

VIRGINIA BEACH: A YEAR'S WORTH OF TRAVEL INSPIRATION FOR 2022



Virginia Beach, Va. – January 20, 2022 – A shiny, new year is full of hope and promise for new beginnings. Start fresh with a new calendar already filled with inspiration, and consider a host of reasons in each coming month to add Virginia Beach to your travel planner in 2022:

JANUARY

Always popular topics in the new year, wellness and spiritual growth are easily explored at Edgar Cayce's [Association for Research and Enlightenment](#), home to the sleeping prophet's 14,000+ readings and one of the world's largest metaphysical libraries.

While unexpected, winter is really all about the water in Virginia Beach. Striped bass and rockfish coastal fishing seasons are open through March 31st, and migrating shorebirds and whales make the warm waters their playground. Climb aboard a charter fishing boat or a humpback and fin whale-watching boat trip for an unforgettable ocean experience, or explore all the themed activities and events at the annual [Winter Wildlife Festival](#) (Jan. 28 – 30).

FEBRUARY

Keep fitness resolutions on track with a climb to the top of [Mount Trashmore](#), the 60'-tall centerpiece of an abandoned 640,000-ton landfill transformed into a City park in 1974. One of the first of its kind in the nation, the complex includes a pair of lakes, multi-use path, playground and a skate park on a 165-acre site in the heart of the city.

Get cozy for Valentine's Day with a luxury picnic experience inside an igloo! [Back Bay's Farmhouse Brewing](#) has partnered with [The VB Picnic Co.](#) to offer three private igloos on property that feature a holiday tablescape, delectable charcuterie board with sparkling waters, Bluetooth speaker, comfortable floor seating with extra pillows and blankets, and access to the brewery's seasonal beer, wine and cider

offerings. Or sip and savor an expansive selection of Virginia wines at the annual [Coastal Virginia Magazine WineFest](#) (Feb. 5 – 6) inside the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

Having hosted 10 U.S. Presidents in its 95-year history, the [Historic Cavalier on the Hill](#) is a grand destination to enjoy the Presidents Day holiday.

Or, honor Black History Month with a self-guided tour of the city's [African-American cultural sites](#) including churches and schools.

MARCH

You don't have to be Irish to go for the gold at the [50th anniversary running of the Yuengling Shamrock Marathon](#) (Mar. 18 – 20). The golden anniversary weekend offers multiple race distances for all ages and abilities. From the starting line to the final mile, the race weekend offers plenty of opportunities to explore the resort city before the traditional beach season gets underway.

APRIL

Beginning April 21, the *Maya Lin: Ways of Water* exhibit is on display at the [Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art](#) through September 4. Highlighted by some never-before-exhibited sculptures and prints, the installation focuses on an environmental concern specific to the region and asks visitors to reconsider their relationship with nature at a critical time. A wide array of public programs complement the solo exhibit.

The art of flavor is on display at the [East Coast She-Crab Soup Classic](#) (Apr. 30 – May 1) as restaurants compete for the coveted Critic's and People's Choice awards in an outdoor tasting event on the oceanfront.

Commemorate the first landing of English settlers (April 26, 1607) with a climb to the top of the original [Cape Henry Lighthouse](#), commissioned by President George Washington in 1792. Sweeping panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean deliver breathtaking memories better than any postcard.

MAY

Larger-than-life entertainment headlines the Virginia Beach shoreline in May. The [Atlantic Coast Kite Festival](#) (Apr. 30 – May 1) beckons with colorful oversized kites overhead, and Monsters on the Beach (May 13- 15) showcases off-road trucks competing on a beach obstacle course. The [Steel Pier Classic & Surf Art Expo](#) showcases the power of the ocean on the shore via sport and art (May 27 – 29).

Want to do more than just watch? Vacation goals reach new heights at [Virginia Beach Adventure Park](#) where 27 tree-top ziplines challenge all skill levels.

The beach takes on a Caribbean vibe during the [Virginia International PANFest](#) (May 6 – 7) and then tosses the mic back to the '60s for [Beach Music Weekend](#) (May 20 – 22) on an oceanfront stage with shagging in the sand.

JUNE

The resort area is a hub of free entertainment in the summer highlighted by the colorful [Chalk the Walk](#) (June 18) public art event on the Boardwalk. All summer long, the [Oceanfront Concert Series](#) (Wednesdays, June 8 – Aug. 17) featuring national recording artists, the [Beach Blanket Outdoor Movie](#)

[Series](#) (Thursdays, June 23 – Aug. 25) and ongoing [Live! on Atlantic](#) pop-up entertainment each contribute to a summer of family fun.

Spice things up by celebrating Latin music, food and crafters during [La Fiesta Virginia Beach](#) (June 24 – 25) or watch surfers ride the waves at the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier during the [Shoot the Pier Surf Contest](#) (June 25).

Check out a [dolphin-watching tour](#) by boat, kayak or stand-up paddleboard. The graceful mammals frolic freely in Virginia Beach waters, easily visible from the shoreline.

JULY

Summertime is [camp time](#) -- from traditional resident or day camps to individual immersive experiences, Virginia Beach is the best place under the sun to entertain, educate and inspire. Learn to surf in the birthplace of East Coast surfing, paint or draw with local artisans, reel in fresh catch, harvest oysters, and more. Round out the summer camp theme with a relaxing [beachfront home or condo rental](#) in the Sandbridge area, and witness a spectacular fireworks display over the resort area at the [Stars & Stripes Celebration](#) on Independence Day.

AUGUST

The arts scene thrives all year long in the [ViBe Creative District](#), home to more than 100 murals and creative installations showcased among eclectic working artisans and crafters. But the walls come alive during the district's annual [MuralFest](#) when artists live-paint 10 new outdoor scenes on local buildings.

Get your groove on during live beachfront shows and dance contests during the annual [Funk Fest](#) (Aug. 26 – 27).

Celebrating its diamond anniversary (Aug. 21 – 28), the [East Coast Surfing Championship's](#) eight-day, international surf contest is the world's longest-running surf competition. Held from 1st to 9th Streets, it welcomes several hundred surfers each year competing for titles, prizes, history and the love of surfing. The celebration also includes volleyball, a Boardwalk 5K, street skate and ramp contests, swimsuit contests, and live music on the beach.

SEPTEMBER

The [Labor Day Oceanfront Concert Series](#) (Sept. 2 – 4) brings national recording artists to the shoreline performing free concerts on stages in 17th, 24th and 31st Street parks.

The Virginia Beach Neptune Festival [Boardwalk Weekend](#) (Sept. 30 – Oct. 2) celebrates the city's mythical champion through pageantry and jubilation. With dozens of events spanning 30 blocks over the weekend, it is the commonwealth's largest annual special event and includes a grand parade, live music, fine art and craft show, athletic competitions, sailing regatta and more. The weekend's signature event is the [International Sand Sculpting Championship](#) which hosts craftsmen from around the globe who create original sand masterpieces that are displayed in the Neptune's Kingdom Land of Sand.

OCTOBER

One of the only outdoor art shows produced by an accredited museum, the annual [Virginia MOCA Boardwalk Art Show](#) (Oct. 21 – 23) is ranked as a top 15 Fine Art Show of the Decade by *Sunshine*

Artist Magazine. The three-day festival welcomes hundreds of juried artists from around the country and features fine art across several mediums.

The [Virginia Military Aviation Museum](#) is home to one of the largest private collections of World War I and II-era military aircraft in the world. Open year-round for tours, its annual Warbirds over the Beach (Oct. 2 - 3) airshow event brings vintage airplanes to life as they canvas the sky and transport visitors to another era.

Raise a glass to Virginia Wine Month at one of the resort city's [wineries](#). From tasting flights to wine seminars to food pairings, sip and savor the state's best varietals in a beachside setting. The new [Craft Beer, BBQ and Bluegrass Festival](#) (Oct. 29) combines tangy flavors with twangy music to set the mood for fall.

NOVEMBER

Fall foliage brings rainbows to Virginia Beach's [First Landing State Park](#). The commonwealth's most-visited state park puts on a special show when cypress trees drop their leaves in the swamp waters and transform the inky black waters into a reflecting pool of colorful prismatic stripes.

The Lynnhaven River oyster is a native Virginia Beach delicacy renowned for its size and salty flavor and heralded during Virginia Oyster Month. Nurtured back from the brink of extinction, it's featured (in-season) on many of the city's top restaurants' menus. Harvest and slurp your own with a [Pleasure House Oysters](#) farm boat tour that balances entertainment and education on a waterfront tableau.

Get a jump on your holiday gifting with a visit to the annual [Virginia Beach Christmas Market](#) (Nov. 25 – 27). Santa joins nearly 200 artisans and crafters from more than 20 states who display and sell their handcrafted wares in the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

DECEMBER

Santa Claus is coming to town, and Virginia Beach offers some special holiday visit opportunities! Spot him lit up as one of the festive displays in the [Holiday Lights at the Beach Merry Mile](#), a drive-through light display stretching 14 blocks of the Boardwalk (Nov. 18 – Jan. 1) which also serves as the finishing stretch of the [Surf-n-Santa 5-Miler](#) (Dec. 17). He anchors the annual [Holiday Parade at the Beach](#) (Dec. 3) along Atlantic Avenue before scuba diving in the [Virginia Aquarium's](#) Red Sea Tunnel with spotted eagle rays and zebra sharks every weekend leading up to Christmas. Santa Slumber Party hotel packages available at [The Founders Inn](#) (Dec. 9, 10, 16 & 17) include a personalized letter from the jolly elf himself and a milk and cookie turndown service.

About Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach, one of Virginia's most populous cities, resides where the Chesapeake Bay meets the Atlantic Ocean. The city is home to 35 miles of sandy beaches, a flourishing culinary and craft beer scene, rich history, a variety of arts and entertainment and family-friendly attractions that keep visitors entertained year-round. For more Virginia Beach information, including new attractions and experiences, or to plan your next trip, visit www.visitvirginiabeach.com.

Media Contacts:

Erin Goldmeier
Virginia Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau

egoldmeier@visitvirginiabeach.com

757-266-0085