

visit
MYRTLE BEACH
SOUTH CAROLINA

2014 New Developments

ON THE HORIZON IN 2014: EXCITING NEW TOURISM DEVELOPMENTS

IN THE MYRTLE BEACH AREA OF SOUTH CAROLINA

As one of the fastest-growing family and vacation destinations in the nation, the Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina currently attracts an average of 15 million visitors annually, along with thousands of new residents to the destination, each year. Known affectionately as “The Grand Strand,” Myrtle Beach continues to evolve and expand, giving way to an entirely “new” Myrtle Beach area of accommodations, attractions and events. Here is a sneak peek at the latest new development news in the region.

- Construction slated to start in February 2014 on the new indoor sports complex that will be located adjacent to the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The facility is expected to open a year later, in 2015.
- New building at SayeBrooke Town Center off S.C. 544 near U.S. 17 Bypass that will house five businesses. Each expected to be open in the spring of 2014. Construction on the building was to be finished in mid-November 2013. The new businesses are:
 - Moe’s Southwest Grill
 - Which Wich sandwich shop
 - AT&T
 - Massage Envy
 - The Joint, a chiropractic center
- Hamburger chain Cook Out is set to open a second location either by the end of 2013/beginning of 2014. It will be located at 1800 N. Kings Hwy in Myrtle Beach, the site of the old Burger King location.
- Construction continues on a new 22-story, 230-unit Hilton Grand Vacations Club. Plans are to open the doors in 2015.

Road/Infrastructure Work:

- Construction on the overpass at the U.S. 17/S.C. 707 intersection in the area known as the backgate is set to be completed in August 2014. This overpass will help alleviate traffic congestion at one of the busiest intersections in the Myrtle Beach area.

- Widening of Glenns Bay Road will start in summer of 2014 and will be a three-year project.
- 3rd Avenue South gateway from Kings Highway to Ocean Boulevard will be finished in 2014.
- In the fall of 2014, Phase One on the final areas of Ocean Blvd streetscaping and utility work is expected to start.
- Historical and environmental plaques along the Boardwalk will continue to be designed and implemented in 2014.
- Permanent restrooms will be built in Can Am Alley, across from the SkyWheel, in 2014 and replace the restroom trailer in Plyler Park.
- Installing 100 additional new credit card-capable parking meters that will replace the coin-operated ones in the downtown Myrtle Beach area.

Economic Development:

- PTR Industries, a Connecticut gun manufacturer located in the Cool Springs Industrial Park near Aynor, should be open for business in early 2014. It will bring 30 jobs.
- STARTEK Inc. will locate a call center at International Drive and S.C. 31. Work on the building is expected to be finished in the fall of 2014. The call center will bring 660 jobs to the Myrtle Beach area.

New Entertainment

Brookgreen Gardens

- Sensory and Nature Trail - opening in spring 2014, it is an outdoor environmental education area for children open to the public year-round with 12 interactive stations where they learn about the natural world.
- Monarch Mission: Project Milkweed - Summer 2014 new milkweed garden next to the butterfly house with interpretive signage about the dependence of the Monarch butterfly on milkweed as a food source. There will be programs and special events throughout the summer that educate and inform visitors about the loss of habitat for milkweed, how that endangers Monarch butterflies, and more importantly what they can do to help. Free milkweed seeds will be available.
- "Sojun tu Gullah Geechee," January 13 through March 16 - A traveling exhibit from the Geechee Kunda Center, Riceboro, GA, will showcase the Gullah Geechee Rice Culture with storyboards, photographs, artifacts, tools, relics, and implements.

- “The Reign of Rice Lecture Series” - Saturday monthly from January to May - The lecture series is designed to educate about the complexity of Gullah Geechee heritage through the production of rice and will feature guest speakers who are experts in Gullah Geechee culture. Guests will learn about freshwater tidal rice production in West Africa, rice-related food ways, as well the artistic, sociological and archeological ramifications of rice culture
- “Equine Spirit: The Horse in American Art” January 25 – April 27 - This exhibit explores the history of the horse as subject matter for art in America and showcases important examples of work from the Brookgreen collection by Anna Hyatt Huntington, Charlotte Dunwiddie, and Marilyn Newmark, alongside borrowed works by other renowned sculptors and painters of horses.
- “Kent Ullberg: A Retrospective” May 17 – August 3- This is a traveling retrospective exhibit of 48 pieces by Kent Ullberg, widely recognized as one of the world’s leading wildlife sculptors. The works give insight into Ullberg’s sense of design and mechanics and also include smaller sculptures of unique and delicate beauty. Pieces in the exhibition span from Owl (1969) to Archipenko’s Heron (2004), and include Wind in the Sails, a 1999 stainless steel sculpture that stands in Stockholm, Sweden. The exhibit travels from the Hiram Blauvelt Art Museum, Oradell, NJ.
- “National Sculpture Society 81st Annual Awards Exhibition” August 16 – November 2- The annual juried exhibition of the National Sculpture Society, the oldest professional organization of sculptors in America, presents the work of masters alongside rising stars in American sculpture. Fifteen awards are presented by the Society along with the popular People’s Choice Award, determined by votes of visitors to Brookgreen Gardens.

The Carolina Opry:

- North Carolina-based singer/songwriter Bibis Ellison will join the cast of The Carolina Opry and Good Vibrations. Likened to artists such as Adele, Bibis is known for her soulful tones and has performed both covers and original music all over the US, as well as in Japan and Mexico. Owner, producer and performer Calvin Gilmore states, “Bibis is the high level of talent our fans have come to expect here at Calvin Gilmore Theater.”
- Colton Cason made his debut at The Calvin Gilmore Theater in their recent Christmas production and has agreed to join the cast for the 2014 season. Colton’s smooth crooner style, inspired by Sinatra and Bublé, adds an element of jazz—and he also plays a mean trumpet. A member of the prestigious Del Couch music

foundation, Colton is seasoned in orchestral feature performance and has already become a favorite at The Calvin Gilmore Theater.

- Among the changes for 2014 is all new seating in The Calvin Gilmore Theater auditorium. Gilmore is replacing all floor seating with plush, wide new seats decked out with rocking backs and cup holders.

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