

Legends, Lights and Lore! (3 nights) An Outer Banks of North Carolina Itinerary

Day One

Depart for the <u>Outer Banks of North Carolina</u>! A 130-mile stretch of barrier islands just off the coast of North Carolina, the Outer Banks is a different kind of place. Beautifully natural, formed by centuries of wind, water and sand blown from the Atlantic Ocean, and home to a rich history, it's a place that inspires a true sense of adventure. From Duck down to Hatteras, each town and island along the banks offers a unique experience not soon forgotten.



Early afternoon arrival on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.



Become your own pilot at the *Wright Brothers National Memorial* located in the heart of Kill Devil Hills. See where on a cold day, December 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright changed the world forever as their powered airplane, the "Wright Flyer", skimmed over the sands of the Outer Banks for 12 seconds before returning to the ground. New Welcome Center with interactive exhibits recently opened in late Fall of 2018.

Then venture over to *Jockey's Ridge State Park* and witness flight as it is still practiced today on the Outer Banks. See the largest living sand dune on the East Coast and enjoy a hang gliding demonstration from the largest hang gliding school in America, Kitty Hawk Kites.

Check into your oceanfront accommodations

Enjoy fresh local seafood for your Group Dinner at one of locally owned restaurants. No experience is complete without sampling the fare. Our island seafood is harvested from local waters daily by the same families who harvested fresh fish, shrimp and scallops for generations. Along with our world class seafood, you can find lots of group friendly restaurants that serve the full range of flavors and cuisines you'd expect from a premier island destination.



Outer Banks of North Carolina Sample itinerary – 4 day/3 nights Feb 2016

Day Two

Enjoy Breakfast at your hotel.

Meet your Step on Guide in the Hotel Lobby.

Today's journey will be a long day as you travel through the *Cape Hatteras National Seashore*. Highlights will be the *Bodie Island Lighthouse, Chicamacomico Life Saving Station, Pea Island Wildlife Refuge, Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, and much more!*



Our first stop is the **Bodie Island Lighthouse**. Open for public climbing for the first time, check out the newest view a top the most picturesque lighthouse in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Completed in 1872 on the north side of Oregon Inlet near the northern border of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, the familiar black and white horizontal striped structure was partly built of materials leftover from the construction of the newest Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Standing 150 feet high and equipped with a first-order Fresnel lens, it flashes its 160,000

candlepower beacon 19 miles over the ocean. **Bodie Island Lighthouse**, 8210 Bodie Island Lighthouse Road Nags Head, 27959, 252.441.5711; **Activit**y: Climbing to the top of the lighthouse

As the tour continues, located on the northernmost section of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, is the *Pea Island National Wildlife refuge*. The beach along this undeveloped stretch of land is popular with anglers, surfers, sunbathers and shell seekers. On the right side of the road, heading south, salt marshes surround Pamlico Sound, and birds flutter from grove of cattails. With 5,915 acres that attract nearly 400 observed species of birds, Pea Island is an outdoor aviary.





Stop by the *Chicamacomico Life Saving Station,* A predecessor to the US Coast Guard, Chicamacomico is one of the most complete US Lifesaving Station sites in the nation, see historic buildings and a boathouse that housed the service that was the predecessor to the United States Coast Guard. Hear the history of daring ocean rescues by brave men who dedicated their lives to the sea. **Chicamacomico Life Saving Station**, 23645 NC HWY 12, Rodanthe, 27968 252-987-1552; **Activity:** Interpretive talks such as America's Forgotten Heroes, the men of the lifesaving station.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, see the tallest brick beacon on the American coast with its black and white stripes; it stands at 208 feet high. Learn the marvelous history, which includes its half-mile move in 2000 away from the ocean. Admissions to the grounds are complementary, minimal fee to climb to the top.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, 46368 Lighthouse Rd Buxton, 27920, 252.995.4474





Next stop is the *Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum* in Hatteras Village. A unique museum dedicated to preserving and interpreting the rich maritime history of the Outer Banks and the more than 2,000 known shipwrecks that rest of our coast. See cannons from Blackbeard's Queen Anne Revenge, an Enigma machine from the U-85, ship models and many other artifacts. **Graveyard of the Atlantic**, 59200 Museum Drive, Hatteras, 27943; 252-986-2995; Minimal fee for a behind the scenes tour of artifacts not seen by the public.

Wine Tasting at Lee Robinson's General Store, Hatteras Village. The Lee Robinson General Store is a Hatteras staple with many fine wines, over 100 micro and domestic beers, fudge, wonderful goodies, homemade jams and jellies, great books and Hatteras wear! 252-986-2381

Catch a beautiful sunset while having dinner at one of our waterfront restaurants.

Return to the hotel after dinner.

Day Three

Enjoy Breakfast at your hotel.



Meet your Step on Guide at the Hotel prior to departing for your first stop.



Your journey begins by strolling through the majestic *Elizabethan Gardens*, a unique garden, that appeals to horticulturists with myriad varieties of plants, nature lovers with wildflowers and indigenous shrubs and trees, history buffs with its historical setting at the site of the first English Colony in the New World and culture seekers with period furniture, English portraits, and ancient garden statuary.

Our next stop will take us to the **North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island;** learn about the "waters of The Outer Banks" and its many coastal environments on these barrier islands. See the aquarium's 285,000gallon Graveyard of the Atlantic tank containing a one-third scale replica of the USS Monitor. Make sure to check out the new exhibit called "Operation Sea Turtle Rescue."





Before lunch, stop by the *Island Farm*, a living history site interpreting daily life on Roanoke Island in the mid-1800s. Visitors can explore nearly a dozen buildings, such as the farmhouse, a reconstructed slave cabin, outhouse, cookhouse, smokehouse, dairy, barns, chicken coop, corn crib, woodshed, and blacksmith shop.

Lunch and shopping on the waterfront in Downtown Historic Manteo; full of one of kind boutique, art galleries, shops and cafés.



After lunch and shopping have the group meet at **Roanoke Island Marshes Light** and the **North Carolina Maritime Museum-George Washington Creef (working) Boat shop:** The replica of the 1850s screwpile light that once stood guard over nearby Croatan Sound, will offer visitors a unique glimpse into the maritime history of the island, as well as the lightkeepers who once lived at the station. The working boat shop gives the visitor a glance of the Ella View, an authentic shad fishing boat made from native Outer Banks trees; this fishing boat is an example of the historical boat developed over a century ago at Roanoke Island.

Your next stop will take you to **Roanoke Island Festival Park**, also located Downtown Historic Manteo. Here you can embark on the Elizabeth II, a 69-foot sailing vessel that is a representative of those sailed to the New World in 1585. Also the park highlights the early European exploration and colonization, of which the English voyages to Roanoke Island were a part. The theme of Festival Park is the western explorations of America, marked by settlement attempts, colorful characters, get rich schemes, new knowledge, and often difficult relationships with the Native American people.

If time permits buy direct from over 25 brand name manufacturer and designer outlet stores at the *Outlets Nags Head*.

Enjoy fresh local seafood for your Group Dinner at one of locally owned restaurants.



Day Four

Enjoy Breakfast at your hotel before checking out.

Meet your Step on Guide at the Hotel prior to departing for your first stop

Before leaving the Outer Banks for your homeport, our last journey takes you north up to the village of Corolla.

The first stop is the *Currituck Beach Lighthouse* at Currituck Heritage Park. Visit the only lighthouse in North Carolina that is still housed in its original structure. Built in 1874 this lighthouse stands 158 feet tall. Climb to the top to see just how narrow these barrier islands truly are!



Next walk over to The Whalehead Club at Currituck Heritage Park, a 1925

restored historic house museum built as private residence by wealthy Philadelphia industrialist Edward Collings-Knight, Jr. Mr. Knight built this art nouveau styled home for he and his wife who were avid water fowl hunters.



Lunch and shopping on own in downtown Duck, NC. You may wonder why how the Town of Duck received its name; stop by town hall to see how this sportsman's paradise has become a family vacation hot spot.

Early afternoon departure, we hope that you will take back great memories of the Outer Banks and come back soon!

Outer Banks of North Carolina Sample itinerary – 4 day/3 nights