

MISSISSIPPI

The Mississippi Gulf Coast

A unique synergy of coastal towns
make this a must-visit destination for
meetings —BY JANICE HILL PEREZ

The Mississippi Gulf Coast comprises 62 miles

of splendid coastline and boasts a distinct collection of communities with a flavor all their own. Their common thread, however, is a definitive Gulf Coast culture found nowhere else in the world. Mississippi-style hospitality, a nature-centric environment, Gulf cuisine, eclectic shops, high energy nightlife and diverse venues meld to create a destination that complements meetings of all types. “The Mississippi Gulf Coast is experiencing its own renaissance with a surge of positive growth, inviting everyone to see and experience all there is to do here,” declares Janice Jefferson, director of sales at Visit Mississippi Gulf Coast. “In 2015, new hotel rooms came on line with the opening of the Scarlet Pearl Casino and Island View Casino Resort’s new Beach Tower. MGM Park baseball stadium opened with creative options for group events, while the new Pascagoula River Audubon Center features a unique small venue for events within its art gallery. In addition, Round Island Lighthouse was restored after 15 years and now offers tours.” Outdoor activities abound for groups, including kayaking, paddle board lessons, hiking, airboat riding, and boat charters. Attendees can learn how to throw nets to catch Gulf shrimp, zip line or climb the ropes courses at the newly opened Zip ‘N Fun Adventure Park, play golf on impressive courses, or dine on Gulf cuisine at one of many eateries popping up along the coastline. Visitors will experience a pedestrian-friendly way to enjoy historic Downtown Gulfport with the spring 2016 completion of Fishbone Alley, fashioned after Nashville’s Printer’s Alley.

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