

SPECIAL EDITION

c a r o l i n a

STYLE



SOUTHERN WEEKEND

wanderlust



The Crystal COAST

AN AUTHENTIC SOUTHERN COASTAL EXPERIENCE

The Crystal Coast of North Carolina is a coastal destination mixed with the charm and hospitality of your favorite southern city. A totally unique experience, this gem along North Carolina's Central Shore proves there is no place like it on earth.

As Experienced by: Lisa D. Wright





The Crystal Coast of North Carolina is a beautiful beach destination that has a history filled with pirate adventures and ghostly encounters. Promenade through the historical streets of a quaint maritime village, feast on “fresh from the docks” seafood at a waterfront bistro, get a glimpse of the exotic wild horses or lounge at your beachfront mansion and take in all this beautiful island has to offer.

ACCOMMODATIONS

One of the beauties of spending time at The Crystal Coast is the opportunity to rent one of the many opulent homes dotting the coastline from Emerald Isle Realty. These private residences range from quaint beach cottages to mammoth beach houses known locally as “sand castles” each with fitting names such as Breezy, Camelot by the Sea and A Sea Symphony. Each home is unique with spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean. Depending on your needs you can find a sandcastle that has decks spacious enough for lively poolside parties, large, lavishly decorated bedrooms and bathrooms, elevators, convenient linen services and chefs kitchens large enough to make dinner for the entire family and extended family. Some homes feature playrooms for the kids and offices for the adults who just can't leave work behind.

SUNSET LIBATIONS AT THE BARNACLE BAR

After checking into your cottage or sandcastle and touring your home away from home, it's time for the first order of business - libations. Head to the Oceanana Pier for The Barnacle Bar. Named after a legendary Atlantic Beach bar from the 1960's, The Barnacle is an open air bar located a thousand feet offshore at the end of the Oceanana Pier. Often featuring live music, this bar is a great place to have a sunset toast or any toast for the matter.

IDLE HOUR BIERGARTEN

Idle Hour Biergarten is the place you go to when you want to enjoy libations but still want to be at the beach. The restaurant is a take on a German beer garden and serves a made from scratch menu. Though the bratwurst and the view alone make this place worth the trip, they also serve native North Carolina beer, wine and cocktails. Sandwich, soup and salad lovers will enjoy this place too.

DINNER AT PESCARA WOOD OVEN KITCHEN

When you are ready for dinner, Pescara is a great coastal Italian restaurant situated in a magnificently restored cedar plank home. The design aspect is remarkable featuring Carrara marble table tops, bent wood dining chairs and repurposed maritime light fixtures. It is the second oldest home in the area so you know it's charming. If you are a spaghetti and meatballs kind of person, branch out and try the Frito Misto appetizer - it's calamari, octopus and local fish with arrabiata sauce and lemon aioli.

DAY 2

HUNGRY TOWN CULINARY BIKE TOUR AND TASTING

Your stay at this southern coastal escape doesn't get any more charming than this. Take a short drive into the historic and quaint city of Beaufort, stop into Hungry Town Culinary Bike Tours and meet owners Betsy and David Cartier. This

husband and wife duo are your inside connection to some of the best historic tales and culinary treats the area has to offer. They have carefully crafted uniquely themed tours by foot or on bike - but if you are able, definitely hop on a bike. These retro-chic bicycles with clever names (like **Sage**, **Rosemary**, and **Thyme**) are your transportation to taste your way through town by peddling to the historic homes, inns and restaurants. You'll hear the history of the city while cruising through town, then stop at a local eatery for tapas style eats. It's truly one of the most memorable travel experiences you could have anywhere.

DINNER AT LA PERLA

Advanced reservations are strongly encouraged to dine at this spanish/latin inspired, 40 seat restaurant tucked away in a residential neighborhood in Morehead City. La Perla is a casual restaurant where the food is anything but. When your palate craves a unique southern fare different from the traditional, the food here delivers just that. The Churrasco is to die for but be sure to save room for one of the desserts.

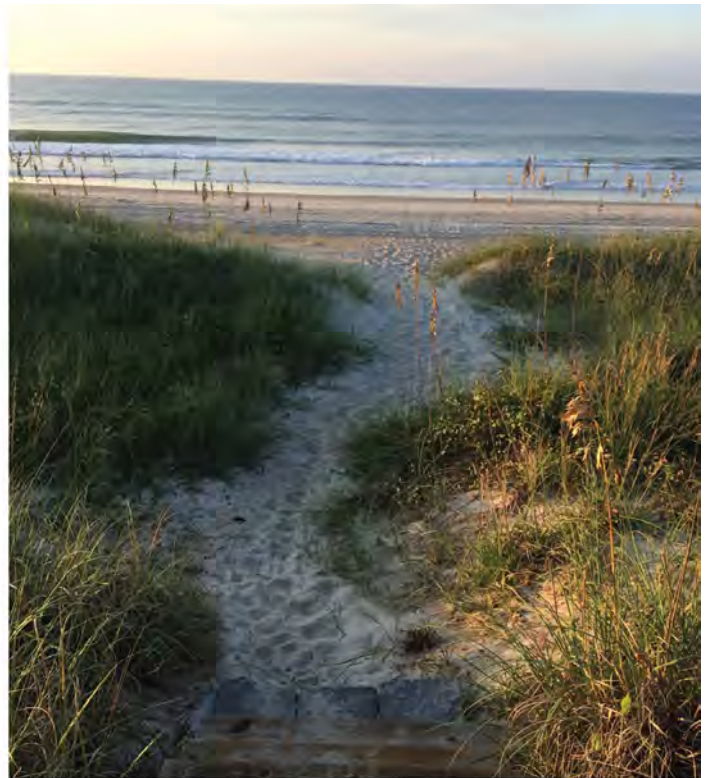
DAY 3

BOAT RIDE AROUND SHACKLEFORD BANKS

Hop on the Island Express Ferry for a ride around Shackleford Banks, the southernmost barrier island in Cape Lookout National Seashore. It's home to more than 100 wild horses whose ancestry dates back 400 years. Scientists, historians and nature lovers alike have speculated the origins of the Shackleford horses, or "Banker ponies" as they are called, with the most popular being that the horses swam ashore after a Spanish ship exploring the new world met with a tragic fate off of North Carolina's shores. The horses have enjoyed the protections afforded by Cape Lookout National Seashore in cooperation with the Foundation for Shackleford Horses. Both organizations are dedicated to maintaining the horses' way of life.

CLIMB CAPE LOOKOUT LIGHTHOUSE

After viewing the wild horses get ready to see a spectacular panoramic view of the beautiful









Crystal Coast on one of the few remaining natural barrier island chains in the world, accessible only by boat. When arriving to the island, take a short walk to the Cape Lookout Keeper's Quarters built in the mid-1800's to warn passing ships of the dangerous coastal waters. Today, this Keeper's Quarters serves as a museum, giving visitors a glimpse into the lives of Lighthouse Keepers and Surfmens of the US Life-Saving Service. Then climb the 163 feet, 207 step "Diamond Lady" lighthouse. It has a distinctive black and white diamond pattern in order to distinguish direction (North and South from East and West) and differentiate it from other North Carolina lighthouses.



LUNCH AT BEAUFORT GROCERY

Providing guests with the hometown feel of a local grocery store, Beaufort Grocery's subtle grace and charm is reminiscent of a French country eatery and adds a special southern touch by using dishrags in place of napkins. Enjoy delicately sautéed Carolina Crab Cakes served with spicy remoulade sauce and Thai Rubbed Roast Duckling served on a bed of Korean rice with pineapple-soy glaze at this cozy, captivating environment located in Beaufort's Historic District on Queen Street. No, it's not a grocery store in the traditional sense but who wouldn't love a "grocery store" that has the groceries already cooked and prepared into meals.



DINNER AT AMOS MOSQUITO'S

Dining at Amos Mosquito's is like bringing the outside in. The marsh-like décor gives you the feeling of essentially being in the swamp and is perfectly situated to catch a glimpse of a glorious North Carolina sunset overlooking Bogue Sound. Amos Mosquito's is casual fine dining offering an eclectic selection of delicious fresh catch seafood dishes. Order the seafood platter and you'll see why it's one of the popular must have dishes on the menu. You can also order and make s'mores right at the table.

Your first visit to the Crystal Coast of North Carolina won't be your last. It's one of those places that you will want to visit again and again with friends, family and your significant other.

VISIT THE CRYSTAL COAST OF NORTH CAROLINA INCLUDING

Atlantic Beach, Beaufort, Morehead City, Cape Lookout, Pine Knoll Shores, Emerald Isle, Harkers Island and more

www.CrystalCoastNC.org

1-252-726-8148

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