



KELLER WILLIAMS®

R E A L T Y

HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Visitor's
Guide

Events & Festivals

Every year, every season, and every month of every season brings an endless line-up of events. Plan your events when you plan your visit. There's something for everyone during any given time of the year.

Spring brings us SpringFest, with something happening every single day of March! The MCI Heritage Golf Tournament held at the Harbour Town Golf Links comes to us every April!

Summertime, the most popular season of the year, brings us that island vacation spirit as you and your families visit from all parts of the country. With HarbourFest, a myriad of events from fireworks to arts & crafts, to food & live entertainment will keep everyone happy!

Autumn, now there's a time of year that's just as wonderful! The 25th Anniversary of the Hilton Head Island Celebrity Golf Tournament will be held during the Labor Day Weekend to benefit the island charities. The fall calendar is full of fall festivals, sports tournaments, arts & crafts shows, and concerts.

Winter—no longer a time for hibernation! With Holiday festivities, food festivals, Christmas tours and musical performances, the excitement around here just never ends!

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A Little History

The magnificently beautiful landscape of the Lowcountry holds a past of discovery and settlement, from early fought battles to the never ceasing concern for the preservation of the fertile land and ever-growing beauty a lot of us call home.

The tribe names of its earliest Native American inhabitants are found all over South Carolina today. Edisto, Ashepoo, Combahee, Yemassee, and Daufuskie Island, a Creek Indian work meaning “land with a point,” all echo the Native American history of the region. Relics unearthed in the Lowcountry, and on Hilton Head Island, point to the presence of habitants as early as 10,000 B.C. Coastal Discovery, the Museum of Hilton Head Island, displays a variety of artifacts that represent Native Americans’ way of life. The Museum displays the history of the Lowcountry expertly through its informative and fascinating exhibits and tours.

In 1525, Spanish sailors encountered a prominent headland on the coast of South Carolina and name it “la Punta de Santa Elena.” The anglicized St. Helena (near Beaufort) survives and is one of the oldest continually used European names of geography in North America.

Explorers from throughout Europe came to South Carolina on their oceanic travels to discover new lands to claim for their royal crowns. The French briefly interrupted the early Spanish occupation, and then returned in 1680 when 45 Huguenots immigrated to the new colony.

In 1663, the abundant, untamed island was surveyed by William Hilton, an English sea captain, sailing from Barbados in search of tropical islands on which to establish profitable English plantations. Holton then claimed it for the British crown, establishing the legacy with his own name—Hilton’s Headland.

Hilton raved about the island’s beauty, encouraging settlement there. English settlers waited for the threat of both Spaniards and Native Americans to dispel before colonizing in 1670 to found South Carolina’s first permanent settlement where the Ashley and Cooper Rivers merge together, then called Charlestowne, and now called Charleston. Immigrants from Switzerland and lowland Scots from Northern Ireland settled the early townships. In the early 1700s, the current town of Beaufort was chartered, becoming the second English settlement in South Carolina.



Heyward House, Hilton Head Island, SC

As the Lowcountry grew, plantation owners looked for new crops to thrive in this highly tolerable climate. The early 1800s saw the advent of agriculture to the rich island soil, and among the crops grown was Sea Island Long Staple Cotton, which flourished in the warm subtropical climate. Rice and indigo were also grown. These labor intensive crops allowed planters to prosper during the pre-Civil War era; however, with onset of the war, gracious homes and prolific crops were abandoned by the planters. Bluffton was settled by area planters from Hilton Head Island, Palmetto Bluff, and the surrounding area in the early 1800s as a summer retreat. Literally a hot bed for political rhetoric, as early as 1844, cries of secession were first given voice and debate here.

The Coastal Discovery Museum

A visit to The Coastal Discovery Museum is not your ordinary museum visit. There are many fascinating exhibits on coastal history, archaeology, ecology, and cultural traditions of the Lowcountry. In addition to the permanent exhibits, the museum hosts changing exhibits throughout the year. The sense of discovery doesn't end at the museum. Over a dozen history and ecology tours and cruises are offered throughout the year to explore the rich history and ecology of the region. Arrangements can be made to venture out on one of these tours or cruises.

Beyond the exhibits and tours, there are numerous programs for children, including school groups and vacationers. There are several curriculum specific programs that are tailored for age and need. The summer programs offer an opportunity to learn about alligators, sea turtles, birds of prey, and other topics for the whole family.

The Coastal Discovery Museum takes an active role in the preservation of island resources, both natural and historical.

A hidden Hilton Head can be discovered by learning about its history while seeing the sights. Some of the island landmarks include: Baynard Ruins in Sea Pines, the ruins of Braddock's Point Plantation House; Steam Cannon at Port Royal; Cotton Hope Plantation; Fort Mitchell, on a bluff overlooking Skull Creek; Rose Hill Plantation House, just over the bridge; the Zion Cemetery; and Baynard Mausoleum, the final resting place of many Revolutionary War soldiers.

Each month, there are new exhibits and trips being offered for visitors. Discover the Discovery for yourself and contact the Museum at 843-689-6767 or visit their website at



<http://coastaldiscovery.org/>.

The Environment's Locals

Alligators

The alligators are fascinating creatures. Catching a glimpse of them sunning themselves on an embankment is an inspiring sight for everyone. Just remember these few tips and your vacation will be a memorable one, or your new neighbor won't try to perch on your doorstep:

- Always keep your distance! Teach your children to avoid the alligators and keep pets away from the edges of the lagoons.
- Never, ever feed the alligators! They will become aggressive and expect more. Discourage others from feeding them, too!
- When encountering an alligator on land, just walk away, being careful not to get between the alligator and the water—that's the alligator's escape route!
- Do not approach an alligator's nest!
- Do not provoke them by throwing things at them. They will charge with very little provocation.

Dolphins

These marine mammals enchant us all with their intelligence and their cheerful, playful nature. Dolphins swim in pods of six to eight members, communicating with each other with audible clicks, whistles and squeaks.

They will playfully follow in a boat's wake, matching its speed, leap gleefully into the air, and will make you wonder if you are checking them out, or are they checking you out?

Please don't feed our friendly mariners, it breaks their ecological cycle, and it is illegal in US waters. Boaters and skiers should not chase the dolphins—the young ones are highly susceptible to these types of injuries.

The Beaches

Hilton Head Island's main attraction is its beaches. Stretching for twelve miles, these beaches invite sunbathers, walkers, and many others looking for water-oriented recreation.

There are five public beach accesses. One of the south island's popular locations is the Coligny Beach Park, off the traffic circle on Pope Avenue, where you can find a pavilion, restrooms, rentals, shops, and restaurants. Another is the Alder Lane Beach Access, off Forest Beach Drive.

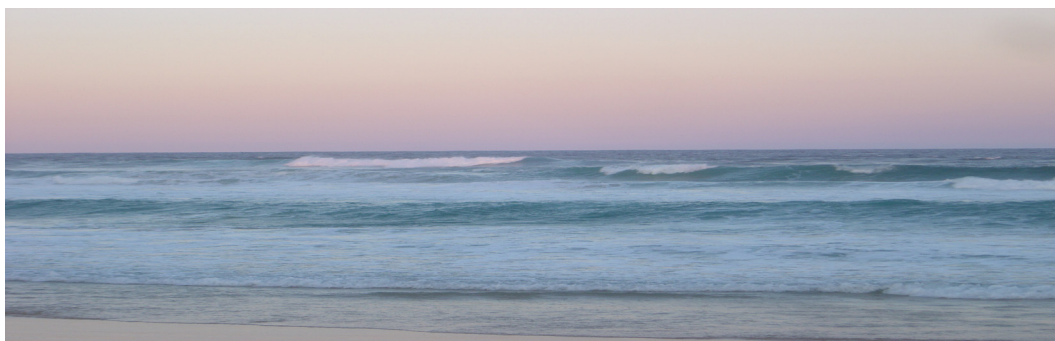


Beaches conveniently located mid-island are Driessen Beach Park, at the end of Bradley Beach Road; Folly Field Beach Park, off Folly Field Road; and Islanders Beach Park, also off Folly Field Road.



HILTON HEAD ISLAND WEATHER INFORMATION

Month	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Avg. Temp F	48	50	57	63	71	77	81	79	76	67	58	50
Avg. High Temp F	58	61	67	74	81	85	88	87	83	76	68	60
Avg. Low Temp F	37	39	46	53	62	69	73	72	68	57	47	40
Avg. Sunshine %	54	57	62	71	68	65	64	62	58	63	61	55
Avg. Ocean Temp F	51	52	59	67	74	81	85	85	82	73	64	54
Avg. Precip. Inches	4.4	3.3	3.8	3.2	3.0	5.1	6.1	8.2	5.8	3.8	2.7	3.1



Island Marinas and Harbors

Hilton Head Island's marinas are full-service with a variety of boat slips, depending on the harbor's size.

Powerboats and wave runners can be rented at Harbour Town, Broad Creek Marina, Palmetto Bay Marina, Shelter Cove Harbour and South Beach. Most of the island's harbors also have charter boats for island and off-shore expeditions. Some have boating or sailing instruction, and South Beach offers kayaking and water-skiing lessons as well as charters and rentals.

Warm-weather entertainment, fine dining, and shopping can be found at Shelter Cove, Harbour Towne and South Beach. The table below is a listing of the marinas and the facilities each provides.



Transient Facilities	Slips	Draft	Electric	Waste	Fuel Pump	Launch Facilities	Storage	Rentals	Instruction	Fishing & Other
Broad Creek Marina (843) 681-DOCK (3625) 1 mi. N of Palmetto Bay	100	15' Low Tide	110/220	No	Gas & Diesel	Forklift Ramp (9-ton limit)	Wet & Dry	Waverunners Powerboats Fishing Boats Sailboats	Sailing	Charters
Harbour Town Yacht Basin (843) 671-2704 1 ½ mi. SE of ICW Marker 32	85	6' Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	None	Wet	Kayaks Waverunners Bareboats Parasailing Sailboats	Water Skiing Sailing	Charters Tours
Hilton Head Boathouse (843) 681-2628 405 Squire Pope Road	350 Dry	3' Low Tide	No	No	Gas	Forklift	Dry Stack	None	None	Charters
Outdoor Resorts Yacht Club (843) 681-3256 ICW Marker 20	101	6' Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	Private Ramp	Wet	Kayaks Sailboats Fishing Boats Pontoon Boats	None	Charters
Palmetto Bay Marina (843) 785-3910 Broad Creek from ICW Marker 20	125	20'+ Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	Travel-Lift (50 Ton)	Wet	Waverunners Kayaks Powerboats Parasailing Sailboats	Sailing Kayaking	Charters Dolphin Tours
Shelter Cove Marina (843) 842-7001 Broad Creek	170	9' Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	None	Wet	Powerboats Sailboats Fishing Equipment	Sailing	Charters Bait & Supplies Available
Skull Creek Marina (843) 681-4234 ICW Marker 555	180	12' Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	Mobile-Lift 30-ton Limit	Wet	None	None	None
South Beach Marina (843) 671-6699 Braddock Cove	100	6' Low Tide	30 amp	Yes	Gas	Ramp	Wet & Dry	Powerboats Parasailing Waverunners	Water Skiing Sailing School Kayaking	Charters Dolphin Watch
Windmill Harbour Marina (843) 681-9235 Near HHI Bridge	260	8' Low Tide	110/220	Yes	Gas & Diesel	None	Wet	Sailboats	Sailing	None

Have A Safe Boating Experience!

Exploring Hilton Head Island and the Lowcountry from off-shore is a memorable experience not to be missed! As a way of life for many, and with the prevalence of boaters, safety is a necessity each and every boater. By adhering to a few safety guidelines, boaters will have a most enjoyable experience.

The broad tidal range can vary from five to eight feet, making the channels difficult to negotiate. The currents and fluctuating depths of the marshes and waterways can be potentially hazardous. Knowledge of the local tide tables is crucial; otherwise, most of the rivers and channels are well marked and easy to navigate. Familiarizing yourself with safety guidelines and important boating information is required for preventing any mishaps. The US Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the US Power Squadron, or state and local authorities can provide complete information on water and boating safety. These agencies are available to answer any of your water and boating questions, and all of them will help you to feel safer and have a more relaxed boating experience.

There are boating safety courses available on Hilton Head Island. Learn how to be your own boat captain with assured confidence. Call the Hilton Head Sail and Power Squadron at 686-6794, the Coast Guard Auxiliary at 686-2483, or the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources—Boater Education at 1-800-227-4301. For information on boating safety courses in other areas of the country, please call 1-800-336-BOAT (2628).



FREE VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

Call 686-2483 for information.

Make the seal of safety a part of your boat by getting a Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Safety Check. This is a free check of your boat's safety-related equipment covering all federal and state requirements plus additional standards recommended by the auxiliary. The examination is conducted only with your consent by a qualified member of the auxiliary. If your boat passes the examination, the award of the decal is your assurance that your boat is properly equipped for fun and safety on the water.

The Vessel Safety Check is respected by experienced boatmen everywhere. Coast Guard boarding officers will normally consider a boat displaying the decal to be in compliance with the law and will not board it unless they observe an obvious violation.

The Vessel Safety Check is not a law enforcement program. At the conclusion of the examination, the check-off list is given to you. If your boat did not pass, no report of deficiencies will be made to any enforcement agency.

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKLIST

The following are some of the items the Vessel Examiner will check:

- Personal flotation devices
- Fire extinguisher(s)
- Backfire flame control
- Bilge ventilation
- Visual distress signals
- Navigation lights
- Sound producing devices
- Registration and hux ID
- Fuel systems
- General condition

FREE BOATING AND SAFETY COURSES

Call 686-2483 or 686-6794 for information.

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Hilton Head Sail and Power Squadron offer boating safety courses in the local area. These courses cover a variety of subjects to help make your fun on the water safer.

Personal water craft operators are encouraged to attend these classes, which provide instruction required of operators less than 16 years of age.

Getting Into the Swing of Things

CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Celebrity Golf Tournament was founded in 1979 by a small group of Hilton Head Island Jaycees. This tournament helps 18 different Beaufort County Children's Charities with proceeds totaling over \$2,000,000.00.



Greenwood Development Corporation, The Sea Pines Resort, The Melrose Company and Club Corp. all host this event year after year. The tournament has been supported by many

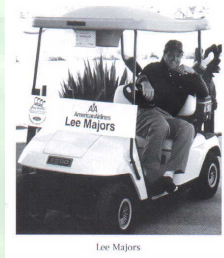
corporations locally, regionally and nationally throughout the years.

The Hilton Head Island Celebrity Golf Tournament is the most respected and longest running Celebrity Golf Tournaments in the country. It is a fun event promoting corporate entertainment, goodwill and fellowship with the one goal of raising money for local children's charities.

The list from the tournament's 25 year history is a most impressive lineup including Neil

Armstrong, James Lovell, Ernie Banks, Steve Bartkowski, Johnny bench, Bonnie Blair, Jim Boeheim, Jim Calhoun, P.J. Carlesimo, Gary Carter, Rick Cerone, Linda Cohn, Bob Cousy, Bobby Cremins, Laurie Dhue, Julius Erving, Carlton Fisk, John Havlicek, K.C. Jones, Michael Jordan, Jim Palmer, Vince Gill, Lee Majors, Alex Trebek—just to name a few.

All the proceeds from this annual event help to provide food, shelter, clothing, day care, counseling, summer camp for the disabled, medical aid and programs that give our children a sense of self worth and direction.



ISLAND COURSES PUBLIC ACCESS

Indigo Run

Golden Bear Golf Club..... 689-2200

Palmetto Dunes

Arthur Hills Course
.....785-1138 or 785-1140
George Fazio Course
.....785-1138 or 785-1130
Robert Trent Jones Course
.....785-1138 or 785-1136

Palmetto Hall Plantation

Arthur Hills Course..... 689-4100
Robert Cupp Course..... 689-4100

Sea Pines

Harbour Town Golf Links 842-8484
Ocean Course..... 842-8484
Sea Marsh Course..... 842-8484

Shipyards Plantation

Shipyards Golf Club..... 689-GOLF

ISLAND COURSES SEMI-PRIVATE ACCESS

Hilton Head Plantation

Country Club of Hilton Head
.....681-2582 or 681-GOLF
Oyster Reef Golf Club
.....681-7717 or 689-GOLF

Port Royal Plantation

Barony Course..... 689-GOLF
Planter's Row Course 689-GOLF
Robber's Row Course..... 689-GOLF
(Open to the public on alternate months)

ISLAND COURSES PRIVATE ACCESS

Hilton Head Plantation

Bear Creek Golf Club..... 681-2667
Dolphin Head Golf Club 681-5550

Indigo Run

The Golf Club At Indigo Run.. 689-3500

Long Cove

Long Cove Club..... 686-1020

Sea Pines

Club Course..... 671-2819

Spanish Wells Plantation

Spanish Wells Golf Club 681-2819

Wexford Plantation

Wexford Golf Club..... 686-8812

OFF-ISLAND COURSES PUBLIC ACCESS

Bluffton

Crescent Pointe Golf Club ...706-2600
Eagle's Pointe Golf Club
..... 686-4457 or 757-5900
Executive Golf Club (Par 3 Course)
..... 837-6400 or 686-6400
Hilton Head National Signature Golf
Course842-5900
Island West Golf Club689-6660
Old Carolina Golf Club.....785-6363
Old South Golf Links.....785-5353
Rose Hill Country Club842-3740

Daufuskie Island

Bloody Point Golf Club.....842-2000
Melrose Course842-2000

Sun City

Hidden Cypress Golf Club ...705-4999
Okatie Creek Golf Club.....705-GOLF

OFF-ISLAND COURSES PRIVATE ACCESS

Bluffton

Belfair.....757-0715
Berkeley Hall.....815-8400
Colleton River Plantation
Dye Course837-3010
Nicklaus Course.....837-3010
Moss Creek Plantation
Devil's Elbow North837-2231
Devil's Elbow South837-2231

Daufuskie Island

Haig Point Golf Club686-9202





Alright tennis players, did you know that Hilton Head Island is the home of the Van Der Meer Tennis University? There are over 360 tennis courts on all three Grand Slam surfaces. Out of that group, four of our resorts are in Tennis magazine's top 50 US clubs—Palmetto Dunes Tennis Center, Port Royal Racquet Club, Sea Pines Racquet Club, and the Van Der Meer Shipyard Racquet Club.

Tennis players, whether you are an amateur looking for that extra instruction, or the pro looking to perfect your game, Hilton Head Island's racquet clubs are the perfect place to find what you want. All of our resorts staff only highly qualified in-house professionals who provide daily, weekly, semi-private, and private lessons.

Don't forget the annual tennis symposium held in the fall by the USPTR (United States Professional Tennis Registry), which only shows Hilton Head Island as a top tennis destination!

The clubs listed here offer clinics and instruction—call for details!

Public Courts	
Hilton Head Island Beach & Tennis Resort 842-4402	10 Hard (Lighted)
Palmetto Dunes Tennis Center 785-1152 or 800-972-0257	23 Clay (6 Lighted) 2 Hard (Lighted)
Port Royal Racquet Club 686-8803	10 Clay (2 Lighted) 4 Hard (Lighted) 2 Grass
Sea Pines Racquet Club 363-4495	23 Clay (2 Lighted)
South Beach Racquet Club 671-2215	13 Clay (2 Lighted)
Van Der Meer Shipyard Tennis Resort 686-8804	13 Clay (5 Lighted) 7 Hard (3 Indoor & Lighted)
Van Der Meer Tennis Center 785-8388 or 800-845-6138	17 Hard (4 Covered & Lighted)



TENNIS

Private Courts	
Fiddler's Cove Beach & Racquet Club 842-5744	10 Clay 2 Racquetball
Island Club Tennis Club 785-8012	7 Clay 2 Hard (Lighted) 1 Racquetball
Long Cove Tennis Club 686-1030	8 Clay (2 Lighted)
Moss Creek Racquet Club 837-2240	7 Clay (2 Lighted)
Sea Pines Country Club 671-2345	8 Clay (4 Lighted)
South Carolina Yacht Club 681-3100	7 Clay
Spring Lake Racquet Club 681-3626	12 Clay (4 Lighted)
Wexford Tennis Center 686-8816	6 Clay (4 Lighted)

Arts

Entertainment



a performance in the making



The Arts Center's Main Stage—The Elizabeth Wallace Theater—has a working stage, cyclorama, orchestra pit, and trap door access for special effects.

Main Stage attractions include comedy, drama, musicals, talented dancers and singers, and exciting live performances from pop, rock, jazz, big band, blues, country, and classical artists, as well as acrobats and improvisation comedy. There's something for everyone!

Let's not forget the annual outdoor festivals, either! The Arts Center is host to the Community Christmas Tree Lighting in December, the GullahFest in February, the Youths ArtsFest in March and the very popular Family Fiesta Latina in May.

Cultural activities are a huge part of Hilton Head Island, and have been for many, many years. Hilton Head Island is proud to offer such a diversity of these cultural activities that keep you coming back year after year.

For more information and tickets for any of the many events, please call the box office at 843-842-ARTS.

Aside from the plentiful recreational activities, Hilton Head Island has such a rich and diverse culture that is displayed through performing arts, visual arts, dance, theater, music, and art.

The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina is situated at the heart of the Island. It hosts many concerts, plays, dance performances, and art exhibits.

The Walter Greer Gallery displays a dozen featured exhibits throughout each season. Beautiful sculptures, paintings, and photographs compliment the walls and floor. Local and National shows, including the Gullah Celebration in February, are sponsored here throughout the year.