

10 Best Winter Fishing Destinations for 2026

Morehead City, North Carolina

Just up the shoreline on North Carolina's "Crystal Coast," [Morehead City](#) boasts a strong fishing heritage and easy access to protected creeks, sounds, bays, and open waters. With deep-seated ties to sportfishing culture, it's a standout for anglers year-round and an excellent choice for a winter fishing getaway.



Winter brings a unique rhythm to the local fishing scene. Offshore, **Bluefin Tuna** make their seasonal appearance, offering exciting opportunities for those venturing far out. Closer to shore, **Redfish** and **Speckled Trout** can still be found cruising the flats and creeks, making for a productive day even in chillier weather. And inland fisheries will bless you with **Crappie**, **Bluegill**, and **Bass**.

Outside of fishing, Morehead City is all about small-town warmth and coastal charm. Take a stroll along the waterfront, visit nearby beaches, or explore the [North Carolina Maritime Museum](#). The winter pace is slower, offering time to enjoy the quieter side of this popular angling destination.