

# America's First Beach

It's a straightforward claim. America's First Beach. In 1953, Cape Hatteras was named as our country's first National Seashore, setting aside recreational area and public access to a pristine coastal North Carolina wilderness, preserving natural beauty on a grand scale. Read between the lines, and what you really get is sanctuary from the daily drain on the senses. People have been drawn to our shores for hundreds of years. Explorers. Settlers. Pirates. And because it's a National Seashore, that means it's your beach.

*The Outer Banks*<sup>®</sup>  
OF NORTH CAROLINA  
[AmericasFirstBeach.com](http://AmericasFirstBeach.com)

## Coming Soon 2018 Preview

- **Shelly Island - SPRING 2018?** WHAT does the future hold? This mile-long, newest member of the OBX island family captured the national spotlight in summer 2017 and has since merged with Cape Hatteras over the winter. Shelly brought a whole new wave of visitors with outdoors interest, and the beachcombing treasures are fabulous.
- **Softshell Blue Crabs - SPRING 2018!** This mass molt of the delicious blue crab species usually begins by Mother's Day annually and lasts just a few weeks, ushering in a craze of consumption by the devoted. The soft-bodied crustaceans are shipped all over the East Coast to meet demand. Come help us catch some.
- **Wright Brothers RE-DO - AUGUST 2018 Grand Opening!** The National Memorial to the Birthplace of Flight near Kitty Hawk is getting a makeover. The archetype for Mission 66 architecture, the visitors center has been closed since 2016 for a restoration and upgrade to the public engagement with aviation history.



## Highlights

- "Best Beaches 2017" - AARP
- "Top 10 Beaches in US" - Travel Channel
- "South's Best Island" - Southern Living
- "#1 Family Beach Vacation - US News
- "10 Amazing Adventures...Your Dog" - National Geographic
- "15 Best Mini-Honeymoons" - Time
- "18 Best Cities for Solo Travelers" - Travel + Leisure
- "20 Best Vacation Destinations" - Frommers



**Cape Hatteras Oysters:** A new marine farm is breeding boutique oysters for the high-end restaurant market. “Hatteras Salts” are one of the newest varieties of the few North Carolina farmed oysters. Come tour and taste the difference. Year round!



**Hatteras Saltworks:** Season your favorite food with a brand new boutique sea salt from Hatteras Saltworks, evaporated in a way that retains the minerals of the Gulf Stream and Labrador Currents off Cape Hatteras. Three flavors!



**Outer Banks Distilling:** North Carolina’s biggest producer of rum is new and growing on the Outer Banks. Kill Devil Rum is produced locally in several varieties. It joins the Lost Colony Brewery and Outer Banks Brewing Station for beverage fun.



**Chicamacomico Coast Guard Museum!** The 100th Anniversary of the Mirlo Rescue: One of the most dramatic U.S. Coast Guard wartime rescues is being remembered on the Outer Banks of North Carolina the week of August 16, 2018.



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