

THRILL YOUR FAMILY THIS SUMMER

SOUTHERN[®] BOATING



SOUTHERNBOATING.COM

Learn
The
Ropes



12 MUST-SEE POWERCATS

the / **zimmerman** / agency

(continued)

Contents

SINCE 1972

JUNE 2014

Volume XLIII Number 9

Features

38 AMUSING CRUISING

Surprise your family this summer by checking out these marinas near unique coastal destinations packed with old-fashioned hills and chills.
By Christine Cuganier

42 BAREBOAT CHARTER FLOTILLAS

Whether you've chartered dozens of boats or this is your first time, sailing with other charter boats offers experiences you don't expect—and a lot more fun!
By Chris Caswell

Boats

46 MOTORCATS

Beware motorcat owners... These powercats are some of the hottest multihulls on the market and just might turn you into a cat lover.

Destinations

62 CRYSTAL COAST, NC

Our associate editor's first visit to the SOBX gives her multiple reasons for a return trip to this charming coastal area.

66 PORT WASHINGTON, NY

For cruisers heading north this summer, this peninsula on Long Island is worth much more than just a quick stopover.
By Peter A. Janssen

So good's out for the summer! Create some memories and take the family on a trip they'll get, sweat and skip over!

©2014 MCRS

June 2014 • THE BOATERS' REPORTING • 5



Carolina Charisma

Wine and dine your way through this shimmering southern coast full of history and adventure.

North Carolina's Southern Outer Banks (SOBX) represents one of the few remaining natural barrier island systems in the world. Strung together with 85 miles of silken coastline—56 being the protected Cape Lookout National Seashore—the Crystal Coast is both a place and a state of mind set apart from the ordinary.

This chain of islands is a culinary lover's dream-come-true with a mixture of eateries tailored to suit any palate on any budget, from tasty seafood shacks to waterfront pubs to fine dining bistros. Thanks to the Carteret Catch program—a joint venture between local restaurants, retailers and fishermen—the Crystal Coast features a "fish to fork" initiative, serving only seafood caught that day by local fishermen. For the past 400 years this program has supported more than 85 privately owned restaurants—no restaurant chains allowed—that overflow with delicious local flavor.

But even if you're not a foodie, tales of swashbuckling pirates, Civil War triumphs and tragedies, and deep-rooted maritime heritage are sure to entice history buffs.

Glimmering waterways welcome eco-adventurers with stand-up paddle boarding, kayaking and world-class fishing. And for the shopping enthusiasts in your crew, unique treasures await in every charming town that dots the Crystal Coast.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Part of the Bogue Banks, Atlantic Beach is the oldest of the five resort towns on the Crystal Coast. Home to Fort Macon National Park, this town is directly linked to skirmishes in the Civil War. Fort Macon—built from 1826-1834—is impeccably preserved to educate and entertain visitors. Once a month on Canon Day, volunteers in traditional dress fire a canon over the wall to exemplify how the Confederates defended the fort over one hundred years ago. Twice a year, Fort Macon commemorates the Civil War with a battle reenactment that requires over 40 volunteers who sleep in the fort for



CRYSTAL COAST TOURISM AUTHORITY

Opposite: Herds of wild Shackleford horses can be seen running on the shores and swimming on the Crystal Coast. Above: The unspoiled beaches are a perfect spot for the whole family.

an entire weekend. fort.macon@ncparks.gov.

Fort Macon State Park also offers unspoiled fishing, hiking, swimming, and picnicking amidst serene coastal settings. Take a break from an enriched day of history to enjoy a fresh spin on traditional seafood dishes at the waterfront Channel Marker Restaurant. The she-crab soup and ahi tuna are staples on their menu, with delectable daily specials you won't want to miss. Watch the sunset and sip a cocktail on their boardwalk as your plan your next day's adventures.

BEAUFORT

Cruise down Taylor's Creek to look for wild Shackleford horses on Carrot Island across from charming Beaufort, dubbed "America's Coolest Small Town." This gem is the third-oldest city in North Carolina bustling with fresh, tasty restaurants and coffee shops that neighbor the perfectly manicured gardens inside the white picket fences of each picturesque coastal

CRUISER RESOURCES

DOCKAGE

- **Anchorage Marina**
Atlantic Beach
(252) 726-4423 • anchorage marina.net
- **Beaufort Town Docks Marina**
Beaufort
(252) 728-2503
- **Radio Island Marina**
Beaufort
(252) 726-3773 • radioislandmarina.com
- **Town Creek Marina**
Beaufort
(877) 347-4869 • towncreekmarina.com
- **Boat House at Front Street Village**
Beaufort
(252) 838-1524 • frontstreetvillage.com
- **Morehead City Yacht Basin**
Morehead City
(252) 726-6862 • mcyachtbasin.com

RESTAURANTS

- **Channel Marker Restaurant**
718 Atlantic Beach Causeway, Atlantic Beach
(252) 247-2344 • thechannelmarker.com
- **Amos Mosquitos**
703 E Fort Macon Rd, Atlantic Beach
(252) 247-6222 • amosmosquitos.com
- **Blue Moon Bistro**
119 Queen St, Beaufort
(252) 728-5800 • bluemoonbistro.biz
- **Clawson's 1905 Restaurant and Pub**
425 Front St, Beaufort
(252) 728-2133 • clawsonsrestaurant.com
- **The Village Market**
7802 Emerald Dr, Emerald Isle
(252) 354-6592 • villagemarketofei.com
- **Sanitary Fish Market and Restaurant**
501 Evans St., Morehead City
(252) 247-3111 • sanitaryfishmarket.com





Clockwise from bottom left: Sunsets over the marinas in Beaufort can be seen from waterfront restaurants; Cape Lookout National Seashore provides excellent opportunities for shelling and lighthouse tours; locals dress in authentic uniforms on Canon Day at Fort Macon; kayak or stand-up paddleboard on an eco-tour through the winding grasslands of the SOBX; rows of colorful houses dot the shore of Emerald Isle; the Crystal Coast is filled with marine history and exploration; there is no shortage of fresh, mouth-watering seafood on this coast.

cottage. Dive into the history, ghost stories and folklore at the world-class ship diving spot where the legendary pirate Blackbeard's infamous ship *Queen Anne's Revenge* lies in a watery grave just three miles off of the sandy shore.

Enjoy a double-decker bus tour around the town to learn which historic character lived in each house dating back from the 1700s. beauforthistoricsite.org Share in the rich maritime history rooted in Beaufort at the North Carolina's Maritime Museum with official artifacts from Blackbeard's ship, which illuminates the life of early 18th-century pirates. The museum also offers on-the-water sailing and boating courses, paddle boarding along the historic shore, and boat-building for all skill levels. ncmaritimemuseums.com

MOREHEAD CITY

Known for some of the most diverse fishing, the Crystal Coast also has one of the longest fishing seasons on the entire Atlantic Coast. If you aren't an experienced angler or simply prefer to take advantage of local knowledge, rows of charter fishing boats bob along the docks for a day of action and offer private charters, or choose a more affordable family-friendly fishing trip for up to 100 people. If you're looking for more booty than just a fresh fish dinner, several

fishing tournaments on the Crystal Coast offer big cash prizes. For folks not keen on a salty day reeling in the sun, the quaint shopping district has lovely art galleries intermixed with antique stores, as well as the Morehead Center for the Performing Arts.

PINE KNOLL SHORES

Teddy Roosevelt's family previously owned this peaceful, eco-friendly, residential community. The Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores is the second largest aquarium in the state and features animal feedings, live animal programs, dive presentations, and touch tanks with some of the most unique fresh and salt-water creatures. Expand your visit with a behind-the-scenes tour, kayak tour or fishing lessons for children. An attached ice cream shop and nearby beaches will delight everyone at this fun, interactive stop. ncaquariums.com

EMERALD ISLE

The most prominent of Crystal Coast's banks, Emerald Isle is located at the western end of the Bogue Banks and named for its flourishing lush greenery. The town is also noted for its massive beachfront mansions known locally as "sand

castles.” Its prime location sets it apart for watching the sunrise over the Bay side and the sunset over the Atlantic Ocean.


Stop by Hot Wax Surf Shop for exercise combined with sightseeing as you glide along the water on a stand-up paddleboard or kayak. Guided flat-water eco-tours wind amidst the grassy outer banks to look for river dolphins and coastal birds—you might even spot a bald eagle. Rent a surfboard or take a lesson if you want to catch one of the Atlantic coast’s premier waves. hotwaxsurf.com Fill up hungry stomachs with lunch at The Village Market— sandwiches, salads and award-winning key lime pie won’t disappoint. The neighboring bait shop can help prepare you for some fishing action in the afternoon and evening.

After the sunset, stop by Amos Mosquito’s Swampside Café for some unique specialties in a down-home atmosphere. Don’t let the name fool you—there are no pesky mosquitos, except for the funky décor—and the seafood favorites will satisfy with their gourmet preparation and hearty flavor. Named after an old family joke, the restaurant’s husband and wife manager and chef stay busy with upscale family favorites popular with the locals. I can confidently recommend everything—and double-recommend the oysters and mojitos—which you might need after 9PM once karaoke starts. Be sure to pack a light jacket to sustain the coastal breezes as you stargaze along the shore—the Milky Way is in full view on a clear night.

CAPE LOOKOUT

Cape Lookout National Seashore offers a 56-mile stretch of unspoiled, undeveloped beaches accessible by boat—as always, ensure you have current navigational charts. Visit the historic black-and-white checkered lighthouse, watch for herds of wild Shackleford horses that roam freely, and fish or camp on the beach of this national seashore. Be sure to bring everything you might need, as there are no stores or restaurants—although they do have clean bathroom facilities and a covered pavilion. If you prefer to leave your boat in a safe marina, the Island Express Ferry Service departs from the town of Beaufort Gateway and Harkers Island Visitor Center with guided routes to Cape Lookout Lighthouse and Shackleford Banks. islandexpressferryservices.com

With an endless list of activities, sightseeing, eating, drinking, and discovering to be had at North Carolina’s Southern Outer Banks, set your course for these barrier islands this summer. Visit crystalcoastnc.com to plan your trip around one of the festivals, tours, and food and wine events held in these charming towns. I guarantee you’ll be planning your return trip before you even leave. 🐠




Serving Boaters and Sportsmen since 1967

Transient, short and long term slip rentals
Vale Tack Marine Fuel/No Ethanol
Yacht Dockage on site


Morehead City Yacht Basin

208 Avenida De Morehead City, NC 28557
252.726.4962 or email
info@moreheadcityyachtbasin.com
www.moreheadcityyachtbasin.com




Parker Yacht

Authorized Dealers for:



YAMAHA



wet sounds

Yacht Tender Repair
Engine Sales and Service
Parts and Rigging
*** We Export ***

Parker Yacht
222 NW 22nd St
Ft Lauderdale FL 33305
954.463.1515
www.parkeryacht.com