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.

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.

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.

USA TODAY
BEST EAST COAST BEACHES
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, was selected as a best beach on the East Coast of the United States.

USA TODAY
AMERICA’s FASTEST GROWING CITIES
As a vacation and retirement destination, Myrtle Beach’s population has grown more than 14 percent from 2010
to 2015, making it the fifth fastest growing city in America.

LONELY PLANET
SUMMER’S TRENDING TRAVEL DESTINATIONS
Based on search results from travel planning tool Kayak, the popular beach destination of Myrtle Beach, South
Carolina, is a favorite among weekend travellers.

TRIPADVISOR
20 AFFORDABLE SUMMER BEACH DESTINATIONS ACROSS THE U.S.
With an average weekly room rate just north of $1,100, the Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina was ranked as an
affordable vacation destination.

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.

HSMAI 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

CONVENTIONOUTH 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
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 Trip Advisor 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.

OPEN TABLE 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 through 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**
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, retails 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”

TRAVELOCITY (2009), “TOP 8 VALUE DESTINATION FOR SPRING BREAK”

RESTAURANT BUSINESS MAGAZINE, RESTAURANT GROWTH INDEX (2009)

THE GREAT TOWNS OF AMERICA (2009)

TRIPADVISOR.COM, “2009 TOP AQUARIUMS” (2009)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE OWNERS, Grande Dunes Resort Club - “2009 NATIONAL GOLF COURSE OF THE YEAR”

SOUTHERN LIVING
- “FAVORITE BEACH” (2009)
- “FAVORITE FAMILY DESTINATION” (2009)
- “FAVORITE WEEKEND GETAWAY” (2009)
- “FAVORITE BEACH TOWNS” (2007)
- “FAVORITE FAMILY VACATIONS” (2007)


AOL.COM, “#2 SEARCHED DOMESTIC DESTINATION” (2008)


ASK.COM, “TOP FAMILY DESTINATIONS” (2008)

GOLF DIGEST, “OVERALL VALUE FOR MONEY DESTINATION” (2008)

TRIPADVISOR, “TOP FAMILY RESORT” (2008)

YAHOO!, “TOP TEN PLACES FOR FAMILIES TO VISIT IN THE U.S” (2008)

WIRED MAGAZINE, “TOP TEN WIRELESS DESTINATION” (2007)

MYRTLE BEACH SUN FUN FESTIVAL, “WORLD’S TALLEST SANDCASTLE” (2007)

TRAVEL CHANNEL-TV, “AMERICA’S BEST BEACHES - BEST BEACHES FOR FAMILIES” (2007)

YAHOO! TRAVEL, WORLD’S BEST BEACH (2007)

GOLF DIGEST, “TOP 100 PUBLIC GOLF COURSES IN AMERICA” (2007)

FORBES, “100 BEST SMALL PLACES FOR BUSINESS AND CAREERS” (2007)

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SOUTHERN ACCENTS, TOP 10 WINNER IN THREE CATEGORIES (2006)
- “FAVORITE SOUTHERN CITY FOR A WEEKEND GETAWAY”
• “FAVORITE GOLF/SPA DESTINATION”
• “FAVORITE BEACH DESTINATION”


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ESCAPEHOMES.COM, “MOST DESIRABLE SECOND HOME MARKETS” (2005)

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GROUPTRAVELPLANET.COM


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Media Contact
Ann Marcum
Fahlgren Mortine
614.383.1634
Ann.Marcum@Fahlgren.com