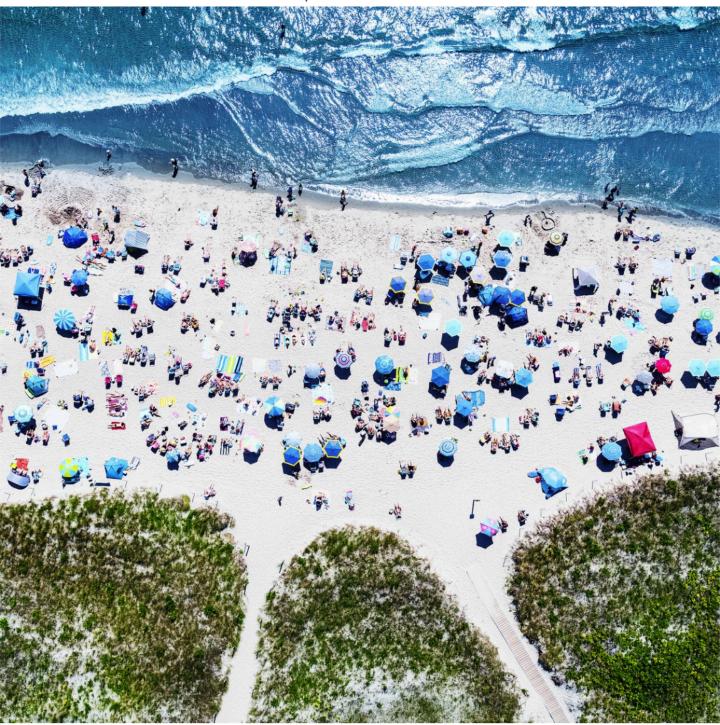Michael Prince  //  Getty Images

# The 16 Best East Coast Beaches in the U.S.

Set your sights on these beautiful stretches of shoreline from Maine to Florida. With summer finally on the horizon (especially after the dark, cold months of January and February) all eyes are on sun-splashed getaways. What better place to spend a few days than sprawling out on a beautiful East Coast beach? Sure, you could jet off to European hotspots like Capri and Saint-Tropez or tropical islands such as Fiji, but why hop on a long-haul flight when some of the most postcard-perfect stretches of shoreline exist up and down the eastern seaboard?

With nearly 30,000 miles of coastline, there's plenty of soft sand, blue water, and seaside fun to choose from—whether you prefer the waterfront amusements of the Jersey Shore, mixing it up with well-heeled vacationers in the Hamptons, or the serenity of Assateague Island. Here, the best East Coast beaches in the U.S.

# Mansion Beach: Block Island, Rhode Island

Mansion Beach, accessible via a dirt road in Block Island, provides visitors with the perfect mix of relaxation and excitement for the whole family," says Caroline Quinn, travel

expert at <u>Black Tomato</u>. When soaking up the sun, bodyboarding in the waves, and combing for shells along the uncrowded shoreline, the peaceful ambiance is such a delightful contrast to other East Coast tourist darlings that draw huge summer crowds.

## Goosewing Beach: Little Compton, Rhode Island

On the South Shore of Rhode Island lies Goosewing Beach, a haven of soft sand that offers a sanctuary for relaxation, renewal, and outdoor recreation.

"It's located within a stunning nature reserve that's one of the state's most popular outdoor destinations for visitors looking for adventure, hiking trails, and beautiful wildlife," explains Quinn. Pro tip: It's located less than 15 minutes away from the beautiful Sakonnet Lighthouse, so plan to make a trip to both spots while you're in the area.