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FOR RELEASE

'WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS BEACH' FAST-BECOMING A FOODIE HAVEN

Upcoming Festivals, Holidays and Seasonal Menus Showcase Daytona Beach Cuisine

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (April 8, 2014) – The 'World's Most Famous Beach' has long been known for sand and sun, but the Daytona Beach area is increasingly gaining a reputation as a haven for foodies as well, with festivals and events celebrating local cuisine.

The Central Florida beach communities along the Atlantic Ocean are famous for fresh seafood, local produce and everything in between. Whether travelers are craving grass-fed filet mignon, seafood lasagna, Asian fusion fare, handcrafted hops or just a good old American cheeseburger, Daytona Beach has their taste buds covered.

Foodie Fun

The [Halifax Oyster & Music Festival](#) to be held along the Halifax River on beautiful Manatee Island, April 26 (11 a.m. to 8 p.m.) and April 27 (Noon to 6 p.m.), will feature live music (Alex and Sierra performed in 2013), great food, beer, refreshments and all the oysters guests can handle. Local restaurant vendors will sell seafood and other specialty dishes, and oysters will be available raw or steamed by the dozen.

Billed as "A Party With A Purpose," proceeds from the \$10 admission fee (children 6 and under FREE) will be used to fund local oyster bed restoration efforts.

Celebrate Spring

Springtime holidays offer another excuse for local restaurants to showcase their best brunch menu. Visitors can join in the fun on **Easter** (April 20) and **Mother's Day** (May 11).

For both dates, enjoy the outstanding views of both the Atlantic and the Intracoastal Waterway from the rooftop deck of [The Shores Resort & Spa](#), serving an all-inclusive champagne brunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a seafood station, two carving stations, a dessert station and many of the chef's specialties as entrees.

[The Hilton Daytona Beach Resort – Ocean Walk Village](#) is hosting brunches in its Grand Ballroom with six separate seating times starting every hour at 11 a.m. The Easter and Mother's Day feasts feature roast leg of lamb, New York strip steak, honey glazed ham, seafood, breakfast items and a dessert list that includes a chocolate fountain.

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For a more casual celebration, head over to [Aunt Catfish's on the River](#) in Port Orange from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., for Easter Sunday or Mother's Day. Take in a unique Old Florida atmosphere with a hot buffet line of all the traditional fare of carved turkey and ham, as well as eggs, omelets, pancakes and French toast made to order right in front of you. This down south river cookin' also serves southern favorites like cheese grits, biscuits and gravy, and fried catfish, and the brunch includes a bakery table and chocolate fountain for fruit and marshmallow dipping.

The newest restaurant in the area, [Fusion 43](#) in Ormond Beach, is putting its own unique twist on the traditional holiday brunches. On Easter Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Chef Mark is featuring an à la carte gourmet menu with smoked salmon and crab benedicts, grilled Bloody Marys and mimosas, and crème brulee stuffed french toast.

Fusion 43 offers a seasonal menu that artistically blends two unique flavors and cooking styles. Past fare has included Asian-Pacific, the current menu is Brazilian Greek, and coming May 6, the restaurant will unveil its newest seasonal offerings: Cali-ribbean, a mix of west coast cuisine with the flavors of the islands.

Breweries to Sample for American Craft Beer Week

Make sure you plan stops at the Daytona Beach area's numerous microbreweries during the week of May 12 to celebrate American Craft Beer Week:

[Ormond Brewing Company](#) – As the area's first craft brewery, Ormond Brewing Company features a taproom with growler filling station and outdoor beer garden where you can relax by the fire pit, listen to live music and order food for direct delivery from a number of local restaurants nearby. With 10 distinct beers like the Kickstart Cream Ale, Hop Hazard IPA and the Backwater Black IBA, you're sure to find a favorite.

[Tomoka Brewery](#) – Serving award-winning craft brews made in-house and delicious beer-crust gourmet pizzas, Tomoka Brewery in Ormond Beach is a great stop before or after the beach. To celebrate its gold medal winner—the Elvis' Peanut Butter and Banana Sandwich Brown Ale—the brewpub will host Elvis Day Saturday, April 26, with a costume contest and chocolate and bacon infused versions of the specialty ale on tap.

[Daytona Beach Brewing Company](#) – Known for its beach-inspired beers like Seabreeze Golden Ale, Beachside IPA and Beachcomber Brown Ale, the Daytona Beach Brewing Company is putting the finishing touches on a taproom addition to its brewing facilities. Coming soon, you'll be able to pull up a seat or take a growler of these specialty beers to go.

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About the Daytona Beach Area

Discover the new Daytona Beach and its surrounding area, a resurging destination along Florida's East Coast comprising eight distinct communities. Recognized worldwide for its annual events including Bike Week, Biketoberfest®, Rolex 24 at Daytona and the Daytona 500, Daytona Beach's famed heritage also claims the U.S. headquarters of LPGA and NASCAR, and is home to Daytona International Speedway, the 'World Center of Racing.' With more than 15,000 beds, the destination boasts accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets including resorts, B&Bs, hotels and everything in between. Visitors can enjoy the quintessential vacation experience beginning with the Daytona Beach Boardwalk and Pier, or choose from a surprising list of attractions and cultural venues, and a colorful culinary scene. With 23 miles of world-famous beaches ideal for shelling, swimming and surfing, it is no surprise Daytona Beach was chosen as a Best Florida Attraction in the Top 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contest sponsored by USA TODAY. To order a complimentary comprehensive Official Visitors Guide, visit DaytonaBeach.com. For real-time updates, visit [Facebook.com/DaytonaBeach](https://www.facebook.com/DaytonaBeach) or [Twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun](https://twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun).

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