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South Padre Island's Beach at Isla Blanca Park Named One of USA TODAY's 10 Best Beaches

Beach has been ranked one of Texas' best beaches three years in a row

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas, June 3, 2026 – South Padre Island's Beach at Isla Blanca Park has been recognized as one of the nation's premier coastal destinations, earning a place on [USA TODAY's 2026 10Best Beaches](#) list for the third straight year. The prestigious recognition highlights the beach among the top seaside destinations in the country as selected through USA TODAY's 10Best Readers' Choice Awards program. The full list of winners can be found on [USA TODAY's 10Best website](#).

The annual awards begin with nominations from a panel of travel experts and editors and then readers across the country cast their votes to determine the winners. The recognition places South Padre Island alongside some of the most celebrated beach destinations in the United States and further solidifies its reputation as Texas' premier beach getaway. Editors noted Isla Blanca Park's white sand beaches, turquoise waters and vibrant beach culture with a wealth of outdoor activities for beachgoers of all ages.

"This national recognition from USA TODAY is a tremendous honor and a reflection of the incredible experiences visitors enjoy on South Padre Island," said Kelly deSchaun, Chief Executive Officer for Visit South Padre Island. "From our beautiful beaches and warm Gulf waters to our outdoor adventures, wildlife encounters, and welcoming hospitality, South Padre Island offers something for every traveler. We are proud to see Isla Blanca Park recognized again among the very best beaches in the country."

Located on the southern end of South Padre Island, Isla Blanca Park is one of the Island's most popular attractions. The park features miles of scenic shoreline, beach access, fishing opportunities, picnic areas, camping facilities, water recreation, and spectacular views of both the Gulf and nearby Starbase launches. The park has also earned repeated recognition as the top beach in Texas through USA TODAY's Readers' Choice Awards.

Called the Caribbean of Texas, South Padre Island is Texas' only tropical island paradise. With 34 miles of pristine shoreline surrounded by the Gulf of Mexico and Laguna Madre Bay, the Island offers a unique blend of natural beauty, outdoor recreation, family-friendly attractions, and coastal culture that continues to attract visitors from across the United States.

About South Padre Island: With miles of pristine shoreline and clear emerald water, South Padre Island is Texas' only tropical island paradise. Calm weather and more than 300 days of sunshine make South Padre Island a year-round destination offering a variety of nature tourism attractions, water sports, and activities for the entire family. For more information, visit www.visitsouthpadreisland.com.

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