



**STAY ORIGINAL**

**Media Contact:**

Leah Markham  
919.277.1176

lmarkham@fwv-us.com

**Carolina Beach** offers visitors more than your average beach vacation. Experience the Carolina Beach Boardwalk (ranked one of the most awesome boardwalks in the country by *Budget Travel*), Carolina Beach State Park, one-of-a-kind events, fresh-to-table dining, world-class fishing, miles of beautiful beach, and all kinds of people united by their love of good times. The area is known for having great weather and fairly mild temperatures year-round. Carolina Beach is located within an easy 30-minute drive from Wilmington, which was voted as one of "The South's Best Cities" by readers of *Southern Living* magazine and is home to more than 200 restaurants, shops and attractions in the downtown area alone.

**WHAT'S NEW AT CAROLINA BEACH**

**Island Art**

Carolina Beach is blooming with art reflecting its free-spirited vibe and rich history. As part of the Carolina Beach Mural Project, eight murals have been painted on different walls and buildings. Each mural was designed and painted by a different artist with his or her own story and artistic style. No two murals are the same, so you'll want to see them all. A ninth mural is slated to be completed soon on the exterior of the building that once housed the town's Bingo Hall and a roller-skating rink.

**New Beach Bites**

Carolina Beach's newest family-friendly restaurant, Butts-n-Such, is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The home-cooked barbecue joint is sure to hit the spot, or you can try out other options including seafood, burgers and hot dogs. Order at the walk-up window and enjoy your meal at the outdoor picnic tables, or grab a family-style meal to take back to your vacation rental. Head to the recently opened Peach Cobbler Factory in the heart of Carolina Beach to sample 12 flavors of cobbler, three types of cinnamon rolls, five flavors of banana pudding, peachy tea and cold brew coffee.

**On the Water**

Salty Ventures was recently opened by Carolina Beach residents Tom and Lisa Dosier, who have both spent a lifetime on the water and have a passion for sharing the boating lifestyle with others. Soak in a full day on the water, a half-day getaway, a two-hour private or sunset cruise or any number of other options. Join Island Cruises on its Caribbean-style double-decker catamaran, now docked at the Carolina Beach Marina. Operated seasonally, "Joy Boy II" is available for family-friendly narrated sunset cruises as well as festive moonlit cruises later in the night complete with dance music. Island Cruises also offers private charters for up to 106 guests.

**Historic Tours and Activities**

For a unique way to experience the history of the island, give Tasting History Tours a try. If you've already experienced the Signature Tour, consider making Drinks with a Shot of History your next adventure. Participants ages 21 and up will sample a variety of adult beverages from different spots around the island, including beer, wine and distilled spirits, all while enjoying a shot of history. At Federal Point History Center, discover the island's rich history during the prehistoric, colonial, Civil War and WWII eras. Returning in 2022, the Historic Carolina Beach Boardwalk Tour will be available every Tuesday at 10 a.m. from June 14 through Sept. 6.

**SAMPLE STORYLINES**

**Kid-Friendly**

Carolina Beach is the perfect destination for a family vacation. Plenty of things to see and do means both the kids and adults will be kept entertained. Thanks to kid-friendly finds like an award-winning boardwalk, surfing and stand-up paddleboard lessons, free outdoor movies and fireworks, families keep coming back year after year. Even hard-to-impress tweens and teens will request a repeat visit.



### One-of-a-Kind Events

Annual events and festivals at Carolina Beach include the Carolina Beach Music Festival (June); Boardwalk Film and Fireworks Series (June through August); and Island of Lights Festival (Thanksgiving through New Year's Day).

### Music Lovers

Music lovers flock to Carolina Beach to enjoy the sounds of local bands, traveling musicians and popular music festivals. Signature events include the Carolina Beach Music Festival – one of the country's longest running music festivals and the biggest and only music festival held on the beach along the North Carolina coast.

### Outdoor and Eco-Adventures

Try your hand at kayaking or standup paddleboarding, fishing in the surf or catching waves atop a surfboard. Olympic gold medalist Tony Silvagni offers rentals and lessons for all your watersport adventures. Explore natural wonders at Carolina Beach State Park, home to 13 different habitats amongst its 761 acres. While hiking along the trails there, you'll find carnivorous plants like Venus flytraps, which are rarely found growing natively in the United States. Visitors also flock to the area in the late summer and early fall as the Loggerhead sea turtle nests scattered along the shoreline begin to hatch.

### Pet-Friendly

With several pet-friendly inns and vacation rentals, it's easy to bring your four-legged friend with you during your next trip to Carolina Beach. Beginning April 1, leashed dogs are allowed on the beach daily before 9:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m., even during peak season. During the off-season (Oct. 1 through March 31), dogs are allowed off-leash at Freeman Park. Take man's best friend to Carolina Beach State Park, a dog-friendly secluded camping area with miles of hiking trails perfect for off-road adventures with your pooch. Another great place to unwind with your pup is Good Hops Brewing, a dog-friendly, family-owned and operated small-batch brewery.

### Vintage Experiences for New Generations

The past and present collide happily at Carolina Beach. From the Carolina Beach Boardwalk to the Carolina Beach Music Festival to beach motels, several present-day attractions offer visitors a nod to the past. This coastal community is ideal for groups like multi-generational travelers – there's plenty to please everyone from grandma and grandpa to the grandkids, and everyone in between.

### Nightlife

Experience nightlife at Carolina Beach by visiting local favorites such as the Fat Pelican, voted as one of "The 32 Diviest Dive Bars in America" by [impulcity.com](#), thanks to its legendary walk-in cooler and a bar made out of a boat. You can also groove to the tunes from local and regional bands at The Ocean Grill & Tiki Bar – named one of "America's Best Beach Bars" by [Thrillist.com](#) – and Seawitch Café & Tiki Bar, which feature a regular lineup of live entertainment starting in the spring each year.

### Millennial Getaways

Millennial travelers seeking authentic experiences will want to plan a getaway to Carolina Beach. Enjoy delicious cuisine served at trendy, non-chain restaurants like Nollie's Taco Joint and craft beer from local brewery Good Hops. Get an adventure fix on the water with activities ranging from fishing, kayaking, standup paddleboarding or surfing. Groove to live music while making new friends at one of Carolina Beach's live music venues like The Fat Pelican, voted the No. 1 dive bar in the state; or the Ocean Grill & Tiki Bar, named one of "America's Best Beach Bars" by [Thrillist.com](#).

### Travel with your Crew

When it comes to group getaways, variety is the name of the game. From watersports and a state park, to live music and landmark attractions, to special events, trendy culture and fantastic shopping in nearby Wilmington, even the most difficult-to-please traveler will be hard pressed to not find something that tickles their fancy in Carolina Beach. Whether your crew is made up of extended family or close friends, Carolina Beach offers a variety of rental homes that are well suited for large groups.

### Take a Road Trip

Carolina Beach provides a wide array of enjoyable activities for families, couples and friends, perfect for a stress-free weekend road trip or short escape. The area is easily accessible for travelers from in-state or nearby states, making it the ideal destination for road trippers. Enjoy a long weekend filled with outdoor adventures and scenic beauty in our beach town brimming with vibrant local culture. Opt for a seaside stay in a full-service hotel or vacation rental. Spend time in nature at state and municipal parks and eco-trails. Find fresh flavors in our burgeoning foodie scene and sip on unique libations while taking in water views. Soak in laid-back beach vibes while exploring Carolina Beach on your next weekend getaway.

### Fit for a Foodie

Dining at Carolina Beach takes you beyond your typical beach fare. Food Network-worthy Carolina Smokehouse and Fork-n-Cork serve noteworthy BBQ, burgers and other American bites. Soul Flavor Kitchen & Bar brings to life the flavors of the South. Salt Fish Restaurant and Tiki Bar serves up meals with Caribbean and Polynesian influences all made using fresh, local ingredients. Nollie's Taco Joint touts its reputation for the "Best Tacos and Burritos at the Beach," serving up fresh Mexican flavors inspired by the restaurant's laid-back skater vibe. Sample island cuisine and cocktails by booking a seasonal Tasting History Tour.

