

**What to See & Do on HWY 98
Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties**

Gulf Breeze to Destin and Beyond

by Tammy McDaniel

Modified for Chinook Camping Club 2019



Fort Pickens & Fort Barrancas

Fort Pickens is open to the public from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., except for registered campers and visitors with night owl passes. The campground store is open, food services and limited camping supplies are available. Campgrounds/RV Spaces - open with showers, electricity, water, fire rings/grills and dump stations. To access the reservation system online, go to www.recreation.gov. To make a reservation by phone, call Reserve America 1-877-444-6777.

Campers with reservations must register at the Fort Pickens Campground Office between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. During the months of November through February camping is only available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Camping fees are paid in the kiosk located outside the Fort Pickens Campground Office. Questions about the campground can be directed to the Campground Office at 850-934-2622 daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fort Pickens and Fort Barrancas tours are everyday at 2:00 p.m., during summer months tours are 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Gulf Breeze Zoo



The Gulf Breeze Zoo is a 50 acre facility featuring hundreds of animals from around the world! The areas largest and best animal attraction. With 850+ animals, covering 137 species of mammal, bird and reptile, we have plenty of monkeys, mobs of kangaroo, flocks of squawkers, cats like crazy, and tons of tortoises!

5701 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze 850-932-2229

2019 Zoo Hours

January 1- February 28:

Open Daily 9AM - 4PM (Last admission 3PM)

March 1- October 31st:

Open Daily 9AM - 5PM (Last admission 4PM)

November 1 - December 31st: *

Open Daily 9AM - 4PM (Last admission 3PM)

* Zoo is closed Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 2019 and select hours only on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019.



We currently have a lot of vendors operating across 45 acres. You can find bargains on thousands of items, new and used, you may just find something you can't live without or that hard to buy for person. We are all under one roof with paved walk ways, clean restrooms, free parking and free admission. There are enough vendors and products that you, your family and friends can take your time and spend the entire day. Thanks for visiting since 1993.

Open Saturdays & Sundays from 9a-5p (Rain or Shine)

5760 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze FL



Hours 5:00 AM - 10:00 PM

8579 Gulf Blvd, Navarre Fl 850-710-3239

www.navarrebeachpier.com

Navarre Fishing Pier

1545 ft long & 30ft above the water

You can rent fishing poles

Daily, weekly & annual passes available



The **Navarre Beach Sea Turtle Conservation Center** started as an idea of a few passionate individuals that were involved in sea turtle conservation efforts on Navarre Beach. We received our 501c(3) status in April 2013. Protection of coastal and marine ecosystems is paramount to sea turtle survival. The NBSTCC is designed to showcase Northwest Florida and our unique natural resources. Visitors to the NBSTCC can take a journey through Northwest Florida and leave with the knowledge they need to make a difference, no matter where they live. We have welcomed over 20,000 guests since August 2016! We are grateful to everyone for believing in our mission and “Giving Sea Turtles More Tomorrows.”

Sweet Pea our resident sea turtle. Admission \$5.00pp

Physical Address: 8740 Gulf Blvd Navarre Beach, FL 32566

Current Hours: Sunday: Closed for animal care; Monday: Closed for animal care; Tuesday: 12pm-4pm; Wednesday: 12pm-4pm; Thursday: 12pm-4pm; Friday: 12pm-4pm; Saturday: 12pm-4pm;

[Phone: \(850\) 684-3347](tel:(850)684-3347)

info@navarrebeachseaturtles.org

Marlene's Sea Shell City

8771 Navarre Pkwy
Navarre, FL 850-939-8210





Navarre Beach Marine Sanctuary

Located in the Navarre Beach Marine Park, Sea Oat pavilion & lifeguard Station #1 follow the Kayak & SCUBA boardwalk to the beach. The site is marked on shore by four large PVC posts positioned on the sand dune. The Reef is 340ft south of the mean tide line and consists of 78 structures in nine columns spaced 20ft apart and is ideal for snorkeling and diving of any skill level.

<http://www.navarrebeachmarinesanctuary.com/>

Hurlburt AFB

Driving through Mary Esther, FL



Oak Tree Nature Park

707 E Hollywood Blvd, Mary Esther 32569-2015



Air Force Armament Museum

Founded in 1985 on Eglin Air Force Base, this facility's mission is to exhibit and interpret the military history of Eglin and the armed forces in general. 100 Museum Drive, Eglin Air Force Base 850-882-4062



Heritage Park & Cultural Center

Indian Temple Mound Museum, Fort Walton Temple Mound, Camp Walton Schoolhouse Museum
Garnier Post Office Museum and the newly opened Civil War Exhibit Hall.
139 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE, FWB FL 32548 850-833-9595



Magnolia Grill

159 Brooks St FWB, FL 850-302-0266

Hidden Historical Treasures upstairs

A family-owned and operated restaurant located in a 1910 Sears mail-order house located in the historic section of Ft. Walton Beach. Deep in the heart of Brooks Street in downtown Fort Walton Beach you will find Magnolia Grill.

Magnolia Grill sparkles at night with its twinkling lights leading the way to the front porch of this 100-year home. Step inside the restaurant where the past of Ft. Walton Beach and the surrounding area is on display and draping the walls, an intriguing and attractive museum.



Gulfarium

Marine Adventure Park

Gulfarium Marine Adventure Park has entertained millions since its inception in 1955. In the early 1950's J.B. "Brandy" Siebenaler, a well-respected marine researcher and graduate of the University of Miami's Marine Laboratory, had a vision to display marine life in a way that visitors to this area had never seen before. Brandy sold the developers of northwest Florida the idea that Fort Walton Beach needed an aquarium, a tourist attraction and scientific research center. Home to the C.A.R.E. Center that rescues, rehabilitates, & releases sea turtles found on the Gulf Coast. Dolphin & Sea Lion Shows daily as well as animal chats.

1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Ft Walton Beach FL 32548 850-243-9046



Okaloosa Island Fishing Pier



The original Okaloosa Island Fishing Pier was built in 1972 and extend 962 feet into the Gulf of Mexico. The current pier opened in 1998 and **now goes out 1262 feet**, which is almost 1/4 mile. An octagon at the end greatly increases the fishing area and lets anglers fight the big fish. 1030 Miracle Strip Pkwy, Ft Walton Beach, FL

850-244-1023



John C Beasley State Park

1550 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach 32548

Park dedicated for African Americans on March 19, 1960. It was later desegregated in 1964. Andrew Hill was appointed park ranger in 1960 as overseer of Beasley State Park. He later retired from the Florida Park Service in 1965. Ranger Hill was recently honored with a commemorative plaque that adorns the entrance of the park.



The Okaloosa Area of the **Gulf Islands National Seashore** is a bay-side beach that is open for day-use only from 8 AM to sunset.

Eastern end of Santa Rosa Island near Ft Walton Beach



@ 2016 STEVEN L MARKOS



Destin Harbor

www.emeraldgrande.com 10 Harbor Blvd, Destin FL 850-424-0600

Come out to Harbor Walk Village where restaurants, activities and entertainment will please each and every taste on your next Destin family vacation. With so many things to do in Destin Florida; here you can find waterfront shopping, paddle board and kayak rentals, pontoon and jet ski rentals, parasailing, glass bottom boats, world class fishing, pirate ship excursions, dolphin cruises, concerts and live music, weekly fireworks, weekly Fat Tuesday parades, live entertainment, and an array of restaurants, including Jimmy Buffets Margaritaville and Harry Ts, to satisfy all tastes. Plenty of things to do in Destin Florida, for the whole family!

Harbor Walk Village is home to the Destin Fishing Fleet, the largest charter fishing fleet in the country. Here you can experience the Worlds Luckiest Fishing Village aboard one of Destin's finest charter boats or stroll along the docks and witness the catch of the day. And where there is great fishing, there are great seafood restaurants, Harbor Walk is no exception. Here you'll find an array of cuisine that is fresh, local and delicious, sure to be one of a seafood lovers favorite things to do in Destin Florida!

Destin History & Fishing Museum

108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, Florida 32541 850-837-6611





Destin's Original Dolphin Cruise is locally owned and operated, offering a personal touch found only in a family owned business. Of all the dolphin cruises in the United States, the Southern Star Dolphin Cruise was selected by CNN to be featured on its program "Earth Matters." We were also shown on National Geographic's "Earth Watch," and we have been honored to host writers for magazines such as Relish, Redbook, and other travel publications.

Harbor Walk Village Marina Level 100 Harbor Blvd, Suite A Destin, FL 32541
850-837-7741



The Destin Harbor Boardwalk

10 Harbor Blvd, Destin Fl 850-424-0600

The Heart of the World's Luckiest Fishing Village - The Destin Harbor Boardwalk is Destin's marquis community project that has been 15+ years in the making. The first phase of The Destin Harbor Boardwalk was completed in the Spring of 2012 and provides public access to over one-half mile of the northern edge of Destin Harbor in Destin, Florida from Harbor walk Village east behind AJ's, Galati Yachts, and Fisherman's Wharf and stopping at the Yacht Club. Construction on Phase I commenced in January 2012 and was completed in May 2012.





*Book in advance,
we routinely sell out!*

226 Harbor Boulevard, Destin FL 32541 850-714-1364

Enjoy a glide through Paradise with plenty of ride time and local sights. Some of our stops will include: Harbor Walk Village overlooking the Harbor, the original settlement site of Destin, and Clement Taylor Park with views of Crab Island and The Destin History and Fishing Museum. The glide also includes great photo opportunities for the group. A Destin, FL Segway Tour is one of the best ways to tour Destin! Book your Segway tour today and find out why we are one of the best things to do in Destin.

All Segway Tours are ages 14 and up.



Snorkeling the Destin Jetties

The Destin Jetties is a popular snorkeling spot in Florida's panhandle. In this part of the state, there are no close-in coral reefs--just a broad expanse of ocean floor made up of clean, quartz sand. The man-made jetties, however, in addition to fulfilling their primary mission of protecting Destin Pass also provide an artificial reef, attracting a variety of sea life.

277 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin FL





Lucy Anne Buffett, also known by her childhood nickname LuLu, and the official “Crazy Sista” of the Buffett clan, is a self-proclaimed gypsy rebel, having come from a long line of sailors, salesmen, storytellers, and generation after generation of staunch, Southern matriarchs who were stellar cooks. The little sister of singer Jimmy Buffett, Lucy was born in Mobile, Alabama, to her Mississippi coast parents who both worked at the local shipyard. Education was an important mandate in the Buffett home and Lucy’s mother chose to work so that the children could attend private Catholic schools. “We got our passion and drive from our father but it was from our mother that we got our talent and curiosity,” she explains. Lucy cites two central themes that have molded her journey and made her the successful restaurateur that she is today: “First, that I am Southern—and not just Southern but Coastal Southern. And second is my love of food, cooking and entertaining.” 4607 Legendary Marina Dr, Destin FL 850-710-5858



HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK

17000 Emerald Coast Pkwy, Destin FL 32541

THIRTY-FOOT WHITE SAND DUNES AND WARM GULF WATERS OFFER AN EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER. Open 8am until sundown, 362 days a year





Emerald Coast Wine Cellars has been a tourist favorite attraction in Miramar Beach, Florida for years. Along with our sister store and vineyard, our light-hearted, whimsical approach to wine and wine-related retail gifts moves us to the top of the list of places to visit for thousands of people annually. The name of Chautauqua was chosen for the Vineyards and Winery because of DeFuniak Springs, Florida, the town that was home to the permanent Winter Assembly of the Chautauqua Assembly from Chautauqua County, New York from 1885 to 1928. Many turn-of-the-century homes (and the Chautauqua "Hall of Brotherhood") still stand, gracing the shores of a perfectly round lake that is the center of the city.

The 40 acre vineyard was planted in 1979 and is located 12 miles north of DeFuniak Springs. The grapes grown by Chautauqua are Muscadine varieties. Carlos and Noble are the variety of grapes used for their wines.

The Florida wine grape harvest begins in late August and lasts into September. A mechanical picker is used to quickly and efficiently harvest the fruit in the cool morning hours. The grapes are then delivered to the winery for crushing, usually within a couple hours after picking to maximize freshness. This cool picking and rapid processing is essential to capturing the quality and flavor of these exceptional grapes. The quality of a wine hinges on the vineyard and our goal is to maintain that quality from vine to bottle

Free Wine Tastings Daily 1708 Scenic Gulf Dr., Miramar Beach, FL 850-837-9500

SandCastle Lessons

Mobile Unit SandCastle Lessons - Servicing Destin - Miramar Beach,
Fort Walton Beach/Okaloosa Island

Create Memories in the Sand

A whole family experience of professional sand sculpting tips and techniques. The lesson is 2 hours in length beginning with a demonstration; showing tools and their usage, and you will learn exactly how much water to add to the sand to create a perfect mixture. We assist as (typically) each person creates a sandcastle tower and we mentor as you create your very own masterpiece. Beach Sand Sculptures teaches you "SandCastle Success." Upon completion your group will have a unique sandcastle standing approximately 3 1/2 feet tall, ready for photographs. Fun in the sand, newly acquired sand sculpting skills and a unique vacation activity are just a few of the reasons why Beach Sand Sculptures' SandCastle Lessons quickly became the **A Top Rated Tripadvisor Activity in Destin, Florida.**

Beach Sand Sculptures <http://www.BeachSandSculptures.com>



Grayton Beach State Park



Grayton Beach consistently ranks among the most beautiful and pristine beaches in the United States. Western Lake offers fishing, paddling, and four miles of foot trails to traverse through a coastal forest where scrub oaks and magnolias stand, bent and twisted by salt winds.

- Not only do people come to the park to enjoy our world-class shoreline, but many animal and plant species rely on the park for nesting.
- Snowy plovers and least terns, both shorebirds, will make their nests directly on the sand, and loggerhead and green sea turtles will dig their nests along the beach as well.
- Just behind the beach, large sand dunes also support a wide variety of life in the park. A variety of plants, such as bluestem and sea oats, thrive on the dunes, using their roots to hold the sand in place and keep the dunes stable. Among the plants, the endangered Choctawhatchee beach mouse makes its home in burrows that it digs out of the sand. The mice eat the seeds of many of the dune plants, and in doing so spread them across the dunes, helping them grow and slow the process of erosion.

Thank You!
Tammy McDaniel
Nita Wilkinson