

# AXIOS Charlotte

 Road trip guide

**AXIOS**

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## Axios Charlotte

By Laura Barrero · May 16, 2025

1 big thing:  Ultimate guide to the Crystal Coast

By McKenzie Rankin



Atlantic Beach, seen here, is one of several beaches along The Crystal Coast. Photo: McKenzie Rankin/Axios

**North Carolina's Crystal Coast**, an [85-mile stretch of coastline](#), also known as the Southern Outer Banks, is about five hours from Charlotte.

- It's home to laid-back, serene beaches like Atlantic Beach and Emerald Isle, and seaside towns like Beaufort and Morehead City.

**Why it matters:** [Beach season is upon us](#), so we've created a guide to help you plan where to stay, what to eat and which excursions to take during your next visit.

### Here's an itinerary snippet for a family vacation:

- Grab breakfast at The Trading Post.
- Have dinner at Amos' Mosquitos.
- Enjoy a beach day on Atlantic Beach and collect seashells to take home.
- Go dolphin spotting with Crystal Coast Eco Tours.

**Between the lines:** We also put together itineraries for foodies, wellness junkies and girls trips.

- [Check out the full guide](#)



## 7. 🦪 Bonus trip idea for seafood lovers

By McKenzie Rankin



Owner Nancy Dupuis, to the right of the wine glass, is naturally a pro at oyster shucking. I, however, learned it's much harder than it looks, but the reward is worth it. Photo: McKenzie Rankin/Axios

**Oyster fans** can shuck and eat them straight from the water on a tour in Beaufort, North Carolina.

**Context:** [Seashore Oyster Company](#) is a family-run business led by Nancy Dupuis, a former military and sales professional turned shellfish farmer.

**What to expect:** Dupuis' oyster farm is located roughly 30 minutes by boat on the North River in Beaufort.

- When you arrive, you'll see rows of floating bags where oysters are grown and protected from predators.
- Dupuis and her son Max guide you through a shucking demo, and then you get to enjoy.
- Your freshly harvested oysters are paired with lemon, hot sauce, crackers and champagne.

**Fun fact:** If you crack open an oyster and find a tiny crab inside, don't panic. It's actually a sign of a healthy oyster, according to Nancy.

**If you go:** Tours depart from [229 Willet Drive in Beaufort](#) and the cost is donation-based.

- Reach out to [seashoreoyster@gmail.com](mailto:seashoreoyster@gmail.com) to inquire about booking.

