

The Best Beach in Every State

You don't need to be on a coast to enjoy the beach

We're dedicating [our July features](#) to the world's most beautiful and unique beaches and islands. With many travelers finally able to take the coveted beach vacation they've had to put off for over a year, there's never been a better time to celebrate the sensational coastlines and calm waters that nab a starring role in our dreams. Dive into our features to learn more about [off-the-radar beaches you should consider](#) for your next trip, [how one Spanish community came together to save its coastline](#), [an ultra-exclusive Hawaiian island](#) you might not have heard of, and [game-changing beach hacks](#) recommended to us by the experts.

Americans love their beaches, even if they're not anywhere near an ocean. If you're searching for the best outdoor location near the sea, a hot spring, a marina, a lake, or a river, we've got you covered. Some of these selections are well-known favorites, while others are more rugged and off the beaten path. From Alabama to Wyoming and everywhere in between, these are the best beaches in every state.

North Carolina: Emerald Isle

Expansive sandy beaches and a laid-back vibe characterize the coastal regions of North Carolina. Emerald Isle tops the list for many beachgoers due to a whopping 12 miles of shoreline and pier fishing. Families love the playgrounds, picnic pavilions, volleyball courts, and easy access to the water for kayaking and boating. The emerald waters on the Crystal Coast bring vacationers here for scuba diving to explore the shipwrecks.