

America's Best Beaches Share Moment in the Sun Sunshine State Reigns

PRNewswire
NEEDHAM, Mass.

TripAdvisor(R), the world's largest travel community, today announced the top 10 beaches in the U.S., according to TripAdvisor's Popularity Index and TripAdvisor editors.

1. Delightful De Soto: Fort De Soto Park's North Beach, Tierra Verde, Florida

Just south of St. Petersburg, Fort De Soto Park's North Beach is a portrait of tranquility, with a spectacular combination of soft white sand, calm and clear water, and a laid-back atmosphere. In addition to the beautiful wide beach, travelers can also enjoy the area's wildlife and the 105 year-old fort for which the park is named. According to one TripAdvisor traveler, "The beach was very clean, the water was clear, and the whole experience was wonderful. Best beach we have been to so far."

2. Sainly Shores: St. Andrew's State Park, Panama City, Florida

Another pristine beach on Florida's Gulf Coast, this mile-and-a-half long beach has a child-friendly area in their calm "Grand Lagoon," and visitors can also ferry out to nearby Shell Island for great snorkeling. Nature lovers will delight in the remarkable variety of plants and wildlife at this immaculately-maintained park. As one TripAdvisor traveler stated, "My husband and I have traveled to many beaches over the years but this was our favorite. It is beautiful, breathtaking, and the wildlife we encountered was amazing."

3. Cool Kailua: Kailua Beach Park, Kailua, Hawaii

A classically beautiful Hawaiian beach, Kailua Beach Park features gorgeous turquoise waters, powder white sand, and palm trees peppering its broad coastline. With calm surf that hovers around 75 degrees on average, visitors may never want to leave the water and the beach is renowned for children and adults alike. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "When we arrived at the beach, it was the most beautiful, serene, well-maintained area I've ever seen."

4. Peach of a Beach: Cumberland Island National Seashore, Cumberland Island, Georgia

Featuring miles of peaceful and quiet beachfront, Cumberland Island Seashore has a uniquely isolated, undiscovered feel. The beach is ideal for swimming, or to just enjoy a quiet time basking in the sun. As one TripAdvisor traveler shared, "Cumberland Island is one of the most beautiful unspoiled beaches on the east coast. The white sand that extends for miles of endless beach is sublime."

5. SoBe It: South Beach, Miami, Florida

For a hip and sexy beach scene, South Beach is unparalleled. Enjoy the stunning, warm waters at the beach, but don't forget to indulge in some of the best restaurants, resorts, and nightclubs you'll find in the country, just steps away. As one TripAdvisor member recalls, "We both came back with a beautiful tan and wonderful memories."

6. Tunnels Vision: Tunnels Beach, Kauai, Hawaii

Another Hawaiian paradise, Tunnels Beach is renowned for its outstanding snorkeling. This picture-perfect beach features cream-colored sands, a protected half-moon reef, and unbelievable views—particularly the sunsets. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "I've never seen a more scenic backdrop at a beach. The water is amazing; clear and blue."

7. Drink It Up: Pensacola Beach, Pensacola, Florida

A popular family destination with gentle waves and soft sand, Pensacola Beach offers an amazingly relaxed atmosphere. The huge beach's clean, beautiful shoreline invites you to swim, boat, collect shells, or just lay back on a chair with a good book. As one TripAdvisor member commented, "This is a beautiful white sand beach with the absolute clearest water you've ever seen."

8. Good Beach Hunting: Hunting Island State Park, Beaufort, South Carolina

Hunting Island beach is part of a lush and protected nature reserve, and this secluded barrier island is home to an enormous variety of wildlife. Great for hiking, biking and camping, visitors will also want to check out the historic Hunting Island Lighthouse. According to one TripAdvisor member, "Hunting Island State Park is one of the true gems of the South Carolina coast."

9. Torrey Treat: Torrey Pines State Beach, San Diego, California

With stunning 300-foot sandstone cliffs towering over golden sands and Pacific waters, this beach is a California classic. The state beach is accessible through the lush Torrey Pines State Reserve, which features remarkable wildlife and trails. As one TripAdvisor member says, "Make sure to check out the Torrey Pines State Beach—amazing cliffs, clean sand, and rolling waves—great for swimming and sunbathing."

10. Endless Stunner: Waimea Bay Beach Park, Oahu, Hawaii

A spacious, but popular beach, Waimea Bay Beach Park boasts clear waters and soft, fine-grain sand. Renowned for its gigantic winter waves made famous in surfing films, this stunning destination is best enjoyed in the summer months, when its clear waters are at their calmest. As one TripAdvisor member explained, "Gorgeous is the only way to describe Waimea Beach. The sand was like golden powder, and the water was as clear as a pool."

"These spectacular beaches stand out for their world-class sand, breathtaking water, and all-around relaxing environments," said Michele Perry, director of communications for TripAdvisor. "Many of these beaches are off the beaten path, so travelers should pack their beach bags and head there before word gets out."

About TripAdvisor Media Network

TripAdvisor(R) Media Network, operated by TripAdvisor, LLC, attracts nearly 30 million monthly visitors (source: comScore Media Metrix, Digital Calculator Report, July 2007) across eight popular travel brands, TripAdvisor(R) sites, bookingbuddy.com (TM), cruisecritic.com(TM), independenttraveler.com(TM), seatguru.com(R), smartertravel.com(TM), travel-library.com(TM) and travelpod.com(TM). TripAdvisor-branded sites make up the largest travel community in the world, with more than 25 million monthly visitors, five million registered members and 10 million reviews and opinions. Featuring real advice from real travelers, TripAdvisor-branded sites cover 280,000+ hotels and attractions and operate in the U.S. (<http://www.tripadvisor.com/>), the U.K. (<http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/>), Ireland (<http://www.tripadvisor.ie/>), France (<http://www.tripadvisor.fr/>), Germany

(<http://www.tripadvisor.de/>), Italy (<http://www.tripadvisor.it/>), and Spain (<http://www.tripadvisor.es/>). TripAdvisor(R) Media Network provides travel suppliers with graphical advertising opportunities and a cost-per-click marketing platform. Collectively, the sites comprising the TripAdvisor Media Network have won hundreds of awards and accolades from press and industry, worldwide. TripAdvisor and the sites comprising the TripAdvisor Media Network are operating companies of Expedia, Inc. .

TripAdvisor, Seatguru, Travel-library and Travelpod are either registered trademarks or trademarks of TripAdvisor LLC in the U.S. and/or other countries. Bookingbuddy and Smartertravel are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Smarter Travel Media LLC in the U.S. and/or other countries. Cruise Critic and The Independent Traveler are either trademarks or registered trademarks of The Independent Traveler, Inc. in the U.S. and/or other countries. Other logos or product and company names mentioned herein may be the property of their respective owners.

First Call Analyst:

FCMN Contact:

SOURCE: TripAdvisor

CONTACT: Consumer, Brooke Ferencsik, +1-781-444-1113 x275, brooke@tripadvisor.com, or Trade & Business, Brian Payea, +1-781-444-1113 x388, bpayea@tripadvisor.com, both of TripAdvisor

Web site: <http://www.tripadvisor.com/>

<https://tripadvisor.mediaroom.com/2008-02-27-Americas-Best-Beaches-Share-Moment-in-the-Sun>