



WHAT'S NEW IN VIRGINIA BEACH

More Reasons to Plan a Virginia Beach Visit in 2021

Virginia Beach, Va. – June 3, 2021 – Do you really need an excuse to get away this year? Virginia Beach's friendly shores and family-fun amenities alone are enough to attract visitors to its sunny locale, but new experiences including dining, entertainment, events and attractions offer a bevy of additional reasons to choose the destination in 2021:

NEW SERVICES

New airline designates seven non-stop routes into Norfolk

Non-stop flights into Norfolk International Airport from new [Breeze Airways](#) will get you to the beach even faster this summer! Flights start from only \$39 one way with travel between Virginia Beach and Charleston (SC), Tampa, New Orleans, Columbus (OH), Hartford (CT), Pittsburgh and Providence (RI) taking off in phases beginning June 10th. Book your vacation now with schedules available into mid-February 2022.

Luxury bus service launches between Virginia Beach and Washington D.C.

[Ride the ROX](#) to upgrade the family road trip with reimagined motorcoach service from the nation's capital. Reclining leather seats with leg rests and tray tables make for a comfy ride for each coach's 22 passengers. Robust WiFi and entertainment options paired with complimentary fresh meals and snacks served by on-board attendants keep everyone happy for the duration of the ride.

Special occasions call for a private beach picnic

Life was no picnic in 2020, but the [The Picnic Co.](#) now curates beach picnics with extraordinary tablescapes, botanicals and cozy seating to make your private outing a memorable event. Match any occasion with a seasonal charcuterie board and flavored sparkling water menus, and consider additional options including cornhole boards and fresh florals. Choose a romantic layout, beachfront boho style or luxury pop-up table theme to set the mood for an unforgettable seaside picnic.

NEW EXPERIENCES

Choose Your Own (Outdoor) Adventure in Virginia Beach

Just in time for summer, Virginia Beach has introduced the [Get Outdoors Pass](#). The new digital mobile pass offers discounts to attractions, tour operators, rentals and more from the destination that is home to 120 miles of waterways, 200 miles of hiking and biking pathways and 4,000+ acres of national refuges, city and state parks. From parasailing to ziplining, dolphin tours, mini-golf to electric car rentals, farm visits to surfing lessons in the birthplace of East Coast surfing, there is a whole wide world of outdoor spaces to explore in Virginia Beach – get out there!

Ellen Reid's SOUNDWALK

Explore Pleasure House Point Natural Area's trails with the added enhancement of [SOUNDWALK](#), a new work of public art guided by the listener as they venture through the

park's landscape. The GPS-enabled cinematic score was created by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and sound artist Ellen Reid. The experience is triggered by musical cells crafted to harmonize with the park's landscape and attractions as visitors explore the natural environment, making every trek a unique experience tailored specifically to the surroundings.

MAR Surf Exchange

Hand-shape your very own board with one-on-one guidance from an experienced instructor. Using the [Mar Surf Exchange's](#) professional shaping bay and tools, you can craft your own custom surf or SUP board to suit your personal style in the East Coast's only DIY board factory.

Treat your pup at Salty Paws Ice Cream Parlor & Bakery

Featuring fido-friendly flavors like maple-bacon and liver crunch, the commonwealth's first doggie ice cream parlor opened recently in Virginia Beach. Tails and tongues wag for the sugar- and lactose-free concoctions served sundae-bar style with a selection of meat and veggie toppings. Let your pooch taste test to choose a favorite flavor, and pick up some packaged ice cream for yourself and the kids at [Salty Paws Virginia Beach](#).

Summer of Women exhibit opens at Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art

Highlighting the original work of women-identifying artists from the local area, region and the nation, the [Virginia MOCA](#) opens a new suite of exhibits on July 17. From works featuring engaging text, photography and multimedia, each participating artist has found, defined and amplified specific experiences and attitudes related to the experience of being a woman. All exhibits, including a juried teen exhibition, are free and on display through Oct. 24, 2021.

NEW DINING OPTIONS

Session

A new fast-casual counter serving breakfast and lunch opened Memorial Day weekend on the city's Chesapeake Bay side. With a name inspired by the owner's love of music, the restaurant features an artsy vibe with plenty of eclectic music to complement a menu featuring specialty smoothies.

Elevenses

Coming this summer is a fresh, open-air spot to enjoy a second breakfast while feeding the mind, body and soul. Savor new takes on old-school brunch dishes plus farro bowls and breakfast burritos served alongside healthful shots and fresh-juiced beverages. Take a seat to enjoy the venue's live indoor plant trellises and state-of-the-art sound system.

Redwood Smoke Shack

Borne of a food truck that earned regional honors for "best dry rub ribs," the Redwood Smoke Shack is now permanently housed in Virginia Beach's southern end. Its inventive menu of Texas-inspired barbeque selections is handcrafted to be enjoyed at the joint's patio and outdoor seating.

NEW/UPDATED EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Shoot the Pier Surfing Contest

The inaugural Coastal Edge Shoot the Pier surf contest will be the first event of its kind in more than 30 years and directed by champion surfer and Virginia Beach native Wes Laine. The 15th

Street Virginia Beach Fishing Pier produces some of the most consistent waves and also will serve as a grandstand for complimentary spectator viewing. Food, beverages and local ocean-inspired art also will be available for sale during the one-day event on June 5, 2021.

Operation Splashdown

New this year, the resort's Ocean Breeze Waterpark unveils a six-story family raft ride in a special salute to our nation's military. The megatube, serpentine raft launches from atop a 60-foot platform with spectacular views of the entire waterpark.

Virginia MOCA's 65th Annual Boardwalk Art Show

Consistently rated as one of *Sunshine Artist* magazine's Top 100 Art Shows, the Virginia Beach Boardwalk Art Show moves to a new fall date this year: October 22 – 24, 2021. The beloved outdoor festival is host to nearly 300 artisans showcasing their original work in a wide variety of mediums. This year, the juried show and sale expands its reach beyond the city's famous Boardwalk venue to incorporate activities and public artwork along Atlantic Avenue and throughout the resort's ViBe Creative District.

What's Happening on Virginia Beach Oceanfront

Nightly street performers charm and entertain outdoor audiences soaking up the oceanfront vibe all summer long. Dazzling dancers, mobile magicians, jolly jugglers and staged concerts keep visitors entertained for free from 7 – 11 pm in the heart of the resort area.

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.