

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Anna Roy Public/Media Relations Manager 228-388-2993 anna@coastalmississippi.com

Bay St. Louis makes #5 spot in USA TODAY's Best Small Coastal Town Competition

COASTAL MISSISSIPPI (May 17, 2019) – Bay St. Louis has made the #5 spot in USA TODAY'S annual America's Best Small Towns competition for Best Small Coastal Town!

Polls closed on Monday, May 6 at 11am CST, after a month of online voting. The winners were announced on 10Best.com on Friday, May 17.

"Bay St. Louis plays an extremely important role in tourism in Coastal Mississippi. The arts, sense of community, unique dining opportunities, local downtown shops, beautiful sprawling beaches, and stunning bay views all make for a highly desirable destination, which is reflected in the voters' decision to rank Bay St. Louis so high on this list of extraordinary coastal towns found across the States," said Milton Segarra, CEO of Coastal Mississippi. "This is a phenomenal opportunity to showcase everything that Bay St. Louis has to offer, which will in turn benefit all of Coastal Mississippi as a destination," said Segarra.

"For Bay St. Louis to be voted fifth Best Small Coastal Town amongst so many incredible beach destinations across the US is a real honor, and I am thrilled to see this wonderful, resilient Mississippi Gulf Coast town garner such widespread attention. As a community, Bay St. Louis strives to create the perfect coastal atmosphere for visitors, locals, and those looking for the perfect place to relocate or retire. It looks like our efforts are paying off, as we gain momentum in terms of media exposure, accolades and visitation," said Nikki Moon, Owner of Bay Town Inn.

Bay St. Louis is one of 12 coastal towns along 62 miles of stunning shoreline that make up Coastal Mississippi. From quaint harbor towns and beautiful, walkable downtown areas shaded with live oaks, to world-renowned shows and casino headliner entertainment, The Secret Coast has something to offer everyone.

For a complete list of events, attractions, promotions, and experiences, visit: <u>www.coastalmississippi.com</u>

For more information on USA Today's Best Small Coastal Towns, visit: https://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-coastal-small-town-2019/

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About Coastal Mississippi

Coastal Mississippi is an organization charged with promoting South Mississippi as a tourism and convention destination worldwide. Its mission centers on attracting ever-increasing numbers of leisure, convention, sports and business visitors to the area. It is dedicated to maximizing the travel and tourism industry for South Mississippi. Visit CoastalMississippi.com to learn more.