



PANHANDLE Planner

[WRITTEN BY JULIE HOSTETTER AND BRE EDMONDS]

Our Florida Beach Guide for Great Places to Stay, Eat and Explore

Delicious Seafood

The Pros of...

Perfect Beach Spot!



WE HERE AT *POINTS NORTH* love the beach and especially love Northwest Florida. Each spring Atlantans make their yearly pilgrimage from this concrete jungle to the deep blue sea and savor every moment their toes spend in the sand. We've compiled some of our favorite destinations in hopes it will make your next trip to the coast a breeze.



Where to Stay

Whether you are looking for a romantic getaway for just the two of you or you're bringing the whole family, we have a perfect place to rest your head while at the beach.

FOR THE ROMANTIC: HENDERSON PARK INN, DESTIN

Looking for romance at a beach destination without dodging kids playing in the pool? Then a stay at Destin's Henderson Park Inn, an adults-only respite on the beautiful Gulf of Mexico, is heaven on earth. The inn is located in the "quiet section" of Destin and is adjacent to the serene and beautiful Henderson Beach State Park. All rooms in this New England-styled bed-and-breakfast come complete with a full breakfast, gourmet boxed lunch and a bottle of wine and grapes in your room upon arrival. Some rooms even offer fireplaces and whirlpool tubs. Beach lovers will especially enjoy the complimentary beach chairs, sun umbrellas and towels, as well as access to bikes, kayaks and the community refrigerator stocked with drinks and sweet snacks. But your favorite amenity may be the large veranda and private terraces that overlook the sugar white sands and clear, blue sea stretched before you and the romantic beach walks that await. For more information, call 866-398-4432 or visit www.hendersonparkinn.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HENDERSON PARK INN

FOR THE FAMILY: MARRIOTT BAY POINT RESORT, PANAMA CITY BEACH

Located on the outskirts of Panama City Beach, far enough from the main drag to avoid rowdy crowds, but close enough to enjoy the progressing revitalization of this popular Spring Break destination, Marriott Bay Point Golf Resort & Spa offers a breathtakingly beautiful property with fun for the entire family. While dad hits the links on the Meadows Course or the Nicklaus Design Course and mom enjoys a day at the new Serenity Spa, kids can partake in a host of activities from arts and crafts and karaoke to water Olympics, volleyball tournaments and even a dive-in movie night. Plus, there are plenty of opportunities for quality time together, whether you're



Henderson Park Inn

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROB & SHANNAH SMITH

EMERALD GRANDE AT HARBORWALK VILLAGE

It almost sounds too good to be true: a luxurious second-home property in Destin minus the maintenance and at a fraction of the cost, yet flexible ownership options are the new trend in real estate and The Emerald Grande at HarborWalk Village is an investment worth looking into. While you're looking, be sure not to miss the amazing view of the ocean and the pedestrian-friendly, waterfront village located just below where boutiques, art galleries, restaurants and plenty of recreational activities await. www.emeraldgrande.com, www.harborwalkdestin.com

HAMMOCK BAY

You won't find Destin in the address any more than you'll find island time here in Hammock Bay. That's because this 3,000-acre master-planned community is found 12 miles north in Freeport, where "Hammock Time" brings a whole new meaning to "welcome home." With approximately 13 different neighborhoods, all with soothing

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMERALD GRANDE



Left: Emerald Grande
Above: Magnolia Private Residence Club

names such as Haven and Symphony, homeowners have their choice of price points, not to mention countless amenities and activities for the whole family. www.hammockbayfreeport.com

MAGNOLIA PRIVATE RESIDENCE CLUB

Rarely can you have someone else shop for your groceries, pull your beach gear out of storage and schedule a massage while you simply drive from one home in the suburb to your other home in the sand. At Magnolia Private Residence Club, nestled between WaterColor to the west and Rosemary Beach to the east, concierge service comes with the key to pastel-painted cottages and white picket fences. www.magnoliaresidenceclub.com



Magnolia Private Residence Club

REDFISH VILLAGE

This new coastal community located in Blue Mountain Beach takes the tradition of a great beach town and simply makes it better. Recognizable retailers combined with select shopkeepers provide plenty of opportunity for shopping and a "night on the town" while beaches, bike paths, parks and trails allow access to rest and relaxation the way Mother Nature originally intended. www.redfishvillage.com



Redfish Village

SANCTUARY AT REDFISH

If you're looking for a romantic residence, this just might be it. Couples in search of a quiet escape secluded among 14 pristine acres of Florida's Emerald Coast have to look no farther than the natural beauty of Sanctuary at Redfish. Luxurious three- to four-bedroom condominiums come complete with all of the comforts of home and with the upscale amenities you expect from a Sterling Resort property. www.sanctuaryatredfish.com, www.sterlingresorts.com

TURNBERRY HARBOUR

Whether you're looking for the neighborhood feel of a single-family second home or a spacious unit towering over the ocean, Turnberry Harbour, situated on 80 private acres in Destin, will soon offer homeowners a place to hang their hat in style and dig their toes in the sand — a place where even "luxury goes to relax." www.turnberryharbour.com

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAGNOLIA RESIDENCE CLUB

PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK GARDNER

Discover Florida's Quiet Alternative

Just a few hours from Atlanta rests the little known treasure of Mexico Beach. Watch your kids play in the surf from your beachfront cottage or hotel, browse the area's quaint shopping, and explore our beautiful white sand beaches. With clear water, sunny skies and friendly people, we invite you to come experience one of the Florida Panhandle's best kept secrets.

Mexico Beach Tourism
888-723-2546 www.mexicobeach.com

QUEEN SUITE WITH WHIRLPOOL AND ADJOINING STATE PARK.

Included? Wine en suite. Cocktails at sunset. Chef's breakfast in the dining room and lunch boxed for a picnic. The only mile of Destin coastline to remain forever unspoiled. And an endless array of extras—from complimentary bicycle to kayak—so you can take it all in.

WWW.ATHENDERSONPARKINN.COM - 866.398.4432

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*If you are a property owner on 30-A, be sure to inquire about the Sterling Rental Program.

Be sure to ask for promo code 327 when booking your vacation. Book by date is August 15, 2009. Some restrictions apply.