



**BEST-OF-THE-BEST: MYRTLE BEACH AREA RECEIVES
PRESTIGIOUS ACCOLADES AND AWARDS**

*The Grand Strand holds records ranging from “World’s Tallest Sandcastle,”
to “Favorite Destination for a Family Vacation” and more*

The Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina continually proves that it is worthy of the moniker “The Grand Strand” year-after-year, garnering prestigious awards and designations ranging from the “World’s Best Beach” by *Yahoo! Travel*, “Overall Value for Money Destination” and seven of the “Best US Golf Destination” by *USA Today’s 10Best*. Whether seeking an exciting sporting event or recreational vacation, the perfect family beach, the ideal retirement location, or the best place to host a meeting, visitors to the Myrtle Beach area will find award-winning offerings in every lifestyle category.

TRIPADVISOR

2017 10 MOST POPULAR SPRING BREAK DESTINATIONS WITH THE BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

In TripAdvisor’s inaugural TripMaximizer Report, which studied how far travelers’ dollars can stretch in this year’s 10 most popular spring destinations, Myrtle Beach was ranked as the no. 1 destination overall due in part to its affordable airfares and average nightly hotel costs.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

2017 BEST CHEAP SPRING BREAK DESTINATIONS

After careful consideration by the editorial team on several factors including hotel costs, free activities and overall atmosphere, Myrtle Beach was named the best cheap spring destination by U.S. News & World Report. It was also named no. 3 in best family beach destinations in the USA and in the top ten of best affordable family vacations, alternative Spring Break destinations and family vacation in the USA by the publication.

CHEAPTICKETS.COM

2017 TOP SPRING BREAK DESTINATIONS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Based on a survey conducted by CheapTickets.com. Myrtle Beach ranks no. 3 of the top beach Spring Break destinations for college students that won’t break the bank.

TIPSCOKE.COM

2016 BEST BEACHES IN THE U.S.

A Google Consumer Survey named Myrtle Beach the best beach in the U.S., thanks to its warm tropical climate, water and adventure sports, thrilling attractions, family fun, and affordable accommodations.

TRAVEL CHANNEL

BEST BEACHES IN AMERICA, No. 2

By editorial decision, the Myrtle Beach area was named no. 2 on Travel Channel’s annual ranking of the Best Beaches in America. The editors called the area the “East Coast’s ultimate vacation hub” for its “silky white sand” beaches, amusement and water parks, live entertainment, restaurants, fishing, sailing, surfing and more.

TRAVEL + LEISURE

AMERICA’S FAVORITE BEACH TOWNS

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was named favorite beach town in the U.S. for its oceanfront Boardwalk & Promenade, incredible culinary scene and kid-friendly amusements.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

BEST FAMILY VACATIONS IN THE USA

A ranking of the best family vacations in the U.S. listed Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, as no. 9 for its accessibility and affordability.

HOTELPLANNER.COM

TOP 10 MOST GROUP-FRIENDLY BEACH CITIES ACROSS THE U.S.

Myrtle Beach was named the no. 2 best beach city in the U.S. for group trips, due to the high volume of group travelers to the area annually.

THRILLIST

25 BEST BEACHES IN AMERICA

A list of the best beaches in America included Myrtle Beach, for its impressive 1.2-mile-long Boardwalk & Promenade, towering SkyWheel and burgeoning food scene.

USA TODAY

BEST EAST COAST BEACHES

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was selected as a best beach on the East Coast of the United States.

WHERE TO RETIRE

7 LOW-COST CITIES TO RETIRE IN

Where to Retire magazine selected Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, as one of the top 7 low-cost cities for people to retire to due to its low cost of living and numerous events, activities and attractions.

CONVENTIONSOUTH

2017 NEW OR RENOVATED MEETING SITES AWARD

ConventionSouth magazine chose the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront as one of its top new or renovated meeting sites for 2017. The hotel recently completed a property-wide renovation, adding a new main building with an ocean-view lobby and guest registration along with new entertainment offerings including restaurants and a food market, and redesigning its 452 oceanfront guest rooms.

TRIPADVISOR

25 MOST POPULAR SUMMER VACATION RENTAL SPOTS IN THE U.S.

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was named no. 4 on the list for its amenities, accessibility and ability to accommodate larger groups.

BUZZFEED

14 BEAUTIFUL SOUTH CAROLINA DESTINATIONS TO VISIT BEFORE YOU DIE

The Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina, as well as the beautiful and serene Brookgreen Gardens were named two of the 14 places to visit in the state of South Carolina.

TRIPADVISOR

20 TRENDING U.S. VACATION RENTAL MARKETS

Demand for vacation rentals in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, is among the highest in the United States and continues to increase at a rate of 57 percent year over year.

CHAMPION AUTISM NETWORK

FIRST AUTISM-FRIENDLY TRAVEL DESTINATION

The Surfside Beach Town Council signed the first-ever proclamation to make Surfside Beach the first autism-friendly travel destination.

BASEBALL AMERICA

BOB FREITAS AWARD – MYRTLE BEACH PELICANS

The Myrtle Beach Pelicans were awarded the Bob Freitas Award from Baseball America as Andy Milovich has guided the Myrtle Beach Pelicans to attendance gains in each of his three seasons as general manager of the

Carolina League franchise.

SOUTHERN LIVING

SOUTH'S BEST HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES

Southern Living recognized Brookgreen Gardens' Night of a Thousand Candles in its 'South's Best Holiday Experiences' section of the December 2015 issue. Night of a Thousand Candles was also the only event included from the entire state of South Carolina.

MARCOM AWARDS

GOLD MARCOM AWARD – VISIT MYRTLE BEACH HOSTS AMHQ

PLATINUM MARCOM AWARD – VISIT MYRTLE BEACH OFFERS 60 MORE DAYS OF SUMMER

Myrtle Beach received two nods of recognition from the national 2015 MarCom Awards. The destination won gold in the Television Placement category for 'Visit Myrtle Beach Hosts AMHQ,' as well as Platinum in the PR Programs category for 'Visit Myrtle Beach Offers 60 More Days of Summer.'

TRAVEL WEEKLY

SILVER MAGELLAN AWARD WINNER IN THE FAMILY DESTINATIONS CATEGORY (2015)

Myrtle Beach, SC, was selected as a 2015 Silver Magellan Award Winner in the Family Destination category. The 2015 Magellan Awards received entries from top travel organizations and professionals worldwide, proving the Grand Strand's high standard of excellence within the travel industry.

TRIPADVISOR VACATION RENTALS

30 HIGHEST VALUE GETAWAYS WITH BIG RENTAL SAVINGS IN FALL SHOULDER SEASON

Tripadvisor placed Myrtle Beach No. 6 on its list of the top 30 places with the biggest rental savings for fall shoulder season.

TRIPPING.COM

TOP 10 BEACH DESTINATIONS IN THE U.S. FOR HONEYMOONERS

Myrtle Beach ranked third on Tripping.com's list of ten amazing and romantic beach destinations in the U.S. for honeymooners. Tripping.com praised Myrtle Beach for its silky white sand, sunbathing, swimming, sailing and surfing opportunities.

TRIPADVISOR

10 EAST COAST BEACHES MAKING A SPLASH

With more than 100 destinations considered, Myrtle Beach topped TripAdvisor's list of East Coast Beaches Making a Splash with an average rental review score of 4.35/5. According to TripAdvisor, the destination is consistently praised by travelers for its pleasant year-round weather and vast variety of entertainment.

TRIPADVISOR VACATION RENTALS

29 SUPER AFFORDABLE VACATION RENTAL DESTINATIONS YOU NEED TO VISIT

Tripadvisor placed Pawleys Island and Surfside Beach on its list of the top 29 affordable vacation destinations travelers need to visit.

PRICELINE.COM

BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK SPOTS FOR 4TH OF JULY

Priceline.com named Myrtle Beach one of the best bang for your buck spots for July 4th weekend. Additionally, the Myrtle Beach area is one of Priceline.com's top 25 destinations for July 4th.

GOLF.COM

READER'S CHOICE AWARDS

Golf.com released its Reader's Choice Awards and Myrtle Beach was named No. 1 in the categories of best U.S. golf destination, best buddies trip destination and best value destination.

TRIPADVISOR

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE, HALL OF FAME AWARD

Tripadvisor awarded Brookgreen Gardens its Hall of Fame Award for receiving a Certificate of Excellence the past five years in a row.

TRAVELCHANNEL.COM

BEST EAST COAST BEACHES

Myrtle Beach was named one of the best east coast beaches by TravelChannel.com for its beaches, amusement and water parks, restaurants and live entertainment.

TRIVAGO.COM

TOP 10 MOST POPULAR AMERICAN BEACHES

Hotel search Trivago.com polled U.S. travelers for the most popular American beach and Myrtle Beach was named the No. 1 favorite beach.

TRIPADVISOR VACATION RENTALS

30 RISING RENTAL DESTINATIONS IN 2015

Recognized for its laid-back atmosphere and stunning beauty, Garden City Beach, SC, was named No. 1 in TripAdvisor's list of the fastest-growing vacation rental destinations in 2015. TripAdvisor found that Garden City Beach showed the greatest booking increase within the last year, and was praised time and time again by reviewers.

ABOUT.COM

TOP 5 SOUTH CAROLINA RV PARKS YOU MUST VISIT

Ocean Lakes Family Campground, in Myrtle Beach, S.C., was named to About.com's "Top 5 South Carolina RV Parks You Must Visit" list. The list features five RV parks from various regions of South Carolina. About.com referred to Ocean Lakes as a "lovely RV Park." Ocean Lakes is the first campground in the Myrtle Beach area to be recognized.

USA TODAY 10BEST

BEST KID-FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

Myrtle Beach, SC, was named No. 3 in *USA Today's* 10Best list of Kid-Friendly Destinations. Citing its 1.2-mile Oceanfront Boardwalk and Promenade and endless attractions, 10Best called Myrtle Beach "a complete family destination for all ages."

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY OF AMERICA

SCPRSA MERCURY AWARDS

Myrtle Beach received an Award of Excellence in the Marketing Consumer Services Category at the South Carolina Public Society of America's Mercury Awards for its 60 Days campaign.

VACATION IDEA MAGAZINE

22 BEST SMALL TOWN FAMILY WEEKEND DESTINATIONS

Recognized as a vibrant seaside town with excellent restaurants, beautiful natural scenery, amazing golf courses, and a wealth of attractions and activities, Myrtle Beach was named one of *Vacation Idea* magazine's 22 Best Small Town Family Weekend Destinations.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

BEST FAMILY BEACH VACATIONS IN THE USA

Myrtle Beach, SC, ranked fourth on *U.S. News and World Report's* top 10 list of best family beach vacations. This accolade recognized Myrtle Beach's expansive sands, as well as plentiful attractions.

FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

FAMILYFUN TRAVEL AWARD – TOP 10 TOURIST TOWNS & TOP 10 VACATION DESTINATION IN THE SOUTH

FamilyFun Magazine surveyed 2,000 parents about their all-time favorite U.S. vacation destinations and Myrtle

Beach, SC was selected as one of the Top 10 Tourist Towns in the country, as well as a Top 10 Vacation Destination in the South.

USA TODAY 10BEST

BEST SPRING BREAK DESTINATION

Readers of *USA Today* and *10Best* selected Myrtle Beach as the best spring break destination. The readers cited the destination's mini golf courses, water parks, amusement parks, SkyWheel and banana boat rides as what makes Myrtle Beach an obvious option for spring breaking families.

HSMIA ADRIAN AWARD

BRONZE – BEACH HOUSE GIVEAWAY CAMPAIGN

Myrtle Beach, SC was selected as a 2014 Bronze Adrian Award Winner in the Digital Marketing: Contests/Sweepstakes category. The 2014 Adrian Awards embraced every segment of the industry, including hotels, airlines, cruise lines, car rental companies, and destination. Winners were selected from a field of nearly 1,200 entries by senior industry and media experts.

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON TOURISM AND TRAVEL

2015 GOVERNOR'S CUP

The Myrtle Beach Boardwalk was awarded the prestigious Governor's Cup at the 2015 Governor's Conference on Tourism and Travel. The winner of the annual Governor's Cup sets the benchmark for the state's tourism industry and highlights outstanding achievements in tourism marketing.

COUPONSDAILY.COM

20 CITIES FOR AN AFFORDABLE VALENTINE'S DAY GETAWAY

After comparing affordable bed-and-breakfasts, budget-friendly eateries and free attractions, Myrtle Beach was selected by CouponsDaily.com as one of most affordable cities for a Valentine's Day getaway.

TRIPADVISOR VACATION RENTALS

BEST FAMILY TRIP DESTINATION

TripAdvisor Vacation Rentals named Myrtle Beach one of its top family friendly destinations, calling it "the ideal family vacation spot."

TRIPADVISOR

TOP 25 DESTINATIONS – UNITED STATES

Myrtle Beach was named one of the best destinations in the United States, coming in at No. 22. TripAdvisor commended the Myrtle Beach area for its variety of attractions, sandy beaches, and golf courses.

YAHOO! TRAVEL

50 COOLEST THINGS IN AMERICA

Yahoo! Travel named Myrtle Beach's Apache Pier the coolest thing to see in South Carolina.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT: TRAVEL

BEST FAMILY BEACH VACATIONS IN THE USA

Myrtle Beach was ranked as the No. 3 best family beach vacation in the United States for its expansive sands and variety of family friendly attractions. When judging destinations, *U.S. News* considered factors such as safe waters, kid-friendly attractions and dining, spacious accommodations, multi-generational appeal and overall accessibility.

STADIUM JOURNEY MAGAZINE

TOP 100 STADIUM EXPERIENCES OF 2014

TicketReturn.com Field at the Myrtle Beach Pelicans Ballpark ranked No. 32 on Stadium Journey magazine's list of the Top 100 Stadium Experiences of 2014, placing it in the top 50 in each of the four consecutive years the magazine has produced the list, which includes baseball, football, basketball, hockey and soccer venues.

GROUPS TODAY**SOUTHERN READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2014**

Visit Myrtle Beach was recognized by *Groups Today* as one of the Southern Readers' Choice Award winners for 2014. The publication noted that Visit Myrtle Beach offers comprehensive support for group tour providers, and a wealth of information on its website.

DESTINATION TRAVEL MAGAZINE**TOP 12 BEST AQUARIUMS IN THE NATION**

Ripley's Aquarium in the Myrtle Beach area was named one of the top 12 best aquariums in the nation, according to the editors of *Destinations Travel Magazine*

CONVENTIONSOUTH MAGAZINE**BEST PLACE TO KICK BACK**

Myrtle Beach was recognized by readers and fans of *ConventionSouth Magazine* as the Best Place to Kick Back in 2014.

PRICELINE.COM**TOP 10 SUMMER BEACH DESTINATIONS**

Based on advance Priceline.com hotel bookings, Myrtle Beach was ranked the No. 3 top summer beach destination.

USA TODAY, 10BEST**BEST GOLF DESTINATION**

In 2014, Myrtle Beach was named as 10Best's 'Best Golf Destination' chosen by readers of *USA Today*.

TRIP ADVISOR**MOST POPULAR TRAVEL DESTINATIONS FOR SUMMER 2013 & 2014**

TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site, released the results of its annual summer travel survey of more than 2,500 respondents, which showed Myrtle Beach as the most popular travel destination of 2014 – the second year in a row for the destination.

FAMILY VACATION CRITIC**10 BEST BEACHES FOR FAMILIES IN 2014**

Family Vacation Critic listed Myrtle Beach as one of its 10 Best Beaches for Families in 2014.

FLIPKEY.COM**2014 TOP MARATHONS & RACES WORTH TRAVELING FOR (2014)**

FlipKey.com, a vacation rental marketplace with more than 240,000 rentals around the world, included the Myrtle Beach Mini Marathon on its list of Top Marathons & Races Worth Traveling For in 2014.

TRIP ADVISOR**TRAVELERS' CHOICE: U.S. TOP 25 DESTINATIONS (2014)**

Trip Advisor released its top 25 cities from the Travelers' Choice U.S. list, with Myrtle Beach ranking No. 22. Travelers' Choice award-winning destinations are determined using an algorithm that takes into account the quality and quantity of reviews from TripAdvisor users.

DREAM PLAN GO**THE NINE BEST LAST-MINUTE U.S. TRIP DESTINATIONS (2014)**

DreamPlanGo.com released its nine best last-minute trip destinations, including Myrtle Beach. According to the website, "travelers in need of fresh ocean air and impeccably soft sand will find it at this beloved Grand Strand location."

PARENTS.COM

BEST FAMILY VACATIONS: 2013 FAMILY FUN AWARDS (2013)

Parents.com released the winners from the 2013 Family Fun Awards, listing Myrtle Beach as the No. 3 Tourist Town with a score of 83/100.

TOURIST MEETS TRAVELER

TOP 10 MOST SEARCHED FOR TRAVEL DESTINATIONS (2013)

Yahoo released their list of the most searched for travel destinations with Myrtle Beach listed as the second most searched for destination.

OPENTABLE DINERS' CHOICE AWARDS

TOP 100 AMERICAN FARE RESTAURANTS IN THE U.S. (2013)

Aspen Grille was named a winner of OpenTable Diners' Choice Awards for the top 100 restaurants in the U.S. that specialize in American cuisine. The list of winners is derived from more than 5 million reviews submitted by OpenTable diners for more than 15,000 restaurants in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

SOUTHEAST TOURISM SOCIETY

ESCAPE TO THE SOUTHEAST TRAVEL ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR SHINING EXAMPLE WINNER (2013)

The Myrtle Beach Boardwalk and Promenade was named the 2013 Escape to the Southeast Travel Attraction of the Year Shining Example winner. The award, presented by the Southeast Tourism Society, is given to destinations where the work of those in the travel and tourism industry sets an example that others in the industry can follow.

TRAVEL WEEKLY

SILVER MAGELLAN AWARD WINNER IN THE FAMILY DESTINATIONS CATEGORY (2013)

Myrtle Beach, SC was selected as a 2013 Silver Magellan Award Winner in the Family Destination category. The 2013 Magellan Awards received entries from top travel organizations and professionals worldwide, proving the Grand Strand's high standard of excellence within the travel industry.

GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS

TALLEST TOWER OF CUPCAKES (2013)

The City of Myrtle Beach claimed the Guinness World Record for the "Tallest Tower of Cupcakes" during the 75th Anniversary Celebration at the Beach Music Festival on July 20, 2013. The tower included more than 7,800 cupcakes that were made by Katherine Kallinis Berman and Sophie Kallinis LaMontagne of Georgetown Cupcakes, featured in TLC's hit series "DC Cupcakes."

SAMANTHA BROWN

BEST OF SAMANTHA BROWN, TRAVEL CHANNEL (2013)

Samantha Brown, well known for her travel programs on The Travel Channel ranked Myrtle Beach #1 on her list of Best Travel Spots on her show's website. This list was out of five other locations and included places such as Los Angeles, Miami and Nantucket.

FLIPKEY

BEST FAMILY VACATIONS (2013)

FlipKey, the vacation rental company of leading travel website TripAdvisor.com, ranked Myrtle Beach as one of the best family vacation spots.

USA TODAY

BEST BOARDWALKS FOR FOOD ACROSS THE USA (2013)

USA Today chose the top 25 boardwalks around the country based on reflection of region, price, and quality of ingredients. Myrtle Beach ranked 12th on the list.

USA TODAY

TOP 10 BEST DESTINATION FOR TEENS (2013)

Chosen by readers of USA Today and 10Best including family travel experts, authors and mommy bloggers, Myrtle Beach was chosen as one of the top 10 best destinations for teens around the country. Myrtle Beach ranked 6th on the list.

HIGHLIGHTS MAGAZINE

TOP 10 AMERICAN PLACES KIDS WOULD MOST LIKE TO VISIT (2013)

To celebrate the re-launch of Which Way USA, its popular puzzle club that delivers a state-by-state adventure though the U.S., Highlights for Children polled kids to discover their most-desired vacation destinations. Myrtle Beach, SC, ranked no. 3 on the top 10 list.

CONVENTIONSOUTH

TOP SOUTHERN HOT SPOT FOR WINTER MEETINGS & EVENTS (2013)

ConventionSouth magazine, a national multimedia resource for planning events that are held within the South, asked readers and Facebook fans to vote for the cities they felt were the best places to hold a meeting or event during the winter months. Voters were directed to a Facebook ballot and were given a selection of 50 destinations across the Southeast and the Caribbean Seas region to select from. Myrtle Beach ranked no. 11 on the list.

FLIPKEY

TOP EAST COAST BEACHES (2013)

FlipKey is the vacation rental company of leading travel website, TripAdvisor.com. Through traveler feedback and industry research, Myrtle Beach was recognized as one of the Top East Coast Beaches based on a variety of factors, including access to restaurants, attractions, lifestyle and of course scenery.

HUFFINGTONPOST.COM

BEST RESTAURANT CITIES (2013)

The Huffington Post ranked the Myrtle Beach/Florence market as number 6 of 15 restaurant crazy cities based on the number of restaurants per capita in the area. HuffPost Food used data from The NPD Group's annual ReCount survey, which takes a yearly census of the number of restaurants in the country, to rank United States metropolitan areas by the number of restaurants per capita. The group sites the area having over 1700 restaurants and 24 restaurants per 10,000 restaurants.

STADIUM JOURNEY MAGAZINE

101 BEST STADIUM EXPERIENCES IN SPORTS (2013)

Stadium Journey Magazine ranked TicketReturn.com Field at Pelicans Ballpark 19th on its annual list of the 101 best stadium experiences in sports in 2013. The list ranked the Myrtle Beach Pelicans home ballpark among, and ahead of, some of the most famous venues in all of sports such as Wrigley Field and the Cowboys Stadium. The list also ranked the Pelicans as the third-best stadium experience in Minor League Baseball, and the best in the state of South Carolina.

HSMAI

SILVER FOR MYRTLE BEACH PRIMARY DEBATE (2012)

Myrtle Beach was judged to be exceptional by expert travel and tourism professionals to be awarded a Silver HSMAI Award in the special events Public Relations category for the Myrtle Beach Republican Primary Debate on Fox News in January 2012. Myrtle Beach brought the beach into politics with the creation of a large sand sculpture of the presidential candidates coined Mount Myrtle.

BUDGET TRAVEL

AMERICA'S MOST AWESOME BOARDWALKS (2012)

Budget Travel listed Myrtle Beach as one of America's Most Awesome Boardwalks alongside the likes of the iconic Atlantic City Boardwalk in New Jersey; Coney Island in Brooklyn, N.Y.; Ocean City Boardwalk in Maryland; Venice Beach Boardwalk in California and the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. The online travel guide, which also publishes a print magazine six times a year, spotlighted 19 boardwalks for its list.

CHEAPFLIGHTS.COM

AIRPORT AFFORDABILITY INDEX (2012)

The Affordability Index, according to Cheapflights.com, is an annual snapshot of airfares across the country. Myrtle Beach was ranked No. 2.

TRIPADVISOR.COM

TOP 10 BEST BREWERY TOURS IN THE U.S. (2012)

In October 2012, Tripadvisor named Myrtle Beach based New South Brewery one of the top best brewery tours in the United States. Based on their sites popularity index, New South was ranked number 7 of 10. Visitors to the area can tour the brewery, try samples and purchase their favorite brews to take home.

WHERE TO RETIRE MAGAZINE

TOP 15 LOW COST TOWNS (2012)

For its Sept/Oct 2012 issue, the magazine included Myrtle Beach in its profile of low cost towns for retirees. Towns in this ranking were chosen for their below average living costs, affordable homes and low taxes.

NATIONAL TRAVEL ASSOCIATION/COURIR MAGAZINE

"2012 DISTINGUISHED DOZEN: FAVORITE DESTINATION FOR SUN & SAND"

The Myrtle Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau has been selected for the Silver award in the "Favorite Destination for Sun & Sand" category in the NTA/Courier's Distinguished Dozen awards. These awards are selected through a survey of NTA tour operators, in which they share their favorite NTA supplier partners or destinations in 12 categories. The Carolina Opry has also been selected as the second favorite theater/show venue in the country and named the Silver award winner in the "Favorite Theater/Show Venue" category.

AWAY.COM

TOP 5 FAMILY BEACHES ACROSS AMERICA (2012)

Away.com included Myrtle Beach is its top 5 list of family beaches in America in 2012. The accolade highlights the great weather and wealth of family friendly activities one of the top family beach destinations in the US.

10BEST.COM

BESTIES READERS' CHOICE TRAVEL AWARDS "BEST SPRING BREAK DESTINATION" (2012)

Myrtle Beach was voted best spring break destination by readers of 10Best.com. It was given the honor for its endless entertainment options for families and 60 miles of coastline.

GOLFWEEK

"BEST YOU CAN PLAY" (2012)

Nine golf courses in the Myrtle Beach area were selected among the top 15 "Best You Can Play" in South Carolina by Golfweek, including a third place ranking for Caledonia Golf and Fish Club and top-10 honors for The Dunes Golf and Beach, True Blue Golf Plantation, Tidewater Golf Club, TPC Myrtle Beach and Barefoot Resort's.

AWAY.COM

"CHEAT SHEET OF BEST BEACH FOR 2012"

Away.com included Myrtle Beach in its list of just eight "best beaches" for 2012, calling out the Grand Strand for its "for the whole crew" appeal – citing the destination's family-friendly offerings like the SkyWheel, the Boardwalk and WonderWorks. According to the website, Myrtle Beach is "a no-brainer for the active family on a domestic-trip budget in 2012."

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

"BEST VACATIONS" (2012)

US News & World Report honored Myrtle Beach in multiple categories, including #6 Best Family Beach Vacations, #6 Best Family Vacations in the U.S.A., #7 Best Affordable U.S. Vacations, and #9 Best Beaches U.S.A. Myrtle Beach was described as "one of the best East Coast family vacation destinations" and notes that "Southern hospitality is alive and well at Myrtle Beach".

TRIPADVISOR

"2011 TRIPADVISOR TRAVELERS' CHOICE AWARDS"

TripAdvisor named Myrtle Beach as the #1 Best Beach in the United States, and also one of the Top 10 Best in the World. The popular travel website described Myrtle Beach as "distinguished by panoramic views of the Atlantic, calm waters and soft white sand" and "offers plenty of family attractions, making it perfect for beach-lovers with kids".

TRIPADVISOR

"2011 TRIPADVISOR TRAVELERS' CHOICE AWARDS"

TripAdvisor named Myrtle Beach as one of the Top 25 Destinations in the United States. Myrtle Beach was described as "a family-friendly beach destination—which means in addition to great beaches, there's plenty to do when the kids are sick of making sand castles. Amusement parks, water sports and golf courses are nearby. And family-friendly dining and hotels abound."

BETTER HOMES & GARDENS REAL ESTATE

"AMERICA'S MOST FUN, AFFORDABLE CITIES" (2011)

Real estate company Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate selected Myrtle Beach as one of 25 areas in the United States with affordable living and the greatest number of bars and restaurants. One of numerous tourism destinations to make the list, Myrtle Beach is noted for its restaurants, dinner theaters, coffee houses, and nightlife.

TRIPADVISOR

"TOP 10 U.S. PROPERTIES FOR JET-SET PETS" (2011)

Myrtle Beach's Ocean Park Resort was named among TripAdvisor's Top 10 pet-friendly properties in the U.S. TripAdvisor noted about Ocean Park: "For travelers seeking to enjoy an ocean-side outing with their furry friend, this Myrtle Beach property gets the thumbs and paws up. 'Brought our two dogs with us and were never made to feel anything but welcome with them there,' said one TripAdvisor traveler."

TRIPADVISOR

"AMERICA'S TOP 10 WATER PARKS" (2011)

TripAdvisor named Wild Water & Wheels in Surfside Beach, South Carolina one of "America's Top 10 Water Parks". The travel site described the water park as small, but with enough quality rides to keep a family entertained. Wild Water & Wheels boasts 24 water slides.

COASTAL LIVING MAGAZINE

"TOP TEN PUBLIC GARDENS AMERICA" (2011)

Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina was selected as one of the "Top Ten Public Gardens America" by *Coastal Living Magazine*. The Alabama-based magazine serves more than three million readers and is a leader in lifestyle information. Brookgreen Gardens is open to the public, and is located on US Highway 17 between Myrtle Beach and Pawleys Island.

TRAVEL TICKER

"TOP 5 SUMMER TRAVEL DESTINATIONS OF 2011"

Myrtle Beach was named one of the "Top 5 Summer Travel Destinations of 2011" in the "Where To Go Now & How Guide" by Travel Ticker, a leading U.S.-based travel portal. The list is based on seasonal trends, travel deals, weather, tourist traffic, entertainment, and culture. Myrtle Beach is described as a "great money-saving destination for families".

TRAVEL CHANNEL

"TOP 10 VACATION SPOTS" (2011)

Travel Channel listed Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, as one of the top 10 vacation spots. The site listed the destination as a town that “teems with summertime action along the Strand with beaches, amusement and water parks, restaurants and live entertainment and a host of hotels ready to pamper guests young and old.”

PINPOINT DEMOGRAPHICS

“TOP TEN LIST OF 2011 RESTAURANTS PER CAPITA”

Myrtle Beach was named one of the top ten cities with the highest number of restaurants per capita. The survey was released by Pinpoint Demographics, a leading demographics research firm that provides the most current, accurate and cost-effective data population demographics, consumer spending, retail business and services businesses estimates.

- ACCOLADES PRIOR TO 2011 -

TRAVELZOO, “2010 TRAVELZOO AWARD WINNERS”

YAHOO! TRAVEL “TOP TEN MOST POPULAR DESTINATION FOR HOLIDAY TRAVEL AND WORLD TRAVEL”

TRIPADVISOR, “2010 TRIPADVISOR TRAVELERS’ CHOICE AWARDS”

SMARTER TRAVEL, “TEN BEST BEACH TOWNS IN AMERICA”

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, “TOP 10 U.S. BOARDWALKS”

COASTAL LIVING MAGAZINE, “TOP 10 COASTAL 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS”

TRAVEL + LEISURE MAGAZINE, “AMERICA’S BEST BEACH BOARDWALKS”

AOL, “2009’S TOP 10 MOST SEARCHED VACATION DESTINATIONS”

EXPEDIA, “2009 INSIDER’S SELECT LIST”

RESERVE AMERICA, “2009 TOP 25 PARK BEACHES”

GOLF WORLD, “2010 READER’S CHOICE AWARDS”

GOLF DIGEST MAGAZINE, “2009-2010 AMERICA’S TOP 100 GREAT PUBLIC COURSES”

PGA.COM, “TOP 9 FAMILY GOLF RESORTS”

TRAVEL + LEISURE MAGAZINE, “2009 TOP 500 WORLD’S BEST HOTELS”

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