

redbook

Avoid Tourists And Go To These Vacation Dupes Instead

Let's find some hidden gems.

13

Crystal Coast, North Carolina of Outer Banks, North Carolina



The Outer Banks is known and loved but, just south of this renowned vacation destination lies a North Carolina hidden gem known as the [Crystal Coast](#). Offering a serene coastal retreat, the Crystal Coast is equally stunning as its more famous counterpart but provides a quieter escape. Exploring this destination unfolds 85 miles of emerald beaches, culinary delights with over 100 locally-owned restaurants serving fresh seafood, and a close-knit community spanning the area's 11 vibrant neighborhoods.

Adventure enthusiasts, hiking awaits at the picturesque [Fort Macon State Park](#), or a UTV excursion beckons at [Cape Lookout National Seashore](#). For food enthusiasts, a visit to Marshallberg Farm, the largest and only R.A.A Osetra Sturgeon Caviar farm in the U.S., offers a unique tour. Alternatively, embark on an oyster farm tour with [Oysters Carolina](#), learning why the Crystal Coast has earned the moniker "Napa Valley of Oysters."