanied by live music. The hardest part of the evening is deciding what seafood to order, from crab-stuffed flounder to fried North Carolina shrimp. Tip: Breakwater Restaurant doesn't take reservations, so plan accordingly.

57878 NC-12, Hatteras, NC 27943

(252) 986-2733

### **Diamond Shoals Restaurant** (<https://diamondshoalsrestaurant.com/>) If you're visiting the quaint town of Buxton,

Diamond Shoals Restaurant is a must. Connected to a seafood market, you'll enter a warm and inviting diner-style spot, with a variety of purchasable tchotchkes as you walk in. Sit at one of the booths for award-winning hearty clam chowder and your choice of blackened, broiled, fried, or grilled fish freshly caught daily. Sushi lovers, look forward to a sushi bar with an array of deliciously crafted rolls, made with the freshest caught seafood in town.

46843 NC-12, Hatteras, NC 27953

(252) 995-5217

### **Fish Heads Bar & Grill** (<https://www.fishheadsobx.com/>)

While vacationing in Nags Head, consider Fish Heads Bar & Grill. Located on the Outer Banks Fishing Pier, you'll want to get there early as it fills up fast. As the cool ocean breeze hits your face, sit down and get ready for some tasty seafood. Beer aficionados, this place is for you with 40 beers on tap. In addition, happy hour includes 15 cent steamed local shrimp from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily (you must order in increments of 20). If you think it'll be too busy, make a stop at Nags Head Brew Thru on the way, where Brew Thru car tenders help stock your cooler with

alcohol and snacks in this one-stop-shop drive-thru experience. Then, grab takeout from Fish Heads Bar & Grill and find a nice sunny spot on the beach and you're all set—you're in paradise.

8901 S Old Oregon Inlet Rd, Nags Head, NC 27959

(252) 441-5740



*The seafood market at O'Neals Sea Harvest in Wanchese*

O'Neals Sea Harvest (<http://onealsseaharvest.com/>)

At the southernmost end of Roanoke Island is a fishing village called Wanchese. And off the beaten path, you'll find plenty of locals at O'Neal's Sea Harvest. Enjoy lunch at O'Neal's first, before picking up an array of seafood ingredients for dinner at their market. The line can get long and the menu isn't expansive, but don't worry, the fried soft crab BLT won't disappoint.

618 Harbor Rd, Wanchese, NC 27981

(252) 473-4535



KEYLA VASCONCELLOS ([HTTPS://HONESTCOOKING.COM/AUTHOR/KEYLAVASCONCELLOS/](https://honestcooking.com/author/keylavasconcellos/)),  (<https://www.keylav.com/#intro>)

Keyla Vasconcellos is a passionate, freelance writer regarding all things food, lifestyle, and travel. She is usually searching the streets of Los Angeles for the next great bite, or she is shooting food photography for restaurant clients, or daydreaming about her next travel destination.

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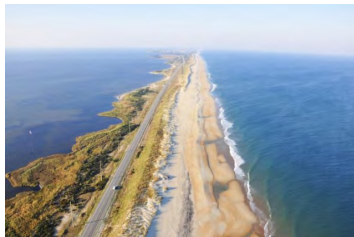
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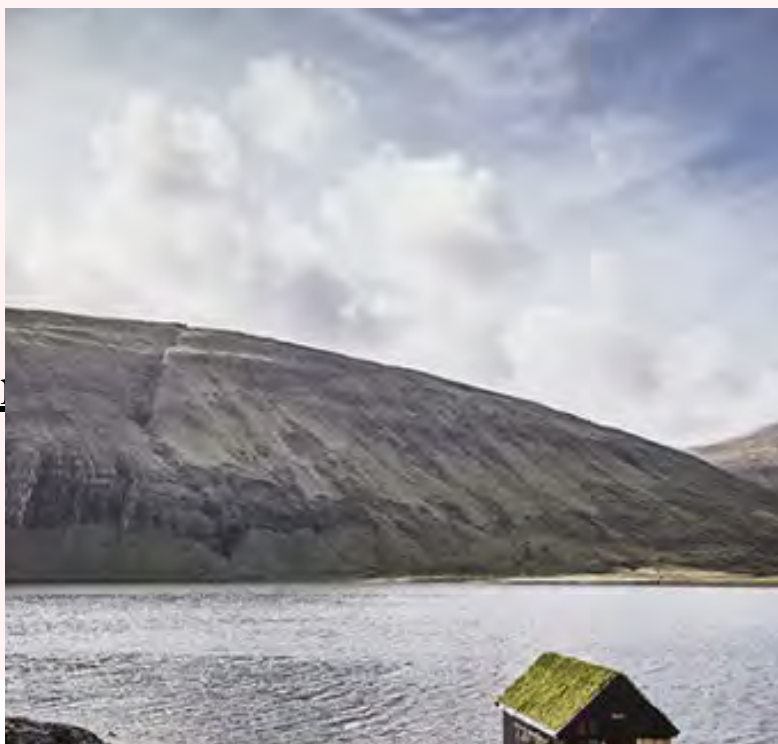
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## Dining Impossible: A New Beginning And Nordic Adventure At The Faroe Islands

(<https://honestcooking.com/dining-impossible-faroe-islands/>)



BY DAVID EGUI (<https://honestcooking.com/author/DAVIDEGUI/>)



**T**he international culinary affair Dining Impossible returns, and this time the stakes are high. A four day grand dinner party at the most remote foodie destination in the world.

Amazing food, the most impressive natural settings and a lesson on real sustainability achieved by tradition and Nordic culture. Helicopters, speedboats and a vintage sail ship. Fresh seafood en masse, a lot of great wines and a cave concert on water. Brutal and traditional dining, a dinner crawl and the most remote fine dining restaurant in the world. This is what Dining Impossible promises for its 29th edition, this time in the distant Faroe Islands on 4-7th of August.

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August 2021

Volume 39/Number 8

[recreationnews.com](http://recreationnews.com)



# A LOOK AT THE MID-ATLANTIC'S FAVORITE WATERFRONT DESTINATIONS

August is here already, And we're scratching our heads and asking, "Where did the summer go?" With a few weeks left to celebrate summer, why not head to one of your favorite Atlantic beaches to wrap up the season? Give these coastal destinations some thought when planning your next beach trip.



Amy Myers

No need to leave your furry friends at home! Bring the whole family along for waterfront fun in Ocean City, Maryland.



Lisa Schoenbrodt-Myers

Enjoy beautiful beachfront sunsets at Cape May in New Jersey.

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## Cape May, New Jersey

Cape May (population 3,463) is considered by many to be America's original seaside resort. Its beautiful beaches are located within a 10-square mile area of the Cape May Peninsula on the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean — actually the southernmost point of New Jersey. The area is also home to quaint towns, iconic 19th-century frame buildings (including the Emlen Physick Mansion), and the 1865 Cape May Lighthouse, which stands 157 feet tall in the Cape May Point State Park. There are farms and wineries to visit, accommodations that range from budget to luxury, and good restaurants, many specializing in fresh seafood. (Look for details about fall restaurant week, which is coming up soon.)

Visitors enjoy whale watching, dolphin tours and dinner/dance cruises aboard the Spirit of Cape May. Beaches range from isolated areas such as Higbee Wildlife Management Area (with no facilities or lifeguards) to the City of Cape May, offering sand, surf, and a plethora of beach services, as well as bars and restaurants. Sunset Beach in Lower Township has easy parking, food at the Sunset Grill, and brilliant sunsets. Another popular beach is The Cove, known for its fantastic views, great surfing, and flag-lowering ceremony at the end of the day. There's also Poverty Beach, which attracted service workers in the old days. Park the car upon arrival and walk or rent a bike. Taxis are available, too. (capemay.com)

## Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

Highly rated Rehoboth Beach (population 1,400) is known for its ocean views and iconic boardwalk which began in 1873. It is lined with restaurants, shops, hotels, and amusements such as Fun Land. The bandstand nearby offers free concerts, movies, and theater performances throughout the summer.

In recent times the town has taken on a new character as the "Summer White House" because President Joe Biden and his family vacation here. With its close proximity to D.C., the beach is a natural draw for the Washington crowd.

Rehoboth Beach has everything people look

for in a beach — good sand and sun, art galleries and museums, miniature golf and small theme parks, attractive places to stay, and a variety of restaurants. In fact, Eating Rehoboth, an event featuring food tours and tastings, has become quite popular over the years.

Visitors also enjoy Sea Otter Tours, focusing on the geography and history of Southern Delaware, and Delmania Discovery Tours centering on beer tastings and tours. History buffs are attracted to the Rehoboth Beach Museum, the Indian River Life Saving Station, and the Rehoboth Railroad Station, which houses the chamber of commerce. Nature lovers gravitate to the Delaware Seashore State Park, Gordons Pond, and Dune Nature Park. The Jolley Trolley at Rehoboth Beach is a good way to get around. (visitdelaware.com)

## Ocean City, Maryland

Ocean City (population 6,972) was recently named one of the top 10 beaches in America by Trip Advisor, and its three-mile boardwalk was voted one of the country's best by the Travel Channel. Visitors enjoy swimming, sunning, surfing, fishing, bicycling, kayaking, and canoeing on 10 miles of coast and playing golf on 17 different courses.

Free movies are shown on a big screen on the beach three times a week, and free music and entertainment, including yard games such as cornhole and spikeball, are the norm. Drone shows are scheduled through Aug. 13. Concerts and fireworks are free, too. Arcades and amusements are plentiful as well. Ocean City is sporting a brand new performing arts center, where Jay Leno will do a show on Oct. 6-7. The Ocean City Center for the Arts hosts exhibits and receptions the first Friday of every month and offers workshops for all ages and events such as the Plein Air Painting Competition and the Sand Castle Home Tour.

Sunfest, the city's most popular festival, is set for Sept. 30-Oct. 3 this year. Ocean City offers a plethora of accommodations, including chain motels, high-end hotels, bed-and-breakfast inns, and campgrounds and a variety of restaurants, including those specializing in fresh seafood (ococean.com).



Flickr

Set up your umbrella and catch a tan on Cape May's beaches.



## Virginia Beach, Virginia

Located at the juncture of the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean in the south-eastern part of the state with a population of 450,201, Virginia Beach offers something for everyone.

It boasts 35 miles of sandy beaches, a 3-mile boardwalk on the oceanfront, family attractions such as the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, a thriving food and craft beer scene, and exciting arts and entertainment venues.

It hosts a series of special events such as Movies in the Plaza every Saturday through Aug. 28, the Atlantic Coast Kite Festival on Aug. 14-15, and the Virginia Beach Funk Fest Beach Party Aug. 24-25. The Summer of Women exhibit at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art runs through Oct. 24.

Virginia Beach offers a variety of accommodations and restaurants, where you can get fresh seafood. A new option for travelers is the Get Outdoors Pass, which gives discounts to attractions, tour operators, rentals and more — available digitally. Ride the ROX, a new luxury bus service between Virginia Beach and Washington was launched recently. (visitvirginiabeach.com)

## Nags Head, North Carolina

Nags Head on the Outer Banks is the home of two national seashores, scenic lighthouses and interesting islands. Visitors stay in quaint bed-and-breakfast inns, classic motels on the beach, condos in gated communities and 10-bedroom beach houses with elevators. Pitching a tent in a designated campground is also an option. Dine on your favorite seafood at highly rated restaurants or have breakfast with the locals. When it comes to activities, there's no limit to choices. Try fishing, kayaking, hang gliding or walking on the beach.

Now in its 84th season and considered the No. 1 attraction on the Outer Banks, "The Lost Colony" on Roanoke Island runs through Aug. 21. (It was dark last year during the pandemic.)

The outdoor drama tells the story of the English settlers who arrived in 1587 but disappeared after a few years. An upcoming special event is The Lost Colony Wine/Beer & Culinary Festival, presented by The Roanoke Island Historical Association on Sept. 25 (thelostcolony.org).

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TRAVEL LINE



## INDIANA

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The Japanese knotweed is a member of the buckwheat family and can grow up to 15 feet tall, threatening native species as it spreads rapidly. In Blairsville, knotweed can be found along Conemaugh River. During the festival, visitors can become familiar with the species with the 5k walk/run along the Blairsville Riverfront Trail.

The much-anticipated Indiana County Fair will be held from Aug. 26 to Sept. 4.

Throughout the week, visitors can enjoy all the classic attractions that a fair has to offer, from roller coasters and carnival games to trac-

tor pulls and demolition derbies.

For those that look forward to picking apples at the end of summer and start of autumn, Indiana County also has the Smicksburg Apple Fest from Sept. 17 to 19.

Purchase locally grown apples or watch demonstrations of apple butter and cider in the making.

Over 20 specialty shops will be selling their most popular and mouthwatering recipes featuring the county's favorite fruit.

These are only a few of the festivals occurring in Indiana County this summer and fall.

For a full list of all the events you can attend, go to [visitindianacountypa.org/things-to-do/fairs-festivals](http://visitindianacountypa.org/things-to-do/fairs-festivals).



Indiana County Tourism

Grab a rod and reel and head to Hemlock Lake in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

## JAZZ

continued from page 26

High-back chairs and free-standing tents and canopies are not allowed. Assorted food and drink will be on sale during the event.

Take some time and enjoy King George County, Virginia, the gateway to Virginia's Northern

Neck, featuring 131 miles of shoreline along the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers. Check it out at [VisitKingGeorge.com](http://VisitKingGeorge.com). Spend the night at the nearby Hampton Inn Dahlgren.

They have special rates of just \$80 per night plus tax. All you need to do is mention "jazz." Call 540-625-2333, or visit [jazzinthecountry.com](http://jazzinthecountry.com).

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Contact person: Donna T 301.645.5424.

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Contact person: Barbara 301.559.0295

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## TRAVEL LINE

continued from page 5

The Elizabethan Gardens in Manteo, located within the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, is welcoming visitors during its 70th year of operation.

Another national historic site in the area is the Wright Brothers National Historic Site at Kitty Hawk, where the first manned flight occurred in 1903. ([nps.org](http://nps.org) and [outerbanks.org](http://outerbanks.org))

## DR. BEACH'S LIST

Here are the beaches listed on the 2021 "10 Best Beaches in America," compiled by Dr. Beach, also known as Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman (a coastal expert and former professor at the University of Maryland) and published annually for the past 30 years in Forbes Magazine.

1. Hapuna Beach, Big Island, Hawaii
2. Coopers Beach, Southampton, New York
3. Ocracoke Lifeguarded Beach, Outer Banks, North Carolina
4. St. George Island State Park, Florida Panhandle
5. Lighthouse Beach, Buxton, Outer Banks, North Carolina
6. Duke Kahanamoku Beach, Oahu, Hawaii
7. Caladesi Island State Park, Florida
8. Coronado Beach, San Diego, California
9. Breakwalker Park, Kiawah Island, South Carolina
10. Coast Guard Beach, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Carol Timblin welcomes travel news at [ctimblin@gmail.com](mailto:ctimblin@gmail.com).

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June 18, 2021

Lee Nettles  
Executive Director  
The Outer Banks Visitors Bureau  
1 Visitors Center Circle  
Manteo, North Carolina 27954

RE: Draft Recommendation for Modified Special Use Permit for Soundside Event Site

Dear Mr. Nettles,

I hope this letter finds your well. As requested by the Dare County Tourism Board ("DCTB"), I am writing you to provide the expected draft recommendation from the Town of Nags Head Planning & Development Department Staff to be made to the Town's Planning Board for the pending application seeking to modify the Conditional Use Permit, now called a Special Use Permit under the Town's recently revised ordinances and the new Ch. 160D of the General Statutes, (referred to herein as "Use Permit") for The Soundside Event Site ("Event Site").

As I believe you are aware, a Use Permit (along with other associated permits and approvals) was originally granted in 2014 to allow the Event Site (properties at 6800, 6900, and 6906 S. Croatan Highway) to be used as a Designated Public Events Site, a use requiring the issuance of a Use Permit. In 2016, the Use Permit was modified (again, in conjunction with other associated permits and approvals), but with the Event Site to continue to be used as a Designated Public Events Site. Since that time, DCTB has acquired properties at 6806 S. Virginia Dare Trail and 6807 S. Croatan Highway (former South Beach Grill property), 6714 and 6716 and S. Croatan Highway (First Flight Adventure Park and former Dairy Queen), and 6708 S. Croatan Highway (former Pamlico Jack's). With the acquisition of these properties and the apparent desire to use these properties in support of the Event Site (for parking, for instance) and for events themselves, I informed you that a further modification of the Use Permit needed to be sought to include these properties under the original Use Permit for the Event Site if you planned for them to be used as Designated Public Events Sites. To obtain such authorization, you subsequently submitted an application which indicated the subject properties would be utilized as follows:

- All of these properties will be used as supporting sites for the Event Site;
- 6806 S. Virginia Dare Trail and 6807 S. Croatan Highway properties will be used for overflow parking;



- 6714 S. Croatan Highway and 6716 S. Croatan Highway properties will be used for overflow parking as well as storage of event site infrastructure. The First Flight Adventure Park use at 6714 S. Croatan Highway would continue to operate subject to the preexisting Use Permit (for that use), with an option to allow parking spaces at 6708 S. Croatan Highway to be used for this use; additionally, shared use of the building at 6716 S. Croatan Highway would continue; and
- 6708 S. Croatan Highway will be used for overflow parking; the building on this property may be used for indoor events such as, but not limited to, receptions, banquets, expos, meetings, etc; and

At your request, consideration of the application has not yet proceeded to review and recommendation by the Planning Board, with you awaiting my response to the DCTB's request.

In consideration of Staff's draft recommendation, I reviewed the Use Permit approved in 2014, and modification approved in 2016. While a number of conditions were imposed in 2014 and 2016, most of these pertained to the physical development of the Event Site, with only one condition (from the 2014 approval) pertaining to the conduct of the Designated Public Events Site use, as follows:

- That shared parking arrangements be negotiated with the Town and with Miller's Restaurant.

Based upon a review of the records, it seems that the imposition of additional conditions on the operation of the Designated Public Events Site use was seen as unnecessary given the requirement that events expected to draw more than 100 participants and spectators are required to apply for and be issued a Crowd Gathering Permit, which would address, among other things, conflicts and possible conflicts with other events and performances, the burden placed by the event on public agencies, the adequacy of security, traffic control and crowd control provisions, the health and safety conditions for those attending the performance or event and the capacity of the area designated for the event to contain the expected number of vehicles, participants and spectators. As such, it is my expectation that Staff's recommendation to the Planning Board would be to approve the modification of the Use Permit to allow the additional properties to be used as a Designated Public Events Site, utilized as noted in the application.

It is important to note that should the Use Permit be granted, under the Town Code it would be a requirement to identify how these properties would be used as part of any event subject to a Crowd Gathering Permit; additionally, based upon the application, the use of the building at 6708 S. Croatan Highway may be subject to Article IV, *Crowd Gathering Activities in Indoor Public Assemblies*, contained in Chapter 4, *Amusements, Entertainments, Mass Gatherings and Commercial-Outdoor Recreational Uses*, in that pursuant to Sec. 4-122. (a) An annual privilege license shall list the activities which will occur in the facility for the one year duration of the license. Such license may be amended during that time period to add or delete activities at no charge to the applicant, (b) the town shall be notified at least 30 days in advance of events expected to draw 500 people or more, (c) all activities, permits and licenses shall be consistent with the regulations of the state board of alcoholic control, and (d) during the duration of any event attended by 500 people or more, security personnel and parking lot attendants shall be provided.

In conclusion, and to reiterate, it is my expectation that Staff's recommendation to the Planning Board would not include further conditions limiting the Designated Public Events Site use of the

properties to be covered by the Use Permit beyond the manner identified in the application, relying on the Crowd Gathering Permit process to address any specific use concerns. This recommendation is made without the benefit of any guidance or input from the Planning Board on your request and is based solely on the information and materials available; as such it is necessarily a draft recommendation.

Given past discussions perhaps it may also be helpful to relay that, barring any conditions imposed to the contrary, the change of use of any of the properties subject to the Use Permit from the Designated Public Events Site use, and/or the sale or lease of any of the properties to a non-public entity, would not be precluded by the Use Permit and the modification of the Use Permit to remove these properties could be addressed through modification as allowed by Section 3.8.8. of the UDO.

I hope that I have sufficiently addressed the request of the Tourism Board. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, or if you would like to proceed with review of your application by the Planning Board, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'MZ', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Zehner, AICP  
Director of Planning and Development

